



வீடயா ஙா தாஙீஙு அலாநயாஙுய
விலுஞாந ஢ற்று஢் தலாழிலுடப ஁஢ைச்சு
Ministry of Science and Technology



சுயநி லார்கால
஢ுன்னேற்ற ஁றிகுை
Progress Report
(2025.01.01 - 2025.09.30)

அயலுய காரக ஙா அலுஙீலா லிலாடய - 2025
வரவுசெலவுத் திட்ட கு஢ுநிலை விலாத஢் - 2025
Committee Stage of the Budget Debate - 2025

The Progress 2025 and The Way Forward 2026

Ministry of Science and Technology

Message from the Hon. Minister



The Ministry of Science and Technology, together with its twelve implementing organizations, proudly presents the Annual Report for 2025, marking a pivotal moment in Sri Lanka's journey toward R&D resurgence and innovation-led growth. Despite the challenges posed by recent economic turbulence, Sri Lanka is rising with renewed determination, anchored by the government's firm commitment to increasing national investment in Research and Development (R&D) as a key driver of long-term socio-economic transformation.

We recognize that national progress depends on collective effort. Therefore, our R&D initiatives extend beyond the Ministry's own institutions to include active collaboration with other ministries, departments, and public- and private-sector organizations across the country. Through this integrated approach, we strive to provide scientific and technological solutions to real-world challenges, enhance institutional performance, and drive national development, rising together as one country under the government's pledge of "A Thriving Nation, A Beautiful Life." A central thrust of our strategy is to strengthen collaboration among public, industry, academic, and societal actors, moving beyond the traditional Triple Helix model toward a more dynamic and inclusive innovation ecosystem. This expanded partnership approach will accelerate technology transfer, strengthen commercialization pathways, and ensure that innovation benefits every segment of society.

In this context, the Ministry continues to align R&D with the nation's development priorities while advancing policy interventions to build a more resilient, inclusive, and knowledge-driven economy. Guided by the government's vision, we are implementing measures to formulate and operationalize a coherent R&D policy framework and to revitalize the Vidatha programme to unlock ground-level innovation potential. At the same time, the Ministry is strengthening a network of 100 "School Youth Invention Clubs" as an initial step toward addressing science education and innovation needs across all schools in the country. This initiative aims to foster scientific curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills among students, ensuring a steady pipeline of young talent to drive the nation's future R&D capacity. We are also fostering the diffusion of modern technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and advanced manufacturing systems across key sectors to enhance national productivity and competitiveness.

The 2025 National Budget proposal, "Strengthening National Quality Infrastructure (NQI)," further reinforces our commitment to improving research and production quality standards, supporting competitiveness, and promoting export-oriented innovation. Incubation facilities play a vital role in transforming R&D into business outcomes. The Ministry considers this a strategic turning point, focusing on developing a connected incubation ecosystem that links district-level mini centers through Vidatha Centers and university-based micro centers, all integrated into a few strengthened macro incubation hubs. Together with our broader initiatives in agriculture, health, energy, and manufacturing, these efforts underscore Sri Lanka's readiness to emerge as a regional hub for science, technology, and innovation.

The achievements captured in this report are a testament to the collective efforts of our scientists, innovators, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and institutional partners. Their dedication continues to transform Sri Lanka's R&D landscape, ensuring that science and technology remain at the heart of national progress. As we move forward, let us sustain this momentum with unity and purpose, advancing an innovation culture that empowers our youth, uplifts communities, and positions Sri Lanka firmly on the global R&D map. Together, we can shape a sustainable and knowledge-rich future for all Sri Lankans.

Prof. Chrisantha Abeyseena (M.P.)
Minister
Ministry of Science and Technology
October 2025

Message from the Secretary



As Secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2025, which reflects the Ministry's continued commitment to advancing science, technology, and innovation as the foundation for sustainable development and national prosperity.

Guided by the government's Quantum Leap in Science and Technology initiative, which serves as a precursor to the forthcoming national R&D policy document, the Ministry has worked diligently to foster innovation, strengthen research commercialization, and build a robust ecosystem for technological advancement. With twelve implementing organizations under its purview, the Ministry continues to empower researchers, modernize infrastructure, and accelerate the translation of research into tangible socio-economic benefits.

In 2025, the Ministry placed strong emphasis on aligning research with national development priorities. Demand-driven R&D programs were expanded to address key challenges in agriculture, health, energy, and manufacturing through the application of modern technologies such as biotechnology and nanotechnology. These initiatives have reinforced our commitment to ensuring that scientific innovation contributes directly to improving lives across the nation.

Recognizing that national innovation must be inclusive and future-oriented, we have taken steps to revitalize school science/ innovation societies to make them more relevant to contemporary technological and social needs. This initiative aims to nurture curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills among the younger generation, laying the foundation for a vibrant, innovation-driven future. The Ministry also places priority on revitalizing the Vidatha programme by establishing mini incubation centers within Vidatha Resource Centres to provide stronger, island-wide support for innovators and entrepreneurs. These centers will serve as localized hubs for technology development, prototype testing, and business mentoring, helping to bridge the gap between grassroots innovation and commercialization.

Further, our ongoing efforts under the 2025 National Budget proposal, "Strengthening National Quality Infrastructure (NQI)," underscore the Ministry's focus on ensuring quality, reliability, and global competitiveness of Sri Lankan products and services. This initiative will strengthen testing, accreditation, and standardization systems, key enablers of research excellence and industrial growth.

In strengthening the national R&D network, the Ministry continues to collaborate closely with universities, research institutions, and other ministries to integrate knowledge, resources, and expertise. Through this unified effort, our R&D institutions remain deeply engaged in serving all regions of the country, ensuring that the benefits of science and technology reach every community.

The achievements highlighted in this report are the result of the dedication, vision, and collaborative spirit of our scientists, engineers, administrators, and institutional partners. As we look ahead, the Ministry will continue to uphold its mission of positioning science and technology as a central pillar of national progress, empowering youth, inspiring innovation, and transforming Sri Lanka into a resilient, knowledge-driven economy.

Y.L. Mohammad Navavi

Secretary

Ministry of Science and Technology

October 2025

Vision

A developed nation through Science, Technology and Innovation

Mission

To create an effective STI ecosystem which drive economic growth to improve the quality of life addressing national and global challenges within the sustainable development framework

CONTENT

	Page No.
01. Introduction	01
02. Progress of the Development Activities of the Ministry of Science and Technology	03
03. Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT)	13
04. Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)	17
05. National Science and Technology Commission (NASTEC)	21
06. National Engineering Research and Development Centre (NERDC)	24
07. National Innovation Agency (NIA)	27
08. National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS)	29
09. National Research Council (NRC)	34
10. National Science Foundation (NSF)	38
11. Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology (SLIBTEC)	42
12. Sri Lanka Inventors Commission (SLIC)	44
13. Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC)	48
14. Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	53

1. Introduction

The Ministry of Science and Technology has been at the forefront of Sri Lanka's efforts to harness the transformative potential of science, technology, and innovation (STI) as drivers of sustainable economic growth and improved quality of life for all citizens. Although the Ministry operated as a division within the Ministry of Education for the first ten months of 2024, it successfully re-established its full institutional structure within one year and demonstrated outstanding progress in expanding research and development (R&D) programs and policy initiatives to meet the national priorities of 2025.

The Ministry of Science and Technology traces its origins to 1968 with the establishment of the National Science Council, followed by NARESA in 1981, and its formal creation under the Science and Technology Development Act No. 11 of 1994. Over the years, the Ministry has evolved through various configurations, including as part of the Ministry of Economic Reforms, Science and Technology (2001–2003), the Ministry of Technology and Research (2010–2015), and the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Research (2016–2018), as well as non-cabinet ministries under different titles. In 2020, it operated within the Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research, and Innovation, and the Ministry of Education in 2024, before being reconstituted in its current form through Extraordinary Gazette No. 2412/08 on 25 November 2024.

Throughout its evolution, the Ministry has remained a key pillar in advancing scientific research, technological development, and innovation-led national transformation. In 2025, the Ministry oversaw a dynamic network of 12 institutions, the Sri Lanka Planetarium, and the national Vidatha program, each working towards strengthening the national STI ecosystem. These institutions collectively contributed to promoting demand-driven research, fostering industry–academia partnerships, and creating an enabling environment for innovation and technology commercialization.

In 2025, the Ministry of Science and Technology advanced institutional strengthening and innovation-driven progress. The National Innovation Agency (NIA) enhanced Sri Lanka's innovation data ecosystem through the Global Innovation Index (GII) Consultative Meeting 2025, improving coordination among ministries, state institutions, and the private sector. The National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS) led sustainable agricultural innovation with the widespread commercialization of biofilm bio fertilizer (BFBF), benefiting farmers nationwide. Building on this success, NIFS proposed the 2026 BFBF Extension Program to expand distribution, training, and technical support, promoting agricultural sustainability and socio-economic growth. NIFS maintained top rankings in the Alper-Doger (AD) Scientific Index. The Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC) and Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology (SLIBTEC) achieved major milestones in commercialization, collaboration, and infrastructure development, fostering globally competitive science enterprises. The National Science Foundation (NSF) promoted scientific literacy through school-level research, the National Digital Library Consortium, and managed 59 R&D and technology development grants to strengthen national innovation readiness.

The Ministry also played a central role in shaping the country's R&D governance structure. Preliminary work was launched to formulate a National Research Roadmap and a National Guideline for Research Evaluation and Ethics Review, with the participation of over 190 scholars in a dedicated research consortium. Furthermore, the development of the National Research Management and Information System (NRMIS) began under the Ministry's Research Division, in collaboration with the Ministry of Digital Economy, to establish a unified national platform for monitoring, managing, and disseminating publicly funded research data.

Under the Vidatha Program, 267 district-level technology transfer programs were conducted, empowering over 6,400 entrepreneurs and small-scale innovators across all 25 districts. These initiatives promoted inclusive access to STI benefits, supported quality assurance and certification processes, and facilitated alternative energy adoption for industrialists. The Vidatha program also strengthened innovation promotion at the grassroots level through patent facilitation, inventor support, and collaborative incubation centers established with state universities.

At the school level, the Ministry launched 100 School Youth Invention Clubs in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission (SLIC), marking the first step towards cultivating a national innovation culture in schools and aligning science education with future technological needs. In parallel, the Sri Lanka Planetarium organized astronomy awareness programs and national sky observation camps, reaching tens of thousands of students and the general public to inspire scientific curiosity and space science learning.

Internationally, the Ministry made significant strides in strengthening global cooperation in STI. A landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China was signed in Chengdu in June 2025, leading to the establishment of the China–Sri Lanka Belt and Road Joint Laboratory for Smart Procurement and Supply Chains and collaboration with Sichuan Agricultural University. Active engagements with India, Australia, Cuba, South Korea, and other countries under bilateral and multilateral frameworks, such as BIMSTEC, IORA, and the NAM S&T Centre, expanded research and capacity-building opportunities for Sri Lankan scientists.

In 2025, the Ministry implemented the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) Strengthening Program, supported by a Rs. 750 million allocation under the National Budget. As part of this initiative, 19 projects from national institutions and universities were approved to enhance standardization and quality assurance frameworks across multiple sectors. Additionally, for the first time in the country's history, a landmark National Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) workshop was conducted to build capacity among policymakers, regulators, and institutional stakeholders, fostering evidence-based regulatory improvements and promoting an innovation-friendly environment aligned with international best practices.

The accomplishments detailed in this report reflect the Ministry's unwavering commitment to integrating science, technology, and innovation into Sri Lanka's development agenda. By fostering knowledge-based growth, supporting industry and community-driven innovation, and enhancing international collaboration, the Ministry continues to shape a resilient, inclusive, and technology-empowered future for the nation.

1.1. Priority Functions in the Ministry of Science and Technology

- Formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, strategies, programmes and projects, in relation to the subjects of science and technology, and those subjects that come under the purview of Departments, Statutory Institutions and Public Corporations listed in Column II based on the national policies implemented by the government.
- Provision of public services under the purview of the Ministry in an efficient and people friendly manner
- Reforming all systems and procedures using modern management techniques and technology, thus ensuring that the functions of the Ministry are fulfilled while eliminating corruption and waste.
- Facilitating research institutions to collaborate with international research institutions
- Formulating an efficient mechanism to utilize innovations and outcomes of research
- Taking steps to expand scientific, industrial, social and economic research and development activities
- Motivating and directing communities towards innovation
- Enforcing standards and matters related to administration in science and technology sector
- Provision of technical assistance to relevant Ministries for developing Green Technology Projects

1.2. Institutions Functioning under the Ministry of Science and Technology

- Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT)
- Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)
- National Science and Technology Commission (NASTEC)
- National Engineering Research and Development Centre (NERDC)
- National Innovation Agency (NIA)
- National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS)
- National Research Council (NRC)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology (SLIBTEC)
- Sri Lanka Inventors Commission (SLIC)
- Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC)
- Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)

2. Progress of the Development Activities of the Ministry of Science and Technology

2.1 Scientific Development Programme

Research Division

- Development and Implementation of National Research Roadmap

The organization of the necessary preliminary activities for the preparation of the National Research Roadmap was initiated with the aim of providing the necessary guidelines for operating in key research areas of national importance.

Under this initiative, a consortium of scholars was created as a common platform to bring together researchers, professionals and scientists who are interested in contributing to the advancement of science, technology and research with the number of registered scholars currently exceeding 190. With the participation of these scholars, the ground work for preparing a national guideline on research evaluation and ethical evaluation which is considered a fundamental aspect related to the field of research was initiated with the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers.

- Maintaining the Vidya e-News website and organizing the publication of the Vidya e-Magazine to promote modern scientific knowledge

Through the Vidya e-News website (www.vidyaenews.mostr.gov.lk), launched as a trilingual website in 2022 with the aim of popularizing modern scientific knowledge and its applications among Sri Lankans, scholarly articles are published covering fields such as artificial intelligence, augmented reality, astronomy, cloud technologies, nanotechnology, robotics, 3D printing technology, biology, and natural sciences.

Accordingly, by the end of the third quarter of 2025, the number of scholarly articles published have exceeded 50. In addition, activities to disseminate this knowledge are also being pursued using social media (Facebook and YouTube), and the Vidya E-News Article Competition is organized annually to further attract school students, university students and the general public to the aforementioned fields. A special 'Science' e-magazine featuring these winning articles is scheduled to be launched to coincide with the National Science Day celebration in 2025.

