

# EXPORTERS DIGEST

June

2023

ISSUE-26



June 5<sup>th</sup>

## -World Environment Day-

*Save the planet. Go sustainable.*

Cover Story Pg: 17



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## PCQI Training Sessions



**NATIONAL CHAMBER OF  
EXPORTERS OF SRI LANKA**  
*Voice of the Exporter*

### Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI) Course

Organized by National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka in partnership with HNB



**OBTAIN PCQI CERTIFICATION**  
(FDA APPROVED CURRICULUM)

This is an important certificate for your staff working in food and beverage production and packing facilities. Expand your food exports and secure the market share of USA by conforming to US-FDA regulations on Human Food.

### Registrations for the next batch are now open!

Training Dates: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2023

Course duration: 03 days ( 20 hours ) 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Training Method: Online via **zoom**

#### Your Investment under the Special Offer:

- **Course / Training Fee : Rs. 22,000/-**  
(An amount of Rs. 10,000/- will be waved off under the partnership with Hatton National Bank PLC)
- **Certificate Fee : 60 USD**



For More Details Please Contact on:  
Tel: 011 434 4662 E-mail: [operations@nce.lk](mailto:operations@nce.lk)

## UPCOMING EVENTS CONTD.

### Meeting with dehydrated product suppliers/producers in the Matara district



NCE organizes a Delegation to meet the dehydrated product suppliers in the Matara district in coordination with the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Agropreneur Development & Training Unit in Matara.

**Date:** 21st June 2023

**Location:** Office of the Assistant Director of Agriculture, Telijjawila, Matara.

**Time:** from 9.00 am to 3.00pm

### NCE Exporter Delegation to Chennai, India ( Early July 2023 )

For further Details Please Contact: +94 114344662 Email: [operations@nce.lk](mailto:operations@nce.lk)





# ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER

## NCE- Seminar on Export Facilitation Schemes and Export Procedures by Sri Lanka Customs



NCE successfully conducted a Seminar on Export Facilitation Schemes and Export Procedures in collaboration with Sri Lanka Customs with 80 participants held on 10th May 2023 at Best Western Elyon, Colombo 05. The objective of the seminar was to give an understanding of Export Facilitation schemes and a comprehensive revision of Sri Lanka Customs procedures. Experienced staff was updated with the latest procedures/trends and understanding of updated customs procedures related to exports.

### **Resource persons:**

1. Mr. Chandana Dharmapriya  
**Deputy Director of Customs, Export Directorate, Sri Lanka Customs**
2. Mr. Chandimal Weerasingha  
**Deputy Director of Customs, Cargo Examination Directorate, Sri Lanka Customs**



# ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER

## Delegation to Northern and Eastern Province



Chamber led a delegation to Trincomalee and Jaffna with 29 delegates from 15 Companies to meet the Producers/ Suppliers in the Eastern and Northern Provinces. The event was organized in coordination with the former two Governors and IDB District offices in the respective provinces. Commercial Bank and Smart Marin Lanka ( Pvt) Ltd come on board as event Partners.

This event was organized with the objective of offering opportunities for these producers to become indirect exporters by supplying their products to the exporters, as well as providing Chamber assistance by industry exporters sharing their experience and identifying industrialist issues and development needs, and assisting these producers to solve those problems.



# ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER

## NCE held its monthly Management Committee & Council Meeting



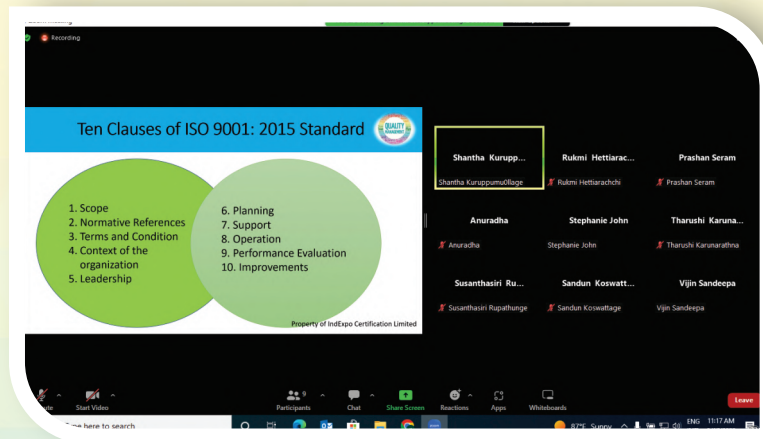
The monthly management committee and the Council meeting of the NCE were held at the Best Western Hotel on the 18th of May from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and the fellowship continued afterward.

Mr. Chandimala Weerasinghe, Mr. Naseer and Mr. Priyantha Senanayake the Additional Director General of Customs was invited to the NCE Council Meeting. He briefed the Council on new initiatives by the Customs to assist Exporters and also discuss other concerns faced by Exporters. The event was sponsored by Salota International (Pvt) Ltd and Commercial Bank. During the Council meeting, the Salota International (Pvt) Ltd and Commercial Bank representatives did their promotional campaigns.



# ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER

## NCE Staff Training Session –ISO 9001:2015



NCE conducted training sessions for its staff members about the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management system and its implementation. Mr. Shantha Kuruppumullage –Director/CEO of INDEXPO Certification Limited conducted the session.

As a responsible chamber, NCE has identified the importance and initiated to maintain its internal quality management system since 2016.

## The NCE in partnership with Sampath Bank conferred the Certificate of Ethical Trading (CET) for another two member organizations



The NCE in partnership with Sampath Bank Plc conferred the Certificate of Ethical Trading (CET) to another two member organizations who have been qualified under this certification program. This event was held at Sampath Bank, Head Office on 23rd May 2023 in the presence of senior officials from both organizations. Sampath Bank plc has partnered with NCE to support this significantly important initiative to encourage and support exporters to become ethical certified traders.

1. **Kandrick Tea Beverages, Lanka**
2. **Diamond International Lanka (Pvt) Limited**

# NEWS ROOM

## Investments through FTAs are 'welcome'

Sri Lanka exporters are willing to welcome investments that come to Sri Lanka through foreign direct investment (FDIs), The Daily Morning Business learnt.

[Read More..](#)

## Dipped Products launches ambitious new venture into high-tech sports gloves for EU, US.

Global pioneers in sustainable integrated glove manufacturing, Dipped Products PLC (DPL), a subsidiary of the Hayleys Group, commenced commercial operations at its state-of-the-art manufacturing plant in Biyagama..

[Read More..](#)

## Sri Lanka to reapply for GSP + for next period

Sri Lanka will reapply for the GSP (Generalized Scheme of Preferences) + trade facility for the European Union market under the revised criterion for the period between 2024 and 2034, a Minister said yesterday. The European Commission, on September 22, 2021, adopted a legislative proposal for the next ten-year period.

[Read More..](#)

## Sri Lanka to ink FTA with Thailand in Q1 2024

The Government yesterday said the impending free trade agreement (FTA) with Thailand will be inked within the first quarter of 2024, to boost exports from the country by three folds to \$ 1.5 billion. The move came following the announcement of the final round of discussions scheduled to be held on 27 and 28 June, where a delegation headed by the Thailand Trade Negotiations Department and the Sri Lankan Department of Commerce..

[Read More..](#)

## Email Communications & Announcements

1. EXPORTERS DIGEST Monthly Newsletter- May 2023 ([Learn more..](#))
2. NCE Delegations 2023 ([Learn more..](#))
3. Delegation to meet the Producers/ Suppliers in the Eastern and Northern Provinces ([Learn more..](#))
4. NCE Exporters Delegation to Oman & Qatar May 2023 ([Learn more..](#))
5. The Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) between the USA and Sri Lanka- The 14th Council Meeting ([Learn more..](#))



## Dollar to Sri Lankan Rupee Currency Exchange Rate Prediction

As we step into 2023, investors, businesses, and individuals are keenly interested in understanding the future direction of the exchange rate between the United States Dollar (USD) and the Sri Lankan Rupee (LKR). In this article, we will delve into the potential factors that could influence the USD to LKR exchange rate in 2023 and provide a brief forecast based on the available information.

