



The Chartered
Institute of Logistics
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CILT

LINK

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER
ISSUE 2025

FUTURE READY
LOGISTICS

EMBRACING
CHANGE

DRIVING
SUSTAINABILITY

**DRIVING
SUSTAINABLE
TRANSFORMATION**

BY TANIA POLONNOWITA

**LEADING
TRANSFORMATION**

By UPUL JINADASA

**SHAPING
THE FUTURE OF
LOGISTICS**

BY SAIF YUSOOF

WAREHOUSING, ON AUTOPILOT





SAHANA VITHANAGAMA, CMILT

Editor's Note

We are pleased to present this special International Convention 2025 edition of CILT LINK Magazine, a landmark issue dedicated to Future Ready Logistics: Embracing Change and Driving Sustainability. This edition not only captures the spirit of innovation and transformation but also celebrates the global collaboration that defines CILT's mission to shape resilient, sustainable, and forward-looking supply chains.

The International Convention is a pivotal platform where industry leaders, policymakers, academics, and professionals converge to exchange ideas, share best practices, and inspire action. With the logistics and transport sector navigating rapid technological advancements, evolving customer expectations, and global challenges, the conversations and knowledge shared at this year's convention hold timely relevance.

This issue brings you exclusive coverage of the convention, including messages from the CILT International leadership, insights from the Sri Lanka team steering this global event, and highlights of the organizing committee's collective effort. Readers will also find details of the agenda, speaker profiles, and key discussion themes designed to spark dialogue on sustainability, digitalization, and resilience across supply chains.

Continuing our CEO Column series, we feature interviews with industry leaders who reflect on their journey toward driving impactful changes. Their perspectives, combined with case studies, partner updates, and member contributions, showcase the commitment of our community to building a greener, smarter, and more adaptable future.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the editorial team, contributors, and our valued corporate partners for their unwavering support in bringing this edition to life. May these pages inspire you to embrace change, explore new opportunities, and continue driving sustainable growth in the world of logistics and transport.

Enjoy the issue, and welcome to the International Convention 2025!

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CILT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE CILT INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT CHIEF TEETE OWUSU-NORTEY, FCILT



As we look towards the future, the supply chain, logistics and transportation profession stands at a defining moment. Change is no longer an occasional challenge to be managed; it is the constant that shapes how we work, connect and deliver. The theme of this year's International Conference, "Future Ready Logistics: Embracing Change and Driving Sustainability," captures the mindset we must adopt as a global community. We cannot simply respond to shifting demands, new technologies and sustainability imperatives. We must embrace them with confidence, creativity and collaboration.

CILT has always thrived because of its people. Across our branches, territories and forums we see professionals developing solutions that move goods and people more efficiently, more responsibly and more inclusively. That spirit of innovation and shared commitment is what will carry us forward.

I congratulate CILT Sri Lanka on bringing our community together for this important event. Let us continue to share knowledge, build networks and demonstrate that we are, truly, stronger together.

MESSAGE FROM THE CILT INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT ELECT JAN STEENBERG, FCILT



The supply chain, logistics and transportation sector is entering a period of extraordinary change. New technologies, sustainability demands and shifting trade patterns are reshaping the way our industry operates. With that change comes responsibility, but also remarkable opportunity.

The theme “Future Ready Logistics: Embracing Change and Driving Sustainability” is both timely and essential. To be future ready means more than adapting when challenges arise. It means preparing ourselves, our organisations and

our communities to lead the way, ensuring that the solutions we create today remain relevant tomorrow.

For me, driving sustainability is about leadership in its broadest sense. It is about ensuring that the systems we design reduce impact on the planet, while also creating fair, resilient and inclusive pathways for people. That balance will define the next chapter of our profession.

I commend CILT Sri Lanka for placing these themes at the heart of this year’s International Conference. Together, let us seize this moment to learn, to question and to shape a future that reflects both our ambition and our responsibility.

MESSAGE FROM THE CILT SRI LANKA PRESIDENT CHANDIMA HULANGAMUWA, FCILT



The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) has, since 1919, served a clear purpose: to advance knowledge and practice in logistics, transport, supply chain, and infrastructure. From its origin in the United Kingdom to its presence today in more than 40 countries, CILT has become a network that allows professionals to learn from one another, set standards, and influence policy.

CILT Sri Lanka, established in 1984, has pursued this mission locally by strengthening professional capacity, encouraging sustainable practices, and supporting the growth of talent across the

sector. Our work has shown that improvements in logistics and transport extend beyond efficiency; they influence economic resilience, environmental outcomes, and the everyday lives of citizens.

In September 2025, Sri Lanka will host the CILT International Convention at Cinnamon Life, Colombo. This is the most important annual gathering of the Institute, bringing together 100 to 150 participants from across the world. They include policymakers, industry leaders, academics, and technical experts. The theme, “Future Ready Logistics: Embracing Change and Driving Sustainability,” reflects both the challenges we face and the opportunities available to those prepared to adapt.

Hosting the Convention is a signal of international confidence in Sri Lanka. It creates visibility for our country, strengthens professional exchange, and contributes to business tourism. For our logistics and transport community, the Convention is also a moment of exposure to global thinking and an opportunity to align local practices with international standards.

Our task now is to ensure that the discussions that begin here extend beyond the event itself. The value of the Convention will depend on how well we translate ideas into practice, how effectively we apply what is learned to shape policy, improve infrastructure, and guide the next generation of professionals.

As we prepare to welcome our colleagues from around the world, I encourage every participant to approach this Convention with clarity of purpose: to learn, to connect, and to consider how global insights can be applied in the Sri Lankan context.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2025/ VICE PRESIDENT CILT SL GAYATHRI KARUNANAYAKE, CMILT



It is with great excitement that I welcome you to the CILT Convention 2025, a landmark event taking place in beautiful Sri Lanka after a 13-years. This two-day convention, themed Future-Ready Logistics: Embracing Change and Driving Sustainability, represents a unique opportunity to gather insights and expertise from logistics and supply chain professionals across the globe, with delegates joining us from over 20 countries.

We are privileged to host an impressive lineup of 16 distinguished speakers and engage in two thought-provoking panel discussions, covering critical themes that are shaping our industry today. This is not just an event; it is a platform for collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing. Participants will have the chance to connect with industry leaders, innovators, and peers, fostering invaluable relationships that can shape the future of our industry.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to CILT International for entrusting us with the honour of hosting this year's convention in Sri Lanka. Additionally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our sponsors who have come on board to support this prestigious event. Your commitment and generosity are vital to the success of the convention, and we are grateful for your partnership in driving the future of logistics.

