

# National Business Excellence Awards 2026

*Business Excellence Benchmark Competition  
(21 Years of Excellence)*



The  
National  
Chamber  
of Commerce of Sri Lanka

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# NATIONAL BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

"Akin to the lotus that blooms in all its glory above the impure muddy water whilst remaining un-smearred" - the Business Excellence Awards Trophy is created by the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka to honour those Sri Lankan business houses that have excelled in their fields of business.

The tiered base symbolized the initial ascent of the business ladder from the formative stages of a company's life, where an input of much dedication and hard work would have been observed. Rapid growth would have followed to the upper levels of the ladder in terms of quality and fame, as denoted by the pillar of the trophy. The pillar tops out to an inverted set of steps, where the landing depicts stability. This supports an intricately handcrafted lotus blossom with hand-embossed petals of traditional motifs. The inverted sets of steps are created to symbolize the stupendous effort needed to rise to the very top, akin to climbing an overhang of rock on a mountain face. The summit contains the aforesaid lotus bloom in all its splendour denoting the purity, prosperity and fame, and glory that the business houses which have reached the highest levels of excellence enjoy."



## 01. OVERVIEW

The National Business Excellence Awards (NBEA), the prestigious benchmark competition of the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, celebrates the pinnacle of business achievements in Sri Lanka. Now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year, the NBEA acknowledges organizations that have attained global standards of excellence, providing a framework for enhancing organizational performance and contributing significantly to the nation's socio-economic progress. This flagship award competition continues to play a pivotal role in shaping a sustainable and competitive business ecosystem.

### **A Celebration of Collective Excellence**

The NBEA goes beyond celebrating individual success, recognizing the collective efforts of exceptional teams. Widely regarded as a trusted platform for identifying and rewarding outstanding achievers, the NBEA employs a comprehensive and rigorous evaluation process that upholds its credibility and transparency.

The NBEA honors organizations across a diverse range of sectors and categories, encompassing Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as well as Large and Extra-Large organizations. Its inclusive approach ensures that businesses of all sizes are evaluated using the NBEA Excellence Model, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and sustainable growth. While celebrating winners is a key highlight, the NBEA's broader vision extends beyond accolades. It inspires enterprises to embrace the 'excellence' framework, empowering them to elevate their standards and enhance performance. This ripple effect seeks to strengthen the overall competitiveness and quality of Sri Lanka's business community.

### **A Dynamic Evaluation Framework**

A team of highly qualified professionals have meticulously developed the NBEA's evaluation criteria, marking scheme, and other key components to ensure the program's success and integrity. Since its inception in 2004, the NBEA has recognized exceptional organizations while encouraging others to adopt the excellence model and pursue continuous improvement.

The evaluation criteria have been refined further to align with contemporary priorities and emerging focus areas, offering participants greater opportunities to demonstrate their commitment to excellence and innovation in a competitive landscape.

The National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka stands as a beacon of advocacy, empowerment, and growth for the business community, both locally and internationally. Established in 1948 to drive economic development, the Chamber supports policies that promote business excellence, uplift small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and foster international trade relations. With fast commitment to innovation and sustainability, the Chamber continues to lead as a prominent force in business leadership and capacity building.



## 02. SIGNIFICANCE OF NBEA

The National Business Excellence Awards (NBEA) hold significant value for businesses, industries, and the economy in several aspects:

### 1. Recognition of Excellence

- The NBEA celebrates outstanding businesses that demonstrate excellence in various aspects, such as innovation, sustainability, financial performance, and leadership.
- It serves as a benchmark for quality and best practices in the business community.

### 2. Enhancement of Brand Value

- Winning or being nominated for an NBEA award enhances a company's credibility and reputation in the marketplace.
- The recognition boosts brand trust among customers, investors, and other stakeholders.

### 3. Encouragement of Competitiveness

- By recognizing outstanding performance, the awards promote healthy competition among businesses.
- It motivates companies to strive for continuous improvement and adopt innovative approaches.

