

EXPORTERS DIGEST

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OCTOBER 10

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH Day

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on 10 October to raise awareness and highlight the importance of mental health in individuals and society. The day aims to educate people about the stigma surrounding mental illness, encourage global support for the cause, and promote the creation of healthy environments in all aspects of life to support mental well being.

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“Embracing Mental Health as a Universal Human Right”

Every year on 10 October, the world comes together to observe World Mental Health Day — a day dedicated to raising awareness, educating, and advocating for mental well-being for all. This year's theme, “Embracing Mental Health as a Universal Human Right,” underscores the belief that mental health belongs to everyone, everywhere.

Why Mental Health Matters

Mental health is not merely the absence of illness — it is a fundamental component of overall health, influencing how we think, feel, and act. Good mental health enables us to cope with stress, form meaningful relationships, work productively, and contribute to our communities. Sadly, statistics reveal a sobering reality: one in eight people worldwide lives with a mental health condition. This not only affects their emotional and psychological stability, but also impacts physical health, social connections, and livelihood.

Rights, Access & Stigma

Recognizing mental health as a human right means ensuring that everyone has fair access to high-quality mental health care — care that is available, acceptable, and effective — without fear of discrimination.

Yet, globally, many individuals with mental illness face violations of their rights. They may be marginalized, excluded from decisions about their own health, or denied access to proper care.

One major barrier is stigma. Misunderstandings, false beliefs, and fear surrounding mental illness can isolate individuals, discourage them from seeking help, and perpetuate suffering. It is vital to break down these walls of silence and shame.

What We Can Do — Together

Raise Awareness: Talk openly about mental health, share accurate information, and correct misconceptions.

Support Access to Care: Advocate for policies and systems that guarantee mental health services for all.

Promote Inclusion & Dignity: Treat every person with respect, regardless of whether they have a mental health condition. **Encourage Self-Care & Early Help:** Emphasize the importance of recognizing signs early and seeking help without delay.

Build Supportive Environments: Whether at home, school, workplace or community — foster compassion, understanding, and safety.

Call to Action

Let us strive for a world where mental health is valued, protected, and promoted as a universal right. On this World Mental Health Day, let every voice be heard, every life be respected, and every soul find the support it deserves.

CHAMBER ACTIVITIES

Collaboration with DevPro to Strengthen Spice Exports



On 1st September 2025, the NCE engaged in discussions with DevPro, a legacy of Oxfam, on initiatives to enhance Sri Lanka's spice industry, with particular emphasis on Cinnamon, a key national export.

The meeting considered the organization of a roundtable with spice exporters and a field visit to cinnamon growers to strengthen exporter-producer linkages. The collaboration is expected to address challenges within the sector, promote greater value chain integration, and expand opportunities amid the growing global demand for cinnamon, pepper, and cloves.

Partnership with Industrial Services Bureau (ISB) to Develop Wayamba Exports

On 2nd September 2025, the NCE met with senior officials of the Industrial Services Bureau (ISB), an autonomous body under the North Western Provincial Council, which provides industrial and business services locally and internationally.

The partnership will focus on engaging exporters in the Wayamba region, with special attention to the coconut and coconut-based sector, to strengthen networks, broaden opportunities, and enhance export performance in global markets.



Strengthening Industry-Academia Links with University of Sri Jayewardenepura



On 3rd September 2025, the NCE advanced its partnership with the University of Sri Jayewardenepura to promote stronger collaboration between academia and industry. Plans include a Job Fair to highlight career and internship opportunities in the export sector, alongside encouraging exporters to undertake joint research and development initiatives with the university. This effort aims to nurture talent, encourage innovation, and provide practical solutions to strengthen the export community.

Webinar with Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI)



On 8th September 2025, the NCE held a webinar with the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), facilitated by the Sri Lankan High Commission.

The dialogue, conducted at the Secretariat level, focused on reviewing recent engagements and laying a framework for deeper institutional collaboration. Both chambers reaffirmed the importance of structured follow-up and long-term planning to advance trade and investment relations between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

