

ISSUE: AUGUST 2024

# NEWSLETTER

**EBO** EUROPEAN  
BUSINESS  
ORGANISATION  
WORLDWIDE NETWORK

**ECCCSL**  
The European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka



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# ABOUT US

## The Voice & Window to Business with Europe

The European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka (ECCSL) was established in 1996 with the primary objective of fostering and enhancing economic and business relations between Sri Lanka and 50 European countries. The chamber's membership comprises a diverse range of commercial interests, reflecting its strong and influential presence in the country.

ECCSL fosters networking and business development opportunities, provides essential services and resources, and advocates for regulatory reforms and market access. Through its activities, ECCSL contributes to the growth of the Sri Lankan economy and encourages responsible business practices.

### OUR OBJECTIVE

To be the leading European business support partner in Sri Lanka and serve as the representative body for European businesses.

### OUR VISION

- To be the most valued European Business support partner in Sri Lanka.
- To be the representative body for the European businesses in the country.
- To be the most valued lobbying force in Sri Lanka.
- To be a trusted discussion partner for Sri Lankan Institutions and the Government.

### OUR MISSION

To encourage, promote and facilitate trade and investment between Europe and Sri Lanka by providing professional business information and support services to European and Sri Lankan businesses.

### OUR SERVICES

- Business Delegations (inbound and outbound).
- Trade and Investment Help Desk.
- Business Services: Legal, Financial and Tax.
- Advocacy.
- Business Matchmaking.
- Monthly and Quarterly business, trade and investment-related publications.
- B2B and B2C Events, Forums and Networking Sessions.

### BECOME A MEMBER

Register with us to make most of the services and facilities being offered to enhance your business in Europe.

### OUR BOARD



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PRESIDENT



MR. JOHN WILSON  
VICE PRESIDENT



MR. ARNOLD PERERA  
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**1996**

**50**  
COUNTRIES

**206**  
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### OUR PARTNERS



## Ceylon Chamber launches ‘Vision 2030’ policy document

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce launched its landmark policy document, ‘Vision 2030,’ designed to steer Sri Lanka towards sustainable and inclusive development by 2030.

The inaugural copy of this comprehensive economic plan was presented to President Ranil Wickremesinghe. The document will also be distributed to political party leaders, the Central Bank Governor, and the Treasury Secretary, to promote a bipartisan approach towards prioritising the national economy and public welfare.

*(7th August 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## EDB releases flagship statistical publication “Export Performance Indicators 2023”

The latest edition provides statistical information related to Sri Lanka’s external trade and its contribution to major economic indicators such as the trade balance and GDP, and individual sectoral involvement for the year 2023 and the five preceding years.

*(15th August 2024, www.ft.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## Colombo Marina Development nominated as primary venture in Port City

The Cabinet of Ministers on Monday approved the nomination of Colombo Marina Development Ltd., as a primary venture with strategic development status under the provisions of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act No. 11 of 2021. This designation will allow the company to receive specific incentives and encouragements pertinent to the project.

*(15th August 2024, www.ft.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## EDB partnering with Sampath Bank PLC for improving Digital Presence of Export potential SMEs.

Sri Lanka Export Development Board has initiated a series of awareness programmes with the objective of improving the digital presence of export potential SMEs at the regional level in collaboration with Sampath Bank PLC.

*(15th August 2024, www.ft.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## AI Act enters into force



On 1 August 2024, the European Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act) enters into force. The Act aims to foster responsible artificial intelligence development and deployment in the EU.

*(1st August 2024, [commission.europa.eu](https://commission.europa.eu))*

[Read More](#)

## Norwegian tourism gets boost as weaker Kroner draws visitors



The depreciation of the Norwegian kroner has made the famously expensive Nordic country a more affordable destination for tourists, increasing spending and benefiting local businesses.

*(8th August 2024, [www.euronews.com](https://www.euronews.com))*

[Read More](#)

## Good news for Europe's top economies as disposable income rises



Disposable household income per capita in Europe's top economies crept up by 0.2% to 3.4% in the first three months of 2024. During the same period, real GDP per capita also saw growth across most European countries.

*(12th August 2024, [www.euronews.com](https://www.euronews.com))*

[Read More](#)

## Olympics set to give French economy a much-needed boost



France's economy may have received a boost from the Paris Olympics in the third quarter, according to the Bank of France. However, political uncertainty continues to weigh on its stock markets.

*(12th August 2024, [www.euronews.com](http://www.euronews.com))*

[Read More](#)

## German wages set to rise at the fastest pace in more than a decade



Wages in Germany will rise by 5.6% in 2024, an increase of 3.1% when adjusted for inflation, according to the Institute of Economic and Social Sciences at the Hans Boeckler Foundation (WSI).