### 4. Good Governance Practices

- The NBEA highlights organizations that adhere to ethical practices, good governance, and sustainability principles.
- It encourages others to follow similar standards, fostering a culture of responsibility in the business environment.

### 5. Networking Opportunities

- The awards ceremony and associated events bring together leading business figures, policymakers, and stakeholders.
- This provides a platform for networking, knowledge sharing, and potential collaborations.

### 6. Encouragement for SMEs

- The awards often include categories for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), encouraging their growth and recognizing their contributions to the economy.
- It provides visibility and support for emerging businesses.

### 7. Role in National Development

- The NBEA aligns business excellence with national development goals, emphasizing the role of businesses in driving progress and prosperity. The National Business Excellence Awards not only celebrate the achievements of individual businesses but also contribute to the development of a more dynamic, competitive, and sustainable business environment in the country.



### 03. OBJECTIVES

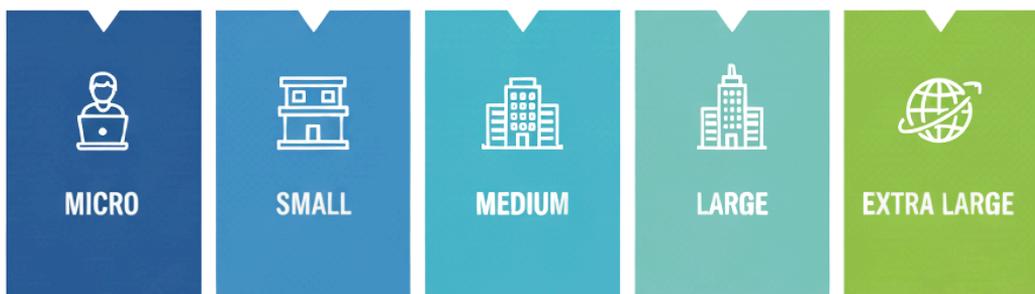
- To recognise and reward those organisations that have excelled in all-round performance
- To recognise and reward enterprises that have excelled in each of the criteria of excellence, such as Corporate Governance, Capacity Building, Performance Management, Global and Local Market Reach, Corporate Social Responsibility & Environmental Sustainability, and Business & Financial Results
- To encourage Sri Lankan organisations to emulate organizations which have achieved excellence
- To position Sri Lanka as a country with excellently-managed organizations and thereby making it attractive for joint ventures, investments, and as a source for high-quality and reliable products and services.

### 04. ELIGIBILITY

- Any registered business organisation domiciled in Sri Lanka which has been in operation for a minimum period of 3 years prior to the date of application is eligible to apply.
- Divisions, units, estates, factories, etc. of organisations, unless they are legal entities by themselves, are not eligible.
- An overall Gold Award Winner of a previous year is not eligible to apply for the immediately succeeding three years.

### 05. AWARD CATEGORIES

Organisations will be grouped into one of the following five categories





The following criteria will be used to determine the appropriate category of the applicants.

Category	No. of Full-time Employees	Total Capital Employed (LKR) (A)	Annual Revenue (LKR) (B)
<b>Extra Large</b>	5,000 and over	5 Billion and over	10.1 Billion and over
<b>Large</b>	1,000 and over	1 Billion and over	3.1 Billion – 10 Billion
<b>Medium</b>	100 and over	100 Million and over	251 Million – 3 Billion
<b>Small</b>	26 and over	15 Million and over	26 Million – 250 Million
<b>Micro</b>	Less than 25	Less than 15 Million	Less than 25 Million

