



Sri Lanka Economic and Investment Summit 2026

Gateway to Growth: Asia's Emerging Opportunity



12th to 13th October 2026
Shangri-La Colombo, Sri Lanka

STEERING COMMITTEE

Mr. Vinod Hirdaramani, Deputy Vice Chairperson
(Chairperson of the Summit Committee)

Mr. Bingumal Thewarathanthri
Vice Chairperson

Mr. Shiran Fernando
Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Alikie Perera
Deputy Secretary General/COO

Ms. Kasturi Chellaraja Wilson
Board Member

Mr. Supun Weerasinghe
Board Member

Ms. Ayesha R. Rafiq

Ms. Shanuka Manickaraj

Ms. Sriyani Chandrasekera

Ms. Udeni Sudeshika

Ms. Chamini Wijerathna

Ms. Humaira Zainab

Ms. Methmini Kavindya





His Excellency Anura Kumara Dissanayake
President
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka





Mr. Krishan Balendra
Chairperson
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

“ It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Sri Lanka Economic & Investment Summit 2026, hosted by The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

This year's Summit comes at an important point in Sri Lanka's economic journey. Having moved through a period of stabilisation and reform, the focus must now turn to sustaining growth, strengthening resilience and creating the conditions for greater investment and private sector expansion.

The global economy is changing rapidly. Trade patterns are shifting, supply chains are being reconfigured, technology is reshaping industries, and economies everywhere are having to respond to new risks and opportunities. For Sri Lanka, this presents both challenges and possibilities. Our ability to adapt, strengthen our institutions and remain connected to regional and global markets will be central to our next phase of growth.

Our theme, “Positioning Sri Lanka in a Changing Global Economy: Resilience, Reform, and the Future of Economic Policy,” reflects this reality. The role of business in this next phase is particularly important. Investment, innovation, productivity and entrepreneurship will be essential to expanding the economy and creating opportunities. At the same time, sustained progress will require continued reform and a policy environment that gives businesses the confidence to invest for the long term.

SLEIS has, over the years, provided a platform for these conversations. This year, we hope to build on that tradition by looking not only at where Sri Lanka stands today, but at how we can position the country for a more resilient and competitive future.

On behalf of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, I thank you for joining us at SLEIS 2026, and for your continued confidence in Sri Lanka and its potential.

”



Mr. Vinod Hirdaramani

Chairman - Hirdaramani Group

Deputy Vice Chairperson

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

“It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Sri Lanka Economic & Investment Summit 2026, convened by The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce under the theme "Positioning Sri Lanka in a Changing Global Economy: Resilience, Reform, and the Future of Economic Policy."

SLEIS 2026 comes at a defining moment. Having worked through a difficult period of stabilisation, Sri Lanka now faces a different challenge: turning recovery into sustained, competitive growth at a time when trade patterns, supply chains and investment flows are being redrawn. How we respond, and how consistently we pursue reform, will shape the next phase of our economic journey.

This year's programme brings together policymakers, investors, business leaders and experts to examine that challenge from several angles. Sessions will look at the resilience of Sri Lanka's economy, its place in evolving regional value chains, and the prospects emerging in healthcare, energy and the digital economy, alongside the policy choices that will determine our competitiveness.

The Summit is also a chance to exchange experiences, challenge assumptions and build connections that continue beyond these two days. I hope the discussions bring fresh thinking to the issues before us and a clearer view of the choices ahead.

On behalf of the Summit Steering Committee, I thank our speakers, partners and delegates for being part of SLEIS 2026, and wish you an engaging and rewarding Summit.

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DAY 01

12th October 2026

09.00 – 10.30 hrs

Investment Focused Panel
Discussion



Mr. Vish Govindasamy
Board Member
Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI)

Mr. Vish Govindasamy is the Deputy Chairman of Sunshine Holdings PLC, where he has played a pivotal role in the Group's diversification into key sectors of the Sri Lankan economy, including Consumer Business, Healthcare, Plantations, and Dairy.

He serves as an appointed Member of the Governing Board and the Monetary Policy Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. He is also a Member of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, the Past Chairman of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, and the Employers' Federation of Ceylon.

In addition to his leadership role at Sunshine Holdings, Mr. Govindasamy serves on the boards of Watawala Plantations PLC, Softlogic Life Insurance PLC, United Motors Lanka PLC, Dialog Axiata PLC, Colombo Dockyard PLC, Ceylon Business Development Ltd and Lanka Island Resorts Ltd.

Mr. Govindasamy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and an MBA from the University of Hartford, USA. He is also a Fellow Member of the Institute of Certified Professional Managers of Sri Lanka.





Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe
Chairman/Chief Executive Officer
Export Development Board

Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe is a seasoned senior management professional with over 25 years of experience leading corporate companies across multiple industries. Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe currently serves as the Chairman/CEO of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board. He is renowned for transforming underperforming ventures into profitable operations through visionary leadership and operational excellence. His multi-sector expertise spans Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals, Consumer Electronics, Lubricants, and Telecommunications, with a proven track record in global supply chain management, international business development, and strategic business transformation. He also serves as a Board Member of the National Gem & Jewellery Authority and the International Chamber of Commerce, contributing to the development of Sri Lanka's global trade and export agenda.

He holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA), a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and is a Chartered Professional Manager (CPM), bringing a rare blend of academic insight and hands-on executive leadership to every role.





Mr. Somasena Mahadiulwewa
Director General of Commerce (Actg.)
Department of Commerce of Sri Lanka

Mr. Somasena Mahadiulwewa is the Director General of Commerce (Actg.) of the Department of Commerce of Sri Lanka, with over 24 years of experience in international trade and commercial diplomacy. He has previously served as Assistant Director, Deputy Director and Director of Commerce, with responsibility for negotiating and implementing Sri Lanka's FTAs and bilateral Trade and Economic Joint Commissions/TIFAs, including with the EU, UK and US, as well as related unilateral trading schemes.

As a Commercial Diplomat, He has served with diplomatic missions in the United Kingdom, Italy, Japan and South Africa.

He holds a BSc in Public Management Special Honours from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Colombo.





Ms. Arani Rodrigo
Chief Economist
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Arani Rodrigo is the Head of the Economic Intelligence Unit and Chief Economist at The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, leading the Chamber's research, policy advocacy, and economic intelligence initiatives. She works closely with the Government, private sector, development partners, and diplomatic missions to support evidence-based policymaking and enhance Sri Lanka's investment climate. Arani holds a First Class Honours degree in Business Economics from the University of Colombo and an MBA with Merit from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. She is an Associate Member of CIMA (UK), a Member of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (UK), and is currently pursuing a PhD in Management.



DAY 01

13th October 2026

10.45 – 11.15 hrs

**A Conversation on Digital
Transformation & the Economy**



Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya
Chief Advisor to the President on
Digital Economy

Dr. Wijayasuriya is the Chief Advisor to the President of Sri Lanka on Digital Economy and Chairman of the Information & Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka. He stepped down as CEO – Telecommunications Business and Group Executive Director at Axiata Group in January 2025 to lead Sri Lanka's Digital Transformation Agenda as Chief Advisor to the President on Digital Economy.

