

Daily News

Trillion manages first 'Green' asset backed securitisation



TIL Chairman Kenneth De Zilwa highlighted the importance of reducing carbon footprint in the country and create a 'Green' environment, at a media briefing held in Colombo on Wednesday. De Zilwa said the objective of TIL is to make a green environment in Sri Lanka and he said the company is proud to have structured the country's first 'green' asset backed securitization.

"We will also associate with Pan Asia Bank (PAB) as they are making a concrete effort to positively contribute towards our project subscribing Rs 750 million five-year issue," he said.

He also thanked Pan Asia Bank whose dynamism is demonstrated by this bold step towards reducing carbon footprint in Sri Lanka "We also look forward to work with PAB as we are sure Trillion will be part of many more firsts as we are working on a couple of innovative mandates," Pan Asia Bank Director and CEO, Dimantha Seneviratne said the Bank plays a pivotal role to create a green environment in the country and also lending for solar energy solutions as solar power is also environmental-friendly.

"The completion of this asset backed securitization transaction is a clear demonstration of our Bank's commitment to support to the green initiative as a responsible corporate citizen and also to grow the portfolio profitably through sophisticated corporate debt instruments such as these to boost Sri Lankan debt capital market instruments," he said.

Trillion Investments Limited Chairman Kenneth De Zilwa said that they are pleased to partner Pan Asia at this juncture to bring about an innovative structure where this particular transaction marries the real sector and the financial sector.

"As you know, in Sri Lanka particularly if you look at environmentally-friendly products that are out there, we have seen many real sector driven instruments, but unfortunately when you look at financial sector there is a vacuum in that particular area, but this particular transaction fits well and marries these two entities," he said.

At present companies such as Brandix, Mas Intimates, Hirdaramani group in apparel sector has constructed eco-friendly factories with the aim of reducing carbon footprint in Sri Lanka.

He also said that this will create a platform for the banks also to look at their asset portfolios and to take a more dynamic approach in positioning products like this for Sri Lanka.

"As you know, now Sri Lanka is in a phase of growth and with this phase of growth particularly you will find not only equity but debt also plays a significant part of your assets creation and capital formation. In that respect, we feel at Trillion the debt markets and the development of the debt market plays a vital role in supporting this capital formation of the country" he said.

Nithya Partners, Partner, Neomal Gunawardena said that this investment is about funding for green assets and at this particular event it is all about hybrid vehicles which has been financed by the securitisation.

Speaking to Mirror Business, Pan Asia Bank, Director/CEO Dimantha N Seneviratne said that they have been involved in green funding and they are the pioneers to introduce green funding.

He noted that one aspect of this investment is to give something to the society by keeping the society at large.

"The other aspect is these are new funding instruments. So the countries debenture market, corporative market is developing still. So instruments like this we want to encourage. We want to get in to corporative market" he said.

"Our next step would be re-financing. Borrowing foreign currency for re-financing. Basically country also will get foreign currency through this" he added. Trillion Investment Limited is a licensed investment manager, regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka.