



CNCI NEWS BULLETIN

The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries

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Mr. Abeyratne Mutugala - Secretary General

CNCI Proudly Launched 14th Achiever Award Ceremony



The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries – CNCI scheduled its official launched and the media briefing of the “CNCI Achiever Awards 2015” for Industrial Excellence held at Longdon Room of Hotel Taj Samudra on March 19, at 5.30 PM. A unique event where the CNCI, the premier Industrial Chamber in the country recognizes the Entrepreneurs in the Industrial Sector of Sri Lanka for their achievements both in the manufacturing and service sector

The Achiever Awards have been designed by the CNCI to promote industrial growth in the country by recognizing and rewarding those industrialists who have excelled in their businesses in the areas of quality standards, productivity, employee benefits, labour relations, etc while assuring concerns over the social and environmental obligations 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. We have also planned an awareness campaign through some selected regional chambers covering all parts of the island, giving special emphasis to the North and East.

Interested parties can apply by downloading the application through our website (<http://cnci.biz/downloads.html>). Kindly note that application deadline is set for **30th June 2015**. If you have any clarification please call us by **0112452181 / 2339200**



Leadership Characteristics

How often have you heard the comment, “He or she is a born leader?” There are certain characteristics found in some people that seem to naturally put them in a position where they’re looked up to as a leader.

Whether in fact a person is born a leader or develops skills and abilities to become a leader is open for debate. There are some clear characteristics that are found in good leaders. These qualities can be developed or may be naturally part of their personality. Let us explore them further.

◆ **Proactive Vs Reactive**

The exceptional leader is always thinking three steps ahead. Working to master his/her own environment with the goal of avoiding problems before they arise.

◆ **Flexible/Adaptable**

How do you handle yourself in unexpected or uncomfortable situations? An effective leader will adapt to new surroundings and situations, doing his/her best to adjust.

◆ **A Good Communicator**

As a leader, one must listen...a lot! You must be willing to work to understand the needs and desires of others. A good leader asks many questions, considers all options, and leads in the right direction.

◆ **Quiet Confidence**

Be sure of yourself with humble intentions.

◆ **Enthusiastic**

Excitement is contagious. When a leader is motivated and excited about the cause people will be more inclined to follow.

◆ **Open-Minded**

Work to consider all options when making decisions. A strong leader will evaluate the input from all interested parties and work for the betterment of the whole.

◆ **Initiative**

A leader should work to be the motivator, an initiator. He/she must be a key element in the planning and implementing of new ideas, programs, policies, events, etc.



◆ Resourceful

Utilize the resources available to you. If you don't know the answer to something find out by asking questions. A leader must create access to information.

◆ Rewarding

An exceptional leader will recognize the efforts of others and reinforce those actions. We all enjoy being recognized for our actions!

◆ Open to Change

A leader will take into account all points of view and will be willing to change a policy, program, cultural tradition that is out-dated, or no longer beneficial to the group as a whole.

◆ Interested in Feedback

How do people feel about your leadership skill set? How can you improve? These are important questions that a leader needs to constantly ask the chapter. View feedback as a gift to improve.

◆ Evaluative

Evaluation of events and programs is essential for an organization/group to improve and progress. An exceptional leader will constantly evaluate and change programs and policies that are not working.

◆ Organized

Are you prepared for meetings, presentations, events and confident that people around you are prepared and organized as well?

◆ Consistent

Confidence and respect cannot be attained without your leadership being consistent. People must have confidence that their opinions and thoughts will be heard and taken into consideration.

◆ Delegator

An exceptional leader realizes that he/she cannot accomplish everything on his own. A leader will know the talents and interests of people around him/her, thus delegating tasks accordingly.

◆ Respectful

Treating others with respect will ultimately earn respect.

Source: <http://leadership.uoregon.edu/>

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ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - LATEST AVAILABLE

Category	January 2014 US \$ Mn	January 2015 US \$ Mn	Growth (%) US \$ Mn
Exports	909.8	903.9	0.6
Industrial Products	703.5	697.5	0.9
Imports	1,681.6	1,655.5	1.6
Deficit in Trade A/C	(-771.9)	(-751.5)	2.7
Workers' Remittances	523.5	555.5	(-5.8)
Earnings from Tourism	248.7	233.3(b)	6.6

EXCHANGE RATES - 2015.03.30

Daily Exchange Rates		
Currency	Buying Rate (Rs.)	Selling Rate (Rs.)
Dollar (USA)	131.9	134.72
Pound (UK)	195.38	200.98
Euro (EU)	142.56	147.3
Franc (Switzerland)	136.21	141
Dollar (Canada)	103.94	107.37
Dollar (Australia)	100.91	105.04
Dollar (Singapore)	95.6	98.69
Yen (Japan)	1.1007	1.1366

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 ON THE SPOT
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SRI LANKAN TOURIST ARRIVALS GROW BY 18% IN MARCH



Whilst Sri Lankan tourist arrivals have soared by 18% in the month of March to 157,051 and cumulative as at end 1st quarter to 478,838 with a growth of 13.6% these numbers are not reflective in the overall occupancy of the formal sector which is worrying given that the formal sector pays all their dues such as taxes and levies as stipulated by the government which help us do global promotions voiced Chief Guest Rohantha Athukorala the Chairman of Sri Lanka Tourism Promotions Bureau at the Ceylon Hotel School Graduates Association Launch of a Hotel show 2015 at hotel Taj Samudra.

