

NBEA 2009



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USAID Advisor Addresses National Chamber Members

Dr. Daniel K. Lee, Senior Private Sector Advisor to USAID in Sri Lanka was the Guest Speaker at a Seminar on **"Proposed Financial Assistance to Sri Lankan Businesses to Invest in the North & East by the USA"** held on September 03, 2009. Dr. Lee made a comprehensive presentation about the proposed financial assistance by the US Government to Sri Lankan businesses investing in employment generating projects in the North and East of the Island. Dr. Lee explained that innovative projects such as Aquaculture, Horticulture, Agriculture and Garments will be considered under this scheme.



Dr. Daniel K. Lee, Senior Private Sector Advisor, USAID addressing the Chamber members.

Chamber Holds the Third Workshop on NBEA 2009

The third workshop for applicants of the National Business Excellence Awards 2009 was conducted at the Chamber Auditorium on September 02, 2009. The purpose of the workshop was to advice and explain the guidelines in completing the application form. National Business Excellence Awards 2009 has been organised for the 6th consecutive time by the Chamber, to bench mark the best performing companies in the country. The Chamber has received 275 applications from all parts of the country for this competition. The principle sponsor for the event is Sri Lanka Telecom / Mobitel and the Print Media sponsor is the Daily News paper. Awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 26, 2009 at Colombo Hilton.

Chamber Co-operates with the Government for Re-integration of Ex- Combatants into Civilian Life

NCCSL officials participated at a meeting held at the Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights regarding the Development of a National Framework for Reintegration of Ex- Combatants into Civilian Life in Sri Lanka at the BMICH on 8th September 2009. The Chamber has already assisted many people from the North and East who were adversely affected by the war to start small businesses and the Chamber would continue to assist many others to start their own businesses in the near future.

The Chamber Made Representations to the Government on Member Issues.

Chamber made representations at the 42nd Export and Enterprise Development forum held on 11th September 2009 on refunds of long outstanding VAT, Duty Rebates, Infringement of the Lion Logo of the Sri Lankan Tea Board by some Middle Eastern Companies on their Products and very high interest rates on commercial borrowings. Mr Alwis explained to the Hon Prof. G L Peiris, Minister Export Development and International trade who Chaired the forum, the difficulties faced by the business community due to long delays in VAT refunds which blocks their working capital. He also thanked the Hon Minister for his initiation in refunding VAT claims to a some members of the Chamber on many previous occasions. He further explained that the high interest rates have adversely affected the business community resulting in their products and services becoming uncompetitive and requested the Hon. Minister to take necessary steps to reduce the interest rates

Chamber President Meets the Korean Ambassador

Mr C Lal De Alwis, President of the National Chamber and Mr. E.M. Wijetilleke, Secretary General met HE Choi Ki Chul, the Korean Ambassador at the Korean Embassy on 14th September 2009. The discussion was confined to the development of bilateral trade between the two nations. H.E Chul said that Korea could help Sri Lanka in many ways such as Power & Energy, Ship Building and advanced technology in Food Processing.

Chamber Officials Visit German Embassy

The Deputy President, Mr Asoka Hetigoda, along with the Secretary General and the Project Director of the Chamber met Ms Regina Von Ahn, the first Secretary of the German Embassy to discuss some trade and business related issues pertaining to the Chamber Members. Meeting was held at the Embassy on 23rd September 2009

Seminar on “Promoting Sustainable Consumption & Production”

The National Chamber in association with the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce held a seminar on “Promoting Sustainable Consumption & Production” for the benefit of the Small and Medium Entrepreneurs engaged in the Food and Beverage Industry. Four full day sessions were held on 3rd, 10th and 15th September 2009 at the Chamber Auditorium. Resource persons under the Switch Asia Project of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce conducted the programme, attended by around 95 entrepreneurs..

Seminar on “Vehicle Emission & New Rules for Motor Vehicles”

The Seminar organised by the National Chamber of Commerce in association with the Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Central Province was held in Kandy on 18th September 2009 with the participation of about 100 persons. Mr Anura Jayathileke, Director Ministry of Environmental & Natural Resources and Mr. A W Dissanayake, Asst Commissioner (Technical) from the Department of Motor Traffic from the Vehicle Emission Testing (VET) Programme were the Resource Persons. The seminar was sponsored by Laugfs Eco Sri Lanka (Pvt) Ltd & Cleanco Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. This was the 3rd Vehicle Emission Seminar held in the outstations by the Chamber.