*(13th August 2024, [www.euronews.com](http://www.euronews.com))*

[Read More](#)

## Hayleys Solar commissions Sri Lanka's largest solar-powered battery energy storage system

Representatives from Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Lanka, Hayleys PLC, and the Ministry of Power and Energy Sri Lanka at the battery commissioning event

Hayleys Solar, the leading player in Sri Lanka's renewable energy industry and the renewable energy arm of Hayleys Fentons, has completed a groundbreaking project for the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Lanka. The project establishes Sri Lanka's largest non-government-funded battery energy storage system (BESS), powered by solar photovoltaic (PV) technology. *(13th August 2024, (10th August 2024, www.ft.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## ComBank raises Rs 22.54 bn. from shareholders via biggest rights issue by a local bank

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC has announced that it has successfully completed the largest rights issue to date by a bank in Sri Lanka, raising Rs 22.54 billion to increase the Tier I and total capital of the Bank to accommodate and facilitate future business growth. *(16th August 2024, www.adaderana.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## NDB triumphs at SLITAD People Development Awards with Gold

NDB Bank announced its landmark achievement of winning a Gold award at SLITAD People Development Awards 2023/2024. This prestigious recognition marks a significant milestone for NDB, reinforcing its commitment to empowering its team through innovative training initiatives.

*(20th August 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## DFCC Bank launches first-ever co-branded fuel Mastercard credit card

DFCC Bank has forged an exclusive partnership with Lanka IOC (LIOC) to introduce Sri Lanka's first-ever co-branded consumer fuel Mastercard credit card. This unique collaboration brings you a new and exciting product, offering cardholders exceptional savings in cashbacks, easy payment plans and more with every spend.

*(20th August 2024, www.dailymirror.lk)*

[Read More](#)



## SEEDUWA HOSPITAL REVIVES VITRECTOMY SERVICES WITH ATG'S LIFE-SAVING

(Colombo) ATG Group of Companies came forward to donate a state-of-the-art 'Green Laser machine' to Vijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital in Seeduwa, on the eighteenth (18) of July, as part of the 'ATG Suraksha' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative. Valued at 12.8 Million Rupees, the machine will help the hospital provide preventive laser treatment for patients suffering from diabetic retinopathy, a condition that could lead to permanent blindness in the eyes, if not treated promptly.

Being one of the only two government hospitals in Sri Lanka that offers 'Vitreotomy'; an eye surgery to reverse and prevent the effects of diabetic retinopathy, the Vijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital's previous Green Laser machine went out of order, recently, leaving dozens of immediate surgeries on halt. The hospital struggled with securing the necessary financial capital to replace this machine due to the ongoing economic crisis in the country.

As a result, these patients had to then opt for a three-year-long waiting list at the National Eye Hospital in Colombo, which ultimately sealed dire complications for their condition. It is in this backdrop that Mr. Neil Umagiliya - Acting Chairman of the Seeduwa Hospital, reached out to the ATG Group. In response to this request, the Group made prompt measures to address this alarming need within the national health sector, immediately.

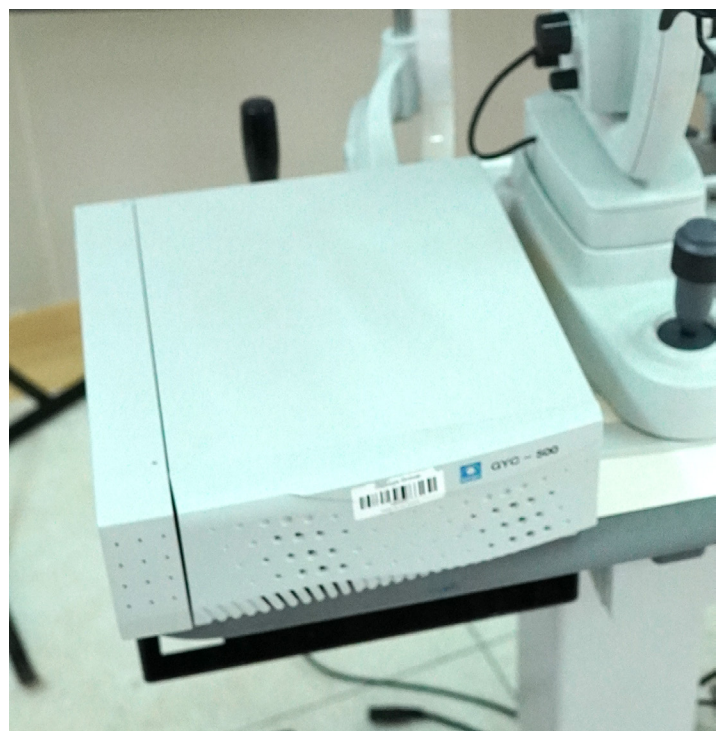
Dr. Chamara Kumaraage, Consultant Eye and Vitreoretinal Surgeon of Vijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital said, "The incidence of diabetes is increasing among young people, especially in the age group of 25-35. One of the complications that can arise after approximately ten years of having diabetes is diabetic retinopathy. It will act similar to how the kidney disease affects kidneys. While cataracts can be treated with surgery to restore vision, diabetic retinopathy will cause irreversible damage to the eyes, if we don't act quickly. This is why this machine plays a crucial role in preventing



such complications. We thank ATG very much for this invaluable donation.”

Apart from ensuring over 80 vitrectomies with only a two-month waiting list, the hospital also conducts 700-800 cataract surgeries, every month.

