

EXPO NEWS

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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TOP STORIES

MERCHANDISE EXPORT EARNINGS
SURPASS USD 11 BN
FROM JAN-OCT 2022

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COLLABORATE TO SHOWCASE SERVICES
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WORLD LARGEST FOOD INNOVATION EXHIBITION
FROM 15TH TO 19TH OCTOBER, 2022
IN PARIS, FRANCE

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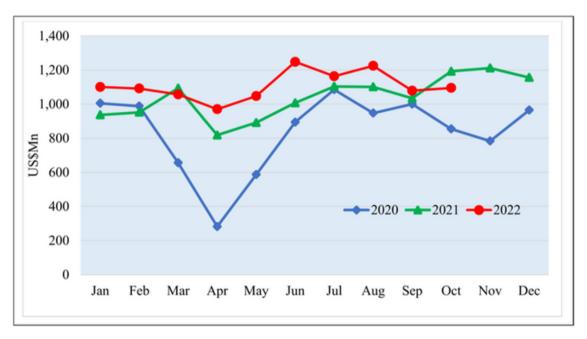
MERCHANDISE EXPORT EARNINGS SURPASS USD 11 BN FROM JAN-OCT 2022

As per data released by Sri Lanka Customs, the earnings from merchandise exports have exceeded USD 11 billion from January to October 2022, the Export Development Board (EDB) says.

This is a growth of 9.33% in comparison to the same period in 2021. The earnings from merchandise exports in the first ten months of last year were recorded as USD 10 million, according to the EDB.

However, earnings from the merchandise exports saw a drop by 8.18% year-on-year to USD 1,094.8 million in October 2022, caused mainly due to the decrease in export earnings from apparel & textiles, tea, rubber-based products, coconut-based products, spices & essential oils and fisheries sector.

Further, the impact of the global crisis also affected the deceased in export earnings of major products, the EDB said further in a press release on Sri Lanka's export performance for the month of October 2022.



Sources: Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka Customs & Sri Lanka Export Development Board

Major Exports in October 2022

Major product sectors except Gems & Jewellery and Electrical & Electronic components; export earnings from Apparel & Textiles, Tea, Rubber based Products, Coconut based Products, Spices & Concentrates, Food & Beverages and Seafood sectors recorded declines in October 2022 as shown in the table 1 below.

Exports of Apparel & Textiles decreased by 13.19 % y-o-y to US\$ 441.89 Mn in October 2022. The decrease was driven by both Apparel and Textiles.

Export earnings from Tea in October 2022 which made up 11% of merchandise exports, slightly decreased by 0.76 % y-o-y to US\$ 108.7 Mn. This was mainly due to the lower Export of bulk tea (-1.22%).

Export earnings from Rubber and Rubber Finished products have decreased by 6.1 % y-o-y to US\$ 86.3 million in October 2022, with poor performance in exports of Pneumatic & Retreated Rubber Tyres & Tubes (-6.86%) and export of Industrial & surgical gloves (-8.74%).

Export earnings from the Electrical & Electronics Components increased by 20.53 % y-o-y to US\$ 46.26 Mn in October 2022 with strong performance in exports of Insulated Wires & Cables (12.76%) and Other Electrical & Electronic Products (17.2%).

In addition, export earnings from Spices and Essential Oils decreased by 18.95 % to US\$ 36.39 Mn in the month of October 2022 compared to month of October 2021 due to the poor performance in export of Cinnamon (-19.44 %) and Pepper (-32.7 %).

On monthly analysis, except kernel products export earnings of fiber products and shell products categorized under the Coconut based products increased by 19.67 % and 19 % respectively in October 2022 compared to October 2021.

Export earnings from Seafood decreased by 20% to US\$ 19.56 Mn in October 2022 compared to October 2021. Except Crabs, export earnings from Frozen fish, Fresh fish, Shrimps and Other edible fish decreased by 14.62 %, 21.44 %, 52.16 % and 31.46% respectively in October 2022.

However, export earnings from Ornamental fish increased by 8.98 % to US\$ 1.82 Mn in October 2022 compared to October 2021.

Major Exports during the period of January - October 2022

For the period of January - October 2022, merchandise exports increased by 9.33 % to US\$ 11,076 Million compared to the corresponding period of 2021. Major product sectors except Tea, Rubber-based products and Spices & Concentrates; earnings from export of Apparel & Textiles, Coconut based products, Electronics & Electronic Components, Gems & Jewellery and Food & Beverages sectors recorded increases as shown in the table 1 below.

Apparel & Textile exports increased by 14.04 % to US\$ 5,004.58 Mn during the period of January to October 2022 compared to the same period of 2021. Except Made-up Clothing Accessories (-1.21%), Yarn (-11.17%), Made-up Textile Articles (-7.36%) and Textile Floor Coverings (Carpets, Mats, Floor Coverings etc)(-18.53%); exports of other sub categories of Apparel & Textiles sector increased.

For the period of January to October 2022, export earnings from Coconut & Coconut based products expanded by 3.53 % to US\$ 710.97 Mn. Earnings from all the major categories of Coconut based products increased during the period of January – October 2022 compared with the corresponding period of 2021 due to the improved performance in export of Cocopeat, Brooms & Brushes and Activated Carbon.

