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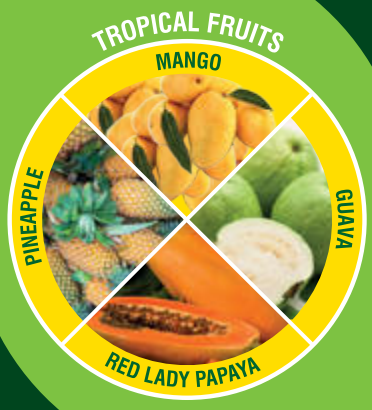
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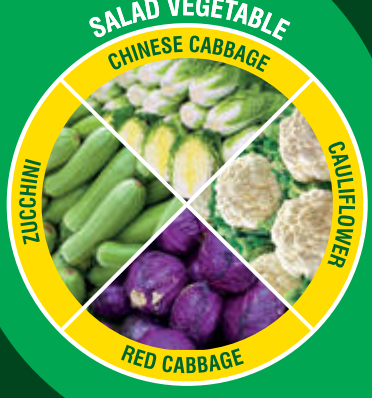
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SRI LANKA EXPORTER

116th EDITION

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SRI LANKA EXPORTER

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SERVICES OF THE CHAMBER

- Publication of the "Sri Lanka Exporter" Magazine
- Issue of Certificates of Origin and related Export Documentation
- Dissemination of Trade Inquiries and Trade Leads
- Conduct of Training Programmes and Workshops
- Conduct of Professional Courses through the National Institute of Exports (NIOE)
- Participation in Trade Fairs, Exhibitions, Trade Delegations etc.
- Issue of Specialized certificates
- Assistance for Innovation & Techno Entrepreneurship
- Assistance for Resource Efficient Cleaner Production
- Website Facilities
- Sectoral Meetings
- Representation of Macro and Individual Issues
- Support services for Trade Associations
- Distribution of Members Directory
- Dissemination of Market Information, Trade Statistics and Buyer Information
- Linking of Producers with Member Exporters
- Support SME's under the 'Aspiring Exporters' Programme
- Support services for women Entrepreneurs and Exporters
- Issue of Certificates of Ethical Trading (CET)
- Submission of Proposals for the Annual Budget of the Government
- Recognition of Export Performance
- Auditorium Facilities











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EDITORIAL

Stability is the way forward

A new year has dawned with renewed hope for new beginnings and milestones. With it comes the hope for recovery of economic, political and social spheres of life in our Motherland as the top priority.

The NCE presented a head start for exporters by recognizing and rewarding the best performers in the Global Market, during its 30th Annual Export Awards. With a recorded number of entries and awards, there were marked improvements among exporters despite numerous challenges they encountered.

Being the saving grace for Sri Lanka, exporters support the economy not only by bringing much needed foreign currency to the country, but also creating more employments, thereby supporting Sri Lankan households to survive and prosper. Hence sustaining this vital industry ought to be one of the top priorities of the governments' agenda.

In this regard, it is important to resurrect the Export Development Council of Ministers (EDMC) creating a platform for exporters to resolve their issues with the government. Forming a conducive environment for foreign direct investments also a priority whilst restructuring debts along with the troubled economy.

In order to achieve all development targets, the whole system to be structured on a foundation of Political Stability.



Menaka Wanniarachchi
Director Operations NCE
Editor-in-Chief

NCE CELEBRATED THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANNUAL EXPORT AWARDS

The National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka celebrated the 30th anniversary of its Annual Export Awards at Hotel Shangri-La, Colombo, rejoicing the best performance of Sri Lankan Exporters. The ceremony was held on 02nd December 2022, amidst a gathering of eminent personal connected to exports together with award winners.

The Chamber in celebrating the Pearl Anniversary of the Exports Awards this year, has organized under the theme "Recognizing, Inspiring and Strengthening" - a 30 years of unbroken commitment to Sri Lankan Exporters.

The Chamber received 164 applications, the highest number of recorded entrants in the history of NCE Awards and altogether 155 winners from 34 sectors received awards. There were marked number of nearly 950 attendees who gathered at Hotel Shangri-La, including the winners and special invitees to grace this prestigious event.

Introduced during the 29th Export Awards, the "NCE Challenge Trophy" was a highlight this year too awarded to organizations who perform ethical trading practices under Small, Medium, Large and Extra-Large categories based on their turnovers. It was noted the conferring of Certificates on 25 organizations who conduct business, according to the 8 Principals of Ethical Trading fostered by the Chamber.



Ravi Jayawardena
President - NCE



Jayantha Karunaratne
Chairman
Events Sub Committee /Vice President - NCE

President of the NCE, **Ravi Jayawardena** in his address assured the Government of fullest Cooperation of the Chambers for its export lead economic development plan for Sri Lanka. He noted the importance of resurrecting the Export Development Council of Ministers (EDCM) under President Hon. Ranil Wickramasinghe. Although the request has been echoed to Hon. Wickramasinghe many times the EDCM is yet to be resurrected, depriving the exporters of a platform to resolve their issues with Government.

He further added that the Chamber has requested a seat in the "Trade Development Board" to be set up, amalgamating Board of Investment, Export Development Board and Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation to facilitate an export led economy.

The Chambers' request to government permitting state workers to be employed in the private sector for a period of 05 years similar to overseas leave to lessen the burden on government budget is yet to be formalized, Jayawardena added.

Concluding, he stated that amidst all drawbacks, exporters are being blamed for delay in bringing in foreign remittances. He suggested a mechanism to be set up for a copy of the Customs Declaration form (CUSDEC) to be received by the Central bank and online platform for exporters to submit details of remittances to avoid such situations.

Jayantha Karunaratne, *Chairman – Events Sub Committee and Vice President of NCE*, addressing the gathering stated that "the last couple of years had been extremely challenging for all of us. However, our resilient exporters had the audacity to navigate successfully among those turbulences and managed to secure newer markets whilst sustaining their existing markets. As a result, the Chamber also glad to witness a record number of entries this time and there were marked improvements among all exporters".

He further stated that we must salute all exporters who have done well despite the challenging times in the recent past and Sri Lanka has earned a recorded income from exports during the last two years.

Marking a record of 170 applicants, there were 155 winners from 34 sectors who received awards. The evaluation process of the applications under the awards scheme have been facilitated by a competent panel of judges headed by Dr. Jagath Peiris eminent business personality and Technical Committee headed by Mr Samantha Kumarasena, Chief Executive Officer of National Cleaner Production Centre, Sri Lanka.

The selection of winners under the 'NCE Challenge Trophy' which is awarded to the most ethically trading exporter was evaluated by a 03-member panel of judges Headed by Dr. Rohantha Athukorala, prominent business and academic personal.

The Global Audit Firm, Ernest & Young played a vital role in the whole process of evaluation of applications by ensuring the full transparency and integrity.



The Story
Behind the Trophy

The trophy awarded during this flagship event has its own story. The Trophy is cylindrical in shape with a globe carrying the world map at its apex. The Globe depicts the International nature of export markets covering the entire world. The Trophy also has the nature of a Light House depicting a beacon showing the path ahead for Sri Lankan exports which are so vital for the economy. The three metal plated arrows round the globe originating from its bottom, and increasing in thickness and pointing upwards depicts growth in exports related to international markets. They also represent the triple bottom line in respect of an enterprise comprising of Profit, People, and the Planet, which is a modern concept for the overall sustainability of an organization. The black color of the trophy conveys 'Authority and Power' in terms of color psychology which is reminiscent of the real nature of exports.

Award Winners Icon







National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) has introduced the Award Winners Icon to highlight the success of the Award Winners at the prestigious Annual Export Awards.

All winners are provided with this "Special Logo" by NCE. They have the opportunity to use the relevant winning icon in all their publicity and marketing materials, both locally and internationally.

For More Information
www.nce.lk

Special Awards 2022

During the event, special awards have been conferred in addition to the overall sectorial awards.

Most Outstanding Exporter – Overall



LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Ltd

Most Outstanding Exporter Runners Up



Joint Agri Products Ceylon Pvt Ltd

Best Value Added Exporter - Products Sector



CBL Global Foods

Which recognizes the highest Value Addition achieved by Exporters in respect of Products and Services since it is an aspect which demonstrates higher Foreign Exchange Earnings for the Country.

Best Value Added Exporter - Services Sector



Orel IT

Best Sri Lankan Brand Exporter



Ceylon Biscuit Ltd.

This Award is conferred in respect of the Best Sri Lankan Owned Export Brand, since Brands which are recognized in overseas markets will have a distinct advantage over competitors.

Best Performer in Emerging Markets



Joint Agri Products Ceylon (Pvt) Ltd.

This Award recognizes Exporters who have achieved excellence in new and emerging markets, in order to encourage the Diversification and Expansion of Exports. The Applicable Emerging Markets are determined by the Chamber in consultation with the Export Development Board and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

Best Incorporator of Skills of Differently Abled Persons



dkw-Aqua International (Pvt) Ltd.

This Award recognizes Enterprises which facilitate contributions made by 'Differently abled Persons' through the utilization of their Special skills, either by employing them directly, or by utilizing the services of such persons in society. The Award also recognize infrastructure facilities as well as other services provided to such persons by Export Oriented Enterprises.

Best Performer in Research and Development Activities



Samson International Plc

This special award is conferred to achievers related to Research and Development Activities that has yielded beneficial results enabling the Innovation and Differentiation of Products, as well as the introduction of new High-Tech products to International Markets

Best Woman Exporter



Brilliant Cuts (Pvt) Ltd.

This Award recognizes the achievements of Woman in the field of Exports, who is the owner of an Export Enterprise, and who is instrumental in the success of the Enterprise. This special award serves to encourage in increased participation of women in leadership positions of Export Enterprises.

Most Outstanding SME Exporter



Ceyline Maritime Services (Pvt) Ltd.

This Award gives special recognition to achievers related to Small and This Award gives special recognition to achievers related to Small and Medium Export Oriented Enterprises, in order to encourage them, since they are a worthy category who make an enormous contribution to the Economic Development of Sri Lanka.

Highest Foreign Exchange Earner



Dipped Products Plc

The Chamber confers special awards to the highest net foreign exchange earners in respect of all Products and Services sectors. These Awards are conferred to export enterprises in the extra large category with the highest next foreign exchange earnings over and above a bench mark that will be determined by the Panel of Judges.

Most Innovative Exporter



Samson International (Pvt) Ltd.

This award recognizes a very critical aspect related to This award recognizes a very critical aspect related to Exports which is Innovation and Differentiation of Sri Lankan Products and Services related to competing Products and Services from other Suppliers to enable expansion of exports.

Late Deshabandu Patrick Amarasinghe Challenge Trophy



Ceyline Maritime Services (Pvt) Ltd.

This award is conferred in memory of the Late Deshabandu Patrick Amarasinghe, Founder President of the NCE This award is conferred in memory of the Late Deshabandu Patrick Amarasinghe, Founder President of the NCE who had pioneered the NCE Export Awards to recognize and reward Sri Lankan Exporters on their achievements and excellent performance in the International Market.
The Late Deshabandu Patrick Amarasinghe was a person who passionately fought for, and also represented the interests of SME Export Oriented Enterprises in view of their valuable contribution to the Export Development effort of the Country. The Chamber confers this Special Challenge Trophy to the Best Performer among SMEs, who have effectively contributed to 'Export Value Chains' in keeping with modern trends in International Trade.







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Winners of the NCE Challenge Trophy 2022

Introduced during the 29th Export Awards, the "NCE Challenge Trophy" was a highlight this year too awarded to organizations who perform ethical trading practices.

In addition to the multifaceted award scheme, this new Challenge trophy is awarded for the best ethically functioned organization under small, medium, large and extra-large categories. The criteria for selecting the winners was based on three main aspects ie. Environment, Social Accountability and Economic well-being and in line with the 08 principles reflected in the Certificate of Ethical Trading issued by the Chamber.



Extra Large Category
Dipped Products Plc



Large Category
Nidro Supply (Pvt) Ltd



Medium Category
Ceylon Cold Stores Plc



Small Category
Green Way Asia Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.



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CET Awarded at the 30th Annual NCE Export Awards



As a special segment, the NCE conferred Certificate of Ethical Trading during the 30th Annual Export Awards held on 02nd December 2022 at Hotel Shangri-La, Colombo. Altogether, 24 export oriented organizations who have aligned their business activities with ethical trading practices received certificates.

Good values are to be upheld on a continuous improvement basis for exporter organizations to obtain international recognition. As the Voice of the Exporters, the NCE supports its member exporters to be ethically certified business entities in international markets.

1. Asiabike Industrial Limited
2. Ceyline Maritime Services (Pvt) Ltd
3. Ceylon Jewelry Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd
4. Colombo Export and Import Agencies (Pvt) Ltd
5. Diamond Cutters Limited
6. Farmchemie Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd
7. Halal Accreditation Council (Guarantee) Limited
8. Imperial Tea Exports (Pvt) Ltd
9. Mabroc Teas (Pvt) Ltd
10. Macksons Paint Industries (Private) Limited
11. Maliban Biscuit Manufactories (Pvt) Ltd
12. Miami Clothing (Pvt) Ltd
13. Napronet (Private) Limited
14. Oceaneeds (Pvt) Ltd
15. People's Organisation for Development Import and Export
16. Regency Teas Pvt Ltd
17. Rileys Pvt Ltd
18. Riococo Lanka (Pvt) Ltd
19. Samson Rajarata Tiles (Pvt) Ltd
20. Samson Rubber Products (Pvt) Ltd
21. Scanwell Logistics Colombo (Pvt) Ltd
22. Taprobane Seafoods (Private) Limited
23. Tropikal Life International (Pvt) Ltd
24. Wichy Plantation Company (Pvt) Ltd

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Award Winners 2022



Adamjee Lukmanjee & Sons (Pvt) Ltd.
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Advantis Freight (Pvt) Ltd.
Logistic Services Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Advantis Projects & Engineering (Pvt) Ltd.
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze



Alumex PLC
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Anverally & Sons (Pvt) Ltd
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



ARAVA (Pvt) Ltd.
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Arpitalian Compact Soles (Pvt) Ltd
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



ASHKAR GEMS
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze

Award Winners 2022



Asiabike Industrial Limited
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Astron Limited
Pharmaceutical Products including Medicinal related Ayurvedic & Herbal Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Gold



Bio Extracts (Pvt) Ltd
Pharmaceutical Products including Medicinal related Ayurvedic & Herbal Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Bio Food Exports (Private) Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Bio Food Exports (Private) Limited
Organic Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



BoardPAC (Pvt) Ltd
ICT, BPO & related Services Sector
Category: Medium Award: Bronze



Bogala Graphite Lanka PLC
Other Mineral-based Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



BonTerra Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver

Award Winners 2022



Botanicoir Lanka (Private) Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Brilliant Cuts (Pvt) Ltd
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze



CBL Global Foods Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



CBL Natural Foods (Private) Limited
Organic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Ceilan Coir Products Export (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Ceyline Maritime Services (Pvt) Ltd
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Ceylon Biscuit Limited
Confectionary Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Ceylon Cold Stores PLC
Confectionary Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold

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Award Winners 2022



Ceylon Eco Spices (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Ceylon Exports & Trading (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Ceylon Jewelry Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Ceylon Tenny Tea (Private) Limited
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Chas P Hayley & Company (Pvt.) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



City Cycle Industries Manufacturing (Pvt) Ltd
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



CL Synergy Limited
Service Providers to Exporters Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Cocotech Exports Lanka (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver

Award Winners 2022



Colombo Dockyard PLC
Boat & Ship Building, and Repair Services Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Colombo Export & Import Agencies (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



D & R Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Processed Food Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



D. Samson Industries (Pvt) Ltd
Leather & Leather-based Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Damsila Resources (Pvt) Ltd
Other Mineral-based Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



Dankotuwa Porcelain PLC
Ceramic, Porcelain, and other Clay Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



DBS Logistics Limited
Logistic Services Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Diamond Cutters Limited
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver

Award Winners 2022



Diamond Dreams (Pvt) Ltd
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze



Dipped Products PLC
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



dkw-Aqua International (Private) Limited
Plastics and Plastic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Dutch Lanka Trailer Manufacturers Ltd
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Eco Transfer Prints (Pvt) Ltd
Suppliers to Exporters Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Enrich Tea & Food Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Enrich Tea & Food Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Fresh & Processed Agricultural Export Crops Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Enrich Tea & Food Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze

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2017 CAUSEWAY PAINTS to asianpaints **LKR 9.1 Bn** **Divestiture**	2019 ekuinas sale of A·P·I·I·T **LKR 1.9 Bn** **Divestiture**	2017 London Stock Exchange Group sale of millennium information technologies to AMBEON HOLDINGS PLC **LKR 1.6 Bn** **Divestiture**	2019 Cable Solutions to ACL CABLES **LKR 994 Mn** **Divestiture**	2020 SERENDIB LEISURE to LOLC **LKR 793 Mn** **Divestiture**

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Award Winners 2022



Enrich Tea & Food Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



E-Silk Route Ventures (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Expolanka (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



Expolanka (Pvt) Ltd
Organic Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



Expolanka (Pvt) Ltd
Processed Food Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Farmchemie Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd.
Poultry & Livestock Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Flex Film International (Private) Limited
Plastics and Plastic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Flynntair Ceylon Teas (Pvt) Ltd
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze

Award Winners 2022



GAC Shipping Limited
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Global Rubber Industries (Pvt) Ltd
Rubber Tyres and Accessories Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Global Seafoods (Pvt) Ltd
Fisheries & Fishery Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Green Space International Private Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Silver



Green Way Asia Lanka (Pvt) Ltd
Fresh & Processed Agricultural Export Crops Sector
Category: Small Award: Gold



GreenKeepers (Pvt) Ltd
Recycled Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Halal Accreditation Council (Guarantee) Limited
Service Providers to Exporters Sector
Category: Small Award: Gold



Haycarb PLC
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver

Award Winners 2022



Hayleys Agro Biotech (Pvt) Ltd
Floriculture & Horticulture Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Hayleys Fibre PLC
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Hayleys Free Zone Limited (HFZ)
Logistic Services Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Haymat Private Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Bronze



HJS Condiments Limited
Processed Food Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



hSenid Business Solutions PLC
ICT, BPO & related Services Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



HVA Foods PLC
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Iceman Paper Products (Pvt) Ltd
Service Providers to Exporters Sector
Category: Medium Award: Bronze



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Imperial Tea Exports (Pvt) Ltd.
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



JF&I Packaging (Private) Limited
Packaging Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



JF&I Packaging (Private) Limited
Paper & Paper-based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



JFS Holdings (Private) Limited
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Joint Agri Products Ceylon (Pvt)Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Joint Agri Products Ceylon (Pvt)Ltd
Organic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Joint Agri Products Ceylon (Pvt)Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Keells Food Products PLC
Processed Food Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Gold

Award Winners 2022



Lanka Commodity Trading Private Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Lanka Commodity Trading Private Limited
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Lanka Hydraulic Institute Ltd
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Ltd
Rubber Tyres and Accessories Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Lumbini Aquaria International (Pvt) Ltd
Ornamental Fish Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Mabroc Teas (Private) Limited
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



MAC G.F Lanka Private Limited
Logistic Services Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Macksons Paint Industries (Private) Limited
Chemical Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold

Award Winners 2022



Maliban Biscuit Manufactories (Pvt) Ltd
Confectionary Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Manisha Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



MA's Tropical Food Processing Pvt Ltd
Processed Food Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



McLarens Containers (Pvt) Ltd.
Logistic Services Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



Miami Clothing (Pvt) Ltd
Textiles and Garments Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Mike Biotech Asia (Pvt) Ltd
Floriculture & Horticulture Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Millennium Teas (Pvt) Ltd.
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



Muve Colombo (Pvt) Ltd
ICT, BPO & related Services Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver

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Napronet (Private)Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Silver



Navik Mills (Private) Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Navik Mills (Private) Limited
Organic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Neil Fernando & Co (Pvt) Ltd
Boat & Ship Building, and Repair Services Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Nestlé Lanka PLC
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



New Dehara Trading Company (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



New Lanka Cinnamon (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Nidro Supply (Pvt) Ltd
Fresh & Processed Agricultural Export Crops Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold

Award Winners 2022



NJ EXPORTS
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



OREL IT (Pvt) Ltd
ICT, BPO & related Services Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



ORIT APPARELS LANKA (PVT) LTD.
Textiles and Garments Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



OTR Wheel Engineering Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd.
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



P N B Link BPO Solutions (Pvt) Ltd
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Small Award: Gold



Pan Asia Coloured Yarns (Private) Limited
Suppliers to Exporters Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Peoples' Organisation For Development Import & Export
Organic Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



PGP Glass Ceylon PLC
Glass and Glass Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold

Award Winners 2022



Plastipak Lanka (Pvt) Limited
Packaging Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Plastipak Lanka (Pvt) Limited
Plastics and Plastic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Plastipak Lanka (Pvt) Limited
Recycled Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Premier Packaging International (Pvt) Ltd
Suppliers to Exporters Sector
Category: Medium Award: Bronze



Pura Vida International (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Quality Seed Company (Pvt) Ltd
Floriculture & Horticulture Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Ramya Horticulture (Pvt) Limited
Floriculture & Horticulture Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Ravi Industries Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



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Award Winners 2022



Regency Teas (Pvt) Ltd.
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Renuka Agri Foods PLC
Organic Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Resources Development Consultants (Pvt) Ltd.
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Medium Award: Bronze



Rhino Roofing Products Limited
Other Mineral-based Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Richard Pieris Exports PLC
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Richard Pieris Natural Foams Ltd
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Rileys Private Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Riococo Lanka (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver

Award Winners 2022



Ruhunu Spice Exports Pvt Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Samagi Organics (Pvt) Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Samagi Spice Exports Pvt Ltd
Spices and Spice based Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Samson Bikes (Pvt) Ltd
Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Samson International PLC
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Samson Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze



Samson Rajarata Tiles (Pvt) Ltd
Ceramic, Porcelain, and other Clay Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Samson Rubber Industries (Pvt) Ltd
Rubber Tyres and Accessories Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver

Award Winners 2022



Samson Rubber Products (Pvt) Ltd
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Samtessi Brush Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd
Wood & Wood-based Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Sanken Overseas (Pvt) Ltd
Business & Professional Services Exports Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Gold



Scanwell Logistics Colombo (Pvt) Ltd
Service Providers to Exporters Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



Sena Mills Refineries Exports (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Bronze



Senikma Holdings (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Silver



SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd
Service Providers to Exporters Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold



Sierra Cables PLC
Electronic & Electrical Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold

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Award Winners 2022



Spectra Integrated Logistics (Pvt) Ltd
Logistic Services Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Statesman Hats (Pvt) Ltd
Textiles and Garments Sector
Category: Large Award: Bronze



Synex Holdings (Pvt) Limited
Electronic & Electrical Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



Sysco LABS Technologies (Pvt) Ltd.
ICT, BPO & related Services Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Tantra (Pvt) Ltd
Gems & Jewellery Sector
Category: Small Award: Bronze



Taprobane Seafoods (Private) Limited
Fisheries & Fishery Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver



Textrip (Private) Limited.
Rubber & Rubber Products Sector
Category: Medium Award: Gold



Toyo Cushion Lanka (Private) Limited
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Large Award: Gold

Award Winners 2022



Tradlanka Agricultural Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd.
Fresh & Processed Agricultural Export Crops Sector
Category: Medium Award: Silver



U H E Exports (Private) Limited
Tea & Tea Products Sector
Category: Small Award: Gold



Wichy Plantation Company (Pvt) Ltd
Coconut & Coconut Products Sector
Category: Extra Large Award: Silver

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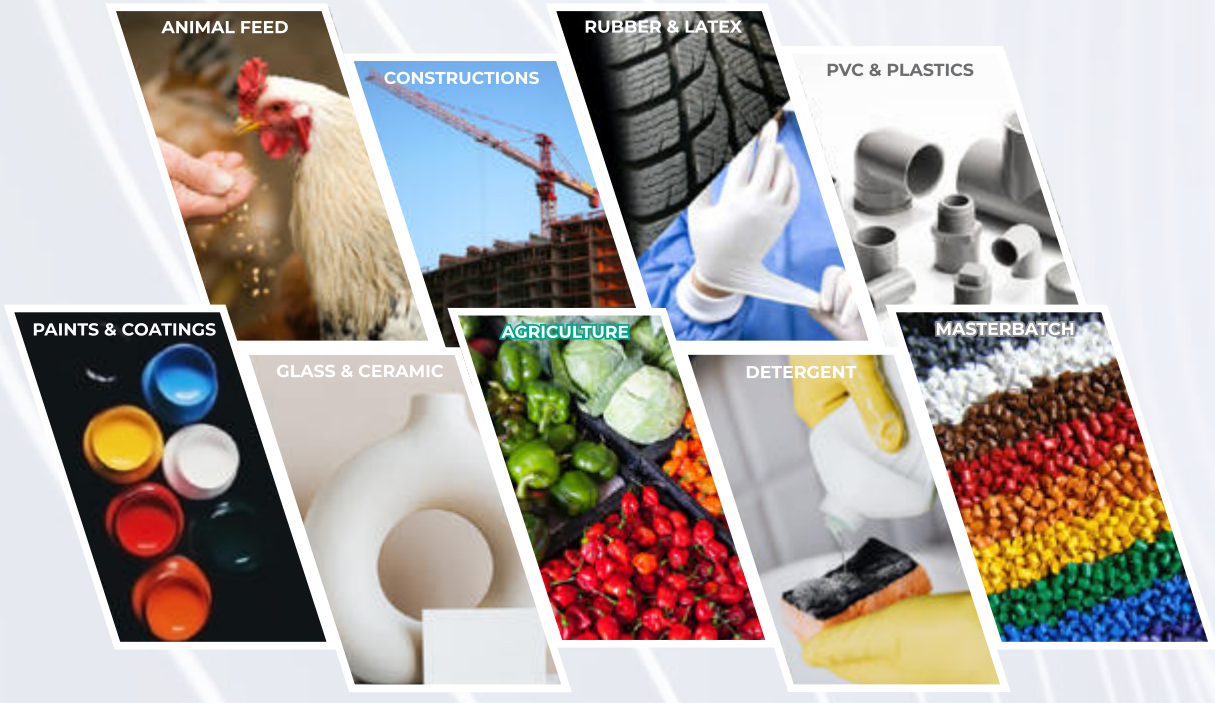
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OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER

Delegation to U.A.E



The Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Dubai, in collaboration with the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCESL) organized a visit of a 12-member Business delegation from Sri Lanka to the UAE from 05th to 09th December 2022. The business delegation consisted of Sri Lankan companies representing product and service sectors of Ceylon Tea, Spices, Packaging, Coconut based products, IT Solutions, Food products and Rubber based products.

During the visit, a comprehensive programme for the visiting delegation was organized by the Consulate General office in collaboration with Sri Lanka Business Council in Dubai, Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Ras Al Khaimah Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

05th December 2022

A briefing session to enhance awareness of the visiting delegation on the UAE market was held at the Consulate General premises with the participation of the Consul General – Nalinda Wijerathna/Secretary General NCE - Shiham Marikar/Chairman SLBC in Dubai – Riza Mohammed and Board Members of the SLBC. The Consulate General Office, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Business Council, also organized a number of B2B meetings with targeted business ventures in the UAE to facilitate networking among the business communities of the two countries.

06 th December 2022

The visiting delegation took part in a Business Forum and B2B meetings organized at the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI). The Sri Lankan delegation was received by H.E. Mohammad Ahmed Amin Al Awadi, Director-General of SCCI, and Abdulaziz Shattaf, Assistant Director General for Business and Communication Sector of SCCI. Contd.

08th December 2022

The delegation participated in a business forum and B2B meetings in Emirates of Ras Al Khaimah. This programme was held at the Ras Al Khaimah Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the participation of H.E. Mohamed Ali Musabbeh Al Nuaimi, Chairman of the Ras Al Khaimah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and 1st Vice Chairman of the RAK Chamber and the members of the Chamber Board of Directors. The delegation also participated in a Business Forum organized by the RAK Chamber in collaboration with several government institutions and the business community. During the official level meetings in the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Ras A Khaimah Chamber of Commerce,

both parties discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral trade and investment cooperation and to create linkages between the business communities of the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, the Emirate of Sharjah and Sri Lanka. The Chairmen and the officials of RAK Chamber and Sharjah Chamber re-assured their fullest cooperation and collaboration with the Sri Lankan Consulate General Office and the Sri Lankan Government in future bilateral promotional activities which include proposed Sri Lankan Trade Exhibition in Ras Al Khaimah. The visit of the Sri Lankan delegation and programmes in the two emirates provided the visiting delegation a platform to discuss potential collaboration in a range of industries while establishing the avenues to explore new trade and investment collaborations to further promote trade between business communities of the two countries.















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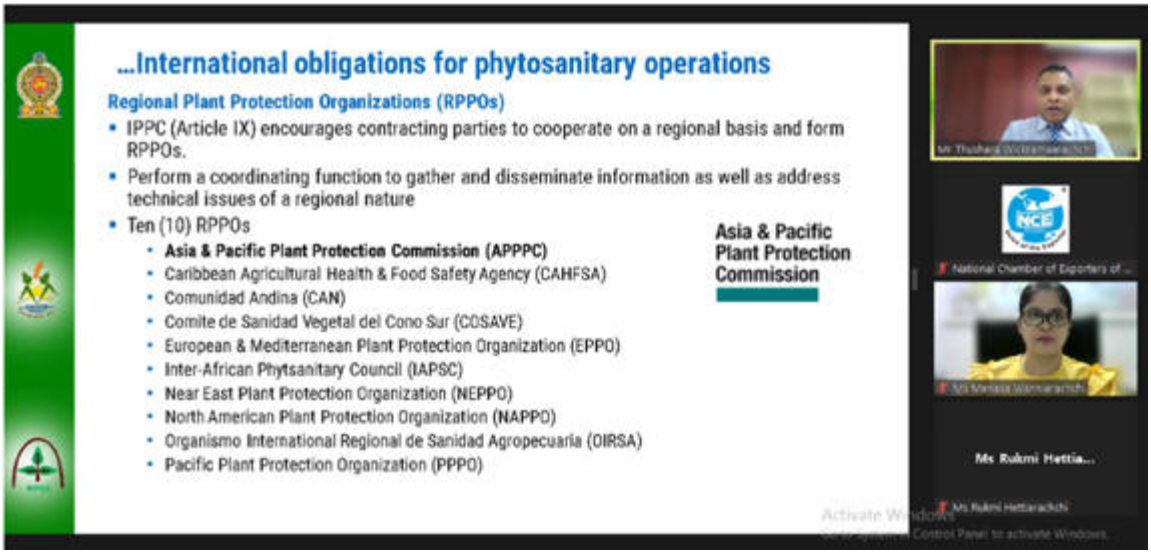
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NCE conducted a Webinar on, What is Phytosanitary & Why Phytosanitary certificate is important in plant-based exports.



NCE organized a very important webinar on Phytosanitary Certification, an exporter must ensure to obtain when exporting plants and plant-based products from Sri Lanka. th This webinar was held on 05 October 2022 on zoom platform, key note address delivered by Dr W A RT Wickramaarachchi, Additional Director, the National Plant Protection Organization of Sri Lanka.

Meet the Producers in Matara District





On an invitation by the Industrial Development Board, District Office in Matara, the NCE joined "Meet the Producers in Matara District", a program to create a platform between producers and exporters. NCE led a group th of 42 individuals from 20 exporting and service providing companies to this event which was held on 14 October 2022. This program was organized with the objective of offering opportunities for producers to become indirect exporters by supplying their products to exporters. The NCE also to provide assistance through industry experts on knowledge sharing basis to selected producers through this programs. The Chamber intends to continue such programs in collaboration with the IDB, focusing on producers in different Districts, Island wide.

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Annual NCE Post Budget Forum



The Chamber conducted the Post Budget Forum, pursuant to the presentation of the National Budget 2023 in the Parliament of Sri Lanka.

The main objective of this forum is to address fiscal and non-fiscal areas that has a direct impact on businesses, especially on exporters.

Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor Central Bank of Sri Lanka gave an overview of the National Budget 2023 followed by a panel discussion. Apresentation on the budget and its impact on exports was presented by Mr Suleiman Nishtar-Partner EY Tax.

A team of prominent panelists including Dr Nandalal Weerasinghe Governor CBSL, Mr Mahina Gunaweera Deputy Commissioner General of Inland Revenue, Mr Suleiman Nishtar Partner Tax –EY, Mr Suresh de Mel Chairman Export Development Board, Mr Sarada de Silva Emeritus and Founder Chairman of Sri Lanka Spice Council, Past President NCE, Mr Kaushal Rajapaksa Vice President NCE conducted the panel discussion. Moderated by Mr Shiham Marikar – Secretary General/Chief Executive Officer NCE.