Athukorala, analyzing the numbers commented that the Western European traveler has increased its choice by 17.7% to 169,330 visitors with UK growing by 14.8%, Germany by 17.5%, France by 12.6% as at 1st quarter 2015 whilst china is catapulting at 84.5% growth and India yet the number one market with a growth of 19.6% said Athukorala.

"May be it's time that we did done focussed promotions with the formal sector to see how we can plough back some of the money that they have contributed to the overall promotional fund" said Rohantha Athukoraka the new thinking Chairman of Sri Lanka tourism promotion bureau who has extensive public sector experience like at EDB, Tea Board, Industrial Development Board and also being a Chairman of a pivotal export institution in the past.

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MEMBER'S SUCCESS STORIES

Elephant House Cream Soda, the people's beverage of choice for nine years in a row



Achieving an unprecedented feat, Elephant House Cream Soda was recently recognized as the “**People's Beverage Brand of the Year**” at the 2015 Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) Nielsen People's Awards, for the ninth year in a row.

"We at Elephant House are truly humbled that the voice of the people continues to recognise Elephant House Cream Soda as Sri Lanka's most popular beverage brand, and

for no less than nine years in a row. Importantly, this feat also reminds us of the love and respect we continue to enjoy, going back to the beginning of the SLIM Nielsen People's Awards itself, which is why we would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to our fans for their years of commitment to us", said Ceylon Cold Stores (Elephant House) Head of Beverages, and John Keells Holdings Vice President, Daminda Gamlath.

Already widely loved as Sri Lanka's most popular soft drink, this recent award once again reaffirmed the depth of consumer love for Elephant House Cream Soda, the true people's choice in Sri Lanka, which also undoubtedly encompasses the entire Elephant House soft drinks range, comprising Necto, EGB, Orange Barley, Lemonade, Bitter Lemon, Orange Crush, Apple Soda, Soda, Tonic and KIK Cola

Marking its ninth year, the SLIM-Nielsen People's Awards programme is particularly important because it utilized island-wide opinion polling conducted in Sinhala and Tamil by internationally-renown market



The Importance of Attending Trainings, Seminars and Workshops

In this hard times, getting a promotion is like shooting for the moon. You are lucky if you are given the chance to move up the ladder but if you are one of those workers who are trying their best to be recognized and improve their rank in the corporate world but unable to move up, the closest thing that can be satisfying and gratifying is to attend company sponsored trainings, Seminars and workshops.

As learning and development is a continuous process and highly regarded by most companies. Take advantage of the opportunity presented to you if you are being nominated for a training. It really does not matter whether the training, workshop or seminar is in-house, as long as it is shouldered by the company then go for it.

Here are some valuable reasons why it is integral to your career progress to also undertake trainings and development workshop and courses:

- ◆ It is a positive item to be added in your resume. If you are planning to move up the corporate ladder and take on higher positions. Going through trainings and workshops can put you in a positive edge in the competition.
- ◆ It can enhance your skills and add more knowledge on areas where you wish to develop or brush up on information that you are not familiar with.
- ◆ It can open up possible connection and build networking. You will meet various people in the company who may already be in the higher echelon of the company. They will see you performance during the group activities and those can open up other opportunities. Not only that, you will meet people across the company who may have skills and information that you want to know of. You can ask for mentoring or shadow in their area of concern.
- ◆ It is fun. Group activities are very stimulating and you will discover many things from one's personality to mentality to approach to situations to problem solving and decision making skills. You will definitely enjoy the change of usual dealing with your colleagues.
- ◆ It builds up your social skills and confidence. I love attending trainings now. I used to be so shy whenever I attend one because I don't know the people around me. However, as I have gotten more accustomed to the environment of training, I enjoy it so much that I have trainings scheduled every other month and sometimes, twice a month. My confidence level really improved so much and all because of the exposure I had, all the presentations I had to make impromptu, the introduction, the question and answer forums. All these activities boosted my confidence that I don't feel conscious or even scared when in a training full of senior employees.

Training, seminars and workshops are all valuable tools in the corporate world. It is a good leverage to have in your career and not only that, the theories you will learn can also be applied into your personal life.

You come in empty handed but come out knowledgeable and more skilled. So, nominate yourself to trainings, seminars and workshops whether they are paid or not. If you can afford it then go for it. There is nothing to lose but more to gain.

Source: www.riablahgs.com

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EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS/SEMINARS/EXHIBITIONS

International Exhibitions

- ◆ ASF 2015 - 2015 Dongguan International Exhibition on **Electro-plating, Surface Finishing and Coatings**
- ◆ IFPE 2015 - 25th China (Guangzhou) **Int'l Food Processing, Packaging Machinery and Equipment** Exhibition
- ◆ The 9th China (Guangzhou) **International High Quality Rice and Brand Grains** Exhibition 2015
- ◆ **Ceramic s Expo** - 28th April to 30th April 2015 - Celeveland Ohio

Local Exhibitions

- ◆ **“Construct Exhibition 2015”** is being organized from 28,29,30th August 2015 at The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.
- ◆ **“Construction Expo Sri Lanka”** is being organized from 12-14th June 2015 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.
- ◆ **“INCO 2015”** is being organized from 26th to 28th June 2015 at The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.
- ◆ **“Sancharaka Udawa Exhibition”** is being organized from 24th to 26th April 2015 at The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo
- ◆ **“Consumer Fair 2015”** is being organized from 2nd to 11th April 2015 at Sri Lanka Exhibition & Convention Centre (SLECC), Colombo.



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