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SRI LANKA CANADA BUSINESS COUNCIL (SLCBC)

The Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council under the aegis of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce was launched on 14th August, 1991. The prime objectives of the Council are promotion of trade/ investment, services, tourism and joint ventures between Sri Lanka and Canada.

The Council celebrates 30 years of service in 2021.

The Patron of the Council is the High Commissioner of Canada for Sri Lanka.

Objectives

- To promote tourism and trade between Sri Lanka and Canada and in particular to promote exports from Sri Lanka to Canada.
- To encourage the establishment of Joint ventures in Sri Lanka between Canadian and Sri Lankan investors.
- To exchange information on trade and investment with the appropriate bodies in Canada
- To conduct Joint meetings with Canadian business organizations in Sri Lanka and in Canada
- To serve as a recognized representative of business sector interests in Sri Lanka in matters concerning business relationships with Canada.
- To co-operate with the Government of Sri Lanka in the pursuit of the above objects
- To undertake all matters that are incidental or conducive to attaining the above objects

The Council Committee meets once a month at the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce throughout the year.

RELATIONSHIP PARTNERS - SLCBC

Canada

- Canadian Trade Commissioner Service
- Canada Sri Lanka Business Council
- Sri Lanka High Commission in Ottawa
- Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Toronto
- Export Development Canada (EDC)
- Foreign Affairs & Intl Trade Canada
- Industry Canada
- Trade Facilitation Office of Canada

Sri Lanka

- Ceylon Chamber of Commerce
- Canadian High Commission in Sri Lanka
- Board of Investment of Sri Lanka
- Sri Lanka Export Development Board
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Industry & Commerce
- World University Service of Canada (WUSC)

India

Indo Canadian Business Chamber (ICBC)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 2022/2023

Office Bearers

President Mr. Priyantha Padmasiri

Thames International Educational Consultancy (Pvt)

Ltd

Vice Presidents Capt. Gayan Gunawardena

Ceyline Shipping (Pvt) Ltd

Mr. Ong Jhon Seon

Prima Ceylon (Pvt) Limited

Immediate Past President Mr. Rajah Abeysinghe

Hydromec International (Pvt) Ltd

Honorary Member Mr. Lionel D C Silva

Lidechsi Group of Companies

Committee

- Infomate (Pvt) Ltd
- McLarens Holdings (Pvt) Ltd
- United Air Services (Pvt) Ltd. Air Canada
- Spillburg Holdings (Private) Limited
- Fairfirst Insurance Limited

Secretariat

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce No.50, Navam Mawatha Colombo 2. Sri Lanka.

Tel. +94115588881,5588800 Fax. +94112449352,2437477 E-mail trade@chamber.lk

LIST OF MEMBERS AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

Abans PLC

Asian Institute of Business & Science Pvt Ltd Aitken Spence Travels (Pvt) Ltd

Beauty Gems

Belden Industries (Pvt) Ltd Bigcommerce International (Pvt) Ltd Bov Capital (Pvt) Ltd

Ceyline Shipping Ltd
Cinnamon Grand Colombo
Colombo Courtyards (Pvt) Ltd
Consarc (Pvt) Ltd

Divehi Holding PLC

Eduko Lanka (Pvt) Ltd Electronic Engineering Systems (Pvt) Ltd Ensys (Pvt) Ltd

Fab Foods (Private) Limited Fairfirst Insurance Ltd Fentons Ltd

Global Academy Of Further Education (Pvt) Ltd Glolan International (Pvt) Ltd.

HTL Logistics (Pvt) Ltd Hydromec International (Pvt) Ltd

Infomate (Pvt) Ltd
Institute Of Certified Mgmt Accountants Of SI

Jupitor Trading Co.Ltd

Kannan & Co.

Lanka Walltiles PLC Lidechsi (Pvt) Ltd

Mabroc Teas (Pvt) Ltd
Mac Holdings (Pvt) Ltd
Maliban Biscuit Manufactories (Pvt) Ltd
Mas Active Trading (Pvt) Ltd
Mclarens Holdings Ltd
Metropolitan Office (Pvt) Ltd

North American Travel Services Inc.

Papercom Traders

Prima Ceylon (Private) Limited

Pulses Splitting Processing Industry (Pvt) Ltd.