Together, let us seize this opportunity to explore how we can adapt to change and drive sustainability in logistics, ensuring we are equipped for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

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CLIT International Convention 2025

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Jafferjee**
Chairman of
the Advocata Institute



**Mr. LAU Kin
Pui Samuel**
Managing Director
Integrated Logistics
KLN Logistics



Prof. Shizhong Li
Chief Scientist, Hydrogen
Research Center,
Yangtze Delta Region Institute,
Tsinghua University



**Ms. Reshma
Yousuf FCILT**
Founder & Managing Director
Center for Logistics Leadership
in Business (CLLB)
Founding Chair - WISTA Malaysia ,
Champion Green Practices - WILAT Global



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Partner of the Technology
Consulting Practice and Lead
for Digital Transformation and
Alliances of KPMG Philippines



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& Trsutees, Member of the
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Head of Europe & UK /Supply
Chain Consulting Practice,
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Managing Director,
Anscorn Technologies,
Founder , Likuid Spaces &
Chief Creative & Sustainability Officer,
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CILT International Convention 2025

15–16

September 2025

City of Dreams

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Future Ready Logistics:
Embracing Change and Driving
Sustainability

Speaker Line-up



Mr. Richard Hall

Managing Director
Citybus Limited, Hong Kong



Mr. Bhavik Mota

Director- Head of Markets
& Area Ocean Product
Manager, MAERSK



Mr. Dharshana De Silva

Assistant Group General Manager
Prima Group & Former Co - Chair-
Developing Rail cargo Transportation
in Sri Lanka



Mr. Danika Perera

Founder CEO,
Bhasha (Pvt) LTD



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ADVISORY PRACTICE
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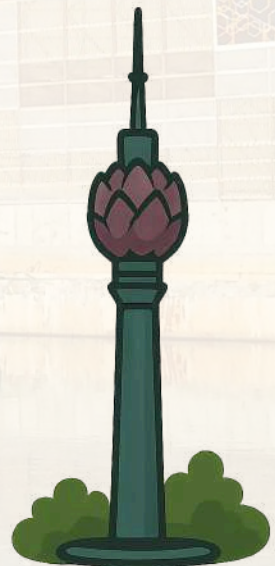
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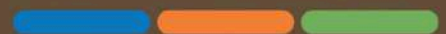
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DRIVING SUSTAINABLE TRANSFORMATION IN LOGISTICS

INTERVIEW WITH
MS. TANIA POLONNOWITA WETTIMUNY
DIRECTOR OF KERRY LOGISTICS



In an era where global supply chains are evolving at unprecedented speed, logistics companies are faced with both immense opportunities and complex challenges. At the forefront of this transformation is Ms. Tania Polonnowita Wettimuny, Director of Kerry Logistics, who has been instrumental in driving innovation, sustainability, and resilience across regional and global operations.

In your view, what are the biggest opportunities and challenges for logistics service providers in adapting to the rapidly evolving global supply chain landscape?

I see tremendous opportunity in the way logistics is being reshaped by technology and sustainability. The shift toward digital platforms, AI-driven insights, and smarter supply chain visibility is opening up possibilities we never had before. On top of that, there is a real push globally for greener, more responsible logistics, and that gives us the chance to lead in areas like cleaner transport solutions and circular models. Adopting these technologies requires significant investment and constant upskilling of our people. There is also growing complexity with regulations and the undeniable risks from climate-related disruptions. The real test is in how quickly and effectively we can adapt, while keeping our operations resilient and customer-focused.

How do you see collaboration and innovation helping companies like Kerry Logistics drive sustainability and resilience across regional and international operations?

Collaboration is the engine that makes real progress possible. In today's world, no single company can build sustainable supply chains alone. It is when we partner with customers, regulators, and even industry peers that we create real impact, whether that is investing in green infrastructure, building regional networks for cleaner energy transport, or introducing eco-friendly packaging. With AI and IoT, we can design operations that are not only more transparent but also significantly reduce emissions, optimize routes, and anticipate disruptions. For KLN, this combination of collaboration and innovation ensures that we are not only delivering solutions for today but also building resilient and sustainable supply chains for the future.

On a personal level, what motivates you to lead with a forward-looking approach and inspire your teams to embrace change and transformation in the logistics sector?

What motivates me most is the belief that our work in logistics has a larger purpose. We are not only moving goods; we are shaping economies, connecting communities, and now, contributing to a more sustainable planet. Knowing that every step we take to reduce our carbon footprint, every new technology we adopt, and every process we streamline brings us closer to a better future keeps me inspired. For me, it is about building a culture where people feel part of a bigger mission, where they know that the transformation we are driving will leave a positive legacy for both the industry and society.



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CILT NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

Webinar on Disaster Resilience & Sustainability in Road Asset Management

On 22nd July 2025 at 5.30 PM, a timely and insightful webinar on “Disaster Resilience and Sustainability in Road Asset Management” was conducted via Zoom, bringing together professionals and academics in the transport and infrastructure sectors.

The session was led by Prof. H.R. Pasindu, a distinguished expert in highway engineering and infrastructure management. His presentation emphasized the critical importance of building disaster resilience into the management of road infrastructure, highlighting how Sri Lanka’s road networks remain vulnerable to the increasing frequency of natural disasters.

Key discussions centered around the role of sustainable practices in ensuring the long-term durability of road assets, as well as the strategies that can be adopted to mitigate risks posed by floods, landslides, and other climate-induced events. Prof. Pasindu also shared practical case studies drawn from Sri Lanka’s own road management challenges, offering valuable lessons on how proactive planning and innovative engineering solutions can safeguard national transport infrastructure.

The webinar proved to be an engaging knowledge-sharing platform, underscoring the urgent need for resilience and sustainability in road asset management to support Sri Lanka’s economic growth and connectivity in the years ahead.

Webinar on Sustainable Construction Methods for Road Construction in Sri Lanka

On 29th July 2025 at 5.30 PM, an engaging webinar on “Sustainable Construction Methods for Road Construction in Sri Lanka” was conducted via Zoom, attracting professionals, academics, and industry stakeholders keen on advancing greener infrastructure practices.

The session was conducted by Dr. Chamod Hettiarachchi, who provided an in-depth overview of the current practices and limitations in Sri Lankan road construction. He highlighted the challenges that conventional methods pose to the environment and the growing necessity of shifting towards more eco-friendly and sustainable approaches.

Dr. Hettiarachchi further introduced innovative sustainable construction methods, emphasizing their potential to reduce environmental impact while improving the durability and efficiency of road networks. The discussion also explored policy directions and the future outlook for Sri Lanka’s sustainable infrastructure development, stressing the importance of aligning national road projects with global sustainability goals.

The webinar offered valuable insights into how the transport and construction sectors can embrace sustainability, ensuring that Sri Lanka’s road infrastructure is not only functional but also environmentally responsible for future generation



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WILAT NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

WiLAT Walk 2025 Marks National Logistics Day with Strong Industry Presence

Colombo, August 16, 2025 – The Women in Logistics and Transport (WiLAT), in collaboration with the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) Sri Lanka, hosted the landmark WiLAT Walk 2025 at Viharamahadevi Park – Green Path, Colombo, to mark the celebration of National Logistics Day.

The event drew an impressive crowd of over 550 participants, including professionals, academics, students, and industry supporters. Leading the walk were the WiLAT Executive Committee members, past chairpersons, and distinguished representatives of CILT, making it a significant occasion in the logistics and supply chain calendar.

The walk was ceremonially flagged off by Hon. Vraie Cally Balthazaar, Mayor of the Colombo Municipal Council, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Speaking at the event, WiLAT leaders emphasized the importance of recognizing the invaluable contributions of logisticians—both women and men—who ensure continuity, resilience, and agility in the face of challenges. The walk also highlighted the evolving role of women in logistics and supply chain management, sectors traditionally dominated by men, underscoring WiLAT’s mission to promote diversity, inclusion, and innovation.

WiLAT Walk 2025 provided a unique platform for industry-wide engagement, advocacy, and awareness, while celebrating the resilience and innovation of professionals who sustain global supply chains. Beyond the walk, participants experienced a morning of inspiration, networking, and camaraderie, reinforcing a collective commitment to shaping the future of the industry.

