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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

Message

I am pleased to send my greetings and felicitations as Sri Lanka joins the rest of the world in celebrating the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) 2021 under the theme, "Accelerating Digital Transformation in Challenging Times".

The Covid-19 pandemic has induced a dramatic interest in the adoption of ICTs across all facets of life for societies. Further, disruptive innovations are an imperative for accelerated digital transformation of the economy and society.

In celebration of WTISD 2021, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has invited its member countries to take necessary measures for digital transformation and to bridge the digital divide while ensuring social, economic and environmental sustainability. Sri Lanka, in this regard, has initiated a national digital transformation roadmap focusing holistically in transforming Sri Lanka as a destination for technological innovation as well as in enabling the public and private sectors with technology towards a Smart Sri Lanka.

ITU has been influential in promoting the adoption of ICTs globally for decades. This is evident in its enormous efforts and initiatives to highlight the role of ICTs in the implementation of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda. Further, the ITU encouraging all stakeholders to accelerate digital transformation for 'Connecting the Unconnected' and achieving sustainable development is bound to ensure the adoption of ICTs for sustainable development on a global scale.

As the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) celebrates its 156th anniversary, I convey my best wishes in making the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day fruitful and meaningful to populations across the world.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa

May 15, 2021

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இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka