

THE DIRECTOR

VOLUME 25 | ISSUE 01



Magazine of The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors



THE ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING 2025

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

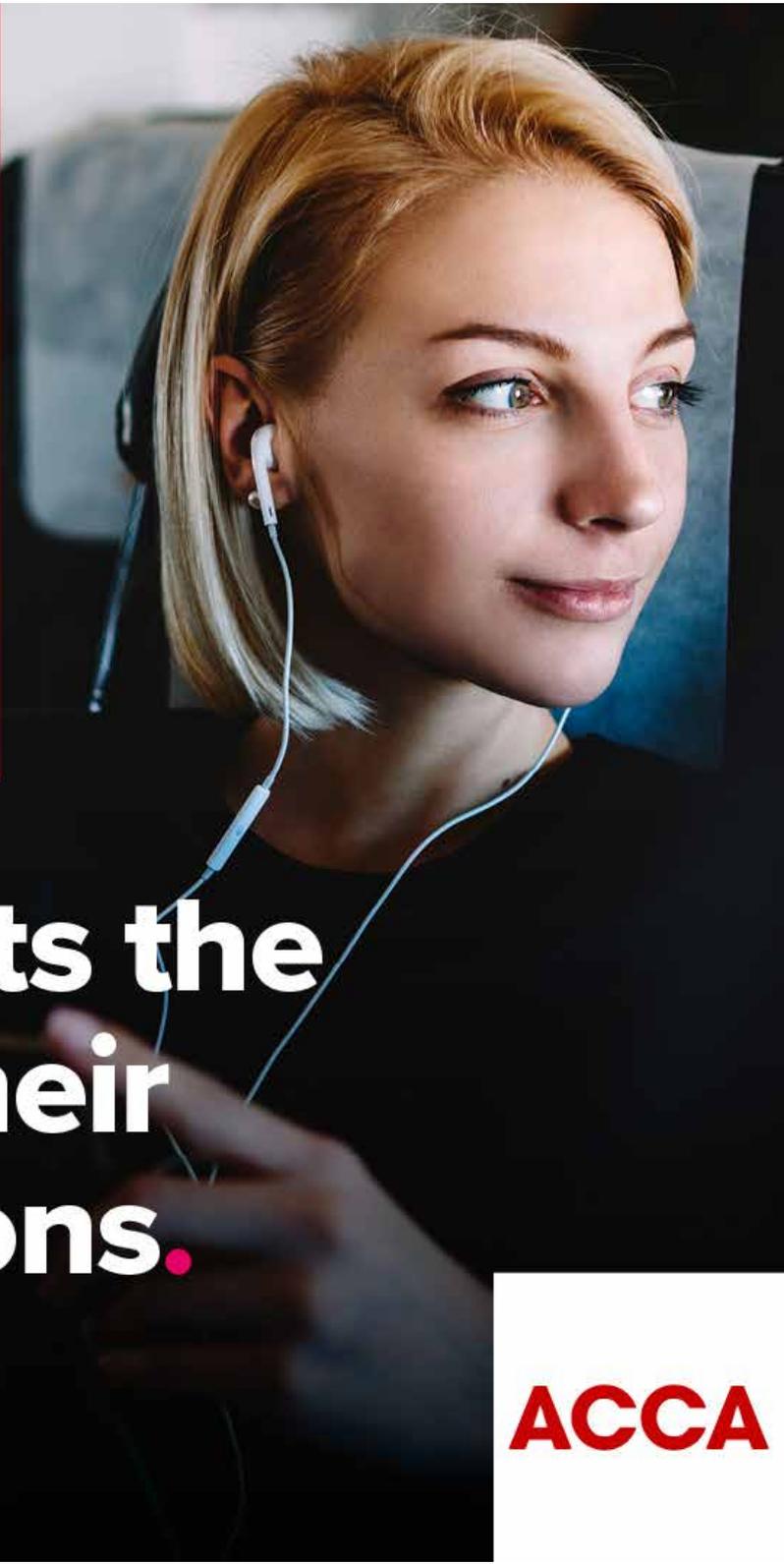
SRI LANKA VS REGION: **WOMEN'S WORKPLACE RIGHTS**

SLID'S BOARD PLACEMENT VALUE

PELWATTE DIARY'S BOARD MOVE: **RAJIVE SILVA & SLID'S IMPACT**

UNDERSTANDING 'TRUE & FAIR' FOR BOARDS

COMPANY SECRETARY'S EVOLVING ROLE



83%

of **employers**
say that...

**ACCA meets the
needs of their
organisations.**

2025 **employer survey.**

ACCA

contents

Message from the Chairman	02
Message from the CEO	03
Editorial	06
Secretariat News	07
Board Leadership Training Program (BLT)	10
SLID Celebrates 25 Years of Excellence in Boardroom Leadership	12
Train the Trainer Program	16
Building Resilience: The Evolving Landscape of Risk (ETC)	20
Board Leadership Training Program Graduation - Intake 17 and 18	21
International Women's Day Celebration	24
A View from the Board: Managing Emerging Risks In Audit Committees	26
Mediation For Commercial Dispute Resolution	28
Women in Leadership Refresher	30
Corporate Strategy & Oversight	32
Board IT Governance Masterclass	34
Building A Lasting Family Legacy	36
Unlocking Business Value with Agentic AI	38

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION



Aroshi Nanayakkara
Immediate Past Chairperson

We extend our sincerest gratitude to Ms. Aroshi Nanayakkara, Immediate Past Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID), for her exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication.

During her tenure, the 2023 Annual Members' Meeting reached a historic high when the Ex President Ranil Wickremesinghe of Sri Lanka attended as Chief Guest - marking the first-ever presidential presence at our AMM and underscoring the Institute's growing influence on national discourse.

Under her stewardship, SLID made history by organizing Sri Lanka's First-Ever International Director Conference, held on 29 October 2024 under the theme "The Courage to be Bold." The groundbreaking event featured insights from over 20 local and international thought leaders across four dynamic sessions—on business growth, digital transformation, sustainability, and strategic governance. In addition,

SLID Membership exceeded 1,000 for the first time in SLID's 25-year history, accompanied by record-breaking profitability and enhanced institutional stature.

As Immediate Past Chairperson, Ms. Nanayakkara significantly advanced SLID's corporate governance initiatives and championed the growth and visibility of women in leadership roles. Her strategic focus and inclusive leadership not only elevated SLID's standing but also inspired peers across the boardroom community.

We deeply appreciate Ms. Nanayakkara's visionary guidance, relentless drive, and the lasting impact of her tenure. Her contributions have laid a strong foundation for SLID's continued success and leadership in Sri Lanka's corporate landscape.



Message from the Chairman

Dinesh Weerakkody

Chairman, Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID)

I am honored to assume the role of Chairman of the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID), effective 2 July 2025, with the confidence of our esteemed Governing Council. I take on this responsibility with gratitude and a clear resolve to strengthen boardroom leadership and corporate governance across Sri Lanka.

My experience spans chairing leading financial institutions—including my current role at Union Bank and previous chairmanships at Hatton National Bank PLC and Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC—alongside advisory positions to government and leadership roles in development bodies. This breadth of exposure allows me to bring a holistic perspective on governance and board effectiveness. I believe SLID's mandate is clear: to foster strategic, ethical, and future-ready leadership at the highest levels of decision-making.

Sri Lanka stands at a defining moment. Having demonstrated resilience through economic adversity, we now have the opportunity to accelerate innovation, attract strategic investment, and embed people-centered leadership. SLID is

uniquely positioned to empower its members with the knowledge, networks, and global perspectives required to shape this future.

In the months ahead, SLID will continue to deliver world-class programs—most notably the IFC-certified and SEC-accredited Board Leadership Training Program (BLT)—as well as curated forums and peer-to-peer platforms focused on strategic foresight, digital transformation, and governance integrity.

I invite our growing community of more than 950 directors, CEOs, and governance professionals to actively engage with SLID's evolving agenda, share best practices, and mentor the next generation of boardroom leaders. Together, we can enhance board effectiveness, raise governance standards, and elevate Sri Lanka's standing on the global stage.

Thank you for your trust and commitment. I look forward to working with all of you as we advance SLID's vision: Elevating Boardroom Excellence.



