



"Sri Lanka Multi-Dimensional Crisis and Role of Migrant Workers and Government Policy Innovations for Migrant Worker Recognition".

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Sri Lanka's Unprecedented Economic Crisis

- Sri Lanka's first sovereign default in 2022
- Economic Challenges and Civil Unrest
- healthcare struggles, fuel queue deaths, and essential goods shortages.



Decline in
Remittances

FLOW OF WORKERS' REMITTANCES



Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

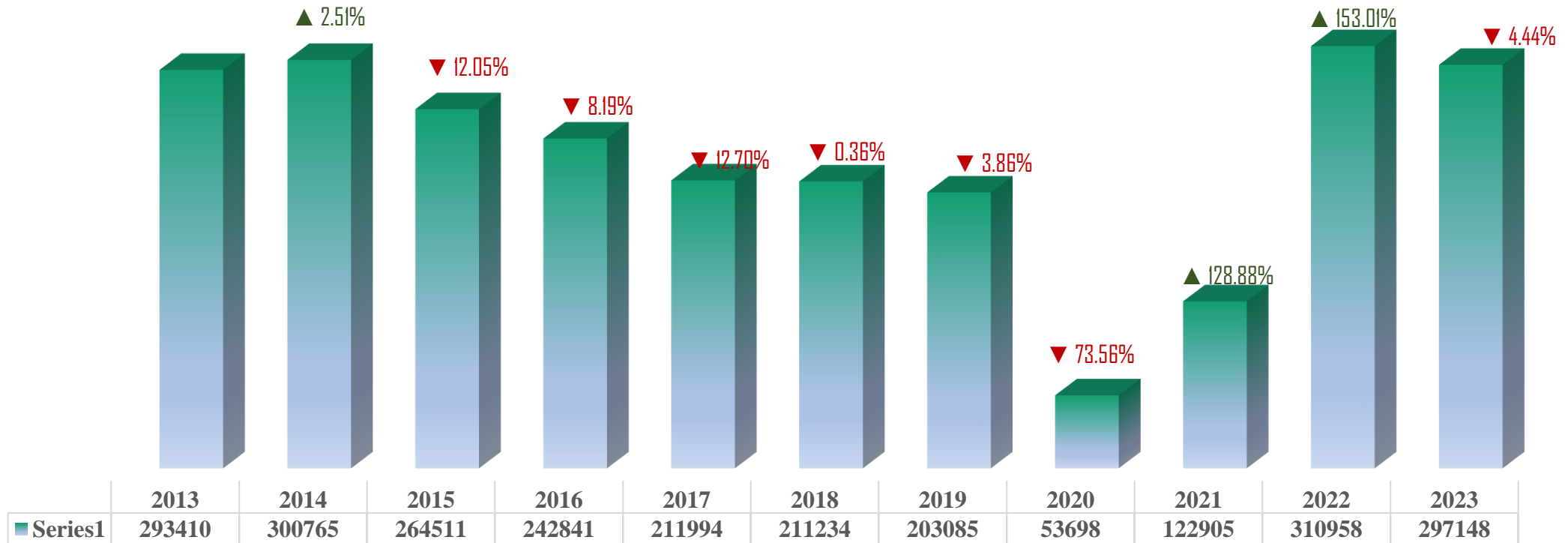
Daily FT GraphicsDesk

The Country
Needs 500
Million Dollars
Monthly



Labor Migration's Importance

- Labor migration's significant contribution to Sri Lanka's GDP and reduction in unemployment.





National Policy & Legal Frameworks (2023-2027)

- Overview: Launch of the National Policy and Action Plan focusing on skilled, decent, and productive employment.
- Core Principles: Rights and protections of migrant workers, aligned with national and global standards.
- Strategic Approaches: Incorporating SDGs, with a focus on "Whole of Government" and "Whole of Society" approaches.



Ministry of Labour and
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NATIONAL POLICY AND ACTION PLAN ON MIGRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT SRI LANKA

2023 -2027

Policy Development Areas

- Governance: Promoting decent work and productive employment.
- Protection: Securing rights and welfare of migrant workers and families.
- Promotion: Enhancing employment opportunities locally and globally.
- National Development: Strengthening the link between migration and national progress.



Legal Amendments and Industry Professionalism

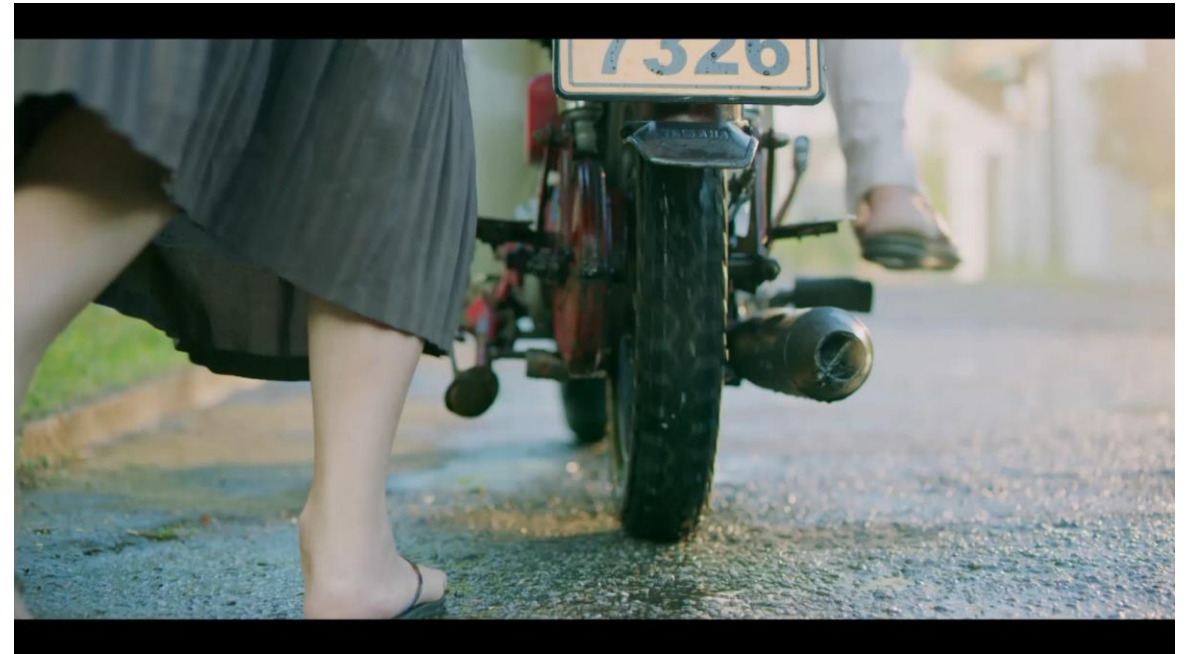
Amendments to the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment Act.

Inclusion of migrant worker representatives in governance.

Professionalization: Capacity building and certification for employment agents.

Protection and Welfare Initiatives

- Age and Family Background Requirements: Ensuring the wellbeing of migrants and their families.
- Social Security and Benefits: Pension schemes, housing, and loan facilities.
- Incentives: Encouraging formal remittance channels, including electric vehicle import permits and duty-free allowances.



Technological Innovations



ICT Platforms: Integrated Guidance and Referral System (IGRS) for skill development and employer connections.



Digitalization: Strengthening recruitment and emigration processes through state-led platforms.



Grievance Handling: Online portals and mobile applications for effective complaint management.



Bi-Lateral Cooperation

- Strengthening ties with destination countries through MoUs and joint technical mechanisms.
- Current Status: 21 MoUs signed with key destination countries.



Conclusion