With its strong turnout and impactful message, WiLAT Walk 2025 stood as a testament to the strength and solidarity of Sri Lanka’s logistics community and its alignment with global trends in inclusive leadership and sustainable growth.



WILAT NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

WILAT AWARDS 2025 – CELEBRATING WOMEN ACHIEVEMENTS IN LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN

WiLAT Sri Lanka proudly marked another historic milestone in its 12-year journey by hosting the inaugural WiLAT Awards 2025 on 21st March at the grand Ballroom Hall of the Kingsbury Hotel, Colombo. This landmark occasion was held in commemoration of International Women’s Day, adding further significance to the celebration of women’s leadership and contributions to the industry.

The event recognized and celebrated the remarkable achievements of women and teams across key categories—Cost Efficiency, Sustainability, Digitalization, and Female Leadership—highlighting their excellence, innovation, and dedication in advancing the logistics, transport, and supply chain sectors. Winners were honored not only for their professional achievements but also for their role in inspiring future generations to strive for higher standards and inclusivity within the industry.

Adding depth to the evening, a thought-provoking panel discussion was held on the theme “Accelerating Actions to Grow Gender Equality in Supply Chains and Logistics.” The dialogue brought together leading voices from the industry who shared insights, strategies, and personal experiences on bridging gender gaps and fostering a more inclusive professional environment.

The WiLAT Awards 2025 was a resounding success, symbolizing WiLAT Sri Lanka’s unwavering commitment to empowering women, driving professional excellence, and shaping a future where diversity and equality remain at the core of the logistics and transport industry.



WILAT NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

WiLAT Learning Session on Mindfulness for Greater Productivity and a Happy You

The Women in Logistics and Transport (WiLAT) organized another inspiring learning session on 24th July 2025 via Microsoft Teams, featuring Ms. Nadeesha Wijesingha as the resource person on the topic “Mindfulness for Greater Productivity and a Happy You.” The session aimed to introduce mindfulness as a practical tool to enhance productivity, reduce stress, and promote overall well-being. Ms. Wijesingha shared valuable insights on the relevance of mindfulness in today’s busy professional world, along with practical exercises and real-life applications that participants could easily integrate into their daily routines. The interactive discussion encouraged participants to adopt mindfulness practices not only to improve their professional performance but also to achieve personal happiness and balance. The session was well-received, leaving participants motivated and equipped with useful strategies for greater productivity and a happier, healthier lifestyle.

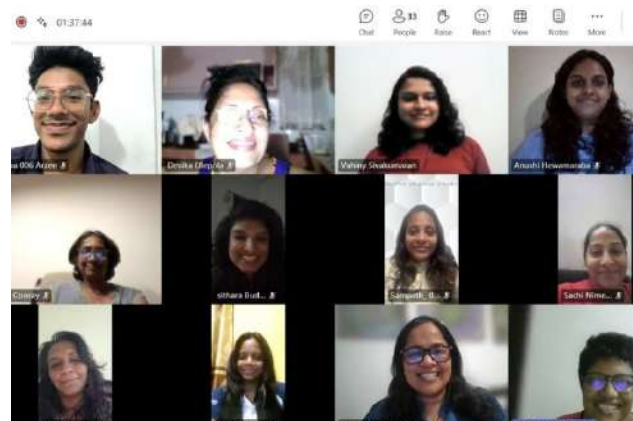
Empowering Growth: Personal Development Strategies for Future Leaders

WiLAT Sri Lanka recently hosted an exclusive webinar titled “Empowering Growth: Personal Development Strategies for Future Leaders” on Saturday, 5th July 2025 via Microsoft Teams. The session, led by Mrs. Julia Kasiva Oyiolo, Project Manager – Diploma Programmes at the International Trade Centre (ITC), focused on equipping participants with practical strategies to unlock their leadership potential. Key highlights included developing winning habits through self-awareness, goal setting, and effective time management; elevating one’s personal brand to strengthen professional presence; and leading with confidence by enhancing emotional intelligence and leveraging mentorship for continuous growth.

The interactive session provided attendees with actionable insights and tools to cultivate leadership skills and navigate their career paths with greater purpose and impact. The webinar was well-received, reflecting the growing interest among young professionals in personal development and leadership excellence.

Unconscious Bias – The Blind Spot in Good Leaders

An inspiring evening unfolded on 26th June with Ms. Nadeesha Wijesingha during the exclusive session on “Unconscious Bias – The Blind Spot in Good Leaders.” Members from the CILT and WiLAT professional and student communities participated in a thought-provoking discussion focused on leadership, inclusion, and self-awareness. Ms. Wijesingha shared valuable insights on recognizing and addressing unconscious biases, emphasizing how self-awareness and intentional leadership can foster more inclusive and effective work environments. The session encouraged active engagement from participants, providing practical perspectives to help them reflect on their own leadership styles and decision-making processes. This initiative highlights WiLAT’s ongoing commitment to offering free, high-impact learning experiences that empower members to grow professionally and lead with purpose.



WILAT NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

Safe Travel for Women in Public Transport: A Collective Responsibility

An impactful session on “Safe Travel for Women in Public Transport” was held on 25th June at Colombo West International Terminal (CWIT), bringing together CWIT, WiLAT, and the Governor’s Task Force. The discussion highlighted the importance of creating safer and more respectful commuting experiences for women, recognizing that this is a shared responsibility of individuals, communities, and institutions. Key focus areas included addressing challenges faced by women in public transport, raising awareness.



Personal Development and Social Etiquette Workshop for Ignite 10 Mentees

WiLAT Sri Lanka successfully conducted the “Personal Development and Social Etiquette Workshop” on 30th July 2025 at the Light House Galley, Colombo, as part of the Ignite 10 Mentoring Programme. The session was conducted by the esteemed Mr. Kumar de Silva, who shared his expertise on how young professionals can elevate their personal presence, communication, and professional etiquette to thrive in today’s competitive environment.



Ignite 10 Mentees Gain Practical Insights During Warehouse Visit to Oviklo Pamunugama

As part of the Ignite 10 Mentoring Programme, a warehouse visit to Oviklo Pamunugama was successfully conducted on 21st June 2025, with 65 enthusiastic mentees participating in the session. The visit offered a comprehensive learning experience, providing mentees with practical insights into warehouse operations, logistics workflows, and inventory management practices. Participants had the opportunity to observe real-time processes, understand the challenges of managing large-scale operations, and appreciate the strategies employed to maintain efficiency and accuracy in supply chain management.



The program also facilitated interactive discussions, allowing mentees to engage with the Oviklo Pamunugama team, ask questions, and exchange ideas, thereby fostering a deeper understanding of professional practices in the logistics sector. Beyond technical learning, the visit served as a platform for networking and building stronger professional connections among peers. The warm hospitality and guidance provided by the Oviklo Pamunugama team significantly enhanced the learning experience. Overall, the visit was a valuable and memorable component of the Ignite 10 programme, contributing meaningfully to the mentees’ professional growth and practical exposure in the logistics and supply chain field.

WILAT NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

WiLAT Sri Lanka Celebrates IGNITE 10 and Launches IGNITE 11 Mentoring Program

Colombo, Sri Lanka – August 28, 2025 — The Women in Logistics and Transport (WiLAT) Sri Lanka, the women’s arm of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT), marked a significant milestone with the conclusion of the IGNITE 10 Mentoring Program and the official inauguration of IGNITE 11 at a ceremony held at the EFL Logistics Campus Auditorium.