Chamber Distributes Machinery to 26 SMEs

The National Chamber handed over machinery required to expand businesses to 26 Small and Medium Industries from Nuwara Eliya, Kandy, Kurunegala and Ampara districts at a simple ceremony held in the Chamber Auditorium on 23rd September 2009. The ceremony was presided over by Mr C Lal de Alwis the president

Workshop on “Industrial Hazards & Risk Assessment”

A one day workshop on “Industrial Hazards Identification & Risk Assessment” was conducted by Mr Justin Perera, Consultant Trainer/Auditor on 16th October 2009 at the Chamber Auditorium. Mr Perera has held several workshops on Safety Audits, Safe Handling of Chemicals, Agrochemicals, Manufacturing Safety Methods and Environmental Safety in Sri Lanka and Overseas. The objective of the course was to identify and understand the hazards associated with different types of organisations in order to take appropriate action to reduce the risk. Anyone handling synthetics, flammables, chemicals, machinery and equipment have to be aware of these hazards

National Chamber takes a Business Delegation to Mannar

A 13 member business delegation representing diverse industry sectors visited Mannar, one of the worst affected districts as a result of 30 years of ethnic conflict from October 08-10th. The delegates had meetings with the business community and the officials of the Government Agent’s office in Mannar. The delegation was led by Mr C Lal de Alwis, the President of the Chamber. Representatives from CAL Exports Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Eswaran Brothers Exports Ltd, Koolair Ltd, Alcobronsz Engineering, ETA Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Paramount Exporters, Colour Vision, Macksons Holdings Ltd, Laughs Holdings Ltd and Hospitality Management Consultancy Associates participated. Main areas of focus were setting up of businesses pertaining to Chemicals & Gloves, Air-conditioning & Generators, Cold Rooms, Ice Plants, Diesel Water Pumps, Solar based Water Systems, General Engineering Repair Work, Paints, Plastic furniture & Office furniture, Agricultural equipment & fertilizer, Wood Working and Metal Machinery, Building Materials, Stainless Steel, Heavy Machinery and Tourism.

Another objective was to offer market access for the products produced in Mannar and exploring the possibility of providing services such as banking and tourism. The Chamber officials also took time off to select and evaluate some deserving small & medium entrepreneurs in the district for financial assistance to purchase machinery & equipment for their business expansion. The business community in Mannar appreciated the National Chamber’s efforts in bringing a delegation with diversified interest and they expressed their sincere thanks as it was a great encouragement and hope for the youth in Mannar.



Mr. Lal de Alwis President of NCCS lighting the Oil Lamp at the Chamber of Commerce in Mannar.

Chamber Assists the Small Businesses in Jaffna

A Chamber delegation led by Mr Lal de Alwis, President along with Mr Asoka Hettigoda, Deputy President, Mr Thilak Godamanne, Hony Secretary Mr E M Wijetilleke Secretary General / CEO visited Jaffna from 22nd to 24th October 2009 to distribute machinery to 35 Small & Medium Entrepreneurs in the Jaffna district. The Machinery was distributed in the Auditorium of the Government Agent's office in Jaffna under the distinguished patronage of Hon Kumara Welgama, Minister of Industrial Development who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The other special guests were the Senior officials of Sri Lanka Army, Police, Presidents and Secretaries of the of Yalpanam Chamber of Commerce and Jaffna Chamber of Commerce and other key Government officials. Mr Lal de Alwis addressing the audience said that about four months ago when the National Chamber delegation visited Jaffna they promised the SME community there to assist them to expand their business and the promise has now been fulfilled. The Chamber spent Rs. 6.5 Million to purchase machinery for the 35 entrepreneurs and has so far assisted about 800 small and medium entrepreneurs throughout the country under the Business Promotion Fund (BPF) which was provided by the Royal Netherlands Government. The National Chamber will also make necessary arrangements to find markets for their products in Colombo among its corporate members. The Chamber also took some large scale buyers to Jaffna to enable them to identify small businesses to source raw materials, intermediate goods and indirect exportable goods.



Mr. Asoka Hettigoda Deputy President NCCSL lighting the Oil Lamp and on his right, Hon. Kumara Welgama, Minister of Industrial Development, looking on at the Chamber of Commerce Jaffna.

