

# EXPORTERS DIGEST



February

2026

Issue-57

## ARE YOU READY?

Sri Lanka's most  
prestigious annual  
event  
recognizing  
excellence  
in exports.

\* Exporters Digest | 57th Edition \*



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# NCE EXPORT AWARDS 2025

Sri Lanka's most prestigious annual event recognizing excellence in exports, will be held on **13<sup>th</sup> February 2026** at the **Main Ballroom, Shangri-La Colombo.**

Celebrating its 33rd consecutive year, this landmark acknowledges the achievements and contributions of Sri Lankan exporters across various sectors.



**13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

**MAIN BALLROOM, SHANGRI-LA COLOMBO**



**CELEBRATING 33 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Unlock the U.S. Market: PCQI Training (Version 2.0)



Expand your food and beverage exports to the U.S. by joining the Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI) Training, led by an FDA-recognized Lead Instructor.

Stay compliant with U.S. food safety regulations and gain practical insights for export success.

#### Training Details:

Dates: 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2026 (3.5 days)  
Venue: Virtual (Zoom)  
Investment: LKR 45,000 + taxes (HNB partnership rate)  
Certificate Fee: \$60 USD + taxes

#### Benefits:

- Comprehensive understanding of U.S. food safety regulations
- Compliance strategies and export guidance
- FSPCA Training Completion Certificate
- Who Should Attend: Food safety team leaders, compliance officers, production officers, and QA professionals with HACCP experience.

#### Who Should Attend:

Food safety team leaders, compliance officers, production officers, and QA professionals with HACCP experience.

Register Now: [operations@nce.lk](mailto:operations@nce.lk)

## CHAMBER ACTIVITIES

### NCE Staff Commence the New Year with Fellowship and Renewed Commitment



The NCE Secretariat and staff welcomed the New Year on 05<sup>th</sup> January 2026 with a New Year breakfast, held in an atmosphere of fellowship and optimism. Members of the Management Committee joined the occasion, extending their blessings and best wishes to the Secretariat as the Chamber embarked on the year ahead.

During the gathering, the President and Management Committee reaffirmed a shared vision to empower and uplift Sri Lankan exporters, while encouraging the team to move forward with renewed energy and a positive, forward-looking mindset. With new team members joining the NCE family, the Secretariat and leadership collectively reiterated their commitment to serving the nation and contributing meaningfully toward achieving Sri Lanka's export ambitions in 2026.



# NCE Engages with Ministry and NIPO on Sri Lanka's Accession to the Madrid Protocol



On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026, the NCE met with the Hon. Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security and the Director General of the National Intellectual Property Office (NIPO) to discuss expediting Sri Lanka's accession to the Madrid Protocol. This accession is a critical step toward enabling Sri Lankan brands to more easily access and protect their trademarks in international markets.

The discussion focused on existing delays and key challenges in the accession process, highlighting the urgent need to address these obstacles in order to better support exporters and brand owners. During the meeting, the NCE reaffirmed its strong commitment to working closely with the Ministry and all relevant stakeholders to help fast-track this important national priority and further strengthen Sri Lanka's global branding and export competitiveness.

## NCE Hands Over Brand Magazine to the Ministry of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Co-operative Development



The NCE team met with Mr. K.A. Vimalenthirarajah, Secretary to the Ministry of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Co-operative Development, and Ms. Ameena Shafi Mohin, Director General of Commerce, on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026, and formally handed over the NCE Brand Magazine.

This flagship publication showcases 150 export brands of NCE member companies and highlights some of Sri Lanka's leading exporters. It features detailed company profiles, export destinations, and other key information relevant to international trade and business collaboration.

Both printed and digital versions of the magazine are expected to reach leading overseas business contacts and stakeholders, serving as an effective promotional tool to enhance the global visibility of Sri Lankan export brands and support market access initiatives.



## Meeting with the Hon. Deputy Minister of Industries on DITWA Flood Relief



The NCE held a fruitful meeting with the Hon. Deputy Minister of Industries and NCE members on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026, to discuss matters relating to flood relief support for industries affected under the DITWA programme.

During the meeting, discussions focused on identifying new avenues to support the impacted industries, while also receiving updates on the progress achieved to date and the various support mechanisms currently in place. The engagement was constructive and forward-looking, reaffirming the collective commitment to strengthening recovery efforts and ensuring sustained assistance for affected businesses.

## NCE Delegation to Jaffna Strengthens Regional Trade Linkages



The NCE successfully organized a business delegation to Jaffna in January 2026, in conjunction with two major national-level events—the Northern Investment Summit (NIS) and the Jaffna International Trade Fair (JITF). The delegation comprised 18 NCE member exporters representing a wide range of sectors.



## NCE Delegation to Jaffna Strengthens Regional Trade Linkages Contd.



NCE extends its sincere appreciation to NCE President, Mr. Indhira Kaushal Rajapaksa, for facilitating the Chamber's participation at the Northern Investment Summit held on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026. NCE was strongly represented at the summit, which provided valuable networking opportunities, meaningful engagement with key public and private sector stakeholders, and promising prospects for new memberships and strategic partnerships.



Interactions with suppliers, producers, and emerging exporters from the Northern Province were particularly encouraging, opening avenues for deeper regional collaboration and sustainable business linkages. Building on this momentum, NCE members also participated in a curated B2B forum organized by The Management Club (TMC), enabling structured discussions on sourcing, partnerships, and export opportunities.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026, the delegation visited the Jaffna International Trade Fair, where members engaged with exhibitors, explored regional production capabilities, and further strengthened commercial connections through targeted meetings and networking sessions.

Overall, the delegation proved to be highly productive and forward-looking, reinforcing NCE's continued commitment to expanding regional connectivity, fostering inclusive trade development, and supporting Sri Lanka's export growth agenda.

