



BUSINESS

IPS Policy Dialogue highlights strategies to address NCD risk factors and malnutrition in Sri Lanka

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f Sri Lanka faces a critical challenge in combating non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and malnutrition, which have significant implications for public health and national development. Despite the launch of a multisectoral action plan in 2016, NCD prevalence continues to rise in the country. Concurrently, the recent Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index by the Department of Census and Statistics indicates that malnutrition remains a pressing issue.

Recognising the urgency of addressing these concerns, the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS) hosted a Policy Dialogue focused on tackling the challenges posed by NCDs and




malnutrition. The event, titled ‘Strengthening Policies for Controlling NCD Risk Factors and Malnutrition,’ convened a diverse group of experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to explore strategies for improving the food environment and combatting these pressing issues through enhanced fiscal and regulatory policies.



The discussion was informed by several IPS research studies funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) highlighting the importance of strengthening fiscal policies and regulations to promote healthy diets in Sri Lanka. These studies emphasised the significance of periodic reviews and adjustments of tax rates to maintain the effectiveness of the Sugar-Sweetened Beverage tax (SSB tax). The role of consumer awareness in making healthier choices, particularly regarding the Traffic Light Labelling (TLL) system, was also highlighted, along with the need for the industry to produce healthier alternatives. However, the studies revealed gaps in the coverage and awareness of the TLL system, as it does not include milk-based products.

To be Continued

	
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ILO ignites spirit of youth entrepreneurship across Sri Lanka

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School Entrepreneurship Day was recently conducted across Sri Lanka with over 2000 school students from the nine provinces participating at the event organised by The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization, endorsed by the Ministry of Education.

Speaking at the event in Colombo, Minister of Education Dr. Susil Premajayantha, stated ‘Today, in Sri Lanka, we commemorate Entrepreneurship Day, a momentous occasion. I extend my gratitude to the Ceylon Chamber, the ILO and all other partners and sponsors for their instrumental roles in facilitating this event. The significance of entrepreneurship has garnered substantial attention in contemporary discussions. It’s imperative that we prioritize fostering

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IASL focuses on ‘Life Insurance in Recovering Economy’

Panel Discussion (from left): R Rajnikanth, Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer – Life Insurance Corporation (Lanka) Ltd, Thushara Ranasinghe, Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer - Ceylinco Life Insurance Limited, Moderator - Dr. Nishan de Mel, Executive Director - Verité Research, Chandana L Aluthgama, Chief Executive Officer – Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation, Lasitha Wimalaratne, Chief Executive Officer - HNB Assurance PLC, Iftikar Ahamed, Managing Director - Softlogic Life PLC

The Marketing and Sales Forum (MSF) of the Insurance Association of Sri Lanka (IASL) hosted the 14th National Forum for Life Insurance Advisors (NAFLIA) Conference on 27th November 2023, at the Monarch Imperial, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte. The theme of this year’s NAFLIA conference was ‘Life Insurance in a Recovering Economy – Focus on Fortitude’.

NAFLIA attracts leading Sales and Marketing professionals and Life Insurance advisors from the Life Insurance industry. Chief Guest Zarook, Chairman and Guest of Honour Damayanthi Fernando, Director General and other officials of the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (IRCSL), Udeni Kiridena, Chief Executive Officer of Sri Lanka Insurance institute (SLII), Charith Mahendraraja, President of Sri Lanka Insurance Broker Association (SLIBA) and CEO of

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IDB's Gold award in medium category clinched by Three Sinha Group

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Managing Director of Three Sinha Group of Companies Manjula Ariyakumara accepts the award

Three Sinha Group of Companies was awarded the Gold Award under the Medium Category at the National Industrial Excellence Awards – 2023 organized by the Industrial Development Board (IDB). The Award Ceremony was recently held at the Nelum Pokuna Mahinda Rajapaksa Theatre in Colombo under the patronage of President Ranil Wickremesinghe, and the Company's Managing Director Manjula Ariyakumara accepted the Award.

Established as a small-scale business venture, Three Sinha Group of Companies has now grown as a leader in the highly competitive Construction Industry through utmost dedication and hard work. The Company has been consistently recognized with numerous local and International Awards, including Gold and Silver Awards at the Golden National Chamber of

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