

# CNCI NEWS BULLETIN



## The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries

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### OFFICE BEARERS OF CNCI

Mr. Gamini Gunasekera - Chairman

Mr. Preethi Jayawardena - Immediate Past Chairman

Mr. Tissa Seneviratne - Deputy Chairman

Mr. Raja Hewabowala - Senior Vice Chairman

Mr. Ruwan Edirisinghe - Vice Chairman

Mr. Canisius Fernando - Vice Chairman

Mr. Sarath Perera - Vice Chairman

Mr.R.H. Moses - Hony. Treasurer

Mr. Abeyratne Mutugala - Secretary General

## The CNCI Achiever Awards 2014

### Golden Opportunity for Entrepreneurs to add Meaning to their Industrial and Service Excellence

The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries which serves as the foremost service facilitator to the Sri Lankan Industry and Manufacturing services sector enterprises, has been in the process of implementing its highly popular 'Achiever Awards' presentations for Industrial and Service Excellence of the Industry / manufacturing and Services sectors in this year (2014) too for the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The Chairman CNCI, Mr. Gamini Gunasekera said that the 'Achiever Awards' programme is mostly aimed at Industrial Enterprises in order to recognize the operational Excellence achieved by them.



The Achiever Award 2014 being unveiled to the Media and the public by Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen MP, Mr. Upali Ranjith, DGM (Marketing), ITN (left) and Mr. D W R Wijeweera, Chief Information Officer, Sri Lanka Telecom (right) are also in the picture.

CNCI had Official Launching and Media Briefing of 'Achiever Awards 2014' on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at Cinnamon Grand Hotel. The Deputy Chairman of the CNCI and Judging Committee Chairman Mr. Tissa Seneviratne explaining the application and selection procedure highlighted 12 points to be used as criteria for assigning marks to determine the operational excellence, which basically cover the areas of Process Efficiency, Quality Standards, Business Ethics, Labour Relations and Social Obligations.

Mr. Ravi Jayawardena, Chief Executive Officer of Sales and Marketing of Maliban Biscuits Manufactories (Pvt) Ltd - the Gold Award Winner at the last year Achiever Awards, deeply explained the importance of participating at the Achiever competition. He said that the participating companies should not necessarily aim at winning the award but what is important is to apply the expected standards of the selection criteria into their processes, which itself is a huge win.

This unique and Prestigious Awards competition is open for the Sri Lankan Enterprises operating in SAARC Countries as well as the SAARC specific industries. These popular and Highly Acclaimed ACHIEVER AWARDS have been rated as the Bench mark of Industrial excellence in Sri Lanka.

Achiever applications are Available for Extra Large / Large / Medium / Small and Micro sector Enterprises at the CNCI office at Apt. 20, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Gall Face Court 2, Colombo 3, at all Regional Chambers and also in our website ([www.cnci.biz](http://www.cnci.biz)).

## CNCI officials participated at a seminar in Beijing, China

Ceylon National Chamber of Industries (CNCI) Deputy Chairman Tissa Seneviratne, Executive Council Member Sepali Samanmali and Secretary General Abeyratne Muthugala participated in a seminar on 'Industry Associations (Chambers of Commerce) Management for Asian and European Countries' in Beijing, China recently.



The organizers and participants including AIBO Vice presidential Guo Ce, EJCCESE Vice Chairman Huang Yunshong (fifth and sixth respectively seated from right), EJCCESE co-coordinating and hosting staff (first, second, third and the last from the right of the second row), Mr. Tissa Seneviratne and Mr. Abeyratne Muthugala of CNCI (first and last respectively seated from right) and Ms. Sepali Samanmali (fifth from right in the second row) at the closing ceremony

The seminar was sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of the Peoples Republic of China, organized by the Academy for International Business Officials (AIBO), China and co-organized by the Economic Joint Committee of China Commercial Stock Enterprises (EJCCESE) from 24th April to 14th May 2014 in Beijing.

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Few events of seminar on 'Industry Associations (Chambers of Commerce) Management for Asian and European Countries' held in Beijing, China

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## CNCI Management held a Meeting with the Chairman of the Central Environmental Authority (CEA)

CNCI Chairman, Mr. Gamini Gunasekera decided to have a meeting with CEA officials as the Chamber is receiving several issues pertaining to the environmental factors from the membership. As a result, this meeting was held on 22nd April 2014 at 3.30 p.m. at CEA Office.

Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma - Director General CEA, Dr. RMSK Ratnayake - Director (Environmental Pollution Control) CEA, Mr. Gamini Gunasekera - Chairman CNCI, Mr. Sarath Perera - Vice Chairman CNCI, Mr. Canisius Fernando - Vice Chairman CNCI, Mr. Abeyratne Muthugala - Secretary General CNCI, Mr. Palith Lankeshwara - Manager Technical Services and Laboratories - DPL, Mr. Kapila Priyadarshana - General Manager - Sierra Cables PLC presented at the meeting.

Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma, Director General CEA chaired the meeting and the matters discussed are as below.

### 1. Issuing of Environmental Protection License to be valid for three Years

Earlier this license was issued for three years, but it has now been changed. As such, it has to be renewed annually.