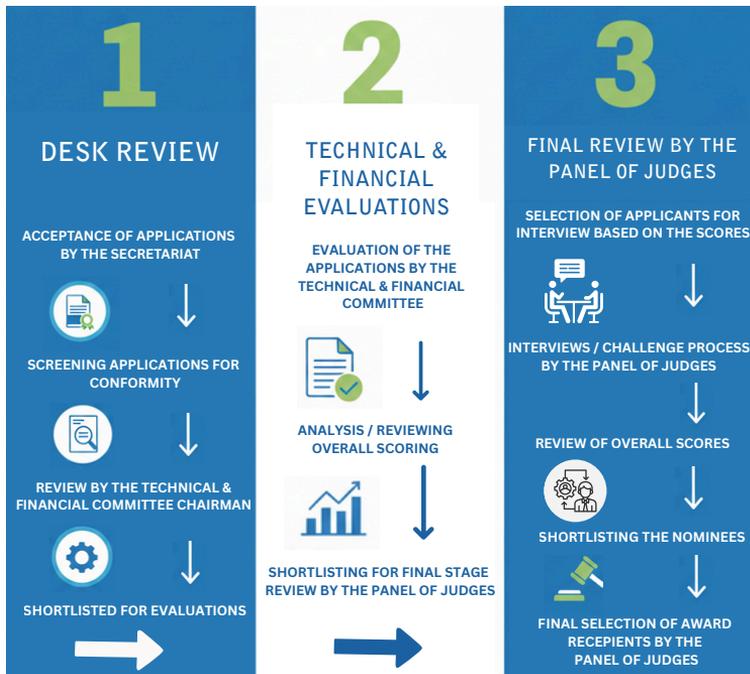
(A). Shareholders’ funds + Long-term debt

(B). In the immediately preceding financial year, as per the audited financial statements.

The category of applicant will be determined by considering all the above criteria (number of employees, capital employed, and Revenue). If one of the criteria falls into a higher category, that category will apply to the applicant. Only one category should be indicated in the application.

## 06. EVALUATION PROCEDURE

Applications will be evaluated on the basis of a 7-point criterion described under the Excellence model. Applications are reviewed and evaluated in a three-stage process as described below.





## 07.EVALUATION MODEL



## 08. MARKING SCHEME

Seven perspectives of evaluation and marks allocation:

CRITERIA	MARKS
1. Excellence in Strategy & Leadership	150
2. Excellence in Corporate Governance & Strategy	110
3. Excellence in Capacity Building	150
4. Excellence in Performance Management	130
5. Excellence in Local and Global Market Reach	190
6. Excellence in Environmental Social Governance	120
7. Excellence in Business & Financial Results	150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>



## 09. CLASSIFICATION OF AWARDS

### Main Awards for Overall Excellence

- The National Business Excellence Gold Award for Overall Excellence
- The National Business Excellence Silver Award for Overall Excellence
- The National Business Excellence Bronze Award for Overall Excellence

### Criteria Awards (Winner and Runner Up)

- Excellence in Corporate Governance
- Excellence in Capacity Building
- Excellence in Performance Management
- Excellence in Local Market Reach
- Excellence in Global Market Reach
- Excellence in Environmental Social Governance
- Excellence in Business and Financial Results

### The Category Awards (Winner, 1st Runner-up & 2nd Runner-up)

- Business Excellence Award – Micro Sector
- Business Excellence Award – Small Sector
- Business Excellence Award – Medium Sector
- Business Excellence Award – Large Sector
- Business Excellence Award – Extra Large Sector

### Business Sector Awards (Winner & Runner-up)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture &amp; Plantations</li> <li>• Associations &amp; Societies Sector</li> <li>• Banking Sector</li> <li>• Construction</li> <li>• Diversified Group of Companies</li> <li>• Educational Services Sector</li> <li>• Export Sector</li> <li>• Gem &amp; Jewellery</li> <li>• Healthcare &amp; Related Services</li> <li>• Hospitality &amp; Tourism</li> <li>• ICT Services</li> <li>• Infrastructure &amp; Utilities</li> <li>• Insurance</li> <li>• Livestock &amp; Fisheries</li> <li>• Logistics &amp; Transport Sector</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media Services</li> <li>• Non Banking &amp; Financial Services</li> <li>• Other Services / Others</li> <li>• Printing &amp; Related Services</li> <li>• Shipping &amp; Shipping-related Services</li> <li>• State Sector Services</li> <li>• Trading</li> <li>• Manufacturing - State Sector</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Engineering</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Food &amp; Beverage</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Apparel, Textile &amp; Leather</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Chemical</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Ceramic &amp; Glass</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Other</li> <li>• Manufacturing - Non-traditional Sector</li> </ul> |
|---|--|



