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NCE Sri Lanka Voice of the Exporter

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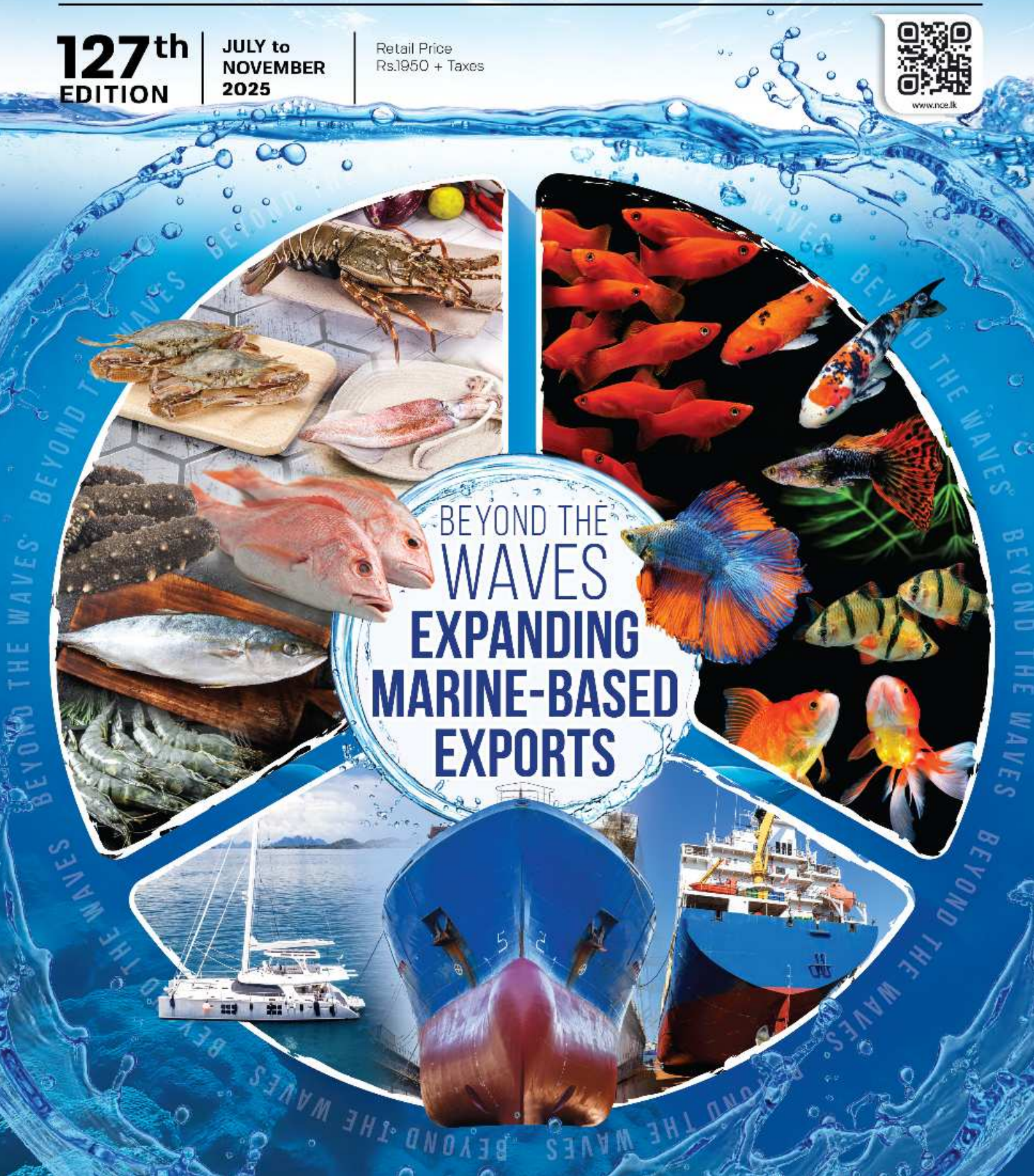

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2. Issue of Certificates of Origin and related Export Documentation
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4. Conduct of Training Programmes and Workshops
5. Conduct of Professional Courses through the National Institute of Exports (NIOE)
6. Participation in Trade Fairs, Exhibitions, Trade Delegations etc.
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DIGITAL VERSION

NATIONAL CHAMBER OF EXPORTERS OF SRI LANKA

THE BLUE ECONOMY OPPORTUNITY: POWERING SRI LANKA'S NEXT WAVE OF EXPORTS

Sri Lanka has always been a maritime nation. For centuries, our island's strategic position along major Indian Ocean trade routes connected us to global commerce, culture, and innovation. Yet today, as the country seeks to rebuild foreign exchange earnings and diversify beyond traditional exports such as tea, apparel, and rubber, the true promise of our oceans remains only partially realized. The blue economy offers Sri Lanka not just a new frontier for growth, but a pathway toward sustainable development, high-value exports, and deeper global integration.

This edition of *NCE Exporter* turns its focus **"Beyond the Waves"** — toward the vast, largely untapped potential of marine-based export industries that can reshape Sri Lanka's trade future.

Sri Lanka is already a respected global player in ornamental fish exports, ranking among the world's top ten suppliers. Our vibrant tropical species, high husbandry standards, and ethical collection practices have secured loyal buyers in the EU, the United States, Japan, and the Middle East. Yet this success story can be taken further. Aquatic plants and aquascaping products — fast-growing segments in Europe and Asia — present a natural extension of our ornamental trade. With targeted investment, certification, and branding, Sri Lanka can evolve from a supplier of live fish into a comprehensive hub for premium aquarium ecosystems.

Our seafood sector offers equally powerful potential. Yellowfin tuna, crab, lobster, shrimp, squid, and cuttlefish from Sri Lanka are already valued in the EU and USA for their quality and sustainability credentials. The next leap forward lies in value addition: ready-to-cook meals, portioned and marinated seafood, and certified sustainable products that command higher prices and stronger consumer loyalty. At the same time, aquaculture diversification — from inland shrimp and sea cucumber farming to seaweed cultivation — can reduce pressure on wild stocks while opening new export categories in food, cosmetics, and bio-products.

Sri Lanka's traditional craftsmanship also finds new relevance in modern global markets through boatbuilding and shipbuilding. From fishing vessels and patrol boats to pleasure craft, our builders are gaining recognition in markets such as the Maldives, Seychelles, Africa, and even Europe. With the right policy support and technology transfer, Sri Lanka can move into high-margin niches such as luxury yachts and customized leisure craft for tourism-driven economies.

Perhaps the most exciting long-term opportunity lies in marine biotechnology. Our rich marine biodiversity provides a foundation for nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and functional food ingredients derived from marine organisms and algae. This R&D-driven sector could position Sri Lanka as a niche innovator in high-value bio-exports, provided that research institutions, investors, and policymakers align around a clear national strategy.

Finally, marine and coastal tourism — viewed through an export lens — can generate service exports with high foreign exchange returns. Yacht charters, diving tourism, and eco-marine experiences are thriving in island economies such as the Maldives, Mauritius, and Caribbean nations. Sri Lanka, with its year-round waters, diverse marine life, and cultural richness, is uniquely placed to replicate and scale such models.

What unites all these opportunities is the need for a coherent blue economy vision — one that integrates sustainability, innovation, private sector leadership, and international market access. Standards, certification, cold-chain logistics, R&D investment, skills development, and export financing must move in tandem if Sri Lanka is to compete not just on cost, but on quality, trust, and innovation.

As Sri Lanka looks outward for growth, the ocean is not merely a backdrop to our island story — it is a strategic asset. By moving beyond traditional exports and embracing marine-based industries, we can diversify our export basket, attract foreign investment, and create resilient livelihoods along our coasts and inland waterways.

The tide is turning. The question is not whether Sri Lanka can build a thriving blue economy — but whether we are ready to seize it.

Certificate OF ETHICAL TRADING

To maintain a competitive edge in the market, exporters must adhere to Fair and Ethical Trading Practices, safeguard the environment, and promote sustainable development.

Understanding the significance, the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) issues a 'Certificate of Ethical Trading' to its Member Exporters who adhere to Ethical Trading Practices, Good Governance, and conformity to sound environmental and social practices based on the 08 Principles which are listed below.

PRINCIPLE 1

Trading Practices

Trades with considering for the social, economic and environmental well-being of the country and prevents them from being exploited for the profit of others. Also, adopts trading and operational policies that are acceptable to all Stakeholders.

PRINCIPLE 2

Payment of Statutory Wages

Pay wages and statuary commitments to all its employees according to National requirements

PRINCIPLE 3

Child Labour and Forced Labour

Not employ anyone under the minimum age declared by the labour law and no involuntary, forced or bonded labour is used.

PRINCIPLE 4

Non-Discrimination, Gender Equity and Freedom of Association

Not to support discrimination in all aspects and provide equal pay & opportunities for women and men. Providing special training and encouragement to women to take leadership and provide a harassment-free work environment to all (women & men).

PRINCIPLE 5

Working Conditions

To provide a healthy and safe workplace for all its employees.

PRINCIPLE 6

Capacity Building

To develop management / technical skills for employees to create better productivity and opportunities in the workplace.

PRINCIPLE 7

Promotion of Good Values

Promotion of Good Values

PRINCIPLE 8

Environment

To use environmentally friendly raw materials and production methods and safeguard nature.

NCE partners with Ind-Expo Certification Limited for technical evaluation of the Certificate of Ethical Treading, enhancing credibility and providing transparent evaluation methods. Ind-Expo is a non-profit organization accredited by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board and the International Accreditation Forum.

This initialtion aims to assist and guide Member Exporters in developing the Systems and Practices in their Enterprises based on Evaluations.

NCE is the first and only trade Chamber in Sri Lanka to issue a Certificate of Ethical Trading of Good Governance.

This service will bring significant benefits to exporters as follows:

1. A Credible Certificate from The National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka that Confirms adherence to Good Trading Practices, ethical behavior and adherence to the legislations related to labour, environment and Industries.
2. Provides enterprise a competitive edge in international markets.
3. Serves to attract the attention of stakeholders in the international marketplace, particularly buyers who prioritize ethical considerations.
4. By adhering to ethical standards, companies can reduce the risk of reputational damage, legal issues, and other negative consequences associated with unethical practices.

The Chamber invites its members to obtain this certificate to demonstrate itself in the international market.

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Principles of Ethical Trade

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SRI LANKA'S MARINE AND BOAT BUILDING INDUSTRY: STRENGTHENING CAPABILITIES FOR REGIONAL AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Mr. Indhra Kaushal Rajapaksa

Chairman *– Chamber of Marine Industries Sri Lanka (CMISL), Group Managing Director – Sea Leisure Group,*

Chairman - *Boat and Ship Building Advisory Committee -Ministry of Industries*

President *– National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE)*

Sri Lanka is a nation defined by the sea. With a strategic location at the heart of the Indian Ocean, a maritime history spanning centuries, and a skilled workforce rooted in craftsmanship and engineering, our country possesses all the fundamentals required to be a serious global player in the marine and boatbuilding industry. Yet, while the potential is immense, the task before us today is clear: we must deliberately strengthen our capabilities, align policy with industry needs, and position Sri Lanka as a competitive, reliable, and innovative marine hub for the region and beyond.

As Chairman of the Chamber of Marine Industries Sri Lanka (CMISL), Chairman of the Boat and Ship Building Advisory Committee - Ministry of Industries, Group Managing Director of Sea Leisure Group, and President of the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE), and Group MD of Kalhari Group of Companies, I have had the privilege of engaging closely with manufacturers, exporters, policymakers, investors, and international buyers. From these interactions, one truth consistently emerges—Sri Lanka's marine and boatbuilding sector stands at a pivotal moment. The choices we make now will determine whether we remain a niche producer or evolve into a globally recognized center of excellence.

An Industry with Proven Strengths

Sri Lanka's boatbuilding industry has already earned its place on the global map. Our manufacturers produce a wide spectrum of vessels—luxury yachts, leisure craft, fishing vessels, patrol boats, catamarans, workboats, and specialized craft—serving markets in Europe, Asia, Australia, the Middle East, and Africa. The "Made in Sri Lanka" label is increasingly associated with quality craftsmanship, durability, and value.

A key competitive advantage lies in our human capital. Sri Lankan boatbuilders, engineers, naval architects, and technicians are highly skilled, adaptable, and innovative. Many have decades of experience working with international designs, advanced composites, and stringent certification requirements such as CE and ISO standards. This capability has allowed our industry to compete effectively despite challenges in scale and access to capital.

Equally important is Sri Lanka's geographic advantage. Positioned along one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, we are ideally located to serve regional markets efficiently. This natural advantage, combined with our growing port infrastructure and maritime services ecosystem, provides a strong foundation for industry expansion.

The Global Opportunity Before Us

Globally, the marine and boatbuilding industry is undergoing significant transformation. Demand for leisure craft is rising, driven by lifestyle changes, tourism growth, and increased interest in marine recreation. At the same time, there is growing demand for patrol boats, coastal surveillance vessels, research craft, and environmentally sustainable marine solutions.

Sustainability, digitalization, and advanced materials are reshaping the industry. Electric and hybrid propulsion systems, lightweight composites, smart navigation technologies, and green manufacturing processes are no longer optional—they are becoming essential for competitiveness. For Sri Lanka, this global shift represents an opportunity rather than a threat, provided we move decisively.

Challenges That Must Be Addressed

Despite our strengths, the industry faces several structural challenges that limit its full potential.

First, access to competitive financing remains a major constraint. Boatbuilding is capital-intensive, requiring long production cycles and substantial upfront investment. High interest rates and limited availability of long-term financing put local manufacturers at a disadvantage compared to competitors in countries with targeted financial support mechanisms.

Second, regulatory and administrative processes often lack alignment with industry realities. Delays in approvals, inconsistencies in taxation, and complexities in importing raw materials and exporting finished vessels add unnecessary costs and uncertainty. Streamlining these processes is not merely a convenience—it is a prerequisite for global competitiveness.

Third, infrastructure gaps persist. While Sri Lanka has capable boatyards, we need purpose-built marine industrial zones, modern testing and certification facilities, haul-out yards, and repair and refit centers that meet international expectations. These are critical not only for manufacturing but also for after-sales services, which are increasingly valued by global buyers.

Fourth, skills development must keep pace with technological change. While our workforce is highly capable, emerging technologies demand continuous upskilling in areas such as advanced composites, automation, digital design, and green propulsion systems.

Strengthening Capabilities Through Collaboration

Addressing these challenges requires a coordinated approach involving government, industry, academia, and financial institutions.

As CMISL, we have consistently advocated for a clear national strategy for the marine and boatbuilding industry. Such a strategy should recognize the sector as a priority export industry and provide targeted support in areas such as fiscal incentives, infrastructure development, and skills training. Countries that have succeeded in this industry—such as Italy, Turkey, and certain Southeast Asian nations—have done so through deliberate policy alignment and sustained public-private collaboration.

From an export perspective, the role of the National Chamber of Exporters is critical. We must proactively support market access, trade facilitation, and international branding. Sri Lanka's marine industry should be positioned not merely as a low-cost alternative, but as a high-quality, reliable, and innovative partner. Participation in international boat shows, trade missions, and buyer-seller forums must be strategically enhanced.

The private sector, too, has a responsibility to invest in technology, quality systems, and sustainable practices. Collaboration among manufacturers—rather than fragmentation—can help achieve economies of scale, shared services, and stronger bargaining power in global markets.

Sustainability as a Competitive Advantage

One of the most promising avenues for differentiation lies in sustainability. As a nation deeply connected to the ocean, Sri Lanka has both a moral and commercial imperative to lead in environmentally responsible marine manufacturing.

Eco-friendly boat designs, energy-efficient production processes, responsible waste management, and the adoption of electric and hybrid propulsion systems can position Sri Lanka as a preferred supplier in markets where sustainability is a key purchasing criterion. This is not a distant aspiration—it is an achievable goal with the right incentives, partnerships, and knowledge transfer.

Tourism-linked marine industries, including leisure boating and yacht services, also benefit from sustainable practices, reinforcing Sri Lanka's broader brand as a responsible and attractive maritime destination.

A Vision for the Future

Looking ahead, I firmly believe that Sri Lanka can emerge as a regional hub for marine manufacturing, repair, refit, and marine leisure services. Achieving this vision will require:

1. A clear and consistent national policy framework for the marine and boatbuilding industry
2. Competitive financing and targeted fiscal incentives
3. Modern infrastructure and dedicated marine industrial zones
4. Continuous skills development aligned with global technological trends
5. Strong international marketing and export promotion
6. A shared commitment to sustainability and innovation

The opportunity before us is significant. The global marine industry is expanding, and buyers are actively seeking reliable, high-quality partners. Sri Lanka has the talent, location, and experience to meet this demand.

Way Forward

Sri Lanka's marine and boatbuilding industry is a strategic national asset with significant potential to drive exports, employment, and industrial advancement. To fully realize this opportunity, a focused and coordinated national strategy is essential. As recommended by the Chamber of Marine Industries Sri Lanka (CMISL), and in my capacity as Chairman of the Boat and Shipbuilding Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Industries, the way forward must priorities the establishment of a clear national policy framework that recognizes boat and shipbuilding as a priority export sector, supported by investment facilitation and regulatory alignment. It must also strengthen infrastructure and industry capacity, invest in skills development and technological innovation, promote sustainable and environmentally responsible practices in line with global maritime standards, and deepen integration into international markets through strategic partnerships and export promotion. With strong collaboration between government and industry, Sri Lanka can position itself as a competitive, resilient, and future-ready maritime hub in the Indian Ocean region.

SRI LANKA'S 2024 EXPORT TALE - ORNAMENTAL FISH, SEAFOOD & BOATS

In 2024, Sri Lanka posted its **highest-ever total export earnings** — a record **US$ 16.17 billion from goods and services — an approximately **7 % increase** over 2023, led by core sectors such as apparel, tea, and industrial goods. This strong macro performance provides context for niche export segments that tell *distinct stories of promise and challenge:* **ornamental fish, seafood, and boat building.**

The Big Picture: Sri Lanka's Export Growth at a Glance

According to the **Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB)**, total export revenue in 2024 reached **US$ 16.17 billion**, the highest in the nation's history — with **US$ 12.71 billion from merchandise exports** and **US$ 3.46 billion from services.**

The **Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL)** corroborates this broad growth. Its *External Sector Performance* report shows export earnings for merchandise increased by **about 7.2 % in 2024**, underlining structural resilience despite some sectoral weaknesses.

Ornamental Fish: Small but Distinctive

Sri Lanka's **ornamental fish exports** — prized in global aquarium markets — are a specialized earner that reflects the country's biodiversity and niche skillsets.

2024 by the Numbers

- **Annual export value: ~US$ 24.46 million**, about **7 % lower** than 2023.
- **Monthly trends:** consistent contraction throughout the year, echoing weaker demand and logistical challenges for live aquatic exports.

Why It Matters

Though modest in scale, ornamental fish exports hold **branding and specialized trade value** — especially for exotic species. The decline reflects not fundamental loss of competitive assets, but *constraints in certification, transport infrastructure, and cost-efficient logistics*, all of which the EDB has flagged as priorities for policy engagement.

Seafood Exports: Traditional Strength Tested

Seafood remains culturally and economically significant as an export — but 2024 posed challenges.

2024 Seafood Earnings

- **Total export earnings: ~US$ 232.99 million** for the full year, down **about 11 % year-on-year**.
- Declines were particularly sharp in **shrimp and frozen fish exports**, reflecting global price competition and demand shifts.

Economic Context

The EDB monthly performance data shows that in months like **November 2024**, seafood export earnings tumbled sharply — **US$ 16.46 million**, down roughly **34 % year-on-year** — driven by weaker shrimp and frozen fish shipments.

Despite these setbacks, seafood is one of the few export segments tied directly to coastal and rural livelihoods. Its long-term growth hinges on **cold chain capacity, quality certification for sustainable fishing, and differentiated market access**, areas where the EDB and other agencies are actively seeking improvement.

Boat Building: Craftsmanship in Rough Waters

Sri Lanka's **boat building sector** — encompassing artisanal fishing crafts and small commercial vessels — experienced a *notable downturn* in 2024.

Earnings & Trends

- **Annual boat export earnings: ~US$ 41.10 million**, a **dropping nearly 48 %** from the previous year.
- Sector performance was episodic, with occasional higher monthly figures earlier in the year but overall contraction under competitive pressure from Asian shipyards.

Sector Significance

Boat building may be smaller in export count, but its role in *heritage manufacturing, specialized tourism services*, and *niche maritime trade* makes its decline noteworthy. Industry voices highlight the need for **upgrading production technology, engine integration standards**, and **market branding** to improve global appeal.

Sector Snapshot: Exports in 2024

Sector	2024 Export Value (Approx.)	2023 → 2024 Trend
Ornamental Fish	US$ 24.46 M	↓ ~7 %
Seafood	US$ 232.99 M	↓ ~11 %
Boat Building	US$ 41.10 M	↓ ~48 %

Compared to headline export sectors — like apparel or tea — these maritime and aquatic exporters represent **a smaller slice of the export pie**, but one deeply rooted in **ecological biodiversity and artisanal heritage**.