Meanwhile earnings from export of Electrical and Electronic Components (EEC) increased by 15.04 % to US\$ 400.32 Mn in the period of January to October 2022 compared to the corresponding period of 2021. Export of Insulated wires increased by 17.97 % in during the first ten months of 2022 to US\$ 68.79 Mn compared with the corresponding period of 2021. In addition, export of Printed Circuits, Switches/ Boards & Panels, Electrical Transformers and Other Electrical & Electronic Products increased by 53.87 %, 12.31 %, 9.85 % and 15.39 % respectively during the period of January to October 2022 compared with the corresponding period of previous year.

Export earnings from Seafood increased by 5.83 % to US\$ 224.88 Mn in the period of January to October 2022 compared to year 2021 due to the better performance in all the sub categories except Lobsters; Frozen Fish (2.31 %), Fresh Fish (17.25 %) and Shrimps (8.59 %).

In addition, earnings from export of ornamental fish increased by 11.92 % to US\$ 17.37 Mn during the period of January to October 2022 compared to the corresponding period of the year 2021.

However, export earnings from Rubber & Rubber finished products decreased by 2.53 % to US\$ 874.18 Mn in January – October 2022 compared with the same period of 2021 attributed to lower exports of Industrial & surgical Gloves (-16.48 %). Despite the decrease recorded in Rubber exports, earnings from exports of Pneumatic & Retreated Rubber Tyres & Tubes increased by 6.21 % during the period of January to October 2022 compared with the same period of 2021.

In addition, export earnings from Tea decreased by 4.59 % to US\$ 1,045.84 Mn during the period of January to October 2022 compared with the corresponding period of 2021. Exports of all the sub categories of tea sector except Tea Bags; Tea packets (-4.99 %), Bulk Tea (-4.53 %,), Instant Tea (-12.34 %) and Green Tea (-31.63 %) decreased during the period of January to October 2022 compared with the same period of 2021.

Export earnings from Spices and Essential Oils decreased by 14.79 % to US\$ 311.63 Mn in the period of January to October 2022 compared to year 2021 due to the poor performance in all the sub categories; Cinnamon (-4.07 %), pepper (-8.71 %), cloves (-58.1 %), nutmeg & mace (-2.06 %), cardamom (-62.07 %) and essential oils (-27.28%).

Table 1: Merchandise Export Performance

Values in US\$ Mns

Exports of Goods	Jan-Oct 2020	Jan-Oct 2021	Jan-Oct 2022	% Growth	Oct 2021	Oct 2022	% Growth
Apparel & Textiles	3,630.44	4,388.48	5,004.58	14.04	509.02	441.89	-13.19
Tea	1,031.78	1,096.11	1,045.84	-4.59	109.53	108.70	-0.76
Rubber-based	667.13	896.89	874.18	-2.53	91.91	86.30	-6.10
Coconut-based	552.74	686.74	710.97	3.53	77.96	72.41	-7.12
Diamond, Gems & Jewelry	126.94	212.44	337.97	59.09	25.40	44.28	74.33
Electronics & Electronic Components	266.71	347.99	400.32	15.04	38.38	46.26	20.53
Spices and Essential Oils	268.33	365.71	311.63	-14.79	44.90	36.39	-18.95
Food & Beverages	300.55	339.83	349.71	2.91	63.02	30.52	-51.57
Seafood	164.96	212.49	224.88	5.83	24.45	19.56	-20.00
Ornamental Fish	11.26	15.52	17.37	11.92	1.67	1.82	8.98
Vegetables	21.82	21.35	22.91	7.31	2.68	2.36	-11.94
Fruits & Nuts	30.55	31.79	30.92	-2.74	3.23	3.76	16.41
Other Export Crops	63.77	55.75	82.84	48.59	7.37	8.46	14.79
Flowers & Foliage	11.07	13.08	12.59	-3.75	1.81	1.18	-34.81
Boat Building	2.03	36.62	16.60	-54.67	33.69	9.99	-70.35
Petroleum Products	267.24	180.56	220.25	21.98	16.72	79.30	374.28
Others	881.88	1,229.48	1,412.44	14.88	140.56	101.62	-27.70
Total Merchandize Exports	8,299.20	10,130.83	11,076.00	9.33	1,192.3	1,094.8	-8.18

Sri Lanka's Export Performance in Major Markets

Strong Export Growth recorded for top 15 export markets in the period of January to October 2022. The single largest export destination of United States of America recorded US\$ 2,822.89 Mn worth of exports in the period of January to October 2022 – a significant year on year increase of 14.44 % in comparison to US\$ 2,455.74 Mn recorded in 2021.

Exports to United Kingdom as the second largest trading partner recorded an increase of 7.96 % to US\$ 829.15 Mn during the period of January to October 2022 compared with the corresponding period of previous year.

Table 2: Top 15 Export Destinations

Values in US\$ Mn

	Country	Jan-Oct 2020	Jan-Oct 2021	Jan-Oct 2022	% Growth	Oct 2021	Oct 2022	% Growth
1	United States	2,089.20	2,466.74	2,822.89	14.44	291.28	239.98	-17.61
2	United Kingdom	766.72	768.04	829.15	7.96	88.49	70.22	-20.65
3	India	498.79	644.57	725.85	12.61	77.63	83.82	7.97
4	Germany	478.96	609.69	633.81	3.96	64.76	65.88	1.73
5	Italy	371.58	480.58	535.84	11.50	61.89	58.59	-5.33
6	Netherlands	232.42	346.28	353.26	2.02	40.27	48.32	19.99
7	Canada	172.58	255.30	305.41	19.63	26.50	24.39	-7.96
8	Belgium	237.72	272.70	266.44	-2.30	29.59	26.22	-11.39
9	United Arab Emirates	160.51	229.19	274.00	19.55	28.20	43.31	53.58
10	France	152.53	198.25	223.48	12.73	24.29	23.60	-2.84
11	Australia	137.20	205.67	215.13	4.60	21.54	21.91	1.72
12	China	178.00	228.04	205.54	-9.87	20.33	20.05	-1.38
13	Japan	156.77	175.74	185.56	5.59	18.42	16.82	-8.69
14	Bangladesh	131.98	179.77	180.87	0.61	18.12	19.51	7.67
15	Mexico	107.76	166.89	160.61	-3.76	22.06	16.66	-24.48
	Other Markets	2,426.48	2,903.38	3,158.16	8.78	358.93	315.51	-12.10
	Total	8,299.20	10,130.83	11,076.00	9.33	1,192.3	1,094.8	-8.18

Exports to FTA Partners

In October 2022, exports to Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners which represented 8.4 % of Sri Lanka's total merchandise exports grew by 8.36 % y-o-y to US\$ 91.63 Million. Increases in exports were recorded to India, (↑7.9% to US\$ 83.82 Million) and Pakistan (↑12.7% to US\$ 7.81 Million) due to growing exports of Petroleum oils.

During the period of January to October 2022, exports to Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partners accounted for 7 % of total merchandise exports with an increase of 10.02 % and amounting to US\$ 792.16 Mn.

Although Exports to India has increased by 12.61 % y-o-y to US\$ 725.85 Mn, exports to Pakistan has decreased by 12.08 % to US\$ 66.31 Mn during the period compared to the corresponding period of 2021.

Growth in Exports to India was mainly supported by increased exports of Animal Feed (11.4 %), Arecanuts (61.66%), Woven fabrics (67.3%) and Wood pulp (29.77%) from January - October 2022.

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Sri Lanka's Export Performance in Regions

Following table indicates the comparison of region wise exports during the period of January to October 2021 & 2022. The USA and EU accounted for 48 % of total Sri Lanka's merchandise exports.

On a region wise comparison exports to all regions except African and CIS countries increased during the period of January to October 2022 compared with the corresponding period of 2021.

Table 3: Export Regions

Values in US\$ Mn

	Country	Jan-Oct 2020	Jan-Oct 2021	Jan-Oct 2022	% Growth	Oct 2021	Oct 2022	% Growth
1	United States	2,089.20	2,466.74	2,822.89	14.44	291.28	239.98	-17.61
2	United Kingdom	766.72	768.04	829.15	7.96	88.49	70.22	-20.65
3	India	498.79	644.57	725.85	12.61	77.63	83.82	7.97
4	Germany	478.96	609.69	633.81	3.96	64.76	65.88	1.73
5	Italy	371.58	480.58	535.84	11.50	61.89	58.59	-5.33
6	Netherlands	232.42	346.28	353.26	2.02	40.27	48.32	19.99
7	Canada	172.58	255.30	305.41	19.63	26.50	24.39	-7.96
8	Belgium	237.72	272.70	266.44	-2.30	29.59	26.22	-11.39
9	United Arab Emirates	160.51	229.19	274.00	19.55	28.20	43.31	53.58
10	France	152.53	198.25	223.48	12.73	24.29	23.60	-2.84
11	Australia	137.20	205.67	215.13	4.60	21.54	21.91	1.72
12	China	178.00	228.04	205.54	-9.87	20.33	20.05	-1.38
13	Japan	156.77	175.74	185.56	5.59	18.42	16.82	-8.69
14	Bangladesh	131.98	179.77	180.87	0.61	18.12	19.51	7.67
15	Mexico	107.76	166.89	160.61	-3.76	22.06	16.66	-24.48
	Other Markets	2,426.48	2,903.38	3,158.16	8.78	358.93	315.51	-12.10
	Total	8,299.20	10,130.83	11,076.00	9.33	1,192.3	1,094.8	-8.18

During the period of January to October 2022, breakdown of exports to the top five EU markets which accounted for 78 % of Sri Lanka's total exports to the EU were; Germany US\$ 633.81 Mn (increased by 3.96 %), Italy US\$ 535.84 Mn (increased by 11.5 %), Netherlands US\$ 353.26 Mn (increased by 2.02 %), Belgium US\$ 266.84 Mn (decreased by 2.3 %) and France US\$ 223.48 Mn. (increased by 12.73 %).