IGNITE 10 brought together 14 dedicated mentors and 70 enthusiastic mentees, engaging in a year-long journey of growth through workshops, field visits, webinars, and one-on-one sessions. A highlight of the evening was the recognition of the Top 5 mentees, selected through a rigorous two-round evaluation process, including a first-ever viva to determine the overall winner.

- Winner: Hamdhan Munawwar – mentored by Mr. Damith Liyanage
- First Runner-Up: Paramie Sawbhagya Wickramage – mentored by Mr. Prasad Champika Palayangoda
- Second Runner-Up: W. A. Dharanee Thiloka Weerasooriya – mentored by Mr. Sampath Vithanage
- Fourth Place: Lakshmi Thennakoon – mentored by Mr. Channaka De Alwis
- Fifth Place: E. A. Tharushi Nethmini Edirisinghe – mentored by Mrs. Namalie Siyambalapitiya

Looking ahead, IGNITE 11 was ceremonially inaugurated with the pinning of badges for the new cohort of mentors and mentees. This year, IGNITE 11 welcomes 20 mentors and 40 mentees, continuing WiLAT’s mission to empower the next generation of professionals in logistics and transport. Mrs. Indewari Chandrasekara, Project Chair for IGNITE 11, shared an overview of the year ahead, highlighting new opportunities and partnerships.



CILT NEXT GENERATION NEWS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR 2025

CILT Sri Lanka Next Generation Successfully Concludes Quiz Master 2024/25

CILT Sri Lanka Next Generation proudly concluded Quiz Master 2024/25, its flagship annual knowledge competition, on August 29th at The Kingsbury Colombo. Marking its 8th consecutive edition, the event has grown into a premier platform that bridges academia and industry, fostering collaboration and innovation within the logistics, supply chain, and trade sectors.

Designed as a dynamic, team-based challenge, Quiz Master tested participants' expertise in international trade, supply chain management, logistics, and transportation, while developing vital professional skills like leadership, teamwork, strategic thinking, and problem-solving. This year's competition saw over 30 teams representing both corporate and educational institutions, providing participants with valuable opportunities for networking, industry-academic integration, and knowledge exchange.

Team Dialog from Dialog Axiata PLC emerged as the champions, while Nestlé Lanka Ltd's Team Quiz Whizzers secured the position of 1st Runner-Up, followed by Team DP Logistics from DP Logistics (Pvt) Limited as the 2nd Runner-Up.

The successful execution of Quiz Master 2024/25 was spearheaded by Ms. Tharushi Naveena as the Project Chairperson, under the guidance of Mr. Priyan Pituwelgoda, President of CILT Sri Lanka Next Generation.



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LEADING TRANSFORMATION AT SAGT

INTERVIEW WITH
MR. UPUL JINADASA
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER - SAGT



In the fast-changing world of global trade, ports are under pressure to not only keep pace with technology but also to build resilience, sustainability, and people-centered practices. Mr. Upul Jinadasa, Chief Operating Officer of South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT), stands out as a leader who exemplifies this balance in Sri Lanka's maritime sector. With over three decades of experience in ICT and port operations, he has been part of SAGT since its inception in 1999, playing a pivotal role in introducing new technologies and driving operational excellence.

As a professional who began his career in Information Technology and went on to lead operations, engineering, and IT at SAGT, his perspective reflects both technical expertise and practical leadership. He shared his thoughts with us on the transformations needed in port operations, the importance of collaboration, and his personal motivation to champion innovation and sustainability.

Putting People, Safety, and the Environment First

For Mr. Jinadasa, the future of port operations cannot be defined solely by efficiency. "What we did yesterday may not be sufficient for tomorrow. Ports need to create, communicate, and deliver unique value to ever-evolving trade," he said.

Health, safety, and environment remain the foundation of this approach. "Safety today is not just about hard hats or procedures. It's about overall health, ergonomic workplaces, and empowering people to take ownership."

Automation and remote operations are already reducing human exposure to high-risk tasks, while technologies such as autonomous vehicles, AR-enabled control rooms, AI-powered surveillance, drones, and wearable tech are reshaping safety practices.

Equally transformative is predictive maintenance. "Ports are equipment-driven places. With IoT sensors and digital twins, we can detect issues before they become problems," Mr. Jinadasa noted. And as ports embrace digitalization, cybersecurity must evolve in parallel: "You can't just digitize and close your eyes. You must protect both data and physical operations."

Sustainability has also become a competitive advantage. Ports are electrifying equipment, investing in renewables, and using carbon accounting tools to meet ESG targets. “It’s not just best practice anymore; people are willing to pay a premium when you have these systems in place.”

Workforce transformation is another priority. “Having the same people do new things won’t work, you need upskilling. Attracting the younger generation into ports is an art, and we need to create workplaces that inspire them.”

Building Resilient Supply Chains Through Collaboration

Mr. Jinadasa strongly believes that ports cannot function in isolation. “A port is part of a community. Collaboration isn’t just a nice-to-have; it’s a strategic necessity,” he emphasized.

For him, true collaboration means co-creating digital solutions that add value across the maritime ecosystem. Sharing real-time data between ports, shipping lines, and customs can reduce idle time, optimize berth usage, and cut emissions. He believes that such solutions must generate unique value for all stakeholders, facilitating trade while ensuring the highest levels of compliance. Public-private partnerships (PPPs), like the one that shaped SAGT, have already shown how investment and innovation can transform port capacity and efficiency.

He also pointed to the importance of crisis response and preparedness, recalling lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and climate-related disruptions. Coordinated drills, joint protocols, and scenario-based planning are essential to ensure rapid recovery. In addition, he highlighted the need for harmonized sustainability standards to avoid confusion across jurisdictions, as well as regulatory incentives such as tax breaks or carbon credits to encourage greener adoption. On the international stage, Mr. Jinadasa underlined the importance of collective advocacy in global forums such as the IMO and WTO.

A Culture of Innovation and Sustainability

When asked about what inspires him personally, his response was heartfelt: “It’s the opportunity to make a meaningful impact, not just within the business, but across the ecosystem. At SAGT, our purpose is to empower Sri Lanka’s hub aspirations.”

For him, innovation is about solving real-life challenges, whether it is improving vessel turnaround times, enhancing safety, or reducing environmental impact. “At SAGT, innovation is not a one-off initiative. It’s embedded in our DNA, reflected in our mission, and in our values of excellence, teamwork, and customer centricity.”

On sustainability, he stressed the need to future-proof: “It’s not just about being environmentally responsible. It’s about building resilience, cost efficiency, and aligning with global trade expectations that are changing dynamically.”

He is particularly proud of SAGT’s efforts in gender-neutral talent attraction, in what has traditionally been a male-dominated industry. “We’ve changed that by attracting women into operating roles, promoting inclusive policies, investing in training, and creating opportunities for everyone to thrive equally.”

Ultimately, He sees his role through the lens of legacy: “Many leaders want to leave something behind that’s bigger than themselves. For me, it’s helping transform Port of Colombo into a model of smart, sustainable, high-performing port operations, something future generations can build upon.”

Through his decades of service, Mr. Upul Jinadasa has remained a strong advocate for innovation, collaboration, and sustainability. Under his leadership, SAGT has not only pioneered digital and operational excellence but also set benchmarks in safety, inclusivity, and resilience.