With 30 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, including over 25 years at CEO level, Dr. Wijayasuriya has held senior leadership roles across Asia. At Axiata, he led telecommunications operations across Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Cambodia, and served on the Group Board. He was also the founding CEO of Axiata Digital Services and founding Chair of Axiata Digital Labs.

He received the GSMA Chairman's Award in 2024 for his contribution to the global mobile industry and the Outstanding Contribution to the Asian Mobile Industry Award in 2017. He is a Past Chair of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and has served on the boards of GSMA and TMForum.

Dr. Wijayasuriya graduated from the University of Cambridge and holds a PhD in Digital Mobile Communications from the University of Bristol and an MBA from the University of Warwick. He is a Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, UK.

DAY 01

12th October 2026

Inauguration of the
Summit



Mr. Krishan Balendra
Chairperson
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Krishan Balendra is the Chairperson-CEO of John Keells Holdings PLC. He is also the Chairperson of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. He is a former Chair of the Employers' Federation of Ceylon, Nations Trust Bank and the Colombo Stock Exchange. Krishan started his career at UBS Warburg, Hong Kong, in investment banking, focusing primarily on equity capital markets. He joined JKH in 2002. Krishan holds a law degree (LLB) from the University of London and an MBA from INSEAD.





Mr. T. Krishnakumar
Chief Executive Officer
Reliance Consumer Products Ltd

Mr. Krishnakumar Thirumalai is a seasoned professional with over 41 years of experience in the Consumer Brands and FMCG sector. He has held senior positions at organisations including Coca-Cola India, Asian Paints, Johnson & Johnson Ltd., Parry's Confectionery Ltd. and Tiffany Foods, Dubai.

Throughout his career, he has demonstrated strong leadership and strategic thinking, with extensive experience heading businesses in developing and emerging markets. As President of Coca-Cola India & Southwest Asia, he was responsible for shaping the organisation's business strategy and driving revenue growth responsibly and profitably. In his current role as Head of Reliance Consumer Products Limited, Krishnakumar is responsible for establishing and expanding the business across various categories, while developing customer relationships, partnerships, strategic alliances and new market opportunities.

He holds an MBA in Marketing from IIM Bangalore and a BE (Hons) from the College of Engineering Guindy. He also completed an Advanced Management Programme at Wharton Business School in 1996.





Mr. Bingumal Thewarathanthri
Vice Chairperson
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce
CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Sri Lanka

Mr. Bingumal Thewarathanthri, better known as Bingu, was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank, Sri Lanka on 1 January 2019.

Having joined Standard Chartered in July 2004, Bingu counts more than 30 years of experience within the Banking and Finance industry. During his tenure at Standard Chartered, he has held several leadership positions in Sri Lanka and Africa.

Bingu was elected as Vice Chairperson of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 2026/27. He is a former Chairman of the Sri Lanka Banks' Association (SLBA) and is currently serving as a Board member. He holds an MBA from the University of Wales, UK. Bingu is an FCMA (Fellow Chartered Management Accountant) and a CGMA (Chartered Global Management Accountant) of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), UK. Further, he was recently recognised as a foundation member of the ICMA (Institute of Certified Management Accountants) Australia.



DAY 02

13th October 2026
09.00 – 10.30 hrs

Session 1:

**Beyond Crisis Management:
Building a Shock-Resilient Sri
Lankan Economy**



Ms. Lilia Aleksanyan
Senior Country Economist Sri Lanka
Asian Development Bank

Ms. Lilia Aleksanyan is a Senior Country Economist at ADB's Sri Lanka Resident Mission, focusing on the macroeconomic outlook, policy advice, and macro-fiscal and financial-sector reform. She previously served as ADB's Central Asia Regional Economist, leading ADB's country partnership strategy for the Kyrgyz Republic and working across the region's cooperation agenda. Before ADB, she worked at the French Ministry of Finance and the French Central Bank. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Paris School of Economics.





Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma

Secretary to the Treasury and Ministry of Finance,
Planning and Economic Development of Sri Lanka

Dr. Harshana P. Suriyapperuma currently serves as the Secretary to the Treasury and Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. He has over 30 years of professional experience across Asia, Australia and Africa, with extensive expertise in capital markets, corporate governance and financial regulation.

Prior to his current appointment, Dr. Suriyapperuma served as a Director at the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka from 2013 to 2021, where he led several key initiatives relating to capital markets, corporate governance and new listings. He also headed Sri Lanka's capital markets component of the World Bank Doing Business Ranking, contributing to an improvement in the country's ranking from 74th to 28th globally.

He has served on several national and international committees, including those of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka and the World Bank. His policy initiatives include facilitating capital raising for SMEs through listings and the development of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs).

Dr. Suriyapperuma is a Fellow of CIMA-UK and ACCA-UK. He holds an MBA from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and a PhD from Management & Science University, Malaysia.