Export of Services

The estimated value of services exports for the period of January - October 2022 was 1,619.66 Million dollars, increasing 2.64 % over the corresponding period of 2021. The services exports estimated by EDB consists of ICT/BPM, Construction, Financial services and Transport & Logistics.



WEBINAR ON EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES IN APPAREL SECTOR

Sri Lanka's apparel manufacturing industry is the most significant and dynamic contributor to Sri Lanka's economy. Sri Lanka has become a world class apparel manufacturer supplying to global super brands for over four decades. Apparel export categories span sportswear, lingerie, Casualwear, bridal wear, work wear, swimwear and children's wear. The industry upholds high ethical and sustainable practices, in the global fashion and apparel sourcing business.

This webinar is intended to share insights on the current status & the opportunities available in the international market for Sri Lankan apparel sector for the new & existing entrepreneurs who wish to enter & invest in the sector.

Areas Covered:

- Global Apparel Market & Trends
- · World export statistics on the sector
- Current export landscape
- Export Potential
- Competitive markets
- Regulatory & Market entry requirements

Target Group

- New & existing entrepreneurs
- Local investors

RESOURCE PERSON



MS S.A.G. SAMANTHI
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS DIVISION
SRI LANKA EXPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MODERATOR



MS. SEPALIKA JAYAWARDHANA
DIRECTOR
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
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08
DECEMBER
2022

9.30 AM-11.30 AM

MEDIUM: SINHALA

REGISTRATION FEE: RS 2.000.00 PER PERSON

REGISTRATION LINK: www.edb.gov.lk/event/exportmarkets

CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION - 06TH DECEMBER 2022

For more information contact - Ms Nipuni Munasinghe, Export Promotion Officer Email: nipuni@edb.gov.lk; Tele: 0112300716

PEOPLE'S BANK TEAMS UP WITH EDB TO PROMOTE EXPORTS



People's Bank Chairman Sujeewa Rajapakse, CEO/ GM Ranjith Kodituwakku, Export Development Board of Sri Lanka (EDB) Chairman and Chief Executive Suresh D de Mel and DGM (Enterprise Banking) Krishani Narangoda at the launch of the program

People's Bank teamed up with the Export Development Board of Sri Lanka (EDB) recently to help prospective entrepreneurs enter the international export market.

The launch ceremony was held at the Staff Training College. The program aims to exploit new opportunities and assist existing and emerging exporters to start up a new export business or to expand their existing export business. The pilot project will kick off in six months with a progressive plan for future projects under which existing and emerging, direct and indirect exporters will be provided guidance and assistance, with the overall objective of encouraging local entrepreneurs to enter the global market.

It will also contribute to increase foreign outflow, supporting the economy with dollar inflows, and integrating the local supply chain to the global value chain.

Through this partnership, People's Bank will specifically select financially capable entrepreneurs for the program, while conducting training programs in collaboration with the EDB officials on a regional level. The Bank will also initiate the initial coordination between local exporters and identified global buyers, while providing export advisory services (EAS), financial assistance in pre-shipment, post-shipment and project loan areas, and will also frequently review the program's progress with the EDB.

The EDB will provide advisory services by assisting entrepreneurs in selecting appropriate export businesses by understanding the global demand and making use of locally sourced resources. EDB will also conduct training programs and seminars to provide the required knowledge on the export market for entrepreneurs and investors.

The EDB will also assist to pave the path to integrating local exporters and global buyers, through coordination with embassies when seeking buyers, and will also facilitate the local participation in global trade shows and exhibitions.

Entrepreneurs Dr. Lasantha Malavige, Anuruddha Wijerathna and Dilantha Malagamuwa made presentations sharing their success stories with the participants.

People's Bank Corporate Banking Department and Colombo Outer Region organised this program. DGM, Personal Banking, Renuka Jayasinghe, DGM, Channel Management, Mahinda Premanath, DGM, Enterprise Banking, Krishani Narangoda, DGM, Corporate Banking, K.N. Senarathne, the executive management, Colombo Outer Regional Manager Buddika Ranathungage, EDB officers and entrepreneurs were also present.

ELEVEN GOVT INSTITUTIONS COLLABORATE TO SHOWCASE SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL PACKAGING PAVILION



The National Packaging Pavilion at the Profood, Propack and Ag-biz 2022 Fair held at the BMICH from November 18-20, 2022 attracted many visitors and showcased the collaboration of the Ministry of Industries and the Ministry of Investment Promotion, together with eleven Government Institutions and the services available to the packaging industry through the National Packaging Center.

The Palmyra Development Board, National Design Centre, National Crafts Council, Sri Lanka Standards Institute, Industrial Technology Institute, Industrial Development Board, National Engineering Research and Development Centre, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology, Sri Lanka Institute of Postharvest Technology and the Sri Lanka Export Development Board collaborated at the pavilion and conducted a series of seminars as well to provide SME's the tools and know-how on value added packaging services.

The Government under its Interim budget 2022 has identified Packaging for value addition and for minimizing postharvest losses as a priority and wanted the EDB to reactivate the National Packaging Centre to address the need for promoting the packaging Industry, especially the local packaging products of the SME sector in the country. The way forward was discussed at a meeting chaired by the Senior Additional Secretary to the President (Economic Affairs), held on 28th September 2022 at the Presidential Secretariat, to implement proposal Number 32 of the interim budget 2022 on promotion of local packaging products.





