



The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries - CNCI



CNCI ACHIEVER AWARDS 2019
FOR INDUSTRIAL EXCELLENCE

2019




Internal Judging Panel Chairman explains about CNCI Achiever Awards

Page 01



Time to depoliticise politics! We are very much equal

Page 02

SEMINAR ON
CUSTOMS PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTATION

25th June 2019 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
Registration starts at 8.30 am

Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo 03

Seminar on Customs procedures & Documentation

Page 07



Sri Lanka's top exporters and investors discuss current status of the country

Page 04



DFCC BANK committed to make "Dream Home" a reality

Page 05



Exchange Rates & Economic Indicators as at 31st May 2019

Page 03



Awareness Programme for the CNCI Achievers Awards 2019

Page 06



Internal Judging Panel Chairman explains about CNCI Achiever Awards

"The primary objective of the "Achiever of Industrial Excellence" Award is to promote Industrial Growth in the country by recognizing those entrepreneurs who have excelled in Manufacturing or Service Industries" says Mr.Pradeep Kahawawalage, CEO- RN Group of Companies, Vice Chairman-CNCI and Chairman -Internal Judging Panel -CNCI Achiever Awards 2019



Q: What is "CNCI Achiever Awards"?

A: This is the Annual Awarding Ceremony conducted by The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries – CNCI mainly to recognize the industries who perform well.

Q: Why does the CNCI organize this kind of Awarding Ceremony? What is the objective of organizing this kind of an event?

A: The primary objective of the "Achiever of Industrial Excellence" Award is to promote Industrial Growth in the country by recognizing those entrepreneurs who have excelled in Manufacturing or Service Industries.

The contest is held annually to identify those who have made Significant Strides in the respective fields of business whereby encouraging them to improve further and even to compete globally.

Q: Why do you call it as "Achiever"?

A: The foregoing contributory factors dedicated by any industrialist deserves that name

- *Proven excellence in creating wealth to the shareholders
- * Contributes to the National Economy by Value Addition
- * Having strategic plans for the future and invest sufficiently in Research & Development
- *Taking care of the human resources in terms of financial and non financial means
- *Fulfilling all Statutory responsibilities
- *Taking care of the environment without limiting to maintaining statutory environment compliances
- *Focusses on CSR
- *Adequate measures being taken to improve productivity, quality and good housekeeping

Q: Is there any selection criteria to determine the performance excellence of the contesting companies when you are judging the applications?

A: Yes of cause, our judging criteria are,

- *Turnover
- *Value Addition
- *Productivity
- *Employment Statistics
- *Employee Welfare
- *Statutory and other Responsibilities
- *Corporate Planning
- *Research & Development
- *Quality Assurance and Certifications
- *Environmental Responsibilities
- *Social Responsibilities
- *Industrial and Occupational Health & Safety

Q: If you can briefly explain the Judging Process

A: First we refer all the applications received to an audit Firm to verify the accuracy of the applications filled
Then we feed all the financial figures into the system for initial marking and ranking

Next we Review and Mark the applications by our Internal Judging Committee which is chaired by myself as the chairman of the Internal Judging panel

Finally, all the short-listed applications will be reviewed by the external panel of Judges chaired by Prof.Kapila Perera, Vice Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa

And also we are conducting interviews for Micro and Small categories wherever necessary, the industrial premises of the shortlisted applicants will be visited for inspection by the members of judging committee as a part of the evaluation process

Q: Whom will the External Judging panel be comprized of?

A: The external Judging committee will be chaired by Prof. Kapila Perera, (Vice Chancellor, University of Moratuwa)

Other members will represent the following organizations;

- B- Sri Lanka Standards Institute - SLSI
- C- Sri Lanka Accreditation Board - SLAB
- D- Industrial Technology Institute - ITI
- E- National Productivity Secretariat - NPS
- F- Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka - IESL
- G- Central Environmental Authority - CEA
- H- Institute Of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka
- I- B R De Silva & Co
- J- Kelani Cables PLC
- K-DFCC Bank PLC

Q: Which Companies are eligible to apply for this award?