Saberion (Pvt) Ltd
Samson Rubber Industries (Pvt) Ltd
Samson Rubber Products (Pvt) Ltd
Singer (Sri Lanka) Plc
SMR Marketing
Spillburg Holdings (Private) Limited
St Anthonys Industries Group (Pvt) Ltd
Surtek Industries Inc

Tanyo Medical (Pvt) Ltd
Thames Intl Educational Consultancy (Pvt) Ltd.
Trans Asia Hotel Ltd
United Air Services (Pvt) Ltd. - Air Canada

Vallibel Finance PLC Vitalhub (Pvt) Ltd

Walters Bay Tea Estates (Pvt) Ltd

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES 2022/2023

* 31st Annual General Meeting of Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council



The 31st Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council (SLCBC) of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce was held on 10th August 2022. Mr. Daniel Bood, Counsellor for Political & Trade at the High Commission of Canada graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Mr. Priyantha Padmasiri Chandrasekara, Chairman of Thames International Educational Consultancy (Pvt) Ltd was elected as the President of the Council for the year 2022-2023.

Mr. Chandrasekara addressing the gathering stated that "It has been challenging to establish bilateral commercial partnerships with Canada over the past year because of the Covid 19 outbreak and the ongoing political turmoil in Sri Lanka. To increase the number of members engaged in business between Canada and Sri Lanka, the Committee Members will arrange more events, primarily in the development of membership, with the aid of trade fairs, business seminars, webinars, and bilateral trade investments with Canada."

Mr. Chandrasekara assured the members that the Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council under his leadership will continue with the new plan of action to further enhance tourism, education, travel & ticketing, IT consulting, travel and insurance as well as export/import businesses between Sri Lanka and Canada. In his closing remarks, Mr. Chandrasekara expressed his sincere thanks to Mr. Daniel Bood, Counsellor for Political & Trade at the High Commission of Canada for gracing the occasion.

Mr. Daniel Bood, began his remarks by congratulating the SLCBC on its 31st year of operations, referring to some of his observations since his arrival in the country in July 2021, a time when the country was yet battling COVID-19 and the government was undertaking an aggressive vaccination campaign. He noted that at that time, there were also increasing warning signs that Sri Lanka's growing economic malaise would soon explode into a full-blown economic crisis that had been long in the making.

Mr. Bood relayed that Canada is considering to mobilize Canadian expertise to support badly hit micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), particularly those owned by women in Sri Lanka's North and East, to help improve their access to much-needed capital to weather the economic crisis. Given that the economic crisis has also exacerbated cases of sexual and gender-based violence, Canada will continue to help strengthen Sri Lanka's women's rights organizations and women-led MSMEs, while addressing sexual gender based violence (SGBV) by supporting survivors and the service providers that assist them.

At the same time, Mr. Bood indicated that the High Commission is pursuing collaboration opportunities between Canadian and Sri Lankan institutions in the education field that he hopes will bear fruit in the not too distant future. Mr. Bood said that he looked forward to working with the SLCBC in the coming months to contribute to that transition from the perspective of bilateral trade and investment.

Mr. Ong Jhon Seon, General Manager of Prima Ceylon (Pvt) Limited and Capt. Gayan Gunawardane, Chief Operating Officer of Ceyline Shipping Pvt Ltd were elected as the Vice Presidents while Mr. Rajendra Abeyasinghe, Chief Operating Officer of Hydromec International (Pvt) Ltd serves as the Immediate Past President.

Mr. Jehan Perinpanayagam, Chief Executive Officer of Infomate (Pvt) Ltd, Mr. Mahesh Kurukulasuriya, Group Chief Commercial Officer of McLarens Holdings (Pvt) Ltd, Mr. Mohomad Hameez, Managing Director of Spillburg Holdings Pvt Ltd, Mr. Dilan Mitchell, Chief Operating Officer of Fairfirst Insurance Ltd and Ms. Dilanka Herath, Manager of United Ventures Pvt Ltd were elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Council for the period 2022-2023.

<u>Little Heart Surgery Project - A CSR Initiative by SLCBC</u>

Sri Lanka Canada Business Council is mandated to provide a Structured Forum for the Sri Lanka Business Community, promote Bilateral Trade and Investment activities between Sri Lanka & Canada. It is also mandated to Embrace Social Responsibility as Good Corporate Citizen, SLCBC received a request from the Rotary Club of Colombo of Metropolitan to partner them in sponsoring a Child for Surgery.

Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) are defects on the heart that often occur during the formation of the fetal heart and in major blood vessels. In Sri Lanka, 3000 children are born each year with CHD. 1500 – 1800 of these children will receive the much-needed life changing heart surgery or interventions many of which are managed and treated locally at Sri Lanka's Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children. In 2020, the Rotary Club of Colombo Metropolitan (RCCM), aided by the support of generous donors around the world raised over \$ 115,000 USD (amounting to approximately Rs. 23,000,000 LKR) and helped change the lives of 54 children affected by CHD by facilitating the cost to undergo Atrial Septal Defect Surgery (ASD) which would save their lives.

SLCBC members had the wonderful opportunity to Save a child's life. Our donation will be of direct benefit to a child on Lady Ridgeway Hospital's waiting list, giving them a life altering chance to be undergo ASD surgery which may lead to a normal and healthy adult life.

<u>SLCBC Breakfast Meeting - Strategizing for Sri Lanka Through Bilateral Business Councils</u>

Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce organized a breakfast meeting with a presentation on "Strategizing for Sri Lanka through Bi-lateral Business Council" by Dr. George I H Cooke. This event took place on Thursday, 08th of December 2022 from 7.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. at the Hilton Residencies Colombo 02.



SLCBC pays a Courtesy visit to the Acting Canadian High Commissioner to



The President, Priyantha Chandrasekera & Immediate Past President, Rajah Abeyasinghe of the Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce payed a Courtesy visit to the Acting Canadian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Eric Walsh and Mr. Daniel Bood, Counsellor (Political & Trade) at High Commission of Canada to Sri Lanka on the 11th January 2023.

Eric Walsh (BA Honours [Political Science], McGill University, 1994) joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 1995. During his time at headquarters he has served as the Director General for North America (2018-2021), Director, North Asia (2007-2010), Coordinator, Middle East and North Africa (2003-2005) among various other positions, including work to negotiate the Ottawa Treaty banning antipersonnel mines in 1996-97. Positions overseas included Ankara, Turkey (1998-2001), Bucharest, Romania (2001-2003), Counsellor (Disarmament) in Geneva, Switzerland (2005-2007), Minister and Deputy Head of Mission in Berlin, Germany (2010-2015) and Ambassador in Seoul, Republic of Korea (2015-2018).

<u>Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Signs MOU with Ontario Chamber of Commerce to Boost Trade and Economic Cooperation</u>

The Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, Canada. The MOU was signed recently with the objective of strengthening the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council is committed to promoting bilateral trade and investment between Sri Lanka and Canada. The MOU signed with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce is a significant step towards achieving this objective. Under the MOU, both parties have agreed to work together to identify and explore new business opportunities, facilitate trade and investment between the two countries, and promote economic growth.

The Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce are committed to working together to promote trade and investment between Sri Lanka and Canada, and to create new opportunities for businesses in both countries.

<u>Sri Lanka – Canada Business Council of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce</u> <u>Hosts an Interactive Evening with H.E. Eric Walsh, High Commissioner of Canada to Sri Lanka and Maldives.</u>



The Sri Lanka Canada Business Council of Ceylon Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the successful completion of an interactive evening on March 29, 2023, at the Hilton Colombo Residence in Sri Lanka. The event was organized in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada to Sri Lanka and Maldives and provided a unique opportunity for business leaders to engage with the High Commissioner of Canada to Sri Lanka and Maldives, His Excellency Eric Walsh, on the topics of bilateral ties and collaborations between Canada and Sri Lanka.

The interactive evening was attended by prominent Sri Lankan government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, Major business leaders and other stakeholders. The High Commissioner, H.E. Eric Walsh highlighted the importance of continued collaboration between Canada and Sri Lanka on various fronts such as trade, investment, tourism, and environmental sustainability.

The evening featured a range of interactive activities designed to foster dialogue and learning. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions of the High Commissioner, participate in group discussions, and

engage in activities that offered a glimpse into the world of Canada's bilateral relations with Sri Lanka. The event also provided ample opportunities for networking and socializing.

It was an excellent opportunity for Sri Lankan Businesses to gain insights into the latest trends and opportunities in trade, investment, and other sectors to promote bilateral ties between Canada and Sri Lanka.