- Creating Awareness among Stakeholders in the Field of Research and Development

Vesting the benefits and scientific knowledge of research and development activities carried out in the country in the society accurately and scientifically is considered vitally important. Therefore, a workshop was held to create awareness among the officials affiliated to the Ministry engaged in this work and social media activists who are voluntarily engaged in science communication, and also to prepare a roadmap for science communication.



Science Communicator Awareness Program held at SLINTEC

- Indo-Sri Lanka Science and Technology Cooperation
 - Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Cooperation Programme - 2019

Progress reviews are conducted this year in respect of 06 research projects selected through the call for research proposals in 2019, also providing financial support and this program is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025. Under this programme, about 36 research publications have been published and a patent has been applied relating to a process for generating green energy.

- Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Cooperation Program - 2024

The call for research and workshop proposals for this program was made in the third quarter of 2024 and 370 research proposals and 208 project proposals were received. These proposals were evaluated in three stages using a rigorous and transparent methodology, and 16 research proposals and 22 workshop proposals were selected. The initiation of these research and workshops will be carried out in the future with the approval of the Indian Department of Science and Technology.

- Popularization of Science

Organizing the National Science Day celebration in collaboration with institutions under the Ministry to coincide with World Science Day 2025.

Preliminary arrangements are being made to hold the National Science Day and Science Week 2025 from November 10 to 14 in Colombo. To this end, arrangements are being made to hold a number of programs throughout Science Week, involving institutions affiliated to the Ministry, state universities, science associations and the private sector.

- Facilitating research projects
 - Preparation of the National Research Management and Information System

Action was initiated to develop a National Research Management and Information System with the support of the Ministry of Digital Economy to meet the need for a central information system for monitoring, managing and disseminating information on research being conducted using public funds.

- Reviewing research for payment of research allowances in accordance with Management Services Circular No. 02/2014.

Pursuant to this circular, the Research Monitoring Committee is headed by the Secretary to the Ministry of Science and Technology and actions were pursued to study the functions of the Research Management Committees by organizing discussions of the committees. By the end of the third quarter, 18 research proposals had been recommended for research grants.

- Monitoring and evaluation of research conducted by research institutions under the purview of the Ministry.

The Ministry issued a set of instructions in 2024 for the preparation of the 2025 Annual Research Action Plan of the research institutes affiliated to the Ministry and research proposals were obtained accordingly.

In addition, by identifying research needs and problems in institutions outside the scope of this Ministry, discussions were held with stakeholders in the tea industry and indigenous medicine sector to initiate inter-ministerial cooperation and research programs, and research collaborations were built.



Discussion held on identifying tea-related research needs



Discussion with stakeholders in the field of indigenous medicine

International Relation Division

- Scientific Training

Under the Indian Science & Research Fellowships (ISRF) Programme, six Sri Lankan scientists were selected by India to enhance capacity building in science and technology.

- Science & Technology Collaboration under Bilateral & Multilateral Collaboration

Sri Lanka has achieved substantial progress in expanding international cooperation in STI during 2024–2025. A landmark achievement was the signing of a new MoU with China in Chengdu in June 2025, leading to the establishment of a joint committee and collaborations with key institutions such as China Medical City, Wuhan University of Technology, and Sichuan Agricultural University. These initiatives emphasize joint research, industrial partnerships, and technology-driven logistics, with further discussions planned at the first joint committee meeting. Parallel efforts with Australia, Cuba, Nepal, South Korea, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, and Pakistan have advanced through concept papers, proposals, and bilateral meetings. Notably, South Korea has funded a project to upgrade quartz and silica sand quality in Sri Lanka, while Australia and Cuba have initiated collaborations in agricultural research and STI development. These growing international linkages underscore Sri Lanka's commitment to fostering global partnerships focused on energy, food security, climate change, and innovation-led economic growth.

- Indo – Sri Lanka Joint Research Programme

Under the Programme of Cooperation (PoC) 2025, joint research and workshop proposals were invited from universities and research institutions. A total of 430 research proposals and 208 workshop proposals were received and forwarded to the Research Division for evaluation. Evaluations are complete and results are pending India's response to commence the projects.

- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

BIMSTEC, comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, fosters regional cooperation in sectors such as trade, technology, energy, and climate change. Sri Lanka serves as the lead country for the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) sector, coordinating the STI sub-sector and the establishment of the BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility (TTF). The 3rd Expert Group Meeting on STI Cooperation was held in Colombo in August 2025. The Host Country Agreement for the TTF is under final legal review before signing.

- Working group on STI under IORA

The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), established in 1997 with 23 member states, promotes regional cooperation and sustainable development. The Ministry of Science and Technology leads the Working Group on Science and Technology, under which Ocean University and NARA developed two research proposals approved in 2024, with IORA funding 50% of project costs.

– NAM S&T center

Programme are coordinated with the help of NASTEC as focal point in Sri Lanka



China-Sri Lanka Belt and Road Joint Laboratory for Smart Procurement and Supply Chains”



Cooperation with Sichuan Agricultural University China (SAU)

Development Division

- Mandatory taxes are payable when research institutes and universities import equipment and chemicals for research conducted using foreign aid. Reaching an agreement with the Ministry of Finance to bear the said tax under an expenditure head allocated to the Ministry, thereby providing relief to researchers and creating interest in conducting research through foreign aid.
- Launching a program to establish “School Youth Invention Clubs” in 100 schools based on a new concept, in collaboration with SLIC.
- Implementing programs to establish research collaboration between state universities and research institutions of other Ministries.
- Providing necessary support for the commercialization of innovations and new products carried out by government universities, other ministries and research institutions.
- Having identified weaknesses in the administrative and operational functions of the Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology Private Limited (SLINTEC) and Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology Private Limited (SLIBTEC). two companies belonging to this Ministry, appointing a committee to review the current situation and make recommendations to improve the two institutions to transform them into profit-making institutions.
- Centre of Excellence for Robotics Application (CERA)

The Centre of Excellence in Robotics Application (CERA), conceived in 2016 to advance robotics and automation in Sri Lanka, received Cabinet approval under the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007. Initially supported

by the Ministry of Industries, University of Moratuwa, and Coordinating Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (COSTI), implementation began in 2017 under the Industrial Development Board (IDB) to enhance industrial competitiveness. Early progress was hindered by funding and administrative challenges, and between 2018–2023, CERA remained partially operational. Revival efforts in 2023 included training and pilot projects, and in 2025, it was formally gazetted under the Ministry of Science and Technology with Rs. 5 million and an expert committee appointed. The committee's report has been submitted to the Ministry of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development to finalize its roadmap.

2.2 Strengthening of National Quality Infrastructure

In line with the 2025 National Budget Proposal titled “Strengthening of the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) System”, an allocation of Rs. 750 million was made to the Ministry of Science and Technology for implementation within the current financial year. The Ministry called for project proposals from relevant institutions, with the first-round evaluation shortlisting and approving 14 projects worth about Rs. 670 million aligned with the National Quality Policy. A second-round evaluation included five proposals worth about Rs. 70 million from universities and other ministries. In parallel, the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Institutional Grant Selection 2025 supported pilot regulatory improvement projects, funding 7 proposals with about Rs. 10 million. These initiatives collectively mark steady progress in strengthening Sri Lanka's NQI framework and enhancing governance, innovation, and quality assurance across sectors

2.3 Vidatha Programme

The Vidatha Program was initiated as a national program in the year 2000 with the aim of transferring technology and scientific knowledge from research institutes under the Ministry of Science and Technology to grass root level. This program also seeks to reduce the technological gap between urban and rural communities in the country whilst encouraging the public to utilize existing resources productively through value addition. The Vidatha program also contributes towards national economic development by uplifting the living standards of the people through the provision of the knowledge and technology for them to become successful micro, small and medium-scale entrepreneurs. With a view to achieving these objectives, 315 Vidatha Resource Centers (VRCs) have been established at the Divisional Secretariat, covering all administrative districts of Sri Lanka.

- Contributes to ensuring the quality of products by facilitating the provision of quality test reports and GMP certificates.

In 2025, up to September, the Vidatha Unit provided financial support to entrepreneurs to obtain 78 quality test reports and 5 GMP certificates through recognized institutions. This helped ensure product standards in sectors like food, spices, cosmetics, chemicals, and herbal products, enhancing market opportunities through improved quality and standardization.

- Introducing alternative energy sources for industrialists

Sri Lanka, rich in renewable energy sources like solar and biogas, has launched a project to support small and medium-scale industrialists by promoting sustainable energy use. To ease rising production costs from LP gas and electricity, the Ministry introduced subsidies covering 25% of solar panel costs (up to Rs. 250,000) and 50% of biogas unit costs (up to Rs. 150,000). Entrepreneurs can install solar panels of 3–5 kW and biogas units of 8–15 cubic meters under this initiative.

- Promotion of Innovations

Due to limited innovation support in rural Sri Lanka, the Ministry launched Science and Technology Policy Promotion Programs to assist inventors and entrepreneurs. Awareness programs were held with key agencies to strengthen innovation knowledge among Vidatha Officers. Patent requests received through Vidatha Centers were directed to the Sri Lanka Inventors' Commission, with one inventor identified for patent support.

Additionally, two inventors from Vidatha Centers showcased their innovations at the “Industry Expo 2025,” creating opportunities for investment and market exposure.



Inventors who participated in the “Industry Expo 2025 – Innovation Arena” held at BMICH

- Conducting sky observation camps in collaboration with the Planetarium and the ACCIMT

The Sky Observation Camp Project aims to ignite an interest in space science among school students across the island and inspire their enthusiasm for the subject. As part of this initiative, a successful sky observation camp was held at Weeraketiya Central College on 29th August 2025, coordinated by the Astronomical Society of the University of Colombo under the guidance of Prof. Chandana Jayaratne. The program provided students with valuable hands-on experience in sky observation and space science. The second camp is scheduled for 24th October 2025, with plans to conduct similar programs at eight more locations.



The Sky Observation Camp held at “Weeraketiya Central College”

- Conducting programs for Science Day

The Vidatha Unit and the Industrial Management Science Students’ Association have jointly organized a Hackathon competition to celebrate World Science Week. The event is held under two categories - HackX Jr., targeting school students, and HackX, targeting university students. Registration for both categories closed on September 14, 2025, with 265 project proposals received under HackX Jr. and 186 proposals under HackX. Project proposal evaluations for both competitions have already commenced.



Awareness program on “Hackathon” held at the University of Kelaniya

- Programme to establish Incubation Centres

The Ministry of Science and Technology, in collaboration with State Universities, is establishing incubation centres to support MSMEs by providing lab facilities, technology transfer programs, research support, and consultancy services. Three centres are being set up at the Universities of Vavuniya, Ruhuna, and Eastern, each funded with Rs. 15 million from the NQI Committee for lab equipment.

- Technology Transfer Programme

The Ministry of Science and Technology recognizes the vital role of District Vidatha Officers, Science and Technology Officers, and Development Officers in advancing innovation, sustainable development, and the digital economy. To strengthen their capacity, training programs aligned with local needs are being implemented. Additionally, technology transfer programs have been launched at the Divisional Secretariat level across all districts to support both new and existing entrepreneurs. So far, 267 programs have been conducted, benefiting 6,485 entrepreneurs in sectors such as food, chemical, IT, electronics, materials, batik and screen printing, marketing and packaging, animal husbandry, and beekeeping technologies.

The technology transfer programs conducted covering all administrative districts are as follows.

No	Districts	No. of Approved Projects	No of programs conducted	Beneficiaries
1	Ampara	19	15	406
2	Anuradhapura	21	16	219
3	Badulla	15	11	369
4	Batticaloa	14	13	287
5	Colombo	13	13	327
6	Galle	20	17	463
7	Gampaha	13	12	665
8	Hambantota	12	10	251
9	Jaffna	13	13	284
10	Kalutara	14	14	379
11	Kandy	20	20	453
12	Kegalle	10	9	224
13	Kilinochchi	4	4	100
14	Kurunegala	30	29	587
15	Mannar	5	5	90
16	Matale	11	11	255
17	Matara	14	12	315
18	Monaragala	11	9	171
19	Mullaitivu	4	4	70
20	Nuwaraeliya	5	2	56
21	Polonnaruwa	5	4	20
22	Puttalam	12	7	115
23	Rathnapura	18	15	319
24	Trincomalee	4	0	00
25	Vavuniya	3	2	60
Total		310	267	6485



Training program on providing technology for delivering fresh vegetables and fruits to the market



Eco-friendly Batik Design Training Program held at Panadura Vidatha Resource Center

- Programs conducted targeting capacity building of Vidatha officers

Five programs were conducted to enhance the capacity of 618 Vidatha officers, covering food technology applications for handling and processing agri-food crops, technical training on chemical-related products, artificial intelligence, and behavioral and professional development for KKS.

2.4 Sri Lanka Planetarium

Sri Lanka Planetarium established in 1965, was a special feature of the Industrial Exhibition to introduce the latest technologies in the planetarium to focus of attention due to the ability to create a night sky for inspection for the general public. Designed by renowned Engineer Dr. A.N.S. Kulasinghe, its outer dome, taking the shape of a lotus in full bloom. The artificial sky where one could glimpse the night sky during day time is created on a domed screen above an auditorium which could seat 560 visitors. Delivery of lectures on astronomy is another activity. Other services offered free of charge are Astronomy courses for school children, night sky observation camps, astronomy workshops, science exhibitions and seminars for reference.

Activities

- Educating the general public and children on Astronomy using universal projector and other audio-visual equipment at the planetarium
- Conducting night observation camps using astronomy equipment
- Conducting awareness Programs and Astronomy courses
- Participating science exhibitions
- Coordinating national & international programs

- Science Popularization Program

Various activities have been carried out to popularize science among school children and the general public, including planetarium presentations with digital dome films, solar system introductions, and night sky demonstrations; night sky observation camps and exhibitions across the country to provide hands-on experiences with celestial objects; and astronomy classes and workshops for students, aimed at fostering creativity, astrophysics knowledge, and observational skills to inspire the next generation of astronomers.