A: Sole Proprietorships, Partnerships, Limited Liability Companies, Listed Companies engaged in manufacturing or service industries for at least three consecutive financial years (four years for large/ Extra-large companies) ended either 31st March 2018 or 31st December 2017 and companies who operate in Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Companies in SAARC countries, SAARC Country specific Companies are eligible to apply

Q: What is the base for categorizing the section and levels of Industries? Is there any outline?

A: Yes, mainly we categorize the companies into two sectors as Manufacturing and Service Sector, and we separate the sub categories as Micro, Small, Medium, Large and Extra Large based on the Capital Invested and Annual Turn over.

Q: How do you give the Awards to the winners?

A: We are giving Crystal Award, Gold Awards, Silver Awards, Bronze Awards and Merit Awards for Provincial Level as well as National Level.Any company been recognized with the Gold Award for 3 consecutive years will be the Crystal Award Winners.

We are giving Special District Awards to the companies in the North and East provinces.

We give Awards to SAARC Country winners too,

Q: Finally please advice me that from where the companies can get the applications for The CNCI Achiever Awards 2019.

A: Any one can download the applications from the CNCI website, or else by calling the Chamber through 2452181 or 2339200, or by emailing to cnci@slt.lk or po@cnci.lk

By: Madhushika Hemachandra

Time to depoliticise politics! We are very much equal

Depoliticise politics – am I saying something of an oxymoron?! Today we are a society sadly in painful transition to a new normal after 4/21. How we react or rather act in these days may define the new normal – act wisely it has the power to position us at a stronger position than ever; act in haste and if reasoning was to be through emotions then the society sinking to an abyss would be very much on the cards.

4/21 was an event that witnessed losing so many innocent lives and affecting so many in so many different ways brought in by a number of educated well-to-do terrorists – another oxymoron! The educated and well-to-do, a combination which we never associated with destructive self-consuming terrorism – so we thought till that morning and now we want to peer into a face and the way of interactions have changed.

If we have been conversant with the poor and uneducated and those with significant grudges against society as insurgents and terrorists, we were rudely awakened to a different facet of 21st century terrorism on 4/21. This appears to have shaken us in a way that surpasses much of what we experienced for three long decades.

Multiple chinks in our nation's armour

The issues that we are facing today have shown multiple chinks in our nation's armour. It is a fact that we badly let our guard down post 19 May 2009, first by ignoring the need to act to develop with a purpose – time was spent more in engaging in fun and seeking frolic and expecting tourism to take us to development perhaps supplemented by income from those who crave Ceylon Tea, and then later actually by thinking and acting in ways that had the principle of pleasing the outside as much more important.

At all times seeking power through politics was uppermost and it may be difficult to actually count the amount of seeds sown for potential bad harvests. Somewhat fortunately nature had been kind to us this year as this period for past three years, it had been nature that had a hand in spinning the economy to a low level.

Cyclone Fani keeping away from Sri Lanka with only some little damage did not compound the issues that we were facing and for the moment the coast is clear nature wise. What nature did not deliver unfortunately a few men took upon themselves.

For the media the bloodier is newswier and sadly the truth of this is just getting cemented every day. Yes you need to report events.

After indicating free Wi-Fi as a political promise even by balloons and come what may, people are not at all happy when their WhatsApp fails to connect suddenly. The imagination gets into the overdrive over trying to understand what's up! The interpretations unfortunately are always done negatively and we fail to comprehend the ill effects of such collective thinking.

A smart media

A smart media that empowers with reason and logic perhaps with a touch of refined sense of humour is more important than one thinking of screaming headlines to prop up circulation or hearing. The habit of media to truncate comments to suit their story with scant disregard for responsible journalism too should be deplored. The users of social media exemplify the dangers of sophisticated tools in wrong hands. When curfew and destruction is the net result of a single Facebook post, it is time to think on how to bring sanity back.

The world is facing multiple kinds of 'isms' and one is left to wonder why today, with all this knowledge and abilities that we have. We most certainly have left the middle ages yet some of the practices and the tribal ways of thinking that are emerging appears to be in no way different to those periods though the weapons of destruction may be quite up to date.

Why cannot we understand the great similarities that we have and build on that rather than killing each other based on artificial social constructs and scheming politics, which only have one concept on top of their minds – power?

