

The  
**Ceylon  
Chamber of  
Commerce**

# SRI LANKA ECONOMIC SUMMIT 2017

*Execute – Transform – Realize*



**25th - 26th July 2017**  
**Cinnamon Grand - Colombo, Sri Lanka**



# SRI LANKA ECONOMIC SUMMIT 2017

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*Execute – Transform – Realize*

## About the Summit

Sri Lanka's economy is navigating through a period of transformation, amidst global turbulence. Growth has moderated, amidst a fiscal consolidation effort that promises macroeconomic resilience in the medium term. Executing transformational strategies will be essential to realize the economy's true potential.

This year's Summit will focus on how the economy can be transformed through changing implementation models, accelerating reforms, changing business models as well as changing approaches to policy. This year's summit deals with the domestic and global economic headwinds that the private sector needs to deal with, adapt to changing scenarios, and succeed in a competitive landscape.

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## DAY 1 (Tuesday, 25th July 2017)

0800 hrs Registration

0900 – 1100 hrs INAUGURAL SESSION

1100 – 1130 hrs Tea Break

1130 – 1300 hrs **SESSION 1 - Executing Reforms and Building Better Institutions**

*It is now well acknowledged that Sri Lanka cannot achieve faster economic growth and latch on to the many economic opportunities open to us without executing critical reforms. Evidence from other middle income countries also demonstrate that without building better institutions and implementation systems better quality growth – that is inclusive and sustained – cannot be achieved. Currently there are several international agencies and consultancy groups working on different aspects of Sri Lanka's economic transformation agenda - from developing the Colombo International Financial City, to accelerating PPP projects, exports, FDI, and fast-tracking public sector implementation. What are the key insights for the private sector from these ongoing initiatives? How do the key specialists involved in these reform programmes see what must be undertaken in the next 2-3 years to drive the economy into high gear?*

1300 – 1400 hrs Lunch

1400 – 1530 hrs **SESSION 2 - Executing a Smarter Trade Strategy Amidst Turbulence**

*Global trade has moderated, the multilateral trade integration agenda has stalled, and new turbulences are putting a strain on globalization. In the industrialised West, societies are placing pressure on their governments to do more to ensure trade is working for more people. As a consequence, tendencies towards protectionism are on the rise especially in subtle forms like non-tariff and regulatory barriers. Amidst this, Sri Lanka is embarking on a new trade reform effort, anchored to tariff liberalisation, preferential trade agreements, and export promotion. Is this a foolhardy strategy? Can Sri Lanka win? What must be done to realistically push forward? With these trends in the West, how can Sri Lanka latch on to growth in Asia, using ASEAN as a pivot?*

1530 – 1600 hrs Tea Break

1600 – 1730 hrs **SESSION 3 - Transforming the Economy Through Technology**

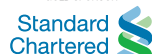
*Technology is now a linchpin of economic progress and business competitiveness. Many of Sri Lanka's key sectors are lagging due to a lack of technological advancement, and risk getting left behind in a dynamic and competitive global economy. Digital technologies in particular offer fast and feasible opportunities for transformation. This session will look at sectors in which technology offers transformative potential – manufacturing and agriculture in particular – and the national eco-system required to drive this change.*

1730 hrs **End of Sessions - Day 1  
Refreshments / Networking**

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## DAY 2 (Wednesday, 26th July 2017)

### 0900 – 1030 hrs **SESSION 4 - Realizing New Competitiveness in Sri Lankan Manufacturing**

*Sri Lankan manufacturing industries are under pressure from multiple directions. Input costs are rising, amidst higher energy and labour costs. Import protection that has crept in over the years has helped some industries survive and grow, while hurting others due to higher intermediate input costs. Yet, Sri Lankan export manufacturing is successfully competing in a growing number of niches, and forthcoming trade agreements do offer new opportunities for industry.*

*Meanwhile, to become a more agile manufacturing location, logistics and e-commerce need to become new priorities.*