EDB HOLDS B2B MEETINGS FOR THE VISITING DELEGATION OF CANADA SRI LANKA BUSINESS CONVENTION



Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) in collaboration with the Canada Sri Lanka Business Convention and Ceylon Chamber of Commerce organized a business-to-business (B2B) meeting programme recently at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo 2.

A Canadian delegation of 14 high-profile businessmen were present for the B2B meeting programme while more than 60 Sri Lankan companies met them for one on one meetings.

This important occasion was graced by the EDB Chairman and CE, Mr. Suresh D de Mel, and officials of the Canada Sri Lanka Business convention and EDB.

Mr. de Mel, welcoming the visiting delegation from Canada Sri Lanka Business Convention to this occasion has commented that there is great enthusiasm among the Sri Lankan business community to meet the delegates from Canada to introduce products and services to the Canadian market.

Mr. de Mel emphasized the importance to build trade ties with Canada and also highlighted the opportunities that are available to the Canadian businessmen to develop trade with Sri Lanka.

Mr.Kula Sellathurai, the President, Canada Sri Lanka Business Convention during his speech mentioned that the delegates from Canada are ready to work with Sri Lankan counterparts and their intention is to help Sri Lanka to become a strong economy in the world.

Canada is an important trading partner for Sri Lanka as it is our 8th export destination. In 2021, Sri Lanka's Exports to Canada has recorded as USD 312 Mn with a 47 % growth compared to 2020. Sri Lanka's Key export products to Canada are Apparel, Rubber Finished Products Coconut Kernel Products, Tea, Processed Food & beverages and spices & concentrates. EDB has identified organic & herbal products, frozen products, vegan products, value added palm products, coir products and processed foods as potential products to promote in Canada

VIRTUAL SRI LANKA NATIONAL PAVILION AT THE CHINA INTERNATIONAL IMPORT EXPO (E-CIIE-2022)



The Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) in collaboration with Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, Board of Investment and Sri Lanka Tea Board has made arrangements to organize a virtual Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the 5th China International Import Expo (CIIE).

CIIE is been held annually from 5th-10th November each year and organized by the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China and Shanghai Municipal People's Government with assistance from the World Trade Organization, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, China International Import Expo Bureau and the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai) Co. Ltd.

This year's participation was organized as a hybrid event with both physical and online participation. Physical participation of Sri Lankan export companies was held at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre in Shanghai under the guidance of the Sri Lanka Embassy in China with the assistance of China – Sri Lanka Association for Trade and Economic Cooperation.

The EDB organized the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the e-CIIE-2022 hosted at the www.ciie.org platform. The virtual Sri Lanka pavilion features Sri Lanka's healthy food practices as well as investment and tourism sector opportunities.

It is expected that the virtual Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at CIIE 2022 will provide an ideal platform to promote Sri Lankan products, industries, lifestyle, culture, tourism and investment opportunities not only to the Chinese market but also to the rest of the world.

Cont. >>>







HEALTHY LIFESTYLE 瑜伽/阿育吠陀疗法







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SRI LANKAN EXPORTERS SHINE AT WORLD LARGEST FOOD INNOVATION EXHIBITION FROM 15TH TO 19TH OCTOBER, 2022 IN PARIS, FRANCE



Sri Lanka Export Development Board (SLEDB) in collaboration with the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Paris successfully organized Sri Lanka participation at the SIAL Paris – 2022 exhibition held from 15th to 19th October 2022 in Parc Des Expositions- Paris Nord Villepinte in Paris.

SIAL Paris is one of the biggest food and beverage exhibitions in the world and it is a flagship international industry event combined with special side events such as SIAL Future Lab, SIAL Start-ups, SIAL Talks, SIAL Insights and Innovations. There was a large area dedicated to national pavilions where the countries could be able to showcase the finest products of their producers in the agri-food industry. The exhibition had attracted around 300,000 trade delegates from 127 countries and 86% of the visitors were international visitors. The exhibition consisted with a dedicated pavilions for beverages, F&V, organic food, confectionary, wine & spirit, food ingredients and a country pavilion section to discover latest innovations in grocery and preserved food, wine and spirits, beverages including tea and hot beverages, bakery & sweet products, wide range of gourmet & frozen products, meat and dairy products and organic & wellness products.

Under the Sri Lanka Export Development Board, nineteen(19) companies namely Worga Naturals (Pvt) Ltd, Consolidated Business Systems Ltd, ADAMEXPO, Enrich Tea & Food Exports (Pvt) Ltd, Jaindi Export (Pvt) Ltd, Lion Brewery (Ceylon) PLC, NDC Exports (Pvt) Ltd, Waguruwela Oil Mills (Pvt) Ltd, Union Commodities (Pvt) Ltd, Kandetiya Agro Products (Pvt) Ltd, Ceylon Biscuits Limited, A.S. Agri Exports Pvt Ltd, Expo Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Maliban Biscuit Manufactories (Pvt) Ltd, Edinborough Products (Pvt) Ltd, Nestlé Lanka PLC, HJS Condiments Limited, New Lanka Cinnamon Pvt Ltd and Cargills Ceylon PLC participated at the exhibition.