### 10. GRAND AWARDS CEREMONY

Announcement of the winners will be made at the Awards Ceremony. However, the nominees for the awards will be informed at least two weeks prior to the event. Short video presentations will be requested from the three Overall Winners.

All Award winners will receive a Trophy and a Certificate

**The glittering Awards Ceremony will be held in July 2026**

### 11. BENEFITS TO WINNERS

- All award winners will be permitted to use the award logo on their promotional material for a period of 3 years from the date of winning the award.
- Every winning enterprise will be listed in the virtual hall of fame hosted on the website dedicated to the National Business Excellence Awards.
- Winners will be included in the Chamber's automated mailing list and will be entitled to receive all Chamber journals, newsletters, and other communications in the preceding year.
- Note: All applicants will be invited to participate in an introductory seminar designed to guide on how to effectively prepare and complete their applications for the National Business Excellence Awards competition.
- The overall winners will be given recognition at various events sponsored by the Chamber.

### 12. AUTHORITY

The Chairman of the Panel of Judges will be the sole and final deciding authority regarding the evaluation procedures and on the recipients of the awards.



## 13. APPLICATION PROCESS

Application forms containing the detailed requirements (electronic version) could be obtained from the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka upon filling the online registration form along with the registration fee. (Link will be shared by the NCCSL Secretariat).

1. **Registration fee (non-refundable fee) of LKR 8,000/- to obtain the application form or link to access the online NBEA system.**
2. **Micro category registration fee LKR 4,000/-**

- All applications should be completed and submitted through the online NBEA application platform accessible through "<http://www.nationalbusinessexcellence.lk>"
- Upon successful submission of the application form, the applicant will receive an email acknowledgment from the National Chamber Secretariat confirming the status of the submission.
- Submission fee: The application submission fees are determined based on the business category, as outlined below;

Category	Chamber Members (LKR)	Others (LKR)
Micro (Special category)	6,000/-	8,000/-
Small	15,000/-	17,500/-
Medium	20,000/-	25,000/-
Large	30,000/-	40,000/-
Extra Large	40,000/-	50,000/-

- Upon submission of the final application, the applicable submission fee shall be non-refundable, irrespective of any subsequent withdrawal.
- Payment slip of the submission fee should be sent to the secretariat via email



## PAYMENT METHODS

### 1. Cash Payment:

Payments can be made in cash at the 1st Floor, NCCSL, 450, D. R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.

### 2. Online Bank Transfers:

Payments can be made via online bank transfers to the following account:

**Account Name:** The National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka  
**Bank Name:** Bank of Ceylon  
**Branch:** City Office  
**Account Number:** 350940  
**Reference:** Please mention your Company Name and "NBEA 2026" in the transfer details

Note: Once the bank transfer is completed, kindly email a copy of the payment receipt to [hansi@nationalchamber.lk](mailto:hansi@nationalchamber.lk), [accountant@nationalchamber.lk](mailto:accountant@nationalchamber.lk) & [services@nationalchamber.lk](mailto:services@nationalchamber.lk) for confirmation.