As of the knowledge cutoff date in September 2021, the USD to LKR exchange rate stood at around 1 USD = 199 LKR. However, it is important to acknowledge that exchange rates are subject to constant fluctuations, and the forecast for 2023 requires an analysis of the prevailing economic and geopolitical factors.

The monetary policies implemented by the central banks of both countries, the Federal Reserve (Fed) in the United States and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, can affect the exchange rate. Interest rate decisions, quantitative easing measures, and changes in monetary policy outlooks can influence currency values.

### USD/LKR Target Rate

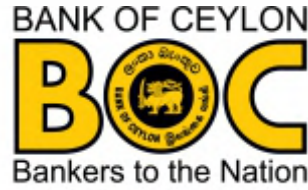
USD to LKR rate target in 14 days: **298.238\*** upside and **277.853\*** downside. (Highest and lowest possible predicted rate in a 14 day period)

### Dollar to SL Rupee forecast for the upcoming days

Date	Rate	Min Rate	Max Rate
2023-05-31	294.739	293.461	296.012
2023-06-01	293.061	291.780	294.414
2023-06-02	292.286	290.942	293.511
2023-06-03	291.039	289.684	292.463
2023-06-04	290.332	288.938	291.717
2023-06-05	290.718	289.145	292.231
2023-06-06	289.182	287.494	290.839
2023-06-07	286.895	285.065	288.620
2023-06-08	285.217	283.258	287.234
2023-06-09	284.442	282.212	286.547
2023-06-10	283.195	280.676	285.668
2023-06-11	282.488	279.730	285.126
2023-06-12	282.874	279.788	285.844
2023-06-13	281.338	277.853	284.623

14 Days USD to LKR Historical Data				
Date	Opening rate	Closing rate	Minimum rate	Maximum rate
2023-05-29	298.053	296.944	296.944	298.177
2023-05-28	297.468	298.053	297.468	298.053
2023-05-27	297.468	297.468	297.468	297.468
2023-05-26	302.305	297.468	297.468	302.332
2023-05-25	303.618	302.305	302.305	304.040
2023-05-24	304.763	303.618	303.618	305.012
2023-05-23	306.129	304.763	304.763	306.291
2023-05-22	306.195	306.129	306.129	306.195
2023-05-21	306.195	306.195	306.195	306.195
2023-05-20	307.046	306.195	306.195	307.046
2023-05-19	307.596	307.046	307.046	308.698
2023-05-18	304.656	307.596	304.414	307.596
2023-05-17	309.709	304.656	304.656	310.406
2023-05-16	313.095	309.709	309.709	313.095

# NCE STRATEGIC PARTNERS



KONICA MINOLTA



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சம்பத் வங்கி  
Sampath Bank



SCANWELL LOGISTICS





# NEW MEMBERS

## Welcome to the NCE Family

The following export-oriented organizations joined the Chamber during the month of May 2023.

### General Members (Ordinary / Associate)

**Balangoda Plantations PLC**

 P O Box 06, Palmgarden, Ratnapura

 [dimuthu.bpl@melsta.com](mailto:dimuthu.bpl@melsta.com)

 **045 2222650**

 [www.bgdpl.lk](http://www.bgdpl.lk)

**Chula Trading Pvt Ltd**


 U/4 B/69, Badulu oya, Badulla


 [chulasaman@gmail.com](mailto:chulasaman@gmail.com)


 **055 22 32 961**


 N/A

**D B S Logistics Limited**

 Level 2 Prince Alfred Tower, 10 Alfred House Gardens, Colombo 03

 [Gehan.seilman@dblogslogistics.lk](mailto:Gehan.seilman@dblogslogistics.lk)