Message from the CEO

Anitra Perera

Chief Executive Officer

As we step into the second half of 2025, it is with deep pride and gratitude that I reflect on the journey of the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) and share my thoughts at the threshold of a landmark moment — our 25th Anniversary in 2025/2026. This anniversary is not only a celebration of SLID's achievements, but also a reaffirmation of our enduring responsibility to set the benchmark for corporate governance in Sri Lanka.

Over the past year, SLID has continued to expand its influence and impact, driving excellence across boardrooms and strengthening the governance ecosystem. It has been a transformative period marked by strategic growth, renewed partnerships, innovation in training, and an enhanced connection with our members and stakeholders.

Strategic Growth and Partnerships

This year has seen the expansion of SLID's partnership network, which plays a vital role in shaping the future of governance dialogue. A key highlight was welcoming Huawei Sri Lanka as a sponsor and collaborator on the SLID CXO Forum. This partnership underscores our commitment to bridging governance with digital transformation, particularly at the intersection of finance, technology, and leadership. It also signals SLID's continued ability to engage global leaders and foster meaningful collaborations that benefit the Sri Lankan business community.

Alongside Huawei, our long-standing corporate and strategic partners have been instrumental in ensuring SLID continues to deliver excellence. The trust placed in us by sponsors, thought partners, and industry leaders reaffirms the value of our work and the strength of SLID as a governance institution.

Secretariat Transformation to Deliver Excellence

In parallel with these external developments, we recognized the importance of strengthening our own internal capacity. To this end, SLID undertook a comprehensive restructuring of the Secretariat. This transformation added new competencies in operations, events, digital engagement, and stakeholder services. Already, the results are visible — faster execution, stronger event delivery, and more personalized support for our members and partners.

This new Secretariat structure positions SLID to deliver on an increasingly ambitious agenda, while ensuring that members, corporate partners, and the wider community experience a higher level of service and engagement.

Driving Boardroom Excellence

Training and development remain at the heart of SLID's mission. Our flagship Board Leadership Training (BLT) program continues to be regarded as an essential credential for directors committed to ethical

and effective board service. Intakes 17 and 18 were completed with over 380 participants across 27 sessions, while Intake 19 was launched with renewed focus.

To keep our offerings future-ready, we introduced specialized Board Leadership Refresher Programs and a Train the Trainer (TOT) initiative, designed to ensure that our facilitators remain at the cutting edge of governance education. These efforts contribute to building a deeper bench of board-ready leaders who are equipped to meet today's evolving challenges.

Recognizing the diversity of governance needs across sectors, SLID also customized BLT programs for COYLE and EO Sri Lanka. These programs provided over 70 entrepreneurial leaders with practical tools for governance, financial stewardship, and strategic oversight — extending SLID's reach into emerging and entrepreneurial ecosystems.

A Year of High-Impact Events

Beyond training, 2025 has been a year rich with thought leadership and dialogue. SLID hosted more than 50 events engaging over 2,000 participants — a testament to our growing influence and ability to convene leaders across disciplines.

Among the most notable was the Family Business Forum held in June 2025, in collaboration with SEC, CSE, and KPMG. The keynote by Daniel Trimarchi, Global Managing

Director of KPMG's Centre of Excellence for Family Business, provided practical insights into succession planning, governance, and continuity, drawing widespread praise for its relevance and depth.

Other highlights included:

- Board IT Governance Masterclasses – focused on aligning IT with business strategy and resilience
- Audit Committee Forums with KPMG – two impactful sessions with over 75 senior professionals
- Women Directors Forum and INED Forum – advancing DEI, accountability, and strategic leadership
- Young Directors Forum – building visibility, confidence, and leadership networks
- Mediation and Risk Webinars – fostering foresight and resilience in a complex risk environment

Together, these events reinforced SLID's role as the nucleus of governance dialogue in Sri Lanka.

Expanding Our Voice

A central part of SLID's influence lies in thought leadership. We strengthened our voice through:

The quarterly Director Magazine, which captures governance insights and best practices

Opinion columns in the Daily FT and other platforms, extending our reach into national policy discussions

Targeted campaigns across digital and social media channels, amplifying our message and engaging a wider audience

Additionally, our Board Placement and Board Evaluation Services grew in importance this year, providing critical support to organizations seeking to enhance governance effectiveness and succession planning.

Gratitude to Our Partners

The progress achieved this year would not have been possible without the commitment of our valued sponsors and partners. We are deeply grateful to our Platinum Sponsors — Just In Time Group, Sampath Bank, LYNEAR, SAT, Huawei, and BoardPAC — and our Gold Sponsor, A. Baur & Co., for their steadfast support.

Our Strategic Partners, including KPMG, Ernst & Young (EY), ACCA, ICCSL, CFA Society Sri Lanka, IFC, Transparency International Sri Lanka, Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE), and CIMA, have been pivotal in shaping the relevance and depth of our content and governance dialogue.

We also acknowledge our Technology and Media Partners — Sampath IT Solutions, Daily FT, and Triad — whose collaboration enhanced our outreach and digital engagement.

Looking Ahead: SLID at 25

As we prepare to celebrate our 25th Anniversary, we do so with a vision that is both ambitious and purposeful. This milestone year will feature a special calendar of flagship events, legacy-focused initiatives, and regional collaborations that reflect SLID's journey and its pivotal role in shaping governance in Sri Lanka.

Our focus will be on:

- Introducing AI and digital governance tools into boardrooms
- Scaling Women's Leadership and INED Forums to drive diversity and inclusivity
- Strengthening international collaborations, positioning Sri Lanka within global governance dialogue
- Championing ESG and sustainability, embedding resilience and accountability into board practice

- Expanding board evaluation and placement services, ensuring stronger governance outcomes for organizations

This anniversary is both a celebration of our past and a platform for our future.

Leadership Transition

It is also a time of leadership renewal. I warmly welcome our new Chairman, Mr. Dinesh Weerakkody, whose wealth of experience and reputation as a champion of governance will guide SLID into its next phase of influence. His leadership comes at a pivotal time, as SLID prepares to scale its impact locally, regionally, and globally.

At the same time, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our Immediate Past Chairperson, Ms. Aroshi Nanayakkara, whose bold vision, inclusivity, and transformative leadership have left an indelible mark on SLID. Her tenure has not only elevated the Institute but also inspired greater visibility for women in leadership and board governance.

Closing Thoughts

As we celebrate 25 years of SLID, I am reminded that our success is built on collective effort — the unwavering support of our Council, the dedication of our Committee Chairs, the trust of our partners, and the tireless commitment of our Secretariat team.

Together, we are not only strengthening Sri Lankan boardrooms but also contributing to a stronger, more resilient nation. With the confidence of our members and the guidance of our new Chairman, I am optimistic that SLID's next chapter will be one of even greater relevance, impact, and inspiration.



THE SRI LANKA
INSTITUTE OF
DIRECTORS

ELEVATING BOARDROOM EXCELLENCE



A MEMBER OF

ondi
GLOBAL NETWORK OF
DIRECTOR INSTITUTES



FOLLOW US



WWW.SLID.LK



EDITORIAL

Corporate Governance



Mr Rasakantha Rasaiah
Editor – SLID Magazine

The origin of the concept of corporate governance is associated with Bob Tricker who introduced it in a book titled Corporate Governance published in 1984.

There is more than one definition of the term Corporate Governance (CG) but the commonly accepted and used definition is that CG is the set of rules and processes that guide how a company is managed and supervised. If we go by this definition of CG, crucial to its success is the need for companies and businesses to operate on values that are based on moral principles in the interest of all of their stakeholders, including shareholders, management and employees.

The purpose of CG is to encourage and facilitate effective management that can deliver long-term success of a company. CG is believed to guarantee that every member of a company or organisation follows appropriate and transparent decision-making processes that would benefit all of its stakeholders.

The striking characteristics of CG are Fairness, Accountability, Transparency and Disclosure. Treating all stakeholders equitably and making certain they all have equal access to information and opportunities is Fairness. Holding the board and management responsible for their decisions and actions is the purpose of Accountability. Transparency and Disclosure make the management of a company answerable to its performance. Responsibility is meant to make

certain that a company acts at all times in its best interests and those of its shareholders. Avoidance of conflicts of interests and the making of informed decisions are also significant aspects of Responsibility of a company. Openness and honesty in dealings with stakeholders and the provision of timely and accurate information about the financial performance and governance practices make up the principle of Transparency, a most important attribute of CG. Keeping stakeholders informed of company activities, its future plans and the potential risks it may have to face are factors that come under Disclosure.