This forum was held on 22nd September at Hotel Galadari, Colombo.



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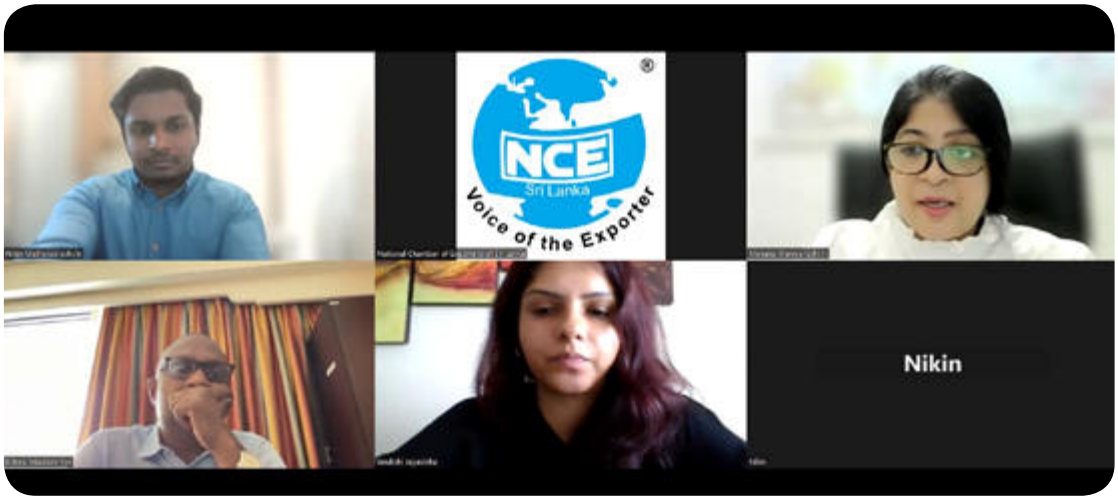


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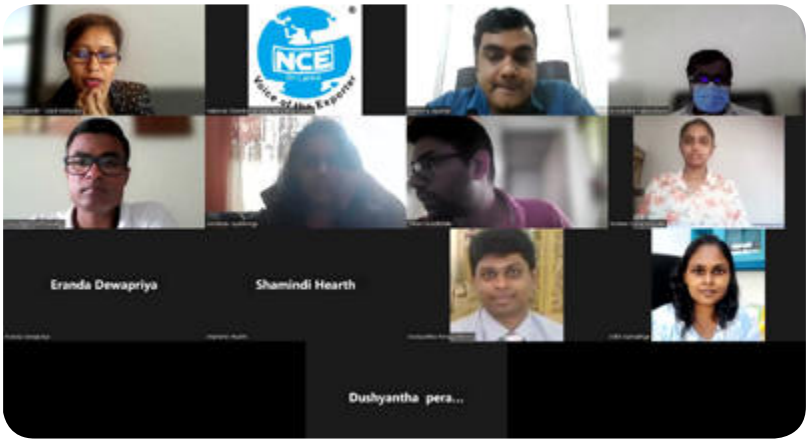
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"A Portal Into Your Customer's Mind" Webinar on How Artificial Intelligence will Transform Local & Global Businesses



NCE conducted a webinar on "A Portal into your Customer's Mind," an insight into how marketing and promotional spend can be analyzed to gain the maximum Return on Investment. The forum was held on 16th November on zoom platform. A team of expertise, addressed the forum, sharing their knowledge, expertise and views with the audience.

Third PCQI Training Programme



The NCE conducted the latest online course on Preventative Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI), from 22 th to 24 November 2022, under the partnership with Hatton National Bank PLC. The participants who completed the 03 day course will be certified as US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) qualified individuals. This will facilitate their respective organizations to export to the US food and beverage market effectively.

On successful completion of this FDA-approved standardized curriculum, participants received a Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) PCQI certificate recognized by the FDA and issued by the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) and the International Food Protection Training Institute. Fulfilling the requirements to be a PCQI is a critical step in exporting food and beverages to the United States. This programe was conducted by Kemasorooby Vasenth, a certified instructor in Preventive Controls for Human Food.

This course is aimed at exporters seeking to meet the training requirements for the PCQI.

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Web: www.dankotuwa.com

D.K.W-Aqua International (Pvt) Ltd.

Founded in 2008, the manufacturing plant of dkw-Aqua is located among tea plantations in the town of Hatton. It produces high quality HDPE and LLDPE flexible packaging under the Quality Management System ISO 9001:2015. The GMP and HACCP certified facility possesses ISO 22000-2018 and FSSC 22000-2018 certifications covering the production of food contact packaging and ISO 13485-2016 certificatio covering production of medical devices. The facility is equipped with product testing and uninterruptible power supply.

We also produce compostable bags and films satisfying OK Compost Industrial (EN 13432) and OK Compost Home criteria for the European markets upon request. Bags and films are produced with FDA approved raw materials complying with CONEG regulations in USA. Production process consists of mono layer, A/B and A/B/A structure blown film extrusion, printing Rotogravure up to 8 colours & Flexography up to 6 colours and conversion capability for sheets, bags, bags on roll and personal protective garments. The role of being a leader in any industry is challenging. Being innovative in exploiting market opportunities and conditions we will continue staying positive in the face of challenges ahead.

Email: apl@aqualk.com

Fanam International (Pvt) Ltd.

Since 1986. Our Business Activity and Sectors are Agriculture, Coconut Coir, and Livestock & Poultry.We cater Products for Growers and Planters Market, Livestock and Poultry for Farmers and Breeders in the Animal Husbandry.Our core export products are Plant Substrates and Organic Growing Medium which includes Organic Compost, Organic Manure and Organic Potting Mix manufacturing a line of six Specialty Products for Agriculture and Horticulture Applications.

PLATINUM ®Coco Peat is Premium Grade substrate which is treated, 100% Natural and Organic, has anti-fungal and natural rooting hormone properties, low EC and suitable for hot summer and cold winter Climates. We Market in a variety of forms as compressed 25kg bulk bale, 5kg blocks, 650gm briquettes, Planter bags and as Grow bags.

PLATINUM ®COCO HUSK CHIPS for flower pots and flower bed decorations, Orchids, Bromeliads, Anthuriums, other applications.CRESCITA ®COMPOST plus Soil Conditioner has 100% organic matter (OM) and rich in Organic Carbon (OC) 30%-35% SONLITE ®Potting Mix is made from all Natural and Organic raw materials for container and bed plants applications and also for Garden and Commercial Landscaping. We manufacture Organic and Pure Manure form Farm yard Livestock and Poultry marketed as Cow dung, Goat dung and Chicken Litter Manure.

Tel: +94 11 2934234 | +94 11 7227444 **Hotline:** +94 755225577 | +94 777775334 **Email:** Exportsales@fanaminternational.com | Fanam@sltnet.lk

Web: www.fanaminternational.com

Flex Film International (Pvt) Ltd.

Founded in 2011, we manufacture high quality LLDPE and HDPE flexible packaging at our manufacturing plant located in Nalla, Giriulla, exclusively for export to USA and Europe. Our workforce is dedicated, well trained and multi-disciplined. The GMP and HACCP certifie facility possesses ISO 22000-2018 and FSSC 22000-2018 certifications for the production of food contact packaging. Having ISO 14001 certification ensures that we have taken steps to minimise our impact on the environment. The facility is equipped with product testing, uninterruptible power supply, renewable energy and post industrial plastic recycling.

Bags and films are produced with FDA approved raw materials complying with CONEG regulations in USA. Production process consists of mono layer and / A/B/A fil structure extrusion, rotogravure printing up to 4 colours and conversion capability for multiple configurations of bag, sheets and accessories. The role of being a leader in any industry is challenging. Being innovative in exploiting market opportunities and conditions we will continue staying positive in the face of challenges ahead.

Email: apl@aqualk.com

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www.asiabike.lk

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Web: www.royalcashew.com

HDDES Extracts (Pvt) Ltd.

HDDES GROUP is a collection of companies that revolves in a corporate environment in the tropical paradise of Sri Lanka, since1982. HDDES takes great pride in being one of the few companies that manufacture and exports Organic and Conventional Spices, Essential oils, Oleoresins, Herbal Extracts, Floral Extracts, Hydrolates, Natural Aromatic Chemicals, Coconut based products & Instant Tea. Thus promoting the true Sri Lankan identity to the entire world whilst overcoming barriers of traditional business stereotypes to achieve various business dimensions in areas such as world-renowned Flavour and Fragrance Houses, Pharmaceutical and Nutraceutical Companies, Food and Beverages industries and Aromatherapy industries.

Products of HDDES are certified as per various international quality standards such as EEC No.834/2007 & EC 889/2008, USDA- NOP, JAS, Fairtrade, FDA, Kosher & HALAL standards. Also, HDDES production facility is certified for FSSC 22000, ISO 22000 & SMETA. Products of HDDES are manufactured using high-quality raw materials. The whole production chain is carefully monitored through a high tech surveillance system. HDDES own highly sophisticated laboratory ensures product consistency and quality all throughout

Web: www.hddes.com

HJS Condiments Limited

HJS Condiments Limited is a member of the prestigious large conglomerate, Hayleys PLC, being a part of Hayleys Agriculture Holdings. Nearly 29 years, the main business of the company is value addition and exporting of processed fruits and vegetable, mainly pickle cucumber with the company vision of "To be a leading pickle and exotic fruits and vegetables manufacturer and exporter in Asia and to remain the number one processed fruits and vegetables supplier and exporter in Sri Lanka. Its supply chain Sunfrost (Pvt) Limited is also a subsidiary of Hayleys which commenced in 1988. HJS Condiments Limited accounts for 62.5% of processed fruits and vegetable export of the country and its products are currently export to 52 countries including Japan, Spain, Malaysia, Singapore, USA, UK, China, Holland, Belgium, Middle East countries etc.

The majority of our products are directly exported to leading supermarkets, departmental stores and food service companies such as Mc Donald's, Burger King, Subway, Hungry Jack's, Hardees, Aldi, Lulu etc.

Web: www.hjs-srilanka.com

Laugfs Industrial Tyres

LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Ltd. uses cutting-edge technology and globally recognized Total Quality Management (TQM) processes to manufacture a full spectrum of industrial tyres for a variety of industrial applications, including material handling, construction, mining and support equipment for a multitude of industrial operations. With strong investments in R&D and process technology, LAUGFS Rubber continues its journey of rapid expansion with a growing product portfolio and a global client base. LAUGFS Industrial Tyres are manufactured to international standards utilizing premium Sri Lankan rubber, backed by its team of dedicated experts. Each tyre is manufactured with a robust focus on enhancing durability, reliability and long-term use in order to ensure that customers always receive solid industrial tyres that they can count on.

LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Limited makes it a point every day to take extra steps to minimize its impact on the environment. We believe it is our responsibility as an organization to do the right thing not just for Sri Lanka, but for the world as a whole.