As Sri Lanka positions itself as a maritime hub in the Indian Ocean, his words are both a reminder and a call to action: the future of ports lies in bold, responsible transformation—anchored by people, powered by technology, and guided by sustainability.

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- ▶ 5 acres restored at the Yagirala Forest Reserve

Spreading awareness on coastal and ocean health



- ▶ Partnership with MEPA for annual beach cleanup events with staff engagement
- ▶ World Ocean Council member since 2019

Water Conservation



- ▶ Partnering with shipping lines to reuse desalinated water on board vessels

Gender Equality

Fostering Inclusive Environments

First for the Port of Colombo



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Paternity Leave Policy

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Expanding opportunities for females in the Port and Terminal Industry in Sri Lanka



First female engineer appointed in 2019



12 females appointed to shift-based operational roles in 2024



Enabling emerging female leaders

Collaborate for Progress

Partnering with industry associations to promote gender equality in transport and logistics



The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport



Women in Logistics and Transport



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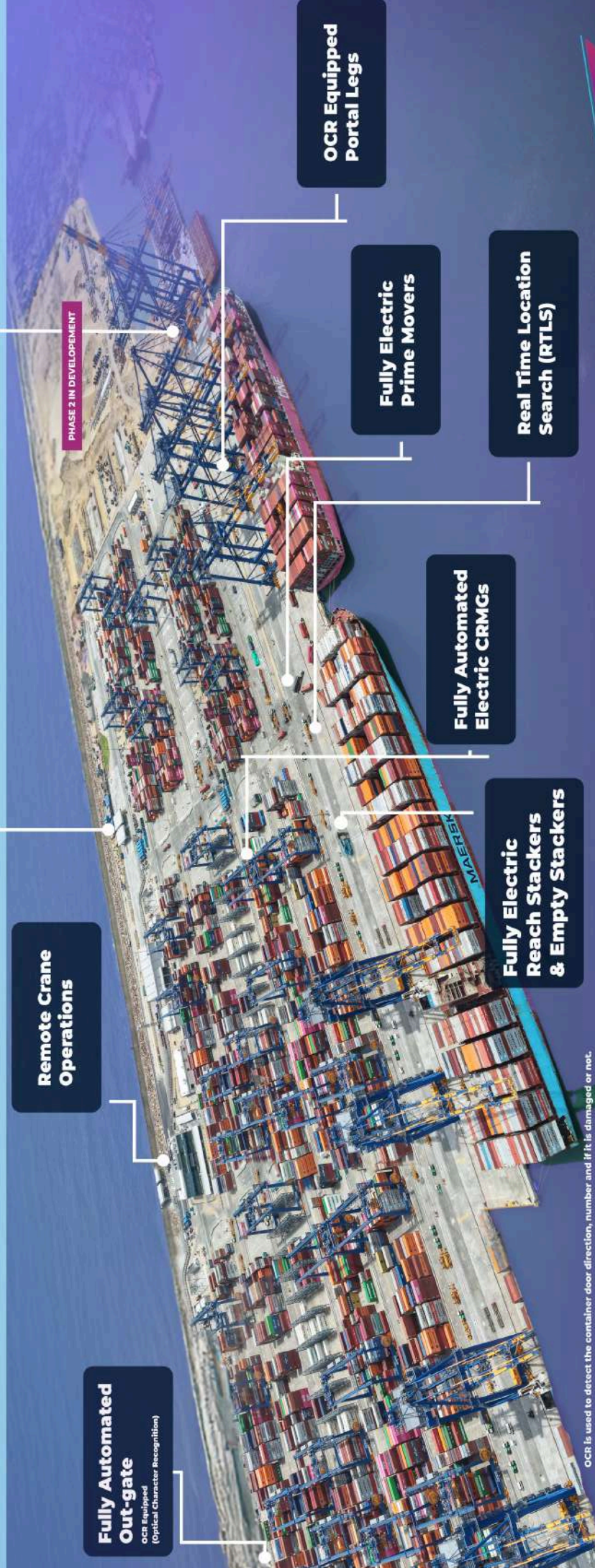
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MEMBER ARTICLES

FUTURE READY LOGISTICS: EMBRACING TRANSFORMATION, DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY

KAVINDU KUSAL VITHANAGE - UNDERGRADUATE

Introduction

In an era defined by rapid technological advancements, shifting global trade patterns, and mounting environmental concerns, the logistics and supply chain industry is undergoing a profound transformation. As we look forward to 2025 and beyond, logistics professionals must embrace change proactively and champion sustainability to build resilient, future-ready supply chains. This article explores the emerging trends, economic factors, and strategic directions shaping the future of logistics globally and locally.

Global Trends Shaping the Future of Logistics

The adoption of digital technologies is at the heart of logistics evolution. By 2025, autonomous vehicles such as self-driving trucks are being integrated into fleets, enabling continuous 24/7 operations, reducing costs, and enhancing safety by minimizing human error. Additionally, last-mile delivery automation through drones and delivery robots is revolutionizing how goods reach customers, providing speed, contactless options, and efficiency.

Sustainability has become a strategic imperative. Logistics companies are investing heavily in electric vehicles, hydrogen and biofuels, and sustainable packaging solutions to reduce carbon footprints and comply with stricter environmental regulations. This green logistics focus responds to global environmental concerns and rising consumer demand for eco-friendly practices.

The COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical uncertainties have underscored the need for resilient and agile supply chains. Companies are prioritizing diversification and risk management strategies to withstand disruptions while ensuring seamless global trade flows.

Key Economic Indicators Influencing Logistics

- **Fluctuating Freight and Shipping Costs:** Changes in global rates can significantly affect profitability.
- **Rising Fuel Prices:** Accelerates the shift toward energy-efficient transportation and optimized routing.
- **Labour Shortages and Skills Gaps:** Driving investment in workforce development and automation.
- **Changing Trade Volumes:** Impacted by tariffs, regionalization, and global events, demanding adaptive strategies.

Introduction

- **Maersk:** Leveraging real-time shipment visibility platforms to optimize routing, reduce delays, and improve customer satisfaction.
- **DHL:** Pursuing a Net Zero target by 2050 with electric vehicles, carbon-neutral buildings, and sustainable packaging, setting an industry example for environmental leadership.
- **Sri Lankan Ports:** Rapid digitization and contactless procedures during the pandemic minimized trade disruptions and maintained supply chain functionality.

Strategies for Embracing Change and Driving Sustainability

- Invest in advanced technologies such as AI analytics, IoT sensors, and ERP systems for operational efficiency.
- Foster collaboration among supply chain partners, technology vendors, and regulators to build transparent, agile networks.
- Prioritize sustainability by adopting renewable energy, optimizing routes, and supporting circular economy practices.

Conclusion

The logistics landscape in 2025 is defined by a fusion of technological innovation and environmental accountability. Embracing this dual transformation is essential for companies seeking to remain competitive and resilient in an unpredictable world. By proactively adopting digital tools and committing to sustainability, the logistics industry can lead global efforts toward a smarter, greener, and more efficient future.



EMPOWERING HUMAN CAPITAL FOR FUTURE-READY LOGISTICS IN SRI LANKA

LALITH EDIRISINGHE, CMILT
HEAD OF HR AND ADMINISTRATION, NHDA

As the global logistics industry braces for a new era shaped by sustainability, digital innovation, and geopolitical volatility, one element remains undeniably central—people. Human capital is the bedrock upon which logistics operations stand, evolve, and thrive. For Sri Lanka, a nation poised at the intersection of vital global trade routes, the opportunity to build a future-ready logistics sector lies in embracing change not only in technology and infrastructure but in how we prepare, manage, and empower our workforce.