 **+9470 423 6400**

 N/A

**E M G Logistics Pvt Ltd.**

 299, Union Place, Colombo 02

 [info@srigems.lk](mailto:info@srigems.lk)

 **011 45 29 529**

 [thisara@emglogistics.lk](mailto:thisara@emglogistics.lk)

**Vipra Smart Solutions (PVT) Ltd**

 No 15, Basement, Lamico Tower, Visaka Road, Colombo 04

 [mm@viprasmarts.com](mailto:mm@viprasmarts.com)

 **011 74 45 600**

 N/A

**Aspiring Exporters**

**M and D Apparel Industries ( Pvt) Ltd**

 No. 05, Nandana Watta, Nalanda

 [rmahindagamage@gmail.com](mailto:rmahindagamage@gmail.com)

 **+9474143069**

 N/A

# SRI LANKAN BRANDS IN THE GLOBAL MARKET







# Main Services by the Chamber

## **PUBLICATION OF THE “SRI LANKA EXPORTER” MAGAZINE**

The Magazine is published quarterly and carries valuable articles of current interest to Exporters such as, trade information, export statistics, export market trends, export performance indicators etc. It is distributed among Member companies of the Chamber and to all trade points in Sri Lanka and overseas markets and also to leading corporate clients. The Magazine is also a powerful platform for Exporters and services providers to exporters to advertise and create awareness of their products and services.

## **EXPORTER DIGEST**

Exporter Digest is a monthly publication released on the first of each month that highlights Chamber activities and provides brand recognition to our Exporters and Strategic Partners. This publication also includes an outline of the Chamber's upcoming events.

## **ISSUE OF CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN AND RELATED EXPORT DOCUMENTS**

The NCE is a designated Chamber by State authorities to issue Certificates of Origin (CO) and related documents to Sri Lankan Exporters. COs issued to both member and non-member exporters and all Members are entitled to concessionary rates that can be obtained manually or digitally.

## **RECOGNITION OF EXPORT PERFORMANCE**

The Annual NCE Export Awards, the flagship event of the Chamber serves to recognize and reward export performance of Sri Lankan Exporters of Goods and Services, and Service Providers to Exporters. It is open for both member and non-member exporters in Sri Lanka. It is the most prestigious event in the Sri Lankan business calendar.

## **DISSEMINATION OF TRADE INQUIRIES AND TRADE LEADS**

Trade inquiries and trade leads received from Sri Lankan missions overseas, foreign trade Chambers, and other trade organizations are disseminated to members on a timely basis. Specific trade inquiries are provided exclusively to members in the relevant sectors.

## **CONDUCT OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND WORKSHOPS**

Conduct Training Programmes on export related subjects for the benefit of members and non members

## **PARTICIPATION IN TRADE FAIRS, EXHIBITIONS, TRADE DELEGATIONS ETC.**

Participates in overseas and local Trade fairs & Trade Exhibitions and Organizes Trade Promotion Programmes and Trade Delegations, as well as Inward Buying Missions.

## **ETHICAL TRADING CERTIFICATION (CET) - A unique certificate Exclusively for NCE Members**

The Chamber issues the 'Certificate of Ethical Trading' to Member Exporters who follow Ethical Trading and Conformity to Good Environmental and Social Practices, based on 08 Principles which have been developed and followed by the Chamber. The certification confirms that the Member Complies with international standards on ethical behavior, labour, environment etc. The CET Provides a competitive advantage in international markets.



# Main Services by the Chamber

## **WEBSITE FACILITIES ([www.nce.lk](http://www.nce.lk))**

The website provides free listing for member companies and frequent updates on chamber activities and Trade related information.

## **SECTORAL MEETINGS**

The Chamber organizes monthly Sectoral meetings for members under the leadership of the Sectoral Heads in the Council of the Chamber, in order to prepare strategic plans for the sectors, and to highlight policy and operational issues which need resolution.