Why do we in Sri Lanka keep hearing that my blood is this colour and that colour yet it takes only a small prick to reveal the colour that we all share? Colour of politics sadly has ruined many a mind over seven decades. It is indeed time to depoliticise the way we work and think.

Race is a social construct

Recently a communication by an 8,000-strong science group consisting of geneticists came out stating that the concept of racial purity is scientifically meaningless. This largest society of geneticists has decided to take this stand to decry the distortion of ideas by racists of different types including the ruling class.

It is indeed disturbing to see that some dividing people by their abilities to digest milk as well – the supremacists in USA. Now an ability to develop supremacists in a country has been an emerging phenomenon. However, with so much scientific advances in the world, nothing can hide the fact that racism and bigotry are present and in many an instance rearing their heads strongly in quite an uglier fashion.

To science and very well explained by genetics, race is a social construct as science does not support the concept of race. There is probably little or no harm done when the social construct is used in activities that demand diversity and definitely there is pleasure in diversity. The danger is when ideas takes root in indicating that one race is superior, political ideologies of superiority, etc.

This statement coming from the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) and they were actually articulating with this message in response to unsettling internal practices taking place right within United States. Though in principle it is targeting their own system, there is certainly value in the communication to all of us as it is one based on science.

The message of the society is that as far as the scientist is concerned, the age-old concept of race is wrong and humans cannot be split into subcategories that would be biologically different from each other. Of course the reasoning stem from genetic intermixing that had resulted from constant migration, which have taken place throughout human history. The constant movement has resulted in blurring of genetic lines.

Extending this reasoning to a small land area north, south, east and west of Sri Lanka perhaps can be identified with a simple picture of non-uniqueness and essentially of similarity. What is perhaps most important to note is the statement that there is no genetics based support for one group to be superior to another. What the education, attitude and experience impart only can be the differentiator and such differences one can even find perhaps between twins!

I am reminded of a recent statement from Dr. Ben Carson (a famous neurosurgeon) about whom I even share with my first year students – a biographic sketch of him – how his almost illiterate mother ensured that the young Ben was kept away from TV but more with books.

Now as an influential medical professional he stated, “We have been conditioned to think that only politicians can solve our problems. But at some point, maybe we will wake up and recognise that it was politicians who created our problems.” It must be indicated that Ben did run to be a presidential contender in USA but a closer engagement with the establishment must have given him this insight.

Next election more important than next generation?

If something changed in Sri Lanka post 4/21, we are witnessing a strong discontent with politicians of all colours. The establishment also has been shown with its true colours of inefficiency and even perhaps ineptness. If there was intelligent interpretation of intelligence rather than perfect filing in and writing a series of letters towards providing VIP protection instead of ensuring pre-emptive action on the information, we perhaps would not be in this situation that we are in today.

Even post event we were privy to be finger-pointing across aisles rather than a cohesive, focused approach to the newly-emerged threat. It is sad but a fact that in our context democracy has a strong fascination to votes and numbers matter over quality. While emotion rules over brain, irrational mythical power-related thinking is driving extremism. To the politician the next election appears to be sacrosanct over the next generation.

I dare say there is a need for more science at this juncture. We have shunned science for so long and politics broadly was never seriously interested in science for solutions. It has been a sad fact for 70 plus years since our independence. Across the Palk Strait we know it was different.

Jawaharlal Nehru immediately obtaining independence opted to have a Central Government portfolio for Scientific Research in independent India starting from 15 August 1947. As a politician, his embrace of science was 100%. We can only dream at this stage for such a situation.

Only perhaps a few understand the importance of science and technology at this darkest hour in our country. Heinze Pagel in ‘The Dream of Reason’ wrote that science cannot resolve moral conflicts, but it can help to more accurately frame the debates about these conflicts. Now considering and understanding social constructs we should be wiser to the underlying scientific message that we have. I have to conclude – Bring in science, keep the values, understand the oneness. We may beat what the terror dictated.



Source : Daily ft dated 16th May

Sri Lanka's top exporters and investors discuss current status of the country

As per the instructions of Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade Malik Samarawickrama, the Export Development Board organised a meeting with key exporters and investors on Friday 3 May at the 3rd Floor Auditorium to discuss the current situation of the country.

Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade Malik Samarawickrama, Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade Secretary S.T. Kodikara, Board of Investment Chairman Mangala P.B. Yapa, BOI Director General Champika Malalgoda, EDB Director General Jeevani Siriwardena, and the business community attended this occasion.

The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade welcomed and thanked the participants for participating at short notice. The Minister briefed the current situation of the country and requested the exporters and investors to express their concerns and come up with suggestions to overcome the current issues.

The Minister stated that there are financial schemes already in operation under the 'Enterprise Sri Lanka' program and 'Erambuma' scheme for start-ups. Further, he stated that urgent measures are being taken to build up buyer confidence and Investor confidence. It was discussed to immediately take measure to rebuild confidence through diplomatic missions and to provide financial assistance to be provided to mitigate losses, especially for SMEs.

It was also decided to form a committee consisting of exporters and investors, representatives of associations, chambers, etc. to follow-up on the issues. This meeting will be convened by the Secretary, Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade. This Committee will comprise of Tuli Cooray – JAAF, Anslem Perera – Tea Traders Association, Rohan Masakorala – SLAMERP/Hub Operators, Channa Weeratunga – Seafood Exporters Association, Ahasan Refai – SLGJA, Jeevan Gnanam – SLASSCOM, Nadee K. Algama – SLEMEA, Ruwan Waidyaratne – CASA, Shiham Marikkar – NCE, Sean Van Dort – Logistics, a senior officer representing the Joint Operational Command Office and relevant Government officials.



Source : Daily ft dated 10th May

Industrial production up 2.2% in 1Q

The industrial production of the manufacturing sector for the first quarter of 2019 has increased by 2.2% compared to the same quarter in 2018, the Census and Statistics Department said yesterday, releasing the latest Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

Among the manufacturing industries; volume of products of 'Manufacture of Textiles' (8.5%) has shown a remarkable increase in production during the first quarter of 2019, compared to the same period in 2018 and products of 'Other Manufacturing' (31.9%) reported a decrease during this period.

The volume of industrial production has increased by 5.7% in the month of March compared to the same month in 2018. Food production industries including beverages, tobacco products and textiles manufacture showed the highest gains from February to March, according to data released by the department.

Among the manufacturing industries; volume of products of 'Manufacture of Leather and Related Products' (18.1%), 'Manufacture of Electrical Equipment' (10.5%) and 'Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products' (8.0%) have shown remarkable increases meanwhile 'Other Manufacturing' (49.1%) (which includes manufacturing motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers, other transport equipment, jewellery) has reported decrease during this period.

The IIP is a key indicator of economic performance in most countries. Index numbers summarise past developments, facilitate forecasting of future trends and assist with evidence-based policy decisions.

In addition, index numbers facilitate International comparisons. The IIP also has an important role in the compilation of the Quarterly National Accounts. Analysis of economic changes, IIP has a crucial role because industrial production is one of the more dynamic and fluctuating element in the economy.

• Census and Statistics Department says March production up by 5.7%

Source :Daily ft dated 14th May

DFCC BANK committed to make "Dream Home" a reality

DFCC Bank, has always been very keen on Service Quality. We are known to deliver a superior quality service which has been a strength of DFCC throughout. When obtaining a Housing Loan it is utmost important that the process is hassle free.

DFCC is a fully fledged Commercial Bank offering an array of services to its valued customers, providing Financial Solutions to Individual customers, large corporates, SMES and Micro SMES.

Mrs. Gillian Edwards, Senior Vice President - Consumer Banking DFCC Bank

Today we are in discussion with Mrs. Gillian Edwards, Senior Vice President - Consumer Banking, who will be speaking about DFCC Home Loans, a key product offered by the bank.

Q : What are the benefits of applying for a housing loan at DFCC ?

Service and interest rates are major factors in the decision process. And we at DFCC are committed to deliver on both counts.

DFCC Bank, has always been very keen on Service Quality. We are known to deliver a superior quality service which has been a strength of DFCC throughout. When obtaining a Housing Loan it is utmost important that the process is hassle free. DFCC promises to make life easy to its customers by offering a stress-free and fast service.