Method of Popularization	2024		Target 2025		Progress 2025	
	Program	Beneficiaries	Program	Beneficiaries	Program	Beneficiaries
1. Planetarium Presentations	493	227,931	425	300,000	331	147,986
2. Outdoor Programs	25	25,631	35	30,000	13	45,672

3. Astronomy Courses	3	75	3	125	0	0
4. Income Rs (Mn)	25.12		30.00		15.23	

2.5 Administration and Establishment Services

- A significant number of vacancies in the Ministry and the Planetarium were filled
- 177 officers participated in 06 local training programs
- 04 officers participated in 04 foreign training programs
- The Citizenship Charter was prepared and published on the Ministry's website

2.6 Financial Progress

Financial Allocations and Expenditure (As at 30.09.2025)

Year	Recurrent (Rs. Mn.)		Capital (Rs. Mn.)		Total (Rs. Mn.)	
	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
2023	1266	1064.6	1391	623.6	2657	1688.2
2024	1350.5	1192.4	1026.8	359	2377.3	1551.4
2025	2800	1919.269	2950	371.312	5750	2290.582

Capital Allocations and Expenditure (As at 30.09.2025)

Year	2023 (Rs. Mn.)		%	2024 (Rs. Mn.)		%	2025 (Rs. Mn.)		%
	Allocated Amount	Expenditure		Allocated Amount	Expenditure		Allocated Amount	Expenditure	
National Budget	2657	1688.2	63.5	2377.3	1551.4	65.3	5000	2290.292	40
Budget Proposals	0	0	0	0	0	0	750	0.29	0.03
Foreign Loan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2657	1688.2	63.5	2377.3	1551.4	65.3	5750	2290.582	40

Department of Public Enterprises Budget

Year	2023 (Rs. Mn.)		%	2024 (Rs. Mn.)		%	2025 (Rs. Mn.)		%
	Allocated Amount	Expenditure		Allocated Amount	Expenditure		Allocated Amount	Expenditure	
PED Budget	0	0	0	0	0	0	1050	100.26	9.5
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	1050	100.26	9.5

Institution wise Allocation of Provisions – 2025

Institute/ Programme/Project	Recurrent (Rs. Mn.)		%	Capital (Rs. Mn.)		%
	Allocated Amount	Actual Expenditure		Allocated Amount	Actual Expenditure	
Ministry	1067	696.798	65.49	90	11.531	12.81
Scientific Development Programme	0	0	-	935	6.139	0.66
Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT)	189	140.766	74.44	100	28.255	28.26
Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)	450	344.3	77.13	300	0	0
National Engineering Research and Development Center (NERDC)	378	243.8	64.50	140	28.87	2062
National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS)	300	231.4	77.13	240	107.5	44.79
National Science Foundation (NSF)	181	129.015	71.27	480	105.793	22.04
National Research Council (NRC)	49	18.255	37.19	230	23	10.00
National Science and Technology Commission (NASTEC)	41	30.181	73.61	20	6.1	30.50
Sri Lanka Inventors Commission (SLIC)	54	41.151	76.21	80	39.62	49.53
Sri Lanka Planetarium	50	21.3331	42.66	275	0.0043	00
National Innovation Agency (NIA)	41	20.302	49.52	60	14.5	24.17
Total	2800	1919.269	68.55	2950	371.312	12.59
Department of Public Enterprises Allocation (PED)						
Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Self-Financed Institute					
Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC)	-	-	-	200	14.8	7.4
Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology (SLIBTEC)	-	-	-	850	85.46	10.05
Total	-	-	-	1050	100.26	9.5

2.7 Target for the year 2026

- Introducing the common methodology for research evaluation.
- Improving the research ethics review process.
- Completion of the first phase of the Research Management Information System
- Providing support for the commercialization of research outcomes in universities and research institutes.
- Empowering Communities through Technology Transfer
- Quality improvement of Vidatha supported products and processes
- University-Vidatha collaborative incubation centers
- Mini incubation centers for Districts
- Establish and maintain a digital information sharing and knowledge base platform for Vidatha
- Increase the number of Planetarium Presentations for School children and general public up to 450
- Annual Income expected to be generated by Planetarium presentations Rs (Mn) - 35.00
- Installation of online reservation system for Planetarium
- Upgrading the full-dome film database to be used in Planetarium presentations

3. Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT)

3.1 Introduction

The Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT) is located in Katubedda, Moratuwa. ACCIMT was reconstituted on April 1, 1998, under the Science and Technology Development Act No. 11 of 1994, as the successor to the Arthur C. Clarke Centre for Modern Technologies, which was established by Act No. 30 of 1984. The institute serves as Sri Lanka's principal agency for national capacity development in space technologies and applications, in collaboration with international space technology organizations.

The institute's primary functions include research and development, technology transfer, and training in modern technologies. Modern technologies include communication and related Sciences, Information Technology, Electronics, Micro-electronics, Space Technology and its applications, Robotics and Astronomy.

Vision

To be a leading innovation center for Modern Technologies in the region

Mission

To develop, foster and facilitate the domestic base of modern technological capabilities through innovation, R&D, training, industrial services and international collaboration

3.2 Functions of the Institution

- i. Conduct research and development activities in the modern technological areas such as space, electronics and microelectronics, communication, information and robotics and drone technologies, space technology applications and astronomy
- ii. Engage in test and measurement, consultancy and calibration of electrical and electronic test and measurement instruments to cater for technological needs of state and private sector organizations
- iii. Offer continuing professional development (CPD) programmes on highly specialized areas of technology for practicing engineers, technologists from industry and as well as workshops, training programmes and lectures to promote new technologies among general public specially targeting student community

3.3 Achievements in 2025

I. Deployment of the 2U Dragon Fly Nano-Satellite to the orbit

The 2U Nano satellite "Dragon Fly" was deployed into a 400 km orbit on 19th September 2025 from the International Space Station. Developed collaboratively under the BIRDS-X project with Kyushu Institute of Technology (Kyutech), the satellite is designed for communication engineering research, featuring locally developed transceivers and digital payloads. It is the third Nano satellite developed with contributions from the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT), supporting Sri Lanka's national capacity in space technology and scientific research, including testing electronic subsystems in space.

II. Further expanding Agro meteorology weather station network

The institute has developed a customized real-time automatic weather station for the tea plantation sector. By 30th September 2025, 20 stations were installed at sites recommended by the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka (TRISL) across various districts. These stations collect and transmit real-time data on rainfall, sunshine hours, and soil moisture, supporting weather modeling, precision agriculture, tea processing optimization, and daily operational decisions in tea estates and factories. In 2025, an additional five stations are planned for installation at the Regional Plantation Company (Horan Plantation) and the Mahaweli Authority Environment Divisions in Kotmale and Walawe, with two installations already completed during this period.

III. Continuation of Advanced Hardware Recovery of Class M9 locomotive electronic sub systems of Sri Lanka Railways

Since 2010, ACCIMT has collaborated with Sri Lanka Railways (SLR) to recover faulty locomotives and power coaches, saving billions in opportunity costs. A major focus has been the Alstom AD 32C locomotives, the most powerful in SLR's fleet, imported from France in 2000. ACCIMT engineers have successfully restored key subsystems, including the driver interface, power modules, traction control, and main processing unit. In 2025, as the main technology partner, the institute recovered five more units, continuing its vital role in supporting one of the country's leading commuter transport systems.

IV. Development of the solution for the Train Elephant Collision Conflict

Train-elephant collisions along wildlife sections of rail tracks have been a critical issue for Sri Lanka Railways and the Department of Wildlife. The Ministry of Transport initiated efforts to find solutions and tasked ACCIMT with developing technologies, as discussed in Parliament committee meetings. The proposed solutions use long-wave infrared thermal cameras (1 km range), laser range sensors for obstacle detection, and wireless technology, with prototypes currently in the testing stage for operational readiness.

V. Integration of Automatic Weather Station Data with satellite Remote Sensing for High-resolution climate Mapping

Train-elephant collisions along wildlife rail sections remain a major concern for Sri Lanka Railways and the Department of Wildlife, prompting the Ministry of Transport to task ACCIMT with developing solutions. The project uses long-wave infrared thermal cameras (1 km range), laser obstacle detection sensors, and wireless technology, with prototypes currently in testing. In parallel, ACCIMT is integrating ground-based weather station data with satellite remote sensing to improve climate monitoring and generate high-quality environmental maps for agriculture, tea cultivation, and environmental management. Analysis using CHIRPS rainfall data is ongoing, with the project scheduled to conclude in June 2026.

VI. Enhanced Smart Urban Carbon Management for Sustainable City Development integration with user interface

The Smart Urban Carbon Management project, launched in 2024 with the Urban Development Authority (UDA), aims to support sustainable urban planning through data-driven carbon footprint analysis. Initially focused on integrating multidimensional data and AI for emission mapping, the project expanded in 2025 to include spatial-temporal models, custom tools, and sensor module development, with the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) joining as a partner. Modeling work was presented at the Climate Change Conference in May 2025, and transfer modeling is underway to validate results against limited ground data. Despite challenges, the project continues to advance, aiming to produce city-level carbon maps, research outputs, and practical tools to guide urban carbon planning aligned with national and global emission reduction goals.

VII. Exploring the origin of the Period Gap (PG) in cataclysmic variable stars

Cataclysmic variable stars (CVs)—systems where a white dwarf accretes material from a companion—exhibit a notable “period gap” between 2–3 hours, where few systems are observed. This research aims to investigate the physical mechanisms behind this gap and develop predictive models to refine CV evolutionary theory. Using a compiled sample of over 3,000 CVs from modern space- and ground-based surveys, the orbital period distribution confirms the persistence of the gap, demonstrating it as a genuine evolutionary signature rather than an observational bias, even with improved survey depth, cadence, and wavelength coverage.

VIII. Capacity Tester with Enhanced Features

ACCIMT is developing a tester to measure the ampere-hour (Ah) capacity of lead-acid batteries, ensuring actual performance matches declared values. Testing follows SLS 1126: Part 1: 2020, IEC 60095–1, and SLS 1235: 2019 standards for starter batteries used in motorcycles and similar vehicles. The institute currently tests batteries under the Import Inspection Scheme and for SLS mark certification, as well as for customer and

international standard requirements. The system has been developed and is currently on test run, aiming to enhance testing capacity and meet customer needs promptly.

IX. Activities of the Center for Lightning Protection

To reduce lightning-related damages, standardize protection, and promote R&D, the center carried out various activities including consultancy and testing services. During the year, 14 consultancies on structural and surge protection system design were provided to public and private institutions. The surge testing facility at ACCIMT, equipped with a 1.2/50 (8/20) μ s combination wave generator (6 kV open-circuit voltage, 3 kA short-circuit current), can test Class III (Type III) SPDs per national and international standards. Ten tests were conducted for industry clients.

3.4 Performance

I. Research Focus – Research and Development

No	Research field	No. of research 2024		No. of research 2025	
		Planned	Completed	Planned	Completed
1	Electronics and other relates subject domains	13	11	09	02
2	Remote Sensing and GIS	6	4	5	01
3	Research in Astronomy	3	2	2	0

II. Research and Development – Technology Transfer/ Commercialized

No	Technology transfers/ Commercialization	Industrial partner		
		No	2024	2025
1	Embedded Control Systems	01	Sri Lanka Tea Research Institute (10 Agro meteorology weather stations)	Mahaweli Authority, Horana Plantations PLC (2 Agro meteorology weather stations)
2	Mechatronics /Automation	01	Sri Lanka Tea Research Institute	
3	Electronics	01	Leader Battery Manufacturing (Pvt.) Ltd	

III. Applied/ Awarded Patents

Field	Method	2024		2025	
		Target	Progress	Target	Progress
Electronics /Automation	No. of patents applied	1	1	1	1

IV. Science Popularization Program

Method of popularization	Programmes - 2024			Programmes - 2025		
	Target	Completed	Beneficiaries	Target	Completed	Beneficiaries
Workshops (Astronomy)	1	1	45	1	0	-
Educational visits to ACCIMT	1	1	886	1	0	496
Water rocket workshop & competition	1	1	70	1	1	68
Symposiums/Conferences	1	1	--	1	0	-

V. Scientific Publications

No	Field	Type	2024 No. of publications		2025 No. of publications	
			Target	Completed	Target	Completed
1	Astronomy research	Research publications	1	1	2	Journal 1 Submitted abstracts:5

2	Remote sensing / GIS	Research publications	4	6	2	Journal 2, Conference Proceedings 2
3	Electronics	Research publications	--	2	1	--

VI. Invention and Innovation Promotion

Field	Inventions and innovations – 2024			Inventions and innovations - 2025		
	Target	Completed	with industry collaboration	Target	Completed	with industry collaboration
Electronics and other related subject domains	08	02	05	07	02	05
Nano satellite Technology, Radio Frequency, Mechatronics, Aerospace	04	02	04	03	01	02

Technological Services

The institute provided electronic and electrical testing, calibration, performance evaluation, advanced hardware recovery, and consultancy services to state, industrial clients, and entrepreneurs. During the first nine months of 2025, approximately 243 assignments were completed, achieving the targets set for the period.

3.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- The project aims to enhance national capacity in small satellite technology by establishing local testing, integration, and operation facilities for BIRDS-X and 2U Dragon Fly nanosatellites, enabling in-house qualification of future CubeSat missions
- The institute continues to provide deep diagnostics and hardware recovery for complex systems like locomotive controls, medical instruments, and industrial controllers, extending their lifespan and reducing foreign dependency. Additionally, the institute designs and deploys customized MIS solutions for government and academic institutions to enhance efficiency and data-driven decision-making
- The institute is expanding performance testing, certification, and calibration services for electrical and electronic equipment to strengthen the national quality infrastructure
- Conduct Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programs in Electronics, ICT, Robotics, Space Technology, and GIS/Remote Sensing to enhance technical competence within industry and academia
- Conduct national astronomy research programs in collaboration with local and international institutions. Expand public outreach and science popularization activities to build awareness and interest in space science and technology across Sri Lanka

4. Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)

4.1 Introduction

The Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) is a statutory board established on 01st April 1998 under the Science and Technology Development Act No. 11 of 1994. ITI is the successor to the Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research (CISIR) established in 1955 by Parliament Act no 15 of 1955 (CISIR Act) to support Industrial Development in the country. The ITI is the foremost government-owned scientific R&D and service organization in Sri Lanka, with a complement of a diverse scientific staff. The Institute's core business is promoting industrial development through Research and development, consultancy, technology transfer, training, and the provision of testing and calibration services. The ITI assures the provision of calibration and technical services of the highest professional standards by maintaining the Laboratory Quality Management Systems ISO 17025:2017 and ISO 17043:2010 as a Proficiency Testing (PT) provider.

