

{ CORPORATE }

# Cargills among 'Most Admired Companies' of Sri Lanka 2021

**C**IMA, ICC Sri Lanka, and the Daily FT recognised the winners of Sri Lanka's Most Admired Companies Awards, at an event held at the BMICH on 27 October. The award recognised companies not just for their financial performance but also the value they create for their shareholders, customers, employees, and the wider community.



High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay, Colombo Mayoress Rosy Senanayake, and CIMA Country Head Sri Lanka Zahara Ansary presenting the award at the Most Admired Companies Awards Sri Lanka 2021

As an essential service provider and a leading food company, Cargills continued to meet the needs of consumers during a challenging year. In addition to operating 465 supermarkets outlets and 50 restaurants across the country,

Cargills operates eight manufacturing facilities which produce value added dairy products, confectionery, beverages, culinary products, and convenience food. The group's main food brands

have become leading national brands over time, with a key focus on quality and innovation. Cargills has given prominence to sourcing its raw materials locally, creating markets for local farmers

and suppliers, staying true to its mission of supporting regional development, and bridging disparities across the country. With a team of 12,000 employees, Cargills is also a key generator of opportunities for the rural youth. Over 60% of the Cargills team comes from regions outside the Western Province and more than 70% of the team is under the age of 35. The company invests in developing the skills of its young team through an internal training academy – the Albert A. Page Institute – which provides internationally recognised certifications and training programmes. The company invested Rs. 6.4 billion during the last financial year across all its business verticals, to further grow and drive community development.

## Sysco LABS supports Sysco Corporation growth

Sysco LABS Sri Lanka, the innovation arm of Sysco Corporation, continues to play a pivotal role in delivering innovative technology solutions and contributing to the growth and success of the global foodservice leader. Sysco, ranked 60th on the Fortune 500 list in June 2021, is well-positioned to deliver on its "Recipe for Growth" strategy launched earlier this year.



Sysco LABS Managing Director - Sri Lanka and Senior Vice President Engineering Shaniil Fernando

being consistently at the forefront of technological innovation. Undaunted by the challenges posed by the pandemic and in line with Sysco's growth outlook, Sysco LABS continues to attract and retain top-tier talent who are empowered to showcase Sri Lankan skills on a global scale.

Affirming confidence in the capabilities of the Sysco LABS team in Sri Lanka, the company recently launched a state-of-the-art global technology operations center offering 24/7 support to Sysco associates around the world.

While supporting Sysco to accelerate its global leadership position, Sysco LABS has also become a prime contributor to the country's export revenue as well as the nation's ambition to become a pioneering hub for technology.

## Lenovo launches Legion 5 Pro for gamers in Sri Lanka

Lenovo announced the launch of a new gaming laptop – the Lenovo Legion 5 Pro. With the latest generation AMD Ryzen™ 5000 Series processors and up to 140 W NVIDIA® GeForce RTX™ 3070, the Lenovo Legion 5 Pro is a gaming upgrade that is engineered to empower gamers in Sri Lanka.

With the AMD Ryzen™ 7 5800 H processor, built on AMD "Zen 3" architecture, users can now enjoy competitive gaming and productivity performance with fast frame rates and a battery life of up to 8.1 hours. The Legion 5 Pro is designed and built to ensure that gamers and content creators never have to compromise on graphics performance with the NVIDIA® GeForce RTX™ 30 Series graphics

that bring second generation ray tracing, third generation AI tensor cores, and more.

Users can enjoy maximum performance with a total graphics power of up to 140 W without thermal throttling, thanks to the NVIDIA GPU and Legion ColdFront 3.0.

Legion 5 Pro offers 90% screen-to-body ratio, 16" QHD 165 Hz IPS display with up to 3 ms response time, 16:10 aspect ratio, 2560x1600 resolution, and NVIDIA® G-SYNC™ and AMD FreeSync™ support. This gaming laptop also has 34% increased pixel density, Dolby Vision™, VESA Display, HDR™ 400 support, and 100% sRGB color accuracy with over 500 nits peak brightness.

## Axiata Digital Labs introduces digital transformation product suite Axonect

Axiata Digital Labs announced the launch of its new digital transformation product suite Axonect.

Axonect offers a suite of enterprise products that connect northbound and southbound systems and enables enterprises to be agile digital service providers while changing the footprint of the enterprise to meet evolving business needs. Axonect is built on open source technology and uses a microservices architecture that allows enterprises to implement it quickly and easily at minimal cost and gives them the flexibility needed to meet the demands of the consumers.

