

CONFEDERATION OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRIES  
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சிறிய மற்றும் நடுத்தர தொழில் அமைப்புகளின் சம்மேளனம்

## **Private Sector on a Mission to Revive Industrial MSMEs in Sri Lanka**

The Confederation of Micro, Small and Medium Industries (COSMI) was incorporated in 2019, as a non-profit organization, limited by guarantee, to revive and foster the industrial sector in Sri Lanka through MSMEs.

Founded by a group of highly respected individuals from the Chamber Movement in Sri Lanka, the membership represents a cross-section of the industrial sector in Sri Lanka, drawn together by a single vision to “be the voice of the industrial MSMEs in Sri Lanka”. COSMI is the brainchild of Nawaz Rajabdeen, a visionary business professional who has energetically served the chamber movement for over four decades. All founding members contribute on a voluntary basis, deeply committed in their resolve to create a sustainable future in the industrial sector in Sri Lanka, and to leave a lasting, positive impact for the benefit of future generations.

The COSMI Founder Members comprise of a Governing Council and Board of Directors. The Governing Council is lead by Deshabandu Macky Hashim (Chairman) with members Mr. Dudley Thambinayagam, Dr Rohan Karunaratna, Dr. Jagath Peiris and Ms. Hui Min Dias Bandaranayake. At its first General Meeting of COSMI, Mr. Nawaz Rajabdeen was unanimously nominated as the Founder President of COSMI by the Governing Council. The Board of Directors include Nawaz Rajabdeen (Founder President), Indhra Kaushal Rajapaksa (Vice President), Keerthi Gunawardane, Ramal Jasinghe, Ms. Ayanthi Gurusinghe and Mr. Rajarammohan.

A unique and important feature of COSMI is the Advisory Panel consisting of leading academics and professionals in relevant domains, such as agribusiness, agri-based research and development, Market research and analysis, growth strategy consulting, and corporate training, business restructuring, entrepreneur development, women empowerment, sustainable energy and cleaner production, advanced machinery, supply chain, logistics, business feasibility study and project proposals and others. The Panel will play a major role in helping foster and empower MSMEs and bridge prevailing knowledge and technology gaps. Preliminary assistance to shall be provided free of charge for MSMEs that are registered with COSMI. Subsequent services may be charged a reasonable and affordable fee, evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Industrial MSME Categories include Manufacturing and processing in rubber and plastic based, tea, leather, metal, fibre, paper, furniture and furnishing, woodworking, gem and jewelry, coconut and coconut based, agri-business and agricultural products, recycling of paper, plastics, rubber and industrial waste, printing and packaging, light engineering, tools, hardware and allied machinery.

In its business intervention strategy COSMI will also give priority to alignment with Sustainable Development Goals, principle of circular economy, harnessing regional technology, developing a strong service sector to support industrial MSMEs, establishing local and international affiliations and collaborations and follow the success factors for SME competitiveness identified by the ITC. COSMI will also give special attention to the development of industrial MSMEs in the North and East regions and have already identified several potential projects that could be easily and successfully implemented in these regions.

COSMI has many activities planned out for its beneficiaries, through regional/international alliances and partnerships, to provide opportunities, exposure and bridge knowledge-gaps of local industrial MSMEs. These activities are to be announced subsequently. MSMEs are now invited to register with COSMI for a nominal fee of Rs. 2500/- to obtain a wide range of benefits and support in their industrial and business activities.