



SRI LANKA AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION IN JAPAN

c/o Sri Lanka Embassy
2-1-54, Takanawa
Minato-Ku, Tokyo
Postcode 108-0074
Japan.

11.2.2025

Mrs. Upulmalee Premathilaka
The Controller General
Department of Imports & Exports Control
Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Subject: Compliance with Operating Instructions No: IECD/6/4/002/2024 – Section 6.3

Dear Madam,

We are writing to you in reference to **Operating Instructions No: IECD/6/4/002/2024 dated 03.02.2025**, specifically **Section 6.3**, which states that in cases where the date or month of manufacture is not available, the **Year of Manufacture** will be considered as **15th January of the relevant year**.

As a responsible association committed to ethical trade practices and ensuring equal opportunities for all exporters from Japan to the Sri Lankan market, SLAAJ has conducted discussions with the three Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) agencies—**JAAI, Bureau Veritas, and JEVIC**. These agencies have confirmed that in Japan, **the month and date of manufacture are not available**, and as a result, **only the manufacturing year is indicated on the PSI certificate**. Based on this, it is clear that vehicles manufactured in the **Year 2022** become ineligible for export to Sri Lanka under the current law, and only **vehicles manufactured in 2023 and beyond** should be allowed for importation.

However, we have received multiple complaints from our members regarding **certain exporters who have shipped vehicles manufactured in 2022** and have allegedly pressured PSI agents to include a **specific month of production**—a detail provided solely by the exporter and not verified through official sources. This practice not only violates the legal requirements set forth by the Sri Lankan government but also creates an **unfair advantage** for certain importers while undermining ethical business practices.

SLAAJ firmly believes that **the law must be enforced equally for all**, and any PSI agency that has violated the stipulated regulations by including **unverified manufacturing months** should be **subject to strict action**. Additionally, we **urge the authorities to take stern measures** against both the exporters and importers involved in such **wrongful importation of ineligible vehicles**.

We kindly request Sri Lanka Customs and the Import & Export Control Department to **investigate this matter thoroughly** and ensure that all vehicle imports **comply strictly with the prescribed regulations**. If necessary, we are happy to provide further clarification or cooperate in any way to uphold the integrity of the importation process.

We appreciate your immediate attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Umar Ali Hyder Ali
President
Sri Lanka Automobile Association in Japan (SLAAJ)

CC to :

Secretary to the President Mr. Nandika Sanath Kumanyake
Director General of Customs Mr. P.B.S.C. Nonis
Additional Secretary to the President Mr. Roshan Gamage

President :Umar Ali Hyder Ali | Secretary : Chinthaka Jayasinghe | Treasurer : Nishantha Ganegge

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