

2019/12/13

Daily FT

Page 01.

CB predicts better economic prospects for 2020

■ Says upturn next year will lead to 6.5% GDP growth by 2025
■ Insists implementation of sound policies will decide success of plans
■ Private sector experts endorse improved optimism

By CHARUMINI DE SILVA

THE Central Bank this week hinted at better



CB Senior Deputy Governor Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe

prospects for the economy next year, a forecast

which was also backed by the private sector.

Delivering the keynote address at the Asia Securities 3rd Annual Sri Lanka Investment Conference titled '2020: A big innings on a tricky wicket?' he said that the upturn next year would lead to 6.5% GDP growth by 2025, provided that the Government was determined to efficiently implement policies

outlined by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Dr. Weerasinghe highlighted tourism, exports of diversified goods and services, fisheries, agriculture development via advanced technology and banking and capital market reforms as key low-hanging fruits that the Government could focus on to implement in the immediate future.

✓ P **More Page 8**