All the necessary information the customer requires is provided during the initial discussion thus saving valuable time. The Bank's call centre is also geared to assist customers over the phone and their requests will be channelled to the relevant branch where all concerns and issues will be resolved. The process has also been made easy with minimum documentation. Our trained officials will guide the customer throughout the transaction.

Furthermore for those who are unable to visit the bank we do provide a service at ones doorstep. Our Business development Officer will visit your home or place of work and will take care of the transaction throughout, thus saving valuable time.

Another factor affecting the decision of obtaining Housing Loan is the interest rate. DFCC offers the lowest interest rate in the market, commencing from 13%. We also offer tailor made solutions to suit ones cash flows.

DFCC home loans can be obtained from any one of our 138 branches and service points throughout the island making it accessible to anyone and everyone. We also provide our services to Sri Lankans living outside the country which makes us available to a larger consumer base.

Q : What are the special features of DFCC Housing loans?

The DFCC Home Loan can be obtained to facilitate any housing requirement, including purchasing a block of land, house or condominium apartment, constructing a house and Home Renovations or Improvements.

DFCC has always pioneered in understanding the dynamic needs of its customers and hence has included Home Renovations and Improvements to the list of purposes for which housing loans can be obtained. Therefore if you are looking at fixing your pantry, decorating your dream home with lighting or tiling, Installation of Solar Panels or any other home improvements, DFCC is where you need to go to.

The latest development in the housing industry of Sri Lanka is the Condominium apartments which are sprouting all over the island, and competing with each other to provide the most exquisite living experience to its customers. DFCC has strategically tied-up with the high end Property Developers of the country to provide the required financing to its customers with minimum hassle, when purchasing their dream apartment.

As mentioned previously DFCC provides the best rates and the highest quality of service in the industry to its customers and is the onestop shop catering to all their housing needs.

VALUE ADDED SERVICES

1. The only bank that offers a personal loan coupled with an overdraft

2. A lease to purchase your dream vehicle
3. VVW
4. Credit cards

Q : Why should a customer walk into DFCC bank and apply for this loan?

Acquiring a home is one of the most important milestones in one's life and we at DFCC will be right by your side throughout the entire process and our relationship with you does not end there as we are looking forward to a long term partnership. Whilst ensuring a personalized service we also provide the best tailor-made packages to suite your individual requirements."

Currently having a network that covers fully-fledged branches extension, Offices Island wide in strategic locations providing ease of access to all customers, DFCC has future plans to expand its financial services to all Sri Lankans. We reach out to individuals who have been deprived of a formal banking channel providing them with banking services, whilst most importantly protecting them from the unauthorized financial sector.

Q : How is the demand for housing loans in the country today?

The demand for housing loans in of Sri Lanka has steadily increased over the years, with consumers having higher disposable income and there is every indication that this trend will continue. Much of the demand comes from the Middle income sector in the fast developing urban areas. We also witness strong growth from areas out of Colombo where the majority of the borrowers consist of first time home owners .

The surge in high-rise buildings in the skyline has opened up many opportunities for home loans. DFCC has entered into many tripartite agreements with a number of reputed developers.

DFCC is fully geared to meet the growing demand for home loans catering to people from all walks of life with solutions designed to address their specific requirements. Eventhough the industry is experiencing a minor drawback with the current situation of the country, we expect the position to revert to normal very soon.

Q : Any criteria to be eligible to apply for a housing loan?

DFCC caters mainly to two segments of consumers, the Fixed income earners and Self Employed aged 18 and above. Joint borrowings will also be permitted. Applicants are expected to have a The latest development in the housing industry of Sri Lanka is the Condominium apartments which are sprouting all over the island, and competing with each other to provide the most exquisite living experience to its customers. DFCC has strategically tied-up with the high end Property Developers of the country to provide the required financing to its customers with minimum hassle, when purchasing their dream apartment.

Commenting on the industry, Gillian Edwards says, "The banking industry is highly competitive and as a result profit margins from core banking are under pressure. The challenge is for banks to grow business in more far flung areas where there is untapped potential. Technology will no doubt be the driving force, as customers demand more innovation and convenience. We expect to see a lot of development in the industry with alternate channels playing a major role, with focus on customer service and product innovation to determine success. DFCC Bank has over six decades experience in forging long-lasting relationships with customers, which will hold us in good stead.