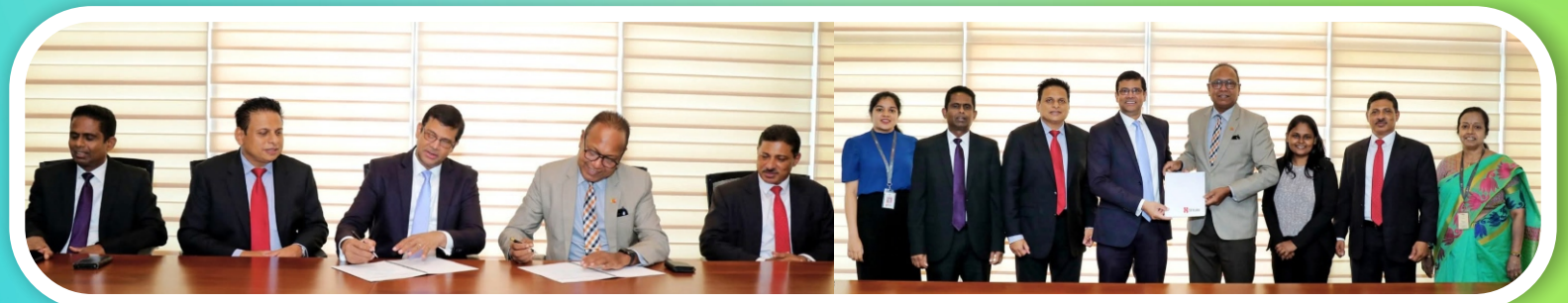
Engagement with Indonesian on Bilateral Trade



On 10th September 2025, the NCE hosted Ms. Sashikala Premawardhane, Ambassador-Designate to Indonesia, and Mr. Fiki Oktanio, Minister Counsellor of the Indonesian Embassy.

Discussions centered on Indonesia's trade opportunities, bilateral cooperation, and the forthcoming Sri Lanka–Indonesia Preferential Trade Agreement. Exporters received valuable insights into market dynamics and trade policy developments.

Seylan Bank collaborated with NCE to Empower Sri Lanka's Exporters



On 12th September 2025, the NCE entered into a partnership with Seylan Bank to provide exporters with specialized financial solutions and advisory support, enabling businesses at all stages to expand into global markets.

Pan Asia Bank and NCE Join Forces to Boost Sri Lanka's Export Growth



On 13th September 2025, the NCE formalized a collaboration with Pan Asia Bank to deliver financial tools and strategic guidance aimed at improving exporters' competitiveness and resilience in international markets.

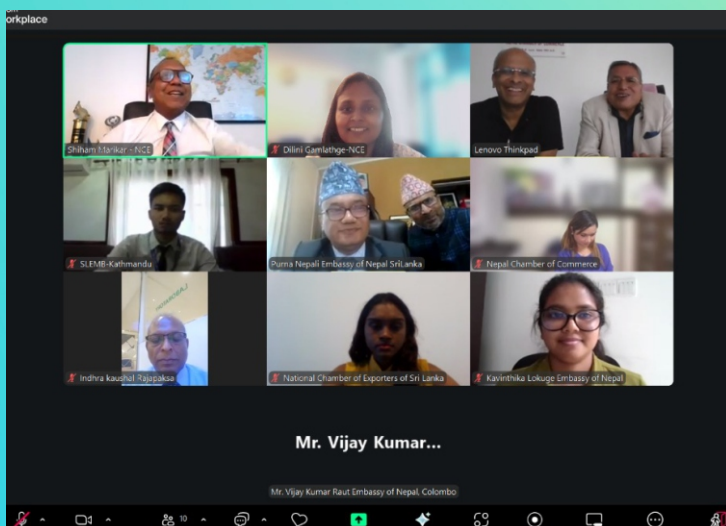
Digital Marketing Seminar with Dialog Enterprise



On 10th September 2025, the NCE hosted Ms. Sashikala Premawardhane, Ambassador-Designate to Indonesia, and Mr. Fiki Oktanio, Minister Counsellor of the Indonesian Embassy.

Discussions centered on Indonesia's trade opportunities, bilateral cooperation, and the forthcoming Sri Lanka–Indonesia Preferential Trade Agreement. Exporters received valuable insights into market dynamics and trade policy developments.

Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal Chamber of Commerce



On 24th September 2025, the NCE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nepal Chamber of Commerce (NCC).

The MOU establishes a framework for closer cooperation, greater knowledge exchange, and expanded trade and investment opportunities, contributing to stronger economic ties between Sri Lanka and Nepal.

Management and Council Meetings – September 2025



On 25th September 2025, the NCE held its monthly Management and Council Meetings at the Best Western Elyon Colombo.

The meetings reviewed operational and sectoral matters, while certificates were presented to newly enrolled members. The sessions concluded with a networking reception, supported by the Colombo Stock Exchange, PickMe, and VISA.

Global Chamber–NCE Webinar on U.S. Market Opportunities

On 30th September 2025, the NCE, in partnership with the Global Chamber, conducted a webinar titled: "Sri Lanka Advantage – Reliable, Ethical, and Now More Cost-Competitive for U.S. Importers."