Central Bank Lens: Export Trends & External Sector Health

The **Central Bank's 2024 External Sector Performance Reports** emphasize that overall export earnings are growing as **imports expand at a faster pace**, widening the trade deficit — but exports remain a *pillar of foreign exchange generation*.

CBSL also tracks broader external performance, showing **merchandise exports rose by roughly 7 % in 2024**, consistent with the EDB's total export figures. This underscores that Sri Lanka's export gains are not isolated to headline categories, but reflective of structural export sector health.

The Narrative Beyond Numbers

Ornamental fish, seafood, and boats: taken together, illustrate Sri Lanka's **diversified export potential:**

- **Ornamental Fish:** A niche export with global demand potential, constrained by logistics and certification costs.
- **Seafood:** A traditional foreign exchange earner needing *cold chain upgrade* and *product diversification* to recapture growth.
- **Boat Building:** A heritage sector that calls for *investment in tech* and *differentiated design* to compete globally.

While these sectors may not match the scale of Sri Lanka's apparel or tea exports, they reflect **specialized export threads woven into the broader tapestry of 2024 trade success** — a tapestry that continues to evolve as economic reforms and external demand patterns shift.

Sources:
Export Development **Board (EDB)**: Sri Lanka recorded **US$ 16.17 billion total exports in 2024**, highest ever, with merchandise up **US$ 12.71 billion** and strong services growth., **EDB Monthly Sector Data:** Ornamental fish ~US$ 24.46M, seafood ~US$ 232.99M, boat building ~US$ 41.10M in 2024., **Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL):** Merchandise export earnings rose by ~7.2% in 2024, underscoring resilient export performance amidst global headwinds., **EDB Monthly Performance (Nov 2024):** Seafood and ornamental fish saw notable contraction in late-2024 export figures.

DEVELOPING SRI LANKA'S BLUE ECONOMY

| BY NELIE MUNASINGHE

Recently, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) urged Sri Lanka to adopt a strategic and sustainable method for developing its blue economy, stressing the need for improving investment, regulation, and branding to fully utilise the country's extensive maritime resources.

Meanwhile, Labour Minister and Economic Development Deputy Minister Dr. Anil Jayantha Fernando announced Sri Lanka's plan to lead South Asia in the blue economy – through Blue Economy Vision 2030 – with plans to position the country as a top investment hub for ocean-based industries.

For the country to achieve this, industry experts urge the need for clearer regulatory frameworks, strong strategic planning, and significant infrastructure development moving forward.

Lack of infrastructure

The Port of Colombo is recognised for its strong connectivity. Officials state that the Colombo Port could handle 8.2 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) in 2025. In 2024, the port recorded an all-time high container throughput of 7.78 million TEUs, a significant increase from the 6.91 million TEUs handled the previous year. The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) has projected the port's total capacity to double to 15 million TEUs by 2026.

Speaking to *The Sunday Morning Business*, Deputy Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation Janitha Ruwan Kodithuwakku noted that while Sri Lanka naturally had the potential to develop its blue economy, the infrastructure was yet to match this potential. He also noted that the industry had not saturated but continued growing in terms of volumes and demand, which the Government was trying to capture.

The Deputy Minister further noted that, in the current context, the blue economy should consider the combination of the maritime and aviation industries, given the evolving dynamics. Thus, he noted that the Government's plan was to develop shipping lines, airlines, and infrastructure, including ports and airports, as they all needed to be developed simultaneously, along with the services.

"We are planning to enable the Colombo Port to move around at least 30 million TEUs by 2035 and there is a 10-year plan for the shipping industry. There will also be a few terminals coming up. Currently, the Colombo Port has a capacity of around 8 million TEUs, cargo-wise. However, apart from that, we are not supplying other services to become a maritime hub," Kodithuwakku said.

Moreover, he stated that while Sri Lanka already had a National Shipping Carrier, Ceylon Shipping Corporation Ltd., it was not in a financially viable position and the Government was exploring options to develop it.

On developing Sri Lankan branding, the Deputy Minister noted that the country was already branded to an extent, especially the Colombo Port. Certain areas that drive this branding are Sri Lanka's efficiency and human resources, such as seafarers. However, he acknowledged that in terms of infrastructure, Sri Lanka was not branded adequately, since despite ships needing to come to Colombo, the country could not cater to all their needs.

Under both maritime and aviation sectors, there are two main international organisations: the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

"I will be visiting the upcoming IMO conference in the UK, and we have identified a person to be appointed as an ambassador for Sri Lanka at the IMO, which is another step that will drive branding," he added.

In terms of strengthening the regulatory framework, he noted that the President was already working towards improving the investment process and climate in the country. Thus, he said that there would certainly be improvement in the process in time to come.

Branding SL as a logistics hub

SLPA Chairman Admiral (Retd) Sirimevan Ranasinghe stated that Sri Lanka lacked a few essentials in developing the blue economy and branding.

He noted that while Sri Lanka had a substantial number of advantages in terms of its strategic location, the country was yet to fully realise the potential or fully utilise that connectivity in achieving logistic developments, for which it had great untapped potential.

Ranasinghe further noted that plans for developing this aspect, which started in 2023, had not materialised yet, adding that the country was currently looking at re-tendering the available land for better optimisation.

"There have been many discussions around how and why Sri Lanka should start promoting the country as a logistics hub as well – in fact, far more than being a transshipment hub. This is the opportunity to do so, and the intention of the SLPA and the ministry involves promoting Colombo as a logistics hub beyond a transshipment hub," he added.

Blue Economy Vision 2030

The Government's Blue Economy Vision 2030 is a strategic framework designed to utilise the country's extensive marine resources. It identifies five main sectors as priority areas for investment. These include sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, marine biotechnology and pharmaceuticals, port development and maritime logistics, marine tourism and recreation, and offshore and energy services.

Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture has specific aims to modernise fishing fleets, improve cold chain logistics, and introduce value-added seafood processing for export. The plan also targets marine biotechnology and pharmaceuticals, leveraging the country's rich biodiversity for bio-based products and medical research ventures.

Port development and maritime logistics are also being focused on, through the expansion of the Colombo Port and the development of the Hambantota and Trincomalee Harbours, to establish the country as a regional centre for cargo handling, ship repair, and bunkering services.

Further, the vision also includes marine tourism and recreation, integrating experiences like sailing, diving, and eco-tourism into the tourism strategy, as well as marine and offshore services, which includes emerging opportunities for international investors

in oil and gas exploration and energy hub development.

Implementing a strategic, sustainable project

Speaking to *The Sunday Morning Business*, Shippers' Academy Founder and CEO Rohan Masakorala noted that while Sri Lanka's blue economy had been a talking point for some time, there must be a commitment to implementing a sustainable blue economy project.

He observed several steps required as critical starting points, such as properly identifying a ministry that would take responsibility for and implement the blue economy under the Cabinet portfolio, along with the type of institutional network it would propose. He also highlighted the preliminary need to establish a structure, with the proper talent, know-how, and knowledge, to work towards the blue economy goals.

Masakorala also stated that given Sri Lanka's location in the Indian Ocean and its designation as a hot spot, the blue economy should be considered a viable, futuristic opportunity that the country needed to seriously pursue, adding that simply engaging in discussions would not advance the country.

"A concrete plan, financing, Government budgetary allocations, Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), and attracting international investors with proper plans are necessary. Branding cannot take place without first establishing a proper product, or even a proper website stating what the Sri Lankan blue economy is, with information such as who is responsible, relevant financial institutions, ocean-related institutional frameworks, etc. Formulating measurable, verifiable processes and planning to be adopted is the first step," he added.

Furthermore, Masakorala emphasised the need for a strong regulatory framework to establish a blue economy, which required a significant amount of focus, knowledge, know-how, time, and resources. He further highlighted political will and commitment by the private sector, especially in developing an executable strategic plan, as essential.

He also noted that proper structuring was required, as well as a national-level coordinating office, especially when considering investments, so that opportunities and the legal framework were clear. If the regulatory environment is not correct, it cannot sustain an investment climate.

"Developing the regulatory framework with modern structures while ensuring environmental sustainability is important, and marine spatial plans, marine renewable energy, and environmental protection are key in this. Furthermore, adapting modern ocean technology and ensuring proper investments in this regard are also necessary.

"However, establishing fundamentals, commitment, and the right frameworks with leadership are essential. The potential is substantial if the investments are done properly at the right time," he added.

Key areas for developing blue economy

Meanwhile, Chamber of Marine Industries of Sri Lanka (CMISL) Senior Adviser Gamini Herath explained the key areas in relation to developing the blue economy in the country.

"One key aspect of the blue economy is nautical/maritime tourism and a developed nautical tourism strategy is ready for implementation. It is necessary to establish the required institutional elements to implement it, especially given that a strategy of this nature requires the cooperation of several institutions, ministries, and private sector industries. This touches upon several significant areas in the country, including Trincomalee, Mannar, Kalpitiya, and Galle," he added.

Regarding nautical tourism, Herath also pointed out that recreational boating, which currently remained largely insignificant, needed further infrastructure development and expansion for both local and foreign tourists.

The second most prominent area for Sri Lanka, according to Herath, is wreck diving, which currently takes place only on a limited scale. Sri Lanka has 143 suitable locations, which include one of the oldest aircraft carriers sunk during World War II off the coast of Batticaloa. Herath added that these could be marketed profitably with proper branding.

He also explained other marine services that the private sector had ventured into on a small scale, such as providing services like oil rig layups and other maintenance and repair facilities for maritime services companies around the world, especially in Trincomalee. Furthermore, he highlighted potential in Sri Lanka venturing into the exploration of oil, for which expediting the processes was necessary.

According to Herath, the next promising area under the blue economy is the fisheries industry, where aquaculture and mariculture represent a prominent economic area. However, Sri Lanka's traditional fish harvesting methods are facing challenges.

He observed that in the coastal areas, there was hardly sufficient fish for economic purposes, and even in the mid and deep sea, the returns were not adequately high due to low harvests. Nevertheless, he noted that, at present, the development of aquaculture and mariculture had already begun.

"These are all sustainable, especially environmentally sustainable, activities. However, they require regulations and proper implementation/execution mechanisms, alongside certain revisions to protect the country's marine ecosystem, which are essential for ocean-based economic activities."

Herath also highlighted maritime transport and support services for the sector, pointing out the need for high-standard infrastructure for cruise tourism and a cruise terminal in order to boost overall tourism.

Furthermore, he pointed to other areas that could be developed, such as mineral exploration, ocean-based renewable energy, and building marinas.

"Sri Lanka also has a substantial opportunity in ship building, boat building, and ship repair. We currently have only one functioning shipyard, which faces certain issues that need to be fixed soon. There is capacity to earn at least $ 200 million per year if the full capacity of this shipyard is utilised.

"Moreover, Trincomalee in particular, with its lucrative ocean depth, has substantial potential in ship repair and deserves greater focus. Hence, regulation and infrastructure facilities need to be developed as required," he added.

Herath pointed out that in the ship building/repair sector, which alone could generate around $ 500 million per year, businesses had to go through various regulatory authorities to receive approval.

Hence, he stated that the blue economy would not take off unless there were streamlined and simplified processes and improved access. While a one-stop shop had been advocated for years, the need for establishing one still remains, which he noted as essential for foreign investments.

"We foresaw substantial potential in the blue economy decades ago and proposals have always been made but did not properly materialise. It is now high time to leverage these opportunities."

Meanwhile, speaking to The Sunday Morning Business, former Chairman of the Sri Lanka Shippers' Council (SLSC) Sean Van Dort highlighted that the country would never benefit from a blue economy unless the prevailing protectionist laws regarding maritime and logistics were revoked.

"Liberalisation in logistics is a must to unlock its full potential, which is the stepping stone for any country to move forward. International law is constantly upgrading its standing and holding countries responsible. However, the lack of implementation from Sri Lanka is found wanting," he added.

Source: *the Morning Newspaper* - https://www.themorning.lk/articles/pWCYzYnkocfIKXEvABVg

GLOBAL DEMAND FORECAST FOR ORNAMENTAL FISH & AQUATIC PLANTS, 2025–2030

A Growing Global Hobby and Industry

The global ornamental fish and aquatic plant industry is enjoying robust growth, driven by rising urbanization, increasing disposable incomes, wellness trends, and expanding interest in home aquariums as décor and stress-relief features. Aquatic plants, although a smaller subsector than ornamental fish, are becoming a key design element in modern aquascaping and aquarium maintenance, adding ecological benefits and aesthetic depth to aquaria.

Market Forecast: Ornamental Fish (2025–2030)

1. Market Size & Growth Projections

Multiple independent market research firms forecast ongoing expansion of the ornamental fish market through 2030:

- **MarketResearch.com** projects that the global ornamental fish market will grow from approximately **US$6.7 billion in 2024 to about US$9.8 billion by 2030**, representing a **compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of ~6.5% over 2024–2030**.
- **SkyQuest Technology Consulting** (via GlobeNewswire) forecasts the market could **surpass US$11.68 billion by 2030** with a **stronger CAGR of ~8.5%**, propelled by the rising appeal of colorful aquarium fish.

These figures reflect wide consumer interest in ornamental fish species — tropical freshwater fish, marine fish, and temperate varieties — predominantly for residential aquariums but also growing in commercial settings such as hospitality and corporate spaces.

2. Key Demand Drivers

Aesthetic and Wellness Appeal: Aquariums, with colorful fish and plants, are increasingly used for home décor and wellness, as many owners associate them with stress reduction and ambient beauty.

Urban Household Adoption: Urban dwellers with limited outdoor space often choose aquariums over other pets, boosting demand for ornamental fish and aquatic plants.

E-Commerce Expansion: Online retail channels have lowered barriers to global species access and expanded hobbyist participation, particularly for exotic fish varieties.

3. Trade Flows (World Bank Data)

Most ornamental fish are traded internationally, with dynamic trade flows illustrating ongoing global demand:

Leading Ornamental Fish Exporters (2024)

Country	Export Value (USD 000s)	Importance
Japan	48,644.71	Top global exporter.
Indonesia	40,689.13	Strong tropical species supply.
Singapore	32,811.99	Re-export hub.
Sri Lanka	24,218.03	Significant national export base.
Netherlands	22,490.12	Europe linkage.

Notes:

- Asia Pacific leads global exports, largely from diversified species production.
- Sri Lanka's ornamental fish export value was in the tens of millions USD in 2024.
- **Leading importers (2023):** The United States, the **European Union**, and China are some of the largest import markets by value, reflecting major consumer bases for ornamental fish globally.

These trade patterns underscore the international nature of demand and supply, with **Asia (especially Southeast Asia) serving as a key production base** and **North America/Europe as primary consumption markets**.

Aquatic Plants — The Rising Companion Market

1. Market Size & Forecast

While large-scale agencies like the World Bank and FAO track fisheries and aquaculture broadly, **specific public forecasts for ornamental aquatic plants** are scarce in widely recognized institutional reports. However, reputable independent market research reveals:

- The **global aquarium plant market** is projected to grow from **approx. US$1.37 billion in 2025 to about US$2.05 billion by 2030**, with a **CAGR around 8.4%**, driven by aquascaping trends and rising aquarium plant adoption.

Aquatic plants include both live plants (which oxygenate and enrich aquarium ecosystems) and decorative/artificial varieties, with demand spurred by aquascaping and premium aquarium installations.

2. Demand Drivers for Aquarium Plants

Aquascaping Trends: Just as interior decoration evolves, aquarium design has shifted toward *biotope* and *natural planted tanks*, increasing demand for aquatic plants.

Environmental Benefits: Live plants improve water quality and offer habitat structure for fish, enhancing aquarium health and appeal.

Technology & Tissue Culture: Advances in nursery and tissue culture techniques have made exotic and premium aquatic plants more available globally.

International Trade & Sector Context

Although ornamental be trade flows for fish are documented by the **World Bank's trade database (WITS/UN Comtrade)**, global databases do not always separately categorize aquarium plants in the HS trade codes. Nevertheless:

- **FAO commodity statistics** indicate extensive global trade in aquatic products and provide a context for the ornamental subsector within the broader aquatic products space.
- Ornamental fish trade dynamics have been studied internationally, with leading exporting and importing countries participating actively and shaping global demand patterns.

Key Trends Shaping the Industry Through 2030

1. Geographic Shifts

- **Asia-Pacific remains central** to production, with strong export networks from Southeast Asian nations.
- **North America & Europe dominate consumption**, driven by strong hobbyist communities and higher per-capita disposable incomes.

2. E-Commerce & Digital Retail

Online platforms have expanded global access to rare fish and plants, reducing geographic barriers and increasing market reach.

3. Sustainability & Regulation

Growing attention to responsible sourcing and aquaculture practices — particularly in marine ornamental species — is influencing consumer preferences and regulatory landscapes. (For example, sustainability certification and ethical aquaculture are gaining traction in market discussions.)

A Resilient and Growing Market

Between 2025 and 2030, **global demand for ornamental fish and aquatic plants is poised for sustained growth**, with ornamental fish projected to increase to approximately **US$10–11+ billion by 2030** and aquarium plants moving toward **US$2 billion**. This expansion reflects hobbyist growth, international trade development, and evolving lifestyle trends worldwide.

The ornamental aquatic sector therefore presents significant opportunities for breeders, exporters, retailers, and aquascaping innovators — although reliable **institutional forecasts from sources like the World Bank or FAO** remain limited, trade data and market projections from reputable research firms provide a credible basis for understanding global market direction.

Key Source References

World Bank WITS/UN Comtrade trade statistics — live ornamental fish exports/imports by country (2023–2024). **Market Research Reports (Global Industry Analysts / Research & Markets / BusinessResearchInsights)** — ornamental fish market forecasts and trend analysis (2025–2030). **TheBusinessResearchCompany aquarium plant market forecast** — aquatic plants projected growth 2025–2030. **FAO global aquatic products trade context** — broader industry background.

NEIL MARINE

Steering a Legacy of Innovation, Resilience, and Global Excellence

Neil Fernando Group of Companies

For over five decades, Neil Fernando & Company (Pvt) Ltd, operating under the renowned Neil Marine brand, has played a defining role in shaping Sri Lanka's boatbuilding industry. Under the leadership of Kumari Fernando, Chairperson of the Neil Fernando Group, the organisation continues to balance a proud legacy with innovation, sustainability, and global expansion.

Kumari Fernando's leadership journey has been profoundly influenced by her parents. Her late father, Mr. Neil Fernando, lost his parents at the age of twelve and went on to establish the business in the late 1960s, a time of political uncertainty and economic hardship. Trained at Walkers, he chose entrepreneurship over the security of a government career, driven by resilience, discipline, and a strong

commitment to giving back to the nation. Her mother's constant encouragement instilled confidence, perseverance, and emotional strength. These early influences shaped a leadership philosophy rooted in integrity, accountability, and purpose. Kumari Fernando has also drawn inspiration from global business leaders such as Richard Branson, Lakshmi Mittal, and Ottara Gunawardene, whose journeys exemplify innovation, adaptability, and values-driven leadership.

Shortly after graduating from the University of San Francisco, Kumari Fernando joined the family business. Her father made it clear that there would be no special privileges; respect had to be earned through performance and ethical conduct. This defining lesson shaped her professional journey and continues to guide her leadership today, building credibility, humility, and independence.

A defining chapter in her leadership began in January 2021, following the passing of her father. Despite 18 years of experience as Group Directress, she assumed the role of Chairperson at a time of unprecedented national and global challenges. As Sri Lanka emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic, the country faced severe economic crisis, including foreign exchange constraints, import restrictions, fuel shortages, and electricity disruptions. Despite these pressures, Neil Marine remained resilient. Through agile decision-making, collaboration, and teamwork, the company honoured international orders, paid salaries on time, and maintained operational stability. This period tested leadership at every level and strengthened the organisation's unity and resolve.

Today, Kumari Fernando is recognised as Sri Lanka's only woman entrepreneur in the boatbuilding industry, a distinction earned through perseverance and sustained excellence. Under her leadership, Neil Marine has retained its position as the No. 1 boat builder in Sri Lanka while expanding its international footprint. A major milestone was the company's expansion into Australia in 2021, complemented by strong export relationships across the UK, the Netherlands, Africa, the Maldives, India, and Southeast Asia. These achievements have been driven by strategic partnerships, franchise acquisitions, and a committed workforce.

Her leadership has received national recognition. She was honoured as one of the 100 Iconic Sri Lankan Women 2025 by the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and received the Entrepreneur of the Year 2024 award from COYLE. These accolades reflect both personal leadership and collective organisational effort.

Founded in 1969, Neil Marine has evolved from a family-owned boatyard into one of South Asia's largest fiberglass boat manufacturers, having delivered over 40,000 vessels worldwide. The organisation pioneered the introduction of Glass-Reinforced Plastic (GRP) boats in Sri Lanka, replacing traditional wooden vessels and significantly reducing environmental impact while improving durability, efficiency, and long-term value.