Chairman CNCI said that the main difficulty is to undergo the lengthy



Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma, Director General CEA is chairing the meeting

administrative procedures which are time consuming. By answering him DG CEA explained that in order to minimize the problems arisen due to annual renewals, the format of the renewal form would be made very simple, not like the initial registration

DG CEA further explained that the main reason for the delay in administrative formalities was due to the manual operations. Hence, the CEA has now been making arrangements to do all these operations online. Very shortly the application for renewals, payments and issuing of licenses would be made online, thereby doing away with this problem.

### 2. Making more Visits by CEA Officers to Receive any Advice Needed for Improvements

The constant visits by CEA officers will help receiving needy and timely

instructions and they are requested to visit the industrial settings at least once in six months. CNCI management pointed out that many of the procedures in certain areas have now been politicized due to intervention of certain local politicians. DG CEA explained that whatever the claims being so created, CEA will consider only the environmental concerns and not any other.

He further mentioned that the CEA is awaiting Treasury approval for a cadre increase, which they will receive shortly. After that more visits can be made and even the CEA can make awareness programmes if any company so requests.

### 3. Delay in Issuing Environmental Protection License

Delays do occur in issuing the license after applying for re-

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## ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS - LATEST AVAILABLE

Category	January 2014 (a) US \$ Mn	January 2013 (a) US \$ Mn	Growth (%) US \$ Mn
<b>Exports</b>	898.0	728.7	23.2
<b>Industrial Products</b>	691.6	559.7	23.6
<b>Mineral Products</b>	2.1	1.0	105.7
<b>Imports</b>	1,653.9	1,532.2	7.9
<b>Deficit in Trade A/C</b>	(755.9)	(803.6)	(5.9)
<b>Workers Remittances</b>	555.5	502.2(b)	10.6
<b>Earnings from Tourism</b>	161.2	122.0(b)	32.2

## EXCHANGE RATES - 2014.05.23

Daily Exchange Rates		23.05.2014
Currency	Buying Rate (Rs.)	Selling Rate (Rs.)
Dollar (USA)	128.9000	131.7800
Pound (UK)	216.6700	222.8700
Euro (EU)	174.9300	180.6600
Franc (Switzerland)	143.0500	148.3100
Dollar (Canada)	117.6600	121.6600
Dollar (Australia)	118.1600	122.6300
Dollar (Singapore)	102.4200	105.7800
Yen (Japan)	1.2616	1.3020



## CNCI Chairman visited Jaffna Chambers

The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries – CNCI has scheduled highly popular “Achiever Awards” presentations for Industrial and Service Excellence of the Industry / manufacturing and Services sectors in this year (2014) too for the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

The Achiever Awards are designed by the CNCI to promote industrial growth in the country by recognizing those entrepreneurs especially those who have excelled in the industrial sector and to enhance the quality standards, productivity, employee benefits, labour relations, etc and to encourage these enterprises to reach further heights in their spheres of operations.

The competition is open in the Extra Large, Large, Medium, Small and Micro sector classifications in the Industry, Manufacturing and Service sectors in diversified fields. The most significant feature that can be seen among applicants this time is the interest displayed by the entrepreneurs in the North and East. CNCI has also planned an awareness campaign through some selected regional chambers covering all parts of the island, giving special emphasis to the North and East. As the initial step, Mr. Gamini Gunasekera, Chairman CNCI visited Jaffna to address the entrepreneurs through Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Yarlpanam and Jaffna Women’s Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agri Business.



Chairman CNCI is presenting a souvenir to Mr. K.Poornachandran, president, Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Yarlpanam



Chairman CNCI is presenting a souvenir to Mr.Selvarajah, Chief Executive Officer, Jaffna Women’s Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agri Business





CNCI MEMBER OF THE MONTH

**Lanka Harness Co., (Pvt) Ltd - The best manufacturer of Impact Sensors for Automobile Airbags and Seat Belts**



Lanka Harness Co., (Pvt) Ltd is A BOI approved enterprise situated Block 'B', Export Processing Zone, Biyagama, Sri Lanka.

The company was incorporated on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2002. The founder of this company is Mr. RohanPallewatta and he is presently the Executive Chairman of Lanka Harness Co; (Pvt) Ltd. Ito Spring Co., Ltd of 2-190, Hitotsuya-Cho, Ohbu-Shi, Aichi-Ken, Japan is the holding company.

The company is having over 300 trained workers and most of them are trained in Japan by the holding company and its affiliates. The core business of this company is the manufacturing of Impact Sensors for Automobile Airbags and Seat Belts.

Exporting countries include Japan, Romania, Thailand, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Poland and Germany.

Customers include Toyota, Nissan, Honda, Mitsubishi and Mazda of Japan, Ford, General Motors and Chrysler of USA and Volvo, Saab, BMB, Aston Martin, Opel and Renault of Europe.

The quality requirement of the product that the company manufacture is 1 PPM; which means only a single defect would be tolerated for a million produced.

The uniqueness of this product is that this is the first time that

Sri Lanka has entered the international market with a 1 PPM quality product.