The High Commission of Canada to Sri Lanka and Maldives remains committed to promoting bilateral relations, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people ties between Sri Lanka and Canada.

AUDITORS

M/s. KPMG was elected Auditors of the Council. The Audited Statement of the Accounts of the Council for the period 2021-2022 is annexed.

SECRETARIAT.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce provided Secretarial Services to the Council during the period under review.

By order of the Committee

Yasasvi Hettiarachchi

For Secretary

Maguest



(Chartered Accountants) 32A, Sir Mohamed Macan Markar Mawatha, P. O. Box 186 Colombo 00300, Sri Lanka.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SRI LANKA – CANADA BUSINESS COUNCIL

Opinion

We have audited the statement of receipts and payments ("the Statement") of Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council ("the Council"), for the year ended 31 March 2023 and notes to the statement of receipts and payments.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts and payments of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with the receipts and payments basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the council in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by CA Sri Lanka (Code of Ethics) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matters – Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

We draw attention to Note 2 to the Statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The Statement is prepared to provide information to the Executive Committee of Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council. As a result, the Statement may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Executive Committee and Those Charged with Governance for the Statement

The Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation and fair representation of the Statement in accordance with the receipts and the payments basis of accounting described in Note 2; this includes determining that such receipts and payments basis of accounting in an acceptable basis for the preparation of the statement in necessary to enable the preparation of the Statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the statement, The Executive Committee responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Executive Committee either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SLAuSs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the statement.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at Sri Lanka Accounting and Auditing Standard web site at: http://slaasc.com/auditing/auditorsresponsibility.php. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Colombo, Sri Lanka 17 July 2023

SRI LANKA - CANADA BUSINESS COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 March,	2023	2022
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts		
Entrance fees	130,000	20,000
Subscription income	325,000	250,000
Investment income	136,578	57,750
Income received in connection with:		
- Skills for success	-	32,450
- Webinar on Sri Lanka is open for travel and business	7	20,000
- Trade promotion mission to Canada	44,250	-
- Donations for children's heart	450,000	-
- National day of Canada 2022	24,000	-
- Breakfast meeting with a presentation by Dr.George on 08/12/2022	320,000	
- Interactive evening with H.E. Eric Walsh	750,050	-
Total receipts	2,179,878	380,200
Payments		
Entertainment and refreshments	1,250	600
Secretarial fee	202,129	179,820
Web hosting charges	23,000	15,000
Audit fees	75,520	61,452
Postage, telegram, telex and faxes	1,760	810
Printing and stationery	45,324	4,370
Communication cost	30,000	24,000
Tax advisory service	13,000	22,000
Sundry expenses	18,880	3,385
Income tax	31,186	23,793
Expenses incurred in connection with:		11-11-11-11-11
- Annual general meeting	19,571	6,230
- Skills for success		111,740
- Donations for children's heart	500,000	-
- National day of Canada 2022	32,780	-
- Breakfast meeting with a presentation by Dr.George on 08/12/2022	243,135	
- Interactive evening with H.E. Eric Walsh	120,100	
Total payments	1,357,635	453,200
Net receipts / (payments) during the year	822,243	(73,000)
Note 1 - All the receipts and payments of the Council are done through the current according to the Council's cash at bank balance.		
Amount due from The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce	815,260	74,185
Fixed deposits held on behalf of the Council by The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce:		
- National Development Bank	995,457	914,289
	1,810,717	988,474

SRI LANKA - CANADA BUSINESS COUNCIL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTSAND PAYMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023,

Note 2 - Basis of preparation

The Council's policy is to prepare the accompanying statement on the receipts and payments basis. On this basis revenue is recognized when received rather than earned, and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

The Executive committee of the Council is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Statement of Receipts and Payments.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council:

Priyantha Padmasiri

President

Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council

Capt. Gayan Gunawardena

Vice President

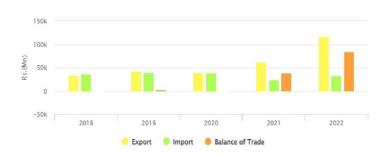
Sri Lanka - Canada Business Council

17 July 2023 Colombo

SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL TRADE WITH CANADA 2018 -2022