The Axonect product suite launches with eight customisable products designed to fast track digital transformation and allow enterprises to capitalise on new market opportunities. The Axonect product suite includes the API Manager, API Monetiser, Enterprise API Aggregator, Developer Portal, Enterprise Marketplace, Adaptors, Multi-Cloud Orchestrator, and Enterprise Enabler. Axiata Digital Labs expects to onboard their other products, platforms, and services into the Axonect product suite over the course of 2021 and 2022.

For more information, visit [axonect.com](http://axonect.com).

## Doc990 merges with MyDoctor

Providing users with an all-in-one digital health solution, Sri Lanka's digital health service providers Doc990 and MyDoctor – powered by Dialog Axiata PLC, recently announced the merger of their services. The integration of these two-digital healthcare services will bring about a comprehensive product offering on an all-in-one platform, thereby enabling customers to experience the best of digital healthcare under the Doc990 brand name.

The revamped Doc990 platform will be Sri Lanka's first all-in-one digital health solutions provider and will revolutionise the country's integrated healthcare infrastructure with its amalgamation to MyDoctor. The combined expertise in healthcare and technology is set

to deliver state-of-the-art connected care services to its users via the Doc990 mobile app and web platform. This merger will enable a platform that houses a plethora of integrated services that range from, but are not limited to, doctor channelling with over 5,000 doctors from over 140 hospitals across the island, audio/video doctor consultation (including a 24/7 operational healthcare hotline), with over 1,300 specialists and general practitioners, purchasing medicine online along with islandwide delivery, online lab test booking and reporting, mobile laboratory services, a digital HealthVault (to store and maintain a user's health records and reports), and carefully curated health and wellness subscription packages.

## Mahindra unveils Bolero City Pik-Up in SL



From left: Industrial Development Board Chairman Upasena Dissanayake, Ideal Motors Director – Automotive Chaminda Wanigaratne, Ministry of Industries Secretary Gen. (Retd.) Daya Ratnayake, Ideal Group Deputy Chairman Araninda de Silva, Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa, Ideal Group Founder/Chairman Nalin Welgama, Ideal Lanka Director Suren Galagoda, and Mahindra Ideal Lanka Country Manager Prashant Kini, Mahindra Ideal Lanka COO Amanda Seneviratne at the launch of the Bolero City Pik-Up assembled in Sri Lanka

Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd. (Mahindra), together with Ideal Motors, a fully owned subsidiary of the Ideal Group, recently unveiled the Bolero City Pik-Up in Sri Lanka in the presence of Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa. Minister Weerawansa took a tour of the Mahindra Ideal Lanka automotive assembly plant and saw the assembly process of the Bolero City Pik-Up. The plant was inaugurated in August 2019 under a joint venture

between Mahindra and Ideal Group.

The Bolero City Pik-Up is perfectly suited to various applications with its manoeuvrability, big cargo box, and high-power engine. It has a strong suspension, with the rear suspension strengthened to take different types of load in city driving conditions. The cabin ergonomics have been further enhanced with a wider co-driver seat. All these make the Bolero City Pik-Up an ideal pickup

truck for urban goods transportation across the island. With a warranty of 12 months per 50,000 km and minimal maintenance costs, customers are guaranteed to earn more profit.

Mahindra Ideal Lanka (MILPL) is now boosting its production capacity to meet the market demand for its pickup trucks. This is the second product launch in a row by Mahindra after the launch of KUV100 in July 2020.

## Vivo launches vivo Y53s

Vivo's has recently launched the much-awaited Y53s as the latest addition to its youth-oriented Y series. The Y53s has a crafted handset for young smartphone users and is also the first in the Y series to offer features such as 8GB plus 4GB extended RAM, and a 64MP rear camera including eye autofocus and super night features.

Y53s is a smartphone designed for the youth, catering to the endless needs of the always-on-the-go young generation. Users can swiftly navigate multiple apps, get work done, and enjoy high-resolution gaming without any stutters. On the battery front, vivo has incorporated a 5000mAh battery that makes the phone last for a long time.

Y53s has a sleek design with a 3D body that provides it a sophisticated and textured look and the device is available in two colour variants – Deep Sea Blue and Fantastic Rainbow. Y53s uses industry's first liquid crystal coating



process and incorporates a kaleidoscope of colors that changes with the angle of light.