Web: www.laugfsindustrialtyres.com



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Lanka Cnneries (Pvt) Ltd.

Lanka Canneries (Pvt) Ltd is the successor to the Marketing Department which was established by a British Civil Servant Mr. R.H. Basset in the 1930's.
The Company uses state of the art fruit processing machinery to produce Jams, Fruit Cordials, Sauces, Fruit Juices, Fruit Nectars, Fruit Creams, Pickles, Chutneys, Sambols, Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Pure Kithul and Coconut Treacle, Vinegar, Coconut Milk, Coconut cream, Spices, Tomato Puree etc...
All products manufactured by the company are produced under stringent quality control standards which are complaint to ISO22000 and HACCP awarded by SGS and endorsed by UKAS Management Systems.
Lanka Canneries is the market leader in Sri Lanka for its product range and also exports to over 35 countries around the globe with its presence in Tesco PLC and ASDA Walmart UK.
Web: www.lankacanneries.com

Lumbini Aquaria International (Pvt) Ltd.

Lumbini Aquaria being the pioneer and the Largest Exporter of Ornamental Fish & Aquatic Plants in Sri Lanka has been exporting high quality Fresh Water Fish, Cold Water Fish, Marine Fish, Invertebrates and Aquatic Plants since 1952.
70 years of experience and our stability enables us to provide the requirement of ornamental fish whilst maintaining high quality standards. Lumbini is capable in processing and export any order within 5 to 6 days of receiving an order depending on flight availability. Our Professional, Experienced and Dedicated staff are committed to satisfy our esteemed customers around the world.
Web: www.lumbiniaquaria.com

Lustre Design Corporation (Pvt) Ltd.

Lustre Design Corporation (pvt) Ltd is a recently established company, which provides high quality Gem cutting services to the local and international market. Key goal of Lustre is to highlight and educate both consumers and businesses within the industry, the importance of not only the gemstone, but also the cut that is associated with it.
Lustre Design Corporation, specializes in inventing gem cutting and polishing designs. Our customers provide rough gemstones, which are then processed individually by hand through the stages of performing, calibrating, cutting and polishing as per client requirements. We add value to the gemstones and re-export it back to our customers in the international markets. The payments for our services are charged and received in US dollars, contributing to the influx of foreign exchange to the country.
Web: www.lustredesignsco.com

Nestlé Lanka PLC.

In keeping with our commitment to take Sri Lankan products global, Nestlè Lanka PLC has become one of the largest exporters of Coconut Milk Powder in the world with a global presence in over 50 countries, and is also the market leader in Sri Lanka. MAGGI® Coconut Milk Powder is perfect for household as well as out of Home usage.
Web: www.nestle.lk

Orel IT (Pvt) Ltd.

OREL IT, founded in 2010, is a top-tier IT solutions company that has excelled in both the Sri Lankan and worldwide IT markets during its time in business. Our fir functions with a great focus on Artificial Intelligence, Data Services, Engineering Services, and Managed Services ranging over 12 distinct industries, delivering an array of high-quality services with a young and passionate team of IT professionals with top capabilities. Despite its humble beginnings as a two-person corporate fraternity, OREL IT has grown to include multiple league locations at Colombo, Galle, and Kurunegala districts. OREL IT's prominence is enhanced by the fact that it is Sri Lanka's largest IT services provider, with over 4500 people.
OREL IT, discerned indeed as the industry 4.0 leader in Sri Lanka, owing to its extensive spectrum of services geared to meet our clients' complicated needs from concept to product delivery. OREL IT, in particular, has gone above and beyond to provide an exceptional customer service experience to all of our clients in small, medium, and large organizations, while also boosting their business values through streamlined processes. Due to the quality of our services, we had indeed been bestowed with several awards from various reputed awarding bodies.
Web: www.orelit.com



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www.impratea.com, www.imperialteasgroup.com
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Pan Asia Colored Yarns (Pvt) Ltd.

Pan Asia Coloured Yarns (Pvt) Ltd is a market leader in supplying Greige and Dyed Yarn to the apparel and accessories sector for over 30 years.
Our core focus is in the field of texturising and dy eing Polyester and Nylon Yarn in Sri Lanka.
We are a market leader in Polyester and Nylon Yarn Texturising and Dyeing of Synthetic Yarns – Dye to Match (DTM). Our state-of-the-art facilities based out of Ekala and Sapugaskanda Industrial Zones also provide value added services such as Yarn Twisting, Rewinding and other ancillary yarn operations.
Pan Asia Coloured Yarns always strives to ensure that we adhere to the best in quality internationally renowned quality standards. We boast certifications in ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System Standard Certification, ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health & Safety Standard Certification, ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Compliance Standard Certification, accreditations from world renowned OEKO-TEX 100 - Textiles tested for harmful substances (Class 1, Annex 6) and Global Recycled Standard (GRS).
Web: mufu@panasia.lk

Polydime International (Pvt) Ltd.

The Polydime group is a family owned establishment associated with the Plastics industry for over 2 decades. The company has a diverse portfolio of 6 product groups processed in three factories in Sri Lanka and one in India. Employing over 600 staff, servicing the local market and export to 35 countries both directly and indirectly. Polydime is the largest processor of recycled plastic film with the full value chain from waste collection to end product processing and distribution. The company has its own innovation center for product development with the future in mind.
Web: www.polydime.com

Rabeena Food (Pvt) Ltd.

Spices and Savoured for Epicurean Sensations
Whether it's the hot spice of a chill or the exotic aroma of cinnamon, the esoteric flavor of nutmeg or tropical fragrance of curry leaves, RABEENA infuses nature's bounty of spices into the diverse platter of Sri Lankan gastronomic delights. Whether within this parade isle or beyond her shores, the delectable taste of RABEENA traverses the globe to prompt an unimaginable explosion of the tastebuds.
Web: www.rabeena.com

Regency Teas (Pvt) Ltd.

Regency Teas was founded 25 years ago in the year 1997 to market premium Ceylon teas to the world. We focus on value addition, resulting in over 95% of our turnover being in tea bags and loose-leaf tea packs. The company has over 20 tea bagging machines with the capacity to produce 75 million tea bags per month. Our products are exported to over 35 countries worldwide. The factory spanning 90,000 square feet is ISO 22000 and FSSC 22000 certified, and is capable of packing teas with Organic, Rainforest-Alliance, Kosher and Halal certifications. The factory is equipped with knotted tea bagging machines (staple free) which are the latest trend in Europe and other developed regions. Other key highlights include an own cold storage facility to store herbs and flavors sourced from over 20 countries worldwide, and the recent investment in a state-of-the-art infrared tea cleaning and color separating machine.
For further information please refer the company website at; **Web:** www.regencyteas.com
For enquiries please contact; Mr. Shane Perera – Director **Email:** shane@regencyteas.com

Samson Rubber Industries (Pvt) Ltd.

Samson Rubber Industries (Pvt) Ltd is a member company of one of the leading conglomerates in Sri Lanka engaged in the manufacture of Pneumatic Tyres and Tubes over last 03 decades. Our product range consists of Bicycle and Motorcycle Tyres, Tubes, and Agricultural Light Truck, Wheel Barrow and Turf Tyres, Trolley Tyres, Scooter and Golf Cart Tyres etc.
We are an ISO 9001:2015 certified company by DNV Netherlands for the design, development, manufacture, and sale of pneumatic Tyres and Tubes. We use cutting edge technology accordance with international standards and complying with social and ethical norms, and have been able to expand our global presence in 70 countries across all six continents.
Our Key values continuous Innovation, On Time Delivery and Quality Consistency delight our customers.
DSI TYRES, has awarded the Best Sri Lankan Brand Exporter - Gold Award for 2016 and 2017 at the annual Export Awards of the NCE.
Web: www.dsitire.com

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Sanken Overseas (Pvt) Ltd.

We are the overseas construction arm of Sri Lankan based Sanken Group of companies. We deal primarily in civil engineering services coupled with intricate knowledge and vast experience in projects beyond geographic boundaries.

Our services entail technology both cutting edge and eco-friendly to provide our clients services beyond expectation, within the most effective budget.

Hailing from the parent Sanken Company, we are no stranger to success. Our ISO 9001:2008, ISO 14001:2004 and OHSAS 18001:2007 accreditations enable us to extend impeccable solutions beyond the shores of Sri Lanka

Web: www.sankenoverseas.com

Senikma Holdings (Pvt) Ltd.

7Ray, a product brand of Senikma Holdings (Pvt) Ltd since 2021, was established with the motive of supplying the global market with premium quality agricultural products. Our brand stands firm on the 7 pillars of: Responsiveness, Accountability, Integrity, Innovativeness, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, and Excellence.

We embarked on this journey from our very own certified organic lands that helped us cultivate, harvest, and process all products we produced under good agriculture management practices. In encouraging growing together, we hold hands with our neighboring farmers who supply us with products that are grown and harvested under the supervision of a Senikma quality controlling team. Unique taste of Ceylon's agricultural produce is then brought to the global market, all the while creating and developing opportunities for small to medium scale farmers, aiding their livelihoods.

7 Ray products range from spices, dehydrated fruits, and herbs to coconut-based products that are all produced only from 100% natural ingredients and free of any additives or artificial flavors. Therefore, we are proud to label our products as pure and unadulterated.

In our commitment to ensuring nourishing and healthy products for our customers at 7 Ray and to promote our healthy ingredients and products within Sri Lanka, we have established our signature store which is located at 23/C, Borella Cross road, Borella.

Web: www.senikmaholdings.com

SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.

We are SGS – the world's leading testing, inspection and certification company. We are recognized as the global benchmark for quality and integrity. Our 96,000 employees operate a network of 2,700 offices and laboratories around the world.

Our value to society is enabling a better, safer and more interconnected world. We enable a better world by helping businesses everywhere to work efficiently, deliver with quality, and trade with integrity and trust. We enable a safer world by ensuring that the environment where you work and live is secure and clean, and that the products you use or consume are safe. We enable a more interconnected world by helping new technology reach consumers quickly and affordably, ensuring IT and data security, and using AI and IoT to develop smart cities.

Wherever you are, whatever your industry, our experts worldwide provide independent services that make a difference in people's lives:

- Testing - reduce risks, shorten time to market and test the quality, safety and performance of your products against relevant health, safety and regulatory standards with our global network of testing facilities.
- Inspection - control quantity and quality, and meet all relevant regulatory requirements across different regions and markets with our world-leading inspection and verification services.
- Certification - ensure that your products, processes, systems or services meet national and international standards and regulations with our comprehensive certification services.

Web: www.sgs.com

Straight-Line International (Pvt) Ltd.

Having begun in 2003 the Straight-Line international (Pvt) Ltd now has a decade of experience in its area of expertise. The company is one of the leading coir and coir-based substrate products manufacturer and exporter in Sri Lanka with an ISO 9001-2008 & 2015 certification and today we are recognized as one of the leading trading houses for these products.

