



India–Sri Lanka Innovation Forum, 2025

Strengthening the Digital Bridge



December 5, 2025



08:30 AM – 05:30 PM



ITC Ratnadipa, Colombo

India–Sri Lanka Innovation Forum, 2025

Venue: ITC Ratnadipa, Colombo | **Dates:** December 5, 2025

Time: 08:30 AM – 05:30 PM

08:30 – 09:30 AM

REGISTRATION & NETWORKING BREAKFAST

09:30 – 10:15 AM

**INAUGURAL SESSION -DIGITAL DIPLOMACY
A SHARED FUTURE**

H.E. SANTOSH JHA – Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka

HON. ERANGA WEERARATNE – Deputy Minister for Digital Economy, Sri Lanka

DR. HANS WIJAYASURIYA – Chief Advisor to the President on Digital Economy

DR. ASHWANI MAHAJAN – Member, CIEU Board of Governors

MEENAKSHI LEKHI – Former Union Minister of State, External Affairs, GoI

10:15 – 10:50 AM

**BUILDING DIGITAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A
CONNECTED SOUTH ASIA**

RAJESH NAMBIAR – President, NASSCOM

VIJAY SHEKHAR SHARMA (virtual) – Founder & CEO, Paytm

HARMEET SINGH SETHI – CEO, PayG

RUWINDHU PIERIS – MD, Stax & Former Chairman, SLASSCOM

R. CHANDRASHEKHAR – Former Secretary, IT & Telecom, GoI

MODERATOR: ROHAN SAMARAJIVA- Founding Chair, LIRNEasia

10:50 AM– 11:25 AM

**SPECIAL DIALOGUE: INNOVATION WITH PURPOSE –
RETHINKING GROWTH AND INCLUSION**

ASHISH DHAWAN – Founder & CEO, Convergence Foundation

In Conversation With:

GANESHAN WIGNARAJA – Non-Resident Senior Fellow, ISAS, NUS

11:25 AM – 12:00PM

SMARTER NATIONS: HARNESSING AI FOR INCLUSION, PRODUCTIVITY & PROSPERITY

SRIKANTH VELAMAKANNI – Co-Founder & CEO, Fractal Analytics

HEMINDA JAYAWEERA – Executive Director, Trace Expert City

12:00PM – 12:35 PM

AGRITECH FOR LIVELIHOODS: FROM E-CHOUPAL TO THE DIGITAL VILLAGE

MAYUR GOHIL – ITC Agri Business Division

SACHINDRA SAMARARATNE – ICTA (TBC)

BALTHASAN SAYANTHAN – Founding Member, Yarl IT Hub (TBC)

MODERATOR: MEVAN PEIRIS – CEO, Hatch Innovation (TBC)

12:35 PM - 01:10 PM

LCROSS-BORDER DIGITAL FINANCE & REGIONAL STABILITY

ABHAY SHARMA – Vice President, Paytm

SHAILESH PATHAK – Senior Advisor, National Stock Exchange

SHARHAN MUSHEEN – Chairman, Commercial Bank (TBC)

01:10 PM – 02:00 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH

02:00 PM – 02:35 PM

GROWTH CAPITAL FOR YOUNGER ECONOMIES – CAPITAL MEETS INNOVATION

JAYANT SINHA (virtual) – Former Minister of State for Finance & Former Chairperson, Parliamentary Finance Committee, Gol

GOPAL SRINIVASAN – Chairman & MD, TVS Capital Funds

PRAJEETH BALASUBRAMANIAM – Chairperson, Lankan Angel Network (TBC)

NATHAN SIVAGANANATHAN – CEO, Atman Holdings & Chairman YPO

MODERATOR: INDEEWARI AMUWATTE – Ada Derana (TBC)

02:35 PM – 03:10 PM

AI FOR ALL: FROM ALGORITHMS TO INCLUSION – BUILDING THE HUMAN-CENTRIC DIGITAL FUTURE

ROMESH RANAWANA – Group Chief Analytics & AI Officer, Dialog (TBC)

VIVEK RAGHVAN – Sarvam AI

REKHA MENON – Former Chairperson, NASSCOMM

MODERATOR: ASELA WAIDYALANKARA – Cybersecurity & Policy Expert

03:10 PM – 03:45 PM

SCALING STARTUPS WITH PURPOSE: UNICORNS OF BHARAT & LANKA

RAJAN ANANDAN – Managing Director, Peak XV Partners & Surge

KANISHKA WEERAMUNDA – Founder & CEO, DirectPay

SOM MITTAL – Former President, NASSCOM (if available)

JIFFRY ZULFER - Founder PickMe

MODERATOR: THILAN WIJESINGHE – TWC Capital (TBC)

03:45 PM – 04:20 PM

FIRESIDE CHAT: THE NEW MARKET ARCHITECTURE – TECHNOLOGY, TRUST & CAPITAL FLOWS

NEERAJ KULSHRESTHA – MD & CEO, NSE International Clearing

AJITH FERNANDO – MD of Capital Alliance Holdings (TBC)

04:20 PM - 05:00 PM

VALEDICTORY SESSION: FROM COLOMBO TO THE WORLD – SCALING THE BRIDGE OF TRUST

HON. HANIF YUSOOF – Governor, Western Province & Special Envoy for Foreign Investment

DR. HANS WIJAYASURIYA – Chief Advisor to the President on Digital Economy

MEENAKSHI LEKHI – Former Minister of State, External Affairs, GoI

DR. ASHWANI MAHAJAN – Member, CIEU Board of Governors



Council for
**International Economic
Understanding**

*Council for International Economic Understanding
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think-tank based out of New Delhi. We look forward to
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curate ideas leading to resolving the issues
of the last man standing*

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