The Human Factor in Sustainable Logistics

Sustainability in logistics is no longer a peripheral concern; it's a necessity. Green supply chains, carbon-neutral operations, and ethical sourcing are key priorities. But who implements these changes? Who adapts to new regulatory frameworks, adopts clean technologies, and champions greener operations?

The answer is: logistics professionals—ranging from ground-level operatives to strategic decision-makers. To truly embrace sustainable logistics, we must invest in upskilling and reskilling these individuals. At the NHDA, we've recognized that administrative and HR strategies must now pivot toward developing sustainability literacy among employees, including familiarity with ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) principles, compliance, and eco-conscious decision-making.

Digital Disruption and Workforce Readiness

Automation, AI, blockchain, and IoT are transforming how goods move from point A to B. With the rise of digital freight matching, predictive analytics, and warehouse robotics, the logistics

landscape is changing faster than ever. However, without a skilled and digitally literate workforce, these innovations risk falling flat.

Sri Lanka's logistics workforce must be prepared to collaborate with technology, not fear it. This calls for a proactive national approach—educational institutions aligning curricula with emerging trends, public-private partnerships facilitating technical training, and organizations embracing lifelong learning. The NHDA, while outside the core logistics sector, has increasingly implemented digital HR systems, providing a model for internal change management that can be adapted across industries.

Resilience Through Adaptive Administration

If the COVID-19 pandemic taught us anything, it's the value of resilient, agile systems. Future-ready logistics isn't just about faster deliveries or lower emissions—it's about adaptability. HR and administrative policies must support flexibility through remote work models, health and safety protocols, and mental health support, especially for those in high-stress logistics roles.

At NHDA, we've adopted blended work environments, digitized administrative workflows, and introduced wellness programs to maintain staff engagement and continuity. Similar practices can enhance the resilience of logistics firms, particularly in times of crisis.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): A Catalyst for Innovation

The global logistics sector is seeing an increased emphasis on DEI—not merely as a social responsibility but as a strategic advantage. Diverse teams bring richer perspectives, foster innovation, and better reflect global customer bases. In Sri Lanka, encouraging greater participation from women and underrepresented groups in logistics and supply chain roles is crucial. This involves rethinking recruitment policies, creating safe workplaces, and offering leadership pathways.

Policy and Public Sector Collaboration

For logistics to be future-ready, a cohesive effort between the private sector and government agencies is essential. As a public sector leader, I advocate for a national logistics workforce development plan, one that connects industry demand with education, training, and public administration. NHDA's involvement in cross-ministerial programs to streamline housing development logistics could serve as a blueprint for wider infrastructural alignment.



Conclusion: Building a Workforce for Tomorrow

The future of logistics in Sri Lanka is not only about trucks, ships, drones, or data. It's about people—their skills, adaptability, and willingness to embrace change. As professionals in HR and administration, we must lead from the front, fostering a culture of continuous learning, sustainability, and inclusion. If we succeed in aligning our human capital strategies with technological and environmental goals, Sri Lanka can position itself not just as a logistics hub, but as a model for responsible, future-ready logistics in the Global South.

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TRUMP TARIFFS VS GLOBAL LOGISTICS- NAVIGATING THE NEW TRADE REALITY

SITHARA HANSANEE - UNDERGRADUATE

The Trump administration's aggressive tariff policies have fundamentally disrupted global supply chains, forcing logistics organizations worldwide to rapidly adapt their strategies. These trade measures represent more than policy adjustments, they signal a permanent shift toward supply chain regionalization that logistics providers must navigate to remain competitive.

Trump's comprehensive tariff approach has created immediate disruptions across multiple sectors. Companies that relied heavily on Chinese manufacturing are scrambling to identify alternative suppliers, while established shipping routes are being reconfigured as trade flows shift toward new corridors. The statistics are striking. U.S. imports from China dropped by over 25% in key categories following tariff implementation, while imports from Vietnam, India, and Mexico increased significantly. This dramatic shift has created both challenges and opportunities for logistics providers who must quickly adapt to serve new trade patterns. For logistics organizations, the challenge extends beyond simply handling different cargo volumes. Each new sourcing market brings unique regulatory requirements, infrastructure limitations, and operational complexities that require specialized expertise and local partnerships.

The tariff environment has transformed geographic diversification from a risk management strategy into an operational necessity. Companies can no longer afford single-country sourcing strategies when tariff policies can alter economics overnight. India has emerged as the primary beneficiary of this shift. The country's "Make in India" initiative, combined with infrastructure investments and a relatively neutral geopolitical

stance, has positioned it to capture significant trade volumes previously flowing through China. Vietnam, Thailand, and Bangladesh are experiencing similar benefits, though infrastructure constraints limit their capacity to handle rapidly increasing volumes. For Sri Lankan logistics providers, this presents unique opportunities. The country's strategic location along major shipping routes, combined with ongoing port expansions in Colombo and Hambantota, positions it to serve as a regional hub for companies diversifying their supply chains.

The tariff environment is accelerating development of regional logistics hubs that can serve multiple markets while minimizing exposure to bilateral trade disputes. Free trade zones and special economic areas are gaining strategic importance as companies seek supply chain flexibility. The current tariff environment represents a permanent shift rather than temporary disruption. Regardless of future political developments, the trend toward supply chain regionalization and reduced single-country dependence appears irreversible.

Success requires more than operational efficiency, it demands strategic advisory capabilities helping customers navigate complex trade scenarios. Logistics providers must become consultants analyzing tariff implications, recommending optimal sourcing strategies, and executing complex multi-country supply chain configurations. Winning organizations combine deep logistics expertise with sophisticated understanding of trade policy, regulatory compliance, and geopolitical risk. They offer integrated solutions addressing transportation, warehousing, trade finance, regulatory compliance, and risk management.

For logistics organizations in emerging markets, the current environment presents unprecedented opportunities. Countries positioned as alternatives to traditional manufacturing centers can capture significant market share by developing appropriate capabilities and infrastructure. Success requires investment in technology, workforce development, and strategic partnerships that enable world-class service delivery. The logistics providers that make these investments during the current transition period will be best positioned when trade patterns stabilize.

The era of simple, cost-optimized global supply chains is ending. In its place, more complex, resilient logistics networks are emerging that can adapt to changing trade policies while maintaining operational excellence. The future belongs to logistics organizations that help customers build supply chains resilient enough to thrive regardless of policy changes.



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PROFITABILITY WITHOUT A PLANET? WHY LOGISTICS MUST LEAD THE FIGHT AGAINST GLOBAL WARMING

DR. SABEEN SHARIC - SENIOR LECTURER, KDU

Global warming is one of the greatest challenges facing the modern world. It is no longer a distant problem—it is already here, disrupting lives, economies, and businesses. Heatwaves, floods, and storms are stronger and more frequent, and the transport and logistics industry are deeply connected to this issue. This sector is the backbone of global trade, yet it also produces a large share of greenhouse gases that are heating our planet.

If the logistics industry continues to focus only on profit and ignores its impact on the environment, the long-term result will be severe. We may reach a point where the world is too unstable to support trade and business at all. For this reason, logistics must not only embrace change but also lead the way in creating a more sustainable future.

To understand why action is urgent, we need to look at how global warming happens in simple terms.

