

**Awareness Session for the Members of the Gem and Jewellery Sector on “Obligation to Comply with AML/CFT Requirements for Strengthening Economic Development of the Country” - October 17, 2022**



An awareness session on “Obligation to Comply with AML/CFT Requirements for Strengthening Economic Development of the Country” was conducted for the members of Gem and Jewellery Sector on October 17, 2022 from 01.30 pm to 4.00 pm at the Centre for Banking Studies (CBS), Rajagiriya. The objective of the session was to enhance awareness on the implementation of the AML/CFT compliance obligations among the Gem and Jewellery Institutions.

The introductory remarks were made by Mrs. Enoka Mohotty, Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), who emphasized the importance of an effective AML/CFT framework for both the country and the gem and jewellery sector.

Next, Mr. P U K Thenuwara, Director General from National Gem and Jewellery Authority (NGJA) delivered a speech on new developments in relation to NGJA and Gem and Jewellery sector. After that, a presentation on “Obligation of AML/CFT Requirements in Preventing Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing, Proliferation Financing Risks” was conducted by Mr. Chandima Bandara, Senior Assistant Director, Head of the DNFBP Supervision Division, FIU.

Further, Mr. Priyantha Senanayake, Additional Director General of Sri Lanka Customs, Mr. J P K S Liyanage - Assistant Superintendent and officer in charge of Gem Unit from Sri Lanka Customs were present at the session and Mr. P D A L P Saparamadu, Director of Sri Lanka Customs delivered a speech on "Potential Misuse of the Gem and Jewellery Sector for Money Laundering and Examples from the Real World."

During the discussion, Mrs. Enoka Mohotty, Director, FIU and Mr. Chandima Bandara, Senior Assistant Director addressed the concerns raised by the participants. Furthermore, the FIU assured the sector participants continuous AML/CFT awareness for the sector would be carried out in the future with the National Gem and Jewellery Authority’s assistance. Further, Dr. Ayesh Ariyasinghe, Mrs. T D S Pathberiya, Deputy Directors, FIU, Mrs. R T Kotugoda, Mrs. W M T S Lakmali and Mrs. R M M P Rathnayake Assistant Directors of the FIU also attended the session.