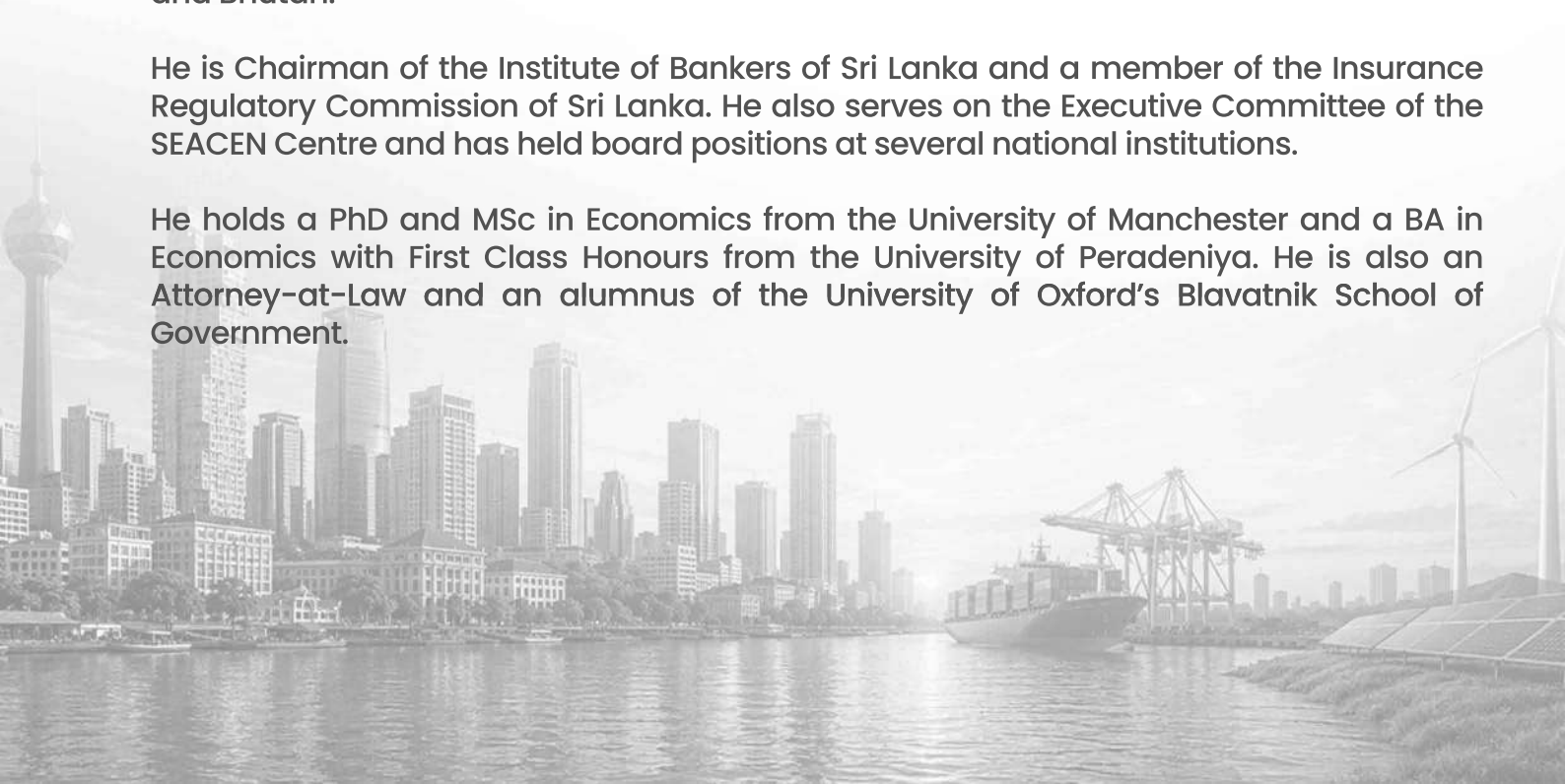
Dr. Chandranath Amarasekara
Senior Deputy Governor
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Dr. Chandranath Amarasekara is the Senior Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, having served the Bank for more than 23 years. Prior to his appointment in July 2026, he served as Deputy Governor and Assistant Governor, primarily overseeing the Bank's price stability cluster, and as Secretary to the Monetary Policy Board. He also previously served as Director of Economic Research.

From January 2022 to February 2024, Dr. Amarasekara was on release from the Central Bank to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, DC, where he served as Alternate Executive Director for the constituency comprising Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh and Bhutan.

He is Chairman of the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka and a member of the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the SEACEN Centre and has held board positions at several national institutions.

He holds a PhD and MSc in Economics from the University of Manchester and a BA in Economics with First Class Honours from the University of Peradeniya. He is also an Attorney-at-Law and an alumnus of the University of Oxford's Blavatnik School of Government.





Ms. Sabrina Esufally
Executive Director
Hemas Holdings PLC

Ms. Sabrina Esufally is the Managing Director of Hemas Consumer Brands and a member of the Board of Directors and Board of Management of the Hemas Group. She brings extensive cross-functional and cross-sector experience within the Group, contributing to strategic growth, innovation and operational excellence.

She currently leads multidisciplinary teams across sales, marketing, innovation and supply chain, driving business performance across Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. She also contributes to the development of new growth platforms, organisational capabilities and strategic priorities across the Group.

Since joining Hemas in 2019, Sabrina has held key roles across different business verticals. She initially led Business Development at Morison Limited, the Group's pharmaceutical manufacturing arm, where she was involved in strategic expansion initiatives. She subsequently moved to Hemas Consumer Brands, where she led portfolio development and growth in emerging beauty and wellness segments.

Prior to joining Hemas, Sabrina was Head of Legal Research at Verité Research, where she published extensively on public policy and governance, including access to information, public procurement and judicial reform.

Sabrina is an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka. She holds a First Class Honours degree from the University of Durham, an LL.M. from Harvard Law School, and is an alumna of Harvard Business School.



Dr. Roshan Anne Perera
Consultant
Centre for Poverty Analysis and
Former Director Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Dr. Roshan Anne Perera is a public policy specialist with over three decades of experience in economic and financial sector policy. Currently she is a Consultant at the Centre for Poverty Analysis. She previously served as a Director at the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, where she worked on monetary and fiscal policy and financial sector regulation and supervision. She was a Senior Research Fellow at the Advocata Institute, an independent public policy think tank, where her work focused on economic governance, regulatory reform, and policy analysis.

She has worked as an independent consultant advising institutions in Sri Lanka and internationally on economic policy, financial sector development, and regulatory frameworks. She also serves on the boards of Nations Trust Bank PLC and Senkadagala Finance PLC.

She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Melbourne, a Master in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a Master in Environmental Geography from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She also holds a Master's degree and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Colombo.





Mr. Dhananath Fernando
Chief Executive Officer
Advocata Institute

Mr. Dhananath Fernando is the Chief Executive Officer and a founding member of the Advocata Institute. He served as the Institute's Chief Operating Officer from its inception in 2016 before being appointed CEO in 2022. He brings experience in economic policy, research, public-policy advocacy, strategic communications, institutional leadership and organisational development.

At Advocata, he leads the Institute's strategy, organisational development, fundraising, communications and public engagement, while guiding its research and advocacy agenda on market-oriented policy reform in Sri Lanka. He regularly represents the Institute at public forums, conferences and media engagements locally and internationally, with contributions to BBC News, Bloomberg and Al Jazeera on Sri Lanka's economic challenges and reform agenda.

Prior to founding Advocata, Dhananath served as Associate Research Director at Breakthrough Business Intelligence, leading national surveys, strategic research, market intelligence and public opinion studies, and previously worked at MAS Holdings.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Bio Sciences and Biochemistry from the University of Colombo and is an alumnus of Atlas Network's Think Tank MBA and leadership programmes and the U.S. State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program. He was selected as an Eisenhower Global Fellow and recognised as an Asia 21 Young Leader by the Asia Society.

DAY 02

13th October 2026

11.00 – 12.30 hrs

Session 2:

**Linking Sri Lanka to Asia's
Growth Networks: Trade,
Corridors, and Value Chains**



Mr. P. D. Singh

Chief Executive Officer, India & South Asia
Standard Chartered Bank

Mr. P. D. Singh is the Chief Executive Officer – India & South Asia at Standard Chartered Bank, with close to three decades of experience in banking and finance across European and American banks. Throughout his career, he has held leadership and coverage roles, building businesses at scale while maintaining strong regulatory and client relationships.

Prior to joining Standard Chartered Bank, PD was CEO of JPMorgan Chase Bank in India, where he played a key role in shaping the bank's corporate banking franchise. He was a founding member of the India business and subsequently led the bank's entity in the country. Before JPMorgan, PD spent a decade at HSBC, holding leadership roles across corporate and commercial banking.

