

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–Awareness Programme

The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries – CNCI has scheduled 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 13th consecutive year.

The Achiever Awards are designed by the CNCI to promote industrial growth in the country by recognizing the 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 application was open for the Award competition since early April. Significantly, in this year a large number of applicants have collected applications more enthusiastically for the Achiever Award competition compared to previous years



CNCI conducted some awareness programmes to educate the applicants to fill the applications at some selected regional Chambers as well as in the Chamber Secretariat in Colombo. The picture shows the interested applicants participating at such awareness sessions.

CNCI Management had a Meeting with Director General, Department of Commerce

The chairman of the Ceylon National Chamber of Industries (CNCI), Mr. Gamini Gunasekara met the Director General, Department of Commerce, Mr. R.D.S Kumararathna along with few members of CNCI. At the meeting they had a lengthy discussion on China Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement, that will bring substantial economic & trade benefits to both countries while strengthening the friendly relationship that both countries have been maintaining for centuries.



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The trade between Sri Lanka and China has increased in the recent past,. As highlighted at the meeting, the value of expected exports to China through the FTA is 641 US\$ million. China has become one of the major development partners of Sri Lanka during the past, especially in the field of infrastructure projects. The FTA will definitely increase the market access to China for Sri Lankan products such as apparel, tea, coir based products, rubber based products, gem and jewelry and light industry products etc., while there will be an increase of market access in Sri Lanka for Chinese products such as heavy machinery and equipment. This is definitely an opportunity for Chinese investors who are looking for business opportunities in these markets through their investments in Sri Lanka.

C E Y L I N G O

 O N T H E S P O T
 ලෝකෙටම එකයි!

A CNCI Team Met the Director General of Consumer Affairs Authority

A CNCI team consisting of the Chairman CNCI, Mr. Kevin Edwards from EB Creasy, Mr. R. Mosses from Central Industries, Mr. Mohideen Cader from Sinwa, Mr. Devasiri Muthugala from CIC, Mr. Daya Wahalathantri and Mr. Rohan Daluwatte from ACL Cables had a very successful meeting with Mr. Rumi Marzook, Chairman of Consumer Affairs Authority and Mrs. Chandrika Thilakarathne, Director, Consumer Affairs and Information.

Consumer Affairs Authority (CAA) is the apex government organization mandated to protect consumers' interests and ensure fair market competition in Sri Lanka. The CAA act has laid down the legal provisions empowering the CAA to take necessary actions to safeguard the interests of consumers while maintaining effective competition among suppliers of goods and services.

The Purpose of this meeting was to discuss about the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka of 24th February 2014 Direction No. 49, Direction under Section 10(1)(a) pertaining to the Consumer Affairs Authority Act No. 09 of 2003, which directs affixing of a security stamp is compulsory for certain manufactured or imported items listed therein.

Products on which security stamps must be affixed in accordance with this direction are Soft Drinks, Bottled Water/Bottled Mineral Water, Branded Edible oil, Toothpaste, All types of Soap, Shampoo, Paint, Electric Switches, Sockets, Circuit Breakers. CNCI sent a Circular among all members, to get their views, on these directions and their views so received were brought up with the Consumer Affairs Authority Officials at the meeting expected to be fixed shortly.

It was mentioned that the Authority has decided to implement a technology based consumer protection project in order to ensure consumer safety and to safeguard the authentic manufacturers from counterfeits coming to the market.

It is necessary to ensure that genuine products are being received by consumers through the marking of each locally produced or imported product. It comprises advance track and trace technology which will provide the necessary evidence for consumer action against unfair and illegal trade practices.

At this meeting it was widely discussed the purpose of the directives given in the Government Gazette Notification, the mechanism of the application involved in these directives, desired benefits for the consumer as well as manufacturers. The CNCI is still lobbying on this issue handed on the request of our members and written to giving this matter up though a joint chamber committee.

