

Embassy Newsletter- SLEMB Ankara

June-July 2026

June

Turkish energy sector investor delegation explores investments opportunities in Sri Lanka.

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Ankara, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism, facilitated the visit of a high-level Turkish energy sector delegation comprising representatives of M/S Penthol Group and M/S Ameron Energies AG to Sri Lanka from 03 to 07 June 2026. The delegation held productive discussions with senior government officials and key stakeholders, including Ministers, the Ministry of Energy, the Colombo Municipal Council, and Colombo Port City, to explore potential collaboration and investment opportunities in Sri Lanka's energy sector.

During the visit the delegation met with the Hon. Vijitha Herath, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment & Tourism, Hon. Dr. Dammika Patabendi, Minister of Environment, Her Worship Vraie Cally Balthazaar, Mayor of Colombo, Mr. R.D. Aponsu, Secretary, Ministry of Energy, and the senior management of the Colombo PortCity.

The visit reflects the growing economic relations between Sri Lanka and Türkiye and the shared commitment to advancing sustainable energy development.



Sri Lanka Participates in High-Level Ministerial Panel on Agriculture in Türkiye



The Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Türkiye, Niluka Kadurugamuwa, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation of Sri Lanka, represented the country at the High-Level Ministerial Panel on Agriculture titled "Reducing Post-Harvest Losses: Enhancing Efficiency in the Food Supply Chain", held in Istanbul on 6 June 2026.

The event, which was organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of

Türkiye and the Zero Waste Foundation, brought together Ministers, Deputy Ministers, senior government officials and representatives of international organisations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Bank and delegates from a wide range of countries.

At the Ministerial panel, making the country statement, the Ambassador highlighted the progress made by Sri Lanka in reducing post-harvest losses through the combined efforts of government institutions, private sector and other stakeholders. The Ambassador also reaffirmed Sri Lanka's commitment to strengthening cooperation with international partners in promoting sustainable agriculture, improving food security and building resilient food supply chains as well as ensuring 'zero-waste'.

The discussions during the Ministerial Panel focused on reducing food losses across the agricultural value chain, strengthening research and innovation, expanding cold chain networks, improving logistics systems and promoting technology-driven solutions for sustainable agricultural production and trade. Participants also underlined the need for international cooperation in addressing food security challenges and improving the resilience of global food systems.

Minister of the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Ankara, Nilusha Dilmini, accompanied the Ambassador to the meeting.



Sri Lanka encourages IT sector collaborations with Türkiye



The Ambassador and his team had a productive meeting with the President of the Informatics Association of Türkiye (TBD), Mr. Kenan Nurhan Altınsaat, at the TBD head office in Ankara, with a view to strengthening bilateral cooperation in ICT sector and digitalization.

The discussion focused on Sri Lanka's growing potential as a regional IT hub, opportunities in areas such as AI, cybersecurity, digital payments, smart cities, and cloud computing, as well as prospects for B2B partnerships, investments in Sri Lanka's technology parks, and knowledge sharing.

Both sides expressed keen interest in fostering closer collaboration through joint initiatives, industry partnerships, and enhanced engagement between Sri Lankan and Turkish ICT stakeholders.

Sri Lankan Envoy Meets with the CEO of Turkish Airlines

The Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Türkiye, Niluka Kadurugamuwa met with the Chief Executive Officer of the Turkish Airlines, Ahmet Olmüştür at the Airlines' headquarters in Istanbul on 17 June 2026.



During the meeting, the Ambassador appreciated Turkish Airlines' continued and committed support to Sri Lanka and its contribution to facilitating tourism, business travel, air cargo, and commercial exchanges between the two countries and from

beyond. The Ambassador also commended the airline for maintaining uninterrupted services between Istanbul – Colombo route during the recent challenges emanating from the situation in the Middle-East, thus providing an opening for Sri Lanka to connect with the western hemisphere.

The discussion also focused on strengthening cooperation to increase tourist arrivals in Sri Lanka through the extensive global network of the Airlines and opportunities for joint promotional initiatives with Sri Lankan tourism authorities, including destination marketing campaigns, familiarization tours for travel agents and media representatives, and other promotional activities.

The meeting also covered prospects for expanding passenger flight frequencies, enhancing cargo capacity to support growing bilateral trade, and fostering closer collaboration between Turkish Airlines and Sri Lanka's aviation sector.

The CEO and the officials of the Turkish Airlines reaffirmed their continuous commitment to further strengthening air connectivity by increasing flight frequency upon adding new equipment to their fleet and undertook to contribute to enhancing the trade, tourism, and cultural cooperation between Sri Lanka and Türkiye for the mutual benefit of both countries.

The Ambassador was accompanied to the meeting by First Secretary (Commercial) of the Embassy Dilanga Hettiarachchi and Sri Lanka's Honorary Consul in Istanbul Dr. Aydın Özü.

Sri Lanka invites YASED to explore investment opportunities in Sri Lanka



The Ambassador and his official delegation met with the Secretary General, of the International Investors Association of Türkiye (YASED) Serkan Valandova, at their headquarters in Istanbul to discuss avenues for enhancing investment and economic cooperation between Sri Lanka and Türkiye.