PD is actively involved in sustainability, community initiatives and industry bodies. He has served as Co-Chairman of the Banking & Finance Committee of IMC Chambers of Commerce for the past four years and is Chairman of the Indian Banks Association's Foreign Banks Committee. He is also a Managing Committee member of the IBA, serves on the CSR Committee of The Cricket Club of India, Mumbai, and sits on advisory boards including NIBM.

He holds an engineering degree and double MBAs in Finance and Marketing from the University of Pune.



Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe
Deputy Minister of Industry and
Entrepreneurship Development
Government of Sri Lanka

Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe serves as the Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development in the Government of Sri Lanka. He was elected to Parliament in 2024, representing the Colombo District from Kotte.

He holds a Bachelor of Science (Special) in Finance from the University of Sri Jayawardenepura and is a Fellow Member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA UK).

With over 16 years of professional experience, Chathuranga has gained diverse expertise in Finance, HR Analytics, Data Science, and Digital Transformation. Chathuranga is an advocate for data-driven decision-making and entrepreneurship driven industrial transformation in Sri Lanka.





H.E. Akio ISOMATA
Ambassador of Japan to Sri Lanka

H.E. Akio ISOMATA has over forty years of experience in the Japanese foreign service with a strong background in Asian, economic, and legal affairs. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Japan, in 1985, and served in the Economic Cooperation Bureau, the Asian Affairs Bureau, the Treaties Bureau, and the Foreign Policy Bureau, etc., at the MOFA headquarters. His overseas posting includes: China (Beijing); Switzerland (Geneva); the Philippines (Manila); India (New Delhi); Canada (Ottawa). Most recently, he was Consul-General of Japan in Shanghai, China (2018–2021), and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United Arab Emirates (2021–2024). In between his diplomatic postings, he also served in the Cabinet Legislation Bureau, Japan, as Counsellor.

Since October 2024, he has been serving as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Sri Lanka.

Ambassador Isomata graduated from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan (B.A. in Anglo-American Studies), studied at Peking University, China, and Harvard University, U.S.A. (M.A. in Regional Studies-East Asia).





Mr. MASA AKI Kawabata
Chairman
Toyota Lanka (Private) Limited

Mr. MASA AKI Kawabata graduated from the Faculty of Science at Seikei University in Japan. He began his career with Tomen Corporation in 1990, joining its Ship & Maritime Project Division. In 1996, he was appointed Manager of the Ship & Maritime Department at the company's Singapore Branch, followed by a role as Manager at the Project Development Office of the Kuala Lumpur Branch in 1999.

In 2003, he moved to Tomen Corporation's Automobile Division and subsequently served as General Manager of the Automobile Department at Tomen Iran Ltd. in 2006. Following the merger of Tomen Corporation with Toyota Tsusho Corporation, he continued his career with Toyota Tsusho, serving in its Oceania Asia Mobility Department and later in the Mobility Division, Middle East Department.

He was appointed President of Toyota Cambodia Co., Ltd. in 2012 and Managing Director of Toyota Laos Co., Ltd. in 2018. In 2024, he became General Manager of the Multi Brands Business Department at Toyota Tsusho Corporation. In April 2026, he was appointed Chairman of Toyota Lanka (Private) Limited.





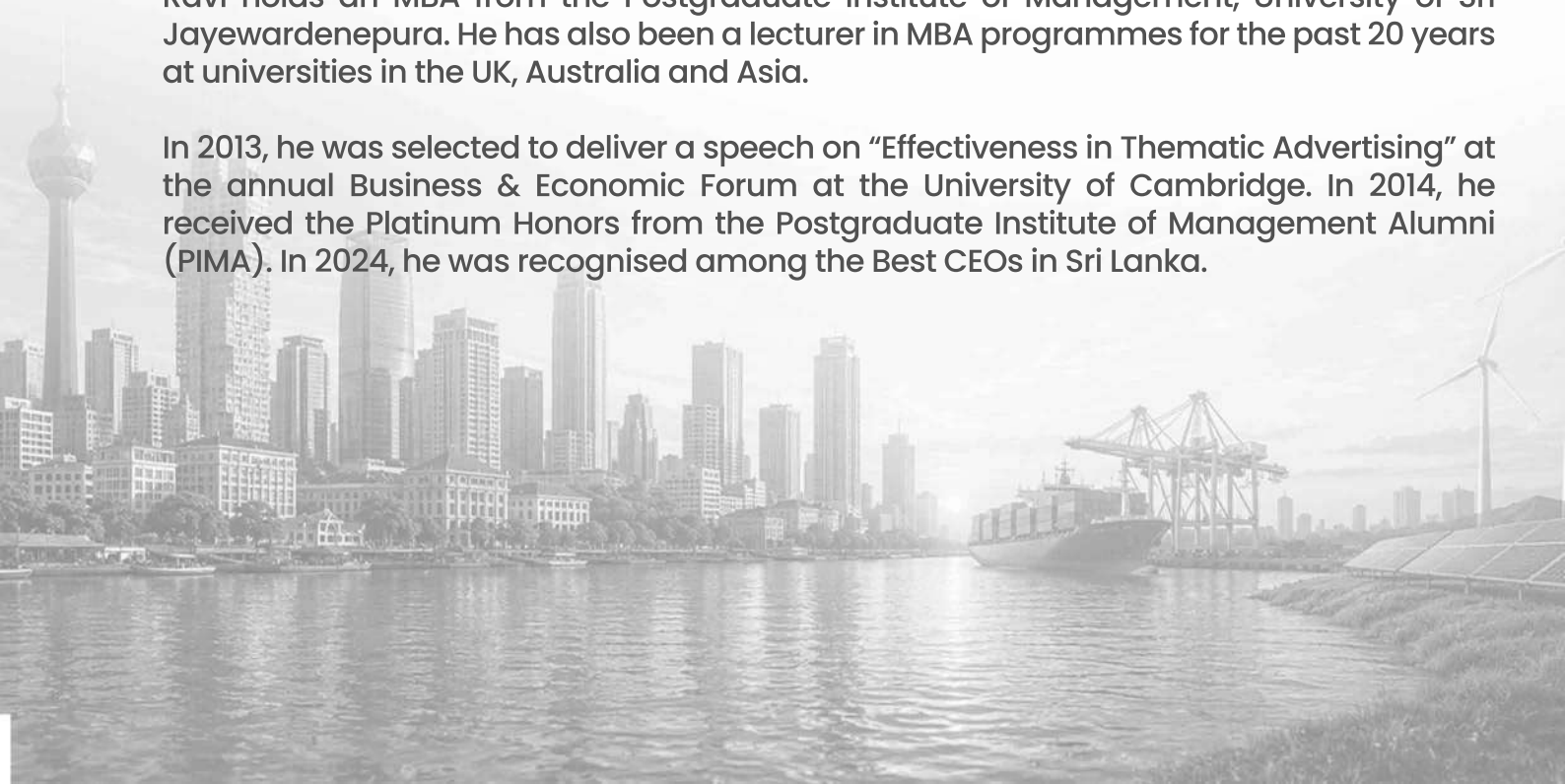
Mr. Ravi Jayawardena
Group Chief Executive Officer
Maliban Biscuits (Pvt) Ltd

Mr. Ravi Jayawardena is the Group Chief Executive Officer of Maliban Group, comprising Maliban Biscuits Pvt Ltd, Maliban Milk Pvt Ltd, Maliban Agro Ltd and Little Lion. He also serves as an Independent Director at Cargills Bank and DIMO.