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ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - LATEST AVAILABLE

| Category | March 2014 US \$ Mn | March 2013 US \$ Mn | Growth (%) US \$ Mn |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Exports | 1069.9 | 832.0 | 28.6 |
| Industrial Products | 778.5 | 619.5 | 25.7 |
| Mineral products | 33.4 | 1.7 | 1917.9 |
| Imports | 1672.1 | 1544.8 | 8.2 |
| Deficit in Trade A/C | (602.2) | (712.8) | (15.5) |
| Workers' Remittances | 605.9 | 511.4 | 18.5 |
| Earnings from Tourism | 192.2 | 152.4 | 26.2 |

EXCHANGE RATES - 2014.07.02

| Daily Exchange Rates | | | 23.05.2014 |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Currency | Buying Rate (Rs.) | Selling Rate (Rs.) | |
| Dollar (USA) | 128.8800 | 131.7500 | |
| Pound (UK) | 220.2800 | 226.5800 | |
| Euro (EU) | 175.2600 | 181.0000 | |
| Franc (Switzerland) | 144.1700 | 149.4700 | |
| Dollar (Canada) | 120.4700 | 124.5700 | |
| Dollar (Australia) | 120.9800 | 125.5400 | |
| Dollar (Singapore) | 102.8700 | 106.2500 | |
| Yen (Japan) | 1.2632 | 1.3037 | |



Ind-Expo Certification Limited



Ind-Expo Certification Limited is a public limited liability, certification and training organization, established by the Ceylon National Chamber of Industries (CNCI) and the National Chamber of Exporters (NCE) of Sri Lanka with the assistance from United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) under Ministry of Industry & Commerce

The primary objective of the organization is to support the economic development of Sri Lanka by providing internationally accepted, credible “Management System Certifications” and by providing training in related areas that is essential to enhance knowledge in application and implementation of management system certification required by both the industrial and service sectors of the country.

Ind-Expo is accredited to award certificates for HACCP, ISO 22000 and ISO 9001 by the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB) which is affiliated to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and is therefore internationally recognized. Ind-Expo will be awarded accreditation for ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 in the near future. Ind Expo has already awarded more than 50 certifications to both public and private sector Organizations.

The “Crowns for Food Hygiene Scheme” was launched by Ind-Expo Certification Limited as the implementing agency to encourage the continuous improvement of food hygiene standards, in food handling establishments in Sri Lanka. This scheme was developed based on international best practices which are being practiced in many countries including the UK.

Under this program Ind-Expo has joined hands with the **Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA)** as well. All food handling establishments operating in the country who are licensed with the relevant licensing authority (local authorities) or Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority are eligible to apply for the scheme, provided they are licensed to operate in this sector.

Training Programmes for Industries

Ind-Expo has the capacity to deliver the training programmes on Food Safety, Environmental Management, Occupational Health & Safety, 5S and other related areas. Ind-Expo conducts two (02) types of training programmes viz. off-site training programmes and tailor made training programmes (on-site) as per the requirements of the client. Wide range of programmes will be provided to the industry through seminars, workshops, and in-house training programmes. Training prospectus is available on our web site



CROWNS FOR FOOD HYGIENE
FOOD HYGIENE RATING SYSTEM IN SRI LANKA



Chartered
Institute of
Environmental
Health
CIEH Registered Centre

Contact us for more Details :
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Sexual Harassment at workplace An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Legal Responses Available in Sri- Lanka

In Sri Lanka, only the Penal Code has an express provision to take action against sexual harassment. However, the provision is not adequate to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace. It is necessary to investigate the other responses available within the legal regime of Sri Lanka including the provisions of the Constitution and labour legislation, and delictual principles to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace, and their effectiveness, and makes recommendations for legislative intervention and judicial intervention to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace.

Sexual harassment at workplace is a violation of fundamental rights of the employees in the government sector. In Kathubdeen case, sex demanded by a superior officer from a female officer for a favorable recommendation in a government institution has been construed as a gratification for the purpose of the Bribery Act. A dispute between an employer and an employee relating to sexual harassment could be referred for settlement under the mechanisms provided in the Industrial Disputes Act. Collective agreements could include clauses to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace.