Straight-Line international's contributions to the coir industry to help support the fact that Sri Lanka is the world's best source of coir, is its own home grown brand COIR365. Coir products under this brand carry the guarantee of availability, a single fixed price and a consistent above average standard of product quality exceeding international standards all year round. This is a company that endeavours to provide nothing short of the exceptional in terms of quality in coir and coir-based substrate products.

Web: www.coir365.com

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A Sri Lanka Board of Investment (BOI) approved Company

Toyo Cushion Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.

Toyo Cushion Lanka (Pvt) Limited is a subsidiary of Hayleys Group, the largest conglomerate in Sri Lanka. The company's production facility was set up in 1989 with technical collaboration of foreign partners from Holland and Japan who are pioneers in rubberized coir manufacturing. Our product portfolio consists of Rubberized Coir Moulded Pots, Rubberized Coir Basket Liners, Coco Poles, Car Seats, Needled Coir Weed Suppressors, Rubberized and Needled Coir Sheets/Blocks and Mattresses. Products are exported to all continents covering renowned retail chains. Production facilities are complied with ISO 9001:2015, GMP, BSCI and products are certified with GOLS. Toyo Cushion Lanka (Pvt) Ltd is also a member of International Sleep Products Association (ISPA) and won the Gold Award in the 'Coconut & Coconut Products Sector' consecutively at the NCE Export Awards 2019/20 & 2020/21 depicting its excellence in export performance.

Web: www.hayleysfibre.com **Email:** info@hayleysfibre.com

Tradlanka Agricultural Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd.

Tradlanka Agricultural Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd., established in 1988 is a Sri Lankan company that manufactures and exports a wide range of Natural & Organic Certified Food Products under the ARIYA Brand.

We are ISO22000, HACCP and GMP Certified Food Processor who has been adjudged as one of the Best Food Processors in Sri Lanka by the Food Processors Association in Sri Lanka.

We have also been recognized as Sri Lanka's Best Exporter, in the Agriculture Bulk Sector, Agriculture Value Added Sector, Fresh & Processed Agricultural Export Crops Sector by the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka for the Years 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2021 for Small and Medium Categories.

We offer both Natural and Certified Organic food products, with the primary objective of promoting good health and well-being. Our Organic Certification from Control Union, offers a wide range of Organic food products under the ARIYA Organics identity with USDA, EU and JAS Organic Certifications

We are exporting our range to over 25 countries and our main export countries include USA, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Australia, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Botswana and Maldives.

Our ARIYA food products are listed with some of the leading Supermarket and Hypermarket Chains such as LuLu, Carrefour, SPAR, Monoprix, Nesto, Safari, Ansar Gallery, Al Maya, Al Meera, Quality, Family Food Centre, West Zone, Fathima, Mustafa Centre Singapore and STO Supermarkets in Maldives.

Web: www.ariyafood.com

Wichy Plantation Company (Pvt) Ltd.

The WICHY Plantation logo is the brand's true identity marker. Overall the logo is simple and straightforward. It evokes a sense of classic sophistication as well as a feel of modest affordability. The green 'W' is not only a reference to the name WICHY but is also a symbol of the iconic branches of the coconut tree itself; stable but assuredly open and inviting. The two shades of Green are used strategically. The lighter green is friendly and signifies the company priorities in health, wellness and prosperity, while the darker shade stretched taller reflects the brand's commitment towards continued advancement and growth. Together the image and these shades of green portray the brands inherent connection with nature and the promise to preserve and protect, through sustainability. You can find more details about us at

Web: www.wichy.com

DSI Tyres · Sanken Overseas · Lustre · Wichy · Ariya Food · Fanam · Royal · Earth's Finest · Laugfs Rubber · 7 Ray · Panasia Coloured Yarns · Hospitiya · MD · Coir 365

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LUMBINI AQUARIA

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Lumbini Aquaria is the Pioneer (since 1952) and the Largest Exporter and Producer of Ornamental Fish in Sri Lanka.

With over 75, committed , dedicated , professional and experienced staff, Lumbini is capable in supplying High Quality Ornamental Fish worldwide.

Lumbini produces over 1 million fish every month from its own farms and having an Out grower network consisting of over 100 families who are involved in this project which contributes to the Socio Economic Development of the Country.



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Living Colours Since 1952

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RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS – SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS AS DRIVER FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS



AHK SRI LANKA

Sustainability and profitability are no longer mutually exclusive. Today, transnational sustainability laws are legislated across the world to regulate global value chains. Regulations such as the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act that will enter into force on 01 January 2023 oblige companies to comply with business due diligence and compliance standards across the supply chain within their business sector and goes beyond the existing legislations at national level.

The European Union (EU) is the largest single trading bloc for Sri Lankan exports. Sri Lankas' reliance on key markets such as the European Union make it increasingly important to comply with the necessary due diligence and sustainability laws and provide assurances of compliance with due diligence requirements, including human rights and environmental protection.

The 'Responsible Business' Sustainable Supply Chain initiative, implemented by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in Sri Lanka (FNF Sri Lanka), in partnership with the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka) and Löning – Human Rights & Responsible Business first commenced in the year 2020 and offered guidance to over 60 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with the essential technical know-how and a holistic approach towards mapping their own business due diligence processes, supporting them in complying with international sustainable supply chain requirements. A series of trainings towards SMEs in apparel and textile, food and agriculture, and rubber sectors in Sri Lanka were organized with the objective to raise awareness for the need of sustainability related documentation among Sri Lankan exporters in order to increase global competitiveness of companies and facilitate market

Semini Satarasinghe
Manager
Marketing and Communications
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E-Mail: communication@srilanka.ahk.de

access to the EU. In 2021, the second edition of the initiative 'Responsible Business – Sustainable supply chains as driver for global competitiveness' was organized and the training series focused on how EU & US companies conduct due diligence and its' implications for Sri Lankan businesses, approaches to comply with EU and US company requirements, core standards and certifications, and practical insights and best practices from the industry. The online training series that took place over 3 days attracted over 100 registrants.

Within the framework of the Sustainable Supply Chains initiative, the aim was to strengthen human rights in Sri Lanka by enhancing the capacity of the private sector companies to both identify and act upon actual and potential risks for workers in its' supply chain. For export-oriented companies extending their operations beyond domestic boundaries, the initiative underlined how companies are more and more impacted by consumer driven sustainability requirements, and the need to conform to UN Guiding Principles (UNGPs) and due diligence processes across global value chains.

In August 2022, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in Sri Lanka organized a visiting program on 'Sri Lanka Sustainable Supply Chains – Driver for Market Access to the EU & Germany'. The delegation from Sri Lanka to Germany comprised of representatives from FNF Sri Lanka, Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka), National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE), Joint Apparel Association Forum Sri Lanka (JAAFSL), Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), Advocata, and EconomyNext. The series of events in Berlin, Germany aimed to improve awareness on the German Act of Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains, and comprised of discussions with relevant representatives from Löning - Human Rights & Responsible Business, Import Promotion Desk (IPD), Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA), Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), and the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK).



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LAUGFS RUBBER

LAUGFS Rubber's journey as Sri Lanka's leading exporter of industrial Tyres and Rubber products Or LAUGFS Rubber - a 17 year journey of service excellence Or LAUGFS Rubber sets precedence as the leading exporter in the Rubber and Tyre industry.

As the pioneer player in the global natural rubber industry, Sri Lanka is renowned for its production of high-quality natural rubber and rubber-based products, ranking amongst the top five natural rubber exporting nations in the world. Sri Lanka's revenue from exports of rubber and rubber-based products has crossed 1 billion U.S. dollars in 2021 and will grow to 3 billion dollars by 2025. In 2008, LAUGFS Holdings entered the playing fields, and diversified into the rubber industry through LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Ltd in 2008 with a specialized focus on industrial solid tyres.

The availability of high quality ribbed smoked sheet rubber (RSS Rubber) and the country's accumulated expertise and experience have made Sri Lanka the global hub for solid tyres. This stable rubber industry has become a mainstay of Sri Lanka's economic growth, and over the decades transformed into a niche rubber manufacturing destination that has won the confidence of global brands. LAUGFS Rubber has emerged as one of Sri Lanka's leading exporters of industrial tyres and rubber products. The company operates one of the largest manufacturing plants in the nation, with state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment, which utilizes the finest quality rubber and globally recognized TQM processes to produce solid tyres of international standard. They are also recognised as a leading original equipment manufacturer (OEM) with a distribution network in 46 countries.



Chinthaka Wegapitiya
Chief Executive Officer
(LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Ltd.)

Venturing further into international waters, LAUGFS Rubber also operates two subsidiaries; one in the United States (LAUGFS USA LLC) and the other in Europe (LAUGFS EUROPE B.V). Functioning at high capacity, both companies are equipped with warehouses and distribution points, effectively catering to the growing demand across the regions.

In the recent past, Sri Lanka faced many challenging situations, with



LAUGFS RUBBER

the pandemic outbreak and then the nation spiraling into an economic crisis. This led to uncertain operating environments for many manufacturing companies. The export sector was facing fears of uncertainty, leaving organizations to think fast and make agile decisions to secure their operations. Despite the extended power cuts and fuel shortages, LAUGFS Rubber was able to maintain its operations, implementing the necessary precautionary safety measures, without having to close down any factories or let go of any staff. The company was able to continue on its growth trajectory and successfully contribute to the foreign currency earnings, at a time Sri Lanka is in much need of increasing its foreign exchange reserves.

With the increasing global demand for additional tyre specifications, LAUGFS Rubber took the opportunity to expand their service offerings by unveiling the latest addition to its product portfolio with the 23.5 – 25 loader grip tires, the largest tire to be manufactured in Sri Lanka. The tyres are manufactured for a variety of industries ranging from construction to material handling, airport and seaport ground handling, mining, and waste disposal. Users can expect outstanding performance from the tires they purchase with zero maintenance, given the robust design complemented by superior compounds and construction. With only a handful of global companies manufacturing 23.5 – 25 sizes, LAUGFS Rubber was able to successfully up their game through robust innovation, a testament to the company's superior technological edge, design and manufacturing capabilities.

Having secured several accolades to its name, the company has been recognised for its commitment to service excellence. In 2018, they won the 'Bronze Pioneer Partner' Award by Finite Element Analysis & Simulation Centre. During the same year, they were recognised as a champion organization in implementing SMART chemicals Management Practices in Sri Lanka. Just one year later, in 2019 LAUGFS Rubber was awarded for its excellent contribution towards environmental conservation, at the Presidential Environmental Awards. Recognised for their resource-efficient and environmentally friendly sustainable business excellence in Rubber manufacturing, LAUGFS Rubber bagged two Silver Awards in 2019 and 2021 at the National Cleaner Production Awards ceremonies.

Through its pioneering efforts, the company was recently bestowed as the 'Most Outstanding Exporter - Overall" at the 30th NCE Annual Exports Awards 2022. The company was also awarded 'Gold' for the 'Rubber Tyre and Accessories Sector. This marks the 2nd consecutive year that LAUGFS Rubber has been awarded this prestigious honour, after winning the Gold Award in 2021 in the same sector and the Silver Award in 2020.

