

# NCI NEWSLETTER

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7th Edition, December, 2024



## Dear Members, Partners and Stakeholders,

We are excited to share with you the latest edition of the NCI Newsletter!

In this issue, we highlight the impactful initiatives, key developments, and success stories that define our journey toward growth and progress. You'll also find updates on recent events, insights into ongoing programs, and a preview of upcoming activities designed to support and empower our members.

At NCI, we are committed to fostering collaboration, driving innovation, and strengthening our community. Your continued support and involvement are the foundation of our success.

Thank you for being a valued part of NCI's journey. We look forward to achieving even greater milestones together!

## Top News

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# Field Visit to Vavuniya



A team comprising NCI Directors and the CEO visited the University of Vavuniya on 1st October following an invitation from the Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies. The purpose of the visit was to participate in the student internship program organized by the university.

Students from the Department of Marketing and Management had successfully completed their 3rd year coursework and were prepared to undertake internships to gain practical experience.

NCI gathered details from its members who were interested in hiring interns for a six-month period and actively participated in the program. Several companies and NGOs also took part in the selection process.

During the visit, NCI conducted interviews and selected suitable students to be placed as interns with its member organizations.





## Meeting with Members

On December 14, 2024, NCI held a meeting with members to discuss the Indian delegation visit, HATCH program, Cargills marketing, and AGM preparations. Chairman Mr. Pooranachandran led the session, with presentations from the Vice Chairman on HATCH and Mr. Balakumar of Cargills on key product aspects. The meeting lasted from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Meeting with LEEDS

On October 16, 2024, NCI held a discussion with the Lanka Enterprises Entrepreneur Development Services (LEEDS) team, including Mr. Rolf Spiet, Mr. Nanthakumaran, and Mr. Vimalan, joined by the NCI Chairman, CEO, and Ms. Miriam Heger (virtually). Key topics included:

1. Collaboration on capacity development programs for NCI members.
2. Enhancing the pilot project on accounting and bookkeeping with the University of Jaffna.
3. Promoting hygiene practices for food handlers and manufacturing businesses.
4. Adopting a results-oriented approach to SME service delivery.



# Meeting with Northern Province Governor



A meeting was organized with the new Governor, Mr. N. Vethanayagam, on 26th November 2024 at the Governor's Secretariat. This marked the first meeting between the representatives of the Northern Chamber of Industries (NCI) and the Governor following the formation of the new government and the appointment of the new Governor for the Northern Province.

Miriam Heger, the Long-Term Expert of the OAV BMO project, along with the NCI Chairman, Directors, and CEO, participated in the discussion.

The meeting served as an introduction for the Long-Term Expert of the BMO project and the NCI Directors. It focused on NCI's activities, project initiatives, and Micro, Small, and Medium Scale Industry (MSME) development in the Northern Province.

Miriam Heger began by introducing herself and providing an overview of the German Federal Ministry, OAV, and the past, present and future project activities with NCI. She emphasized the importance of holding regular meetings between the Governor and NCI every two months to ensure effective follow-up actions. She also highlighted the partnership between the Women Chamber of Industries and Commerce (WCIC) and the BMO Project.

# Tourism Engagement Program

Tourism in Sri Lanka is one of the fastest-growing industries and was the fourth-largest foreign-exchange earner in 2015. The Northern Province of Sri Lanka is a region rich in cultural heritage, natural beauty, and historical significance. It is known for its pristine beaches, ancient temples, and diverse ecosystems, making it an emerging destination for tourism development.

To strengthen the industry and foster collaboration, the Northern Chamber of Industries (NCI) conducted a programme with tourism stakeholders and entrepreneurs in Mannar District on 7th December 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at Mannar Ahash Hotel.

The event was attended by NCI Vice Chairman Mr. Naguleswaran, Board of Directors Mr. Dilan, Mr. Pratheepan, Mr. Uruthiramoorthy, Ms. Jesmin, and CEO. On behalf of the Northern Province Tourism Bureau (NPTB), its Chairman Mr. Pathinathan and the President of the Northern Province Tourism Association (NPTA), along with hoteliers in Mannar, participated in the programme.

The programme commenced with the CEO welcoming all participants and outlining the objectives of the meeting. Following this, the NCI Vice Chairman provided an overview of the current status of tourism in Sri Lanka and highlighted the situation in Mannar. The Chairman of the NPTB then elaborated on the roles and responsibilities of the NPTB and outlined the steps taken to boost the tourism industry in the Northern Province.

Participants introduced themselves, after which the CEO delivered a presentation on NCI's activities. Subsequently, Mr. Dilan presented insights into the future of tourism in the Northern Province.







## BTCC Mannar Visit

On October 24, 2024, NCI organized a field visit with the Chairman of the British Tamil Chamber of Commerce (BTCC) to Nature Wins (Pvt) Ltd in Pooneryn and Adampan Organic Integrated Farm in Mannar.


The visit focused on strengthening trade ties, capacity-building for SMEs, facilitating market access to the UK, and promoting joint ventures. NCI's Chairman, Directors, and CEO attended the discussions, and both parties agreed to collaborate on initiatives supporting business growth and economic development in the region.

## Northern Chamber of Industries Sri Lanka



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## Upcoming Events

Photography Workshop 2

Annual General Meeting 2025

Mapping of Strategic Investment  
Opportunities in the Northern Province