The Earth is surrounded by a thin layer of gases, called the atmosphere. This layer acts like a blanket. When sunlight reaches Earth, some of it is absorbed by land and oceans, while the rest bounce back into space. Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide trap part of this heat in the atmosphere. This process is called the greenhouse effect.

The greenhouse effect is natural and necessary. Without it, Earth would be far too cold to live on. But the problem begins when too many greenhouse gases are released. The blanket becomes too thick, holding in too much heat. This causes the Earth's temperature to rise, which we call global warming.

Transport and logistics release large amounts of greenhouse gases at almost every stage of the supply chain. Road transport contributes heavily, since trucks and vans burn petrol and diesel, releasing carbon dioxide. Shipping also plays a role because cargo ships use heavy oil, which creates huge emissions of carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide. Aviation adds further pressure, as aircraft burn large amounts of jet fuel, and emissions at high altitudes have an even stronger warming effect. Warehouses and distribution centers also use a lot of energy for lighting, air conditioning, and cold storage, and if this electricity comes from coal or oil, it adds to emissions. Finally, excessive packaging not only creates waste but also requires energy to produce and transport. Altogether, logistics activities account for nearly a quarter of global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions.

If the logistics sector ignores climate change and continues “business as usual,” the risks will be serious. Extreme weather will damage infrastructure, close ports, and delay transport. Costs will rise as fossil fuels become more expensive and as carbon taxes increase further. Businesses and consumers are increasingly choosing greener suppliers, so companies that fail to adapt risk losing contracts and gain market share. In the end, if climate change continues unchecked, there may not be a stable planet on which logistics or trade can survive.



The good news is that logistics can also be a major part of the solution. There are many ways industry can reduce emissions and drive sustainability. One important step is to shift to cleaner transport. This means using rail and waterways instead of long-distance trucking where possible, investing in electric and hydrogen-powered trucks, and encouraging multimodal transport to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Another step is to promote green warehousing by installing solar panels and energy-efficient lighting, improving insulation to reduce heating and cooling needs, and reducing packaging waste through reusable and recyclable materials. Logistics companies can also benefit from digital tools. Artificial intelligence can help plan routes and avoid empty trips, big data can be used to forecast demand more accurately, and blockchain can be applied to track and verify sustainable supply chains. Circular logistics is another key area, where reverse logistics is developed to collect and recycle used products, and closed-loop supply chains are created where waste becomes input for new products. Finally, it is important to work together. Logistics companies should collaborate with governments, customers, and partners to set common sustainability targets and support policies that encourage renewable energy and low-carbon transport.

Some believe that being sustainable adds costs, but the two goals work together. When a company saves fuel through better planning, it also saves money. When a warehouse switches to renewable energy, it reduces both emissions and energy bills. A company with a strong green image also attracts more customers, investors, and skilled employees.

Sustainability should not be seen as a burden. It is an investment in future competitiveness and resilience. Profit and sustainability are not opposites—they are two sides of the same coin.

The logistics sector has always been about moving goods, connecting markets, and enabling growth. But now it faces a choice. It can either continue to harm the planet in the name of short-term profit, or it can step forward and become a leader in sustainability.

The truth is simple: if we destroy the environment, we also destroy the very foundation of logistics. Without a stable climate, there will be no supply chains, no trade, and no profits. Future-ready logistics means embracing sustainability, cutting emissions, and preparing for a world where the health of the planet and the health of the economy go hand in hand.

The time to act is now.



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CLICK, CONNECT, COMPETE: WHY DIGITAL LITERACY IS THE NEW CURRENCY FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS

DR. PRIYANGANI JAYASUNDARA, CMILT
TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATOR/ GLOBAL
TRAINER/ENTREPRENEURIAL GROWTH MENTOR & COACH

“Digital literacy is no longer a choice — it’s a passport to opportunity, inclusion, and leadership for women in business.”

- ILO Women in Digital Business (WIDB) –

In a small town in Sri Lanka, a group of women entrepreneurs once limited to local markets now ship handcrafted products across borders, thanks to a smartphone and a simple e-commerce platform. Their transformation is not a miracle. It is the power of digital literacy.

In the 21st century, digital literacy is not just a skill, it’s a survival strategy for women-led businesses.

Across the world, especially in developing economies, women are being left behind in the digital race. Consider these facts:

- Women are 17% less likely than men to use mobile internet in low- and middle-income countries (GSMA, 2023)
- In South Asia, only 26% of women use the internet, compared to 49% of men
- This digital exclusion limits women’s access to markets, financial resilience, and business competitiveness

Digital literacy is not a luxury, it’s a lifeline for women entrepreneurs navigating today’s economy. It determines who participates, who grows, and who thrives.

The Digital Divide: Where Do Women Stand?

The digital revolution has transformed business, but not equally. Despite progress, women continue to face a yawning digital gap. According to the GSMA Mobile Gender Gap Report (2023), women in low- and middle-income countries are 17% less likely than men to use mobile internet. In South Asia, this gap is even apparent, only 26% of women use the internet, compared to 49% of men.

This exclusion has real-world consequences. Without access to digital tools, women-led businesses struggle to reach new customers, access digital payment systems, or respond to supply chain shifts. In effect, they are left behind in an economy that is increasingly moving online.



Why Digital Literacy is a Game-Changer

When women entrepreneurs embrace digital tools, the results are transformative. With basic digital literacy, using a smartphone, navigating apps, creating content, women can:

- Expand market reach through online platforms like Facebook Marketplace, Daraz, or Shopify
- Streamline operations using inventory management apps or cloud accounting software
- Engage with supply chains in real-time, improving responsiveness and traceability
- Access financial services like mobile banking, digital wallets, and crowdfunding

Digital platforms also amplify women's voices and brands. Social media enables even micro-entrepreneurs to build loyal customer bases, share their stories, and inspire trust.

“Digital tools don't just build businesses, they build confidence, credibility, and community,” says one woman entrepreneur from the ILO Women in Digital Business (WIDB) programme.

Women and Supply Chains: From Margins to Mainstream

Digital literacy doesn't only benefit the business owner, it strengthens entire supply chains. Women who digitize their operations can:

- Track inventory and sales in real time
- Communicate more efficiently with buyers and suppliers
- Offer transparency and traceability that many large-scale buyers now demand

This shift is crucial, especially in post-pandemic economies. Studies have shown that SMEs with a digital footprint were more resilient during COVID-19 disruptions. Women entrepreneurs who used WhatsApp, Facebook, or even simple Excel sheets were able to pivot quickly sourcing new suppliers, reaching customers remotely, and keeping operations alive.

Take the example of a women's farming cooperative in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. By adopting a basic crop tracking app and joining a regional e-marketplace, the group moved from local sales to supplying fresh produce to hotels and restaurants across districts. Digital tools helped them break the cycle of informal, low-value trade.

Barriers to Access and Action

Despite the potential, the road to digital transformation isn't smooth. Women face distinct barriers:

- Affordability and infrastructure gaps, rural areas often lack connectivity or access to affordable devices
- Low confidence or digital skill levels, especially among older women
- Cultural or social norms that restrict women's use of technology

Moreover, digital tools are not always gender-intentional. Platforms may be designed without considering the literacy levels, language needs, or daily realities of women users.

One participant in a WIDB session said, “It wasn't the technology that scared me — it was the fear of doing something wrong and being judged.”

