



**Date:**  
02nd September 2025



**Time:**  
09:00hrs - 17:00hrs



**Location:**  
Hilton Hotel, Colombo

## Pillars:

Unite | Advance | Connect with Tourism

## Objective:

Shape the Sri Lanka's Aviation Future

**08:30 am - 09:30 am**

### Registration

**09:30 am - 10:15 am**

### Opening Ceremony

Welcome Speech

- Guests and all invitees will be welcomed and the motive and the agenda of the Sri Lanka Aviation Forum 2025 will be explained.

**10:15 am - 11:30 am**

### Panel Discussion 01 | The Global Aviation Landscape and Sri Lanka's Strategic Position

Moderated by  
Ishara Gunawardana

This panel explores global aviation trends and Sri Lanka's strategic potential as a regional hub. Key industry leaders will share insights:

- **Mr. Reyhan Wannappa** – Director General of Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka (CAASL)
- **Mr. Sumith de Silva** – Head of Marketing & Cooperate Communications, Airport & Aviation Services Sri Lanka
- **Mr. Dimuthu Thennakon** – Head of Commercial, SriLankan Airlines
- **Mr. Sampath Ranaweera** - President, Ceylon Aeronautical Services

**11:30 am - 11:45 am**

### Refreshments / Networking Break

**11:45 am - 12:45 pm**

### Panel Discussion 02 | Commercial Aviation & Airline Strategies

Moderated by  
Ishara Gunawardana

This discussion examines airline operations, route development, fleet strategies, and recovery trends shaping the aviation sector. Industry leaders will present perspectives from both global and local contexts:

Topic Explore Speech - **Mr. Dumindu Amarathunga** - Chairman, Sri Lanka Association of Airline Representatives (SLAAR)

Panelists:

- **Dr. Namali Sirisoma** - Senior Lecturer, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University, Former CAASL
- **Mr. Indunil Wijekoon** - Regional Manager for Sri Lanka and Indian Ocean at SriLankan Airlines
- **Mr. Shaminda Fernando** - Chief Executive Officer, Mack Air
- **Mr. Iroshan Kulatunga** - Director of KuleAir Aviation Solutions

**12:45 pm - 13:30 am**

### Lunch Break (Sponsored by Ceylon Aeronautical Services)

**13:30 pm - 14:45 pm**

### Panel Discussion 3 | Strengthening Travel Services & Domestic Aviation in Sri Lanka

Moderated by  
Dimushka Chandrasena

This panel emphasizes regional connectivity, improved domestic air services, and integration with tourism. Experts will share strategies to strengthen Sri Lanka's travel ecosystem.

Topic Exploration Speech - **Mr. Dheera Hettiarachchi** - Chairman, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) & Sri Lanka Convention Bureau (SLCB)

Panelists:

- **Mr. Aruna Rajapaksha** - Head of Airport Management, BIA, AASL
- **Mr. Duminda Kuruwitaarachchi** - Board Member, SLTDA, Past President - TAASL
- **Air Vice Marshal O.D.N. Lal Perera (Retd)** - Director, DP Aviation
- **Captain Gihan Fernando**

14:45 pm - 15:00 pm

Refreshments / Networking Break

15:00 pm - 16:10 pm

Panel Discussion 04 | Aviation Training for the Next Generation & Women Empowerment

Moderated by  
Ishara Gunawardana

This session focuses on workforce development, skill-building, and gender inclusion to prepare future leaders in aviation.  
Opening and topic Exploration - **Mr. Kishantha Nimalaratne**, Head of Civil Aviation Training, AASL Academy.

Panelists:

- **Mrs. Nihara Jayatileke** – Managing Director, Asian Aviation Centre
- **Ms. Jayani C. Senanayake** – Sri Lankan Aviation College
- **Mrs. Anjalinaa Marcus** – Lanka Pacific Aviation Engineering College
- **Mr. Suresh Reza** – CEO & Managing Director of Aspire College of Higher Education.

16:10 pm - 16:30 pm

Closing Ceremony



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