With a philosophy centered around the core values of integrity, innovativeness, teamwork, and customer centricity, the company aims to serve its customers to the best of its abilities, with unmatched quality products. Committed to adopting best practices in all aspects of its operations, LAUGFS Rubber also implements energy reduction policies and strategies that focuses heavily on reducing the consumption of specific energy and its related costs during the manufacturing process.

Led by a vision to empower positive change in the manufacturing industry, LAUGFS Rubber continues to innovate and adopt the best sustainability practices to improve their product offerings and cater to the growing demand of global markets. With a strong commitment to quality and environmentally sound manufacturing practices, the Company has received the ISO 9001-2015 certification for policy management, ISO 50001-2011 certification for energy management and ISO 14001-2015 for environment management.

Founded in 1995, LAUGFS Holdings today has expanded across 20 industries in Sri Lanka and overseas, establishing a strong presence as a leader and pioneer in the power and energy, retail, industrial, services, leisure and logistics sectors. With over 3,500 employees and an annual turnover exceeding Rs. 60 billion, LAUGFS continues to expand and empower millions as a trusted Sri Lankan brand.





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Kolitha Wickremasinghe
Managing Director

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BOC continues to nourish budding Start-up and SME exporters with newl established **BOC Export Circle**

Forging ahead filled with enthusiasm and continuous innovation, Sri Lanka's No.o1 Bank, Bank of Ceylon (BOC) has been working relentlessly in nourishing the country's Start-up and SME exporters to become prominent global exporters through the newly established "BOC Export Circle" by offering diverse and unmatched end-to-end financial and non-financial services with a 360-degree perspective.

In line with the Government's policy to transform the economy to an export-oriented economy, Bank of Ceylon launched BOC Export Circle with the aim of accommodating exporters from all-walks-of-life. This fully fledged one stop export unit which is located at the Bank's Head Office "Trade Services Division is particularly focused on supporting start–ups and SME exporters to enhance their operational and financial capacity to realize their goal of becoming prominent international level exporters.

The newly established Center provides a tailor-made service with a branded credit package and a branded new deposit scheme which will enhance the accommodation of financial and non-financial needs of these exporters throughout their supply chain management. Hence, even an inexperienced new exporter can confidently rely on the expertise of the professionals attached to Export circle and comfortably engage in the business.



Nilantha Meneripitiyage
Deputy General Manager
(Corporate & Offshore Banking)



In terms of financial facilities, BOC offers a wide range of products from pre-shipment, overdraft and packing credit facilities to post-Shipment financial services such as export bill discounting, export Bill negotiations. A special deposit scheme as well as preferential exchange rates for the

BOC export circle

exporters are few add-ons to the package. Especially, exporters are made availed to attractive pre-shipment and post shipment financial support up to Rs.50 million with a repayment period of six months at concessionary interest rates to meet their financial needs.

Similarly, the Bank also extends up to Rs.2 million credit facilities for indirect exporters to meet their financial requirements. BOC believes, having reliable supply chain members and meticulously advised credit procedures would support exporters to strengthen all aspects of the export journey whilst meeting their business objectives and obligations. With that intention, the Export Circle welcomes entrepreneurs engaged in the supply chain of the export related businesses, to the Export Circle in order to make use of these value additions. It also coordinates all export related services and facilities regardless of the branch, where the exporter maintains his or her account relationship.

Aligned with its customer centric policy, the Bank has made this facility available to customers across the country through the bank's branch network to approach the "Export Circle" and obtain the services through skillful and capable staff. Among many useful non-financial facilities that the exporters could experience are; trade information desk which will provide up to date, end-to-end supply chain information, high-standard advisory/consultancy services which iron out issues that could emerge while carrying out export transactions. Exporters could also seek business related services including assistance with documentation, procedures that need to be complied with and other forms of guidance with regard to exports.

Most recently, BOC entered into a Strategic Partnership Alliance with National Chamber of Exporters (NCE). The partnership allows BOC customers to benefit from various programs and events conducted by the NCE including NCE Export Awards, brand presence in Chamber publications and brand visibility at seminars/webinars. Similarly, the Bank also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding recently with Ceylinco General Insurance Ltd to issue Marine Insurance policies for importers and exporters. Moving forward, BOC plans to introduce Export Circle initiatives with key performance indicators in the Corporate Plan.

Considering the country's external sector performance which over the past year has indicated that emphasis should be given to improve foreign currency reserves of the country in the long-run, BOC embarked on this timely initiative that is in line with the Government's economic development agenda. Apart from the bank's existing corporate clients, it is the budding exporters at large who face these drawbacks when entering the demands in the export market that it intends to concentrate on.

As Banker's to the Nation the Bank has understood its duty to accommodate this segment and to transform them to become vital exporters for the nation.





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Nuwara Eliya *Delicately Fragrant*

As Nuwara Eliya is unique, so is its tea. Recognized by tea connoisseurs, it has been said that Nuwara Eliya,at 6,240 feet above sea level, is to Ceylon tea what Champagne is to French wine. Brewed light it makes for a very smooth cup of tea that can also be iced for a refreshing difference.



Uda Pussellawa *Exquisitely Tangy*

The tea grown on the Uda Pussellawa mountain range experiences two periods of superior quality. The traditional eastern quality season from July to September is the peak but the dry, cold conditions of the first quarter of the year yield a range of rosy teas.Of medium body and subtle character, these teas produce a majestic flavor.



Dimbula *Refreshingly Mellow*

Dimbula is, perhaps, the most famous name associated with Ceylon Tea. The plantations located at 3,500 to 5,500 feet above sea level, cover the western slopes of the district. The monsoon rains and the cold dry weather produce a range of teas, from full bodied to light and delicate.



Uva *Exotically Aromatic*

Grown at an elevation between 3,000 to 5,000 feet above sea level, on the eastern slopes of Sri Lanka's central mountains, the Uva teas have a truly unique flavor. These teas are commonly used in many different blends but, with their different characteristics, they can also be enjoyed on their own.



Kandy *Intensely Fullbodied*

Mid country teas grown on plantations at 2,000 to 4,000 feet above sea level, produce a full bodied tea. Ideal for those who like their tea strong and bursting with flavor. Best served with milk.



Sabaragamuwa *Exceptionally Stylish*

Sabaragamuwa agro -climatic region ranging from sea level to about 2,500 feet is also referred as low grown tea and typically known for their stylish leaf appearance and larger particle size. The blackness of the dry leaf is a distinctive feature, as are the deep red colour of the infused brew of its Black Tea and its smooth and full-bodied liquors.



Ruhuna *Distinctively Unique*

The Southern part of Sri Lanka, though not traditionally known for its tea growing,does produce an exceptional tea. Grown from sea level to about 2,000 feet, the particular condition of the soil gives the leaves blackness and imparts in the brew a strong and distinctive taste. A perfect cup for those who like their tea thick and sweet, with or without milk.

WEB: www.pureceylontea.com

CEYLON TEA

Performance Of Tea Industry In 2022

Year 2022 began with a lot of optimism. Monthly auction average prices continuously increased and more sharply from April. However, as anticipated, the crop shortfall was inevitable due to the fertilizer crisis. As the year progressed, the Sri Lankan tea industry faced numerous challenges.

Subsequent to the banning of Chemical fertilizer by the Government of Sri Lanka in 2021, tea growers and large plantations, in particular, were forced to only use organic fertilizer which too was not adequately available resulting in a negative impact on the Tea production. A drop of 16% compared to the previous year has been recorded up to end Dec 2022. The made tea production for the year 2022 was 251.5million Kgs. This is significantly lower compared to 299.5million Kgs recorded for the 2021.

During the year 2022, a total of 250.2 million Kgs was exported. This was 12% lower than previous year exports during the same period of last year. The export earnings was Rs. 411 billion for 2022 and it is in real value decreased to USD 1.258 Billion recorded in 2022. Lower earnings were attributed to low production in the year under review.

With the Government's decision to allow a more generous policy on fertilizer, all expectations are that the country's tea production in 2023 would improve to at least 290 million kilos. It is believed that the initiative re-launched jointly by the Sri Lanka Tea Board and Tea Small Holdings Development Authority's titled B 60 or "Sahakampanaya" in September this year would contribute favourably towards achieving a higher crop. The objective of this program is to increase the intake of better green leaf which will also help growers and plantations to return to 4 plucking rounds per month from the present 2 rounds. The drawback however is the shortage of tea pickers which area will have to be addressed soon. Expectation of an increase in production next year is however subject to the weather conditions remaining conducive for growth throughout the year 2023. Ageing tea bushes and low productivity levels could also act as a downside.



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How Can Sri Lanka Improve Gender Considerations in its Trade Agreements?



Dr. Janaka Wijayasiri is a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for a Smart Future, and has extensive experience working on international trade policy. He was previously the Head of the International Economics Policy Unit at the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka. Janaka holds a PhD from Monash University, Australia.

An earlier version of the article was published on Centre for Smart Future website: www.csf-asia.org

Sri Lanka has preferential access to its main international markets through non-reciprocal arrangements (EU and US GSP schemes) and reciprocal trade agreements. Sri Lanka participates in two reciprocal regional and three bilateral free trade agreements: Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (formerly known as the Bangkok Agreement), South Asian Free Trade Area (which superseded the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement), Indo–Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement, and the Pakistan–Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement and Singapore-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement. In addition, Sri Lanka has been negotiating comprehensive free trade agreements with China and India for a while to deepen and widen Sri Lanka's economic ties and trade prospects with two of the country's important trading partners.

The Government of Sri Lanka (GSL) now wants to revive and upgrade its trade negotiations and agreements. Thus, it would be timely to consider mainstreaming gender into Sri Lanka's trade policy and trade agreements taking into the gender inequality in the country and international experiences and practices in gender mainstreaming of trade agreements. This article will also identify and discuss ways in which to include gender considerations in trade agreements.

Gender inequality in economic activities

In terms of gender equality, Sri Lanka has made admirable progress on key gender indicators relating to health and education but ranks poorly on the UNDP Gender Inequality Index (GII) at 90th place out of 162 countries in 2019. While Sri Lanka's progress is reasonable compared to other countries in South Asia, there are still considerable gender inequalities in the country, particularly in the political and economic spheres. Women remain poorly represented in parliament and at senior levels in the public and private sectors. Despite expanding the services sector, women are over-represented in agriculture and undertake unpaid family work. Women's participation in the labour force is low while their underemployment and unemployment rates are poor. For example, the labour force participation rate for women is 35% compared to 75% for men, one of the lowest in the region while unemployment rates amongst women are twice as high compared to men . Women can be found in low-productivity/low-income work in agriculture, labour-intensive export-oriented manufacturing (namely garments), and services (education, health, telecommunications, IT, travel, and financial services) . Women are at a disadvantage due to horizontal and vertical gender division in the labour market, which has affected their occupation mobility and opportunity to hold higher-paid jobs .