Prior to joining Maliban Group, Ravi was Country Head of Sales at Coca-Cola Sri Lanka, where he led the team to win several Asian and African Best Practice Awards. He began his professional career at Unilever Sri Lanka Ltd., where he held several senior management positions in Sales and Marketing across Home, Personal Care and Foods.

Ravi holds an MBA from the Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. He has also been a lecturer in MBA programmes for the past 20 years at universities in the UK, Australia and Asia.

In 2013, he was selected to deliver a speech on “Effectiveness in Thematic Advertising” at the annual Business & Economic Forum at the University of Cambridge. In 2014, he received the Platinum Honors from the Postgraduate Institute of Management Alumni (PIMA). In 2024, he was recognised among the Best CEOs in Sri Lanka.





Ms. Subhashini Abeysinghe
Research Director
Verité Research

Ms. Subhashini Abeysinghe is a renowned economist with expertise in trade policy, trade facilitation, global value chains, and regional & multilateral trade agreements. Her latest research delves into China's economic engagement in Sri Lanka and the geoeconomic competition between India and China in the Indian Ocean region. She has extensive experience working with the private sector to tackle barriers faced when engaging in international trade. She has been a long-standing member of the Export Development Committee and the Economic Policy Committee of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

She has worked as a senior economist for The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for nearly ten years. She was a visiting lecturer at the Faculty of Graduate Studies of the University of Colombo and Sir John Kotelawala Defence University in Sri Lanka. She has a bachelor's and master's degree in economics from the University of Colombo and a master's in international law and economics from the World Trade Institute, University of Bern, Switzerland.



DAY 02

13th October 2026

13.15 – 14.30 hrs

Session 3:

Deep Dive 1

**Reimagining Healthcare for
a Modern Health Economy**



Mr. Tushar Shroff
CFO
Finance, Zydus Lifesciences Ltd

Mr. Tushar Shroff is the Chief Financial Officer of Zydus Lifesciences Limited, a leading global life sciences company committed to empowering people with innovative healthcare solutions.

Tushar leads the company's global finance function, driving strategic initiatives across capital allocation, investor engagement, M&A, and financial transformation. He plays a key role in shaping Zydus' long-term growth strategy, with a focus on innovation-led value creation, operational excellence, and sustainable financial performance.

With over three decades of diverse experience, Tushar brings deep expertise in corporate finance, treasury, tax strategy, and cross-border structuring. His leadership has been instrumental in navigating complex global markets, optimising capital structures, and enabling strategic investments across geographies, including the U.S., Europe, and emerging markets.

Prior to joining Zydus Lifesciences, Tushar held senior leadership positions at reputed organisations, including ABB, Piramal Healthcare, Intas Pharmaceuticals, and the Vedanta Group, where he built a strong track record in financial stewardship, business partnering, and transformation.

Tushar is known for his strategic mindset and pragmatic approach to balancing growth with financial discipline. He is particularly passionate about leveraging finance as a catalyst for innovation, strengthening governance frameworks, and driving long-term stakeholder value.



Ms. Vidyani Hettigoda
Director
Hettigoda Group of Companies

Ms. Vidyani Hettigoda is a Director of the Hettigoda Group of Companies and a member of the third generation of the Hettigoda family, which has a legacy of over 90 years in Ayurveda in Sri Lanka. She is the daughter of the late Dr. Victor Hettigoda, who played a pioneering role in bringing Ayurveda products into the modern FMCG sector. With over 20 years of leadership experience, Vidyani has played a key role in advancing Ayurveda tourism through the Group's resorts, clinics and wellness offerings, helping bring traditional Sri Lankan Ayurveda into contemporary hospitality.

She has also held several leadership positions focused on women's entrepreneurship and business development, including President of the Women's Chamber of Industry and Commerce (WCIC), Executive Member of Small and Medium Enterprise Developers, Board Member of Youth Business Sri Lanka, and Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Giftware and Lifestyle.

Her achievements have been recognised through several awards, including the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite (Knight in the Order of Merit) awarded by the President of France, and the Global CEO Top Businesswomen Award 2025. Vidyani holds a BSc in Business Management and Computer Science from Middlesex University, London.



Mr. Raveen Wickramasinghe

President – Association of Private Hospitals
& Nursing Homes
CEO Ruhunu – Hospital

Mr. Raveen Wickramasinghe is the Chief Executive Officer of Ruhunu Hospital, the largest private hospital in Sri Lanka's Southern Province, and brings nearly 15 years of senior management experience in healthcare.

He currently serves as the President of the Association of Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes (APHNH). He is a Member of the Private Health Services Regulatory Council (PHSRC), contributing to the development of Sri Lanka's private healthcare sector. Raveen Wickramasinghe is the Chairman of Karma Fight League (KFL), the Immediate Past President of Round Table Sri Lanka, and a member of the Chamber of Young Lankan Entrepreneurs (COYLE).

He also serves on the Board of Deepal Wickramasinghe Associates and is the co-founder of two technology startups, reflecting his commitment to innovation, entrepreneurship, and institutional leadership.