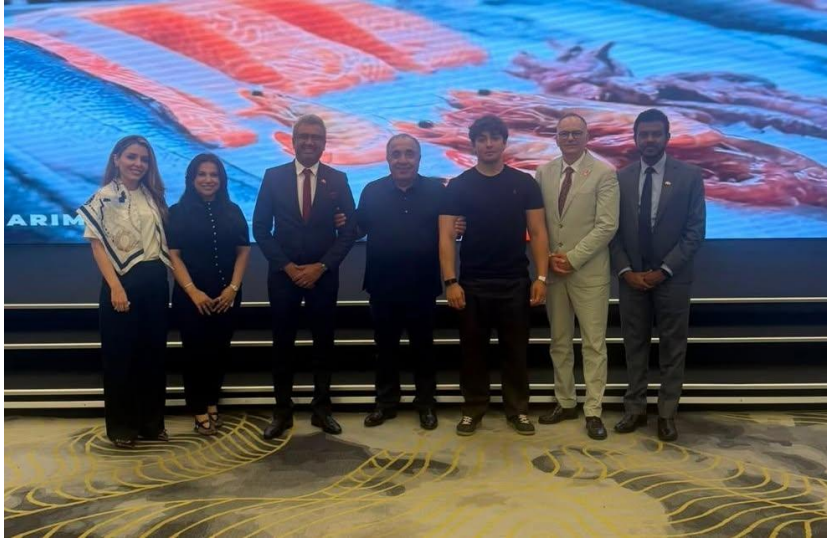
During the meeting, the Ambassador highlighted the wide range of investment opportunities available in Sri Lanka, including the Colombo Port City, industrial manufacturing, ports and logistics, renewable energy, infrastructure development, and the rapidly growing IT/BPO sector. Moreover, opportunities in Sri Lanka's tourism industry, including hospitality related investments and joint tourism infrastructure development, were also discussed.

As a way forward, the Embassy proposed closer collaboration through investment seminars, business networking initiatives, investor delegations, and awareness programs in partnership with relevant Sri Lankan institutions. The possibility of establishing a formal cooperation framework to strengthen long-term engagement was also explored.

The Secretary General and officials of the YASED expressed their earnest interest in working closely with Sri Lanka and supporting efforts to promote mutually beneficial investment partnerships between the two countries.

The International Investors Association is a leading business organization in Türkiye representing international investors operating across a wide range of sectors. Through its member companies, YASED contributes significantly to foreign direct investment, employment generation, international trade, and serves as an important platform for fostering dialogue and cooperation between the public and private sectors on investment-related matters.

Sri Lankan delegation meets with the chairman of TAŞYAPI group of companies



The Ambassador and his official team met with Mr. Emrullah Turanlı, Chairman of TAŞYAPI Construction Contracting Industry and Trade Inc., at the company's headquarters in Istanbul recently. The meeting focused on exploring potential investment cooperation between Sri Lanka and TAŞYAPI.

TAŞYAPI Construction Contracting Industry and Trade Inc. is one of Türkiye's leading construction and contracting companies, with a history dating back to 1979 and corporate operations established in 1985. Headquartered in Istanbul, the company specializes in large-scale infrastructure and superstructure projects, including luxury residential developments, commercial buildings, hospitals, hotels, transportation infrastructure, energy facilities, and urban development projects.

During the discussion, opportunities available in Sri Lanka in infrastructure development, real estate, and the Colombo Port City were specially highlighted. The Ambassador also appraised the Chairman of Sri Lanka's current economic progress and invited TAŞYAPI to explore the country's growing investment opportunities.

The meeting was arranged under the Embassy's key initiative of approaching high net worth individuals in Türkiye with a view to seeking investment cooperation.

Sri Lanka showcases its tourism and cultural excellence in Salt Lake

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Ankara participated in the “White Nights Eskil Salt Lake International Culture and Tourism Festival”, held in Eskil, Aksaray, from 26–29 June 2026.

The Embassy's pavilion showcased Sri Lanka's diverse tourism offerings, introducing visitors to the country's unique attractions, including cultural heritage, wellness tourism, adventure experiences, and scenic destinations. Guests also had the opportunity to experience the authentic taste of Ceylon Tea and explore a selection of premium Sri Lankan value-added products, reflecting the island's rich traditions and hospitality.

The festival brought together participants from 25 countries, including diplomats, tourism professionals, cultural organizations, media representatives, and visitors from across Türkiye. It provided a valuable platform to promote Sri Lanka as an attractive travel destination while strengthening cultural understanding and fostering new opportunities for tourism and business collaboration.



July

Sri Lanka looks for possible collaborations with TESID

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Ankara, together with the Export Development Board (EDB) of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers and Exporters Association (SLEMEA), held a successful virtual interaction with the board members of the Turkish Electronics Industrialists Association (TESID) on 07 July 2026.

The discussion focused on exploring opportunities to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the electronics and electrical manufacturing sectors. The two sides agreed to work towards establishing an institutional framework between SLMEA and TESID to facilitate long-term collaboration. It was also mutually agreed to proceed with organizing a Business-to-Business (B2B) networking session between Sri Lankan and Turkish companies.

The meeting was attended by Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Türkiye Niluka Kadurugamuwa; First Secretary (Commercial) of the Embassy, Dilanga Hettiarachchi; Assistant Director of the Export Development Board, Akila De Zoyza,; President of SLMEA Gamini Ranasinghe,; Chairman of TESID Yaman Tunaoglu,; Secretary General of TESID Suat Bengür,; and members of the TESID Board of Directors.



Sri Lanka Tourism Excellence Shines on the Streets of Antalya

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Ankara, in collaboration with the Honorary Consul of Sri Lanka in Antalya, Mr. Ali Kamburoğlu, has launched an outdoor promotional campaign across the streets of Antalya, one of Türkiye's premier tourism destinations.

The billboards showcase Sri Lanka's breathtaking tourism attractions while simultaneously promoting Sri Lanka Expo 2027, scheduled to be held from 14–17 January 2027 at the BMICH, Colombo.