The key components of CG of a company are its Board of Directors, the Management, the Shareholders and Stakeholders. The central governing body of a company that sets its strategic goals, provides leadership to it, supervises the management and reports to its shareholders is the board of directors of that company. Those members of a company who implement the strategic decisions and manage the day-to-day operations constitutes its management. The owners of the company who have rights and an interest in its performance and values make up the shareholders of it while the employees, customers, suppliers and the community a company serves are its stakeholders.

There exist several different corporate government models of which the prominent are the following:

- The Anglo-American Model which is shareholder-centric with a one tier board;
- The Continental European (German) Model which is stakeholder-centric and has a two-tier board with employee representation;
- The Nordic Model or the Social Control Model which balances the needs of shareholders with those of the other stakeholders including employees, customers and the community. Here the emphasis is on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in addition to the financial performance of the company, and
- The Japanese Model where the focus is on the long-term stability of the company in which all of its stakeholders bear joint responsibility for its governance.

It is important to bear in mind that good corporate governance will benefit all stakeholders of a company. It will also enhance the operations and the reputation of a company. Conversely, bad corporate governance could result in reputational damage to and a loss of trust in a company which in turn will damage the brand and reputation of that company.

Secretariat News

SECRETARIAT

We are delighted to introduce our team members of the Secretariat! Their presence strengthens our team and brings fresh energy, ideas, and skills. We are confident they will make valuable contributions as we continue our work in governance, compliance, and excellence.



**PRIYANGI
ABEYWICKRAMA**
Manager Operations



AADILA HASSIM
Consultant - Digital
Content & Support
Services



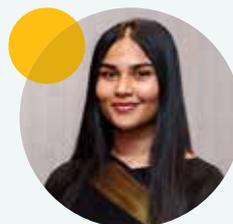
KISANI DAHANAYAKE
Consultant - Committees
& Programs



IVANTHIKA PERERA
Coordinator - Committees
& Forums



TATIANA DIRCKZE
Administrative
Coordinator



SAFNA HANAZ
Assistant Manager



JANITH BUDDHIKA
Finance Executive

JULY – DECEMBER, 2025

CALENDAR OF

EVENTS



THE SRI LANKA
INSTITUTE OF
DIRECTORS



JUL	02	13TH ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING Oak Room, Cinnamon Grand 6PM Onwards
JUL	14	CAN BANKS DE-RISK & INNOVATE IN THIS HYPER-COMPETITIVE AGE WITH TECHNOLOGY CXO FORUM Oak Room, Cinnamon Grand 6PM Onwards
JUL	16 & 17	BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM INTAKE 19 PART 3 (DAY 1 & 2) Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 9AM – 5PM
JUL	21 & 22	CUSTOMIZED BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM ENTREPRENEURS' ORGANIZATION, SRILANKA-PART 3 & 4 Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 9AM – 5PM
JUL	31	WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP THIRD INTAKE WDF City Club Meeting Room, Cinnamon Grand 9AM – 5PM
AUG	06 & 07	BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM INTAKE 19 PART 4 (DAY 1 & 2) Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 9AM – 5PM
SEP	03	INVESTING IN THE COLOMBO STOCK MARKET – THE NEXT PHASE OF GROWTH CSE FORUM Port City 5.30PM – 8.30PM
SEP	15	A FOCUS FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEES TO MANAGE TECH RISKS ACF Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 4.30PM – 6PM
SEP	19	IFRS S1 & S2 REPORTING – BREAKFAST EVENT ETC The London Grill – Cinnamon Grand 7.30AM – 11AM
SEP	27	HOW AI IS RESHAPING JOBS, SKILLS AND THE WORKPLACE Webinar 4PM – 6PM
OCT	03	PROMPT ENGINEERING WORKSHOP WDF City Club Meeting Room, Cinnamon Grand 3PM – 6PM
OCT	07	A FIRESIDE CHAT ON CYBERSECURITY – TRENDS, CHALLENGES & STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN A DIGITAL WORLD ITC Atrium, Cinnamon Grand 4PM – 6PM
OCT	15	A MENTOR-MENTEE MEET UP WDF Sequel, Cinnamon Grand 6.30PM Onwards
OCT	22 & 23	BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM INTAKE 20 PART 1 (DAY 1 & 2) Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 9AM – 5PM
OCT	24	ESG MASTERCLASS City Club Meeting Room, Cinnamon Grand 9.00AM – 5.00PM
OCT	28	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & TALENT MANAGEMENT INED Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 5.30PM – 7.30PM
OCT	29	CHAIRPERSON CEO FORUM Oak Room, Cinnamon Grand 5.30PM Onwards
NOV	12	FRS SESSION 02 – BREAKFAST EVENT ETC The London Grill – Cinnamon Grand 7.30AM – 10.30AM
NOV	19 & 20	BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM INTAKE 20 PART 2 (DAY 1 & 2) Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand 9AM – 5PM
NOV	25	INNOVATION ITC London Grill, Cinnamon Grand 7.30AM – 10.30AM
DEC	01	CHRISTMAS CAROLS Port City 6.30PM Onwards

CONNECT WITH US

076 738 3050 | iod@slid.lk | www.slid.lk

Think Ahead

ACCA

SLID THE SRI LANKA
INSTITUTE OF
DIRECTORS

25



SLID - ACCA NATIONAL DIRECTOR AWARDS 2025

Celebrating Visionary Leadership

Inspiring Corporate Excellence to Greater Heights

SLID EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Board Leadership Training Program (BLT)

The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) continues to strengthen corporate governance and boardroom excellence through its flagship Board Leadership Training Program. With the successful completion of Intakes 17 and 18, the program has marked yet another milestone in cultivating dynamic, responsible, and forward-thinking leadership across Sri Lanka’s corporate landscape. The Board Leadership Training Program stands as a benchmark in governance excellence—preparing leaders to steer their organizations with integrity, accountability, and bold vision.

With each new intake, SLID builds a stronger network of certified board professionals committed to advancing good governance, ethical leadership, and long-term value creation. As Intake 19 progresses, SLID invites forward-thinking professionals to be part of future cohorts—those ready to lead with purpose, resilience, and, as the Institute often emphasizes, the courage to be bold.



Huawei **DCS**

Full-Stack Data Center Solution

The Optimal Virtualization Alternative

2024 **Gartner** « Market Guide for Server Virtualization »

Huawei **DCS**

Recommended in Representative Vendors' List



*DCS: Datacenter Virtualization Solution

SLID CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN BOARDROOM LEADERSHIP

A memorable evening of reflection, recognition, and renewal marked the Annual Members Meeting 2025 and 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID). The event commemorated twenty-five years of SLID's steadfast commitment to strengthening boardroom leadership, advancing corporate governance, and empowering directors across Sri Lanka.

The evening brought together a distinguished gathering of business leaders, policymakers, council members, and long-standing partners who have played a pivotal role in shaping SLID's journey since its inception in 2000. The presence of Chief Guest Hon. Vijitha Herath and Guest of Honor H.E. Semih Lütfü Turgut added further prestige to this milestone occasion, highlighting the institute's growing stature in both national and international spheres.

A highlight of the evening was the handover of Chairmanship from Ms. Aroshi Nanayakkara to Mr. Dinesh Weerakkody, symbolizing a new era of leadership and strategic direction. The transition reflected the institute's enduring legacy of visionary governance and its continued evolution to meet the needs of modern directors.

Throughout the event, members reflected on SLID's achievements over the past 25 years, including its leadership development programmes, advocacy for governance standards, and collaborations that have elevated Sri Lanka's corporate sector. The celebration also served as a platform to recognize the contributions of past leaders and reaffirm the institute's commitment to its founding mission.

As the evening concluded, there was a strong sense of pride and optimism among attendees. The event not only honored SLID's remarkable journey but also looked ahead with renewed purpose, to continue shaping ethical, forward-thinking leadership for the next generation of Sri Lankan directors.





WOMEN DIRECTORS' FORUM

In the evolving landscape of gender equity, women's workplace rights remain a powerful indicator of a nation's commitment to inclusive economic growth. Sri Lanka, with its rich history of female leadership and high literacy rates among women, offers a compelling case study when benchmarking progress against its South Asian and broader Asia-Pacific counterparts. Despite some noteworthy gains, significant challenges persist, revealing a gap between legislation and lived experiences in the world of work.