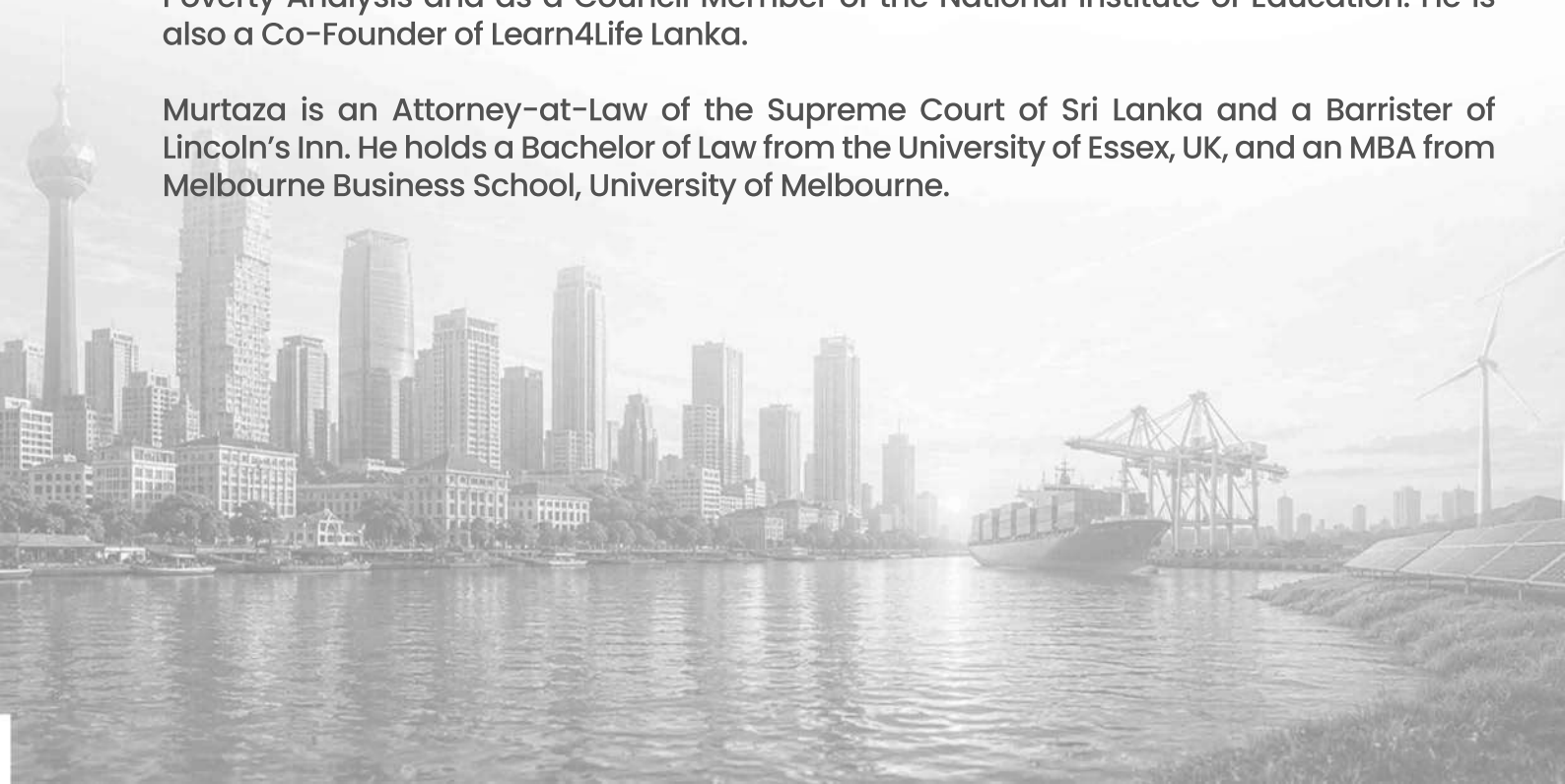
Mr. Murtaza Esufally
Deputy Chairman / Non-Executive Director
Hemas Holdings PLC

Mr. Murtaza Esufally has over 30 years of experience in senior management and currently leads the Healthcare Sector of the Hemas Group, where he has played a key role in the growth of the Group's healthcare portfolio.

He has served on the Board of Hemas Holdings PLC since September 1998 and was appointed Deputy Chairman in January 2026. He also serves as Chairman of Hemas Hospitals (Pvt) Ltd, Hemas Pharmaceuticals (Pvt) Ltd and Morison Limited.

Beyond the Hemas Group, Murtaza serves as Non-Executive Chairman of the Centre for Poverty Analysis and as a Council Member of the National Institute of Education. He is also a Co-Founder of Learn4Life Lanka.

Murtaza is an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka and a Barrister of Lincoln's Inn. He holds a Bachelor of Law from the University of Essex, UK, and an MBA from Melbourne Business School, University of Melbourne.





Dr. Ravi Rannan Eliya
Executive Director
The Institute for Health Policy, Sri Lanka

Dr. Ravi Rannan Eliya is Executive Director of the Institute for Health Policy, Sri Lanka. He trained as a physician and in political science at the University of Cambridge, before specialising in public health and earning a doctoral degree in Health Economics at Harvard University.

He has worked as a researcher and analyst throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including most of South Asia, with a focus on health equity, health systems and financing, and the emerging challenges of ageing and NCDs.

His recent work includes directing the only regular public opinion poll in Sri Lanka, and serving on the Chatham House UHC Commission.





Mr. Shyam Sathasivam
Group Chief Executive Officer
Sunshine Holdings PLC

Mr. Shyam Sathasivam has over two decades of leadership experience in the healthcare and consumer goods industries, with a proven track record in strategic transformation and operational excellence. Since joining Sunshine Holdings in 2005, he has played a pivotal role in shaping the Group's long-term growth strategy, leading business restructuring initiatives, strategic acquisitions, and market expansion efforts.

Shyam has been instrumental in transforming Sunshine Holdings from a family-founded enterprise into a professionally managed, performance-driven organisation anchored in strong governance and people-centric values. Under his stewardship, the Group has strengthened its market leadership across both healthcare and consumer sectors while enhancing profitability, innovation, and brand equity.

Shyam holds a degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science and an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He is also an alumna of Harvard Business School.



DAY 02

13th October 2026

13.15 – 14.30 hrs

Session 3:

Deep Dive 2

**Beyond Fossil Dependence:
Balancing Security,
Sustainability, and Growth**



Ms. Edore Onomakpome
Regional Infrastructure Industry Manager
Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal
International Finance Corporation

Ms. Edore Onomakpome is IFC's Regional Infrastructure Industry Manager for Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal, where she leads IFC's infrastructure investment strategy and business across energy, transport, digital infrastructure and other critical sectors.

She works with private-sector clients, governments, and regulators to develop investment opportunities, address barriers to private-sector participation and mobilise capital for infrastructure. She also works across the World Bank Group to combine policy reform, advisory support, financing and risk-mitigation solutions to create markets and unlock private investment.

Edore has more than two decades of experience in infrastructure and project finance across emerging markets. Since joining IFC in 2013, she has held senior roles across Africa and South Asia, including managing IFC's \$5 billion African infrastructure portfolio across 16 countries. Prior to IFC, she held senior project finance, power and energy, and oil and gas roles at Standard Bank Nigeria.

An Eisenhower Fellow and recipient of IFC's 2021 Top 30 Award, Edore holds an MSc in International Banking and Financial Services from the University of Reading and a BA in Economics from the University of Manchester.





Mrs. Tharshinie Prassanth
Additional Secretary
(Development & Procurement)
Ministry of Energy, Sri Lanka

Mrs. Tharshinie Prassanth is a senior public administrator and a member of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service, with over two decades of experience in public administration, development, procurement, public finance and institutional management.

She currently serves as Additional Secretary (Development & Procurement) at the Ministry of Energy, where she oversees the Ministry's development and procurement functions, including the development and procurement of renewable energy projects. Her role involves coordinating with government institutions, development partners, investors and other stakeholders to support renewable energy development and strengthen Sri Lanka's energy security.