Our belief in partnering customers in times of success as well as hardships has earned us a loyal customer base. DFCC Bank is geared to offer a breadth of seamless banking solutions that give customers unmatched value and unique benefits for their every need."

Awareness Programme for the CNCI Achiever Awards 2019

We are pleased to inform you that the Ceylon National Chamber of Industries - CNCI, the pioneering Industry Chamber in the contry organized the ever popular CNCI Achiever Awards 2019 for Industrial Excecellece for the 18th consecutive year.

We organized 2 half day Awareness programmes to make the prospected applicants aware of the competition process, application procedure and the evaluation system of the CNCI Achiever awards 2019. This programme was conducted by the Chairman of Internal Judging pannel and Vice President of Chamnber of Industries -CNCI Mr.Pradeep Kahawalage.



Upcomming Seminars of CNCI



SEMINAR ON CUSTOMS PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTATION

25th June 2019 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
(Registration starts at 8.30 am)

Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo 03

CONTENTS

- * Introduction & Role of Sri Lanka Customs
- * Bond Procedure
- * TIEP Scheme
- * Entrepot Trade
- * Multi Country Consolidation
- * Imports & Exports procedure

INVESTMENT

For Members **Rs.8,500/-**
For Non Members **Rs.9,000/-**

DISCOUNT

5% for 3 to 5 Participants.
10% for 6 or more participants

RESOURCE PERSONS

Mr.C S A Chandrasekare
(Deputy Director of Customs)
Mr.T G A Arachchi
(Deputy Director of Customs)
Mr.I U S Jayarathna
(Deputy Superintendent of Customs)

FOR

Directors, Managers, Executives, Supervisors, Academics & Those interested
in Customs procedures

*Valid certificate will be awarded

FOR REGISTRATION

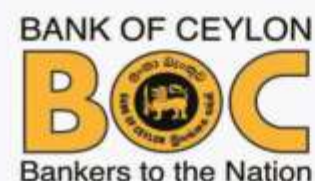
Please email your filled registration forms to:
po@cnci.lk, cnci@slt.lk, thecnci@gmail.com



Organized by
**THE CEYLON NATIONAL
CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES- CNCI**

For More Details

Contact: Madhushika/ Nilanthi
011 2339200, 2452181, 2331444 Fax: 0112331443
www.facebook.com/THECNCI



Exchange Rates as at 31st May 2019

Currency	Buy Rate (LKR)	Sell Rate (LKR)
Australian Dollar	119.2989	124.5303
Canadian Dollar	128.0136	132.8625
Swiss Franc	172.2515	178.5028
Renminbi	24.9025	26.1191
Euro	192.8184	199.8406
British Pound	218.7563	226.1071
Yen	1.5851	1.6453
Singapore Dollar	125.7373	130.1485
United States Dollar	174.3163	178.2672

Source : www.cbsl.gov.lk/exchange-rates

Economic Indicators as at 31st May 2019

Overview	Last	Reference	Previous	Range	Frequency
GDP Annual Growth Rate (%)	1.8	18-Dec	3.5	0.5 : 16.12	Quarterly
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	18-Dec	4.1	3.7 : 16.6	Quarterly
Inflation Rate (%)	5	19-May	4.5	-0.9 : 28.3	Monthly
Interest Rate (%)	7.5	19-May	8	06:10.5	Daily
Balance of Trade (USD Million)	-592	19-Mar	-451	-1101 : -50.1	Monthly
Current Account (USD Million)	-815	18-Dec	-389	-1695 : 255	Quarterly
Current Account to GDP (%)	-3	18-Dec	-2.6	-19.3 : -0.4	Yearly
Government Debt to GDP (%)	82.9	18-Dec	76.9	16.3 : 109	Yearly
Government Budget (% of GDP)	-5.3	18-Dec	-5.5	-10.2 : -5.3	Yearly
Corporate Tax Rate (%)	28	18-Dec	28	15:42	Yearly
Personal Income Tax Rate (%)	16	18-Dec	16	15:35	Yearly

Source : www.tradingeconomics.com/sri-lanka/indicators