Vivo Y53s is available for purchase across Abans, Dialog, SLT-Mobitel, Singhagiri, and vivo authorised dealers islandwide and can be

purchased online on [BuyAbans.com](http://BuyAbans.com), [Daraz.lk](http://Daraz.lk), and [Takas.lk](http://Takas.lk) for Rs. 62,990. The Y53s customers are eligible for an anytime data bundle of 60GB from SLT-Mobitel till 31 October that will be valid for six months.

## DFCC Bank partners with UTE



Exchange of the MoU between DFCC Bank Senior VP Retail Banking and SME Aasiri Iddamalagoda and UTE CEO Deepthi Hewageegana. Also pictured are officials representing DFCC Bank and UTE

DFCC Bank announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with United Tractors and Equipment (Pvt.) Ltd. (UTE) to offer exclusive leasing solutions to customers that purchase machinery and equipment from UTE. A range of industry segments will benefit from the value additions through this promotion, as machinery covered include backhoes, excavators, motor graders, skid steers, rollers, generators, compactors, air compressors, welding plants and solutions, and warehousing solutions such as forklifts, lift cranes, and pallet trucks.

UTE, also known as UTE-CAT, provides islandwide engineering solutions and has been a trusted partner in infrastructure development

in the country for over seven decades. UTE continues to be in the forefront of construction machinery, power generation, material handling and storage, welding equipment, and engineering solutions sectors with their extensive portfolio of brands that include Caterpillar, Dexion, BT, JLG, FS Curtis, Fuji, Esab, Bohler, and Donaldson.

This special offer is valid for all machinery and equipment marketed and sold by UTE, and customers can avail special discounts on DFCC Leasing interest rates. Customers would also be able to access special structured lease repayment options to suit their requirement.

There will be further special discounts on the normal sale prices of the machinery and equipment marketed by UTE.

## People's Insurance opens a service counter at People's Bank HQ

With the aim of providing seamless insurance services to its customers, People's Insurance PLC ceremonially opened a state-of-the-art service counter at the People's Bank Headquarters premises at No. 75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 2. Strengthening the relationship between two state entities, People's Insurance PLC in collaboration with People's Bank, unveiled the insurance service counter to enhance the accessibility of their servicing and to deliver convenience to its clientele.

The new service counter was opened in the presence of People's Bank Chairman Sujeewa Rajapakse, People's Insurance PLC Chairman Isuru Balapatabendi, People's Bank General Manager Ranjith Kodituwakku, and People's Insurance PLC CEO Deepal Abeyssekara. The event was also attended by customers and senior officials of People's Bank and People's Insurance PLC.



Opening of the new service counter by People's Bank Chairman Sujeewa Rajapakse, People's Insurance PLC Chairman Isuru Balapatabendi, People's Bank General Manager Ranjith Kodituwakku, and People's Insurance PLC CEO Deepal Abeyssekara

The opening ceremony was carried out in accordance with the Covid-19 health guidelines, due to the ongoing pandemic.

The opening of the service counter at the People's Bank Head office is another milestone in their journey to secure the financial futures of all individual and corporate policyholders.

## Autopoint expands into multi-brand vehicle service and repairs

Autopoint Ltd., the Kia Motors (Lanka) owned dealership, has announced that it is expanding into multi-brand automobile servicing and repairs following six successful years as a sales, service, and spares (3S) centre for the Kia brand in Kurunegala.

In its mission to extend its expertise to multiple automobile

brands, Autopoint has developed a separate service and repair centre at the company's complex in Kurunegala with newly-recruited staff trained to global standards and state-of-the-art scanning equipment and tools.

The new multi-brand facility will initially offer after-sales services and mechanical repairs to all vehicle

brands, and in phase two a collision repair centre is to be commissioned, enabling it to offer a fully-equipped body shop, the company said. The new multi-brand venture promises after-sales servicing to international standards with genuine spare parts, will also offer warranties on its vehicle services and provide 24/7 roadside assistance within a

specified radius. To celebrate the launch of this venture, Autopoint said it will offer all customers visiting the new multi-brand service centre in the month of November a free vehicle diagnostic report, a free vehicle wax, and other complimentary items.

Autopoint Ltd. will offer general inspection, oil and filter change,

vehicle underwash, interior cleaning and vacuum, and vehicle scanning under its full-service offering; transmission oil change, differential oil change, brake oil change, and power-steering oil change under its major service offering; and will deliver other services such as engine tuning, transmission, engine, and suspension repairs.