Neil Marine's continued relevance lies in blending craftsmanship with technology. Advanced design systems, certified production processes, eco-friendly materials such as Flexi Teak, and ISO-driven quality assurance enable precision manufacturing, shorter lead times, and transparent project delivery. The company offers customised solutions—from fishing vessels and patrol crafts to luxury leisure boats—supported by comprehensive after-sales service, spares, and technical training, positioning Neil Marine as a trusted global marine brand.

Looking ahead, Neil Marine is focused on sustainable growth through electric and hybrid propulsion technologies, smart manufacturing, and advanced composite materials. Expansion plans target Europe, Africa, Australia, India, and Southeast Asia, supported by a strong international partner network. Locally, the company remains committed to promoting nautical tourism and strengthening Sri Lanka's position as a competitive marine destination.

Kumari Fernando's leadership style is collaborative and inclusive. She values cross-disciplinary thinking, listens carefully to expertise within the organisation, and emphasizes recognition and accountability. Teamwork and shared ownership form the foundation of her management approach.

Beyond business, she finds balance through cooking, baking, painting, and holistic living practices such as Ayurveda. A lifelong learner, she has completed a Diploma in Forensic Psychology, a certified course in Labour Law, and is currently pursuing an advanced Public Policy programme at the London School of Economics. These pursuits keep her intellectually engaged, grounded, and continuously evolving—personally and professionally.

Colombo Dockyard PLC: A Year of Consolidation, Expansion, and Specialized Excellence

As Colombo Dockyard PLC closes the year, the Company reflects on a period marked by strong operational delivery, strategic market expansion, and renewed confidence in its core competencies across Shipbuilding, Ship Repair, and Heavy Engineering. By strengthening long-standing client partnerships while successfully entering new vessel segments and regional markets, Colombo Dockyard has reinforced its position as a trusted and versatile maritime and engineering solutions provider in the Indian Ocean region and beyond.

Shipbuilding: Successful Completion of the Eco Bulk Series and a Strong Return to Cable Ships

Shipbuilding continued to be a core pillar of performance during the year, underscored by the near-completion of the 10-vessel, 5,000 DWT Eco Bulk Carrier series for Misje Eco Bulk AS of Norway. This long-term project demonstrated Colombo Dockyard's consistent delivery quality and schedule reliability, further strengthening a partnership built over years of collaboration. With only one vessel remaining for delivery in 2026, the series now stands as a benchmark achievement, showcasing Colombo Dockyard's capability to construct environmentally efficient, internationally compliant vessels that meet the evolving demands of global maritime operators.

In parallel, Colombo Dockyard strengthened its presence in one of its most specialized shipbuilding niches—Cable Laying and Repair Vessels. Building on the proven success of earlier deliveries to Kokusai Cable Ship Co. of Japan and Orange Marine of France, the Dockyard secured new cable-ship construction contracts with Orange Marine, further reinforcing its global standing in this technically demanding segment. These accomplishments underscore Colombo Dockyard's reliability as a builder of technologically advanced ships engineered in strict conformity with classification society rules, flag-state requirements, and international maritime regulations. Each vessel is custom-designed to align with the owner's fleet strategies and operational profiles, integrating innovative, value-driven features that enhance lifecycle performance and ensure long-term commercial competitiveness.

Figure 1 *Cable Laying and Repair Vessel built for Orange Marine France*

Ship Repair: Strong Repeat Business, New Markets, and Complex Retrofit Capability

The Ship Repair Division delivered a strong performance during the year, supported by a healthy mix of repeat customers and successful entry into new regional markets across multiple vessel segments. Long-standing shipowners and ship management companies continued to demonstrate confidence in Colombo Dockyard, providing a stable baseload of repair projects. Complementing this, a significant share of work volume was generated by new clients from diverse regions, underscoring the Division's expanding market appeal. Notably, the Dockyard attracted cable-laying and repair vessels from European operators working in Taiwan and Indonesia, as well as offshore support vessels from Asia-Pacific operators active in the Indian Ocean. These gains are further distinguished by the Dockyard's ability to draw clients away from established hubs such as Singapore and Indonesia—traditionally recognized for specialized repair services—highlighting Colombo Dockyard's competitive positioning and growing technical reputation in the region.

Complementing its drydock operations, Colombo Dockyard's Rapid Response Afloat Repair Services maintained a strong, continuous presence at Colombo, Hambantota, Trincomalee, and Galle. Throughout the year, the team undertook a wide range of steel, deck, machinery, and electrical repairs for international vessels calling at Sri Lankan ports, reinforcing the Dockyard's reputation for flexibility, rapid mobilisation, and practical trouble shooting capability.

Figure 2 *Aerial view of Colombo Dockyard PLC in full operation*

Heavy Engineering: Underwater Structures and Floating Projects Drive Diversification

The Heavy Engineering Division continued to reinforce Colombo Dockyard's diversification strategy, delivering high-value, specialized projects beyond its traditional maritime portfolio. During the year, the Dockyard successfully completed its fourth underwater restaurant structure for the Maldives, solidifying its status as a regional pioneer in underwater steel construction. These technically complex structures—fully designed, engineered, and fabricated in-house—add to a proven track record established with earlier underwater projects delivered in 2018, 2022, and early 2025.

Figure 3 *Finished view of 4th Underwater Restaurant*

Alongside its underwater developments, the Division advanced a range of ongoing floating and heavy steel engineering projects, leveraging more than 25 years of expertise in the design, fabrication, and delivery of complex structures such as fuel tanks, gas spheres, bridges, and specialized marine installations. These projects highlight Colombo Dockyard's ability to successfully transfer its shipbuilding and marine engineering competencies into non-traditional yet high-potential market segments, further broadening the Company's diversification pathway.

Looking Ahead

As the year draws to a close, Colombo Dockyard PLC stands strengthened by operational consistency, growing client confidence, and strategic expansion across its core business sectors. With a solid shipbuilding foundation, a diversified and expanding ship repair portfolio, and a steadily increasing footprint in heavy engineering, the Dockyard enters the coming year well-positioned to build on its momentum. The Company remains committed to delivering value, innovation, and reliability to clients across the global maritime and engineering industries, reinforcing its role as a trusted partner in the region and beyond.

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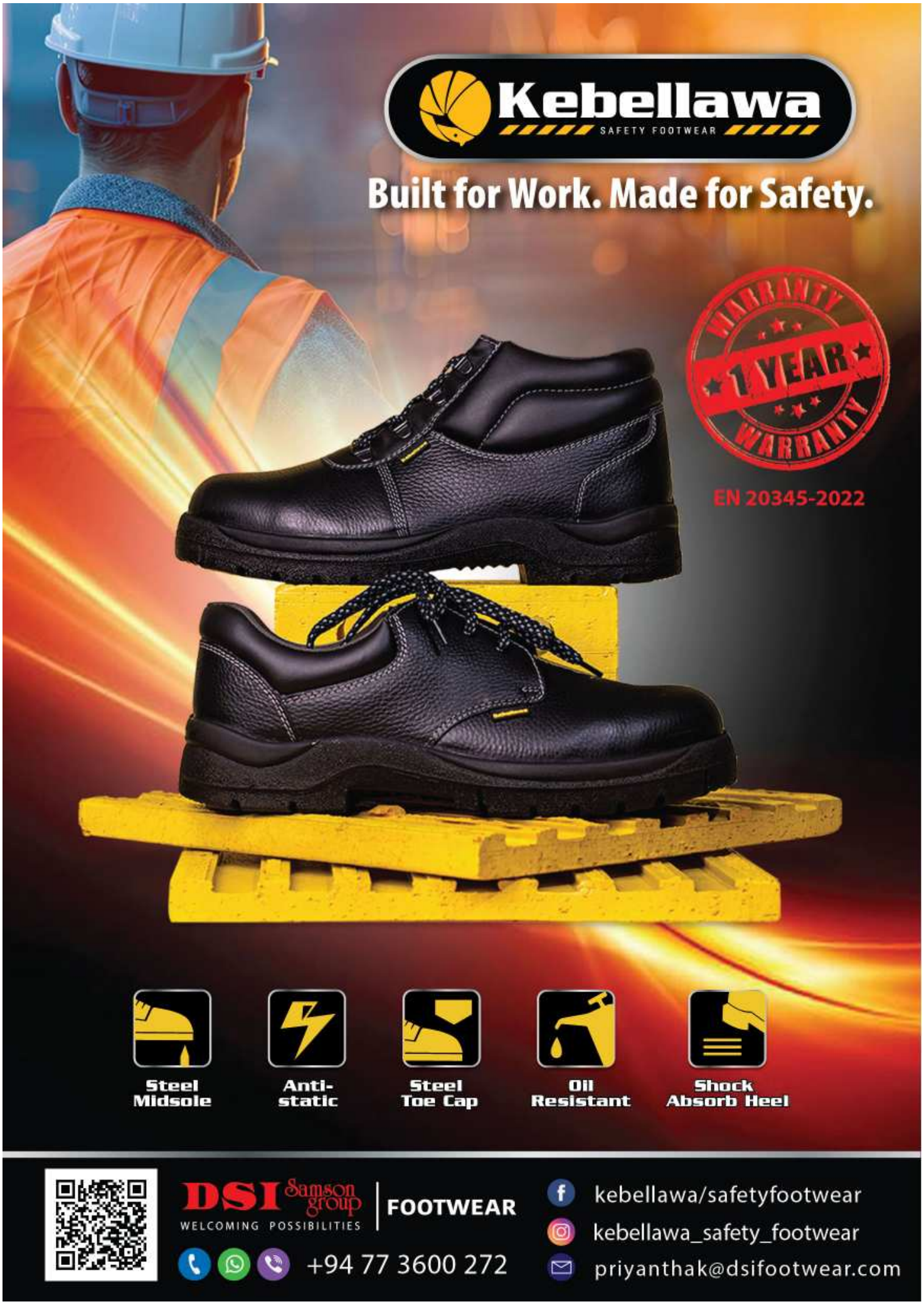
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From Himalayas to Oceans: Exploring New Avenues of Possibility Between Nepal and Sri Lanka

by Nepal Chamber of Commerce

Nepal is a beautiful mountaineering country, nestled between **India and China**, with an extraordinary range of landscapes - from the lowland **Terai plains** to the snow-capped **Himalayan mountains**, including **Mount Everest**, the highest point on Earth. This natural diversity not only makes Nepal a global tourism hotspot but also provides unique opportunities in eco-tourism, sustainable agriculture, and renewable energy. With a population of around 30 million, including approximately 56% under the age of 30, Nepal has a young, motivated, and increasingly educated workforce, offering significant potential for economic growth.

It is also the birthplace of Gautam Buddha, making Nepal a land of Buddhism and peace, further enriching its cultural and spiritual identity in the world.

These dynamics position Nepal as a promising market and potential partner for countries like Sri Lanka, whose strengths lie in trade, logistics, and ocean-based industries. Sri Lanka sits at the crossroads of major Indian Ocean Sea lanes, a small island with a large maritime footprint. That geography gives the country natural advantages in marine resources, logistics and trade services. In recent years the global conversation around the "Blue Economy", the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, while preserving the health of ocean ecosystems has created fresh momentum to turn Sri Lanka's natural endowments into higher-value exports. At the same time, Nepal, a landlocked but rapidly developing market, needs reliable supplies of processed foods, packaged consumer goods and higher quality perishables. The relationship may look modest on paper today, but it contains clear, practical opportunities that both countries can pursue aggressively and quickly.

In 2024, Sri Lanka exported USD 3.77 Million to Nepal and imported USD 0.20 Million, making Nepal the 103rd export destination and 112th import origin. Compared to 2023, Sri Lanka's exports to Nepal rose by 292.7%, while imports from Nepal doubled. In 2024 Nepal imported Glass & Glassware, Animal Feed, Products of Base Metal, Meat, preparations of Meat/Fish & Dairy Product, Coconut Products, Cartons, Boxes & Bags, Tableware & Kitchenware, Telephone Sets, Audio/Video Equipment & Parts, and Cereals and its Products from Sri Lanka. And, exported Essential Oils, Tea Bagging, Packing, Cleaning, Weighing Machines, Tea, Travel Goods, Bags, Paints, Varnishes and Dyeing Extracts, Woven Fabrics, Products of Base Metal, coffee, and Automatic Data Processing Machines.

Understanding the scale of Sri Lanka's broader export performance helps put the bilateral picture in context. Different data sources report varying totals for Sri Lanka's merchandise exports in recent years. The World Bank's WITS portal and Sri Lanka's official statistics place exports totaling roughly USD 10 - 20 billion annually.

In recent years, the expansion of tourism in the religious sector, as well as nature-based adventure tourism, has been creating a steady demand for quality processed foods, frozen and chilled seafood, tropical packaged goods, and branded consumer items.

Second, Sri Lanka's processing strengths in seafood, coconut derivatives, packaged ready foods and small-scale specialty manufacturing match these needs.

Third, strengthening regional supply chains reduces dependence on distant suppliers and shortens lead times, which is critical for perishable goods. Concerted action can therefore convert modest trade into a reliable corridor that benefits exporters, importers and end consumers in both countries.

Processed and packaged seafood (value-added tuna, shrimp, ready meals) can be tailored for Nepali hotels and supermarkets, provided logistic and sanitary requirements are met. Coconut products desiccated coconut, coir products, coconut oil and ready-to-use consumer formats already have acceptance in South Asian markets and can be further down-scaled into retail sizes suited to Nepali shoppers.

Sri Lankan small shipbuilders and marine servicing interprises can offer craft and repair services to regional operators and to Nepali customers involved in tourism or lakeside businesses.

Knowledge sharing in new aquaculture technology, hatchery systems, marine science and IT sector collaboration represent non-commodity trade lines that can be sold as packages or delivered through joint projects. These are practical, exportable capabilities that go borderless trade.

Nepal's landlocked geography means consignments must move by air or pass through neighboring transit routes; inefficient cold chains and small shipment sizes increase unit costs for perishable seafood. Differences in sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards and documentation can delay clearance and raise the risk of rejected consignments. Small Sri Lankan exporters frequently lack market intelligence about Nepali buyers, while Nepali importers may be unfamiliar with Sri Lankan brand quality and traceability systems. Financial constraints limited access to export credit and working capital for small firms further constrain the scale and regularity of shipments. A pragmatic strategy must therefore be multidimensional, addressing logistics, standards, market access and finance at the same time.

Practical, low-cost actions can produce quick wins. First, a consolidated cold-chain corridor that aggregates small consignments into regular weekly departures would sharply lower freight costs and improve scheduling. This can be done by private logistics providers with seed support from trade promotion bodies; Colombo is already a regional hub with frequent international air and sea connections that can be leveraged. Second, a joint Sri Lanka–Nepal SPS working group led by the respective trade ministries and involving private exporters could harmonize documentation, fast-track lab testing, and provide a "green lane" for compliant exporters. Third, targeted buyer outreach events in Kathmandu and virtual B2B matchmakings would introduce a curated set of Sri Lankan SMEs to hotels, supermarket chains and institutional buyers in Nepal. Fourth, small export credit lines or invoice financing tailored to SMEs in food and marine sectors would allow firms to scale production and invest in packaging and traceability systems that buyers demand.

Beyond immediate trade facilitation, the two countries can pursue deeper cooperation that unlocks higher-value opportunities. Joint branding and traceability a "Sri Lanka Blue" mark for sustainably harvested and processed marine products would help Nepali retailers and consumers identify quality and responsibly sourced items. Collaborative R&D between Sri Lankan marine research institutes and Nepali herbal or botanical labs could yield novel nutraceuticals that combine marine and terrestrial ingredients, opening niche export markets beyond South Asia. Skills partnerships where Sri Lankan aquaculture and seafood-processing trainers work with Nepali universities and private farms can seed long-term service exports and create durable commercial ties.

Public policy has an important role to play. Governments can negotiate simplified transit arrangements that reduce paperwork and handling times for Nepal-bound goods passing through ports and transshipment hubs. Preferential public procurement encouraging hotels at government guesthouses and national institutions to trial Sri Lankan marine products can create anchor buyers that help suppliers scale. Trade promotion agencies in both countries should publish clear product specifications and buyer requirements so small exporters can prepare compliant consignments from day one. Lastly, leveraging preferential trade agreements and existing regional mechanisms can lower tariffs and friction for non-sensitive product categories.

The potential economic gains are tangible. Even modest improvements in logistics and market linkages could multiply current bilateral trade several times over within a few years. If Sri Lankan exporters successfully adapt packaging sizes, certify products for Nepali standards and use consolidated logistics, a steady corridor for chilled and packaged marine goods could become commercially viable benefitting coastal processors in Sri Lanka and urban consumers in Nepal. For Sri Lanka, diversifying export destinations and moving up the value chain in marine products reduces reliance on a narrow set of markets and products. For Nepal, securing dependable, high-quality suppliers supports tourism and urban retail growth while widening consumer choice.

To turn potential into contracts, a trial project can be effective. Over six months, select eight to twelve Sri Lankan SMEs across processed seafood, coconut-based goods and marine nutraceuticals. Provide each a quick SPS gap assessment, help them with one required certification, and consolidate their shipments through a weekly cold-chain service to Kathmandu. Simultaneously, host two buyer events in Kathmandu (one in person, one virtual) that connect these suppliers to 25/30 verified buyers. Measure success by contracts signed, shipment volumes, and buyer satisfaction. If results are positive, scale the pilot into a sustained corridor with private logistics operators and blended finance facilities to support SME growth.

In a region often focused on big headline trade deals, practical regional partnerships matter. Sri Lanka's maritime resources and processing strengths combined with Nepal's rising demand form a pragmatic, complementary pair. Real gains will come from targeted investments in cold-chain logistics, harmonized standards, joint branding and market development - not from distant, abstract plans. With relatively modest public and private commitment, the two countries can create durable trade flows that enrich coastal and mountain communities, diversify export baskets, and deepen regional economic ties. The trade relationship between Sri Lanka and Nepal may be small today, but with focused action it can become a reliable corridor for sustainable, higher-value goods that benefit both nations for years to come.

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A GREAT BENEFIT FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS:

Expanding Global Partnerships

The National Chamber of Exporters (NCE) has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with ten leading overseas trade chambers, paving the way for a dynamic global platform that enables NCE members to explore bilateral trade opportunities. These partnerships aim to strengthen business relationships, encourage joint ventures, and boost trade between Sri Lanka and partner countries.

Key initiatives include organizing Business-to-Business (B2B) meetings during NCE delegations' visits to partner chambers abroad. Additionally, several overseas chambers have shown interest in visiting Sri Lanka with delegations to explore trade and investment opportunities with NCE members. These interactions provide a valuable chance for Sri Lankan exporters to network, showcase their products, and gain insights into international market trends.

NCE is dedicated to expanding its international collaborations, continuously working to establish more partnerships with other countries' leading trade chambers. These efforts promise increased market access, diverse business opportunities, and potential growth in bilateral trade. NCE encourages its members to actively engage in upcoming activities and capitalize on the benefits offered through this expanding network of global partnerships.

For further details to get in touch with these chambers please **contact:** +94114344661 or **email:** nce@nce.lk

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Australia Sri Lanka Business Council

Sri Lanka and Australia Chamber of Commerce

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Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce

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The South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry

China

中国商业联合会 China General Chamber of Commerce

The China General Chamber of Commerce

BHICC 北京市海淀区国际商会 Beijing Haidian International Chamber of Commerce

Beijing Haidian International Chamber of Commerce

SLCBCC

Sri Lanka China Business Co-Operation Council

India

IBG India Business Group Trade Council & Chamber of Commerce

India Business Group (IBG)

UAE

Ethera Business

Ethera Business LLC

Bangladesh

DCCI

Dhaka Chamber of commerce & Industry (DCCI)

NCE Export Awards 2025: Launch, Guidance, and Judging Excellence

The National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) officially launched the application process for the **NCE Export Awards 2025** on **28th July 2025** at the NCE Conference Hall, marking the commencement of the 33rd edition of Sri Lanka's most prestigious export awards programme.

The ceremonial launch was graced by members of the NCE Management Committee, the Event's Main Sponsor, and Special Award Winners from 2024, whose presence added distinction to the occasion. Distinguished invitees connected to the Panel of Judges also attended, underscoring the importance placed on transparency, credibility, and integrity in the evaluation process. Media coverage was provided by the Print Media Partner, **ANCL**, along with several leading electronic media organizations, amplifying the reach and impact of this landmark annual event.

Now in its 33rd year, the NCE Export Awards continue to serve as the premier national platform for recognizing excellence, innovation, and outstanding performance among Sri Lankan exporters across all sectors.

In preparation for the awards, the NCE conducted a **series of online application briefing sessions** to support prospective applicants. The first session, held on **12th August 2025**, provided an overview of the awards structure, eligibility criteria, and documentation requirements. The second session, conducted on **26th August 2025**, focused on the evaluation criteria and marking scheme, enabling applicants to better understand the assessment process and strengthen their submissions.