### 3. Cheque Payment:

Cheques should be drawn in favor of "The National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka" and crossed "A/C Payee Only"

## TIMELINE

All completed applications should be submitted through the NBEA online system on or before **1700h on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

## INFORMATION DESK

For further information and inquiries, please visit [www.nationalbusinessexcellence.lk](http://www.nationalbusinessexcellence.lk) / [www.nationalchamber.lk](http://www.nationalchamber.lk) or contact our team;

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## PAST OVERALL WINNERS OF NBEA

GOLD AWARD		SILVER AWARD		BRONZE AWARD	
2004	Dialog Telecom Ltd.	2004	Slimline (Pvt) Ltd	2004	Quick Tea (Pvt) Ltd.
2005	Slimline Pvt Ltd	2005	Dialog Telecom Ltd	2005	Royal Ceramics Lanka Ltd.
2006	Commercial Bank of Ceylon Ltd	2006	Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd (Joint); Macksons Paint Industries (Pvt) Ltd (Joint)	2006	Daya Apperal Export (PVT) LTD
2007	Colombo Dockyard PLC			2007	Lanka Tiles Ltd
2008	Hatton National Bank PLC	2007	Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd	2008	Lanka Tiles PLC
2009	Ceylon Biscuits Ltd	2008	Ceylon Biscuits Ltd	2010	Orange Electric PLC
2010	Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC	2009	Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd (Joint); Sampath Bank PLC (Joint)	2011	Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd
2011	Diesel & Motor Engineering PLC	2010	Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd	2012	Bank of Ceylon
2012	Sri Lanka Telecom PLC	2011	Lanka Orix Leasing Company PLC	2013	Virtusa Pvt Ltd (Joint); Global Rubber Industries Pvt Ltd (Joint)
2013	Access Engineering PLC				
2014	Orange Electric	2013	Sri Lanka Ports Authority	2014	Lanka IOC PLC
2015	Bank of Ceylon	2014	Glaxo Wellcome Ceylon Ltd	2015	Commercial Credit & Finance PLC (Joint); Alumex PLC (Joint)
2016	Lanka Orix Leasing Company PLC	2015	Glaxo Wellcome Ceylon Ltd (Joint); Textured Jersey Lanka PLC (Joint)	2016	Ceylon Cold Stores PLC
2017	Lanka IOC PLC			2017	Kelani Valley Plantations PLC
2018	Talawakelle Tea Estates PLC	2016	Union Assurance PLC	2018	GAC Marine Services Pvt Ltd
2019	Kelani Valley Plantations PLC	2017	Alumex PLC	2019	JAT Holdings Pvt Ltd
		2018	Aitken Spence Hotel Holdings PLC	2021	HJS Condiments Ltd
2021	Ceylon Biscuits Pvt Ltd	2019	Sri Lankan Catering Ltd	2023	Mike Biotech Asia Pvt Ltd
2023	Pussalla Meat Producers Pvt Ltd	2021	National Development Bank	2024	LAUGFS Corporation (Rubber) Limited
2024	Haycarb PLC	2023	Fentons Ltd		
		2024	Hayleys Fabric PLC (Joint); Samson Rubber Industries (Private) Limited (Joint)		



Dipped Products PLC



Dankotuwa Porcelain PLC



People's Bank



## SUCCESS STORIES OF OVERALL WINNERS OF NBEA 2025

### Dipped Products PLC: Overall Gold Winner



Dipped Products PLC (DPL) is deeply honoured to have been recognised with the Overall Gold Award at the National Business Excellence Awards 2025. This achievement reflects the dedication of our people, the trust of our global partners, and our unwavering commitment to advancing Sri Lanka's reputation as a centre for high-value manufacturing.

For five decades, DPL has contributed to national progress by strengthening export earnings, pioneering innovation in hand

protection, and upholding the highest standards of ethical, safe and sustainable operations. Guided by our ESG roadmap, DPL Pulse, we continue to embed responsible practices across our value chain, from renewable-energy-driven manufacturing to community upliftment through initiatives such as Firstlight and our biodiversity restoration efforts.

As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude, purpose and optimism. With every glove we make, we reaffirm the purpose that has shaped our journey and will continue to guide our future: Protecting You Always.