Four SME companies namely; Asian Agro, Nishuda Coco, Manchee de Coco and Nexpo, participated at a guided study tour under the assistance of Import Promotion Desk, Germany and displayed at the IPD pavilion. At this event IPD promoted the Sri Lanka Pavilion and respective exhibitors among the Europe importers. This process enabled the participation to obtain a positive impact attracting more visitors to the Sri Lanka Pavilion uplifting the Sri Lanka image in the EU.

Sri Lanka Embassy in Paris extended its fullest assistance to EDB througout the organization process of the Sri Lanka participation. The Sri Lanka Country Pavilion was declared open by the H.E. Ambassador to French Republic and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Prof. Kshanika Hirimburegama with the participation of Diplomats, Sri Lanka Exhibitors, SLEDB Officers, distinguished invitees and visitors to the exhibition.

Prior to the exhibition, EDB coordinated with Sri Lanka Embassy to share the contact details of potential importers for all product sectors displayed by Sri Lankan companies, enabling them to arrange business meetings. In addition, the Embassy invited all potential importers to visit Sri Lanka Pavilion and arranged some business to business (B2B) meeting with potential importers at the pavilion.

EDB received positive feedbacks from 19companies regarding their participation materializing more than US\$ 2,109,900 worth of confirmed orders from EU and other region buyers at the end of show. Further more than 300 business meetings were conducted by the exhibiting companies at the Sri Lanka Pavilion. In addition to the above confirmed orders around US\$ 3 Mn worth of businesses are under negotiation for Spices, Coconut value added products, Jack fruits & processed F&V, confectionary products and Tea. As a result of SIAL 2022 participation one of the largest French importer has already scheduled a business visit to Sri Lanka by end of November,2022 where EDB will facilitate them by arranging business meetings and factory visits.









EDB OFFICIALS TRAINED ON NEW GERMAN SUPPLY CHAIN LAWS



Chief Delegate of AHK Sri Lanka, Ms. Marie Antonia von Schönburg, Head of Sri Lanka and Bangladesh Offices, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Wolfgang Heinze, EDB Chairman Suresh de Mel, and Director, Export Services, EDB, Mrs. Indumini Kodikara at the ceremony.

The Delegation of German Industry and Commerce (AHK) in Sri Lanka, and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) co-organised a capacity building program for officials of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) in preparation for the forthcoming "German Act on Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains" which will come into force in Germany from January 1, 2023.

The objective was to train EDB officials to function as multipliers to share the information on sustainable supply chains with Sri Lankan SMEs, aiming at exporting to the German market.

Over 25 EDB officials who successfully completed the capacity building program on the new German Act were presented certificates.

The German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations in Supply Chains is an effort on the part of the German Federal Government to protect human rights and manage material environmental risks through supply chains of companies operating in Germany. The act obliges all companies operating in Germany in 2023 with 3,000 or more employees, to implement a supplier risk management system.

In 2024, the act will apply to companies operating with 1,000 or more employees. The risk management system will help to assess, mitigate, and monitor human rights and environmental risks in the company's supply chain.

The due diligence obligations will be applicable for Sri Lankan exporters from January 1, 2023 and exporters from Sri Lanka to Germany will need to comply with the requirements requested by the importers in Germany by way of sustainability-related certifications and standards to assure supply chain due diligence, through traceability, site level audits and company reporting mechanisms. Chief Delegate of AHK Sri Lanka, Ms. Marie Antonia von Schönburg said, "The implications of the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act is to ensure Free and Fair Trade. This includes transparent value chains, sensible trade agreements that enable lasting good economic relations, the observance of fundamental human rights and international conventions in commerce, and the guarantee of economic standards across value chains when doing business with Germany."

The European Union (EU) has a similar legislation that may come to fruition, that goes even further than the German Act. Considering that the EU is Sri Lanka's second-largest export region and Germany is the fourth largest export destination for Sri Lankan exports, it is critical for Sri Lankan companies to be prepared to adhere with the conditions imposed by the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act from January 1, 2023.

Head of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, Wolfgang Heinze said, "The Supply Chain Due Diligence Act is an excellent opportunity for the export sector to strengthen and showcase their high standards. In the context of worldwide diversifications of supply chains, the current effort by Sri Lankan exporters would strengthen the national economy through higher exports to Germany, Europe and beyond."

Chairman and Chief Executive of EDB Suresh de Mel said the EDB would create awareness on this law and provide necessary guidance for the exporters on compliance requirements with the new Act on Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains in Germany. This is now required by consumers in the EU and other high value markets around the world.

EDB AND MORATUWA UNIVERSITY CONDUCT OPTOMECHANICS WORKSHOP



The Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) in collaboration with the University of Moratuwa, the National Centre for Non-Destructive Testing (NCNDT) - Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board, and Foundry Development and Services Institute (FDSI) conducted a workshop on Opto-mechanics and Introduction to Non-destructive Testing Methods at the NCNDT premises in Kelaniya recently.

Over 50 technical personnel from some of the leading manufacturing and exporting companies in Sri Lanka were present.