NCE sincerely thanks the Yarlpanam Chamber of Commerce and The Management Club for their invaluable support and assistance, which played a key role in the successful execution of this delegation.



# NCE Holds First Management Committee and Council Meetings for 2026



The NCE successfully conducted its first Management Committee Meeting and Council Meeting for the year 2026 on 27th January 2026 at the Best Western Hotel, Colombo.

The Management Committee Meeting focused on a range of key policy and operational matters concerning the activities and future direction of the Chamber. This was followed by the Council Meeting, where several important sectoral issues affecting the export community were discussed in detail.



A highlight of the Council Meeting was the participation of the Chairman of the Export Development Board (EDB), who provided valuable insights into the latest initiatives undertaken by the EDB. The Chairman also briefed members on the assistance and support being extended to exporters affected by the recent DITWA cyclone, particularly in relation to disaster relief and recovery measures.



The meetings concluded with an engaging networking session, providing interaction among members. In addition, newly inducted aspiring exporters who obtained NCE membership during the month of November were formally awarded their membership certificates.

Overall, the event proved to be an informative and productive session, strengthening collaboration among members and stakeholders while addressing timely issues impacting the export sector.



# NCE Successfully Hosts Flagship Policy Forum “Convening Leaders for Economic Resilience”



The National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) successfully concluded its flagship policy forum titled “Convening Leaders for Economic Resilience” on 28 January 2026 at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo. The high-profile event attracted over 200 participants, including CEOs, Directors, senior management, and finance professionals from export-oriented organizations, reflecting the strong interest of the export community in national policy developments.

The forum was organized with the objective of providing clear and timely insights into the 2026 National Budget, with a particular focus on policy directions, incentives, concessions, taxation measures, and regulatory provisions directly impacting exporters. The event served as a vital platform for dialogue between policymakers, industry leaders, and exporters, at a time when economic resilience and strategic planning are of paramount importance.

A key highlight of the forum was the expert panel discussion, which brought together leading authorities in trade, policy, and finance.

## The distinguished panel comprised:

- **Ms. J.M. Thilaka Jayasundara, The Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development**
- **Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe, Chairman, Export Development Board of Sri Lanka**
- **Mr. Suresh Perera, Principal – Head of Tax & Regulatory, KPMG in Sri Lanka**
- **Professor Rohan Samarajiva, Founding Chair, LIRNEasia**
- **Ms. Kasturi Chellaraja Wilson, Chief Operating Officer (Head of APAC), 5-Hour International Corporation Pte Ltd**
- **Mr. Ranil Dissanayake, Chief Operating Officer, Seylan Bank**

The panel discussion was ably moderated by Mr. Dhananath Fernando, Chief Operating Officer, Advocata Institute, who steered a thought-provoking conversation on policy priorities, fiscal measures, and strategic considerations for exporters navigating the year ahead.

In addition, Mr. Suresh Perera delivered an in-depth presentation analyzing the 2026 Budget proposals with direct relevance to the export sector. His comprehensive insights into taxation, compliance requirements, and fiscal planning were particularly valuable to company leadership and finance teams, helping them better understand the practical and strategic implications of the Budget.

The forum concluded with an interactive Q&A session and networking opportunities, enabling participants to engage directly with the panelists and fellow industry leaders. Overall, the event was widely regarded as informative, timely, and impactful, reinforcing NCE's role as a key advocate and knowledge partner for Sri Lanka's export community.



## Media Coverage – January 2026

In January, the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) was featured in national media for its advocacy and initiatives supporting exporters:



**Policy Forum on Economic Resilience:** NCE announced a policy forum to discuss strategies for strengthening Sri Lanka's export sector. Read more: [Read more..](#)

**Digital Transformation for Exporters:** NCE and Dialog Enterprise outlined plans to drive digital transformation among Sri Lankan exporters. Read more: [Read more..](#)

These stories highlight NCE's role in shaping trade dialogue and advancing exporter support.

## Trade related Information



### Potential Business Leads - Canada

We are pleased to share a list of potential business contacts in the Canada 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 Canada 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 TEA GROUP	
 Janet® AYURVEDA	 Kandrick® EST.1972	 KANDYGS HANDLOOMS	 KEELLS™ Food Products PLC	 LAUGFS RUBBER
 LUMBINI AQUARIA Living Colours Since 1952	 MABROC	 Multilac®	 Maliban® Inspiring goodness...	 M McLARENS CONTAINERS
 BAM	 Natural Product Network Napronet (Pvt) Ltd	 NM NEIL MARINE	 SPECTRA SYNERGIZING LOGISTICS	 TAPROBANE SEAFOODS
 T4 TEXTTRIP (PVT) LTD.	 APITALIA SRI LANKA	 TROIKAL	 WICHY COCONUT	 Derana Treat From Sri Lanka
 Noritake Standard of Perfection	 NIDRO	 NPS PACKAGING	 OCEANEEDS SRI LANKA	 Overdime
 PANASIA COLOURED YARNS	 PODIE	 PREMIER PACKAGING		 Regency teas





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# 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**

**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



## 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



**Inok Perera**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Dilini Gamlathge**  
Asst. Director - Member  
Services & Operations



**Susantha Rupatunge**  
Senior Executive -  
Member Services



**Sandun Koswattage**  
Manager Finance



**Deandra Weinman**  
Senior Executive -  
Business Development



**Sabrina Zavahir**  
Consultant - Events and  
Seminars



**Celene Weerasekara**  
Administrative Executive



**Dinu Bhashika**  
IT Executive



**Sayuri Sumanathilake**  
Executive -Member  
Services



**Shalika Yashodhara**  
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