## **REPRESENTATION OF MACRO AND INDIVIDUAL ISSUES**

Represents and supports individual as well as macro issues faced by members, at the relevant State Institutions and Forums, with a view to resolving them.

## **DISSEMINATION OF MARKET INFORMATION, TRADE STATISTICS AND BUYER INFORMATION**

Trade related information sent by partnering Chambers , Sri Lankan Missions and other sources such as retailers , whole sellers and import houses are disseminated to members.

## **AUDITORIUM FACILITIES**

Provides Auditorium Facilities to members as well as non-members to conduct meetings, workshops and training programs.

## **LINKING OF PRODUCERS WITH MEMBER EXPORTERS**

The Chamber has a programme to link producers of agricultural fisheries and many other products especially from the Northern Province with member exporters of the Chamber, to facilitate marketing of their products in International Markets.

## **SUPPORTS SME'S UNDER THE 'ASPIRING EXPORTERS' PROGRAMME**

The Chamber has a special 'ASPIRING Exporters' Programme to support SME's with Export Potential, providing free advisory services and specific assistance for a period of one year, to develop them to be future exporters.

# THE NCE SECRETARIAT

# WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU!



**MR.SHIHAM  
MARIKAR**  
SECRETARY  
GENERAL/CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**MS.DILINI  
GAMLATHGE**  
SENIOR MANAGER  
MEMBER SERVICES  
/ OPERATIONS



**MR.SANDUN  
KOSWATTE**  
ACCOUNTANT



**MR.SUSANTHA  
RUPATUNGE**  
SENIOR EXECUTIVE



**MS.RUKMI  
HETTIARACHCHI**  
EXECUTIVE -MEMBER  
SERVICES



**MR.PRASHAN  
SERAM**  
EXECUTIVE - ICT



**MS.SATHYA  
SAMMANI**  
EXECUTIVE-  
CORPORATE  
COMMUNICATIONS



**MS.STEPHANIE JOHN**  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
EXECUTIVE



**MS.ANURADHA  
SEWWANDHI**  
ASSISTANT ACCOUNT  
EXECUTIVE



**MR.VIJIN SANDEEPA**  
OPERATIONS  
ASSISTANT

## National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka

131/6, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka.

Hotline: +94 11 465 1765, Email: [nce@nce.lk](mailto:nce@nce.lk)



*The Green Frontier:*

## **Businesses Pioneering Environmental Sustainability**



In today's world, environmental consciousness and sustainable practices are more crucial than ever. Contrary to popular belief, businesses are now demonstrating that environmental sustainability and profitability can go hand in hand. This article explores how companies are embracing sustainability while driving economic growth.

Sustainable practices not only reduce costs but also enhance brand reputation, attract socially conscious consumers, and improve stakeholder relations. By prioritizing sustainability, businesses gain a competitive edge in the market while contributing to the preservation of our planet.

Companies are investing in solar, wind, and hydroelectric power to reduce their environmental footprint. By integrating renewable energy, businesses lower their carbon emissions and secure a stable, cost-effective energy supply.

Businesses are striving to reduce waste, minimize emissions, and support ethical practices throughout their supply chains. Embracing circular economy principles, companies are finding innovative ways to reuse and recycle materials, creating a more sustainable future.

Companies are implementing recycling programs, encouraging waste reduction, and adopting sustainable packaging practices. Rethinking waste management not only reduces environmental impact but also uncovers cost savings and new revenue streams.

Collaborative efforts between businesses, governments, and non-profit organizations are becoming prevalent. Partnerships allow for pooling resources, sharing knowledge, and working towards common sustainability goals, driving systemic change.

The relationship between the environment and business has evolved significantly. Today, businesses understand the importance of environmental stewardship. By adopting sustainable practices, embracing renewable energy, optimizing supply chains, and investing in waste management, companies are proving that profitability and environmental responsibility can coexist. As businesses lead the way toward a greener future, environmental sustainability becomes a prerequisite for long-term success. The integration of sustainable practices into business strategies ensures a prosperous and resilient future for generations to come.