



LAUNCH OF THE DOMESTIC Internet Exchange

LISPA

June 18, 2001

Make use of this opportunity

I am pleased to send this message on the occasion of launching the Domestic Internet Exchange as a joint effort by the Council for Information Technology (CINTEC) and the Licensed Internet Service Providers Association (LISPA).

The internet is revolutionizing the ways in which economies the world over are being developed and is having a profound effect on global trade. There is also the emergence of a new knowledge based society. Our country with an abundance of intelligent and easily adaptable youth is very well placed to make the best out of these developments.

I understand that the Domestic Internet Exchange to be launched today will provide



interconnection among local internet service providers and facilitate faster communications. This is also expected to serve as a catalyst for development of national internet services. I therefore urge all those who are engaged in this sphere of activity to make use of the opportunity offered by the Domestic Internet Exchange and develop necessary services for taking the benefits of the internet to a cross section of our people, especially to those living in the rural areas.

I congratulate CINTEC and LISPA for their initiative in setting up the Domestic Internet exchange

Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga
President

Very pleased with the initiative taken

It is with great pleasure that I give this message on the occasion of the formal launch of the Domestic Internet Exchange and the "web.lk" domain.

The present digital era is ever so rapidly changing the shape of activities that are contributory to the well being of nations.

Developing countries, such as ours, are faced with multifaceted challenges to survive and forge ahead in this environment. The key challenges to be addressed by Sri Lanka on the basis of highest priority include the establishment of pre-requisites for the adoption and development of Information and Communication Technology. This includes the development of telecommunication infrastructures, human resources and information technology literacy in all sectors of the society and



the economy. This will lead to narrowing the digital divide and developing

e-competency in both the public and private sectors.

A strong public-private sector partnership is the ideal vehicle to foster these efforts. I am very pleased to note the initiative taken by

Council for Information Technology and the Licensed Internet Service Providers Association in establishing the Domestic Internet Exchange that will provide higher speeds of connectivity to domestic transactions as well as spawn the development of local Internet services.

I sincerely wish the Domestic Internet Exchange and the "web.lk" domain, all success.

Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka
Prime Minister

A domestic IX essential component

I am indeed happy to send this message on the occasion of the launch of the Domestic Internet Exchange (IX) on 18th June 2001.

The Council for Information Technology (CINTEC), through its Internet Committee, has taken the initiative of promoting the establishment of the Licensed Internet Service Providers Association (LISPA).

The LISPA has been successful in setting up the Domestic Internet Exchange, which is being launched today. The domestic Internet Exchange provides inter connection for member Internet Service Providers (ISPP) to exchange internet traffic and allows them to easily inter connect within Sri Lanka.

Therefore it improves connectivity



ty and service to customers.

A domestic IX is an essential component of the IT related infrastructure development of Sri Lanka. Sending and receiving of data would be faster, when this exchange in operation and effort such as this is beneficial to

the country not only in improving the services but also in the saving of foreign exchange by bringing down foreign settlements to international carriers. I congratulate the Internet Committee of CINTEC, the LISPA and all those who have contributed towards establishing the Domestic Internet Exchange.

Indika Gunawardena
Minister of Higher Education & Information Technology Development

Another milestone in communication

As the Minister in Charge of Posts and Telecommunications I treat the event of launching of a domestic Internet Exchange as yet another milestone in the history of Communications in Sri Lanka. Upon reviewing recent history, it is this Government that took effective steps for private sector participation in providing Telecommunication Services, and created a competitive environment in the same. It took the major step of licensing



face the perennial problem of delays in accessing Web sites hosted in servers other than their own service provider. The domestic Internet Exchange would shorten the path of access, sometimes, which would otherwise go through more than 20 nodes. It is heartening to note that the Council of Information Technology, which is under the purview of the Ministry of Higher Education & Information Technology Development, encouraged the establishment of

this Exchange. The expected reduction in delay would result in a greater number of Sri Lanka entrepreneurs using the web to promote their business. I expect an increase in the growth of the economy for this reason and take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed towards it.

Nimal Siripala de Silva
Minister of Posts & Telecommunications

A significant step

I am pleased to send this message on the occasion of the inauguration of the Domestic Internet Exchange for Sri Lanka and the "web.lk" domain by the Licensed Internet Service Providers Association (LISPA). The Council for Information Technology (CINTEC) which comes under the purview of this Ministry has promoted and supported the establishment of this Internet Exchange (IX).

The Domestic IX is an essential component of the IT infrastructure and its establishment enhances the connectivity between ISP's and speed of Information Exchange. We hope that it will be a catalyst for further development of Internet Services in Sri Lanka.

Information and Communication Technology is identified as the main driving force for economic development at the present time. The Ministry of Higher Education & Information Technology Development is strongly

committed to promote and facilitate development as well as extensive and widespread usage of IT in Sri Lanka. It is in this context that this Ministry has given utmost priority to facilitate and promote skill development in IT, IT industry, e-governance, e-commerce, tele-medicine, etc. In this scenario the Ministry welcomes this initiative and pledges the whole hearted support for its success. This joint initiative of the CINTEC and the LISPA in launching the Domestic Internet Exchange and the "web.lk" domain can be considered as a yet another significant step towards the development and popularization of IT services. I congratulate LISPA and CINTEC for their initiative and wish this activity a great success.

Professor R.P. Gunawardana,
Secretary
Ministry of Higher Education & Information Technology Development

Message from the Chairman, CINTEC

We're indeed happy to be launching the domestic Internet Exchange (IX) and the web.lk domain today, with the Licensed Internet Service Providers Association.

The Internet is transforming the world economies and old ways of doing business and marketing strategies are ceding to new Internet based methods. Thus, it was imperative that Sri Lanka too, should move quickly to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities presented by the Internet based economy.

With the advent of the Internet in Sri Lanka, it was timely and appropriate that CINTEC set up the Internet Committee in 1996, - one of the many initiatives taken by CINTEC. The Network Information Center for the .lk country code Top Level Domain registry is one of the main activities under the purview

of the CINTEC Internet Committee. Today's launch of the IX is the culmination of an initiative that was taken by the Internet Committee in 1996. The Internet Committee initiated, promoted and facilitated the setting up of the Licensed Internet Service Providers' Association (LISPA), which in turn has set by the domestic Internet Exchange. With the setting up of the domestic IX, Traffic between customers of two Internet Service Providers is routed locally and therefore sending and receipt of data is fast.

I wish to thank, on behalf of the CINTEC Council and its staff, all those involved in the initiatives taken which resulted in the IX - particularly the Internet Committee and the LISPA.
Gajaba Perera Gunawardana
Chairman,
Council for Information Technology (CINTEC)