Vision

To be a centre of excellence in Scientific and Industrial Research for national development

Mission

To conduct innovative R&D and provide internationally competitive technical services to accelerate industrial development for the benefit of the people of Sri Lanka

4.2 Functions of the Institution

The Technology Institute shall be demand-driven. The object of the Technology Institute shall be to elevate the level of technology in Sri Lanka to the level required for rapid industrialization and in furtherance of this object, its functions shall be-

- a. To support the industry by-
 - (i) Undertaking on contract, testing, investigation and research, for improving product quality, technical processes and methods used in industry, and for discovering new processes and methods to be used in the industry;
 - (ii) Providing technical services and consultancies; and
 - (iii) Engaging in activities connected with technology transfers, the adaptation of technologies and the development of new technologies;
- b. To conduct research with a view to accelerating industrial technology development;
- c. To collect, process and disseminate useful technical information, in particular on “Shelf Technology” with a view to accelerating industrial development;
- d. To undertake the training of persons in areas related to the experience of the Technology Institute;
- e. To undertake or collaborate in the survey and monitoring of environmental pollution and to recommend remedial measures to mitigate such pollution;
- f. To co-operate with government departments and institutions, universities, technical colleges and other bodies in demand-driven research to promote industrial technology development.

4.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) proudly celebrated its 70th Anniversary, Platinum Jubilee of 70 years excellence in R&D and Technical Services.
- II. Over 40 technology transfers were successfully made to various industries, enabling MSMEs to launch new ventures and strengthen existing ones across sectors such as food and beverages, herbal cosmetics, supplements, and homecare products.

- III. Over 50 R&D projects are currently underway to drive national innovation, focusing on new products, processes, and scientific methods, supported by foreign collaborations and government funding.
- IV. More than 150 training programs were conducted, attracting a total of 500 participants from different industries, strengthening industrial skills and capacity.
- V. Accredited laboratories of the technical services division have successfully issued a total of 14467 testing and calibration reports to industries, including export-oriented sectors and government organizations.
- VI. The ITI delivered 970 consultancy services across environmental technology and waste management areas, including air quality assessment, emission monitoring, wastewater and solid waste management, water quality studies, hazardous waste management, and baseline surveys.
- VII. ITI also successfully conducted a total of 175 Contract Projects in various disciplines.
- VIII. Around 20 research articles were published in high-impact /refereed journals, and more than 70 abstracts were published in local and international symposium proceedings.
- IX. Around 2 local patents were submitted
- X. Around 10 scientific awards, including Presidential awards, were received during the period.

4.4 Performance

I. Research and Development

No	Research Area	No. of Research Projects in 2024		No. of Research Projects in 2025	
		Target	Completed	Target	Completed
1.	Food Technology	15	-	14	-
2.	Herbal Technology	10	-	8	-
3.	Materials Technology	11	2	7	1
4.	Biotechnology	4	-	4	-
5.	Physical / Chemical Technology	1	-	23	-
6.	Environmental Technology	3	-	2	1

II. Technology Transfer of R&D outcomes/ Commercialized

No	Research Area	2024		2025	
		No	Industry Partner	No	Industry Partner
1.	Food Technology	16	Serendib Global Trading (Pvt) Limited, Liberty Reit (Pvt) Limited, Mente (Pvt) Limited, Cee Green Engineering (Pvt) Limited,	20	Cargills Retail Pvt. Ltd, Ceegreen Engineering Pvt. Ltd, Arogya Farms Pvt. Ltd., Harischandra Mills Pvt. Ltd., Keells Food Products PLC, and 13 Entrepreneurs.
2.	Herbal Technology/ Techno Entrepreneurship	12	WaterFront Properties (Pvt) Limited, Artigala Ayurvedic (Pvt) Limited	10	Uruwela Estate (Cinnamon Tea), Panacea Herbals, Vinco International Pvt Ltd. Miracle Natural Herbal Care Pvt Ltd, Nestchem Lanka Pvt Ltd, and 05 Entrepreneurs
3.	Materials Technology	5	Sakura Graphite (Pvt) Limited, Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, Taprobane International (Pvt) Ltd.	16	Vidatha (Ministry of Science & Technology), Qualitmax Consolidated (Pvt) Ltd, and 13 Entrepreneurs

III. Patents submitted/ Patent obtained

No	Method	2024		2025	
		Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
1.	Patents Submitted	6	10	5	4
2.	Patents Obtained		2		-

IV. Science Popularization

No	Methodology	2024		2025	
		Target	Completed	Target	Completed
1.	Increase public awareness of ITI activities -Stakeholder meetings/ Invited presentations /Awareness sessions/ Exhibitions/technology clinics/ open days/ Newspaper/ journal articles/ TV/ Radio programs	20	110	30	82

V. Scientific Publications

No	Research Area	Publications in 2024		Publications in 2025	
		Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
1.	Food Technology	40	22	20	20
2.	Herbal Technology				
3.	Materials Technology				
4.	Biotechnology				
5.	Physical/ Chemical Technology				
6.	Environmental Technology				

VI. Inventions and Innovation Promotion

No	Area	No. of Innovations in 2024			No. of Innovations in 2025		
		Target	Achieved	Industry Linkage	Target	Achieved	Industry Linkage
1.	Food Technology	20	44	12	25	25	20
2.	Herbal Technology						
3.	Materials Technology						

VII. Other Special Programmes

1. The GMO Testing Laboratory successfully completed its final evaluation for accreditation in GMO testing of cereals and pulses, soon to become Sri Lanka's first accredited GMO testing facility
2. Pharmaceutical Laboratory signed an MoU with the NMRA to conduct pharmaceutical testing on 30 selected items
3. ITI conducted its 2nd International / 7th Biennial Research Symposium in September 2025 with more than 90 abstract presentations from International and local institutions, including ITI staff
4. ITI received approval for funding via NQI (National Quality Infrastructure) budget to upgrade the,
 - Upgrading Residual Analysis Laboratory with New LC/MS/MS System
 - Establish a chemical reference laboratory
 - Establish a national microbial culture collection
 - Upgrading the Pharmaceutical laboratory to provide the required service by NMRA
 - Upgrading the calibration facilities and accreditation in the fields of flow, mass, temperature, force, and biomedical instruments
 - To obtain accreditation for occupational health and safety monitoring
5. ITI is having discussions with Lanka Coal Ltd. to have a joint laboratory with Norochchola power plant laboratory for coal testing to avoid sending samples abroad for analysis
6. Soil/fertilizer laboratory established at ITI using GIZ funding, signed agreements with two international clients, cigar and inbar for analysis of more than 250 samples

4.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Business Diversification: Diversifying the Institute's income sources and new revenue opportunities to increase overall financial stability
 - by acquiring the technology commercialization status.
 - By introducing a product certification scheme/s
 - Establish a food safety management facility
 - Scope expansion in ISO17025:2017 Laboratory Quality Management System
 - Scope expansion in ISO 17043:2010 accreditation as a Proficiency Testing (PT) provider.
- Initiate at least 3 mega R&D projects in line with the National Policy / R&D Policy priorities, targeting new products, process development. Meantime, the institute is to look for external funding and strategic partnerships through international funding organizations
 - Value Addition to Silica / Clay – KIPA
 - Boosting Sri Lankan most-traded spice supply chains for global premium markets
 - Wastewater modelling via membrane application
 - Better Diets and Nutrition – In collaboration with the University of Sydney, Australia
- Initiate two projects to establish SME-related central facilities
 - Central Processing Facility for Cinnamon at Karadeniya with zero waste concept
 - Model pack house facility for fresh vegetables at Bandarawela with the introduction of the proper value chain concept
- Commercialize at least 5 technologies (> LKR 2.0 Mn) from the technology bank via the S&T Business Center
- Initiate to establish product/process incubators and accelerators to support startups, upgrade and strengthen the pilot plant facilities for scaling up of food and herbal technologies, and strengthen the activities of the China- Sri Lanka joint Biotechnology Laboratory facility for Contract Manufacturing
- Digitalization of ITI Technical Library and Establishment of Training Centre
- Introduce solar systems to ITI labs to reduce the electrical cost
- Capacity development of Staff by achieving postgraduate qualifications

5. National Science and Technology Commission (NASTEC)

5.1 Introduction

The National Science and Technology Commission was established by the Science and Technology Development Act No. 11 of 1994. It was formally inaugurated on 06th December 1998 and became a functional commission in January 1999. NASTEC is currently located on the 6th Floor of Sethsiripaya Stage II, in Battaramulla. NASTEC has been designated as the apex policy-formulating and advisory body on science and technology matters to the Government of Sri Lanka. The Commission is comprised of seven members who are appointed by H.E. the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Vision

To be an excellent advisory body to the Government on the potential and use of Science and Technology to enhance the well-being and prosperity of the people of Sri Lanka

Mission

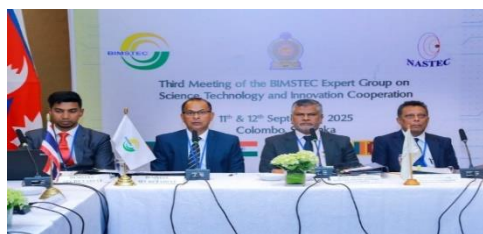
To furnish the Government with policies, strategies, and plans to build high national capabilities in Science and Technology for application for the sustainable development

5.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. To advise the Government on policies and plans for the development of science and technology including policies and plans relating to:
 - The application of science and technology to stimulate economic growth;
 - The impact of science and technology on the efficiency and competitiveness of industry, agriculture, services and the economy;
 - The impact of science and technology on health, nutrition, and poverty alleviation, to improve the quality of life of people;
 - The development of human and other resources needed for science and technology, in consultation with the authorities responsible for education, training and research;
 - The development and management of the natural resources of Sri Lanka;
 - The identification and prioritization of science and technology areas that are likely to be of national importance;
 - The creation of a climate conducive for the buildup, retention, and attraction of Science and Technology expertise;
 - The establishment of management strategies conducive to the productive application of science and technology;
 - The allocation of funds for science and technology, including the priority of funding research and development in science and technology institutions;
- II. To submit a report annually to the government, reviewing the science & technology activities in Sri Lanka in the preceding year, and on the effectiveness of measures for the development of human resources, the performance of science & technology institutions, the effectiveness of public spending on science & technology and the use of science & technology by public sector undertakings;
- III. To review the progress of science and technology institutions in relation to the objects set out in section 2 of the S & T Development Act;
- IV. To consult relevant science and technology institutions before advising the government on policies and plans relevant to those institutions;
- V. To convene the Sri Lanka Conference on Science and Technology biennially, with the prior approval of the Minister, and to provide a forum for the discussion of science and technology in Sri Lanka in relation to the objects set out in section 2 of the Act; and to submit a report to the Minister on such discussions

5.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. The formulation of the National R&D policy has been completed, along with the establishment of the National Research Priority framework
- II. Initiation of drafting National IP policy
- III. S&T institutional review for 10 institutions has been initiated, i.e., Forest Department (FD), Water Resource Board (WRB), Geological Survey and Mines Bureau (GSMB), Medical Research Institute (MRI), SLSI, Irrigation Department (ID), ACCIMT, National Institute of Health Science (NIHS), Meteorology Department (MD), and Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority (SLSEA). Four of them are completed, and report submission is at the final stage
- IV. Convened the 3rd experts' meeting in Science & Technology Innovation (STI) under the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
- V. Conducted a Science & Technology (S&T) institutional review implementation workshop and stakeholder meeting with government agencies
- VI. Conducted the 13th Young Scientist Forum (YSF) research symposium
- VII. Developed S&T virtual data gathering system (database)
- VIII. Data collection completed to compile the S&T status reports of 2023 and 2024



BIMSTEC



Kick-off meeting S&T Institutional Review Performance Review Meeting

5.4 Performance

I. Science Popularization

No	Promotion Methodology	2024 Programmes			2025 Programmes		
		Targeted	Completed	beneficiaries	Targeted	Completed	beneficiaries
1	9 th BICOST Conference	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Post conference activities (implementation activities)	6	4	300	-	-	-
3	Young Scientists Forum Research Symposium	1	1	80	1	1	80
4	Awareness webinars on emerging S&T matters	8	8	800	4	3	120
5	S&T Workshops	4	4	350	3	1	25

II. Scientific publications

No	Field	Type	2024 Publications (No.)		2025 Publications (No.)	
			Target	Published	Target	Published
1	R&D	National Policy	-	-	01	01
2	R&D	National Research Priorities	-	-	01	01
3	Agriculture	Policy Recommendation Report	01	01	-	-
4	Energy		01	01	-	-
5	Health		01	01	-	-
6	Minerals		01	-	-	-
7	Science and Technology	Status Report 2021, 2022,2023,2024	02	02	02	-
8	Performance review of S&T institutions	Review Reports	04	02	10	02
9	S&T: YSF symposium	Symposium Proceedings	01	01	01	01
10	S & T Consultative fora: YSF	Thematic E-book	01	01	-	-
11	S&T related Public focused articles	Internet/ E-Newspaper Articles	02	01	02	01
12	S & T Policy Research	Abstracts /Journal articles	06	06	02	-
13	Performance review of S&T institutions	Review the monitoring Report	01	01	-	-

III. Other Special Programs

Field	2024 Other Programs (No)		2025 Other Programs (No)	
	Target	completed	Target	completed
Policy Formulation/ Advocacy	03	01	02	02
International relations – BIMSTEC related activities in STI	02	02	03	02
International relations –coordinating training workshops – NAM Centre	06	04	07	06

5.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Integrating the STI Data virtual gathering platform with a National Dashboard
- The formulation of the R&D Act empowers the R&D policy implementation
- Establishment of National Institute of Research & Development (NIRD)
- Awareness of the National Research Priorities for the ministries, public sector institutions, academia and industry in line with the country's priority goals
- Completion of the National IP policy and awareness programme
- Completing the 15 Institutional performance reviews: Department of Measurement Units, Standards & Services (DMUSS), National Intellectual property Office (NIPO), Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), State Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cooperation (SPMC), Disaster Management Centre (DMC), Sustainable Development Council of Sri Lanka (SDCSL), Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), National Livestock Development Board (NLDB), Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI), Field Crops Research & Development Institute (FCRDI), National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency (NARA), Sugarcane Research Institute (SRI), Sri Lanka Institute of Textile and Apparel (SLITA), Palmyra Research Institute (PRI), Coconut Research Institute (CRI)
- Convening BICOST X 2026
- Data collection to compile the S&T status report 2025/2026 and publish the reports
- Cabinet submission of S&T status reports for 2024 and 2025
- Convening the 15th Young Scientist Forum (YSF) symposium
- Convening the 4th Experts Meeting on STI under BIMSTEC

6. National Engineering Research and Development Centre of Sri Lanka (NERDC)

6.1 Introduction

The National Engineering Research and Development Centre of Sri Lanka (NERDC), the premier Engineering Research and Development Institution in the country was established on 14th August 1974 under the Sri Lanka State Industrial Corporation Act No. 49 of 1957 and functions currently under the purview of the Ministry of Science & Technology. This report presents the data on targets and achievements of the National Engineering Research and Development Centre in completing, commercializing” patenting, popularizing of Research and Development projects done from January to September of year 2025. It also includes the special achievements made in this period.

