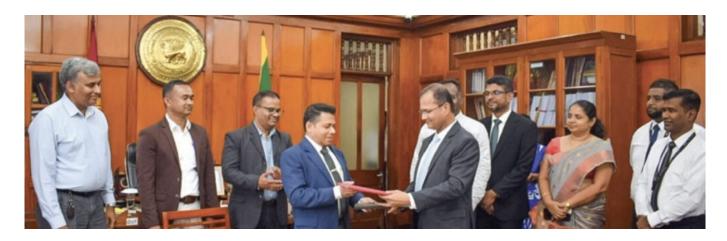
## **BOC and University of Peradeniya Forge Strategic Partnership**

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Exchanging of the MoU between Professor Terence Madhujith, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Peradeniya and Y. A. Jayathilaka, Deputy General Manager (Product and Banking Development), Bank of Ceylon.

The Bank of Ceylon has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Peradeniya. The agreement aims to foster innovation, technology transfer, and collaborative knowledge sharing between the two institutions.

This partnership is anchored on four key pillars: co-development of innovative banking technologies, joint academic and research programs, structured internship opportunities for undergraduates, and continuous consultation and knowledge exchange initiatives. Representing the University of Peradeniya at the MoU signing were Professor Terence Madhujith, Vice Chancellor;

Professor R. G. S. C. Rajapakse, Dean, Faculty of Science; Professor R. H. Kuruppuge, Dean, Faculty of Management; Professor B. G. L. T. Samaranayake, Dean, Faculty of Engineering; Prof Roshan D. Yapa, Director of the University's Technology Transfer Office; Dr. S. Maheshwaran, Head of the Department, Operations Management and K. A. B. Damunupola, Acting Registrar.

BOC delegation was led by Y. A. Jayathilaka, DGM (Product and Banking Development), accompanied by AGM (Central Province) D. Ekanayaka, Chief Manager – Product Development and Innovations Thushani Ariyarathna, and Manager – Innovation Lab Thilanka Pathirana, along with other officials from the Bank.

Under the newly signed MoU, BOC and the University of Peradeniya will collaborate on developing next-generation banking solutions by leveraging the university's advanced research capabilities and the bank's industry expertise.

The partnership will enable joint development projects, either proposed by the university or initiated at the bank's request, to strengthen BOC's digital infrastructure and service offerings. Additional initiatives under the agreement include technology transfer joint consultancy, research and development, commercialization efforts, and co-organized conferences and workshops.

The MoU will create valuable hands-on learning opportunities for undergraduate at the University of Peradeniya through BOC internships, per the Bank's internship recruitment framework. This collaboration exemplifies BOC's commitment to nurturing innovation and talent while empowering the next generation of professionals.