An employee who sexually harasses a co-employee could be held personally liable for his acts under an aquilian action or actio injuriarum action. If an employer fails to take reasonable protection against sexual harassment, he may have delictual liability for his inaction. In a case where an employee has been sexually harassed by a superior, the employer may be held vicariously liable for the acts of his employee. Sometimes, sexual harassment by an employer may become intolerable to an employee, and force the employee to leave the workplace. It may be construed as a constructive termination, and the employee could file an application in a labour tribunal to seek relief. Sexual harassment at workplace is a form of misconduct, and a grave or habitual sexual harassment may justify dismissal from workplace. Trade unions also can play an important role in prevention of sexual harassment at workplace. In the absence of express provisions in labour legislation or special legislation, the alternative actions discussed above become useful to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace. However, express provisions in labour legislation or a special legislation to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace would be more effective than the alternative actions. It is also suggested that until legislative interventions are made, courts especially superior courts could make guidelines to prevent and deal with sexual harassment at workplace.

**By : A.Sarveswaran,
Dept of Private and Comparative Law,
Faculty of Law,
University of Colombo.**



CNCI MEMBER OF THE MONTH

PolyPackaging Industries Private Limited

Manufactures of Printed & Laminated Flexible Packaging Material



Polypackaging Industries (Pvt) Ltd.

Manufacturers of Printed & Laminated Flexible Packaging Material

Polypackaging Industries (Pvt) Ltd commenced operations in the year 1994, as a manufacturer of flexible film.

We have, since then, expanded and ventured into flexo & gravure printing, lamination and pouch making. We are able to provide total packaging solutions to our discerning customers, starting from package designing and artwork.

Polypackaging Industries (Pvt) Ltd is one of the very few flexible packaging manufacturers in Sri Lanka with ISO 22000 and HACCP certification. We are equipped with most up to date brand new machinery, a state of the laboratory for stringent quality checks and a dedicated and a friendly staff backed with 17 years of un-interrupted and friendly service in the packaging field ready and willing to provide a service of excellence.

Polypackaging Industries (Pvt) Ltd as a socially responsible and an environment friendly organization is involved in polythene recycling and safe disposal of all waste material. We also practice rain-water harvesting for our own use.

Contact Details

197 Colombo Road, Wanduragala, Kurunagala

Contact No: 037-2224703 / 037-7391000

Fax : 037-2233626 : E-mail : info@polypackaging.lk

We have gained technological ability in the form of machinery and highly skilled human resources to supply printed & multi layered laminated flexible packaging material using Roto Gravure and Flexographic printing technologies with various types of material combinations to meet all flexible packaging requirements. The Company has expanded itself to a workforce of around 160 and the capital employed is in the region of Rs 75M. Annual turnover of the company is Rs. 300M which has shown a gradual gain over the years. As a result of our continuous efforts to enhance our standards of quality, we have achieved ISO 22000 : 2005 (Food Safety Management System with HACCP) certification. Consistency in quality and services is the core strength of the company. Our packaging can give your products a distinctive advantage in the face of competition.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Wayamba Vijayabimani Award in 2000 & 2013, from Industrial Services Bureau of the North Western Provincial Council
- Sri Lankan Entrepreneur 2002- Silver Award (Provincial) from the Federation of Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Sri Lanka
- Sri Lankan Entrepreneur 2002- Silver Award (National) from the Federation of Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Sri Lanka



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Line Up of Exhibitions (Local)

- **HOME & YOU EXBHTION** - 4th to 6th July 2014 at The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.
- **SUMMER FAIR 2014** - 16th -20th July 2014 at Sri Lanka Exhibition & Convention Centre (SLECC), Colombo.
- **LANKA PACK** - 18th - 20th July 2014 at Sirimavo Bandaranaike Memorial Exhibition Centre, BMICH, Colombo.
- **PLASTPACK SRI-LANKA** - 25th-27th July 2014 at BMICH, Colombo
- **BRIDE & GROOM EXBHTION** - 25th-27th July 2014 at The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.

Line Up of International Exhibitions

- **MTA VIETNAM 2014 (Ho Chi Minh City)** - 8th - 11th July 2014 at Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center (SECC), Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- **PRO PACK CHINA 2014** - 16th - 18th July 2014 at SNIEC, Shanghai, China.
- **PRO PACK MYANMAR 2014** - 4th - 6th September 2014 at Myanmar Convention Centre, Yangon, Myanmar (Burma).

Daily News

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