

# People's Bank and IIHS Partner to Support Nursing Excellence



*T.M.W Chandrakumara, Deputy General Manager (Retail Banking), People's Bank (center left) exchanging the document with Dr. Kithsiri Edirisinghe, CEO/Director Academic, IIHS (center right) in the presence of other officials.*

People's Bank and the International Institute of Health Sciences (IIHS) have formalized a strategic partnership to enhance educational opportunities for nurses under the project 'Heda Nena Weduma'. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremony marked a significant milestone in fostering accessible education in the healthcare sector.

Recognizing the global shortage of nurses, estimated at 13 million worldwide, People's Bank and IIHS have joined forces to empower aspiring and practicing nurses through specialized educational loan facilities. Under this initiative, People's Bank will offer special concessionary interest rates for nursing students enrolled in degree programs at IIHS, thereby easing the financial burden associated with higher education.

Clive Fonseka, CEO/GM, People's Bank, underscored the bank's commitment to supporting the education sector and promoting healthcare excellence. "We are proud to partner with IIHS in this endeavor to provide affordable financing options that will enable more nurses to pursue higher education and fulfill their career aspirations," said Mr. Fonseka.

Dr. Nihal De Silva, the Chairman and Vice Chancellor of IIHS, expressed enthusiasm about the collaboration, emphasizing its potential to address the critical need for skilled nursing professionals worldwide. "Through 'Heda Nena Weduma', we aim to equip nurses with the necessary skills and qualifications to meet international healthcare standards and contribute effectively to healthcare delivery," remarked Dr. De Silva.

The event was graced by the participation of Clive Fonseka, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, People's Bank, T.M.W Chandrakumara, Deputy General Manager (Retail Banking), People's Bank, other corporate and executive management staff of People's Bank; Dr. Nihal De Silva, Chairman/Vice Chancellor of The International Institute of Health Science; and Dr. Kithsiri Edirisinghe, CEO/Director Academic, IIHS and other Officials.