Vision

To be the Centre of Excellence in Engineering Research and Development in South Asian Region.

Mission

Engage in Research and Development activities to develop, acquire, adapt & transfer engineering technologies that would have a direct impact on the socio-economic development of Sri Lanka, while creating a culture within the organization to harness the innovation and creativity of employees and stakeholders.

6.2 Functions of the Institution

NERDC undertakes nationally important engineering R&D projects, pilot initiatives, and technical services while promoting technology adoption and science education among Sri Lankan industries, students, and the public.

- I. Ensure engineering R&D contribution in addressing the national requirements
- II. Make NERDC enterprise-centric and better aligned to the needs of the industry
- III. Promote and upgrade local export industry through engineering
- IV. Engineering intervention towards energy conservation and environmental
- V. To make NERDC a globally competitive R&D Institute keeping pace with global trends in advancement of engineering knowledge relating to research, design & development

6.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. Developed a 20-joule electric elephant fence energizer for Nano Vision Anuradhapura (Pvt.) Ltd., building on the earlier 5-joule model used at Weerawila Open Prison; prototype transformer fabricated and tested.
- II. Conducted research on converting gasoline three-wheelers to electric, including local design of conversion kits and battery packs; prototypes tested and displayed at the BMICH Industrial Exhibition.
- III. Signed an MoU with the University of Moratuwa to develop an Autonomous Drive System; completed platform assembly with drive-by-wire and brake-by-wire integration, and conducted functional testing.
- IV. Celebrated NERDC’s 50th Anniversary at the 2024 International Industry Exhibition, showcasing five decades of technological achievements and ongoing research contributions.



Precast wall panel



20J Electric Elephant Fence Energizer for Nano Vision Anuradhapura (Pvt) Ltd.



EV three-wheeler

6.4 Performance

I. Research Reference - Research and Development Projects

No.	Field of Research	No. of Research Projects 2024		No. of Research Projects 2025	
		Targets	Completed Projects	Targets	Completed Projects
1	Civil Engineering	2	2	1	-
2	Mechanical Engineering	7	2	3	1
3	Energy & Environmental Engineering	-	-	-	-
4	Mechatronics & Robotic	3	1	1	-
5	Electrical and Electronics Engineering	7	1	3	-

II. Research and Development Outsourced/Commercialized

No.	Field of the Research Commercialization	2024		2025	
		No.	Industry Partner	No.	Industry Partner
1	Civil Engineering	2	4	2	1
2	Mechanical Engineering	1	1	-	-
3	Energy & Environmental Engineering	4	3	2	2

III. Patent Filed/ Obtained

No.	Field	Types	2024		2025	
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress
1	Civil Engineering	Filling patent	-	2	-	-
		Patent Obtained	-	-	-	-
2	Mechanical Engineering	Filling patent	-	-	-	-
		Patent Obtained	1	-	-	-
3	Mechatronics & Robotic	Filling patent	-	-	1	-
		Patent Obtained	1	-	-	-
4	Electrical and Electronics Engineering	Filling patent	-	-	-	-
		Patent Obtained	-	-	-	-

IV. Science Popularization Programmes

No.	Method of Popularization	2024 Programmes (No.)			2025 Programmes (No.)		
		Targeted	Completed	Beneficiaries	Targeted	Completed	Beneficiaries
1	Awareness/ Training	11	15	970	15	10	2,500
2	Visitors to technology park and Museum	5,000	3,751	3,751	10,000	-	3,138
3	Media Programmes	2	2	-	60	9	-
4	Exhibition	2	5	-	4	4	-
5	Maths Cafe programme for school teachers	2	5	250	4	6	240
6	Research Symposium	1	-	-	1	-	-

V. Publications

No	Field	2024 No. of Publications		2025 No. of Publications	
		Target	Publications	Target	Publications
1	Civil Engineering	-	1	-	-
2	Mechanical Engineering	-	-	-	-
3	Energy & Environmental Engineering	-	-	-	-
4	Mechatronics & Robotic	-	-	-	-
5	Electrical and Electronics Engineering	-	-	-	-
6	NERDC Newsletters	3	4	4	1
7	Others (Research Papers)	-	2	10	12

VI. Inventions and Innovations

No.	Field	2024 Invention and Innovation			2025 Invention and Innovation		
		Target	Achievements	Industry Partner	Target	Achievements	Industry Partner
1	Civil Engineering		-	-	-	-	
2	Mechanical Engineering		3	-	-	-	
3	Energy & Environmental Engineering		-	-	-	-	
4	Mechatronics & Robotic		-	-	-	-	
5	Electrical and Electronics Engineering		7	-	-	-	

VII. Other Special Programmes

- Conducted an Annual forum for the NERDC Technology licensees on 23rd January 2025
- The first installation of the NERDC developed Elephant Fence Energizer at Weerawila Open Priso
- Participated Industry Expo 2025 Exhibition at BMICH
- NERDC celebrated 50th anniversary at the Lotus Tower on 14th August 2024

6.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Increase both the quantity and the quality of services provided to industries
- It is expected to provide financial benefits to organizations through energy conservation and environmental pollution control as well as guidance for environmentally friendly development
- Strengthening the facilities in electrical vehicle testing laboratory to assist Dept. of Motor Traffic
- Strengthening the facility for testing of pumps and motors to assist the industry working with SLSEA and SLSI
- Conduct R&D on advanced technologies in collaboration with universities for aiming to share expertise, knowledge transfers and promote technology transfer
- Identify the unique contribution of small and medium scale industrialists to economic development and support them by providing advanced technology and expertise for a competitive market
- Create Local entrepreneurs through import substitution products that incorporate local value addition

7. National Innovation Agency (NIA)

7.1 Introduction

The National Innovation Agency (NIA) was established as mandated by ACT, No. 22 of 2019 as approved by the Cabinet of Ministers with the specific aim of promoting better understanding on innovations in the fields of social, science and technology, defense, environment and service, and their impact on the economy of the country.

7.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. Liaise with the public and private sector institutions relevant to important aspects of the objects of the Agency
- II. Make recommendations to the government to initiate and fund National Innovation Programmes in order to support a creative economy
- III. To develop and sustain a national innovation eco system in keeping with the Sri Lanka Innovation and Entrepreneurship Strategy
- IV. Support the National Innovation and Entrepreneurship Strategy objectives through the facilitation of hi-tech enterprises stemming from research and technology transfer
- V. Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of investment, policies and strategies on innovation and entrepreneurship
- VI. Coordinate and harmonize international activities in innovation with the relevant Ministries, Departments and other innovation institutions in Sri Lanka and with international institutions to encourage commercialization of the outputs of innovation activities
- VII. Drive the progress of Sri Lanka upward through the ranking of global innovation indices to ensure a resilient economic standing, subject to the Sri Lanka Innovation and Entrepreneurship Strategy as approved by the Cabinet of Ministers
- VIII. Receive, collate, evaluate and publish the Sri Lankan Annual Innovation and entrepreneurship reports covering the eco system taking into consideration the international linkage and presence

7.3 Achievements in 2025

I. National Innovation Report 2024

The launching ceremony of the National Innovation Report 2024 was held on January 29, 2025, at Jasmine Hall, BMICH. The event was spearheaded by Prof. Ajith de Alwis and the National Innovation Agency (NIA). The report showcased 107 transformative innovations developed between 2018 and 2023, emphasizing their significant contributions to Sri Lanka's economic and technological advancement. The ceremony was graced by several distinguished dignitaries, including the Minister of Science and Technology, the Secretary to the President, the Secretary to the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Secretary to the Ministry of Environment, as well as leaders from prominent scientific institutions and national award recipients.

II. “Scale Up Your IP” workshop

The National Innovation Agency (NIA), in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), successfully concluded the “Scale Up Your IP” workshop from February 18 to 20, 2025, at UCFM Tower, University of Colombo. This three-day program was designed to empower university spin-offs and startups by helping them integrate intellectual property (IP) strategies into their commercialization processes-bridging the gap between lab and market. A total of 40 participants, including 20 startups and technology

transfer professionals from both State and Non-State universities across Sri Lanka, took part in the training. Two distinguished resource persons from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Ms. Allison Mages, Head of IP Commercialization, and Ms. Margherita Marini, IP Commercialization Specialist, from the IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector, delivered their expertise during the workshop.

III. Driving Sri Lanka's Innovation Ranking: GII Consultative Meeting 2025

On 14th August 2025, the National Innovation Agency (NIA) successfully hosted the Consultative Meeting on Data Requirements for the Global Innovation Index (GII) at Ruby Hall, BMICH. The event was graced by Prof. Chrishantha Abeyseena, Hon. Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Nandika Kumanayake, Secretary to the President and Chairman of the NIA Steering Council, and Dr. P. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, as Guest of Honour, with a special video message from Dr. Sacha Wunsch-Vincent of WIPO. The meeting brought together key national data providers from ministries, state institutions, and the private sector to strengthen Sri Lanka's innovation data ecosystem, bridge information gaps, and enhance coordination to improve the country's position in the Global Innovation Index, reaffirming NIA's commitment to advancing an evidence-based national innovation framework.

IV. Innovation Arena at the Industry Expo 2025

The National Innovation Agency (NIA) successfully organized the Innovation Arena at the Industry Expo 2025 held at the BMICH, showcasing nearly 178 exhibits that represented groundbreaking innovations across three key categories aligned with the Triple Helix Model — Academia, Industry, and Government. The exhibition served as a dynamic platform for innovators, entrepreneurs, startups, and SMEs to showcase their advancements, exchange ideas, and foster cross-sector collaborations. The event also recognized and celebrated outstanding innovative efforts, reinforcing Sri Lanka's commitment to building a vibrant innovation ecosystem.



Innovation Arena at the Industry Expo 2025

8. National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS)

8.1 Introduction

The National Institute of Fundamental Studies (formerly IFS) was established in 1981 by an Act of Parliament (Act No. 55) to create an interest in and to provide facilities for fundamental and advanced studies. The NIFS is mandated to conduct fundamental research by the enacted act. In 1997 (Act No. 05) and 2014 (Act No. 25), amendments were made to the NIFS Act by the parliament, granting the Institute to collaborate with public and private institutions to develop applications relevant to the studies conducted by the Institute and train graduate students.

Vision

To be a world-renowned centre of excellence for research in fundamental studies

Mission

Initiate, promote, and Engage in advanced research in fundamental studies for the enhancement of scientific knowledge, human resources, and development

8.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. Initiate, promote, and conduct research and original investigations in fundamental studies in general with particular emphasis on mathematics, physical and chemical sciences, life sciences, social sciences, and philosophy, taken in the broadest sense; to collaborate with public and private institutions as may be necessary to develop applications relevant to the studies conducted.
- II. Arrange lectures, meetings, seminars, and symposia in pursuance of its research work and for the dissemination of scientific knowledge,
- III. Invite scientists from Sri Lanka and abroad, actively engaged in research and creative work to deliver lectures and participate in NIFS activities.
- IV. Establish and maintain liaison with scientists and scientific institutions in other countries and promote international co-operation in matters relating to the aims and objectives of the Institute while taking care to protect and promote the national interest
- V. To collaborate with public and private institutions as may be necessary to develop applications relevant to the studies conducted.
- VI. Provide training, guidance, and assistance for research studies leading to the award of postgraduate degrees by institutions recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka established by the University Act No.16 of 1978.
- VII. Do such other acts and things as may be necessary to promote the aims and objectives of the Institute.

8.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. NIFS continues to maintain the highest ranking among the first five Sri Lankan universities and research institutions in the AD Scientific Index. This recognition reflects its strong international presence and the high global impact of its research output.
- II. Publication performance remains strong with 57 journal papers, 56 conference abstracts and 7 book chapters as of September 2025. These figures highlight both quality and consistency in knowledge creation.
- III. Postgraduate training is a key activity of NIFS, with 70 Ph.D./M.Phil. and 134 candidates currently completing other theses engaged in research. This ensures the development of future scientific leaders.
- IV. This year's graduations include 2 M.Phil. and 51 undergraduate candidates. These results demonstrate steady progress in capacity building and human resource development.

- V. Four scientists from NIFS are ranked among the top 2% in the world according to the Elsevier-Stanford, AD ranking. This achievement underscores the global competitiveness of the Institute's work.
- VI. The NSF SUSRED Award 2024 for Postgraduate Supervision was presented to a Research Professor at NIFS on 16th July 2025, recognizing outstanding contributions to MPhil and PhD supervision in Sri Lanka.
- VII. Highly Cited Paper Award: Two NIFS research professors received the 2019 Highly Cited Paper Award from the Journal of the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka, recognizing collaborative research between NIFS and CRISL.
- VIII. Awards and Recognitions: NIFS scientists earned 83 awards in 2025, with Prof. Lakshman Dissanayake appointed as Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, further strengthening NIFS's national reputation.
- IX. The science community remains strong, with 27 programs and 18 outreach events reaching over 321,000 people. Such efforts broaden public engagement with science in Sri Lanka.
- X. Sample Analysis - Research services such as CHN, ICP-OES and Raman spectroscopy were able to support a wide range of research needs. (CHN-163, ICP-OES-77, Raman spectroscopy-17)



Annual Review 2024



High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, visited the NIFS



International Day for Biological Diversity 2025



From Lab Benches to Life Lessons Celebrating 35 Years of the Pre-University Research



Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition



National Environment Day School Science Workshop 2025, Dharmaraja College, Kandy

8.4 Performance

I. Research Reference/ Research and Development

No	Research Programme/ Projects	Number of Research 2024			Number of Research 2025		
		Target	Completed	Ongoing	Target	Completed	Ongoing
01	Condensed Mater Physics and Solid-State Chemistry Research Programme	05	05	00	07	03	04
02	Energy and Advanced Material Chemistry Research Programme	04	-	04	04	-	04
03	Environmental Science Research Programme: Water Quality Research	04	01	03	04	-	04
04	Food Chemistry Research Programme	04	03	01	03	-	03
05	Material Processing and Device Fabrication Research Programme	04	01	03	04	01	03
06	Microbial Biotechnology Research Programme	02	-	02	02	-	02
07	Microbiology and Soil Ecosystems Research Programme	05	-	05	06	-	06
08	Molecular Biology and Human Diseases Research Programme	09	06	03	05	01	04
09	Natural Products Research Programme	05	02	03	03	-	03
10	Nanotechnology and Advanced Material Research Programme	02	-	02	02	-	02
11	Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity Research Programme	02	-	02	02	-	02
12	Plant Taxonomy and Conservation Research Programme	03	01	02	08	02	06
13	Earth Resources and Renewable Energy Research Programme	03	01	02	03	-	03
14	Nutritional Biochemistry Research Programme	04	02	01	04	0	04
15	Material Development & Pollutant Remediation	03	01	02	04	02	03