Building on this initiative, a third session was scheduled for **2nd September 2025**, concentrating on *Common Mistakes and Best Practices in Applications*. These interactive sessions attracted strong participation from both first-time applicants and past award winners, highlighting the continued relevance and prestige of the NCE Export Awards within Sri Lanka's export community.

Further reinforcing the credibility of the awards, the NCE hosted a **special briefing session for the Judging Panel** on **13th October 2025** at the NCE Conference Hall. Presided over by **Mr. Indhra Kaushal Rajapaksa, President of the NCE**, the session outlined the comprehensive evaluation framework and judging procedures for the upcoming awards ceremony, scheduled for **13th February 2026**. Comprising eminent professionals and industry leaders, the Judging Panel was briefed on maintaining the highest standards of fairness, transparency, and consistency, reaffirming the NCE Export Awards as the benchmark of export excellence in Sri Lanka.

Strategic Engagements of the NCE Management Committee

Demonstrating its commitment to continuous improvement and forward planning, the **NCE Management Committee** convened for a high-level strategic brainstorming session on **5th August 2025** at the Mandarina Hotel, Colombo. The session focused on strengthening the Chamber's services and enhancing support mechanisms for Sri Lankan exporters.

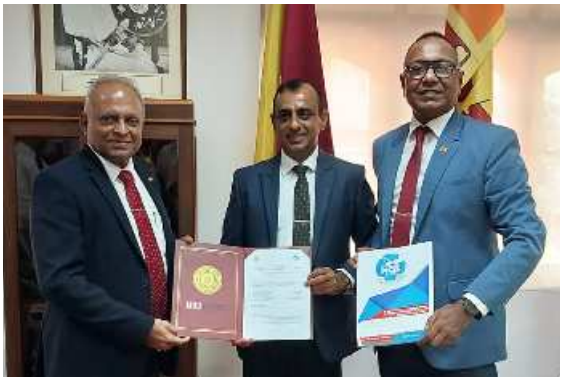
Key discussions revolved around innovation, collaboration, policy consistency, effective lobbying, and expanding international market access. Committee members shared fresh perspectives and strategic approaches aimed at empowering exporters, improving competitiveness, and enhancing Sri Lanka's position in global trade. The session reaffirmed the NCE's dedication to delivering impactful and relevant initiatives that generate tangible value for its membership.

Continuing this strategic focus, the Management Committee met again on **15th November 2025** for an in-depth review of the **NCE's 5-Year Strategic Plan**. The discussion covered strategic direction, policy enhancements, and structural improvements designed to strengthen the Chamber's long-term vision and effectiveness. This insightful session reinforced the shared commitment of the Committee to building a stronger, more future-ready NCE that continues to champion the interests of Sri Lanka's export sector.

Cotecna Lanka Renews Strategic Partnership with NCE

In **July 2025**, Cotecna Lanka (Private) Limited renewed its long-standing strategic partnership with the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE), reinforcing a shared commitment to strengthening the country's export sector. A trusted provider of testing, inspection, and certification services since 2012, Cotecna Lanka is accredited by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) and brings over four decades of global expertise. The company plays a vital role in supporting Sri Lankan exporters by ensuring product quality, regulatory compliance, and adherence to international standards. This renewed partnership marks an important milestone in advancing sustainable growth and global competitiveness within Sri Lanka's export landscape.

NCE and University of Sri Jayewardenepura Sign MoU to Strengthen Export Sector Talent



In **July 2025**, the NCE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, initiating a strategic collaboration aimed at bridging academia and the export industry. The partnership focuses on developing a skilled, future-ready workforce through internship opportunities for undergraduates, job placements within export-oriented enterprises, career awareness programs, and joint research and development initiatives aligned with industry needs. This collaboration reflects the NCE's commitment to nurturing human capital to support the long-term growth of Sri Lanka's export sector.

Seylan Bank Collaborates with NCE to Empower Exporters

In **September 2025**, the NCE entered into a partnership with Seylan Bank to provide Sri Lankan exporters with specialized financial solutions and advisory support. This collaboration is designed to assist businesses at various stages of growth to expand into international markets, strengthening their financial resilience and global reach.

Pan Asia Bank and NCE Join Forces to Boost Export Growth

Also in **September 2025**, the NCE formalized a collaboration with Pan Asia Bank aimed at enhancing exporters' competitiveness and adaptability in international markets. Through this partnership, exporters will gain access to tailored financial tools and strategic guidance to support sustainable global expansion.

Sampath Bank Renews Partnership with NCE to Support the Export Sector

In **October 2025**, Sampath Bank renewed its partnership with the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka, reaffirming a shared commitment to promoting ethical trade practices, sustainability, and enhancing the global competitiveness of Sri Lankan exporters. This continued collaboration further strengthens the export ecosystem and supports long-term growth across international markets.

NCE Signs MoU with Industrial Services Bureau (ISB)

In **October 2025**, the NCE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Industrial Services Bureau (ISB) to strengthen export development initiatives in the Wayamba Province. The collaboration focuses on capacity building, SME support, and business linkages, marking an important step toward decentralizing export growth and empowering regional enterprises.

NCE Signs MoU with National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA)

In **November 2025**, the NCE entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA). The partnership aims to identify and support both established and aspiring exporters through island-wide regional programs. NEDA's extensive outreach network will play a key role in expanding engagement, while the collaboration also opens avenues for project funding to support exporter development initiatives.

Sri Lanka Tea Board Extends Collaboration with NCE

During **November 2025**, the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka extended its strategic collaboration with the Sri Lanka Tea Board, with a renewed focus on enhancing the global visibility and competitiveness of Sri Lanka's tea export sector. Through this partnership, both institutions will work together to uphold industry standards, advance sustainability initiatives, and expand international market opportunities, while further strengthening the global profile of the renowned Ceylon Tea brand.

Strengthening Trade Engagement with Vietnam

NCE Explores Collaboration with Vietnam's Spice and Pepper Association

In **July 2025**, the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) engaged in discussions with the **Spice and Pepper Association of Vietnam** to explore the potential for a strategic partnership. Facilitated by the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Hanoi, the dialogue focused on areas of mutual interest, particularly within the spice and agricultural export sectors. This engagement marked important step toward strengthening bilateral trade ties and unlocking new market opportunities for Sri Lankan exporters in Vietnam.

NCE Meets Handicraft and Wood Association (HAWA) of Vietnam

Also in **July 2025**, the NCE held a virtual meeting with the **Handicraft and Wood Association (HAWA) of Vietnam**, facilitated in collaboration with the Sri Lankan Ambassador to Vietnam. Discussions explored avenues for future cooperation and expanded trade engagement, particularly in handicrafts, wooden gift items, giftware, ceramics, and porcelain. The meeting opened promising opportunities for Sri Lankan exporters, with the NCE facilitating connections to develop mutually beneficial partnerships between the two countries.

Expanding Trade Relations with the Middle East

NCE Advances Trade Collaboration with Saudi Arabia

In **July 2025**, the NCE held a productive meeting with **H.E. the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Sri Lanka**, focusing on strengthening bilateral trade and investment relations. Discussions laid the groundwork for formal partnerships between the NCE and leading Saudi trade chambers, with plans underway to facilitate both inward and outward business delegations. These initiatives aim to foster direct B2B engagement and strengthen sectoral linkages, creating new opportunities for Sri Lankan exporters in the Saudi market.

EStrengthening Trade Diplomacy in Africa

NCE Engages with High Commissioner-Designate to South Africa

In **July 2025**, the NCE hosted an engaging discussion with **H.E. Udeni Rajapaksa, High Commissioner-designate of Sri Lanka to South Africa**, at the Chamber premises. The meeting focused on trade opportunities and strategies to enhance commercial ties between Sri Lanka and South Africa. H.E. Rajapaksa reaffirmed his commitment to supporting Sri Lankan exporters and facilitating connections with South African businesses, reinforcing trade diplomacy across the Southern African region.

Deepening Bilateral Engagement with Nepal

NCE Explores Collaboration with Nepal Chamber of Commerce

In **July 2025**, the NCE held constructive discussions with the **Nepal Chamber of Commerce (NCC)**, coordinated by the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Kathmandu, to explore collaboration through a proposed Memorandum of Understanding. The engagement focused on strengthening trade relations and enhancing cooperation between Sri Lankan and Nepalese businesses.

NCE Engages with Nepal–Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NSCCI)

Also in **July 2025**, the NCE met with the **Nepal–Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NSCCI)**, facilitated by the Sri Lankan Mission in Nepal. NSCCI members expressed strong interest in importing a range of Sri Lankan products, including seafood, coconut-based products, cinnamon, treacle, jaggery, and Palmyrah-based items. The meeting marked the beginning of a promising collaboration to expand bilateral trade and long-term cooperation.

NCE Signs MoU with Nepal Chamber of Commerce

In **September 2025**, the NCE formalized its partnership with the **Nepal Chamber of Commerce** through a Memorandum of Understanding. The MoU establishes a framework for closer cooperation, knowledge exchange, and expanded trade and investment opportunities, strengthening economic ties between Sri Lanka and Nepal.

Market Access and Trade Engagement with East Asia

Webinar on Market Access Opportunities for China

In **July 2025**, the NCE, in collaboration with the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Beijing and the China General Chamber of Commerce, hosted an informative webinar focused on regulatory requirements for Sri Lankan exports to China. The session highlighted opportunities for Ceylon Tea, coconut-based products, and electrical and electronic products, providing valuable insights for exporters seeking to expand their footprint in the Chinese market.

Engagement on Bilateral Trade with Indonesia

In **September 2025**, the NCE hosted **Ms. Sashikala Premawardhane, Ambassador-designate to Indonesia**, and **Mr. Fiki Oktanio, Minister Counsellor of the Indonesian Embassy**. Discussions centered on Indonesia's market opportunities, bilateral trade cooperation, and developments related to the forthcoming Sri Lanka–Indonesia Preferential Trade Agreement, offering exporters valuable insights into market dynamics and trade policy trends.

Strengthening Trade Relations within South Asia

NCE Signs MoU with Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)

In **2025**, the NCE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the **Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** to strengthen bilateral trade relations and foster greater collaboration between exporters of both countries. The partnership aims to promote exporter-to-exporter engagement, facilitate joint initiatives, and unlock new growth opportunities in international markets.

NCE Strengthens Trade Engagement with Pakistan

In **August 2025**, the NCE held discussions with the **Designated Consul General to Pakistan** and the **Trade Secretary of the Pakistan High Commission** to explore opportunities for enhancing bilateral trade. The meeting reviewed the untapped potential of the Sri Lanka–Pakistan Free Trade Agreement and explored preparations for a business delegation to Karachi, aimed at expanding sectoral engagement and trade cooperation.

Webinar with Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI)

In **September 2025**, the NCE conducted a webinar with the **Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI)**, facilitated by the Sri Lankan High Commission. The session focused on reviewing ongoing engagements and establishing a framework for deeper institutional collaboration to advance trade and investment relations between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Engagement with Western Markets and Global Chambers

NCE and Greater Stouffville Chamber Explore Collaboration

In **August 2025**, representatives from the NCE and the **Greater Stouffville Chamber** met to explore potential collaboration. Discussions focused on shared goals, resource sharing, and joint initiatives aimed at supporting businesses and fostering economic growth, with plans to continue dialogue toward formalizing a partnership.

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

In **September 2025**, the NCE partnered with the **Global Chamber** to host a webinar titled *"Sri Lanka Advantage – Reliable, Ethical, and Now More Cost-Competitive for U.S. Importers."* The session highlighted Sri Lanka's certified standards, strong compliance record, competitive cost structures, strategic location, and skilled workforce, reinforcing its position as a trusted sourcing destination for U.S. buyers.

Strengthening Trade Facilitation and Sector-Focused Engagements

Meeting with LX International India Pvt Ltd

In **October 2025**, the NCE held discussions with **LX International India Pvt Ltd** to explore opportunities for accessing the Sri Lankan market. The dialogue focused on industrial collaboration, supply chain linkages, and value-added export sectors, with both parties expressing interest in fostering long-term trade and investment partnerships.

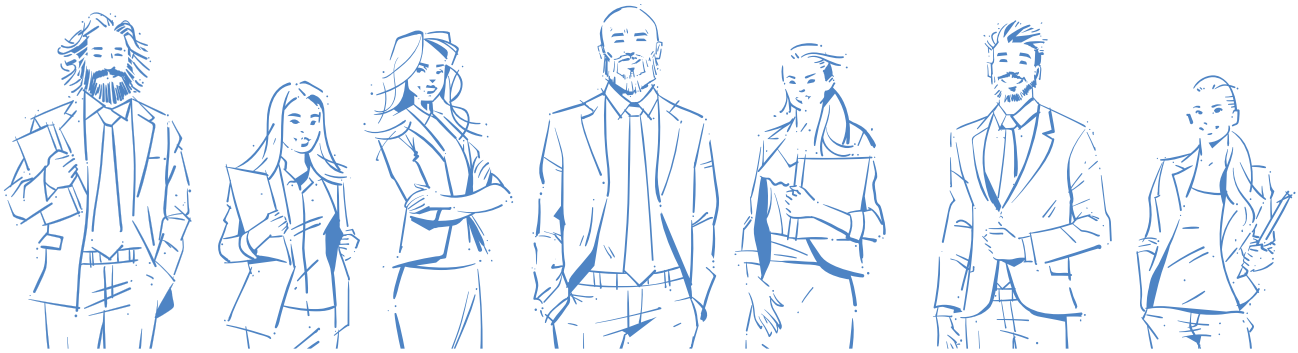
Engagement with Sri Lankan Mission in Turkey

In **October 2025**, the NCE hosted a session with **Mr. Dilanga Hettiarachchi**, appointed First Secretary (Commercial) at the Sri Lankan Mission in Ankara. The discussion provided members with insights into trade opportunities in the Turkish market, reflecting NCE's commitment to facilitating direct engagement with overseas trade representatives.

Promoting Sri Lankan Spices in Global Markets

Webinar Highlights Global Opportunities for Sri Lankan Spices

In **November 2025**, the NCE hosted a webinar titled *"Unlocking Global Opportunities: Sri Lankan Spices as a Trusted Source for International Markets."* Industry experts highlighted Sri Lanka's competitive strengths—including authenticity, ethical sourcing, and globally recognized certifications—while identifying growing opportunities in key markets such as the U.S., India, the EU, the Middle East, and the Asia-Pacific region. The session also explored emerging trends in value-added spice products, sustainability expectations, and strategies to preserve Sri Lanka's premium positioning in the global spice trade.



Promoting Integrity and Ethical Governance

Engagement with the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC)

In **July 2025**, the NCE held a constructive meeting with the Commissioner of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) to explore collaborative initiatives aimed at strengthening anti-corruption awareness within the export sector.

Discussions focused on encouraging exporters to adopt and publicly display Anti-Corruption Statements, educating internal teams and external stakeholders on transparency and ethical conduct, and reinforcing a zero-tolerance approach to corruption. In today's competitive global environment, integrity and compliance are strategic imperatives, and the NCE remains committed to championing good governance across Sri Lanka's export community.

Contributing to National Economic Dialogue

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

In **July 2025**, the NCE Secretary General/CEO participated in a high-level dialogue hosted by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, centered on the report *"Sustaining Transformative Growth in Sri Lanka, 2025–2030."*

The discussion featured leading economic experts who provided insights into Sri Lanka's stabilization progress, macroeconomic outlook, and policy pathways for inclusive growth. The engagement provided valuable perspectives on aligning export development strategies with national economic transformation priorities.

Strengthening Collaboration with Government Ministries

Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs

Also in **July 2025**, the NCE engaged with the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs to further strengthen coordination with Sri Lankan diplomatic missions. The discussions focused on leveraging foreign missions in key markets to support export promotion, build commercial networks, and unlock new opportunities for Sri Lankan products and services globally.

Hon. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

In **July 2025**, the NCE met with the Hon. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs to discuss enhancing collaboration with Sri Lankan Missions overseas. The Chamber emphasized the critical role played by embassies and consulates in facilitating market access and promoting exports. Strategic initiatives were discussed to improve structured engagement between exporters and overseas missions, enabling stronger trade linkages and improved international visibility.

Deputy Minister of Labour

In **July 2025**, the NCE met with the Deputy Minister of Labour to address workforce challenges affecting the export sector. The Chamber presented proposals to mitigate skilled and unskilled labour shortages and submitted recommendations for amendments to existing labour laws.

The Ministry agreed to collaborate with the NCE to organize district-level job fairs, enabling member companies to directly engage in recruitment. The discussion also highlighted the importance of vocational training and upskilling initiatives to develop a job-ready workforce to sustain export growth.

Expanding Regional and Development Partnerships

Lions MD 306

In **August 2025**, the NCE held a virtual meeting with Lions MD 306 to explore collaboration in expanding regional outreach initiatives. Discussions focused on supporting the Chamber's "Aspiring Exporters" programme to empower emerging exporters across the country.

The Colombo Plan

In **August 2025**, the NCE met with the Secretary General of The Colombo Plan to explore regional collaboration opportunities. Discussions emphasized promoting outreach programmes for aspiring exporters and advancing the Certificate of Ethical Trading (CET) initiative to strengthen responsible and sustainable business practices. The engagement marked a significant step toward enhancing regional support mechanisms for Sri Lankan exporters.

Sector-Focused Development Initiatives

DevPro (Legacy of Oxfam)

In **September 2025**, the NCE engaged in discussions with DevPro to strengthen Sri Lanka's spice sector, particularly cinnamon. Proposed initiatives included a roundtable with spice exporters and field visits to cinnamon growers to improve exporter–producer linkages. The collaboration aims to enhance value chain integration and capitalize on growing global demand for cinnamon, pepper, and cloves.

Industrial Services Bureau (ISB)

In **September 2025**, the NCE met with senior officials of the Industrial Services Bureau under the North Western Provincial Council to strengthen exporter engagement in the Wayamba region. Particular attention was given to the coconut and coconut-based sectors, with the objective of improving networks, capacity, and export performance in global markets.

Ornamental Fish Exporters Association

In **November 2025**, the NCE participated in the General Meeting of the Ornamental Fish Exporters Association, engaging directly with industry stakeholders. The session provided a valuable platform to strengthen sectoral collaboration, enhance representation, and support continued innovation and competitiveness within Sri Lanka's ornamental fish export industry.

Strengthening Industry–Academia and Knowledge Partnerships

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

In **September 2025**, the NCE advanced its collaboration with the University of Sri Jayewardenepura to promote stronger industry–academia linkages. Plans include organizing a Job Fair, facilitating internship and career pathways within the export sector, and encouraging joint research and development initiatives to foster innovation and practical industry solutions.

Advancing Ethical and Sustainable Trade

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

In **October 2025**, officials from the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) visited the NCE to explore collaboration in promoting ethical and sustainable trade practices. Discussions focused on the NCE's Certificate of Ethical Trading (CET) and broader sustainability initiatives, particularly in supporting SMEs to meet global standards and enhance international competitiveness.

The Management Club (TMC)

In **October 2025**, the NCE met with The Management Club to explore the creation of a collaborative platform connecting exporters, suppliers, and producers. The dialogue emphasized improving access to certifications, strengthening supply chain logistics, and facilitating knowledge exchange to enhance export competitiveness.

National Crafts Council (NCC) & Artisanal Collective (AC)

In **October 2025**, the NCE engaged with the National Crafts Council and the Artisanal Collective, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board, to establish a multi-stakeholder platform supporting Sri Lanka's artisanal sector.

Aligned with global frameworks such as the UNESCO 2005 Convention on Cultural Diversity, this initiative aims to empower artisans through skill development, stronger stakeholder engagement, and expanded international market access—reinforcing inclusive and sustainable export growth.

Policy Updates, Tax Advisory & Regulatory Guidance

SVAT Seminar Series – Supporting Exporters Through Policy Transition

In **July 2025**, the NCE successfully concluded the third session of its SVAT seminar series amid strong demand from the export community, with participation from over 75 export companies. The session addressed concerns surrounding the proposed removal of the Simplified Value Added Tax (SVAT) scheme and provided clarity on the transition process.

KPMG: Suresh Perera, Principal – Tax & Regulatory at KPMG, shared expert insights into the legal, regulatory, and financial implications of SVAT abolition.

Inland Revenue Department (IRD): Priyanka Dissabandara, Commissioner – Risk Management Unit, delivered a detailed presentation on the new Risk-Based Refund Scheme (RBRS) and exporter registration procedures.

Discussion with Inland Revenue Department on SVAT Removal

In **August 2025**, the NCE facilitated a direct dialogue between exporters and the Inland Revenue Department to discuss the implications of the SVAT removal, particularly for indirect exporters. Members had the opportunity to raise sector-specific concerns and seek clarification on compliance requirements.