While there are broad policy commitments to gender equality and institutional structures to promote gender equality in the country, gender mainstreaming in economic policy is lacking if not absent in Sri Lanka, particularly in relation to trade policy and trade agreements .

This situation is concerning given women's substantial role in the economy, including exports and their participation as workers, businesses-owners, and consumers. Trade agreements can have a wide-ranging impact on women through the reduction/elimination of tariffs, cutting of red tape, reducing non-tariff barriers, opening up the services

sector, promoting investments, and increasing labour mobility. In this regard, policymakers in Sri Lanka need to consider gender in trade policy, including trade agreements to support opportunities for women and reduce existing gender inequalities.

Gender considerations are becoming prominent in trade agreements around the world . Similarly, Sri Lanka can use trade agreements to level the playing field for women whilst ensuring the benefits of free trade are equally distributed between women and men.

International experience with gender equality in trade agreements

Globally, countries are looking to promote gender equality as part of inclusive economic growth and sustainable development. In this regard, many governments are increasingly committed to pursuing equal and inclusive trade. The 2018 Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment and the inclusion of gender provisions in some recently concluded trade agreements reflect this.

Often trade agreements make references to international standards on labour discrimination, equal pay, freedom of association and collective bargaining and other measures on gender equality They also reflect on the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), etc. Some of the more recent trade agreements go beyond and include a separate chapter on gender and trade; for example, Canada–Israel and Canada–Chile agreements . Others have made legally binding obligations and put in enforcement mechanisms to monitor gender provisions. An analysis of 292 trade agreements in force and notified to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) found that more than a quarter of them *explicitly* mentions issues related to gender .

Options for Sri Lanka

There are many ways to mainstream gender into trade agreements. Here is a summary of the ten policy recommendations proposed by the International Trade Centre (ITC), which Sri Lanka could consider:

- Inclusion of a gender-explicit preamble: The preamble, which describes the purpose and goals of the agreement, is an essential component of FTAs. One simple strategy to mainstream gender issues in a trade agreement is to include gender in the preamble.
- Access to skill development: An agreement to advance gender equality and empower women might also include provisions on women's access to education and skill development. Many free trade agreements already do this and list these opportunities under the economic cooperation chapter (for example, Canada–Israel and Canada–Chile agreements).
- Research and impact assessment: With financing allotted for such activities, provisions can encourage local universities and think tanks to do research and studies to enhance understanding of the reciprocal relationship between gender and trade. As part of the agreement, parties may also agree to cooperate and exchange expertise to gather data broken down by gender and evaluate the gender implications of trade.
- Minimum legal standards and gender provisions: While i could be difficult to include legally binding gender-related measures like equal pay and job opportunities trade agreement may referinternational accords (such as the CEDAW Convention, ILO Conventions, and SDGs).
- Gender-sensitive reservations, waivers, and exemptions: By including reservations, waivers, and exemptions favouring women in government procurement processes, a trade agreement can be improved and made more gender-responsive.
- Gender-focused exceptions: Although there isn't currently a gender exemption, trade agreements could incorporate gender together with other exceptions to safeguard public morals, human health, animal life, or the environment. 7. Encourage businesses to use corporate social responsibility (CSR) to address gender equality: Governments can urge public and private businesses to consider gender issues in their business plans along with social and environmental ones.
- Set up specialised committees to implement gender-related provisions: To execute gender-related provisions, certain trade agreements have established committees. However, there is a lack of details regarding their roles, objectives, time frames, and funding.
- Dispute settlement: Often, gender-related clauses in trade agreements are not subject to the dispute resolution process. Most agreements with explicit gender clauses do not impose any obligations on parties to adhere to these terms. They are often drafted with good faith, and it is anticipated that any disagreements resulting from the gender requirements would be settled via communication and collaboration.
- Remedial action: When countries make unilateral decisions or conduct activities that violate the agreement, they have the option of taking remedial action as opposed to punitive action, such as withholding a trade concession. For instance, the affected party could propose a public procurement process that benefits women-owned companies.

Sri Lankan policymakers and trade negotiators can consider these recommendations in part or whole. However, it is important to note that agreements are not a panacea to address gender inequalities which require complementary domestic policies in the country.

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Sri Lanka's Runaway Inflation and the Limits of Monetary Policy



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The bad news on inflation keeps coming. As of June 2022, year-on-year (YOY) inflation nationally is estimated at an all-time high of 59%. Annual inflation is lagging significantly behind at around 21%, indicative of the speed at which price inflation has been spiralling in recent months. This is in sharp contrast to Sri Lanka's previous bout of high inflation in 2008 where the YOY increase was far more gradual (Figure 1). Then too, a similar combination of factors was at play. On the external front, a global financial crisis, a spike in international oil prices and sky-rocketing food prices prevailed. On the domestic front, a depressingly familiar combination of unsustainable fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies were in place.

FIGURE 1
High Inflation Episodes
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This time around too, the inflation bout was triggered by a series of macroeconomic policy blunders in managing the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic; an untenable red hole in public finances, a massive injection of liquidity within a short time span, and an improbable exchange rate policy combined to bring about Sri Lanka's harshest economic collapse. The inflation 'pass through' from the more than 80% currency depreciation that followed amplified the global price increases in food and fuel. The ban on chemical fertiliser use, import controls on food and high costs of transport added to the shortages, driving up prices further.

While Sri Lanka is still well below the commonly used threshold for hyperinflation (monthly inflation exceeding 50%) the rampant inflation this time around is consistent with a serious crisis of confidence across the economy. Monetary policy – i.e. raising interest rates – is the most appropriate tool at hand to fight inflation, but there are limits to its efficacy.

Today, inflationary pressures have intensified the world over with countries like the US and the UK seeing inflation rates hit 40-year highs. Unlike Sri Lanka, the inflation trigger in many of these economies was set off by buoyant demand and tight labour markets as countries emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Russian invasion of Ukraine that followed went on to fuel energy and food price increases and add to supply bottlenecks – already battling a combination of challenges including a resurgence of COVID-19 in China. Almost everywhere, central banks embarked on a monetary policy tightening cycle, with New Zealand and South Korea starting early and aggressively. The intention is to anchor inflation expectations and cut off more persistent strength in nominal wage growth. Thus, the upswing in inflation and interest rate cycles point to a downswing in growth globally in 2022.

Having kept monetary policy too loose for too long, Sri Lanka started its tightening cycle in August 2021, albeit with timid steps – raising policy interest rates by a total of 200 basis points up to March 2022 even as inflation breached double-digit figures in November 2021. This was followed by an aggressive 700 basis point hike in April 2022. It signalled firm intentions to regain the Central Bank of Sri Lanka's (CBSL) focus on price stability by engineering a reduction in demand through high interest rates and withdrawing liquidity from the economy. Effectively, in the current dire growth outlook for Sri Lanka, the policy

intention means forcing a recession to tame inflation.

In choosing between the options of an aggressive hike that will lead to a recession or tolerating a prolonged inflationary spiral bordering on hyperinflation, the former is preferable. Once inflation takes hold, the damage can be corrosive, especially its deeply regressive impacts on lower-income households. But a contractionary strategy to suppress demand will not achieve the desired outcomes if (a) inflation expectations are not well anchored and people expect rapid price increases to continue, and (b) supply side factors remain unaddressed.

A sector-wise breakdown of the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) and the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI) of YOY inflation in June 2022 shows that demand-driven domestic inflationary pressures appear to be responsible for much less of the rise in headline inflation. Food price increases are contributing the largest share of 36% towards the YOY national increase in inflation in the NCPI (carrying a weight of 44%) while it contributes a similarly large share of 26% in the CCPI (with a weight of 28%). Transport is the second largest contributor (8-11%) in both indices. Overall, the strength of inflation appears to mainly reflect the large increases in energy and food prices; in fact, when inflation is driven largely by excess liquidity and demand, price increases across goods and services tend to be more uniform.

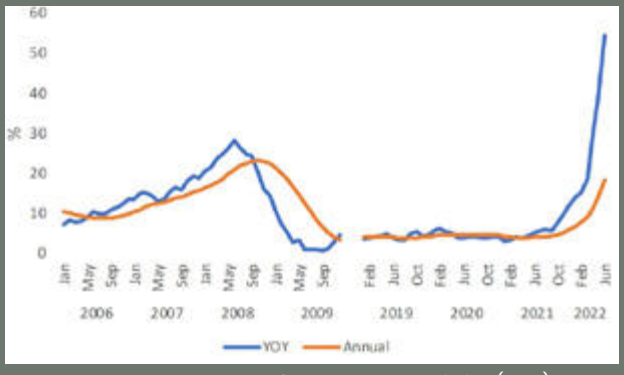
FIGURE 2
Sector-wise Contribution to Inflation
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With runaway inflation, tightening monetary policy hard and fast was almost inevitable to anchor inflation expectations. The policy will work though only if fiscal adjustments evolve in line with monetary policy. Sharp interest rate increases make government debt even more expensive to service, and when interest rates exceed economic growth, a country's indebtedness keeps rising. Higher interest rates in the current context of a crisis of confidence overall in the economy, and especially on exchange rate risks, means that it will not be reflected in stronger capital inflows to stabilise the rupee either.

Upward pressure on inflation in Sri Lanka will not dissipate immediately. Continued direct financing of Treasury spending by the CBSL, high global energy and food prices, and continuing domestic supply-side factors – food and fuel shortages, import policies, and related market distortions – will add to price increases. Thus, the current upswing in real interest rates will likely go further if it appears that the policy mix is unable to reverse the inflation trend.

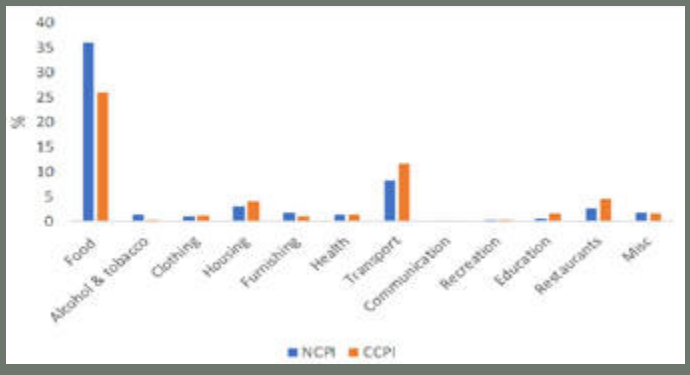
At this crucial juncture, prompt action on all macroeconomic policy fronts simultaneously is essential to help the CBSL put price stability at the core of Sri Lanka's monetary policy framework and better anchor inflation expectations. If workers and businesses are unconvinced that runaway inflation is firmly in check, higher price expectations will feed back into the process, making the fight against inflation even harder. It will also delay the recovery from recessionary conditions – through cuts in investments and shortening of investment horizons that ultimately hurt employment and jobs – as the country looks to ease back from the current economic crisis.

FIGURE 1: High Inflation Episodes



Source: Department of Census and Statistics (DCS)

FIGURE 2: Sector-wise Contribution to Inflation



Source: Based on data form DCS

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