In terms of women's representation in the formal workforce, Sri Lanka performs moderately. Female labor force participation hovers around 34%—significantly lower than that of Bangladesh (approximately 38%) and Vietnam (over 70%). Cultural expectations regarding women's roles in care-giving and household responsibilities continue to limit their economic participation.

When it comes to leadership roles in corporate or government institutions, the contrast is more stark. While Sri Lanka was once a pioneer in women's political leadership—electing the world's first female prime minister in 1960—current representation in both politics and senior management remains low. Women hold only 10% of seats in Parliament and are underrepresented in boardrooms and executive leadership across most industries. Women on the boards of listed companies still only represent 13.4 % of directors.

By comparison, countries like Indonesia and Malaysia have made notable strides through gender

quotas, leadership development initiatives, and diversity disclosure requirements for public companies. These measures have helped accelerate the rise of women in decision-making roles, while Sri Lanka's initiatives remain more fragmented and less institutionalized.

Workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, is an under reported yet widespread issue in Sri Lanka. While the country has legal provisions under the Penal Code and Employment Laws addressing sexual harassment, awareness and implementation remain weak. Victims often lack accessible reporting mechanisms and fear retaliation or reputational damage.

In contrast, countries like India have enacted comprehensive laws such as the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, mandating internal complaints committees in all workplaces with more than ten employees. While implementation varies across sectors in India, the legal framework provides clearer accountability and more robust support systems than what currently exists in Sri Lanka.

A majority of Sri Lankan women work in the informal sector or engage in unpaid labor—particularly in caregiving and subsistence farming—without access to social protections or labor rights. This is not unique to Sri Lanka, but its policy response has been slower than some neighbors. India and Bangladesh have introduced welfare boards and social protection schemes for informal women workers, including access to health insurance, pensions, and skill development programs.

PATHWAYS FORWARD

To close these gaps and align more closely with regional best practices, Sri Lanka must focus on a few critical areas:

Expanding Representation: Introducing affirmative action policies, leadership training for women, and corporate diversity mandates can help elevate women into decision-making roles.

Addressing Informal Work: Extending legal protections and social security to informal sector workers—many of whom are women—would dramatically improve economic equity.

Data and Accountability: Collecting and publishing gender-disaggregated labor data will enable better tracking of progress and inform evidence-based policy.

Cultural Transformation: Beyond laws, societal attitudes toward gender roles need continuous evolution. Public campaigns, inclusive education, and media engagement can play a pivotal role in shifting norms.

CONCLUSION

Sri Lanka has the foundational elements for advancing women's workplace rights, but progress has been uneven and often symbolic. Benchmarking against countries like the Philippines, India, and Vietnam shows that with strong political will, better enforcement, and systemic reforms, tangible gains are possible. Empowering women in the workplace is not merely a matter of fairness—it is a driver of national prosperity and resilience. As the region races toward inclusive development, Sri Lanka must ensure its women are not left behind.

BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (BLT)

NEXT INTAKE | OCTOBER 2025



Enhance your skills contributing to the creation of an effective board culture and performance whilst learning the entire range of duties and responsibilities of a director.

Part 1

October 21st / 22nd

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

- Module 01: Introduction to Corporate Governance
- Module 02: The Business Case for Governance
- Module 03: Disclosure and Transparency
- Module 04: Shareowners and Stakeholders

Part 2

November 19th / 20th

THE BOARD

- **Module 01:** Board's Roles, Directors' Duties and Liabilities
- **Module 02:** The Effective Board - Composition and Structure
- **Module 03:** The Board in Practice
- **Module 04:** The Board in Action

Part 3

January 21st / 22nd

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

- **Module 01:** The Governance of Strategy
- **Module 02:** Evaluating Strategy Delivery and Executive Directors' Performance
- **Module 03:** The Governance of Risk
- **Module 04:** Corporate Responsibility

Part 4

February 18th / 19th

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Module 01:** Financial Oversight
- **Module 02:** Reporting
- **Module 03:** Corporate Finance
- **Module 04:** Corporate Responsibility

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Improved director effectiveness
- Full understanding of directors' duties and liabilities
- Comprehension of the board's role, practices, and procedures

PROGRAM DELIVERY

- Delivered by trained trainers
- Supported by experienced practicing directors
- Source content interwoven by an all-encompassing case study
- Closing panel discussion with senior practicing directors

FOR REGISTRATIONS

- SLID Members : Rs. 50,000/- per part **Total: Rs. 200,000/-**
- Non-Members : Rs. 60,000/- per part **Total: Rs. 240,000/-**

✉ ops@slid.lk 📞 076 7383050 🌐 www.slid.lk



**9:00 AM –
5:00 PM EACH DAY**



**CINNAMON GRAND,
COLOMBO**

CORPORATE DISCOUNTS:

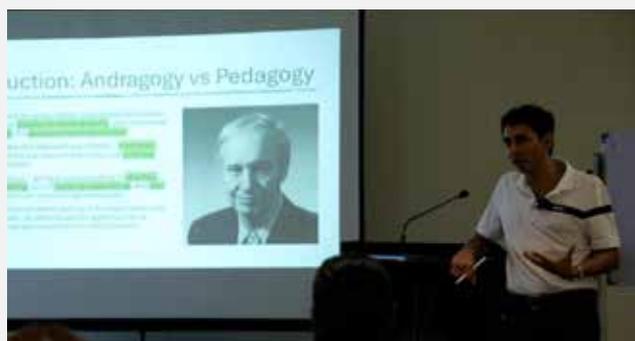
- 5% FOR 5–9 PARTICIPANTS
- 10% FOR 10+ PARTICIPANTS

Train the Trainer Program

The Train the Trainer (TOT) Program, held on January 25, 2025, at the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID), marked a significant milestone in advancing professional development and boardroom effectiveness. This initiative set a new standard in capacity building, reinforcing SLID's commitment to promoting excellence in corporate governance and leadership.

Designed to strengthen the delivery of SLID's core training initiatives—including Board Leadership Training (BLT), IT Governance, and Women's Leadership Training under the Women Directors Forum—the TOT program aimed to equip facilitators with cutting-edge training techniques and advanced facilitation skills.

The session featured an esteemed panel comprising Dr. Dusty Alahakoon, Chairman of NEXT Education Group; Aroshi Nanayakkara, Chairperson of SLID; and Aruni Rajakarier, Founder Director of SheConsults, equipping trainers with advanced facilitation skills to drive stronger governance, leadership, and digital transformation. The program engaged over 16 participants, each of whom brought a wealth of experience and a shared dedication to enhancing the quality and effectiveness of SLID's training programs.



THE INVISIBLE BACKBONE OF PROGRESS

At the heart of every successful digital transformation is an unseen force, a team driving progress without seeking the spotlight. That force is Just In Time Technologies.

For nearly three decades, JIT Technology group has stood behind the scenes of some of the most transformative technological advancements and played a vital role in shaping Sri Lanka's digital transformation journey quietly, reliably, and with unwavering commitment to excellence. More than just a provider of ICT solutions, the company has become an integral part of the nation's technological evolution. With twenty-nine years of dedicated service, JIT has supported national progress as a strategic enabler across key sectors including Government, Defense, Banking and Financial Services, Telecommunications, and Enterprise.

This longstanding journey reflects a profound commitment to strengthening national infrastructure. The company has delivered pioneering solutions that have helped redefine how the country operates and connects. From designing mission-critical systems such as the National Identity platform and CCAPS to enabling real-time gross settlement systems and developing satellite-based oil spill detection capabilities, JIT has built a legacy of robust, reliable platforms. These solutions have become the backbone of the country's operational resilience and digital identity. The company's expertise spans core banking, secure telecommunications, advanced defense technologies, and large-scale e-governance frameworks.

JIT's legacy is built on reliability, innovation, and continuous adaptation. The company embraces emerging technologies like AI, Blockchain, IoT, 5G, and clean energy, ensuring future-ready solutions. Strategic global partnerships with leaders like Silverlake, FIS, and Thales, along with ISO 27001 and ISO 9001 certifications, underline its commitment to quality and security.

But JIT's impact goes beyond technology. Through ESG-aligned initiatives such as Suwa Arana and youth scholarship programs, the company advances community welfare and supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Looking ahead, JIT remains focused on delivering purposeful, high-impact solutions that strengthen business resilience and drive national progress. More than a service provider, JIT is more than a service provider. It is a trusted partner in your digital journey. Through deep domain knowledge and a consultative approach, the company continues to deliver solutions that are future-ready, results-oriented, and aligned with long-term national progress.