SVAT Exit & Transition to RBRS – Seminar with Ernst & Young (EY)

In **November 2025**, the NCE partnered with **Ernst & Young (EY)** to conduct a comprehensive seminar on the post-SVAT environment. The session provided a practical walkthrough of the new VAT refund mechanism, documentation requirements, and criteria for Low-Risk Exporter status to ensure smoother refunds under RBRS. EY experts addressed common compliance challenges and offered practical strategies for finance teams navigating the transition.

Capacity Building & Export Readiness Programmes

Export Readiness Workshop Series

In **July 2025**, the NCE concluded the fourth session of its Export Readiness Workshop Series, focusing on developing safe products for international markets within the Agriculture, Food, and Personal Care sectors.

Control Union Inspections (Pvt) Ltd: Mr. Kasun Geeganage shared expertise on EU & USDA Organic Regulations and certification compliance processes.

Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services Lanka (Pvt) Ltd: Ms. Ruwini Amarasinghe provided guidance on Codex Guidelines and EU regulatory frameworks relevant to export markets.

Workshop on Kosher and Halal Certifications

In **July 2025**, the NCE concluded its fifth workshop session focused on the importance of Kosher and Halal certifications in expanding global market access.

PS Kosher Food Works / Star-K Kosher Certification: Rabbi Joel Weinberger delivered insights into Kosher certification standards and global acceptance.

Halal Assessment Council (Guarantee) Limited: Mr. Aakif A. Wahab outlined Halal certification processes and strategic benefits for exporters targeting new markets.

Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI) Training Programme

In **August 2025**, the NCE, in collaboration with **HNB**, conducted the updated PCQI Training Programme (Version 2 curriculum) for professionals in food and beverage production and packaging. Delivered virtually, the programme strengthened compliance with international food safety standards and reinforced product quality assurance within the sector.

Digital Marketing Seminar with Dialog Enterprise

In **September 2025**, the NCE partnered with **Dialog Enterprise** to host a seminar on digital marketing strategies for exporters.

Asia Pacific Institute of Digital Marketing Led by CEO Amitha Amarasinghe, the session equipped exporters with practical tools and digital strategies to enhance global visibility and international market penetration.

Regional Outreach & Producer–Exporter Linkages

B2B Delegation Visit to Jaffna

In **July 2025**, the NCE organized a two-day B2B delegation visit to Jaffna in collaboration with:

- **Jaffna Managers Forum (JMF)**
- **Rotary Club**
- **National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA)**

The programme included capacity-building sessions and structured B2B meetings, followed by field visits to export-ready enterprises in Jaffna and Kilinochchi. The initiative strengthened sourcing partnerships, empowered MSMEs in the Northern Province, and promoted sustainable regional economic growth.

Producer–Exporter Linkage Event – Matara

In **August 2025**, the NCE, together with the **Agriculture Department and Training Unit (ADTU) of the Ministry of Agriculture**, organized a large-scale linkage event in Matara. Nearly 75 producers from the Southern Province and 30 service providers from Colombo participated, creating a comprehensive sourcing and networking platform to strengthen regional supply chains.

Delegation Meeting – Galle District

In **October 2025**, alongside the "Ruhunu Rasa Saraniya" Provincial Food Processing Exhibition, the NCE organized a delegation meeting in Galle in collaboration with:

- **Southern Provincial Ministry of Agriculture**
- **Southern Provincial Department of Agriculture**

Seylan Bank PLC and **Dialog Enterprise** supported the initiative through capacity-building sessions. The event connected 93 producers and suppliers with 30 NCE member representatives, promoting innovation and value addition in the regional food sector.

Buyer & Seller Meeting – Kandy

In **October 2025**, the NCE participated in the Buyer and Seller Meeting organized by the Small Enterprises Development Division of the Ministry of Industries and Entrepreneurship Development. The Chamber introduced its Aspiring Exporter Membership and support services to local entrepreneurs transitioning into export markets.

Port, Logistics & Industry Exposure

SAGT Terminal Visits

In **July and August 2025**, the NCE organized member visits to **South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT)**. The programme included guided yard and quayside tours and presentations on export container handling procedures. These visits enhanced members' operational understanding and strengthened collaboration between exporters and port operators.

Employment & Talent Development Initiatives

"Exporters Job Fair" with University of Jayewardenepura

In **October 2025**, the NCE partnered with the **University of Jayewardenepura** to host an Exporters Job Fair connecting final-year students with over 15 NCE member companies. The initiative facilitated direct recruitment interactions and strengthened industry–academia collaboration to build a future-ready workforce.

NCE–EDB Programme for Export Development Officers

In partnership with the **Export Development Board (EDB)**, the NCE conducted a nationwide engagement programme to strengthen the capacity of over 300 Export Development Officers. The initiative aims to develop 10 new exporters from each region, expanding Sri Lanka's exporter base and driving regional export growth.

Ethical Trade & Governance Capacity Building

Anti-Corruption Seminar with CIABOC

In **July 2025**, the NCE hosted the seminar *"From Risk to Resilience – Strengthening Anti-Corruption Practices in International Trade."*

Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) Commissioner Chethiya Goonesekera and his team delivered practical guidance on transparency, compliance frameworks, and strengthening internal anti-corruption systems within export companies.

Member Achievements & Industry Promotion

Launch of Granifrigor – Markspen Labels (Pvt) Ltd

In **November 2025**, **Markspen Labels (Pvt) Ltd**, an NCE member, launched Granifrigor—an advanced grain storage solution—at a high-profile industry event. The launch reflected the innovation and growth within the NCE membership and highlighted the Chamber's role in supporting enterprises advancing toward global excellence.

NCE President Addresses Global Economic & Technology Summit (GETS) 2025

In **October 2025**, the NCE President addressed an international audience at GETS 2025 on the theme of Sri Lanka's export development potential. The engagement positioned Sri Lanka within global discussions on innovation, trade, and sustainable growth.

LadderUp 2025 – Down South (Matara)

In **November 2025**, the NCE participated as a support partner at **LadderUp 2025**, organized by **SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.** Through the Aspiring Exporter Programme presentation, the Chamber highlighted its services and support mechanisms for emerging exporters, reinforcing its role in guiding businesses throughout their export journey.

Monthly Management Committee and Council Meetings

The National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) continued its tradition of holding Monthly Management Committee and Council Meetings, providing a structured platform to review strategic priorities, operational matters, and key developments affecting the export sector. These meetings also served as an important forum for member engagement, recognition, and networking.

August – Strengthening Engagement & Recognizing Achievement

In **August 2025**, the NCE conducted its monthly Management and Council Meetings, focusing on key operational updates and sectoral developments.

During the sessions:

- **CET certificates** were awarded to deserving participants in recognition of their accomplishments.
- **Newly inducted members** were formally welcomed into the NCE community.

The meeting concluded with a networking session sponsored by **Vipra Smart Solutions**, creating valuable opportunities for members to connect and exchange insights.

September – Strategic Review & Corporate Collaboration

In **September 2025**, the Management and Council Meetings were held at **Best Western Elyon Colombo**, where members reviewed ongoing initiatives and discussed sector-specific concerns impacting exporters.

New members were officially presented with membership certificates, marking their integration into the Chamber's growing network.

The evening concluded with a networking reception supported by **Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE)**, **PickMe** & **VISA**

Their partnership contributed to fostering stronger connections between the export community and key corporate stakeholders.

October – Operational Strategy & Member Recognition

In **October 2025**, the NCE convened its monthly Management and Council Meetings to assess operational performance, discuss sectoral trends, and strategize future initiatives aimed at strengthening the Chamber's effectiveness and impact.

Highlights included:

- Awarding of **CET certificates** to participants
- Formal induction of new members into the NCE network

The sessions reinforced the Chamber's commitment to continuous improvement, member development, and institutional growth.

November – Policy Dialogue & Export Competitiveness

In **November 2025**, the Management Committee and Council convened at the NCE Conference Hall to review ongoing programmes, policy developments, and strategic priorities.

Discussions focused on:

- Advocacy efforts
- Industry challenges and emerging global opportunities
- Strengthening collaboration within the export community

The meeting reaffirmed NCE's role as the unified voice of Sri Lankan exporters and its continued commitment to enhancing national export competitiveness through structured engagement and strategic leadership.

CBL Munchee

A Crowning Success

CROWNED AS THE MOST OUTSTANDING EXPORTER OF THE YEAR

CBL Munchee, the confectionery powerhouse in Sri Lanka, proudly clinched multiple prestigious awards, including the **'Best Exporter of the Year in the Cereal & Confectionery Category'** for two consecutive years at the **Presidential Export Awards.** The company was also awarded Gold in the **'Confectionery Products Sector under the Extra Large Category'**, recognized as the **'Best Sri Lankan Brand Exporter** as well as the **'Most Outstanding Exporter (Overall) at the NCE Export Awards 2023.** These accolades paint a vibrant tapestry, more than just a triumph; they're a testament to **CBL Munchee's global mission – delivering top-tier quality to the world in every delectable bite.**

Presidential Export Awards 2021/22
Sectoral Awards - Best Exporter
Cereal & Confectionery
Ceylon Biscuits Limited

Presidential Export Awards 2022/23
Sectoral Awards - Best Exporter
Cereal & Confectionery
Ceylon Biscuits Limited

Confectionery Products Sector
Extra Large Category - Gold
Ceylon Biscuits Limited

Best Sri Lankan
Brand Exporter 2023
Ceylon Biscuits Limited

Most Outstanding Exporter -
Overall - 2023
Ceylon Biscuits Limited

CBL Group

BOXES

FOR VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS

Wine Presenter

Tea Presenter with glass lid

For presentation of:
Tea, Herbs, Spices, Chocolates, Premium Wines & Spirits, Ayurveda Body oils, Herbal Shampoos, Perfumes, Cutlery & Crockery, Glass ware, Jewelry, Tobacco humidors, Cigars Etc.

Cigar Humidor

Wrist Watch Collectors Box with glass lid (8 - 16 Watches)

Two Layer Tea Display Box

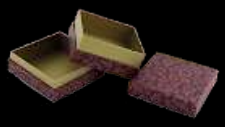
Wooden Boxes

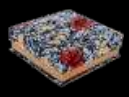
- Kiln dried solid wood from managed plantations
- Engineered wood
- MDF (medium density wood fiber board)
- A range of interior liners - food grade, satin & velvet
- Gloss or matt exterior paint
- Brass/Copper/Silver name plates
- Metal stay hinges and clasps

Rigid Board Decorative Boxes

- 1-3 mm rigid paper board
- Food grade paper and adhesives

Any Shape • Any Size • Any Color





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www.kentholdings.com

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A company approved by the Sri Lanka State Board of Investment (BOI)

SRI LANKAN BRANDS IN THE GLOBAL MARKET

ACL CABLES PLC

Manufacture, Marketing/Export of Copper/Aluminum Electric Cables & Conductors

ACL Cables PLC, the largest and oldest Cable manufacturer in Sri Lanka, commenced the manufacture of cables in 1962, pioneering the Cable industry in Sri Lanka with technical assistance from Mitsui of Japan.

The Japanese Machinery, Engineers and Technology established solid Foundation of Quality for ACL to be successful over the last 60 years.

ACL maintained market dominance and grew by acquisition of Technology from Foreign Companies and foreign Consultants. Today, ACL group holds 70% market share and grown to US$ 100mn / annum.

Number : **+94 777 583 600**
Email : **daya@acl.lk**
Website : **www.acl.lk**

AITKEN SPENCE EXPRESS

Aitken Spence Express is the express arm of the blue chip conglomerate Aitken Spence PLC, with over 40 years' experience in Sri Lanka representing global delivery and postal networks, Aitken Spence Express provides the most reliable and varied product portfolios from first mile to the last mile.

From Domestic to International Express to Cross border Mail solutions, we can give you a wide gamut of services tailormade for your business.

Number : **+94 72 027 3273**
Email : **ase@aitkenspence.lk**
Website : **www.gpd.lk**

ALUMEX PLC

Alumex PLC is Sri Lanka's Premier Aluminum Extrusion Manufacturer. As a subsidiary of the 140-year-old Hayleys PLC, which is Sri Lanka's most diversified blue-chip conglomerate. Alumex PLC has been present in the local market for over 3 decades and is the largest Aluminum exporter in the country.

As the manufacturer of highquality aluminum profiles, we take pride in delivering excellence to our customers. We guarantee quality, consistency, flex ibility in quantities, short lead-time, excellent communication and customer service.

Our commitment to quality has led us to become the supplier of various aluminum extrusions to many globally leading brands in the UK, USA, Canada, Aus tralia, New Zealand, Italy and more.

At Alumex, we are dedicated to meeting your unique product applications. Our extensive range of profiles is perfect for architectural, industrial, sol ar and other value-added components. All for attractive prices without any compromise on quality.

Number : **+94 11 240 0332**
Email : **im@alumexgroup.com**
Website : **www.alumexgroup.com**

ALWIS AGRO EXPORTS (PVT) LTD

Export of fresh fruits and vegetables is one of the most rapid diffusion industries in the world with their new technologies and new products. This industry is a more common industry in Sri Lanka as well as in other countries. There are many fruits and vegetable exporters in Sri Lanka and Alwis Agro Exports (Pvt) Ltd is one of the leading exporting companies in Sri Lanka. Alwis Agro Exports (Pvt) Ltd is solely a Sri Lankan company who has dominated the export market with the quality assurance of the goods and also the best variety of crops. Alwis Agro Exports (Pvt) Ltd began their exports in the year of 1999 which has been brought up the past two decades by Dr. Indralal Jayantha Alwis who is the Chairman/Managing Director of the company.

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Email : **alwisagro63@gmail.com**
hirrushalwis@gmail.com
Website : **alwisagroexports.com**

ANCIENT NUTRACEUTICALS (PVT) LTD

Silk Route Ventures operates as a comprehensive export enterprise specializing in Vegan, Organic, and Natural Food and Beverages, as well as Nutraceuticals. Situated on the picturesque island of Sri Lanka, our company is dedicated to sourcing raw materials from small-scale farmers. Our guiding philosophy centers on the empowerment and upliftment of rural communities.

At Silk Route Ventures, we operate a state-of-the-art facility with certifications in Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, USDA Organic, and EU Organic. Our commitment to quality extends to services such as private labeling, where our high-quality products can be customized with your brand, contract manufacturing for top-tier products meeting your specifications, and product development through our experienced team. Whether locally or internationally, we provide a comprehensive solution for food production, ensuring safety, excellence, and innovation in every step.

Number : **+94 77 508 3962**
Email : **info@esilkroute.com.lk**
Website : **www.silkrouteventures.com**

ARPITALIAN COMPACT SOLES (PVT) LTD

Arpitalian Compact Soles manufactures shoe soling resin rubber sheets for the International shoe manufacturers. The Company is a joint venture with Davos SPA (Italy) and Richard Pieris & Company PCL (Sri Lanka), a globally reputed manufacturer for shoe soles. Arpitalian was established in 1994 & located in Biyagama Export Processing Zone Phase B. Arpitalian manufactures shoe soles and heels for international market as well as local market manufactures.

Number : **+94 77 307 1619**
+94 11 481 6990
Email : **ranjithw@arpico.com**
marketingacsl@arpico.com
Website : **www.arpicorubber.com**
www.davos.it

ASTRON LTD

The Astron Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Facility is operated under guidelines of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA), Sri Lanka in accordance with WHO-GMP. The Nutrition Supplements production facility is certified under ISO 22000:2018 from SLSI for Food Safety Management systems and HACCP principles. The GMP for Herbal products manufacturing facility is certified by globally recognized SGS, Lanka. The Animal Health production facility functions under GMP guidelines of SLSI adhering to CAC/RCP 54:2004 and SLS 1505:2015 standards. Astron being the only accredited pharmaceutical testing laboratory in Sri Lanka, all tests of chemical, mechanical, and microbiological are carried out under the ISO 17025:2017 standards. Astron Limited is certified for ISO 14001:2015 of Environmental Management Systems towards achieving environmental sustainability.

Astron Limited was presented the Gold Award in 2022 and Silver Award in 2023 respectively at the 30th & 31st Annual Exports Awards of the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) in the "Pharmaceutical products including Medicinal related Ayurvedic & Herbal products" Sector (Small Category).

Number : **+94 11 214 8799**
Email : **info@astron.lk**
Website : **www.astron.lk**

BIO FOOD EXPORTS (PVT) LTD

"Earth's Finest is a market-leading organic brand operating in GCC & Europe. Our products can be found in leading retailers across several markets. Today, we are the market leader in organic coconut-based products in the GCC countries and also the No.2 organic brand in the UAE. Our current portfolio spans over 8 categories and 50+ products. With offices in Copenhagen, Dubai, Edinburgh, and Colombo, we have lofty ambitions to build a global health & wellbeing brand."

Number : **+94 77 188 1777**
Email : **sharen@biofoodexports.com**
sharen@lainternational.me
Website : **www.earths-finest.com**

BRANDIX APPAREL (PVT) LTD

With over 50 years of experience, Brandix is a global leader in apparel manufacturing and digital solutions, serving iconic brands worldwide. Driven by curiosity and a commitment to environmental and social sustainability, Brandix has achieved several world firsts in ethical manufacturing such as the first LEED Platinum certified apparel manufacturing facility in 2008 and the first Net-Zero Carbon certified apparel manufacturing facility in 2019. The company builds life-long relationships with partners who share its purpose, co-creating Inspired Solutions for clothing that celebrate humanity and drive prosperity for all.

The Brandix vertically integrated supply chain spans Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Haiti, Cambodia, the UK, and the US. The company builds life-long relationships with partners who share its purpose, co-creating Inspired Solutions for clothing that celebrate humanity and drive prosperity for all.

Number : **+94 11 472 7222**
Email : **bllinfo@brandix.com**
Website : **www.brandix.com**

BUGHARY BIO SPICES (PVT) LTD

serving the spices industry for 8 decades

Bughary Bio Spices Pvt Ltd proudly presents its premium selection of Sri Lankan spices, meticulously curated for the discerning international market. we offer a diverse range of spices that encapsulate the rich flavors and aromas of Sri Lanka's culinary heritage.

Our dedication to excellence commences with meticulous sourcing, production techniques, and quality control procedures. Every spice undergoes thorough quality checks to guarantee unparalleled freshness, flavor, and uniformity, adhering to the exacting standards of our worldwide customer base.

Join us in spreading the Spice flavours of Sri Lanka to every corner of the globe.

Discover the authentic taste of Sri Lanka with Bughary Bio Spices (Pvt) Ltd – your trusted partner for quality spices.

Number : **+94 81 247 6414**

Email : **info@bugharybiospices.com**

Website : **www.bugharybiospices.com**

CARGO BOAT COMPANY LIMITED

Since its inception in 1944, Cargo Boat Company Limited has expanded its operations from a Shipping Agency to a provider of Integrated Logistics Services covering Air & Ocean freight forwarding, Customs Brokerage, Warehousing & Distribution.

Our competencies in the international freight forwarding industry, coupled with a network of highly reputed worldwide partners have been key to gaining complete customer confidence in our services.

We will continue to grow with innovative systems to help customers better manage their supply chain needs across several verticals such as Manufacturing, FMCG, Tech, Fashion and many more. Manned by a team of seasoned professionals, we are uniquely positioned to provide cost-effective logistic solutions to our customers. With a comprehensive service portfolio, enhanced information technology and global partnerships, Cargo Boat Co Ltd will continue to deliver excellence to our customers.

Number : **+94 11 742 2240-2**

Email : **cargobc@cargo-boat.com**

Website : **www.cargo-boat.com**

CRYSTALSTONE (PVT) LTD

Uncover the essence of Crystalstone, Sri Lanka's leading manufacturer of premium quartz surfaces, trusted by prominent construction and installation firms. As a proud member of the esteemed Ceyquartz group, we hold prestigious certifications in iso 14001, iso 9001, and iso 45001. Our dedication to innovation and unwavering commitment to uncompromising quality establish pioneering industry benchmarks. Immerse yourself in the future of luxurious living with Crystalstone!

Crystalstone, a distinguished entity within the CeyQuartz Group of Companies, operates with a seamlessly integrated approach. This grants us complete control over our raw materials, as CeyQuartz oversees quartz mining and processing, while Crystalstone excels in the art of crafting engineered stone surfaces.

Number : **+94 77 315 0111**

Email : **info@crytalstone.lk**

Website : **www.crystalstone.lk**

CEYLON BISCUITS LIMITED

Ceylon Biscuits Limited (CBL) a subsidiary of the CBL Group, is a leading confectionery manufacturer in Sri Lanka and home to the market leading Munchee brand. With a wide range of sweet, savoury and cream filled biscuits, crackers and wafers, chocolates and cakes CBL is among the country's largest confectionery exporters contributing 79% of Sri Lanka's total confectionery exports volume and with presence in over 65+ countries and, business operations in Ghana, Bangladesh and India. Established in 1968, CBL's commitment to food safety and quality has earned the company numerous accolades and the trust of its consumers across the world. CBL and the Munchee brand are also a strong driver of growth for communities in its value chain, empowering communities through scholarships, rural community infrastructure, sports, arts and culture, and more. CBL's strength lies not only in product portfolio but also in its ability to cater to evolving consumer needs. With intensive R&D capabilities, in-house laboratory facilities, state of the art machinery, stringent quality processes and dedicated teams CBL is equipped and ready to cater to diverse consumer requirements across the globe under its own brand name or through private labelling.