The objective of this workshop was to enhance the technical knowledge of opto-mechanics and introduce nondestructive testing methods to make local products more competitive in foreign markets in order to target new opportunities in the export market.

Senior Lecturer of the Department of Material Science and Engineering, the University of Moratuwa, Dr. S. Amarasinghe said a high-tech industry such as optomechanics technology can be introduced to countries such as Sri Lanka successfully.

"We are trying to enter an optomechanics industry that is developing towards protonic. Protonic means next generation electronics," Dr. Amarasinghe said.

The main reason for being unable to enter the export market from this sector was the lack of awareness about market opportunities for this industry in the global marketplace, he said.

The EDB in collaboration with NCNDT and the University of Moratuwa are keen to expand this workshop into a multiphased program in the future. Dr. D. Attygalle, Senior Lecturer, Department of Material Science and Engineering, Moratuwa University and Mechanical Design Engineer Oscar Weerasekara and Dr. S. Amarasinghe conducted presentations during the workshop.

When it comes to the field of advanced optics, the global market demand is estimated at around US\$ 250 billion and it is projected that it will rise to nearly US\$ 500 billion by 2028.

The NCNDT of the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board (SLAEB) is the pioneer NDT Service provider in Sri Lanka. It provides NDT training and inspection services to Government and private sector industries, and welder qualifications and certification services.

SRI LANKA AND MALDIVES CONTINUE COLLABORATIONS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES SECTOR



Sri Lanka and Maldives are set to establish links in construction services sector exploring possibilities, procedures and regulations applicable to foreign investments, including joint ventures in civil construction, "mechanical, electrical and plumbing.(MEP) and Engineering services.

The Sri Lanka High Commission in Maldives and the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) jointly organized a virtual meeting for Sri Lankan Construction Services Companies to interact with the SME & Entrepreneur Federation of Maldives (SEFM), Maldives Contractors' Association to initiate action in this regard.

Mr. Abdul Latheef, President SME & Entrepreneur Federation of Maldives (SEFM) provided a comprehensive overview of the procedures in place, as well as the investment and sub contract prospects in civil construction industry in Maldives.

He highlighted that there are infrastructure projects which are underway under the Exim bank financing initiatives and activities provided by other countries (India/China) and sub contract opportunities that have been created which could be availed by Sri Lankan companies.

He underlined the criteria and experience that is required while providing a general outline of prospects in other areas such as MEP, architectural and engineering design, consultancy and building construction.

Mr. Abdul Latheef, further elaborated the criteria and opportunities available in physical infrastructure development and tourism industry in Maldives and highlighted the guidelines associated with doing business in Maldives with the current trade policy.

He emphasized the importance of having reciprocal benefit arrangements for the businesses to be healthier. The participants are looking forward for an opportunity to physically visit and meet face to face for better relationships.

Engineer Mr. Ranjith Gunatillake, Managing Director of Sanken Overseas said that Maldives is a reliable country for Sri Lankans to invest and get reciprocal benefits. However, Sri Lankan companies are facing difficulties in investing in Maldives due to the restrictions imposed by Sri Lankan government.

Maldivian Authorities have opened their hands for Sri Lankan companies to do business with them and Eng. Gunathillake paid his gratitude for the Maldivian Statutory Authorities for their extended assistance. He further suggested the Sri Lankan statutory authorities to consider taxes and royalties to be reciprocal within SAARC countries for Sri Lankan companies to be benefited. Further, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to encourage Sri Lankan companies to invest in Maldives and other key countries by removing restrictions imposed in terms of Bank Guarantees and performance Guarantees.

Mr. Priyantha Perera, Group CEO of Sierra Constructions stated that during the recent past large number of Sri Lankan contractors were involved in projects in Maldives i.e water supply, sewerage, communication and road development.

EMBASSY IN JAKARTA WOOS LANKAN COMPANIES TO ENTER INDONESIAN MARKET



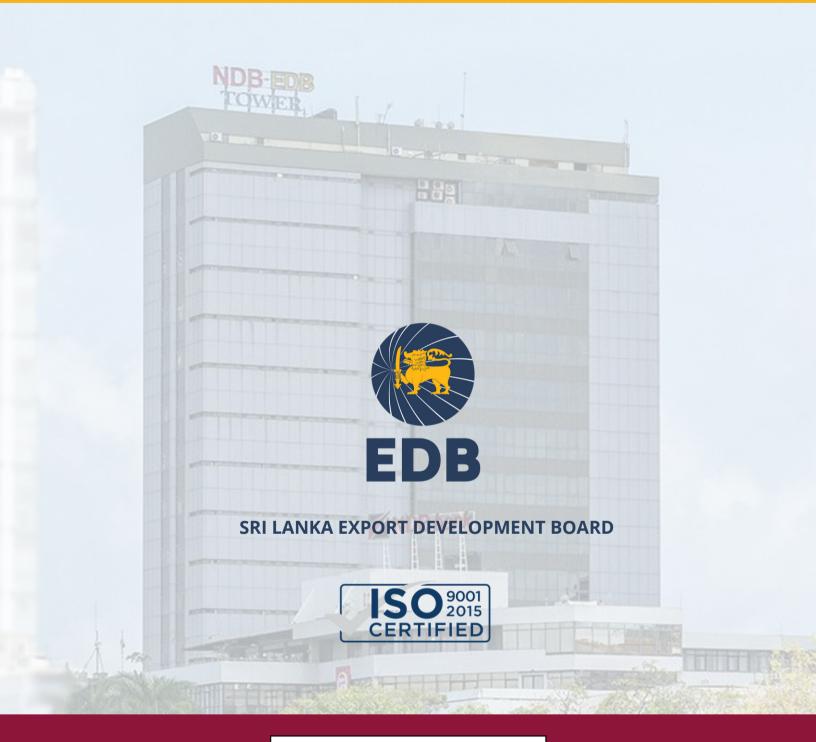
Shopee is a Singapore based multinational tech company that specialises in e-commerce, and is considered the largest e-commerce platform in South East Asia with 343 million monthly visitors.

