

Profile of Dr. (Mrs.) Damitha de Zoysa
Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

Dr. (Mrs) Damitha de Zoysa is a graduate from the University of Peradeniya with a B.A. (Hons) in Economics (Statistics). She has obtained a M.Sc. in Agricultural Development Economics from the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. She holds a M.A. in Economics and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA.

She was appointed as the Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development with effect from 25th April 2010 and re-appointed to the same position on 25th November 2010. As the Secretary of the Ministry, currently serves on the Boards of Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Sri Lanka Export Development Board and National Aquatic Resources & Development Agency (NARA). She is a Member of the Petroleum Resources Development Committee appointed by the Secretary to the President. She was also a Board member of the HSBC and Sri Lanka Savings Bank until its merger with NDTF.

Dr. de Zoysa belongs to the Sri Lanka Planning Service and had her initial period of carrier at the National Planning Department of the Ministry of Finance & Planning where she served in different capacities after leaving the University as Planning Officer, Assistant Director, Deputy Director, and Additional Director. In 1999 she was promoted as Director in the same Department. In year 2005 she was promoted to the post of Director General, Department of Fiscal Policy of the same Ministry. Prior to her current position, she also functioned as the Director General of the Development Finance Department of the Ministry of Finance & Planning.

She had been the Director General of the Department of Development Finance, Ministry of Finance and Planning from 2006 to 26th May 2010. During that time, she also served as Director General, Fiscal Policy Department of the Ministry of Finance & Planning from 2005 to 2006. From 1999 to 2005 she was the Director of National Planning Department of Ministry of Finance & Planning. From 1998 to 1999 she was the Additional Director, National Planning Department of the Ministry of Finance & Planning.

While being at the Ministry of Finance & Planning, she served as the Chairperson of the Plantation Trust Fund, Member of the Boards of the Sri Lanka Institute of Nano Technology (SLINTec) and, Sri Lanka Institute of Nano Technology (NANCO) (Pvt) Ltd. She was a Board member of the National Enterprise Development Authority, Paddy Marketing Board, Advanced Construction Training Academy and the Sri Lanka Savings Bank. She was also a Board member of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWS & DB) and the Lanka Puthra Development Bank. She resigned from the Board of DFCC Bank upon assuming duties as the Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development.