Email : **export.cbl@cbllk.com**

Website : **www.cbllk.com**

CHULA TRADING (PVT) LTD

Chula Trading is a Sri Lankan based food exporting company which started its operations in 2014 and having a vast range of food and beverage product to fuller spectrum.

Chula Trading covers a broad variety of food products rainging from spices to rice, chutneys & pickles, bottled & packed items, coconut products, dehydrated products, Dry fish, Ready to cook products & Bite mixtures.

The ingredients are sourced from the best growers and processors from many regions of Sri Lanka who are specialized in each particular item. Our products are delivered to the world under the brand Chula.

Our main target is supplying high quality food products to our global partners. We are exporting food products to South Korea. We have exported most varieties of food products. As coconut products (desiccated Coconut, Coconut Powder), Dry Fish (Katta, Sail Fish, Keeramin, Tuna, Skipjack Tuna, Anchovy), Dehydrated Products (Vegetables, Fruits, Leaves), In brine products (Jack Fruit, Bread Fruit & all Vegetables), Chutneys, Pickles & Sauce, Spices (Curry Powder, Pepper, Turmeric, Mustard, Cinnamon, Fenugreek), ready to cook products (Seeni Sambol, Coconut Sambol, Polos Curry, Lunu Miris, Brinjal Moju) & Bite Mixture (Dhal, Peanut, Gram, Murukku).

We assure that all our products are very pure & give finest taste. Our manufacturing process is under give through the strict hygienic conditions & we use the latest technology to maintain the quality of every ingredient that we have been always chosen for our customer's satisfaction.

Number : **+94 55 224 5561**
+94 70 282 2177
+94 70 233 8063

Email : **chulasaman@gmail.com**

CIC AGRI PRODUCE EXPORT (PVT) LTD

CIC Agri Produce Export (Pvt) Ltd, an integral entity under the umbrella of the highly diversified CIC Holdings PLC, boasts a sterling corporate reputation forged through an unwavering commitment to excellence. Distinguishing ourselves as the sole Seed-to-Shelf company in Sri Lanka, we meticulously manage over 10,000 acres of farmland and collaborate with a vast network of 20,000 farmers. This synergy yields a diverse array of top-tier products, ranging from Seeds, Particularly Seed paddy, Rice, Fruits, and Vegetables. Our mission transcends mere agricultural pursuits; we aspire to evoke daily smiles by infusing vitality into people's lives. United in purpose, we strive to coalesce efforts for a collective endeavor to fashion a superior world, where each harvest represents not only sustenance but also a step towards a brighter and more harmonious future.

Number : **+94 11 222 9785 / +94 76 490 4079**

Email : **inforice@cicagri.com / dasun@cicagri.com**

Website : **www.cic.lk**

COLOMBO EXPORT AND IMPORT AGENCIES (PVT) LTD

Colombo Export and Import Agencies (Pvt) Ltd. (CEIAL), established in 1979, is a manufacturer and one of Sri Lanka's oldest trading houses.

CEIAL is a pioneer in the manufacturing, processing and export of high-quality coconut derivatives and authentic Sri Lankan spices. The company utilizes the latest technology and the finest ingredients to ensure that its products are of the highest standards. The superiority of CEIAL products is guaranteed by numerous international certifications, product certifications including USDA organic, EU organic, Vegan, JAS , Bio suisse, Fairtrade, Kosher and Halal. Our facilities are also certified BRC, ISO:22000, HACCP, Ethical trading and GMP to assure the buyers high quality goods with exceptional customer care. With an ever-expanding global clientele and nearly four decades of excellence under its belt, CEIAL is renowned not only for its unique vision but also for its impeccable services and enduring partnerships with both its clients and suppliers.

Number : **+94 11 255 0071**

Email : **contact@ceialgroup.com**

Website : **www.ceial.com**

DART GLOBAL LOGISTICS (PVT) LTD

With over four decades of experience, Dart Global Logistics is renowned worldwide for its comprehensive logistic solutions, serving multiple industries with unparalleled flexibility, efficiency, and competitive pricing. With 44 offices spanning 14 countries, alongside numerous joint ventures and exclusive agencies globally, we ensure expansive coverage and personalized service. Leveraging cutting-edge office automation, advanced IT infrastructure, and top-notch handling equipment, we guarantee seamless operations across all our locations. Our dedicated team prioritizes customer satisfaction, offering personalized involvement and value-added services to meet the unique requirements of exporters and importers. At Dart Global Logistics, our commitment to excellence drives our success, making us a trusted partner for clients seeking reliable and timely delivery solutions worldwide. We Pride in managing tonnes of trust.

Our locations: Singapore | Bangladesh | Cambodia | China | India | Indonesia | Madagascar | Mauritius | Myanmar | Pakistan | Sri Lanka | UAE | USA | Vietnam

Number : **+94 11 460 9600**

Email : **info.cmb@dartglobal.com**

Website : **www.dartglobal.com**

D. SAMSON INDUSTRIES (PVT) LTD

D Samson Industries (Pvt) Ltd. is a Limited Liability Company established in 1962. We are the market leader in manufacturing, retailing and one of the leading exporters of footwear in Sri Lanka. As a matter of fact, D Samson Industries (Pvt) Ltd. is the first Shoe Manufacturing Plant in Sri Lanka to obtain the ISO 9001:2008 certification. Over the years, the Company has built an excellent reputation with its clientele as a result of the high quality standards that it has been able to maintain since the inception. The Company currently produces more than 27.5 million pairs of footwear per year and has a workforce of more than 2,200 employees.

Number : +9477 781 5204

Email : dilshan@dsifootwear.com

Website : www.dsifootwear.com

DERANA MARKETING SERVICES (PVT) LTD

Bringing the Authentic flavours of the Sri Lanka to the global

Derana Marketing Services Pvt Ltd is one of the leading food export company, established in 2006. We are specializing in food manufacturing, packaging & exporting to the global market. Our diverse product range consist of 380 products, including Sri Lankan authentic Ready to eat cuisine Packed in glass bottles, such as Curries, Sambols, Pickles, Chutneys, Sauces, etc. Moreover, Sri Lankan Spices, Rice & Rice Based Products, Dehydrated Vegetables & Fruits, Vegetables Preserved in Brine, Dried Fish, Kithul & Coconut Related Products & Sri Lankan Sweets Varieties. Our export destinations are Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Sweden, South Korea & USA. We expand our export destinations by participating global events like International Food & Drink Event(IFE)-London, Hotel Asia Exhibition- Maldives, Jetro- Japan, Thai Fex-Anuga held in Thailand.

- We are passionate about bringing the authentic flavours of Sri Lanka to the world & also to the Sri Lankans who are away from their mother land. We serve as a cultural bridge through the universal language of food.
- Derana products are producing under quality standards of ISO 22000, GMP & HACCP. Our dedicated team of 35 skilled workers ensure that our product meets highest standards during the production.
- As a certified company under Ethical Trading Certification, we adhere to rules of good practices related to Trade, Labour, Ethical behaviors, Environment & Safety.
- Derana, We are celebrating our 18th year milestone, we reflect on our journey with gratitude & anticipate continued success in the future.

Email : info@deranafoods.lk
deranaexport@gmail.com

EXPELOGIX (PVT) LTD

One of the leading providers of integrated logistics solutions in Sri Lanka today, Expelogix Pvt Ltd, was incorporated in 2012. We represent Expeditors International of Washington, Inc., USA, a Fortune 500 logistics company with a global network of offices in over 60 countries on six continents. Backed by the strength of the Hayleys Group – the largest and most diversified business conglomerate in Sri Lanka, we offer highly optimized and customized supply chain solutions with unified technology systems, ensuring total commitment to quality in people and customer service. Our services include; Air Cargo and Forwarding, Ocean Cargo and forwarding, Customs House Brokering, Warehousing, Distribution and Order Management.

Number : +94 11 740 0500

Email : info@expelogix.com

Website : www.expelogix.com

EXPACK CORRUGATED CARTONS PLC

Established in 1998, Expack Corrugated Cartons PLC. is an ISO certified, award winning manufacturer and marketer of high quality printed corrugated cartons catering to all leading local and multinational entities with their packaging solutions. Currently the market leader in the corrugated packaging industry being the only WRAP - Gold certified manufacturer with a wide range of standard and tailor-made packaging solutions. Our state-of-the-art corrugated packaging plant and R&D laboratory is one of the best in Sri Lanka. While our comprehensive computerized manufacturing and stock managing systems assist with Just-in-time supply, our own extensive storage facilities and fleet of vehicles help us schedule deliveries.

Certifications and Awards: ISO 9001-2008 System Certification, ISO 14001-2004 Environmental management system certification, WRAP (Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production) Gold Certification, Most Outstanding Exporter Export Support Services – 2010 and 2011, Gold award in the Extra-Large category – 2008, 2010 and 2011, National Business Excellence – Silver Award – 2008 and 2011, Top 10 Award – Manufacturing Sector – Ceylon National Chamber of Industries – 2012, Presidential Exporters – Merit Award – 2008, Continuous winner of gold certifications for years 2016, 2017,2018 & 2019 "LANKA STAR" by Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging – SLIP for innovative packaging., Awarded "A best place work in Sri Lanka" for 2018, 2019 & 2020, 2021 and 2022 five consecutive years And "A best place to work in Asia for year 2020, 2021 and 2022 for three continuous years "by GREAT PLACE WORK, SRI LANKA /USA., Awarded Carbon Natural Certificate for Environmental protection and responsible manufacturing by NCPC – National Cleaner Production Centre, Sri Lanka.

Hotline : + 94 114 891891

Fax : +91 14 612 965
+94 11 474 1751

Email : sales@expack.lk

Website : www.expack.lk

FANAM INTERNATIONAL (PVT) LTD

Fanam International (Pvt) Ltd successor's to Fanam International established in 1986. Its commercial activities are Export, Re-Export & Entreport Trade started – off on Export of Agricultural Commodities with its first export commodity KAPOK Fiber to Canada in August 1986. A consistent decade of Exports from 1986 – 1996 with a product range of Spices, Fresh Coconut, Desiccated Coconut and Coir Fiber Products to Mauritius, Cloves to Tunisia and Coir Fiber to South Africa in that region. During 1992 – 1997 company was within 5 or Top Ranked Exporter of Fresh Coconut to Pakistan and Mauritius in succession. Until 1996 company's product basket expanded to many categories – Coconut Kernel and Coconut Coir Fiber Products, Spices, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, Cover-Crop Plant Seeds. In a decade of export it has reached markets in South Asia, Far East, Middle East, Europe and African Continents covering 22 countries across.In 1997 when it ventured to Maldives, it added Planting Materials to its product category with a vast product list in its basket which includes Plants, Seeds, Organic and Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides.Company gained immense popularity in Maldives as Planting Materials Exporter.Company owned an Ornamental Fresh Water Fish Farm for a period of 02 years between 1998 – 2000. Since year 2000 to date, expanded its product line to Livestock Exports and the company is better known today as Livestock and Fertilizers Export Company.Truly, Fanam International (Pvt) Ltd is the second most experienced Livestock and Livestock Pharmaceuticals Export Company in Sri Lanka and until now due to its vast experience in many product sectors with a span of 37 years is well distinguished as a MULTI-SECTORAL Export Company in Sri Lanka.

Number : +94 75 522 5577
+94 77 777 5334

Email : fanam@sltnet.lk
farhath.amith@fanaminternational.com

Website : www.fanaminternational.com

FORECONNS CANNERIES

Foreconns Canneries established in 1989 is the first fish canning factory in Sri Lanka approved by the European Union. There are over 75 employees currently employed.

The nature of business at Foreconns Canneries includes the processing of canned and bottled cashews, vegetables, chutneys and pickles and vacuum-packed fish and dried fish. Foreconns produces a variety of ethnic food items which are mainly distributed in foreign countries. Some of our main products include Spicy Tuna (Ambulthiyal), Tuna fish curry, Breadfruit curry, Cashew curry and Fish Spread etc.

The maintenance of European Union and Food and Drug Administration (USA) standards together with HACCP, ISO 22000 and SLS certification has enabled us to provide great satisfaction to end users in taste in every piece and drop.

These high-quality products thus ensure a shelf life of 2 years. In fact, the performance of the thermal sterilization without adding any preservatives or permitted colors will hold its genuine taste and aroma throughout its long shelf life.

The continuous quality and other facility improvements done in satisfying the end users have also been recognized by various entities including Industrial Development Board, National Chamber of Exporters and Export Development Board etc.

Number : +94 34 22 76112
+94 71 8466000
+94 71 8466001

Email : info@foreconns.com

Website : www.foreconns.com

HAYLEYS AGRICULTURE HOLDINGS LIMITED

Hayleys Agriculture drives local economic growth through robust export initiatives, leveraging Sri Lanka's agricultural richness and innovative methods. This approach fosters global expansion by creating revenue and jobs, supporting local farmers, and enhancing Sri Lanka's global reputation. With a sustainability focus, the company ensures enduring economic benefits for communities nationwide.

Island Magic Beverages utilises Sri Lanka's tropical fruits, especially the King Coconut, known as a superfood rich in antioxidants and essential nutrients. Island Magic Jackfruit from HJS Condiments Limited revolutionises the vegan meat substitute market, while CocoLife by Hayleys prioritises Coconut kernel-based products, supporting local farmers and sustainable agriculture.

Hayleys Agro Biotech Pvt. Ltd. excels in tissue culture (TC) plantlet production, serving global markets with premium-quality plants. Quality Seed Company Limited is the only Sri Lankan exporter of F1 hybrid flower seeds and maintains high standards through advanced production facilities.

Number : +94 11 268 8960

Email : info@agro.hayleys.com

Website : www.hayleysagriculture.com

HDDES EXTRACTS (PVT) LTD

HDDES Extracts is a renowned company in the spice and extracts industry in Sri Lanka, specializing in the cultivation, processing, and export of high-quality spices, essential oils, flavors, and fragrances. With a commitment to excellence, sustainability, and innovation, HDDES Extracts has established itself as a leading player in the global spice and extracts market. By leveraging its integrated production capabilities, certifications, and commitment to innovation, the company is well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of global markets and drive continued growth and success.

Company is certified with BRC, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, Organic (EU, NOP,JAS) and Fair Trade, SMETA, FDA, Kosher and Halal

HDDES Extracts is dedicated to sustainable farming practices, ensuring minimal environmental impact and promoting biodiversity. The company supports local communities by providing development opportunities for farmers and workers.

The company has more than 40 years of experience engaging in the Value-added Spice sector by recognizing as the Presidential Export and NCE award winner.

Number : **+94 11 243 8739**
Fax : **+94 11 244 0556**
Email : **info@hddes.com**
Website : **www.hddes.com**

HALAL ASSESSMENT COUNCIL (GUARANTEE) LTD

The Halal Assessment Council (Guarantee) Limited, or HAC, incorporated under the Companies' Act No. 7 of 2007, is the only entity that issues Halal compliance certification in Sri Lanka based on professional and internationally accepted Halal standards.

With more than 8000+ products certified locally, HAC is advancing the national export strategy, facilitating Sri Lankan exporters to tap into the expanding Global Halal food industry projected to reach US$1.67 trillion by 2025. Sri Lanka's Halal-certified product exports were estimated at US$1.7 billion in 2022 indicating availability of much scope for gaining market share.

The Halal Assessment Council (HAC) for the 2nd consecutive year, was conferred with Gold at the 31st National Chamber of Exporters (NCE) Export Awards, acknowledging its role as a key enabler in Sri Lanka's export economy.

Number : **+94 11 742 5225**
Email : **info@hac.lk**
Website : **www.hac.lk**

INTEROCEAN CONTAINERS (PVT) LTD

Interocean Containers started in 1975, providing services as an agency company for international container leasing. Today, we are an ISO 9001:2015 certified company with nearly 50 years in the business, offering a variety of products and services:

• Freight Forwarding • Non-Vessel Owning Common Carrier (NVOCC) Agency • ISO Tank Agency • Marine Container Trading & Rental • Container Conversions • Supply of Flexibags & Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs)

Our experienced team, combined with our advanced IT infrastructure, allows us to deliver a wide range of services in the sectors listed above.

We specialize in the sale of containers from top international leasing companies throughout Sri Lanka and the Indian Subcontinent. As a leading container buyer in Sri Lanka, we keep a significant inventory of both 20-foot and 40-foot standard and refrigerated containers.

To learn more about Interocean Containers and our services, please visit our website at www.ioc.lk

Number : **+ 94 11 464 5887**
+94 77 778 9646
+94 77 161 6000
+94 77 113 3715
Email : **info@ioc.lk**
Website : **www.ioc.lk**

LAUGFS CORPORATION (RUBBER) LTD

A renowned manufacturer of high-quality solid rubber tires for industrial off-the-road applications. Our company is committed to delivering top-tier mobility solutions that enhance the efficiency, safety, productivity, and mobility of the off-the-road sector worldwide. We take pride in our cutting-edge technology and continuous research that drive us to push the boundaries of high-quality tire manufacturing. Our mobility solutions include off-the-road tires for material handling, construction, mining, and port operations that boast advanced features, durability, and superior performance, even in the harshest environments.

As a socially responsible company, we're dedicated to minimizing our environmental footprint by exploring eco-friendly materials and practices to contribute to a greener future. Our customers are our top priority, and we aim to build long-lasting relationships by providing exceptional customer service, tailored solutions, and prompt support through our customer-centric approach that ensures their unique requirements are met with precision and care.

Headquartered in Sri Lanka, LAUGFS Rubber has established a global presence, serving clients across continents. Our distribution network in the USA and Europe, along with strategic partnerships, enables us to reach businesses of all sizes, offering them the reliability and performance that they need to meet their customer demands.

Number : **+94 11 556 6222**
Email : **info.rubber@laugfs.lk**
Website : **www.laugfsindustrialtyres.com**

LANMIC EXPORTS (PVT) LTD

Established in 1998, LANMIC Exports (Pvt) Ltd resides in the Avissawella Export Zone and is a pioneer in the processing and exporting of high-quality minerals in Sri Lanka. Over 500 dedicated employees and a modern R&D laboratory enable us to provide our customers with the best possible products.

LANMIC Exports has been supplying a wide array of high quality and customised mineral products to all leading local industries and overseas customers, and the main products are fine, ultrafine and dispersions of Calcium Carbonate, Dolomite, Zirconium silicate, Quarts, Feldspar, Talc, Mica and Industrial Clays.

With ISO 9001:2015 certification, LANMIC Exports ensures that our products are subject to a strict quality control process aligned with international standards and industry standards. Also, the company is well equipped with all the facilities to offer customize products with value additions to suite the different requirements of our esteemed customers.

Number : **+94 36 222 2020**
Email : **info@lanmic.com**
Website : **www.lanmic.com**

MCLARENS LOGISTICS LTD

McLarens Logistics Ltd. is a fully-fledged NVOCC Agent, Shipping and Freight Forwarding Company that has become a leading provider of integrated logistics services in Sri Lanka since its establishment in 2003. The company is certified with the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System.

Since 2008, McLarens Logistics has been at the forefront of providing the below services,

• Shipping Agency, NVOCC & ISO Tank Operations • Representing Prestigious Shipping & NVOCC Agencies to facilitate the movement of import/export cargo to and from Colombo, Sri Lanka. • International Freight Forwarding • Ship Husbandry Services. • Embarked on an eco-friendly venture for upcycling non-cargo worthy marine containers into versatile units such as offices, houses, cafes, moveable toilets, etc.

For more information, visit our dedicated Conversions website at www.containerconversions.lk

To learn more insights into McLarens Logistics, you can visit our website at www.mclarenslogistics.lk or https://www.linkedin.com/company/mclarens-logistics-group

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+94 11 474 0977 – 8
+94 77 113 3715
Container Conversion
+94 11 433 4552
+94 77 281 6000
General
+94 11 482 7000
+94 77 778 9646
+94 77 161 6000
Email : ***NVOCC and Freight Forwarding***
info@mclogistics.lk
Container Conversions
conversions@mclogistics.lk
Website : **www.mclarenslogistics.lk**
www.containerconversions.lk

MCLARENS CONTAINERS (PVT) LTD

McLarens Containers (Pvt) Ltd., a pioneer in container depot operations in Sri Lanka, has been in business since 1979.

McLarens Containers an ISO 9001:2015 quality management system certified company and over Four and half decades of existence, has transformed into a versatile and leading logistics provider in Sri Lanka. At present providing a wide range of logistics services to International Container Leasing Companies, Shipping Lines, NVOCC Operators, importers & Exporters as outlined below.