Previously, she held senior positions including Director at Sri Lanka Customs, Director at the Department of Public Finance, Director at the Department of National Planning, Director (Administration) at the Finance Commission and Deputy Director at the Ministry of Women's Affairs. She has also served as Assistant District Secretary of Ampara and Divisional Secretary of Kalmunai.

Mrs. Prassanth holds a BSc in Physical Science from Eastern University of Sri Lanka and an MA in Public Management and Policy Analysis from the International University of Japan. She has completed qualifications in International Relations and Public Procurement and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Business Administration.



Mr. Damitha Kumarasinghe
Director General (Chief Executive Officer)
Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka

Mr. Damitha Kumarasinghe has served as Director General (Chief Executive Officer) of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) since 2010. He has been widely invited by international agencies, utilities, regulators and international media to speak on infrastructure regulation and related matters, and has extensive international exposure in the field.

He has a multidisciplinary educational background, with a BSc (Eng.) in Electrical Engineering from the University of Moratuwa, an MBA from the University of Colombo, and a Master's in Engineering (ME) from the University of New South Wales, Australia.

Mr. Kumarasinghe has served on the Boards of Directors of the Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority and the Condominium Management Authority since 2010, and the Petroleum Development Authority of Sri Lanka since 2021.

He was also a member of the Steering Committee of the India–Sri Lanka Electricity Grid Interconnection Project, contributing to efforts to advance regional electricity connectivity.





Mr. Manjula Perera
Managing Director
WindForce PLC

Mr. Manjula Perera is the Managing Director of WindForce PLC, Sri Lanka's largest renewable energy company, with extensive experience in the development and operation of renewable energy projects. He holds a BSc (Eng.) (Hons), First Class, in Electrical Engineering and an MEng in Electrical Engineering from the University of Moratuwa.

A Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Institute of Engineering and Technology (FIET), UK, and a Member of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka, Manjula has been instrumental in driving innovative renewable energy initiatives at WindForce.

Under his leadership, the company developed Sri Lanka's first private-sector wind power plant and first agrovoltaic solar plant, as well as pioneering solar projects managed entirely by women. WindForce was also the first solar plant in Sri Lanka to receive a Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) grant from the Government of Japan.

WindForce currently owns and operates more than 250 MW of renewable energy capacity, with a further 300 MW in its project pipeline. Its portfolio includes wind, solar and small hydro projects across Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Uganda and Ukraine.





Mr. Sheran Fernando
Senior Advisor
Plus94

Mr. Sheran Fernando's career began at The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, where he was mandated to set up its Economic Research Unit. He is a Senior Advisor at Plus94, a regional advisory firm focused on capital, transactions, and strategic restructuring. He built and sold SML Frontier Automotive, Sri Lanka's Jaguar and Land Rover distributor, over a twenty-year period, and has since led many restructuring and advisory mandates. His work spans government, NGOs, NPOs, publicly listed companies, multinational corporations, and family businesses.

He is Honorary Consul for Côte d'Ivoire, where he works to encourage and facilitate Sri Lankan investment, and Co-Chair of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce's Standing Committee on Climate Action. He holds an MA in Economics (Honours) from Macquarie University and completed Harvard Business School's Owner/President Management programme (OPM 53).



DAY 02

13th October 2026

15.00 – 16.30 hrs

Session 4:

Nation Building in the Digital Age



Hon. Dr. Harini Amarasuriya
Prime Minister of the Democratic
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka





Mr. Waruna Sri Dhanapala
Secretary
Ministry of Digital Economy

Mr. Waruna Sri Dhanapala is a senior officer of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS), having served since 2000. He served as Acting Secretary of the Ministry of Digital Economy and has been Chairman of the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) since November 2024 before his position became permanent in mid-February 2026.

His previous positions include roles at the Presidential Secretariat and the Ministries of Defence, Digital Infrastructure, Home Affairs, Environment and Foreign Affairs, as well as the National Administrative Reforms Council and the Data Protection Authority, where he served as its first Director General.

From 2012 to 2014, he served as Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York. During this period, he contributed to the formation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the adoption of the UN Resolution on World Youth Skills Day. In 2013, the UN General Assembly unanimously elected him Vice Chair of the Economic and Financial Committee, representing 53 Asia-Pacific countries, where he was responsible for several resolutions on technology, ICT and development cooperation.

He holds Master's degrees in International Development Studies from GRIPS, Japan, and Public Administration from PIM, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, and a BSc (Special) in Geology and Computer Science from the University of Peradeniya.



Prof. Roshan Ragel
Senior Lecturer in Computer Engineering
University of Peradeniya

Prof. Roshan G. Ragel is a Professor in Computer Engineering at the University of Peradeniya and the CEO of the Lanka Education and Research Network (LEARN). His work spans artificial intelligence, digital transformation, higher education, and national capacity building. He has contributed to major national initiatives on AI policy, skills development, digital education, and research infrastructure, while also supporting regional collaboration through Asia-Pacific research and education networks. With extensive experience in academia, technology leadership, and public policy, his current focus is on building the human capacity, institutional readiness, and digital ecosystems required for Sri Lanka to benefit meaningfully from AI and emerging technologies.





Mr. Sanjay Shah
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Elevante AI

Mr. Sanjay Shah is the Founder and CEO of Elevante AI, an AI software company serving universities and enterprises. He is an Independent Director at Awfis Space Solutions (NSE: AWFIS), a Venture Partner at Theia Ventures, and an active angel investor. A serial entrepreneur across India and the U.S., he has founded and exited ventures including Skelta (acquired by Schneider Electric).