II. Research and Development Outsourced/ Commercialized

Technology transferred/commercialized	2024		2025	
	No	Industry Partner	No	Industry Partner
Universal controller for water treatment technology	01	Piyural Waters (proposed)	01	Piyural Waters (proposed)

III. Patents Submitted/ Received

No.	Research Programme/ Projects	Mode	2024		2025	
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress
1	Nanotechnology and Advanced Material Research Programme	Submitted 23401	01	01	01	-
2	Microbial Biotechnology Research Programme	Submitted 23382	01	01	-	-
3	Material Processing and Device Fabrication Research Programme	Submitted 23169 & 23170	02	02	-	-

IV. Science Popularization

No.	Mode of Science Popularization	Programmes in 2024			Programmes in 2025		
		Target	Completed	Benefited	Target	Completed	Benefited
1 2	International/National Conference/Symposia	02	02	370	02	02	345
3	Special lectures/ Discussion/ Webinar/ Research Talks	08	10	486	18	07	221
4	Workshops	05	02	92	10	01	239
5	Workshops (School)	05	05	472		04	245
6	Lab Visits	On request	05	196	On request	06	198
7	Exhibitions	01	-	-	On request	01	75000
8	Science competition (3MT)	01	-	-	01	01	60
9	Special Events/Visits		02	300	On request	03	156
10	E-programmes (Web site, YouTube (NIFS), Face Book, Instagram, E-magazine, Blog, Vidu Nana Dasuna YouTube channel)	03	On- going	195250	07	On- going	321099

V. Scientific Publications

No	Research Programme/ Projects	2024 Publications				2025 Publications			
		Research Papers		Other (Scientific)		Research Papers		Other (Scientific)	
		Target	Completed	Target	Completed	Target	Completed	Target	Completed
01	Condensed Mater Physics and Solid-State Chemistry Research Programme	04	09	04	09	02	03	01	06
02	Earth Resources and Renewable Energy Research Programme	03	03	05	03	02	03	03	04
03	Energy and Advanced Material Chemistry Research Programme	04	01	03	03	04	02	04	-
04	Environmental Science Research Programme: Water Quality Research	03	12	05	17	01	07	03	02
05	Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity Research Programme	12	05	03	03	01	06	03	01
06	Food Chemistry Research Programme	04	07	03	23	02	03	02	03
07	Material Processing and Device Fabrication Research Programme	04	07	05	09	03	05	04	09
08	Microbial Biotechnology Research Programme	04	06	08	21	04	05	04	16
09	Microbiology and Soil Ecosystems Research Programme	03	02	03	07	03	01	11	08
10	Molecular Biology and Human Diseases Research Programme	04	03	08	06	03	01	07	04

11	Nanotechnology and Advanced Material Research Programme	04	-	12	04	01	02	05	01
12	Natural Products Research Programme	08	10	16	22	01	07	-	01
13	Nutritional Biochemistry Research Programme	03	02	04	06	01	04	01	02
14	Plant Taxonomy and Conservation Research Programme	04	08	02	04	04	05	01	06
15	Material Development & Pollutant Remediation Research Programme	04	05	08	05	02	03	02	01

VI. Promotion of new products and innovations

No.	Research Programme	Promotion of new products and innovations -2024			Promotion of new products and innovations -2025		
		Target	Achieved	Industry	Target	Achieved	Industry
1	Microbial Biotechnology Research Programme	01	01	Space exploration	01	-	Bioremediation
2	Water Quality Research Programme (Desalination plant)	01	01	Desalination plant	01	-	Controller development

8.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Publish 300 peer-reviewed journal articles and conference papers
- Advance fundamental and applied research addressing national priorities
- Supervise and train undergraduate and postgraduate students to develop a highly skilled scientific workforce
- Conduct training workshops and specialized research programs for capacity building
- Conduct advanced studies on disease biomarkers (e.g., tuberculosis)
- Develop nutraceuticals and bioproducts to promote health and well-being
- Enhance food chemistry and nutrition research for public health improvement
- Develop safe water treatment and pollution control technologies
- Strengthen biodiversity conservation and ecosystem research
- Innovate biofilm biofertilizers and eco-friendly pest management systems
- Promote renewable energy applications and sustainable material development
- Strengthen energy security and renewable energy commercialization
- Translate research outcomes into market-ready technologies and products

9. National Research Council (NRC)

9.1 Introduction

The National Research Council (NRC) of Sri Lanka, established in 1999 and made a statutory body by Act No.11 of 2016, is the country's key research funding agency. It provides financial support to public sector scientists in universities and government R&D institutes and works to plan, coordinate and promote research in Science and Technology to strengthen Sri Lanka's national scientific community.

Vision

Enable Sri Lanka to achieve Science and Knowledge-based developed country status.

Mission

To promote, fund, facilitate and monitor fundamental and applied research and enhance human resource development for Sri Lanka to achieve Science and knowledge-based developed country status.

9.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. Assist the government to facilitate research relating to science and technology in order to build a vibrant scientific and technological community in the country.
- II. Promote and facilitate research relating to science and technology in higher educational institutions and public sector research institutes and other governmental institutes so as to develop a research base that will contribute to national needs.
- III. Solicit the cooperation of the private sector in the enhancement of research relating to science and technology.

9.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. Invited research proposals for Investigator-Driven Grants for the year 2025 and received 121 proposals.
- II. Have been invited by (advertisements) proposal for Public Private Partnership (PPP) grants and are in the process of awarding the selected.
- III. Invited pre-proposals for Target Target-Oriented (TO) Grants program for the year 2025. Received fifty-eight (58) pre-proposals EOIs and ten (10) were shortlisted to submit full research proposals, after the initial evaluation, to fund five (05) suitable projects.



Photographs of the project including pyrolizer (TO 18-21)

9.4 Performance

I. Research Focus-Research & Development

No.	Research Fields	2024 No. of projects		2025 No. of projects	
		Target	Awarded	Target	Awarded
1	ID Grants	10	10	50	29 (projects carried forward from previous year)
2	PPP Grants	02	–	15	02 have been awarded and 02 more projects have received Council approval, to be funded. (projects carried forward from previous year). The 2025 projects evaluations are ongoing
3	TO Grants	01	–	05	10 pre-proposals were shortlisted and applicants of those were request to submit full proposals.
4	Assessing the impact of completed grants	04	04	04	03

II. R&D Technology Transferred Commercialization programs

No.	Field of Technologies Transferred/ Commercialized	2024		2025	
		No.	Industry Partner	No.	Industry Partner
1	Medicine	2	Received EOI from private partners	3	Basilur Tea Exports (Pvt) Ltd. Mathakadara (Pvt) Ltd. Genelabs (Pvt) Ltd.
2	Engineering	2	Received EOI from private partners	-	-
3	Environment	11	Received EOI from private partners	1	Purial Waters (Pvt) Ltd.

III. Patents Filed / Obtained

Field	Patent	2024		2025	
		Target	Progress	Target	Progress
All fields	Filed	4	2	4	1
	Obtained	2	0	2	-

IV. Science Popularization Program

Field	Method	2024			2025		
		Target	Completed	Beneficiaries	Target	Completed	Beneficiaries
All Fields	1. Online workshops & conferences	04	04	420	04	Planned for a National Consultative Meeting and an Exhibition with Research and Industry partners.	90 Industry Partners
All Fields	2. Updates to NRC website	04	02	Not counted.	04	03 Update with the New Council details, Updates in the PPP section, Grantees Login updates for form formats.	Not counted.

All Fields	3. Uploads to NRC YouTube channel	04	Initial preparatory discussions were held.	-	04	In progress NRC Documentary video will be produced and uploaded.	-
All Fields	4. NRC Newsletter	04	04 Issues	Not counted.	04	In progress 2025 Q1 & Q2 newsletters are pending approval from Editorial Committee.	Not counted.
All Fields	5. Other events/ programs funded	04	02 Mini symposium of Sri Lanka Research Nexus. Science day program 2024 for awareness on Drinking water.	75 scientists for mini symposium. 200 School children for science day program.	04	04 Conducted 04 Outreach Committee meetings. NRC Science Day program for research visibility is in progress.	30 Research partners (estimated)

V. Scientific Publications

No.	Publications	2024			2025		
		No. of Projects	Research Publications	Newspaper articles/ book chapters	No. of Projects	Research Publications	Newspaper articles/ book chapters
1	Medical Sciences / Food & Nutrition	6	23	1	8	29	1
2	Agriculture / Plantations / Livestock & Fisheries	9	34	5	7	29	1
3	Engineering Technology / Information Technology /Physical Sciences & Electronics	2	12	0	4	15	2
4	Ecology & Environment / Geo Sciences / Chemical Sciences / Others/Biology/Molecular biology	11	53	4	2	3	0

VI. Inventions and Innovations

Field	2024 No. of Inventions / Innovations			2025 No. of Inventions/ Innovations		
	Target	Achieved	Industry tie-ups	Target	Achieved	Industry tie-ups
Chemical Sciences / Others/Biology/Molecular biology	-	1 (Rubber processing solid waste (Sludge) feasibility evaluation as a raw material for the preparation of compost)	1	-	-	-
Medical Sciences / Food & Nutrition	-	1 (Developing and validating a speech sound (articulation and phonology) assessment for Sri	-	-	-	-

		Lankan Tamil-speaking children aged 3 to 6 years)				
Agriculture / Plantations / Livestock & Fisheries	-	1 (Waste Coconut Coir Based Multi-purpose Nano-water Filters)	1	-	-	-
Engineering Technology / Information Technology / Physical Sciences & Electronics	-	-	-	-	1 (Design and Fabrication of portable, automated household composter and production of a microbial inoculum as an additive)	1
Ecology & Environment / Geo Sciences	-	1 (Comprehensive Solution for the Medium and Small-Scale Open Dumps for Mitigating Pollution and Value Addition)	1	-	1 (Development of advanced materials-based filters for water purification)	-

9.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Expanding the National Research Council's public-private partnership program to include a wider range of industry participation and address their needs
- Increase the grant amounts to support both basic and applied research
- Increased focus on funding larger initiatives, specifically through Target-Oriented Grants, as these have the potential to create a more substantial and meaningful impact
- Transforming a paper-based institution into a digital-based system to enhance efficiency and accountability
- Revise the current award schemes to enhance inclusivity and recognize the contributions of researchers
- Transforming the existing outreach grant program to maximize its benefits for both scientists and society
- Implementing a new application, evaluation, and monitoring and evaluation formats aimed at high-quality research outputs

10. National Science Foundation (NSF)

10.1 Introduction

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is a statutory body established in 1998 by the Science and Technology Development Act No. 11 of 1994, as the successor to the Natural Resources, Energy & Science Authority of Sri Lanka (NARESA) established in 1981 and the National Science Council (NSC) set up in 1968. The NSF takes the lead role in promoting Science, Technology and Innovation in the country operating under the purview of the Ministry of Science and Technology. It's located at no. 47/5, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 7.

Vision

Be the nation's premier driving force in promoting Science, Technology and Innovation for economic and social prosperity of Sri Lanka

Mission

Promote progressive advancement of the science, technology and innovation eco-system to ensure wellbeing of citizens of Sri Lanka by

- Research, development & innovation and capacity building in all fields of sciences including social science,
- Information dissemination and knowledge mobilization,
- International cooperation and partnerships well connected with the global value chain,
- Science popularization and promoting science education,
- Policy research and providing evidence-based information for policy formulation on science, technology and other fields

whilst meeting stakeholders' expectations, nurturing a competent staff, ensuring core values and principles of sustainability.

10.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. Fostering research, development and innovation through a diverse spectrum of grant schemes towards progressive advancement of the national innovation ecosystem thereby to enhance R&D outputs, new knowledge creation and mobilization, improved critical mass, R&D commercialization and technology transfer contributing to socio-economic development.
- II. Collection, processing and disseminating STI information through e- repositories, online platforms, journal of national science foundation (JNSF) and Sri Lanka journal of social sciences for benefit of the STI community.
- III. Facilitating cross-boarder transfer of cutting edge knowledge, research collaboration, technical cooperation through tapping the global talent pool to leverage R&D outputs and enhance global visibility of Sri Lanka's STI landscape.
- IV. Awarding research scholarships and fellowships addressing high priority national concerns thereby capacity building of R&D workforce for betterment of the national innovation ecosystem.
- V. Maintaining a science and technology management information system, carrying out national R&D survey and policy research to generate STI policy indicators.
- VI. Foster science education with special attention to STEAM to enhance creativity and innovativeness and science popularization to enhance science literacy of the nation.

10.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. Managed and monitored 59 R&D and technology development grants to strengthen national innovation and technology readiness.

- II. Awarded 5 grants under Partnerships for SME Development to boost SME innovation and GDP contribution.
- III. Conducting the 2022 National R&D Survey to provide UNESCO statistics and improve Sri Lanka's Global Innovation Index ranking.
- IV. Following technology grants catering directly to the industry is currently being progressed:
 - a. *AI-Powered Medical Care Plan Platform for Elder Care Givers*
 - b. *WORO – Bypass Network Adapter*
 - c. *IntelliScript – The Personal AI Partner of Your Company*
 - d. *Advanced Agricultural Management Systems for Sustainable Farming*
- V. Partnered with EDB to fund ICT start-ups and SMEs for global certifications to expand international markets.
- VI. Launched multidisciplinary initiatives addressing priority areas to boost GDP and socio-economic development.
- VII. Technology transfer program with Brazil in dairy and sugarcane sectors awaiting cabinet-approved MoUs.
- VIII. Conducted 3 knowledge transfer programs in AI for supply chain, AI in healthcare, and molecular logic computation with overseas Sri Lankan scientists.
- IX. NSF Research Scholarships fund 10 MPhil and 3 PhD students to strengthen the national R&D workforce.
- X. Led digitization of S&T libraries using modern ICT to support the digital economy.
- XI. Launched the OSR Directory with 171 scientists across 14 disciplines to promote authentic science reporting and literacy.
- XII. Implemented the 2nd Joint International Collaborative Research program with China NSFC.
- XIII. Awarded 47 NSF SUSRED Awards to recognize outstanding research supervision and enhance national R&D capacity.