The vision of the company is to contribute positively through attaining ultimate quality of the products to see the day that automobile accident fatalities are reduced to zero (0).

The mission is to produce the best quality products at the best competitive price to make automobile safety both reliable and affordable.

The company in 2013 won the CNCI Achiever Award for being among the Top Ten companies in Sri Lanka in the Extra Large Category

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## MEMBERS' SUCCESS STORIES

The ceremony to present 2014 National Green Awards for sectors promoting greener environment was held Monday at the BMICH in Colombo under the patronage of President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

The award is organized by the Central Environmental Authority of Sri Lanka under the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy.

The project initiated in 2011 under the theme A Friendly Environment recognizes the Sri Lanka business community who contributes towards eco- friendly industries.

Not only industries but also Services, Local Authorities, Schools and other organizations are considered in this award ceremony.

Agencies and individuals of several sectors are rewarded for their contribution to maintain cleaner and greener environment through environmental pollution control, waste and resources management, cleaner production and green productivity while ensuring the sustainable development of the country.

Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy Susil Premajayantha and Secretary to the Ministry B.M.U.D. Basnayake were also present at this ceremony.

**Union Chemicals Lanka PLC** has gained the Silver Award for their contribution offered to maintain cleaner and greener environment to ensure the sustainable development of the country.



**Mr. Gamini Gunasekera, Managing Director of Union Chemicals Lanka PLC receiving the Silver Award from Hon. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy**

Daily News

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companies are applying 3 months prior the expiry date. By responding to the questioned raised by CNCI chairman, DG CEA assured that these delays will not occur after two months when the online procedures will be in place and the cadre is increased.

#### 4. Provision of Technical Advice to Industrialists

Chairman CNCI said that the industrialists need advices to overcome the gap in the environmental management process that are identified. He referred to a paper article published in December 2013 and read out a subsequent letter sent by him being the Chairman CNCI to Mr. Wimal Rubasinghe, the then Chairman CEA, requesting the CEA assistance to industries.

DG CEA positively said that they will increase capacities to meet this requirement. They currently have only two laboratories, but from August this year, they will complete another 8 laboratories making a total of 10, covering all the nine provinces in the island. He further added that they are willing to address our members too on interested issues if they so desire.

#### 5. Incinerators at Convenient Locations and at Reasonable Costs for Industries

It was highlighted at the meeting that the industrialists do have to face several problems in the absence of incinerators at convenient locations due to transportation, dumping and time wastes. It brings about additional costs unnecessarily. As such, the CNCI team made a request from the CEA to see the possibility of erecting more incinerators at Convenient Locations and at Reasonable Costs for Industries. DG CEA mentioned that

CEA are having discussions on installing several mini incinerators in industrial areas

#### 6. Interpretation of National Environmental Act Standards for discharges and emissions

During the discussions between CNCI and CEA It was highlighted that there needs to be better clarity of how to deal with the dilution factor in relation to seasonal behavior of the flow of inland water streams since the factory outflow is always constant. Also in the event that there is no flowing stream near the factory, CEA needs to specify alternate methodology for disposal of treated effluent. Mr. Palith Lankeshwara, Manager Technical Services and Laboratories, representing the Dipped Products Limited explained that the dilution during dry seasons is a main problem for them. He also said that if there is a way for them to discharge the waste about 200 to 300 meters away to the drain, the problems can be minimized as enough water is there in that part of the drain. Giving a good hearing to their problem, the DG CEA assured that CEA will intervene into this and issue a recommendation letter to the Irrigation Department to allow the company to do a draining system through a pipe line along the drains up to the areas where water drains well.

#### 7. Recent industrial issues at Weliveriya, Thunnana and Piliyandala

The subject of recent protests by the residents in the vicinity of factories demanding the close down of them came as a timely topic under the discussion. Both Mr. Gunasekera and Mr. Canisius explained the gravity of losses to the economy of our country that brought about by neutralizing the operations of those factories. DG CEA too was in agreement to these

facts and told that this has become a social problem today. He said that at the time those factories were established, whole the villagers became dependants of it being the employees. Today many of such villages are full of next generations of them and some others who moved from remote areas. They do not perceive any meaning or value of such factories and now they want to remove the factories from their villages. The places which were considered as industrial areas earlier have now become residential areas. He further said that it is a serious problem to seek immediate solutions.

CEA is presently in the process of identifying the areas to name as 'City Industrial Areas'. In identifying such areas they do concern about the environmental factors such as forests, residential areas, archeological values, wild life etc. Once they complete all such feasibilities, they will establish few more industrial areas.

Mr. Canisius, Vice Chairman CNCI emphasized that there should be a system of issuing the factories with an 'Environmental Recommendation' before starting a company. And they cannot be closed on the way while they are in operation, which create another number of social, economic and industrial unrest.

DG CEA explained that while the CEA, being the regulation setter, has responsibilities towards the environment and the society, the companies do also have responsibilities outside their operational parameters that is the social responsibility. We all should be alive at our responsibilities. He added that the CEA has always understood the importance of the industrial sector in our country and that any of our member is free to contact the CEA at any time over any issue.



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