Why Work With Us

At Just In Time Technologies, we don't chase trends. We cultivate mastery. In a fast-moving industry, we've built a workplace that values depth, purpose, and human potential.

- **Purposeful Work**

Your work will have real impact. You'll power national systems, protect assets, and enable transformation at scale.

- **Diverse Exposure**

From large-scale digital infrastructure to cloud-first enterprise strategies, you'll work across industries, platforms, and technologies.

- **Growth That Fits You**

We offer personalized learning paths, global certifications, and mentorship led by experienced professionals who have grown within JIT.

- **A Culture That Values You**

We champion collaboration, open dialogue, and mutual respect. At JIT, your voice matters and your contributions are celebrated.

We Are Looking for Visionary Talent

We're looking for confident, driven professionals to join us in key roles:

- Exceeding Sales Targets
- Delivering Innovative Pre-Sales Solutions
- Leading Strategic Finance Operations
- Driving Purposeful People Management
- Providing Business-Focused Legal Support

If you're ready to make a real impact and grow with a company that values innovation, performance, and leadership, we'd love to hear from you.

📍 370, Galle Road, Colombo 03
✉ careers@jjthpl.com

**JUST IN TIME
GROUP**

Information, Communication, Technology
PROUDLY SRI LANKAN



Pelwatte Dairy's Appointment of Rajive Silva Highlights the Value of SLID's Board Placement Services

Rajive Silva
Non-Executive Director

Pelwatte Dairy Industries has named respected digital transformation strategist Rajive Silva as its newest Non-Executive Director, marking a significant milestone in the company's ongoing growth and governance journey. The appointment — facilitated through the Board Placement Services of The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) underscores the increasing importance Sri Lankan corporates place on accessing strategic, future-ready leadership via credible, independent sources.

A seasoned business leader with a proven record in technology-driven innovation and transformative leadership, Rajive Silva brings deep expertise in digital strategy, operational restructuring, and IT-enabled growth to Pelwatte's boardroom. His appointment signals Pelwatte's intention to accelerate its digital evolution enhancing processes from production to distribution in order to compete more effectively both locally and globally.

Pelwatte's Managing Director, Akmal Wickramanayake, welcomed the appointment, noting that Silva's expertise would add significant value to the company's innovation journey, while also recognizing

the importance of SLID's role in identifying the right talent for the board.

Indeed, Silva's induction is yet another compelling success story for SLID's Board Placement Services, a specialized initiative designed to help Sri Lankan organizations identify and appoint qualified, independent directors aligned with their strategic vision. The service operates through a rigorous, transparent process backed by a database of certified and experienced board-ready professionals.

Through its tailored matching approach, SLID connects companies with directors whose competencies mirror organizational needs in this case, identifying Silva's unique blend of strategic acumen, technology leadership and board governance credentials as ideally suited to Pelwatte's ambitions. An independent & experienced committee oversees each placement to ensure integrity and governance excellence.

The appointment also showcases SLID's commitment to expanding the leadership capacity of Sri Lankan boards by providing access to a highly skilled talent pool of directors

& individuals who bring not only technical and strategic knowledge but also the independent oversight necessary for strong corporate governance.

Commenting on his new role, Rajive Silva said: "I am incredibly excited to join Pelwatte Dairy and contribute to its digital transformation journey. My goal is to provide strategic direction that enhances operational efficiency and drives sustainable growth as we position Pelwatte as an innovation-driven leader in the dairy sector."

With this appointment, both Pelwatte Dairy and SLID demonstrate how effective board composition can be a catalyst for long-term performance and industry leadership. It is also a testament to the value of tapping into structured Board Placement Services to ensure companies are guided by leaders equipped for today's fast-evolving business landscape.



LYNEAR
WEALTH

Integrity • Confidentially • Client First

**Private
Wealth
Management**

**Institutional
Asset
Management**

**Unit
Trusts**

**Multi-Family
Office**

Contact us today on **011 7345 678** to explore your options or visit us on our website at **www.lynearwealth.com**



Building Resilience: The Evolving Landscape of Risk

Organized by :Education & Training Committee (ETC)

On March 3, 2025, the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) successfully hosted a webinar titled "Building Resilience: The Evolving Landscape of Risk," facilitated by Mr. Sam Samaratunga, UK and Global Head of Risk Services at PwC. The session offered valuable insights into adopting a dynamic and forward-thinking approach to risk management. Participants explored how organizations can better anticipate and navigate emerging threats, including technological disruption, climate change, geopolitical shifts, cybersecurity risks, and evolving regulatory and social landscapes. The webinar attracted over 54 participants, comprising board members, executives, and risk professionals, all committed to strengthening organizational resilience and enhancing risk governance at the leadership level.

SLID THE SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

WEBINAR

BUILDING RESILIENCE: THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF RISK

A power-packed hour exploring the board's role in seeing risk, taking risk, building resilience, and converting risk to opportunity.

Who Should Attend?

- Directors
- C Suite Members
- Regulators
- Business Owners
- Entrepreneurs

We encourage members of Risk/Audit Committees to attend jointly.

Participation Fee:

- Members: LKR 7,000
- Non-members: LKR 8,000

FACILITATOR

SAM SAMARATUNGA
GLOBAL HEAD OF RISK SERVICES, PWC UK

MONDAY
03 MAR 2025

04:30 PM
05:30 PM

REGISTER NOW: +94 767 383000 sp@slid.lk



SRI LANKA'S NO.1 CHOICE

AAAx2
8x MORE POWER™
KODAK MAX SUPER ALKALINE

AAx2
3 YEAR GUARANTEE™
KODAK Super Heavy Duty ZINC

AAAx4
KODAK'S Longest Lasting AA Alkaline Battery™
KODAK ULTRA PREMIUM ALKALINE
10 YEAR GUARANTEE™

Brought to you by

PCL SOLUTIONS (PVT) LTD
THE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS PROVIDER

Authorized Distributor - Eco Stationery
Contact - Nalin
Hotline **+94 76 010 1715**

BOARD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM GRADUATION - INTAKE 17 AND 18

SLID's Board Leadership Training (BLT) Program – Intake 17 & 18 was successfully conducted, equipping participants with the critical skills needed for effective board leadership. The journey culminated in a prestigious graduation ceremony on March 20, 2025, recognizing the dedication and commitment of our participants. The event proudly recognized over 33 graduates, marking their successful completion of the program and their readiness to contribute meaningfully to boardroom excellence and corporate governance.



REIMAGINING “TRUE & FAIR”: WHAT BOARDS NEED TO KNOW

By Rachael Johnson, global head of risk management and corporate governance for Policy & Insights at ACCA

When boards review their organisation’s financial statements, they’re looking for a story that’s clear, complete, and trustworthy. That’s the promise behind the concept of “true and fair”, but in today’s rapidly changing risk environment that promise is being redefined.

A recent ACCA podcast episode, “Risk culture: Reimagining true and fair accounting” explores how boards can use true and fair not just as a technical accounting standard, but as a mindset. One that encourages full visibility into all material risks – not just climate and sustainability risks, but also cyber threats, fraud vulnerabilities, and more.

For directors in Sri Lanka, this evolving understanding could not be timelier.

FAST MOVING RISK LANDSCAPE

Sri Lanka, like many other countries, is experiencing a convergence of risks that fall outside traditional financial boundaries. In recent years, ransomware attacks have disrupted government services and exposed cybersecurity weaknesses in private institutions. Corporate fraud – from procurement collusion to asset misappropriation – has led to arrests, reputational damage, and shareholder backlash. Meanwhile, boards are being held increasingly accountable for their role in governance and oversight.

These events don’t always appear directly in the numbers, but their impact can be severe. If risk isn’t reported or discussed until it hits the bottom line, it may be too late.

That’s why the true and fair lens must expand to include early signals, soft indicators, and emerging risks that, though non-financial, are material in every sense.

RISK CULTURE AS A BOARDROOM CONVERSATION

What the podcast made clear is that a company’s risk culture – how it thinks, talks about, and acts on risk – is not just a function of management, but of the board. Directors must be able to ask: are we getting the full story? Are the right questions being asked? And are we relying too much on lagging indicators?