It serves consumers and sellers across countries in East Asia, Latin America and Europe. On 11 November 2022, the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Jakarta organised a meeting with the participation of Export Development Board (EDB) Chairman/Chief Executive Suresh De Mel, EDB Market Developments Division Director Anoma Premathilaka and Shopee Senior representatives to discuss modalities for Sri Lankan companies to enter the Indonesian market through Shopee. Indonesia, with a \$ 1 trillion GDP, is the world's fourth-most populous countries with more than 270 million people and a middle class of 180 million and growing. According to recent articles Indonesia will rank among the top 10 economies in the world in near future.

With over 171 million internet users, Indonesia is one of the biggest online markets worldwide. The number of online shoppers in Indonesia were forecasted to increase from 20 million in 2017 to 65 million by 2022.

SRI LANKA CUSTOMS - RATES OF EXCHANGE EFFECTIVE FROM 28.11.2022 TO 04.12.2022

Country	Country Code	Currency	Currency Code	Rate of Exchange (Rs.)
1 Australia	AU	Dollar	AUD	251.1796
2 Bahrain	ВН	Dinar	BHD	984.7965
3 Bangladesh	BD	Taka	BDT	3.6455
4 Brazil	BR	Brazil Real	BRL	69.7748
5 Brunei	BN	Brunei Dollar	BND	270.4541
6 Canada	CA	Canadian Dollar	CAD	278.3722
7 China	CN	Renminbi	CNY	51.8471
8 China	CN	Offshore	CNH	51.8254
9 Czechoslovakia	CZ	Koruna	CZK	15.8449
10 Denmark	DK	Kroner	DKK	51.985
11 Egypt	EG	Pound	EGP	15.108
12 Euro Zone		Euro	EUR	386.553
13 Ghana	GH	Cedi	GHS	25.606
14 Hongkong	HK	Dollar	HKD	47.528
15 Hungary	HU	Forint	HUF	0.933
16 India	IN	Rupee	INR	4.546
17 Indonesia	ID	Rupiah	IDR	0.023
18 Iran	IR	Riyal	IRR	0.008
19 Japan	JP	Yen	JPY	2.677
20 Jordan	30	Dinar	JOD	523.685
21 Korea	KR	Won	KRW	0.279
22 Kuwait	KW	Dinar	KWD	
23 Macau	_			1,207.810
24 Malaysia	MO	Pataca	MOP	46.123
25 Maldives	MY	Ringgit	MYR	83.249
26 Mauritius	MV	Rufiya	MVR	24.016
27 Myanmar	MU	Rupee	MUR	8.506
28 Nepal	NP	Kyat	MMK	0.176
29 New Zealand		Rupee	NPR	2.842
	NZ	Dollar	NZD	232.392
30 Nigeria	NG	Naira	NGN	0.837
31 Norway	NO	Kroner	NOK	37.508
32 Oman	ОМ	Riyal	OMR	964.347
33 Pakistan	PK	Rupee	PKR	1.654
34 Papua New Guinea	PG	Kina	PGK	105.447
35 Philippines	PH	Peso	PHP	6.536
36 Poland	PL	Zloty	PLN	82.263
37 Qatar	QA	Riyal	QAR	101.224
38 Russia	RU	Rouble	RUB	6.150
39 Saudi Arabia	SA	Riyal	SAR	98.805
40 Seychelles	SC	Rupee	SCR	28.132
41 Singapore	SG	Dollar	SGD	270.454
42 South Africa	ZA	Rand	ZAR	21.802
43 Sweden	SE	Krona	SEK	35.70
44 Switzerland	СН	Francs	CHF	393.52
45 Taiwan	TW	Dollar	TWD	12.01
46 Thailand	TH	Baht	THB	10.41
47 U.A.E.	AE	Dirham	AED	101.08
48 United Kingdom	GB	Sterling Pound	GBP	449.41
49 United States of America	US	Dollar	USD	371.29
50 Zambia (Old)	ZM	Kwacha	ZMK	0.07
51 Zambia (New)	ZM	Kwacha	ZMW	21.84
52 Zimbabwe	ZW	Dollar	ZWD	0.97





EXPO NEWS

MONTHLY INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR SRI LANKAN EXPORTERS

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