MINISTRY OF FINANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday 26/08/2026

Clarification Request on $18.5m Allocation to MyCash and MPAiSA Providers

The Ministry of Finance would like to clarify the $18.5 million balance in MPAiSA and MyCASH account at the end of July 2022.

Digital payments through M-PAiSA and MyCash have become a key feature of Government's payment platform with almost $500 million paid out through these platforms since 2020. Some of the major payments disbursed through M-PAiSA and MyCash include the unemployment benefits during the COVID pandemic, inflation mitigation payout, bus fare subsidy and the back-to-school payment.

Given that M-PAiSA and MyCash have become a key feature of our payment platform, we need to ensure that sufficient cash balances are maintained in these digital wallets to meet our payment needs. This is same as how Government maintains funds at the commercial banks for its daily operations. In simple terms, M-PAiSA and MyCash, serve a similar purpose as a bank account for digital payments.

Since the end of July 2022, Government has used the M-PAiSA and MyCash funds for payment of inflation mitigation payout, bus fare subsidy and back to school support. The current balance as of July 2026 stands at around $3.18 million.

In line with Government's financial rules and regulations, proper internal controls and reconciliation processes are maintained to ensure taxpayer funds are used effectively as appropriated by Parliament. Records are well maintained and easily available for reconciliation and audit verification and a standard operating procedure exists as to how digital wallet funds will be utilised and captured in the Government accounts.

The Ministry had clarified the above with the Office of the Auditor-General during the audit exit meeting, however, it seems that this was not explained appropriately in the audit report.

We hope the above clarifies our position on the matter.

Shiri Gounder

Permanent Secretary for Finance