10.4 Performance

I. Research Grants

No.	Research Field	Number of Research Projects 2024		Number of Research Projects 2025	
		Target	Completed	Target	Completed
1	Agriculture	02	02	14	2
2	Basic Sciences	04	01	08	1
3	Biotechnology	-	-	03	-
4	Environment & Biodiversity	02	02	01	2
5	Engineering, Architecture and ICT	06	02	15	1
6	Health Science	02	02	05	1
7	Social Sciences	-	-	-	-

II. Technology Transferred/ Commercialized

No	Field and Method	2024		2025	
		No	Industry Partner	No	Industry Partner
1	An integrated application of the dynamic line and the solar PV inverter control to enhance the rooftop solar PV integration into distribution networks	01	CEB and LECO	-	-
2	Value addition to chicken egg with enrichment egg yolk lipids with natural Conjugated Linoleic Acid (CLA) having anti-cancer actions & subsequent commercialization of the value-added product.	01	The grantee has handed over this technology UBL- University of Peradeniya		
3	Purification of Graphite of Sri Lanka as a high value addition	01	Ra Gedara Graphite (Pvt) Ltd.		

III. Patents Facilitated (through research grants)

No.	Field	2024		2025	
		Target	Progress	Target	Progress
1	No. of Patents Facilitated (Field)	-	-	-	-
2	No. of Patents Facilitated (Obtained)	03	01	05	-

IV. Science popularization

No.	Field	Programmes in 2024			Programmes in 2025		
		Target	Completed	No. of beneficiaries	Target	Completed	No. of beneficiaries
1	Science Research Projects Training & Competition	1	1	837	1	Ongoing	626
2	Kid Naturalist Programme	1	1	4995	Ongoing		
3	Science Competitions	1	1	1546	1	1	1292
4	Community Programme	1	1	350	2	Ongoing	825
5	SEPP Grant - Infrastructure	2	Ongoing		2	Ongoing	
6	World Science Day programmes & School Research Symposium	1	1	450	1	Preparation stage	
7	Award Ceremony on Science Popularization	1	1	750	1	Preparation stage	
8	Participating International Programmes	2	2	9	2	2	11

V. Scientific Publications

Field	Category	2024 Number of Publications		2025 Number of Publications	
		Target	Published	Target	Published
Agriculture & Food Science, Basic Sciences, Biotechnology, Environment & Biodiversity Engineering, Architecture & ICT, Health Sciences, Social Sciences, Climate Change and Natural Disasters	Journal of National Science Foundation	4	4	4	2
	Sri Lanka Journal of Social Science	2	2	2	1
	Vidurawa Newsletter	2 issues in each language Sinhala, Tamil, English	6 Magazines	2	4

10.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Continue with ‘research into practice’ and ‘lab to market’ models to ensure that benefits from R&D are transferred to society
- Awarding 20 new grants aimed at new knowledge creation
- Awarding 20 new grants for technology development, technology transfer R&D commercialization and start-ups addressing industry needs and high priority national concerns hence contributing to innovation driven economy

- Awarding 5 grants to enhance innovation capacity of export-oriented SMEs hence contributing to enhance export earnings
- Awarding 12 new research scholarships aimed at capacity building of R&D personnel
- Establishing 05 international collaborations to enhance R&D outputs and enhance global visibility
- Updating the National Instrument Database by adding 2000 new equipment
- Publish 4 issues of the Journal of National Science Foundation (JNSF), the only journal in Sri Lanka indexed in SCEI
- Tapping the potential of Sri Lankan expatriates abroad through NSF Global Digital Platform for advancement of the innovation ecosystem
- Strengthen networking with global STI organizations for advancement of the innovation ecosystem
- Provide wider and convenient access to research publications through Sri Lanka Journal Online Platform hence contributing to digital economy
- Foster digital libraries and building capacity of library professionals enabling wider and faster accessibility to research publications and S&T literature hence contributing to digital economy
- Carrying out the National R&D survey, publish statistical handbook and submit national R&D statistics to UNESCO Institute of Statistics hence enabling improvement of Sri Lanka's ranking on the Global Innovation Index
- Foster science education with special attention to STEAM thereby to enhance creativity and innovativeness of the nation
- Outreach programmes for science popularization thereby to enhance science literacy of the nation

11. Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology (SLIBTEC)

11.1 Introduction

In accordance with a policy decision taken by the Government of Sri Lanka, the Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology (Private) Limited (SLIBTEC) was established on 12th of October 2020, under the Companies Act, No. 07 of 2007, as a government owned entity, with the Secretary to the Treasury as the sole shareholder. The Sri Lanka Institute of Biotechnology was officially gazette under the Ministry of Education until 24th of November 2024 and thereafter under the Ministry of Science and Technology. The company is mandated to forge local and international scientific partnerships and research collaborations with universities, research institutions and other public entities across the globe. The SLIBTEC also focuses on cultivating commercial partnerships with the private sector, with a strong focus on biotechnology-driven entrepreneurship.

Vision

Be the driving force for an innovation led bio-economy in Sri Lanka while being an internationally preferred destination for biotechnology

Mission

Create a state-of-the-art biotech innovation ecosystem in one physical location while working synergistically with other hi-tech sectors towards increasing novel biotechnology products and services that would significantly enhance Sri Lanka's economy, whilst enhancing and retaining a skilled human resource pool to position Sri Lanka as a global biotech hub

11.2 Functions of the Institution

SLIBTEC intends to create an ecosystem conducive for high-end biotech innovation around a national centralized biotech innovation facility in Homagama, Pitipana by providing utilities, logistics and all supportive systems to enable research and innovation, pilot plants and up scaling for hi-tech manufacturing to happen in one physical location adhering to global best practices and enriching sustainability in all sphere of activity. SLIBTEC operates to achieve below objectives.

- I. Establish, facilitate and support a conducive, state of the art ecosystem adopting best practices for cutting edge biotechnology innovations
- II. Develop an innovation culture to accelerate development of high-end biotech industry
- III. Develop novel biotechnology industry to cater to the global market needs in niche area
- IV. Develop a vibrant high-end biotech startup and SME culture in the country
- V. Foster the economic development of the country through enhancing capacity building, quality education, research and outreach activities using biotechnological tools
- VI. Develop strategic partnerships with the universities, public research institutes, private sector and the global biotech centers of excellence
- VII. Support the drive for Sri Lankan hi-tech biotech products to increase export market by 1% as in 2025

11.3 Achievements in 2025

- I. Secured a grant from ICGEB/Meeting and Courses for a residential workshop on ‘Elevating Infectious Disease Research in Developing Nations with Spectral Flow Cytometry: Insights and Applications’. The workshop will be held from 19 – 24 October 2025 in Sri Lanka
- II. Signed five Non-Disclosure Agreements with the private sector to develop commercial projects
- III. Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with STEMMedical SL (Private) Limited to establish a PPP and operate on a BOT basis for a laboratory facility with accreditation and quality assurance

program in Sri Lanka as initiated by the National Initiative for Research and Development Commercialization (NIRDC) of Presidential Secretariat

- IV. Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with University of Illinois to strengthen collaborative scientific relationships with a special emphasis on Genomics
- V. Six nationally funded research projects and three research projects awarded through international grants are being conducted

11.4 Performance

I. Research reference - Research and Development

No.	Research field	2024 Number of research		2025 Number of research	
		Target	Number of completed research	Target	Number of completed research
1.	Food, Nutrition and Agriculture	1	ongoing	2	ongoing
2.	Health	2	ongoing	4	ongoing

II. Research and development Technology transferred/ commercialized

Commercial projects are under NDA

III. Dissemination of science

Method of Dissemination	2024 Programs (No.)			2025 Programs (No.)		
	Targeted	Completed	Beneficiaries	Targeted	Completed	Beneficiaries
International workshops	1	1	20	2	1 Will take place in October	30
Science outreach programs for students	2	2	70	4	2	60

IV. Scientific Publications

No.	Field	2024 Number of Publications		2025 Number of Publications	
		Target	Published	Target	Published
1.	Biotechnology & related fields	1	1	4	-

11.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Initiating the SLIBTEC Innovation Park development and signing agreements with the investors
- Complete the Startup incubator of SLIBTEC while bringing investors after clearing the building issues
- Continuation of research projects initiated in 2024 and 2025
- Initiating novel research projects targeting product development
- Contract research focusing on commercial product development through NDAs
- Establishment and infrastructure development of the laboratories for research and services and implementing global laboratory standards
- Strategically expanding our service capabilities to offer a wider range of services
- Develop the IP policy through external support
- Develop the Revolta Incubator facility through external support

12. Sri Lanka Inventors Commission (SLIC)

12.1 Introduction

The Sri Lanka Inventors Commission (SLIC) is a statutory body established in terms of the Sri Lanka Inventors Incentives Act No. 53 of 1979 to promote and encourage the inventiveness of local inventors and making provisions for related matters. At present, the commission functions under the Ministry of Science & Technology and located in 5th Floor “Mehewara Piyesa” Building, Colombo 05.

Vision

Prosperity through Inventions and Innovations

Mission

Be the leading catalyst in bringing out innovative capability of the nation. Be a forerunner of the facilitation process in converting ideas into practical applications

12.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. Give technical assistance to inventors after examination of their inventions to determine their patentability and to help them prepare patent applications, under such terms and conditions as may be specified by the Commission.
- II. Grant financial aid to inventors to enable them to develop, perfect and produce their patented inventions or those which are pending patent, under such terms and conditions as may be specified by the Commission.
- III. Render legal assistance to inventors by representing them in filing their patent applications in Sri Lanka or abroad and by protecting their secured patents from infringement in patent cases, under such terms and conditions as may be specified by the Commission.
- IV. Recommend to government lending institutions inventions that are beneficial to Sri Lanka so as to enable such institutions to give long-term loans to inventors to manufacture their inventions, with only their patents, as security, the amount of any such loan to be granted depending upon the importance and market of their inventions as determined by the Commission.
- V. Help local inventors to find markets for their inventions in Sri Lanka and abroad.
- VI. Encourage Sri Lankan inventors to make known their inventions by awarding “Presidential Awards for Inventions” annually to patented inventions in Sri Lanka in the fields of agriculture, chemistry, medicine, national defense, pharmacy, physics, public safety and welfare, public works, transportation and such other fields of science and technology.
- VII. Establish and maintain a public research laboratory and experimental station where authorized inventors and researchers may avail themselves of its facilities and services for carrying out or perfecting their approved inventions and researches.
- VIII. Promote and encourage inventiveness and creativeness among people in Sri Lanka and to assist them in creating inventions in agriculture, chemistry, medicine and such other fields of science and technology through an annual “Creative Research Contest” with cash prizes and medals to the winners chosen by the respective judges of the “Presidential Awards for Inventions”.
- IX. Publish and disseminate information about inventions, researches and science in general.

- X. Hold regular monthly sessions for the exchange of ideas among inventors.
- XI. Help Sri Lankan inventors join international competitions for inventions and researches, or to recommend them to such competitions.
- XII. Organize creative societies in schools, colleges and universities to promote and encourage creativeness among Sri Lankan youth.

12.3 Achievements in 2025

I. Sahasak Nimavum Invention & innovation Exhibition and Competition

The Sahasak Nimavum Invention & Innovation Exhibition and Competition was successfully held on 25–27 April 2025 at BMICH, featuring 642 inventors from schools, universities, and tertiary institutes across 14 fields in open, commercialized, and institute categories. As Sri Lanka’s only annual national-level exhibition promoting inventions and innovations, it showcased tri-forces, Ministry-affiliated institutes, and other research organizations. The event was inaugurated by Hon. Minister of Industries & Entrepreneurship Development, Mr. Sunil Handunneththi, invited by Hon. Minister of Science & Technology, Prof. Crishantha Abeysena, and attended by dignitaries including the Deputy Minister of Digital Economy, Prime Minister’s Secretary, Ministry Secretary, Hon. Minister of Energy, and Deputy Minister of Industries & Entrepreneurship Development.

II. Southern “InnovaBiz” to Promote Innovation in Southern Province

In 2025, a collaborative project was launched to transform Southern Province inventors’ creations into innovations to boost the economy. Partners included the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission, Southern Province Industrial Development Authority, Ministry of Rural Industries, University of Ruhuna’s Southern Incubation Center, Education and Agriculture Departments. With institutional and gubernatorial approvals, 35 applications were evaluated on 17 September at Deberawewa Central College, identifying support needed to bring these products to market.

III. National Project of Introducing 100 Inventor Clubs

The Sri Lanka Inventors Commission launched a new phase of its school inventor club project under Hon. Minister Prof. Crishantha Abeysena. A sample of 100 schools was selected, with principals, teachers, and three students from each school participating. The inaugural ceremony was held on 8 September 2025 at the Colombo Medical Faculty, attended by Hon. Prime Minister Dr. Harini Amarasooriya as the chief guest, along with the Science & Technology Minister, Ministry Secretaries, and other dignitaries.



“Sahasak Nimavum” Inventions & Innovations Exhibition and Competition



Innova Biz Project to Promote Innovations in Southern Province



National Project of Launching 100 New Young Inventor Clubs

12.4 Performance

I. Field/ Obtained patent assistance

Field	Type	2024		2025	
		Target	Progress	Target	Progress
Inventions and Innovations	Awareness/ training Programmes	10	21	6	4
	Obtained	12	42	2	16

II. Popularization of Science

Method of Popularization	Programmes - 2024			Programmes - 2025		
	Target	Completed	No. of Beneficiaries	Target	Completed	No. of Beneficiaries
Lectures and Workshops	15	16	30000	10	08	1100

III. Scientific Publications

No	Field	Type	2024 No of Publications		2025 No of Publications	
			Target	published	Target	published
01	Inventions	Articles	-	-	-	03

IV. Promotion of Inventions and Innovations

Field	Inventions and Innovations 2024			Inventions and Innovations 2025		
	Target	Completed	With Industry Collaboration	Target	Completed	With Industry Collaboration
Inventions	40	70	-	-	-	-

V. Other Special Programs

- Technology incubator Project to provide technical assistance for inventors
- Financial assistance project for inventors
- Project to provide solutions for recent burning issues of the country

12.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Commercialize all possible inventions of “Sahasak Nimavum” exhibition with the assistance of investors and accordingly conduct the exhibition targeting the commercialization
- Conduct Presidential awards ceremony for patent awarded inventors
- Establish a proper financial assistance mechanism for local inventors in collaboration with public and private financial institutes
- Provide proper assistance to secure IP Rights of local inventors.

13. Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC)

13.1 Introduction

Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (Pvt) Ltd (SLINTEC) came into existence in 2009 following a cabinet paper initiated by the Government of Sri Lanka and it is the first public-private partnership between the Ministry of Science, Technology and Research and leading Sri Lankan private sector companies, namely MAS Holdings, Brandix Lanka Ltd., Camso Loadstar (Pvt.) Ltd, Dialog Axiata, Hayleys PLC, Lankem Ceylon PLC, Browns PLC, and LOLC PLC. On 31st March 2011 SLINTEC was merged with Nanco (Pvt) Ltd and the amalgamated entity adopted the name Nanco (Pvt) Ltd, which was later renamed as Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (Pvt) Ltd. (SLINTEC).

13.2 Functions of the Institution

Vision

Inventions beyond the Horizon

Mission

To play a major role in the advancement of nanotechnology research in the country by twinning great minds and great technologies in our pursuit to discover and develop products that change the way we live

Functions of the Institution

- I. Build a world-class R&D center specializing in nano and advanced technologies
- II. Make products more competitive using nano and advanced technologies
- III. Add value to Sri Lanka's mineral resources by showcasing the benefits of coupling minerals with nanotechnology
- IV. Build and Manage a Nanotechnology and Science Park for research, development, and commercialization

13.3 Achievements in 2025

Mission Oriented Research

The current status of the projects undertaken with external funding during the period under review are listed below.

Title	Funding Agency	Project Cost (Rs. Mn.)	Current status
LOCAL			
lignin dye extracted from coir fibers for industry applications	Industry	10	The 2022 lignin-based natural dye project for textile applications is complete and in final Technology Transfer discussions.
Natural dyes for Textile applications -Microbial	Industry	25	The 2023 world-first fungal-derived natural dye project for textiles is complete and in final Technology Transfer discussions.

Development of sensor materials for selected applications	Foreign /Local	10	Progressing
Ten project proposals under the mission-oriented category will have their budgets approved through the 2025 action plan.	GOSL	100	Progressing
Enhancing Anticorrosion properties of conventional coating for applications in Marine environment.	Industry	10	Progressing
Development of Nano-Biotechnological Tools for Carbon Capture and Climate Change Mitigation	Industry	10	Progressing
Industrial Waste Recycling and Valorisation	Industry	5	Progressing
Discovery of New Molecules for Industrial Applications	Industry	10	Progressing
Development of Nano-Biomaterials for Industrial Applications	Industry	5	Progressing
Identification of a Blood Sugar Regulation Method	Industry	5	Progressing
Development of a plant-based black hair dye for gray hair coverage	Industry	15	Ready to be commercialized
INTERNATIONAL			
Do agricultural micro plastics undermine food security and sustainable development in less economically developed countries?	NERC/ GCRF	GBP 96,329.02 (SLINTEC)	The project is successfully completed
Graphene Applications in Electronics, Medical Devices, EV Batteries, Water Treatment, Agriculture, Materials Science, and Energy	Foreign/ Abu Dhabi University	50	Progressing

- **Contract Research**

- Development of Polymer Composite for TRAIN BRAKE SHOES

The 2024 project to develop a polymer composite for train brake shoes has completed research and moved to Technology Transfer.

- Calcium Carbonate Modification

The Calcium Carbonate Modification project aims to develop CaCO_3 with a high refractive index comparable to pigment-grade TiO_2 . The final project review and Technology Transfer discussions are currently underway.

- Natural Dye from By-Products of Plant Extract

The project develops a prototype natural dye from plant extract by-products, optimized for 100% cotton fabrics, with final review and technology transfer discussions in progress.

- Investigation of the Loss of Crispiness in Gherkins During Curing

A short-term project analyzed how salt, pH, and curing conditions affect gherkin crispiness to recommend measures for preserving texture.

- Cement color and setting time improvement

The project improved color intensity and optimized setting time of Portland cement for a darker, more uniform finish and better performance.

– Bio Herbal Tablet Analysis

A comprehensive study evaluated a Bio Herbal Tablet's effectiveness through analysis and testing, producing a final report on its efficacy.

– Diabsol Project – Evaluation of Postprandial Glucose Reduction Efficacy and Formula Enhancement

A study assessed Diabsol Advanced Soft Gel Capsules for postprandial glucose reduction and α -amylase inhibition, with recommendations for formulation improvement.

– Development of a Self-Adhesive Patch for Fabrics

The project develops and optimizes adhesive composites for fabrics, evaluating mechanical properties, reusability, and suitability for bras, with the next phase guided by wearer trial feedback.

• **Contract Projects initiated during the period under review (2025)**

Title	Client	Amount
Ongoing contract Research		
Coconut water energy drink	Industry Partner	Total Project Research Value Approx. Rs 15 million
Cost effective liquid fertilizer for hydroponic systems	Industry Partner	
Development of sustainable natural dye from plant waste material	Industry Partner	
Development of food grade ink	Industry Partner	
Development of an adhesive composite	Industry Partner	
Development of textile adhesive	Industry Partner	
Development of electrode materials for sodium ion batteries	Industry Partner	

• **Consultancy and Analytical services**

- Conducted mini projects to troubleshoot chemical contamination issues across various export industries, including beverage, garment, and other sectors.
- Tea Component Analysis Project - Entered into an agreement to analyze 23 compounds across 1,000 tea samples, projected to generate a total income of 12 million. The client has made an initial advance payment of 5 million for this project.
- Pioneering Drug Safety Together: SLINTEC partners with NMRA to streamline drug testing processes, ensuring timely and superior safety standards across the pharmaceutical sector. This strategic collaboration marks a significant milestone in reducing delays and enhancing quality within the industry. The new way forward is currently under discussion, focusing on further strengthening regulatory efficiency and analytical capabilities.

No.	Product(s) / Material of test	Specific tests performed
01.	Edible oils and Spices, Cereals and animal feed	Aflatoxin B1 and G1
		Aflatoxin B2 and G2
		Total Aflatoxins
02.	Fats and edible oils	Phthalates (DMP/ DEHP/ DBP/ DNOP) Phthalates (DIDP/ DINP)
03.	Beverages	Phthalates (DMP/ DEHP/ DBP/ DNOP) Phthalates (DIDP/ DINP)
04.	Milk and Milk Products	Salt
		Total sugar
05.	Sugar Confectionary Solid Milk Products	Total sugar
	Cereals and Biscuits	
06.	Sugar Confectionary	Fat
07.	Cereals and Biscuits	Fat

• Accreditation Program

On 9 June 2025, SLINTEC's Advanced Analytical Services Laboratory achieved ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation from SLAB, confirming its competence in critical food safety analyses. The lab is now certified to perform aflatoxin testing, phthalate detection, and nutritional analysis, enhancing SLINTEC's support for Sri Lanka's agri-food sector in meeting local and international safety and export standards. Below is the detailed scope of accreditation.

Analytical Services 2025	No. of clients	Revenue (Rs. Mn)
Industry, Universities & Research Institutes	500	30



SLINTEC won Lanka Star Packaging Awards 2024 and WorldStar Global Packaging Awards 2025



SLINTEC's slow release urea nano fertilizer won the Best Innovation Award at Industrial Expo 2025



SLINTEC achieved internationally recognized ISO accreditation for food safety testing



13.4 Performance

I. Research & Development

Eight research projects have been successfully completed, currently seven in commercialization negotiations.

II. Technology Transfer/ Commercialization

SLINTEC has generated **Rs. 94 million** from product commercialization, with the following breakdown:

1. Anti-Aging serum using water soluble curcumin
2. Graphite based derivative for the adsorption of the oil from water

III. Patent

In 2024, four patents were filed, of which one was granted. In 2025, one patent was filed. All patents were primarily filed locally, encompassing the fields of textiles, cosmetics, and material sciences.

IV. Science Popularization

Method of popularization	2024 (No.)			2025 (No.)		
	Target programs	Completed programs	Beneficiaries	Target programs	Completed programs	Beneficiaries
School and university visits	50	56	Around 5000	50	45	Around 4500
Career development program in nanotechnology and advanced characterization	3	3	75	3	2	50
Instrument training programs	-	-	-	1	1	50
Exhibitions participated	3	3	6000	3	3	> 5000

V. Scientific Publications

No	Type	2024 No of Publications		2025 No of Publications	
		Target	Published	Target	Published
1	Books and Book Chapters	15	12	15	2
2	Journal articles (index)				
3	Abstracts (conference, Proceedings)				
4	Newspaper / Magazine Articles	10	22	10	8

VI. Other special programs

- AASL Accreditation: Received ISO/IEC 17025:2017 certification from SLAB for Aflatoxin, Phthalate, and Traffic Light Nutritional testing
- Innovation Expo Forums: Launched industry-focused forums; first held at Biyagama (Mar 25, 2025) and Koggala (May 22, 2025)
- Nanotechnology Courses: Conducted two certificate courses in March and August 2025, training 60+ students with lab exposure
- Instrument Training: Held a one-day program for SLIIT final-year Material Engineering students
- Sahasak Nimavum 2025: Showcased student and research innovations at SLIC's international exhibition (Apr 25–27, 2025)
- Intex Sri Lanka 2025: Presented textile innovations at BMICH (Aug 6–8, 2025)
- Industry Expo 2025: Exhibited R&D at BMICH (Sep 18–21, 2025); nano fertilizer won Best Innovation Award (IP category)
- Packaging Awards: Won gold at Lanka Star 2024 and sustainability award at WorldStar 2025 (Milan) for compostable packaging made from corn husk and paddy waste with Modern Pack Pvt Ltd

13.5 Targets for the Year 2025

- International Technology Transfers
- Become the Local Leader in Food Security Innovation
- Strengthen SLINTEC's Academic and Research Excellence
- Enhance Collaboration with the Private Sector
- Continue to focus on green innovations, emphasizing SLINTEC's commitment to the environment and sustainability

14. Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)

14.1 Introduction

The Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) was established as the Bureau of Ceylon Standards under the Bureau of Ceylon Standards Act No. 38 of 1964. This Act was repealed in 1984 by the Act No. 6 of 1984 remaining the organization as Sri Lanka Standards Institution and empowered with the primary responsibility of promoting Standardization and Quality Management practices in Sri Lanka. The Institution is governed by a council of eleven members headed by a Chairman appointed by the Minister in terms of the SLSI Act No. 6 of 1984

Vision

To be the Sri Lanka's Premier Institution providing leadership to enrich the quality of life of the nation, through standardization and quality improvement in all sectors of the economy.

Mission

To undertake, promote and facilitate Standardization, Measurement, Quality Assurance and related activities in all sectors of the national economy in order to:

- Increase productivity and maximize the utilization of resources;
- Facilitate internal and external trade;
- Enhance international competitiveness of products and services;
- Safeguard the interest of consumers
- Achieve socio-economic development;

whilst improving the quality of work life of employees of the Institution.

14.2 Functions of the Institution

- I. Preparation of standards on a national and international basis
- II. Promotion of standardization and quality control in industry and commerce
- III. Establishment of laboratories, library and other relevant facilities for furthering the practice of standardization and quality control
- IV. Examination and testing of products, commodities and materials as well as processes and practices used in the manufacture of locally produced products, commodities and materials
- V. Making arrangements or providing facilities for the testing and calibration of instruments, and other apparatus in compliance with the required standards
- VI. Providing and arranging facilities for undertaking research in standardization and quality control
- VII. Operation of a Certification marks scheme
- VIII. Certification of quality of commodities, materials and other products
- IX. Promotion of standardization and quality control
- X. Providing for co-operation with any person, association or organization outside Sri Lanka having objects similar to the Institution
- XI. Co-ordination of the efforts of producers and users for improvement of commodities, materials, products, processes and methods

14.3 Achievements in 2025

- Toddy Standard: Published the Sri Lanka Standard Specification for Toddy to distinguish authentic coconut toddy from artificial products
- Eco-Friendly Brooms: Developed a new standard for locally made natural brooms to replace imported plastic ones and promote exports
- Eggs & Milk Standards: Revised standards for table eggs (SLS 959:2025) and processed liquid milk (SLS 1815:2025) with new grading systems and limits for hazardous substances
- Five new products certified for SLS Mark

- Expanded the accreditation of calibration scope (Calibration of IR Thermometers & Cold room temperature mapping based on the WHO method)
- Expansion of scope of accreditation of test methods (10)
- Introduce 10 new test methods
- Signed an MOU with NMRA for conducting tests for selected Medical Devices
- Carried out test for 164 skin cream samples with (BRI-USA)
- Obtained accreditation for FSSC 22000 certification scheme
- Obtained accreditation for GMP scheme (Product Certification)
- Established ISO 27001 Information Security Management System
- Established a SMART class room to conduct training programmes effectively
- Conducted awareness programmes for SMEs to upgrade their processes

14.4 Performance

Activity	Physical Progress (2024)		Physical Progress (2025)	
	Target	Progress	Target	Progress
Formulation of Engineering & Scientific Standards				
No. of new standards formulated	300	198	300	114
No. of new standards adopted	100	68	100	28
No. of standards revised	150	72	80	41
Energy Labelling				
No. of test reports issued	110	220	250	314
Product Certification				
No. of New permits issued	100	94	100	77
No. of new products introduced	2	1	2	5
Systems Certification				
Initiate actions to promote management systems certification schemes by issuing new certificate	170	182	150	152
Administer the operation of the management systems certified by conducting audits	1,229	1,401	1,400	835
Quality Assurance				
Monitoring of imported consignments for the conformity to relevant Sri Lanka Standard	20,000	21,547	17,000	23,460
Laboratory Services				
No. of test reports issued	14,000	17,073	16,000	17,233
No. of new tests introduced	20	18	10	12
Metrology				
Number of Calibrations/Measurement Reports issued	5,000	5,224	4,000	3,418
Documentation & Information				
No. of Standards sold - Local	3,500	3,974	3,800	2,836
Training				
No. of Training Programmes conducted	90	72	100	58
No. of persons trained	1,500	1,356	1,500	987
No. of In-house Programmes conducted	60	47	50	39
Standards & Services Promotion				
Conducted Seminars/Workshops/ Webinars to promote SLSI services	15	36	7	8

SLSI is independent from the Government Treasury Funds (Self-Financed) since 2011.

14.5 Targets for the Year 2026

- Obtain accreditation for ISO 50001 & ISO 21000
- Update the National Standardization Strategy
- Identify new product categories for product certification
- Expanding the scope of accreditation of the Import Inspection Scheme
- Expanding the scope of accreditation for calibrations in the fields of volume, temperature & mass
- Introducing seven new test methods for conformity assessment