Addressing the handing-over ceremony, Mr. Fazal Abdeen - Managing Director of the ATG Group of Companies stated, “It gives me great pleasure to see our CSR banner here. ATG Suraksha (our community support programme) continues with its true vision to serve humanity. Whenever we establish ourselves at one of the BOI zones in Sri Lanka, we reach out to the neighboring community to carry out our projects. Community hospitals play a major part in our mission. We have ongoing projects to help hospitals in Wathupitiwala, Koggala, Katunayake and now here in Seeduwa. Giving back to society is essential as we achieve success, and as it helps sustain the ecosystem we live in.”



Mr. Jamaal Abdeen - Project Manager of the ATG Group accompanied Mr. Fazal Abdeen as a chief guest, at the occasion. Mr. Neil Umagiliya - Acting Chairman of the Vijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital, Dr. Gayan Ranaweera - Acting Director of the hospital and the hospital staff attended the special programme to express their gratitude to the ATG Group.

About ATG: ATG Intelligent Glove Solutions is a pioneering leader in the glove industry, providing cutting-edge technologies and innovative solutions that redefine hand protection. With a relentless commitment to excellence, ATG is revolutionizing the way industries approach workplace safety, comfort, and performance. Our intelligent gloves are engineered to meet the diverse needs of professionals across various sectors, empowering them to work with confidence and efficiency.



## TRADE EVENTS - EUROPE

# SEPTEMBER

03

### IAW COLOGNE

[info@iaw-messe.de](mailto:info@iaw-messe.de)

**VENUE :** GERMANY

**FOCUSSED AREA:** "IAW" STANDS FOR "INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR FOR PROMOTIONAL GOODS AND IMPORTS." THIS DISTINGUISHED EVENT SERVES AS A PIVOTAL INDUSTRY SHOWCASE FOR ELITE BUYERS FROM GERMANY AND EUROPE, A CLAIM SUBSTANTIATED BY THE STEADILY INCREASING NUMBERS OF EXHIBITORS AND ATTENDEES. THE NORTH WEST GERMAN TRADE FAIR COMPANY BREMEN-HANNOVER MBH, A REPUTABLE ENTITY, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE IAW. THE FAIR ENCOMPASSES A BROAD SPECTRUM, FROM PROMOTIONAL GOODS TO TREND ASSORTMENTS, ALL TAILORED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE RETAIL SECTOR.

04

### INNOV-AGRI OUTARVILLE

[exposants@innovagri.com](mailto:exposants@innovagri.com)

**VENUE :** FRANCE

**FOCUSSED AREA:** INNOV-AGRI FOCUSES ON THE LATEST TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN AGRICULTURE. THE EVENT PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF THE NEWEST INNOVATIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR.

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### BIJORHCA PARIS

[info@wsn.community](mailto:info@wsn.community)

**VENUE :** FRANCE

**FOCUSSED AREA:** BIJORHCA SERVES AS AN IMPORTANT PLATFORM FOR PRESENTING HIGH-QUALITY JEWELRY, WATCHES, AND GIFT ITEMS. MORE THAN 500 EXHIBITORS SHOWCASE THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS, TRENDS, AND SERVICES IN THESE AREAS. THE FAIR IS CLOSELY LINKED TO PARIS, THE WORLD-FAMOUS FASHION CAPITAL, AND REFLECTS ITS INFLUENCE AND INSPIRATION IN THE INDUSTRY.

23

### EU PVSEC VIENNA

[pv.exhibition@wip-munich.de](mailto:pv.exhibition@wip-munich.de)

**VENUE :** AUSTRIA

**FOCUSSED AREA:** THE EU PVSEC - EUROPEAN PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION - IS AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, INDUSTRY AND APPLICATION AND ALSO A LEADING PV INDUSTRY TRADE SHOW. IT IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MAJOR SOLAR EVENTS AND IS THE MOST FAMOUS SCIENCE-TO-SCIENCE, BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SCIENCE-TO-PLATFORM. ABOUT 300 TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS, MORE THAN 1,000 POSTER PRESENTATIONS, SEVERAL WORKSHOPS AND FACHFORA AND SPECIFIC PV INDUSTRY FORA OFFERED UNDER THE EU PVSEC.

# BRANDING & ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

The ECCSL newsletter is an excellent mode of communication to create awareness for your brand among 4000+ audience including ECCSL members, European Diplomatic Missions in Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Diplomatic Missions in Europe, ECCSL corporate & trade partners and subscribers.

## LOGO PLACEMENT

## FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENT

## FULL PAGE ARTICLE

## CORPORATE NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS

## INCLUDES

- Latest business news, & trends
- **Trade information in Sri Lanka & Europe**
- ECCSL updates & Events info
- **Member highlights**
- New member introductions
- **Advocacy updates**

## AUDIENCE

- ECCSL members
- **Business leaders**
- Policy makers
- **European Diplomats in Sri Lanka**
- Sri Lankan Missions in Europe
- **European trade partners**
- Corporate business partners
- **Over 3000 subscribers**

## YOUR INVESTMENT

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**03 MONTHS – LKR 60,000**

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