Sri Lanka - Canada External Trade Statistics 2021 - 2022

SRI LANKA'S EXTERNAL TRADE WITH CANADA



SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL TRADE WITH CANADA

2018 - 2022

US \$. Mn

2 of 4

Rs. Mn					US \$. Mn	
Year	Export	Import	Balance of Trade	Export	Import	Balance of Trade
2018	34,199	36,667	-2,468	210.40	225.59	-15.18
2019	42,978	40,128	2,850	240.39	224.45	15.94
2020	39,424	38,511	914	212.51	207.58	4.93
2021	62,249	23,690	38,560	313.00	119.11	193.88
2022	117,107	33,068	84,039	360.83	101.89	258.94

PERCENTAGE SHARE OF CANADA IN TOTAL TRADE OF SRI LANKA

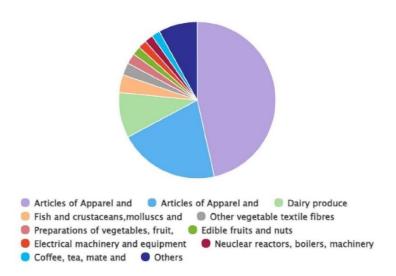
Year	Export %	Import %	
2018	1.73	1.02	
2019	2.01	1.15	
2020	1.99	1.33	
2021	2.56	0.59	
2022	2.83	0.61	

TOTAL SRI LANKA TRADE WITH ALL COUNTRIES

Rs. Mn							
Year	Export	Import	Balance of Trade	Year	Export	Import	Balance of Trade
2018	1,974,260	3,587,048	-1,612,788	2018	12,146.31	22,068.71	-9,922.41
2019	2,140,876	3,482,346	-1,341,470	2019	11,974.92	19,478.39	-7,503.47
2020	1,980,785	2,891,600	-910,814	2020	10,676.94	15,586.46	-4,909.52
2021	2,436,109	3,988,063	-1,551,953	2021	12,249.14	20,052.61	-7,803.47
2022	4.135.955	5.419.585	-1.283.630	2022	12.743.66	16.698.77	-3.955.11

Source : Sri Lanka Customs Copyright © 2023 Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

MAIN ITEMS EXPORTED FROM SRI LANKA TO CANADA - 2022

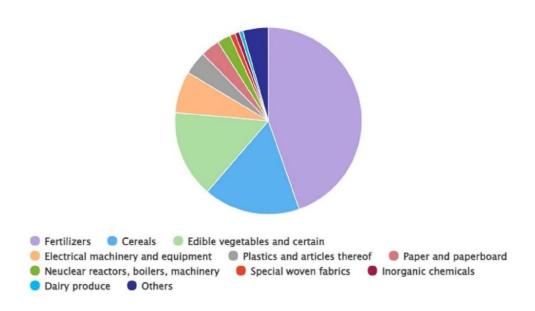


	Rs. Mn	%	US \$ Mn
Articles of Apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	54,478	46.52	167.86
Articles of Apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	24,219	20.68	74.62
Dairy produce	10,947	9.35	33.73
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	4,306	3.68	13.27
Other vegetable textile fibres	2,998	2.56	9.24
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants	2,566	2.19	7.91
Edible fruits and nuts	2,098	1.79	6.46
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof	2,031	1.73	6.26
Neuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, parts thereof.	2,029	1.73	6.25
Coffee, tea, mate and spices	2,027	1.73	6.25
Other	9,408	8.03	28.99
Total	117,107	100.00	360.83

RATE OF EXCHANGE AVERAGE 2022 - US \$ 1 = Rs. 324.55

Source : Sri Lanka Customs Copyright © 2023 Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. 3 of 4

MAIN ITEMS IMPORTED TO SRI LANKA FROM CANADA - 2022



	Rs. Mn	%	US \$ Mn
Fertilizers	14,771	44.67	45.51
Cereals	5,508	16.66	16.97
Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	4,992	15.10	15.38
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof	2,380	7.20	7.33
Plastics and articles thereof	1,343	4.06	4.14
Paper and paperboard	1,084	3.28	3.34
Neuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, parts thereof.	769	2.32	2.37
Special woven fabrics	304	0.92	0.94
Inorganic chemicals	252	0.76	0.78
Dairy produce	202	0.61	0.62
Other	1,462	4.42	4.50
Total	33,068	100.00	101.89

RATE OF EXCHANGE AVERAGE 2022 - US \$ 1 = Rs. 324.55

Source : Sri Lanka Customs Copyright © 2023 Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.