The event highlighted Sri Lanka's internationally certified standards, strong compliance record, competitive cost structures, strategic location, and skilled workforce, reaffirming its position as a reliable and ethical sourcing destination for U.S. importers.



Media Coverage Highlights – September 2025

In September, NCE's advocacy and initiatives received wide coverage in national media, underscoring its role in representing exporters and shaping trade discussions.

Highlighted Features:

FT.lk – Exporters fear cash crunch if SVAT removed

<https://www.ft.lk/front-page/Exporters-fear-80-m-monthly-cash-crunch-if-SVAT-removed-and-no-refund-system/44-782189>

Daily Mirror – Exporters decry gamble with economy

<https://www.dailymirror.lk/business-news/Exporters-decry-huge-gamble-with-economy/273-320551>

EconomyNext – Exporters urge delay of SVAT removal

<https://economynext.com/sri-lanka-exporters-urge-govt-to-delay-svat-removal-until-proper-refunding-system-in-place-241927/>

Sri Lanka News – SVAT developments

<https://srilankanews.lk/svat/>

Daily News – Exporters call for urgent reforms

<https://www.dailynews.lk/2025/09/16/business/857304/exporters-call-for-urgent-reforms-and-labour-solutions/>

NCE continues to serve as the voice of Sri Lanka's export community, working with government, academia, and international partners to strengthen competitiveness and create sustainable opportunities for exporters.

Trade related Information

Potential Business Leads – UAE

We are pleased to share a list of potential business contacts in the UAE across a range of sectors, which may offer valuable opportunities for Sri Lankan exporters seeking to expand into this market.

Please note that while this information has been compiled from multiple sources with the intention of supporting your outreach efforts, the credibility of the listed parties has not been independently verified by the Chamber.

We strongly advise exporters to liaise with the relevant Sri Lankan Diplomatic Mission in the UAE to carry out the necessary due diligence and background checks before commencing any engagement.

These leads are provided in good faith to assist members in exploring new market opportunities, while also encouraging a careful and well-informed approach to international trade.



The following NCE Members have been awarded the Certificate of Ethical Trading and conform to changing regulatory needs and consumer preferences through good practices related to Trade, Labour, Ethical Behavior, Environment & Society

	 Advantis Express (Pvt) Ltd Licensee of Federal Express Corporation			
				
				
				
				
				

 greenkeepers Let's Eco-Cycle	 HAC HALAL ASSESSMENT COUNCIL	 hSenidBiz EMPOWERING PEOPLE THE WORLD OVER	 IMPERIAL TEAS GROUP	 econutrena
 Janet® AYURVEDA	 Kandrick® EST.1972	 KANDYGS HANDLOOMS	 KEELLS™ Food Products PLC	 LAUGFS RUBBER
 LUMBINI AQUARIA Living Colours Since 1952	 MABROC®	 Multilac®	 Maliban® Inspiring goodness...	 MCLARENS CONTAINERS
 BAM	 Natural Product Network Napronet (Pvt) Ltd	 NM NEIL MARINE	 SPECTRA SYNERGIZING LOGISTICS	 TAPROBANE SEAFOODS
 T4 TEXTTRIP (PVT) LTD.	 ARPTALIA SRI LANKA	 TROIKAL	 WICHY COCONUT	 Derana Fresh from Sri Lanka
 Noritake Standard of Perfection	 NIDRO	 NPS PACKAGING	 OCEANEEDS SRI LANKA	 Overdime
 PANASIA COLOURED YARNS	 PODIE	 PREMIER PACKAGING		 Regency Teas



OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS

COTECNA
Trust for a moving world

Dialog
ENTERPRISE

D P LOGISTICS
consistency throughout...

EY
Shape the future
with confidence

EX
EX-PACK Your carton
Your way

HNB
YOUR PARTNER IN PROGRESS

MISL
MIS Partner For Global Presence

PAN ASIA BANK
The Truly Sri Lankan Bank

SALOTA
Promise. Delivered

Sampath Bank
WE PRESENT YOUR FUTURE

SEYLAN

SLECIC
Information, Support & Protection

CEYLON TEA
SYMBOL OF QUALITY

VISA

What does Our Strategic Partners say about NCE.



On behalf of MISL Holdings, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the National Chamber of Exporters (NCE) of Sri Lanka for their unwavering dedication and exceptional service to the nation's export community. As a prominent intermediary between exporters and policymakers, the NCE plays a pivotal role in addressing challenges faced by exporters and fostering an environment conducive to growth. Their commitment to providing innovative solutions, advocacy, and continuous support has been instrumental in enhancing Sri Lanka's export sector.

