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### **Japanese Ambassador's Courtesy Call on CIABOC Chairman Discusses Support for Sri Lanka's Development and Anti-Corruption Efforts**

His Excellency Akio Isomata, Ambassador of Japan to Sri Lanka, along with his team, paid a courtesy call on Justice W.M.N.P. Iddawala, Chairman of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC), today, Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at the CIABOC office in Colombo. The meeting, which began at 11:00 AM, centered on discussing the ongoing and future cooperation between the Japanese government and Sri Lanka's anti-corruption efforts..

Also present at the meeting was Mr. K.B. Rajapakshe, Commissioner of CIABOC, who engaged in discussions regarding continued support for Sri Lanka's fight against corruption and the role of investors in the nation's economic growth.

During the meeting, Ambassador Isomata expressed Japan's unwavering support for Sri Lanka's governance and anti-corruption initiatives, particularly in attracting international investment. Ambassador Isomata emphasized the importance of creating a transparent and corruption-free environment to encourage foreign investment in Sri Lanka, which is crucial for the country's development.

Justice Iddawala, the Chairman of CIABOC, empathized with the challenges that investors face, particularly concerning corruption-related issues in investment projects. He reassured Ambassador Isomata that any issues related to corruption in investment projects would be thoroughly investigated and addressed by CIABOC.

The discussions also covered future collaboration between the two countries, particularly in strengthening institutional frameworks and promoting best practices in governance and transparency. One of the key topics was the preparation and implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2025-2029, an initiative aimed at further reinforcing Sri Lanka's anti-corruption efforts.

The meeting reflected a shared commitment to ensuring that Sri Lanka remains an attractive destination for investment while upholding the highest standards of integrity and anti-corruption measures. Both parties expressed a desire to continue working closely together to foster a robust environment for sustainable economic growth in Sri Lanka.

This courtesy call highlights the ongoing diplomatic and cooperative efforts between Japan and Sri Lanka to advance mutual interests in development, governance, and anti-corruption initiatives. Both parties expressed a desire to continue working closely together to create a robust environment for sustainable economic growth in Sri Lanka.

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