• Container storage and handling • Container cleaning and repair • ISO Tank Container operations • Carrier Transicold authorised Reefer Container Repair Centre • Reefer electricity plugging • Warehousing and Logistics services • Project Cargo Handling • Flexi Tanks and Intermediary Bulk Container operations • Container transport • Container conversion & trading

To learn more and explore our full range of logistics solutions, visit our website at www.mclarenscontainers.lk

Number : +94 11 482 7000
+94 77 778 9646
+94 77 161 6000
+94 76 031 1788
Email : info@mcdepot.lk
Website : www.mclarenscontainers.lk

MANISHA EXPORTS (PVT) LTD

MANISHA EXPORTS (PVT) LTD is a leading Sri Lankan manufacturer and 100% exporter of coconut fiber and coconut substrates. We serve more than 100 customers all over the world by being a total solution provider for wide range of applications under growing media, horticulture, erosion control, bedding and large variety of industrial applications. MANISHA EXPORTS has years of domain expertise in coconut products and processes, but what sets it apart from the competition is its capacity to combine traditional knowledge with modern, high-tech production methods and cutting-edge research to produce consistently outstanding eco friendly products with premium quality to address global needs. The Company strives to build premium-quality, sustainable product lines, inspire and produce eco-friendly solutions to address global needs and problems, and cause no harm to the environment. We have a wide range of products - Mix fibre, mattress fibre, Machine twisted fibre, Grow bags, 5kg/25kg cocopeat/chips blocks, weed mats, 500g/650g briquettes etc. Company has been awarded 'Best Exporter -Coconut Fibre Products' for four years consecutively 2019/20, 2020/21,2021/22 and 2022/23 at the presidential export awards hosted by Export Development Board of Sri Lanka.

Number : +94 77 758 0372
Email : info@manishagroup.lk
Website : www.manishaexports.lk

MASS LOGISTICS INTERNATIONAL (PVT) LTD

Outsourcing in Shipping (Total Logistics Solutions)

MASS Logistics International (Pvt) Ltd., is as an organization offering various logistic solutions to our customers. Our services include offering shipping solutions, planning logistics, advising customers the best solution, assisting their organizations, and also offering freight broking. We believe that we have the drive and the commitment to make things happen and have the right connections to Sri Lankan Customers through our long term involvement in the shipping trade.

S.A.D.Sumanasiri
(Managing Director/CEO)
Mobile Number : +94 71 273 4659
+94 11 204 0412
+94 71 273 4659
Email : sads@masslog.com
Website : www.masslog.com

NEIL FERNANDO & COMPANY (PVT) LTD

Established since 1969, Neil Marine has been an Asian fibreglass boat manufacturing trailblazer. With over five decades of experience, we've gained local and international acclaim, delivering 40,000 vessels, including 2,000 exported worldwide. Our 42.000 sqm ISO-certified Negombo facility is Lloyd's Register - approved, and we adhere to ISO 9001:2015 and IACS standards. Using the 5S methodology for efficiency, we uphold rigorous quality assurance and supplier standards.

Our facilities hold approvals from Lloyds Register (LR), Det Norske Veritas (DNV), and the American Bureau of Shipping, meeting Recreational Craft Directive (RCD) Design category requirements for European markets. Neil Marine, under Neil Fernando & Co. (Pvt.) Ltd. also boasts esteemed certifications highlighting our commitment to safety, quality, and compliance. Our vision is to be South Asia's premier custom boat manufacturer while expanding globally through unwavering standards, innovation, and customer satisfaction. Our core values drive us to be dedicated, innovative, environmentally responsible, and committed to lasting relationships. At Neil Marine, our legacy is marked by groundbreaking achievements, creativity, and an unwavering commitment to quality.

Number : +94 11 255 6891
Email : businessdevelopment@neilmarine.com
Website : www.neilmarine.com

NPS PACKAGING (PVT) LTD

With two decades of industry expertise, NPS Packaging amalgamates skilled professionals and state-of-the-art technology to deliver premium Poly Packaging Material. Our ethos revolves around socially responsible and eco-friendly practices, ensuring the recycling and proper disposal of polythene waste. We specialize in a wide array of products including Printed/Unprinted Polythene Bags & Reels (HDPE, LDPE, LLDPE, PP), CO-EXTRUTIONS (BOPP, COEX-BOPP) Garment Bags, and various other packaging solutions such as Side seal, Flat Opening, Envelope, T-Shirt, and Courier Bags, as well as Garbage and Bulk Packing Bags. Holding certifications including ISO 9001-2015, ISO 22000-2018, and GRS Certified, we prioritize quality, sustainability, and customer satisfaction in every aspect of our operations.

Number : +94 11 488 8447
Email : info@npspackaging.com
Website : www.npspackaging.com

OCEAN TRADE & LOGISTICS (PVT) LTD

Ocean Trade and Logistics is a diversified company involved in shipping, logistics services, export trading, manufacturing fertilizer, and cultivating. Situated in the heart of Colombo, our factory is located in Dambadeniya.

We have expanded our operations into manufacturing and exporting our proprietary brand products such as OTL COWDUNG, U-GROW, and UNIGROW. Additionally, we specialize in handling specialize project cargo, live animals, live plants, and ornamental fish. Today, we proudly stand as one of the top 10 exporters to the Maldives.

OTL Courier Pvt Ltd operates as a subsidiary of the OTL Group, an international courier company. We were the pioneers in establishing direct courier services to the Maldives, Consequently, we have emerged as the market leader in the Colombo-Male courier business.

Over the past 14 years, we have served more than 2000 customers, who have become loyal buyers due to the reliability and service quality we consistently provide.

Number : +94 77 784 6800
+94 11 450 3395
Fax : +94 11 4503395
Website : www.otlcolombo.com

PEOPLES ORGANISATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IMPORT & EXPORT (PODIE)

PODIE is a leading spice exporting organisation in Sri Lanka, and a manufacturer of 100% Organic Value-Added Spices produced by our own farmer groups spanned across the country. We have nearly 3000 farmer families currently joined with us. Our Internal Control System (ICS) team ensures monitoring of our small holder farmers & farmer networks, who practice organic farming utilizing only the best organic agricultural inputs (certified organic microbiological fungicide, pesticide, decomposed mixtures & Liquid fertilizers). We do test from internationally reputed laboratories in Germany & in Sri Lanka. We have a wide range of value-added spices in whole form & powder form, Tea blend cuts (natural food flavoring agents) & Spice mixtures. Currently, we export our products to European & Scandinavian countries, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Taiwan, USA, UK & Canada. PODIE's unique characteristic is that it has a wide range spice mixtures & tea spice mixtures with a variety of numerous flavours.

Certifications - We also adhere to the standards set by WFTO (World Fair-Trade Organisation), FDA (Registrar Corp USA), ISO 22000:2018, HACCP, JAS, EU,

USDA-NOP, US-COEA, Certificate of Ethical Trading & Non-GMO.

Number : +94 31 223 3773 – 5
+94 77 727 7147
Email : podie@stlnet.lk
tyrell@sltnet.lk
Website : www.podiespice.com

POLYCROME HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD

Polycrome, a pioneering Sri Lankan Brand for over four decades, specialises in manufacturing high-quality electrical products, cable management systems and lighting for the construction sector and end-consumers.

Polycrome, a bellwether in the electrical industry in Sri Lanka, consistently introduce new products and concepts by investing heavily in research and development and have comprehensive laboratory facilities to ensure our innovation and product developments align with the needs of our valuable customers and we do so by complying with applicable international standards.

We have embedded a quality culture into the core value system of our Company, and we believe in offering safe and reliable products to our valuable customers. This "quiet quest for quality" has earned the trust of opinion leaders and consumers.

Polycrome has three manufacturing plants located in industrial zones in Sri Lanka and a dedicated team of over 300+ we create an environment of integrity that reaches opinion leaders internationally through high quality 'Made in Sri Lanka' products.

Number : **+94 77 444 4343**
Email : **info@polycrome.lk**
Website : **www.polycrome.lk**

PULSES SPLITTING & PROCESSING INDUSTRY (PVT) LTD

We make it happen

Give Us Your Requirements Of Australian & Canadian Origin Split And Processed Red Split Lentils , Yellow Split Lentils, Moong Dhal (With Skin),Green Moong, Dun Peas, Cowpea, Moong Dhall, Black Matpe (With Skin & Split), Black Matpe (Skinned & Whole), Yellow Peas, Green Peas, Black Matpe, Pigeon Peas, Black Eye Beans, Whole Tyson Chick Peas, Black Matpe, Toor Dhal, Red Chori/Adzuki Beans, Palm Oil Polished Red Split Lentils, Channa Dhal/Kadala Parripu, Yellow Split Peas, Red Kidney Beans, Moth Dal, Lab Lab Beans, Machine Cleaned Red Whole Lentils & Yellow Whole Lentils, Etc.,

We Are The Leading Pulses Splitting - Processor In Sri Lanka, Exporting To More Than 20 Countries, Since The Year 2008, Quality Guaranteed, Delivered In Time, Automatic Machine Packed To Your Own Logo And Specifications.

Number : **+94 11 234 1911**
+94 11 232 2356
Fax : **+94 11 2438706**
Email : **info@pspil.lk**

RENUKA FOODS PLC

Renuka Foods PLC is the parent company of our Food and Beverage businesses consisting of Agri Food, Organic Plantations, FMCG, Dairy and related entities. Renuka Agri Foods PLC and Renuka Agri Organics Ltd are the leading manufacturers, marketers & exporters of Coconut based food and beverages from Sri Lanka to the retail, food service and ingredient sectors across 52 countries. Our quality measures are of stringent standards and are not compromised at any point, right from the raw material purchase to the delivery of goods. Our consumer brands portfolio extends with Richlife Dairies and also with FMCG through Shaw Wallace Ceylon Ltd.

Number : **+94 11 231 4750**
Email : **brands.agri@renukafoods.com**
Website : **www.renukafoods.com**

SCANWELL CUSTOMS BROKERS (PVT) LTD

We specialize in imports customs brokerage of all commodities including project cargo to Sri Lanka. Ensures smooth and speedy process, by carrying out brokerage, hassle free, in line with regulations by customs and other authorities; leaving customer to focus their core businesses. A qualified team with license to act as declarant handles our custom brokerage aspect in logistics. Knowhow of local procedures and persistent involvement enables client to be assured of the timely clearance of goods from customs. Ocean or Air, the proficiency of work carried out by our team is unmatched for over 3 decades. We have developed strong relationships with all government bodies with ethical working practices (recognized by NCE awarding a conformity certificate) enabling us greater flexibility in carrying out duties professionally. Scanwell Customs Brokers carriers the commitment of excellence in logistic.

Number : **+94 71 274 5410**
Email : **indika@scblk.com**
Website : **www.scanwell.com**

SCANWELL LOGISTICS COLOMBO (PVT) LTD

We specialize in imports customs brokerage of all commodities including project cargo to Sri Lanka. Ensures smooth and speedy process, by carrying out brokerage, hassle free, in line with regulations by customs and other authorities; leaving customer to focus their core businesses. A qualified team with license to act as declarant handles our custom brokerage aspect in logistics. Knowhow of local procedures and persistent involvement enables client to be assured of the timely clearance of goods from customs. Ocean or Air, the proficiency of work carried out by our team is unmatched for over 3 decades. We have developed strong relationships with all government bodies with ethical working practices (recognized by NCE awarding a conformity certificate) enabling us greater flexibility in carrying out duties professionally. Scanwell Customs Brokers carriers the commitment of excellence in logistic.

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+94 11 476 6400
Email : **cmb-info@scanwell.com**
Website : **www.scanwell.lk**

SEA HORSE SHIPPING (PVT) LTD

Sea Horse Shipping (Pvt) Ltd offers a kaleidoscope of services catering to handling Main Line Agency, NVOCC, Project and Special Cargo, all types of Break Bulk and Casual Callers, Bunker Brokers, Ship Chandlers, Launch Operators and Crew Recruitment›s.

Products & Services: • Main Line / NVOCC Representation • Break Bulk / Tankers Handling Agents • Multi-Country Consolidation • Crew Recruitment & Technical Managers • Bunker Brokers • Launch Service & Offshore Supplies • Project Cargo Handling • Ship Chandlers

Number : **+94 11 248 5200**
Email : **jagath.sea-horse@setmil.com.lk**
Website : **www.setmil.com.lk**

SENSA SOLUTIONS LANKA (PVT) LTD

Pioneering Packaging Excellence with a Global Vision

Incorporated in 2017, Sensa Solutions Lanka Pvt Ltd has swiftly risen to prominence as a leading manufacturing powerhouse in Sri Lanka. Specializing in high-quality packaging solutions, Sensa Solutions serves prestigious high street apparel brands across the USA, UK, and Europe. Additionally, the company extends its expertise to the pharmaceutical, industrial, and FMCG sectors, providing innovative and reliable packaging solutions.

Building on its impressive growth trajectory, Sensa Solutions has recently expanded its operations to Bangladesh, positioning itself as a key player in the regional market. This strategic move underscores the company's commitment to extending its global footprint and delivering exceptional packaging solutions worldwide. Sensa Solutions is dedicated to sustainability and ethical practices, adhering to globally recognized chemical standards and certifications. The company's core philosophy is centered on achieving customer satisfaction through bespoke customer service, delivering the highest quality packaging on time and at the lowest possible cost.

Environmental sustainability is at the heart of Sensa Solutions' product development, ensuring that every packaging solution not only meets customer needs but also contributes to a greener planet. By combining cutting-edge technology with a commitment to ethical standards, Sensa Solutions Lanka Pvt Ltd is setting new benchmarks in the packaging industry, both locally and internationally. As Sensa Solutions continues to grow and innovate, it remains steadfast in its mission to provide unparalleled service and quality. With an eye on global expansion, the company is poised to become a leading name in the packaging industry, known for its dedication to excellence and sustainable practices.

Number : **+94 11 368 2555**
+94 77 356 1414
+94 77 370 6894
Email : **sensa.marketing@gmail.com**
sasiru@sensasl.com
subash@ sensasl.com
Website : **www.sensasl.com**

SHAN TEAS (PVT) LTD

Naturally the Best

Shan Teas (Private) Limited was established in 2003 and within this short span of time we have been recognized as one of the leading exporters in the Tea industry by ranking ourselves within the first 15 Exporters of Sri Lanka. We currently export to over 20 destinations around the world and have a very strong presence in the CIS, Middle East, Europe and the Far East. In the last three years we have had a rapid growth of over 40% year on year and an Export Volume of 6 million kilograms for the concluded financial year 2020/21. Our team has a collective experience of over 60 years as we have a dynamic blend of youth and experience covering all aspects of the industry such as Planting, Tasting, Blending, Packaging and Shipping. We offer all our customers a full in-house solution starting from Procurement of Teas, Designing of Packages and offering differed types of packing options and logistics. Our strength has been developing very close relationships with our customers and earning their trust by giving them our best services and value for money products and our primary objective is to understand each and every one of our customer's needs and tailor make our products to suit them. We not only specialize in orthodox black teas, but equally strong in a range of other varieties such as green teas, fruit teas, wellness teas, and tisanes. We also specialize in private labeling apart from worldwide marketing of our own brands Windsor, Golden Era and Four Seasons. We are confident that we can provide you a complete solution to your requirement of Ceylon Tea.

Number : **+94 11 535 3100**
Email : **info@shanteas.com**
Website : **www.shanteas.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 sustainability, quality and integrity. our 99,600 employees operate a network of 2,600 offices and laboratories around the world.

At SGS we offer a complete suite of solutions at every stage of the value chain to help get your products to meet quality, safety & compliance requirements for all your global destinations. Wherever you are, whatever your industry, our experts worldwide provide specialized solutions to make your business faster, simpler and more efficient.

Number : +94 11 537 6280
Email : sgs.lanka@sgs.com
Website : www.sgs.lk

SMART MARINE LANKA (PVT) LTD

We Smart Marine Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. (SML) was incorporated on 9th December 2009.

● SML is a well-developed NVOCC (None Vessel Operating Container Carrier), Freight Forwarding, Logistic services Provider and Trading Company established in the shipping industry over 14 years. ● SML is structured with great care and clear focus in the shipping industry by professionals who have more than 28 years of experience in the Global Shipping Industry. ● SML has the capacity to undertake assignments ranging from dispatch of a small parcel to shipping Machinery on door to door Basis round the world as we say "DESTINATION ANYWHERE" ● SML provide NVOCC, Sea Freight and Air Freight Service with Extended services in Clearing, Delivering, Total Logistics solution and Supply Chain Management to our valuable customers. ● SML is a member of the SLANA (Sri Lanka Association of NVOCC Agents) ● SML was enlisted as Member of the National Chamber of Exporters as a Service Provider from Year 2010. ● SML Registered Company with the Director General of Merchant Shipping of Sri Lanka as a NVOCC Operator. (A grade License No-FFA01179)

As a progressive organization, we pride ourselves on providing cost-effective and efficient services on 2407-365 days to our Customers Local and Global.

In order we at (SML) would like to draw your attention to our Logistics Services we offer and serve you with expert knowledge and logistic solution to minimize your logistic cost by integrating CFS, Operations/ Freight Forwarding and Liner (shipping) under one umbrella, SML-Smart Marine Lanka

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Sierra Cables PLC is a leading cable manufacturer in Sri Lanka, renowned for its expertise in designing, manufacturing, and distributing high-quality copper and aluminum cable products for both local and international markets. As a company committed to quality, we employ superior raw materials to enhance the overall quality of our final products. Our goal is to manufacture electric cables of the highest standard and provide exceptional customer service worldwide, adhering to local and international industry standards including IEC, BS, ANSI/ICEA, ASTM, AS/NZS, JIS, NFC, SLS-Mark, and other international standards. The company is committed to providing a comprehensive range of services and making every effort to ensure customer satisfaction. The company has established advanced manufacturing facilities overseas and expanded its export reach to Asia, Eastern Europe, Australia, North America, and Africa. This global presence highlights Sierra Cables PLC's dedication to serving diverse markets with top-tier products and exceptional service.

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Email : sales@sierracables.com
info@sierracables.com
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Number : +94 11 291 3740
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Website : www.tantri.com
www.tantritowers.com

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The company recently joined the UN Global Compact and is the only seafood company in the Sri Lanka network to be part of it. The Company was awarded the SMETA ETI accreditation for its sustainable labour policies and was awarded the prestigious 4-star status by Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP), the world's leading certification authority in Aquaculture Practices. Building on this remarkable achievement, we are thrilled to share that we have also secured the title of Sri Lanka's first-ever shrimp farm to obtain the ASC (Aquaculture Stewardship Council) certification. Taprobane Seafoods stands by their Blue Change goals which are to support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights, ensuring safe and legal labor, health, productivity and resilience of the global environment now and for the next generations and above all to work against corruption in all its forms.

Number : +94 (0) 31 226 1533
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Website : www.taprobaneseafoods.com
www.bluechangesustainability.org

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A Leading Power Distribution Panel Manufacturer in the country, VEE POWER SOLUTIONS (PVT) LTD, won the prestigious National Crystal Award 2023, under the Large Category Manufacturing Sector. VEE Power Solutions (Pvt) Ltd, who has expanded its business in the local and overseas market with high standard quality second to none.

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Email : branding@veepower.lk
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As a tea firm, Vintage Teas Ceylon primarily produces and blends tea for export. After more than 27 years in the tea business, Vintage Teas has established a solid reputation and is currently Sri Lanka's eleventh-largest exporter.

Carefully crafted specialized mixes with a deep flavor that has captured the imagination of people worldwide. For this panel of specialists, excellence is standard procedure, beginning with the meticulous handpicking of the best samples and continuing through grading, sampling, tasting, choosing, purchasing, and double-checking.

Apart from their proficient and competitive tea blending and manufacturing, they also undertake packaging, which has consistently been at the forefront of their activities. Modern technology is combined with innovative high-tech design. Also ensuring that every order is traced along its delivery route and is always delivered on schedule. With this combination Vintage Teas is known for their exceptional quality and perfection.

Number : **+94 11 241 9419**

Email : **vintageteas@vintageteas.lk**

Website : **www.vintageteas.lk**

WATAWALA PLANTATIONS PLC

Watawala Plantations PLC is engaged in cultivation, manufacture and sale of crude palm oil and dairy farming. The Company is also involved in manufacturing of value-added agricultural products. The Company's segments include Palm Oil, Dairy, and Others. Main products include Crude Palm Oil and Palm Kernel Oil. Cinnamon product portfolio consists of Cinnamon chips - off grade, Cinnamon oil and Cinnamon Cut Quills. The Company's subsidiary Watawala Dairy Limited produces compost and liquid fertilizer using the large volumes of cattle slurry generated by the dairy farm. Watawala Dairy Limited manages a herd of approximately 2000 dairy cattle. Watawala Plantations and Watawala Dairy Limited has a workforce of over 1200 personnel.

Number : **+94 11 470 2400**

Email : **watawala@sunshineholdings.lk**

Website : **www.watawalaplantations.lk**

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In today's environment, exporters face a complex mix of challenges and opportunities: foreign exchange volatility, working capital pressures, evolving global demand, tighter compliance requirements, and changing regulatory landscapes. Our role is to simplify these complexities through tailored trade finance solutions, flexible funding structures, robust risk mitigation tools, and secure international payment and collection platforms, enabling uninterrupted global operations and sustainable business growth.

