

AML/CFT Training Programme for Restricted Dealers in Sri Lanka

February 27, 2025

The Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Training Programme for Restricted Dealers (RDs), specifically hotels licensed as RDs and newly licensed Money Changers in Sri Lanka, was successfully conducted by the Department of Foreign Exchange (DFE) in collaboration with the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) at the Central Bank of Sri Lanka on February 27, 2025.



The primary objective of the program was to enhance awareness and strengthen AML/CFT regulatory compliance among Compliance Officers of Hotels and newly licensed Money Changers. A total of 21 participants representing 10 hotels and 4 newly licensed money changers attended, highlighting the sector's collective commitment to combating financial crimes and improving compliance measures.

The session commenced with welcome remarks by Dr. (Mrs.) Sajeevani Weerasekara, Deputy Director, DFE, followed by an address from Dr. (Mrs.) Subhani Keerthiratne, Director, FIU, who emphasized the importance of compliance with AML/CFT in money changing operations.

The programme featured two key sessions:

1. AML/CFT Compliance Obligations – covering compliance functions, AML/CFT policies, Customer Due Diligence (CDD), risk assessment, and suspicious transaction reporting, along with sample formats.
2. Targeted Financial Sanctions (TFS) Requirements – including a demonstration of an in-house developed TFS screening tool by the FIU.

The sessions were conducted by Mrs. A.D. Premathilaka, Senior Assistant Director, Supervision Division, FIU, and Ms. Kasuni Alahakoon, Assistant Director, Financial Data Management Division, FIU.

Additionally, Mrs. Theja Pathberiya, Deputy Director, FIU, actively engaged with participants, providing valuable insights and addressing their queries.

The programme concluded with closing remarks by Dr. Weerasekara, reinforcing the importance of AML/CFT compliance in the sector.