### Dankotuwa Porcelain PLC: Overall Silver Winner

Dankotuwa Porcelain PLC was recognized at the 20th National Business Excellence Awards (NBEA) 2025, receiving five Winner Awards and an Overall Silver Award, reinforcing its leadership in Sri Lanka's manufacturing and export sectors and excellence in management practices. The recognitions spanned the Large Category, Excellence in Performance Management, Manufacturing – Chemical, Ceramic & Glass Sector, and Excellence in Global Market Research, underscoring the Company's strong strategic execution,

operational excellence, and global market focus. The past year has reaffirmed that Dankotuwa Porcelain's strength lies in its people and leadership. In a challenging and evolving environment, we remained focused on stability, resilience, and long-term value creation.

Our people-focused collective leadership philosophy is now firmly embedded in our culture. By empowering leaders across the organization, we strengthened ownership, collaboration, and decision-making, enabling us to navigate change with confidence and clarity.

Continuous talent development, employee well-being, and a strong workplace culture have been central to sustaining performance and engagement. At the same time, our strategic focus on operational excellence, innovation, premium positioning, digital channels, and growth markets has strengthened our future readiness.

Sustainability remains integral to our approach, guiding how we create value for our people, our communities, and the environment. In essence, Dankotuwa Porcelain's success is driven by empowered people, collective leadership, and a clear strategic direction, positioning us strongly for the future.





**People's Bank: Overall Bronze Winner**



People's Bank is honoured to have been recognized with the Overall Bronze Award at the National Business Excellence Awards 2025. This accolade reflects our unwavering commitment to national development, responsible banking, and service excellence across Sri Lanka's diverse communities. For over six decades, People's Bank has remained dedicated to empowering individuals, enterprises, and industries through innovation, financial inclusion, and sustainable growth. The recognition we received at NBEA affirms the hard work and dedication of our employees and the trust placed in us

by over 15 million customers. We commend the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka for continuously elevating the standards of business excellence through this prestigious platform. As we look forward to the NBEA 2026, People's Bank remains steadfast in its mission to contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic progress of our nation.



From Left: Bronze Award Winner: People's Bank, Gold Award Winner: Dipped Products PLC and Silver Award Winner: Dankotuwa Porcelain PLC



### 14. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. **Application Process:** Application link can be obtained from the National Chamber Secretariat upon payment of the registration fee.
2. **Submission Process:** Applications must be completed through the online application system via [www.nationalbusinessexcellence.lk](http://www.nationalbusinessexcellence.lk) and submitted no later than **1700 hrs on 10th March 2026**, along with the relevant submission fee.
3. **All questions in the application have to be completed, and the application consists of three parts:**

#### Part A - General Details

- **Content:** General information about the organization.
- **Details:** Specify the type of award applied for.
- **Affirmation:** A statement from the highest-ranking official explaining why the organization should be recognized as an excellent entity.

#### Part B - Application Containing Responses to the Award Criteria

- This section should address the seven-point evaluation criteria, providing detailed responses.
- If some criteria are not met or not relevant, provide reasons.
- Extensive evidence is required for each claim; lack of evidence may result in a loss of marks.
- Do not exaggerate or include irrelevant details, as all statements should be justifiable during the final interview by the panel of judges.
- Adhere to the **word limits** set for each section (excluding attachments). Attach only relevant supporting documents and photographs.

#### Part C - Financial and Business Results

- **Financial Information:** Provide the most recent three completed financial years' data, with certification from external auditors where applicable.
- **Data Format:** Attach data in PDF, Excel, or Image format
- ▶ If the financial year ends in December, use January-December 2024 data.
- ▶ If the financial year ends in March, use April 2024-March 2025 data.

#### Additional Guidelines:

- **Supporting Evidence:** Attach relevant documents and photos, which should support the claims made in the application.
- **Attachments:** Keep them separate from the application. The application should not include unrelated information.



## 15. HIGHLIGHTS OF NBEA 2025





The  
**National  
Chamber**  
of Commerce of Sri Lanka



## **THE NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF SRI LANKA**

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