We support exporters through:

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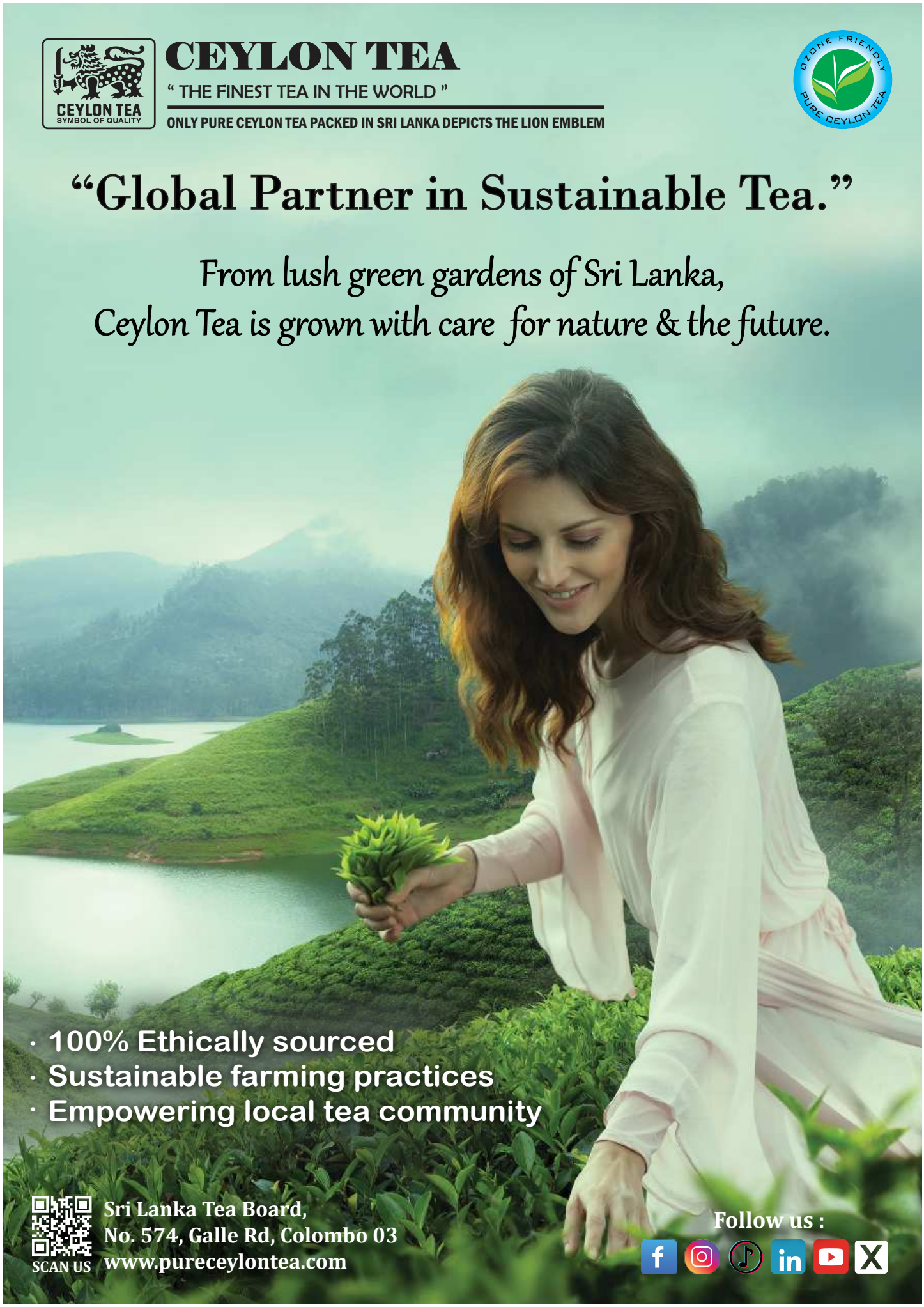
- *Foreign currency accounts and competitive exchange services*
- *Export bill negotiation and collections*
- *Guarantees, letters of credit, and risk management tools*
- *Digital banking platforms for faster, secure cross-border transactions*

"Sri Lanka's exporters are the lifeblood of our economy, and their success is our success. At Pan Asia Bank, we go beyond banking, we partner with businesses to unlock global opportunities and drive sustainable growth for the nation." said Naleen Edirisinghe Director/Chief Executive Officer Pan Asia Bank.

Beyond financial services, we focus on building long-term partnerships grounded in sector expertise, responsive service, and practical guidance. Every exporter's journey is unique, from emerging entrepreneurs entering global markets to established brands expanding across regions. Our approach is centered on understanding each business and supporting its growth ambitions.

Our commitment remains clear: to strengthen Sri Lanka's export ecosystem by enabling liquidity, improving transactional efficiency, and supporting sustainable international trade.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SUCCESS STORY OF CEYLON TEA PROMOTION IN JAPAN - 2025

A Historic Steep: Ceylon Specialty Estate Tea of the Year 2025 Sets Global Benchmarks

The Ceylon Specialty Estate Tea of the Year Competition 2025 concluded in spectacular fashion, marking a defining moment for Sri Lankan tea on the global stage. Organized by the Sri Lanka Tea Board (SLTB) in collaboration with the Ceylon Tea Traders' Association (CTTA), the event was strategically timed to coincide with Sri Lanka's participation at the World Expo 2025 in Osaka, Japan.

Showcasing the Terroir of Sri Lanka

The initiative was designed to elevate the "single estate" concept, encouraging producers to market their unique garden marks while showcasing the immense diversity of Ceylon Tea. By celebrating product excellence, the competition incentivized estates to push the boundaries of quality and innovation.

The competition saw a robust response, with 430 entries spanning ten distinct categories, including:

- *The seven recognized agro-climatic zones (Nuwara Eliya, Uda Pussellawa, Uva, Dimbula, Kandy, Sabaragamuwa, and Ruhuna).*
- *The Green Tea sector.*
- *CTC (Crush, Tear, Curl) teas.*

An "Innovative" category for non-traditional excellence.

Following rigorous rounds of blind tasting by an expert panel, Gold, Silver, and Bronze winners were crowned for each category. An elite "Overall" podium was then selected from the Gold winners of the seven agro-climatic regions.

A Night of Philanthropy and Prestige

The culmination of the event took place on September 26, 2025, at the Grand Prince Hotel Osaka Bay. A Charity Auction, attended by approximately 60 prominent Japanese tea buyers, saw 27 exclusive lots go under the hammer.

The results were a resounding success: 24 lots were sold, raising a total of JPY 5,517,500/- (approx. USD 37,153). In a heartening gesture of industry-wide solidarity, the proceeds are dedicated to uplifting the education of children within Sri Lanka's tea plantation communities.

A Guinness World Record Achievement

The evening reached its zenith when the FFExSp from the New Vithanakande selling mark—the Bronze Medal winner in the Overall category—shattered all expectations. The lot was purchased by Janat International for an unprecedented JPY 125,000 /- per kg (approx. USD 841/-).

Historic Milestone: This price set a new benchmark, officially entering the Guinness World Records as the "World's Most Expensive Tea Sold at a Charity Tea Auction."

Recognition and Gratitude

The winners were officially honored during a Networking Reception following the auction, where the vital role of Japanese tea buyers in the Ceylon Tea ecosystem was also celebrated.

The SLTB and CTTA extend their deepest gratitude to:

- *The Project Sub-Committee and Expert Tasting Panel for their voluntary expertise.*
- *The eight brokering companies that facilitated the sample collection.*
- *The Sri Lanka Embassy in Japan and the Japan Tea Association for logistical and diplomatic support.*

This competition has not only showcased the craftsmanship of Sri Lankan planters but has also reinforced Ceylon Tea's position as a luxury commodity capable of making a profound social impact.

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Digitalizing the Nation – Empowering Exporters & Reducing Corruption

As Sri Lanka pushes forward in its digital transformation journey, MISL Holdings stands at the forefront, driving impactful change across the export sector. By digitizing operational workflows and trade processes, MISL reduces paperwork, increases traceability, and minimizes human error—effectively cutting down on inefficiencies and avenues for corruption. Exporters now experience greater transparency, faster decision-making, and smoother regulatory compliance, all of which are essential to remaining competitive on the global stage.

Opening Gen Z Job Opportunities with MISL

At MISL, we believe in creating a future-ready workforce. With an expanding portfolio of smart solutions, we open doors for Gen Z professionals to engage in roles across software development, data analytics, hardware engineering, and cloud integration. These opportunities are not just jobs—they are gateways to meaningful impact, innovation, and skill development in a globally competitive tech environment.

Aligning with the Nation's Vision

In support of Sri Lanka's vision for a digital economy and tech-driven exports, MISL aligns its solutions with the national agenda of innovation and inclusive growth. Our role as the NCE's Strategic IT Partner is a commitment to empowering exporters through technology, automation, and smart integration. MISL's software ecosystems enhance productivity, sustainability, and accountability, directly contributing to the government's goals of increasing export revenue and digital infrastructure readiness.

Inspiring Young Entrepreneurs through Technology

MISL doesn't just build solutions—we build entrepreneurial mindsets. By offering low-code platforms, scalable digital tools, and startup-friendly systems, MISL inspires the younger generation to venture into tech-enabled businesses. Whether launching their own applications or entering niche markets like export digitization, young entrepreneurs can confidently navigate new opportunities with MISL as their trusted tech enabler.

Affordable, Tailored Hardware and Software for Exporters

Understanding the unique needs of Sri Lankan exporters, MISL provides affordable and best-matching hardware and software solutions—crafted specifically for industries such as seafood, apparel, logistics, and manufacturing. Our deep industry knowledge, coupled with global partnerships in hardware (RFID, barcode, PDAs), ensures our clients receive optimized performance without unnecessary complexity or cost

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Multilac is renowned for its international quality products while proudly maintaining its Sri Lankan identity. It has distinguished itself through its dedication to customer satisfaction, commitment to research and development, and a steadfast adherence to world-class quality standards.

The company's key strength lies in its range of certified products, including the prestigious Lead Safe Certification from IPEN, USA, making it the sole Sri Lankan paint company to receive this honour. In 2004, the company obtained both SLS standards and ISO 9001. Additionally, Multilac holds ISO 14001 and Green Label Certification, further solidifying its commitment to quality and global standards.

During this journey spanning over 4 decades, the Multilac product range, developed to meet changing customer dynamics, has been able to successfully market its specialized surface coatings and high-quality paints, taking on global giants, and thereby emerging a trail blazer in the industry.

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Value in US Dollars

Information Technology Division Sri Lanka Export Development Board

Code	Description	August, 2025	September, 2025	October, 2025	November, 2025	December, 2025	
		Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	
S.10	Apparel & Textile	506,855,534	425,056,146	429,189,867	388,774,014	470,354,882	**2,220,230,443**
S.01	Tea	141,940,456	137,013,109	126,540,043	111,778,797	105,820,513	**623,092,918**
S.03	Coconut & Coconut based Products	126,043,916	122,439,641	123,970,893	103,851,159	96,084,556	**572,390,165**
S.02	Rubber & Rubber Based Products	86,953,659	74,297,378	80,106,640	75,550,602	76,546,281	**393,454,560**
S.19	Engineering Products	72,878,939	51,055,471	54,555,690	67,582,057	65,122,910	**311,195,067**
S.11	Food, Feed & Beverages	45,617,591	49,841,002	64,605,198	45,309,966	48,673,609	**254,047,366**
S.04	Spices, Essential Oils & Oleoresins	41,350,370	43,150,262	38,388,910	37,456,452	44,213,735	**204,559,729**
S.21	Petroleum Products	18,257,861	56,853,714	48,183,400	38,488,049	33,888,698	**195,671,722**
S.09	Diamonds, Gems & Jewellery	25,367,754	44,233,537	37,602,479	13,497,261	15,922,361	**136,623,392**
S.08	Fish & Fisheries Products	20,092,834	25,087,599	16,959,154	18,119,627	25,200,094	**105,459,308**
S.22	Other Manufactures	22,959,256	17,690,449	19,416,119	15,145,795	24,985,972	**100,197,591**
S.18	Base Metal Products	26,051,334	19,329,143	12,863,462	17,227,195	15,682,337	**91,153,471**
S.16	Chemicals & Plastic Products	15,447,573	12,632,359	12,264,669	14,037,217	11,255,247	**65,637,065**
S.07	Other Export Crops	10,379,943	11,688,661	9,225,965	11,608,992	10,750,789	**53,654,350**
S.12	Tobacco	13,249,498	9,903,870	9,951,730	8,237,349	11,305,074	**52,647,521**
S.17	Non-metallic Mineral Products	7,776,194	10,644,765	8,334,643	6,604,729	7,692,444	**41,052,775**
S.15	Paper & Paper Products	8,706,212	9,371,821	6,878,740	6,704,545	7,680,456	**39,341,774**
S.05	Fruits, Nuts and Vegetables	7,493,457	9,742,601	6,432,472	6,519,937	8,284,975	**38,473,442**
S.95	Miscellaneous Products	3,888,435	3,822,253	7,614,408	4,149,122	7,435,349	**26,909,567**
S.14	Wood & Wooden Products	4,037,211	3,641,716	3,524,424	3,803,378	3,385,525	**18,392,254**
S.13	Leather Products	3,140,101	1,556,872	2,226,486	1,502,892	1,636,659	**10,063,010**
S.20	Footwear and Parts	1,564,698	1,207,894	1,652,899	1,180,590	1,158,369	**6,764,450**
S.06	Cut Flowers & Foliage	920,486	1,526,511	1,331,183	1,061,326	1,093,243	**5,932,749**
	TOTAL :	**1,210,973,311**	**1,141,786,774**	**1,121,819,474**	**998,191,051**	**1,094,174,077**	**5,566,944,687**

Global Export Resilience:

A Review of H2 2025

The second half of 2025 marked a historic milestone for global commerce. Despite cooling momentum in the final quarter, global trade is poised to exceed $35 trillion for the first time, reflecting a 7% increase over 2024. For the readers of The Exporter, this period illustrates a landscape where volume growth has replaced price inflation as the primary engine of trade value.

1. Performance Overview: June – December 2025

The June to December period saw a "tale of two halves." While the third quarter (Q3) maintained a robust expansion of 2.5%, the fourth quarter (Q4) witnessed a strategic slowdown as geopolitical uncertainties and higher trade costs began to weigh on market sentiment.

Period	Goods Growth (QoQ)	Services Growth (QoQ)	Key Driver
Q3 2025	+2.0%	+4.0%	Electronics & AI Demand
Q4 2025	+0.5%	+4.0%	Volume-driven growth

Growth vs. 2024:

Compared to the same period in 2024, the 2025 year-end figures represent a significant recovery. In 2024, trade was largely stagnant due to post-pandemic adjustments; in 2025, an additional $2.2 trillion was added to the global trade tally.

2. Highlighting the Winners: Top Export Sectors

The export landscape in H2 2025 was dominated by high-tech manufacturing and a resurgence in agricultural commodities, while traditional energy and automotive sectors faced headwinds.

- **Electronics & Technology (+14% YoY):** The undisputed leader. Driven by the global "AI arms race," semiconductors and data processing equipment saw unprecedented demand.
- **Manufacturing (+10% YoY):** General manufacturing remained the "engine room" of the global economy, particularly in East Asia.
- **Agriculture (+8% in Q3):** A sharp rise in cereals, fruits, and vegetables (+11% each) boosted earnings for major agri-exporters like Brazil and Argentina.
- **The Laggards:** The automotive sector struggled, falling 4% overall. Interestingly, while combustion engines declined by 13%, hybrid vehicles surged by 22%, signaling a shift in consumer preference.

3. Global Powerhouses: Top Exporting Nations

China remains the world's leading exporter, but the 2025 rankings show a fascinating rise in South-South trade—trade between developing nations—which outpaced the global average by growing 8%.

Top 5 Exporters (Full Year 2025 Estimates):

1. **China:** $3.41 Trillion
2. **South Africa:** $1.92 Trillion (Boosted by critical minerals & gold)
3. **United States:** $1.61 Trillion
4. **Germany:** $1.31 Trillion
5. **Netherlands:** $639 Billion (Logistics & Re-export hub)

4. Comparative Analysis: 2025 vs. 2024

The most striking difference between the two years is the **Trade Inflation Factor**.

- **In 2024**, trade value increases were often "artificial," driven by high prices and inflation.
- **In 2025**, specifically in the June–December window, prices for traded goods actually began to **decline**. This means the growth we are seeing now is "real"—it represents more ships, more containers, and more actual goods moving across borders.

Summary Points for the Modern Exporter

- **Record Breaking:** Global trade hit a record $35 trillion in 2025.
- **Sector Pivot:** Move toward AI-related electronics and hybrid automotive components.
- **Geographic Shift:** East Asia and Africa are the fastest-growing regions for both exports and imports.
- **Sustainability:** Energy-related trade is transitioning; while coal and oil declined, battery and green-tech components are stabilizing.

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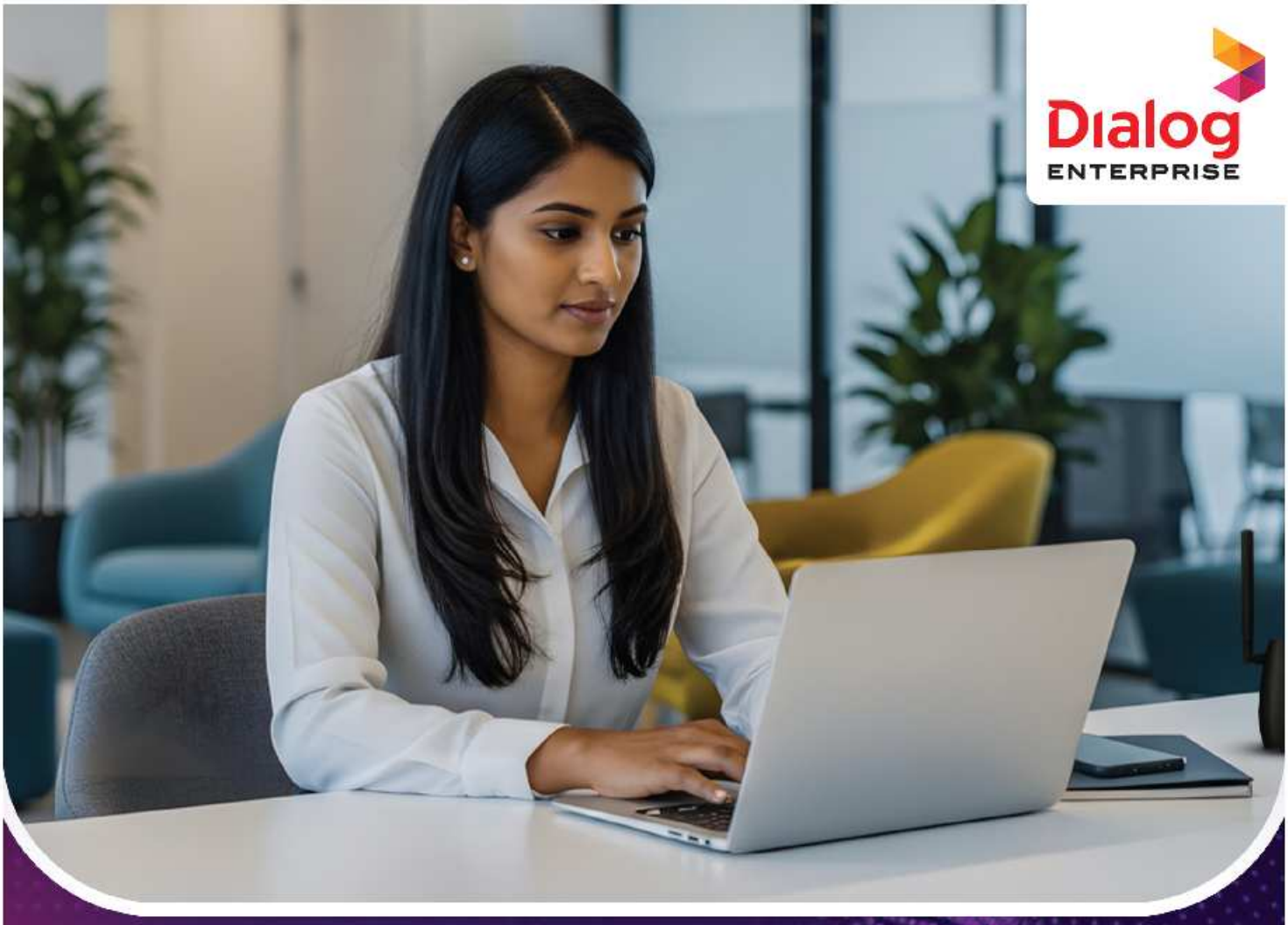

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