MISL Holdings values the NCE's efforts in creating a robust platform that not only represents the interests of exporters but also empowers businesses like ours to thrive in an ever-evolving global marketplace. We look forward to further collaboration, strengthening Sri Lanka's position as a competitive player in international trade.

Mr. Kapila Weerakkody
Chief Executive Officer
MISL Holdings

MISL
MIS Partner For Global Presence

NEW MEMBERS

The following export-oriented organizations joined the Chamber during the month of September 2025

Ordinary/ Associate Members

Company	Product/Service Sector
Hidaramani International Exports Pvt Ltd.	Manufacturing & Exports of Garments
Arava Pvt Ltd.	Manufacturer and Exporter
British Cosmetics Pvt Ltd	Cosmetics Manufacturer
Yaden Laboratories	Manufacturing Pharmaceutical injectable Medicines
Veracity Digital Pvt Ltd.	Software development and artificial intelligence products
Trinity Steel Pvt Ltd	Manufacturer of specialty fasteners and concrete accessories
Markspen Labels Pvt Ltd	Barcode Labelling and Scanning Solution
Insee Ecocycle Lanka Pvt Ltd.	Industrial Waste Management Solutions Provider
Perera and Sons Bakers Pvt Ltd. (Associate Membership)	Food and Beverages
Varna Ltd.	Manufacturing of flexible packaging materials

Aspiring Exporters

Company	Product/Service Sector
Sterling Gem Land Pvt Ltd	Gems & Jewellery & Gem Cutting Machinery
JF Ceylon Seafood Export Pvt Ltd	Exports of Sea food items
Uffizio Technologies Pvt Ltd	Information Technology
Newro Trades Company Pvt Ltd	Manufacturing
Blue Arc Manufacturing Pvt Ltd	Electrical Engineering Exports
Colonial Bond Pvt Ltd	Tea, Spices
Sun Marks Apparel	Clothing Batik Apparel
Sobaka Products	Spices, tea, dehydrated foods
Nethsara Brooms and Ekel Brooms Products	Brooms and Ekel Brooms
Jayadi Food Products	Food Manufacturing
Osiris Ventures Pvt Ltd	FMCG
Farmlink Pvt Ltd	Agriculture and Logistics
Coco Ethica Pvt Ltd	Coconut based products

MAIN SERVICES OF THE CHAMBER

- **Unique Membership Certificate**** – Establish your credibility as a distinguished member of Sri Lanka's premier export chamber.
- **Lobbying & Advocacy**** – NCE represents your interests at trade forums and engages with policymakers to address industry concerns.
- **Market Information & Insights**** – Stay ahead with trade-related updates, market trends, and business opportunities.
- **Training & Development**** – Enhance your expertise through seminars, webinars, and industry-led workshops.
- **"Sri Lanka Exporter" Magazine**** – Showcase your products and services in a leading trade publication, available in print and digital formats.
- **Export Documentation Services**** – Obtain certified export documents, including Certificates of Origin, at exclusive member rates.
- **Professional Courses (NIOE)**** – Gain valuable skills in International Trade Management through accredited programs.
- **Trade Fairs & Delegations**** – Expand your global presence with access to international trade fairs, B2B meetings, and market entry programs.
- **Producer-Exporter Linkages**** – Connect with suppliers and regional producers to strengthen your export network.
- **SME Exporter Support**** – Special membership for SMEs (Aspiring Exporters) with free advisory services to help them become future exporters.
- **Certificate of Ethical Trading (CET)**** – Get recognized for ethical business practices with an internationally accepted certification.
- **PCQI Certification**** – Train and certify food sector professionals under US FDA preventive controls regulations.
- **NCE Annual Export Awards**** – Gain industry recognition at Sri Lanka's most prestigious export awards ceremony.

THE NCE SECRETARIAT

WE ARE HERE
TO SERVE
YOU!



Shiham Marikar
Secretary General/Chief
Executive Officer



Dilini Gamlathge
Asst. Director - Member
Services & Operations



Sandun Koswattage
Manager Finance



Susantha Rupatunge
Senior Executive -
Member Services



Stephanie John
Administrative Executive



Nehkala Lakshmanan
Junior Operations
Executive



Dinu Bhashika
IT Executive



Anuradha Sewwandhi
Account Executive



Deandra Weinman
Senior Executive -
Business Development



Hashini Adhikari
Executive Member
Services



Hashen Madhusa
Operations Assistant

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