### 1030 – 1100 hrs **Tea Break**

### 1100 – 1230 hrs **SESSION 5 - Realizing the Potential of Mega Development Projects**

*Several mega projects underway in Sri Lanka significant opportunities for domestic and international businesses – for instance, the Western Region Megapolis and the Hambantota Logistics and Industrial Zone. Sri Lankan businesses are keen to leverage on these, but some are concerned that they will be spectators and not be able to fully capitalize. How can the private sector best latch on to these emerging business opportunities? What lessons can we learn from how global players executed mega projects in their countries?*

### 1230 – 1330 hrs **Lunch**

### 1330 – 1500 hrs **SESSION 6 - Realizing a Greener Growth Path - Walking the Talk**

*As the world adopts the 'Transforming Our World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' along with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the Sri Lankan Presidential proclamation of a new 'Sustainable Era' and the impending Bill on Sustainable Development calls for a holistic and inclusive transformation. For a realistic transformation to be executed, businesses need to identify how they can support this agenda and benefit by greening the growth economic drivers, advancing social wellbeing and ensuring a low ecological footprint. This session will feature a conversation with a high profile thought leader discussing how businesses can best align and gain.*

### 1500 – 1630 hrs **SESSION 7 - Belt and Road Initiative : Transformative Opportunity for Sri Lanka?**

*China is becoming a formidable player in this region, whether it is by implementing ambitious trade linkages spanning to Europe or financing strategic infrastructure facilities along the historic silk route. This session will discuss One Belt One Road (OBOR), Maritime Silk Route (MSR), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and what they mean for the Sri Lankan economy. What are the opportunities for attracting Chinese investment and partnership opportunities for LK businesses, what pitfalls to look out for, what political-economy concerns/implications?*

### 1630 – 1730 hrs **SESSION 8 - Transformative Solutions to Current National Challenges (The Parliamentarian's session)**

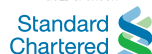
### 1730 hrs **Refreshments & Networking**

### **Close of Summit**

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## REGISTRATION FORM

Title: Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Direct Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Central Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to participate in the Sri Lanka Economic Summit and enclose herewith a cheque\*/cash for

Rs.

\* Cheque to be in favour of "The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce"

Cheque No:

Bank:

Signature:

### LOCAL PARTICIPANTS

Single participant (Patron Member company)

**@ LKR 25,000/-** (including local taxes)

Single participant (Member company)

**@ LKR 27,000/-** (including local taxes)

Single participant (non-Member company)

**@ LKR 30,000/-** (including local taxes)

For 3 or more participants

**@ LKR 25,000/-** (including local taxes)

### FOREIGN PARTICIPANTS

**@ USD 250/-**

Please send this form duly completed to:

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce  
50 Navam Mawatha, Colombo 2, Sri Lanka

Tel: + 94 11 5588852 / 5588877

Fax: +94 11 2449352 / 2437477

E-mail: events@chamber.lk, niroshini@chamber.lk

**Closing date for registration: 19th July 2017**

(For additional applications, please photocopy)

*Thank you for your response.*

*The Chamber Secretariat will contact you soon, with complete details.*

**FOR DETAILS CONTACT**

**alike@chamber.lk / niroshini@chamber.lk T. +94 11 5588852 / 5588877**



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Good Food, Good Life

## FOR WHOM

Chairmen & CEOs, Directors, Senior Managers, Foreign Investors, Senior Government Officials & Academics

- Enhance your knowledge on government plans to develop the Sri Lankan economy and progress in implementation of plans
- Improve your own business through knowledge enhancement in your relevant sector
- Ascertain potential sectors and projects for investment in Sri Lanka
- Opportunity to clarify your concerns with key government officials and industry leaders
- Opportunity to meet and network

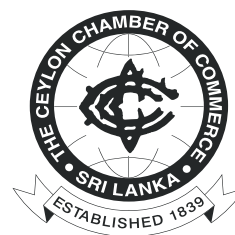
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For further information, contact Niroshini at:



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## The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

With over 178 years of service to the nation and business community, it is the premier forum for business in Sri Lanka.

Working closely with 38 Trade, Product and Service Associations, 21 Bilateral Business Councils and through its network of 22 regional and other chambers, the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce serves as the gateway to a world of business opportunity.

50 Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2, Sri Lanka

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