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KOREA-SRI LANKA DISCUSS EXPANDING DIGITAL FISCAL COOPERATION

Vice Minister Lim Ki-keun of the Ministry of Planning and Budget met with a Sri Lankan high-level delegation on June 19, 2026, and shared Korea's innovative experience in digital-based national fiscal management. The Sri Lankan delegation included five senior officials, including Secretary Alokabandara of the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government and Secretary Dhanapala of the Ministry of Digital Economy. This visit was organized as part of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)-led development cooperation program to strengthen policy capacity in developing countries, titled the "Establishment of IT Master Plan on Tax Administration and Implementation of e-Tax System for Colombo Municipal Council in Sri Lanka." This visit was carried out to share Korea's experience in digital-based fiscal management and tax administration and to draw policy insights.

Vice Minister Lim introduced Korea's integrated fiscal management system based on dBrain+, explaining that by digitally connecting and managing the entire fiscal management process, simultaneous improvements in transparency and efficiency have been achieved. He also added that this experience is becoming a vital foundation in the transition to AI-based fiscal management systems. In addition, he introduced Korea's efforts to reinforce transparency and build public trust in policy by utilizing the "Participatory Budgeting" system, which allows citizens to take part in the national budgeting process, and the "Open Fiscal Data" portal, an open website that discloses public fiscal data.

The delegation showed great interest in Korea's digital fiscal management system and fiscal innovation examples and assessed that they could serve as a meaningful reference for Sri Lanka's policy design in enhancing fiscal transparency and efficiency. Although Sri Lanka has strong potential in various sectors, including logistics, tourism, and human capital, it has faced prolonged fiscal difficulties that have posed challenges to economic management in recent years. Accordingly, the need to enhance fiscal operational efficiency and to advance fiscal management systems has been continuously emphasized.

The Ministry of Planning and Budget will continue to expand international cooperation to support the enhancement of fiscal governance and the establishment of digital-based fiscal management systems in developing countries. In particular, Korea will continue to contribute to strengthening the sustainable fiscal capacity of developing countries by sharing its policy experience in various areas, including the advancement of fiscal information systems, digital and AI transformation, and the enhancement of fiscal transparency and efficiency.