Solutions and Pathways Forward

We need a multi-stakeholder push to bridge this digital divide:

- Digital training programs tailored to women’s needs, schedules, and language contexts
- Mentorship models that offer guidance and peer support
- Public-private partnerships to improve digital infrastructure in underserved areas

Programs like ILO’s Women in Digital Business (WIDB) and Know About Business (KAB) are already paving the way. By combining hands-on digital skills with entrepreneurial mindset development, they are helping women not only use tools — but innovate with them.

Importantly, support must also focus on digital confidence, empowering women to trust their ability to learn, experiment, and adapt in a fast-changing landscape.

Digitally Equipped, Globally Competitive

Women entrepreneurs are not waiting to be included — they are building their own digital bridges. But they need allies, training, and systems that work for them, not against them.

It’s time we stop treating digital literacy as optional. It is essential infrastructure for inclusive growth. When women can click, they can connect. When they connect, they compete. And when they compete, entire economies rise.

“Empowering women digitally is not just good for business, it’s a catalyst for inclusive supply chains, smarter economies, and stronger communities.”



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SHAPING THE FUTURE OF LOGISTICS

INTERVIEW WITH MR. SAIF YUSOOF

*MD - EFL 3PL GLOBAL, EFL GLOBAL SL,
CLASSIC TRAVELS, OKI DOKI GLOBAL &
PERI LOGISTICS*



In your view, what key changes should Sri Lanka's logistics industry embrace to stay competitive and future-ready over the next decade?

Sri Lanka's logistics sector needs to evolve from being primarily cost-driven to becoming value-driven. Over the next decade, I believe three changes will be critical:

1. Embracing digitalization and automation across warehousing and distribution
2. Strengthening multimodal connectivity to better leverage our geographic advantage
3. Investing in skills development to prepare a workforce capable of managing future supply chains.

If we can position ourselves as a smart, efficient, and technology-led hub, Sri Lanka has the potential to be a true regional logistics gateway.

How can collaboration between industry stakeholders help build greener and more resilient supply chains?

No single company can achieve sustainability or resilience in isolation collaboration is key. By sharing infrastructure, co-investing in green technologies, and setting common industry standards for emissions measurement, we can transform supply chains collectively. If logistics providers, regulators, manufacturers, and retailers work hand in hand, we can eliminate paper usage, replace plastics with sustainable alternatives, and significantly reduce carbon emissions. At EFL 3PL, we walk this talk. From aligning with the UN SDG goals to generating up to 2.3 MW of renewable energy through solar roofs, and contributing to

reforestation in Bundala, we are committed to building sustainable ecosystems beyond our operations. By pooling expertise and resources, Sri Lanka can accelerate the transition to greener, more future-ready supply chains - and EFL 3PL is proud to be at the forefront of this movement.

How do you see AI and modern technologies shaping the future of logistics?

AI and advanced technologies are already transforming our industry - from predictive analytics for demand planning to robotics and IoT in warehouses. In the future, we will see smarter, self-learning supply chains that respond dynamically to disruption. For EFL 3PL, we see technology not as a cost but as a long-term investment in accuracy, visibility, and speed.

What personally inspires you to lead EFL 3PL toward a sustainable and future-focused business model?

For me, leadership is about responsibility - towards our people, our customers, and the environment. What inspires me most is the opportunity to shape an organization that creates long-term value while contributing positively to the planet.

At EFL 3PL, we are building solutions that not only meet today's needs but also anticipate tomorrow's challenges. Leading this transformation towards sustainability, innovation, and resilience, is both my personal motivation and a commitment to the generations to come.

MEMBERS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Anushi Hewamarambe Appointed President of Expolanka Toastmasters Club 2025/26

We are thrilled to celebrate one of our own! Anushi Hewamarambe, an active and passionate member of CILT, has been appointed President of the Expolanka Toastmasters Club for the term 2025/26.

This remarkable milestone is a testament to Anushi's unwavering dedication to personal and professional development. Her journey through Toastmasters has been one of consistent growth, inspiring leadership, and effective communication qualities that also shine through in her contributions to CILT.

Under her leadership, the Expolanka Toastmasters Club is expected to reach new heights of excellence, innovation, and member engagement. Anushi's vision and commitment to empowering voices will undoubtedly create a strong platform for others to grow as confident communicators and dynamic leaders.

At CILT, we are proud to see our members taking charge and leading beyond boundaries. Congratulations, President Anushi — your journey is an inspiration to us all!



Rajith Ranasinghe Elevated to Senior Manager – Head of Supply Chain Management at Alumex PLC

We are proud to celebrate the remarkable achievement of Rajith Ranasinghe, a valued CILT member, who has been entrusted with an expanded leadership role as Senior Manager – Head of Supply Chain Management at Alumex PLC.

This job enlargement stands as a testament to Rajith's consistent high performance, strategic vision, and exceptional leadership capabilities. In his elevated role, he now oversees the entire supply chain ecosystem — from imports and local procurement to logistics and warehouse management covering finished goods, semi-finished products, and raw materials.

At CILT, we take immense pride in Rajith's journey and congratulate him on this significant career milestone. His achievement underscores the power of dedication, strategic thinking, and leadership excellence in shaping the future of supply chain management.

Anna W Karunatileke Featured in Maritime SHEEO's 2025 Report

We are delighted to celebrate a proud moment for CILT as Anna W Karunatileke has been featured as a case study in the 2025 report on the "Inclusion of Women in the Sri Lankan Maritime Industry" by Maritime SHEEO — a leading global organization championing gender equity at sea.

Anna's achievement is not just a personal milestone but also an inspiration for aspiring women professionals looking to chart their course in the maritime world. At CILT, we celebrate her success and remain committed to supporting greater inclusivity and representation across the transport and logistics sectors.

CILT NEW MEMBERS & MEMBERSHIP UPGRADES

MILT	MILT	CMILT
Yahamalee Jayawardena	Pasindu Nikalanka	M K Mujeeb Rahuman
Shamika Weudagedara	Osanda Rathnayake	Rashika S Mudunkotuwa
Peshala Mallikaarachchi	Chamindu Nawaruwan	A G D Prabath Lakmal
Upekkha Upamalika	Dishani Bogahawatta	L D Daham T S Weerasinghe
Muditha Gunawardhane	Subodha Perera	A Dilru Milan Mendis
Thasiru Deshan Kandamby	D R Madushika	Mahendhran J Xavier
Mohamed Haameem Hasri	Hashini Madushika	Roshan Thamaranath
Hiruni Jayawardena	Chirantha Kulathunga	Mahesh Dissanayake
H S U Gunasekara	Chandika Kumara	Kashyapa Alawala
S A Mohammad Akeel	Deepani Weerasinghe	Prageeth Wijesekara
Withanage Gimhan Perera	Milhaan Izath	Darshana Illangakoon
E Krishan Madhawa	Buddhika Wickramasekara	Ranshini Shanika
Poornima Edirithilake	Ruchira Thanuja	Uthpala Samarakoon
Hasitha Sanjeewa	Isuru Udeshika	Raveen Perera
Vishal Hadapangoda	Vindula Nanayakkara	Ashen Withana
Charitha Athukorala	Samanthika Kumuduni	Pramod De Silva
Dulangi Meealla	Thiwanka Nawarathna	Nadun Perera
Sandali Demel	Sonia Rathnayaka	Binara Wijesuriya
Nilakshika Rupasinghe	Chathurika Nadeeshani	Udara Cumarathunga
Yohan Dahanayake	Ramindu Rupasingha	Erandika Angamma

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