One of the strongest insights from our risk culture podcast series in general is the need to go beyond compliance. Financial statements may meet all formal requirements, but still miss critical context if risk is treated narrowly. A true and fair account should reflect both performance and vulnerability.

Here’s how that translates into practical boardroom action:

Practice	Description
Broaden disclosure scope	Boards should encourage reporting that goes beyond numbers –bringing in narrative and qualitative analysis on cyber threats, fraud investigations, regulatory changes, and operational resilience. The UK-based guide from Social Value International (SVI) offers helpful templates, even for Sri Lankan contexts, including how to account for social and environmental value, and how to disclose management decisions that shape risk exposure.
Integrate risk in board dialogue	Boards should stop treating risk as a quarterly box-tick or audit agenda item. It must be woven into all strategic discussions – from investment planning to digital transformation. This helps develop a mindset where risk is understood early and managed continuously.
Strengthen systems and assurance	Boards should ask for assurance not just on financial controls, but on systems that track and manage non-financial risks. Internal audit, risk teams, and even external auditors should be encouraged to surface issues that may not yet show up on the balance sheet but are material to future performance.

This kind of cultural shift is not easy. It requires board-level leadership, and often, a willingness to challenge conventional thinking. But it also leads to better oversight and – crucially – greater resilience.

CYBER, FRAUD, AND TRANSPARENCY

Sri Lanka has seen its share of governance breakdowns due to lack of early warning on risk. In the case of cyberattacks, incidents have increased sharply according to Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Readiness Team (CERT), including phishing and malware incidents at both public institutions and private firms. Yet many companies still treat cyber as an IT issue rather than a board concern.

Fraud, too, remains a critical issue. Recent cases involving public procurement fraud and financial misreporting show how unchecked internal risks can explode into national scandals. In such cases, reporting frameworks failed not because they didn't exist, but because they weren't trusted or activated in time.

The board's responsibility under Sri Lanka's Code of Best Practice in Corporate Governance for Public Enterprises includes ensuring the adequacy of internal controls and risk management frameworks. Directors can't fulfil this duty if they aren't hearing the full story.

A true and fair culture invites open reporting, supports whistleblowers, and brings early signals into view – not just polished financial outputs. That's not just good practice; it's a legal and ethical imperative.

THE HUMAN SIDE OF RISK CULTURE

Another idea from the podcast series, not just this episode, that resonates deeply is the human dimension of risk. Risk isn't just a spreadsheet, it's a culture. It's how freely staff feel they can speak up. It's whether bad news flows upwards. It's whether decision-makers reward transparency or hide behind technicalities.

Directors play a unique role in shaping this culture. They set the tone by the questions they ask, the disclosures they demand, and the courage they show in pushing for clarity. True and fair begins with curiosity and professional scepticism, not compliance.

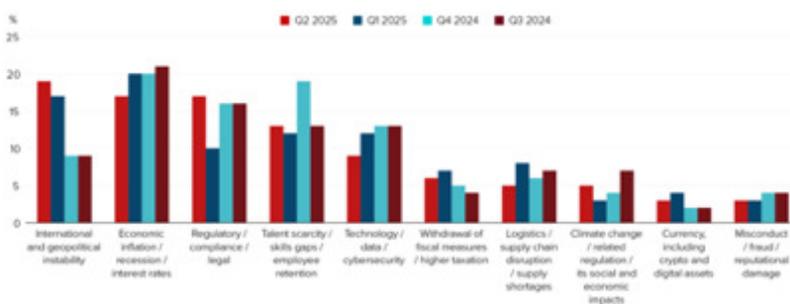
FROM CHECKLIST TO MINDSET

For Sri Lankan boards, the way forward is not only about adopting new frameworks but reimagining old ones. True and fair can no longer be viewed as an accounting test. It is a call to leadership.

Boards that embrace this mindset will be better positioned to navigate the risks that matter most – whether that's the next cyberattack, a sudden regulatory shift, or a long-simmering internal control failure.

And ultimately, they will earn the trust not only of regulators and investors, but of the people who depend on them most.

Top ranked risk priorities – change over the past year – Geopolitics tops our risk rankings for the first time.



Source: ACCA/IFMA Global Risks surveys (2024-25)

ACCA THINK AHEAD Public © ACCA

International Women's Day Celebration

Organized by : Women Directors Forum (WDF)

The Women Directors' Forum successfully celebrated International Women's Day on March 24, 2025, at Sequel, Cinnamon Grand, with an engaging event centered on the theme of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

The highlight of the evening was a thought-provoking address by Ms. Lalita Kapur, Australian Deputy High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, who shared valuable insights into Australia's experience with DEI and why inclusive practices lead to stronger, more resilient organizations. With over 30 participants in attendance, the event fostered meaningful conversations and reinforced the importance of inclusive leadership in driving progress and innovation.



BOARD PLACEMENT SERVICES

Elevating Boardroom Excellence

The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) has been assisting companies in identifying and appointing qualified directors for both listed and private company boards.

HOW WE SUPPORT

- **Tailored Matching**

SLID facilitates board placements by matching companies with directors who meet their specific requirements through our extensive database.

- **Transparent Selection**

An independent committee of senior board leaders oversees the process, ensuring fairness and governance excellence.

- **Highly Skilled Talent Pool**

We provide access to a strong pipeline of well-trained, competent, and experienced board directors.

 programs@slid.lk

 +94 773 284 596

A View from the Board: Managing Emerging Risks In Audit Committees

Organized by : Audit Committee Forum (ACF)

The Audit Committee Forum Session 30, a collaborative effort between the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) and KPMG Sri Lanka, was successfully conducted on the 25th of March, 2025 at the Port City Sales Gallery, Colombo. With over 45 participants in attendance, including board members, audit committee professionals, and senior executives, the forum served as a valuable platform for exchanging in depth insights on managing emerging risks in today's dynamic business environment.



The Evolving and Critical Role of the Company Secretary in Sri Lanka's Corporate

GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

In the dynamic corporate landscape of Sri Lanka, the role of the Company Secretary has evolved far beyond its traditional administrative functions. Today, in listed companies, large unlisted companies and certain State Owned Enterprises, the Company Secretary/Board Secretary is a pivotal figure in ensuring robust governance, facilitating swift decision-making, and acting as a key advisor to the Board on regulatory compliance and governance best practices. The increasing complexities of business, coupled with the rapid integration of technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) into boardroom processes, have further elevated the importance of this role.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TIMELY DISSEMINATION OF BOARD MINUTES AND DECISIONS

One of the most crucial functions of a Company Secretary is the preparation and circulation of Board Minutes. It is not merely a statutory record-keeping exercise but a strategic tool for effective governance. Draft Board Minutes, when circulated early at least within 5 working days to Directors and the CEO, serve as an immediate reflection of the deliberations, decisions, and action points arising from the Board meeting.

In the current fast-paced business environment, delays in communicating Board decisions can impede strategic initiatives, regulatory compliance deadlines, and even affect market perceptions in the case of listed entities. Therefore, a proactive Company Secretary, who ensures that accurate draft minutes are shared soon after Board meetings, significantly contributes to organisational agility and governance efficiency.

ADVISORY ROLE ON EXISTING AND EMERGING REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

Sri Lanka's regulatory environment, is continually evolving with updates from the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE), Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SEC), and other statutory bodies. The Company Secretary plays a central role in interpreting these regulations for the Board, ensuring that Directors are not only informed of their statutory obligations but also guided on the practical implications of compliance

Given the heightened scrutiny on corporate governance practices and transparency in Sri Lanka, the Company Secretary serves as the vital bridge between regulatory authorities, the Board, and management, ensuring a culture of compliance, transparency, and ethical conduct.



Sathananthan Sudarshan (S Sudarshan)

Chairperson Governance Consultants(private)Limited and Independent Director- Peoples Leasing & Finance PLC

THE CHANGING BOARDROOM DYNAMICS WITH AI AND DIGITAL GOVERNANCE TOOLS

The advent of Artificial Intelligence and digital governance platforms is transforming the traditional boardroom setup. AI-powered tools are now capable of automating agenda preparation, tracking compliance metrics, summarising board papers, and even analysing governance risks

The Company Secretary's role evolves into that of a "Governance Orchestrator", ensuring that technology complements, rather than replaces, effective boardroom governance.