NCCSL Represents at Malaysian Technical Co-operation Programme

Mr E M Wijetilleke, Secretary General of the Chamber participated at an international programme on "Interfacing with the Chambers of Commerce on Global Challenges and Trade Opportunities" held from 11-16 October 2009, at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The programme was organized and sponsored by the Malaysian Technical Co-operation Programme (MTCP) of the Malaysia External Trade Development Co-operation of the Government of Malaysia. Representatives of the Chambers of Commerce in Jordan, Laos, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Tanzania, Vietnam, Zambia, India, Fiji, Cuba and Cook Island participated at the programme. The representatives had a rare opportunity to make presentations on the business environment and opportunities available in their respective countries at a forum of about 250 businessmen in Malaysia. The programme was very successful with the arrangements made by the Malaysian External Trade Development Co-operation (MATRADE)

The National Chamber represents at World Intellectual Organization

Mr. Thilak Godamanne, Hony. Secretary of the National Chamber attended a WIPO Asia Pacific Regional Seminar on Public Private Partnership in the field of Intellectual property for developing countries in the Republic of Korea from 6 – 8 October 2009. The event was organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in association with the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IPTTI) and the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO). The seminar was addressed by speakers from Korea, Australia, Malaysia and Japan. Participating countries—China, Bangladesh, Nepal, Malaysia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea Sri Lanka Mongolia Philippines Vietnam

NCCSL Represented at SAARC - Kathmandu, Nepal

Administration Manager and the Administrative Assistant of the Chamber attended the fourth Operational Committee Meeting of the GTZ/SAARC Trade Information Project held from 25 - 28 October 2009 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The programme is implemented by the German Technical Co-operation (GTZ) and the project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development. (BMZ). The web portal of SAARC TIPS www.saarctrade.info was also launched on the same day with the presence of several trade ministers from SAARC countries including Hon. Prof. G L Peiris, the Sri Lankan Minister of Export Development and International Trade.

NCCSL Members Joins the Delegation to Vietnam led by H.E the President.

Four member companies of the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka namely M/S Anbu Brothers(Pvt) Ltd, A.S. Agri Exports (Pvt) Ltd, MTD Walkers PLC and Screenline (Pvt) Ltd joined the delegation to Vietnam led by His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of Sri Lanka from October 22 - 24, 2009. Members had an opportunity to meet the heads of government organizations related to trade and the business community in Vietnam.

Advertising opportunities in the Chamber Website.

NCCSL website www.nccsl.lk is visited by many Chambers, Trade Promotion Organizations, Diplomatic Missions, Exporters and Importers from many parts of the World. Our website has become one of the most popular web sites in the world. It is a good opportunity for any businessman or organization who wishes to promote their products and services internationally to advertise in the NCCSL website. Those who want to advertise their Products & Services in the NCCSL web site are free to select any of the following advertising options, to suit their budget.

www.nccsl.lk - Banner Advertising Rates

| Banner Type | Dimensions (Pixels) | Format | Price (LKR) Per Year |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Home Page Banners | 150 x 50 | Adobe Photoshop | 9,500/- + VAT |
| Inner Page Banners | 150 x 50 | Adobe Photoshop | 6,000/- + VAT |
| Footer Page Banners | 130 X 40 | Adobe Photoshop | 2,000/- + VAT |
| Sponsored Ads - business category wise member search | 150 x 50 | Adobe Photoshop | 8,000/- + VAT |
| A separate Web Page on www.nccsl.lk will be given to NCCSL members. | | | |
| | 800 X 600 | Adobe Photoshop | 1,000/- + VAT |

Banners will be linked to the Client's own web site or the Web Page allocated within www.nccsl.lk domain. You may kindly refer to our website for further information.

We could publish your advertisement/s on www.nccsl.lk within seven working days from the date of receiving the artwork/s and full payment. For further details you may kindly contact the Chamber on TP 4741788 or mobile 0714-842863.

Office Bearers of the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka.

President

Mr. Chandra Lal de Alwis

Deputy President

Mr. Asoka Hettigoda

Deputy President

Mr. Sunil G.Wijesinha

Honorary Secretary

Mr. Thilak Godamanna

Honorary Treasurer

Mr. H.A Wehalla

Secretary General / CEO

Mr. E.M. Wijetilleke

The National Business Excellence Awards 2009

The National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka has launched **The National Business Excellence Awards 2009** and the Awards Ceremony will be held on **Thursday 26th November 2009**, at Hotel Hilton followed by a gala dinner.

Please refer our Web Site : www.nationalbusinessexcellence.lk

For further details please contact Ms Devi – 4741984 or
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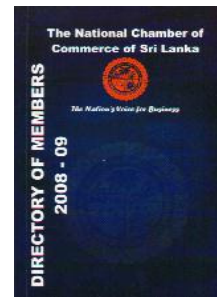


NBEA AWARD

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