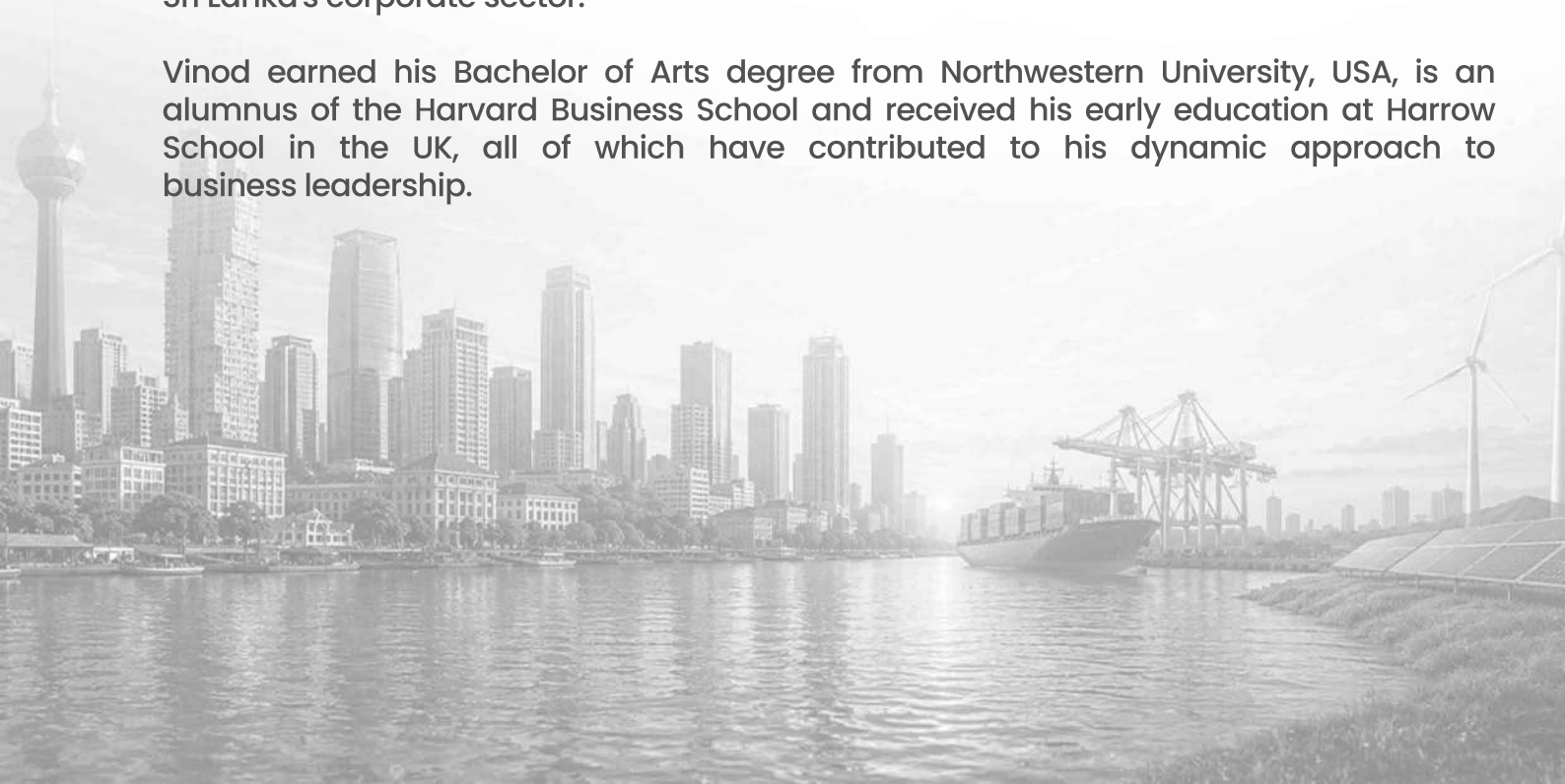




Mr. Vinod Hirdaramani
Chairman – Hirdaramani Group
Deputy Vice Chairperson
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Vinod Hirdaramani joined the Board of Directors of the Hirdaramani Group in 1993 and has since played a key role in the company's expansion, particularly in the sectors of renewable energy, hospitality and luxury retail. As Group Chairman, he provides strategic oversight of the Group's investments, subsidiary operations and sustainability efforts, setting a global benchmark for progressive and sustainable business practices. In addition to his leadership role at Hirdaramani, Vinod serves as the Deputy Vice Chairperson of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce in Sri Lanka, where he drives initiatives aimed at strengthening the country's business environment. He also holds board positions at Sampath Bank and several other leading organisations within Sri Lanka's corporate sector.

Vinod earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Northwestern University, USA, is an alumnus of the Harvard Business School and received his early education at Harrow School in the UK, all of which have contributed to his dynamic approach to business leadership.



DAY 02

13th October 2026

16.30 – 17.45 hrs

**Closing session with
Advisors to the Government**



Prof. Gomika Udugamasooriya
Senior Advisor to the President of
Sri Lanka on Science and Technology

Prof. Gomika Udugamasooriya is Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Houston and MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA, and serves as Senior Advisor to the President of Sri Lanka on Science and Technology. He obtained his BSc in Chemistry from the University of Colombo in 1999 and his PhD in Bioorganic Chemistry and Biochemistry from Wayne State University, USA, in 2006, followed by a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

His research focuses primarily on cancer drug-lead discovery and diagnostic tools. He developed the On-Bead Two-Color (OBTC) high-throughput cell screening technology, which has produced 10 patented drug candidates validated to pre-clinical levels across cancer, COVID-19, rheumatoid arthritis, Alzheimer's, sepsis and other disease areas.

Prof. Udugamasooriya has published more than 50 research articles in leading scientific journals and presented more than 75 abstracts and 50 invited seminars internationally. His awards include the NIH SPORE Cancer Excellence Career Development Award and the Gold Medal in Chemistry from the University of Colombo.

In 2023, he was inducted as a Senior Member of the United States National Academy of Inventors. In his current advisory role, he is spearheading the development of a national R&D policy framework and initiatives to accelerate the commercialisation of R&D.



Dr. Parakrama Dissanayake
Chairman – Sri Lanka Ports Authority
Advisor to the President of Sri Lanka
on Maritime, Ports & Logistics

Dr. Parakrama Dissanayake is the Chairman of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) and serves as Advisor to H.E. the President of Sri Lanka on Maritime, Ports and Logistics. This is his third tenure as Chairman of the SLPA. He has also served as Secretary to the Cabinet Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Southern Development.

He was the first non-British International President of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers (UK), founded in 1910, and has served as Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (Sri Lanka). He is a Graduate in Professional Shipping from NORAD (Oslo) and JICA (Japan).

During his tenure as Chairman/CEO – Maritime & Logistics at Aitken Spence PLC, he led the company's entry into port management in Africa and played a key role in establishing the first public-private partnership (PPP) in ports in the South Pacific. He is a Business Alumnus of the University of Oxford and a Postgraduate Alumnus of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. He has completed Executive Education programmes at Harvard Business School and the University of Cambridge.





Mr. Shiran Fernando
Secretary General and
Chief Executive Officer
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Shiran Fernando is the Secretary General/CEO of The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, having previously served as its Chief Economic Policy Advisor and Chief Economist. As Chief Economist, he led the Chamber's Economic Intelligence Unit, the focal point for economic research and policy advocacy, and served on the Chamber's Steering Committee on Economic Policy.

Prior to joining the Chamber, Shiran served as Lead Economist and Senior Product Head at Frontier Research. He has participated in numerous economic and business forums locally and internationally as a speaker, panelist and moderator, and is a contributing writer to LMD's monthly Economic Outlook column. He is an alumnus of the U.S. International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) and a Chevening Scholar.

Shiran serves as a Board Director of World Vision Lanka, and serves on the boards of Biodiversity Sri Lanka and the Petroleum Development Authority of Sri Lanka. He holds an MSc in Economic Policy from SOAS, University of London, an Executive MBA from the Postgraduate Institute of Management, Sri Lanka, a BSc in Economics and Finance from the University of London, and professional qualifications in ACMA and CGMA. He also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations from BCIS.