THE COMPANY SECRETARY IN A SRI LANKAN LISTED COMPANY - A GOVERNANCE KEystone

In the context of Sri Lankan listed companies, the Company Secretary carries additional responsibilities that are critical to maintaining market confidence and regulatory integrity

Mediation For Commercial Dispute Resolution

The Mediation for Commercial Dispute Resolution event was successfully held on March 26, 2025, at the International ADR Center, World Trade Center. Esteemed speakers and panelists shared valuable insights into both global and local mediation practices, emphasizing the critical role of mediation in delivering efficient, cost-effective solutions for commercial disputes.

Attended by an audience of over 25 industry professionals, the session highlighted how mediation fosters collaborative outcomes, reduces litigation burdens, and supports stronger business relationships in today's complex commercial landscape.



Board PAC



Fast, Easy, Secure Board Meetings. All at your fingertips.



- Instant access to board documents
- Real-time collaboration tools
- Seamless and paperless meetings
- Enterprise grade security protection
- Online & offline mode for directors on the go
- Ensure compliance with Companies Act SS-1 Standard



Run seamless board meetings with
Asia's #1 board management solution.



Reach out to us for a demo at
srilanka@boardpac.co or +94774667924

Women in Leadership Refresher

Organized by : Women Directors Forum (WDF)

Women Directors Forum (WDF) held a Refresher program at the London Grill, Cinnamon Grand on 30th April 2025, for the candidates who completed the Women in Leadership Training Program.

This training was designed to create the leadership pipeline that companies need in the future by grooming the second-tier female executive cadre with Training, Mentoring and Sponsorship paving the way for entry into SLID's Directory of Women Directors & Board Ready Women.

The Refresher program was organized to take these candidates through the essence of the training they obtained, sharing significant aspects of their mentoring sessions & benefits gained, whilst discussing how the program influenced their personal and professional growth. With over 15 participants in attendance, the event fostered a supportive and engaging environment, reinforcing the value of continuous development and peer learning in preparing women for future board leadership roles.



BOARD PLACEMENT

Join the Network of Leaders

Elevate Your Career with SLID's Board Placement Services

Are you an experienced board director or an aspiring leader ready to make an impact?

Join SLID's Board Placement Network and unlock exclusive opportunities to serve on corporate boards.

HOW WE SUPPORT

➤ EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

Connect with top companies looking for skilled board leaders. Gain access to exclusive networking events, industry discussions, and valuable corporate connections.

➤ ENHANCE YOUR PROFILE

Be part of SLID's premier director database, where companies can discover your expertise. Strengthen your credentials through leadership programs and governance insights.

➤ SHAPE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Play a key role in boardroom decision-making, ethical leadership, and business strategy. Contribute to strong corporate governance and sustainable growth.

 +94 773 284 596

 programs@slid.lk

 www.slid.lk

Don't miss the opportunity to step into a leadership role.

Corporate Strategy & Oversight

Organized by : Independent Non-Executive Directors Forum (INED)

The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) successfully hosted the INED Forum on 2nd June 2025 at Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand, under the compelling theme “Corporate Strategy & Oversight.” This sold-out and exclusive gathering brought together over 70 Independent Non-Executive Directors (INEDs) and senior governance professionals, reaffirming the growing importance of strategic leadership at the board level.

The forum focused on the shifting role of INEDs—from traditional oversight functions to becoming key contributors in shaping corporate strategy and long-term value creation. Expertly moderated by Faizal Salieh, Immediate Past Chairman of SLID, the panel featured an esteemed lineup: Aroshi Nanayakkara, Supun Weerasinghe, Gihan Cooray, and Ranil de Silva. Each shared candid insights and practical perspectives drawn from their boardroom experience.

The event underscored SLID’s continued commitment to enhancing board effectiveness, equipping directors to navigate today’s complex business environment with strategic foresight, accountability, and impactful governance.





Catalyst for Transformation

About Sampath IT

We help businesses move faster with scalable software, enterprise systems, and managed tech services. Sampath IT is a fully owned subsidiary of Sampath Bank PLC, operating independently to support a broad range of industries

Why Choose Us

We work closely with teams that need reliable systems not just ideas on a slide. Our focus is on building tools that integrate cleanly, perform under pressure, and last beyond the next product cycle. From planning to deployment, we stay hands-on and responsive, with a delivery mindset shaped by real-world constraints and outcomes.



Enterprise Solutions

We design and deploy systems that simplify complexity secure integrations, workflow automation, and tailored solutions that fit your operations. Built to reduce manual effort, improve oversight, and scale with your business.



Managed Services

We handle the full IT lifecycle from infrastructure and security to monitoring and end-user support. Our teams operate island-wide, delivering the reliability, responsiveness, and control enterprise systems require. No handoffs. No blind spots.



Software Solutions

We build software that runs core business with deep specialization in fintech. From loan origination engines to internal platforms, our work supports high-value operations at scale. Clean code, domain expertise, and delivery discipline built into every release.

Board IT Governance Masterclass

Organized by : Innovation & Technology Committee (ITC)

The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) successfully conducted its revamped 2025 Board IT Governance Masterclass on 29th May and 17th June 2025 at the Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand. The comprehensive two-day program brought together board members, C-level executives, and senior business leaders to deepen their understanding of aligning IT governance with strategic business objectives. Facilitated by a panel of esteemed industry experts —Conrad Dias (Chairman, LOLC Finance PLC), Shanaka de Silva (Principal, Ernst & Young), Mangala Rodrigo (CEO, Sampath IT Solutions), and Boshan Dayaratne (Group Director/CEO, CICRA Holdings).

Key topics covered included: Strategic IT alignment with business goals, Performance measurement and IT effectiveness, Cybersecurity risk management, Regulatory compliance with local and global standards, Optimization of IT resources and investments. With over 25 individuals in attendance, participants gained practical knowledge through interactive workshops, real-world case studies, and sessions on Technology Risk Management and Resilience (TRMR) tailored for licensed banks and finance companies. The program, conducted in line with the Banking Act Direction No. 11 of 2007 and Finance Business Act Direction No. 10 of 2022, received highly positive feedback for its relevance, depth, and practical value.



Transformative Solutions. Made by M.A.D. People.

Sampath IT Solutions is where critical systems meet real-world delivery. For nearly two decades, we've quietly powered some of Sri Lanka's most complex digital environments from banks and fintech companies to large-scale enterprises and government systems.

We're a fully owned subsidiary of Sampath Bank PLC, operating independently. Our work spans three core pillars

- **Software Solutions:** Custom platforms built for speed, scale, and control shaped by years of fintech delivery. We design tools that do the work, so people don't have to.
- **Enterprise Solutions:** Core systems that hold your business together. We integrate and streamline large operations with clean architecture and dependable infrastructure.
- **Managed Services:** Hands-on support that keeps your systems running and secure. From infrastructure monitoring to end-user response, we keep your teams focused on what matters.

At the heart of everything is a simple idea: Make A Difference. Not just a tagline, but the way we build, deliver, and support technology that works at scale, under pressure, and without shortcuts.

Our solutions don't sit on shelves. They go live, stay live, and scale with your growth. We handle the full lifecycle from code to production to long-term support with the accountability of a team that's done this before.

Whether you're looking to stabilize existing systems, reduce operational overhead, or prepare for growth, we build the foundations that make it possible. Our solutions fit your business, scale with it, and stay reliable, no matter how complex things get.

Let's work together to build what comes next.

Solve Smarter with
CASIO

Brought to you by



Authorized Distributor - Eco Stationery
Contact - Nalin
Hotline +94 76 010 1715

Building A Lasting Family Legacy

Organized by : Family Business Forum

The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID), in collaboration with KPMG, the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE), and the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SEC), successfully hosted the Family Business Forum on 17th June 2025 at the Oak Room, Cinnamon Grand. Held under the theme “Building a Lasting Family Legacy: A Strategic Approach to Growth and Continuity,” the event focused on key strategies for sustainable growth in family-owned enterprises.

Daniel Trimarchi, Global Managing Director for KPMG’s Centre of Excellence for Family Business, delivered the keynote, while Senior Prof. D.B.P.H. Dissabandara, Chairman of the SEC, addressed regulatory perspectives. A dynamic panel, moderated by Thamali Rodrigo, featured business leaders who explored vital topics including: balancing family and business priorities, succession planning, continuity, governance frameworks, wealth management, and preparation for public listing. With over 100 participants, the forum offered invaluable insights for family business owners and board leaders committed to long-term legacy and success.



AMW Capital Leasing & Finance PLC Strengthens its Board with Two Eminent Appointments through SLID Board Placement Services



Mr. Brian V. Selvanayagam



Mr. J. G. Travis Roche

AMW Capital Leasing & Finance PLC has taken another significant step in strengthening its leadership by appointing two distinguished professionals, Mr. Brian V. Selvanayagam and Mr. J. G. Travis Roche, as Independent Non-Executive Directors to its Board. Both appointments were facilitated through the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) Board Placement Services, reaffirming SLID's vital role in connecting leading corporates with highly accomplished board-ready professionals.

MR. BRIAN V. SELVANAYAGAM

Appointed on 20th March 2025, Mr. Selvanayagam brings over 25 years of multifaceted experience spanning auditing, banking, financial services, property development, and education. A Justice of the Peace, he is also a member of CIMA (UK), CA Sri Lanka, and CIM (UK). He has held key leadership roles, including Chairman of CIMA Sri Lanka and Audit & Risk Committee member of CIMA UK. Currently, he serves on the boards of Ceylon Biscuits Limited and Lanka Realty Investments PLC.

MR. J. G. TRAVIS ROCHE

Joining the AMW Capital Leasing & Finance PLC Board on 17th January 2025, Mr. Roche is a seasoned finance professional with over 30 years of international experience in

manufacturing, financial services, and IT sectors. He currently serves as the Group CFO and Director of Hitachi Channel Solutions Group in Japan, overseeing operations across Sri Lanka and the Philippines. He is also an Independent Non-Executive Director of PickMe and sits on multiple international boards. Mr. Roche is a co-founder of Global Systems Solutions Ltd (GSS), Sri Lanka's largest BPO, and has previously served at Brandix Lanka Ltd and Ernst & Young.

SLID-S ROLE IN ENABLING STRONGER BOARDS

Both appointments reflect SLID's Board Placement Services in action—bridging the gap between board-level talent and corporate leadership needs. By maintaining a pool of board-ready professionals and ensuring rigorous vetting,

SLID enables companies like AMW Capital Leasing & Finance PLC to access the right expertise at the right time.

Speaking on the appointments, The Chairman of SLID, Mr. Dinesh Weerakkody noted:

SLID's Board Placement Services are designed to strengthen governance by matching organizations with professionals who bring proven expertise, diverse perspectives, and leadership excellence. The appointments of Mr. Selvanayagam and Mr. Roche to AMW Capital Leasing & Finance PLC are prime examples of how we help companies future-proof their boards."

Unlocking Business Value with Agentic AI

Organized by : Innovation & Technology Committee (ITC)

The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID) hosted an exclusive Breakfast Forum on the 19th June 2025, at the London Grill, Cinnamon Grand, under the theme “Unlocking Business Value with Agentic AI.” The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Sandeep Alur, Chief Technology Officer at Microsoft Innovations Hub – India, who shared compelling insights into the fast-evolving landscape of Agentic AI. He emphasized that autonomous AI agents are no longer futuristic—they’re actively reshaping how businesses operate today.

The session explored how Agentic AI enhances operational efficiency, customer experience (CX), and innovation, while enabling intelligent decision-making and delivering strategic value when integrated into core business processes. Real-world success stories across industries were shared, alongside product insights from the Microsoft Innovations Hub – India. A live demonstration of Microsoft’s AI capabilities showcased practical applications in action. The forum brought together a diverse group of over 50 participants, offering an invaluable opportunity to gain practical insights on leveraging AI to drive innovation, organizational resilience, and competitive advantage in today’s digital-first business environment.



FORUMS



CHAIRMAN / CEO FORUM

Chathuri Munaweera (Chair)
Dinesh Weerakkody (Council Representative)
Rolf Blaser
Anitra Perera



INDEPENDENT NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FORUM (INED)

Hiranthi Fonseka (Chair)
Faizal Salieh (Council Representative)
D Soosaipillai
Manil Jayasinghe
Rachini Rajapaksa
Dinuka Perera



WOMEN DIRECTORS FORUM (WDF)

Nadija Tambiah (Chair)
Aroshi Nanayakkara (Council Representative)
Aruni Rajakarier
Malika Wijeratne
Manohari Abeysekera
Aruni Goonetilleke
Nisreen Rehmanjee
Sandra de Zoysa
Urshella Hishaam
Ashani Jayasinghe



FAMILY BUSINESS FORUM (FBF)

Imtiaz Esufally (Chair)
Mr. Dilshan Rodrigo (Council Representative)
Thamali Rodrigo
Eshan Tudawe



YOUNG DIRECTORS FORUM (YDF)

Ameena Ziauddin (Chair)
Charaka Perera (Council Representative)
Annika Senanayake
Deshal De Mel
Sanjay Jayawardena
Andrew Perera
Navam Hapangama
Hashindra Silva
Krystle Reid Wijesuriya



AUDIT COMMITTEE FORUM (ACF)

Suren Rajakarier (Chair)
Manohari Abeysekera (Council Representative)
Shaktha Amaratunga
Lalith Withana
Aruni Siriwardena
Pyumi Sumanasekera



BOARD SECRETARIES FORUM (BSF)

S Sudarshan (Chair)
Faizal Salieh (Council Representative)
Dalrene Thirukumar
Hemali Ellawela
Kishan Kuruppu
Arosha Berugoda
Sitari Jayasundara
Saraswathie Poulraj
Yamuna Peiris

COMMITTEES



EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Rasakantha Rasaiah (Chair)
Anitra Perera (Council Representative)
Saruchi Dissanayake
Dusty Alahakoon



BOARD PLACEMENT COMMITTEE (BPC)

Manil Jayesinghe (Chair)
Aroshi Nanayakkara (Council Representative)
Coralie Pietersz
Murtaza Esufally
Premila Perera
Rose Cooray
Steven Enderby



BOARD EVALUATION COMMITTEE (BEC)

Aroshi Nanayakkara (Chair)
Anitra Perera (Council Representative)
Averil Ludowyke
Deepal Sooriyaarachchi
Dilani Alagaratnam
Duliksha Soosaipillai



EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE (ETC)

Aruni Rajakarier (Chair/Council Representative)
Natalie Warawita
Himali Mudadeniya
Ranil de Silva
Dusty Alahakoon
Pyumi Sumanasekara



INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (ITC)

Conrad Dias (Chair)
Arjuna Herath (Council Representative)
Madu Ratnayake
Shanaka De Silva
Dhanusha Muthukumarana
Boshan Dayaratne
Anoja Basnayake
Dr Eshan Dias
Mangala Rodrigo
Ruvendra Gunasena



NEW COMMITTEES



MEDIA & PR COMMITTEE

Gihan Cooray (Chair)



PUBLIC SECTOR COMMITTEE

Arjuna Herath (Chair)



HR COMMITTEE

NEW MEMBERS



Nadika Herath



Sriyamal Gamage



Dylan Perera



Buddhika Manage



Harith de Mel



Savindya Tissera



Tilan Wijeyesekera



Poornima Ranawaka



Heshan Gunaratne



Sanjaya Bandara



Amali Fernando



Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya



Rasika Nanayakkara



Pradeep Gunansekara



Sameera Senarathne



Kanchana Karunagama



Mohan Ponnampalam



Dayani Algama



Ruwanthi Fernando



Nilupa Perera

NEW MEMBERS



Sabry Bahaudeen



Thilan Perera



Sriyani Ranatunga



Niran Mahawatte



Sarah Sinthaby



Kavinda De Zoysa



Sasha Wickremasinghe



Andrew Samuel



Amal Kiridena



Champika Dodanwela



Suresh Marcandan



Gishan Illangakoon



Amal Illesinghe



Ranjana Wijesinghe



Theja de Silva



Niroshni Gajendran



Anushane Anandharaj



Dilum Mahawatte



Rumesh de Silva



Vijayarani Selladurai

NEW MEMBERS



Sandeep Holey



Jeevan William



Dilina Gunathilake



Sampath Thennakoon



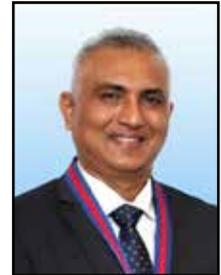
Prabakaran Periyasamy



Selladurai Sithambarampillai



Navam Hapangama



Jeremy De Silva



Prabhu Sundararaja



Chethana Attanayake



FOLLOW US ON

social media



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



TECHNOLOGY & MEDIA PARTNERS



PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS

