

# Business Today Passionate 2017

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## **BUSINESS TODAY PASSIONATE 2017**

Pioneering individuals, who have single-handedly created novel concepts and succeeded in making them a reality, have driven the economy of Sri Lanka in the same manner as the corporate sector. Through their drive and passion, they have made a difference, and have motivated Sri Lankans to innovate and pursue new ventures. These self-made personalities created revolutionary concepts that have transformed various sectors in the country.

Therefore, this year Business Today recognises 'Passionate' individuals who through their determination, creativity and individuality have brought recognition to Sri Lanka in the global sphere. They are groundbreaking entrepreneurs who have either revolutionised their

respective sectors or have created new markets. Many of them have taken the risk to venture out to the international market with a Sri Lankan brand, making their motherland proud as well as setting an example for the private sector. They have also become trailblazers in terms of sustainability, conservation and preserving the island's heritage. These visionaries have revitalised traditional Sri Lankan industries and have created employment for thousands.

This year we introduce Business Today 'Passionate' 2017, to mark the 20th anniversary of the Business Today selection of TOP public-listed corporates, which takes place annually. The Business Today TOP 30 2016-2017, this year too, acknowledges the best performing companies listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange, and is strictly based on the published information of the corporates.

Business Today 'Passionate' 2017 recognises those pioneering figures who have persevered during challenging times, continuously providing motivation by setting an example and through their triumphs. They are charismatic personalities who have made a difference both in Sri Lanka and overseas, and at times have single-handedly propelled their industries to the future. They are personalities who do not seek recognition or glory, but are dedicated to their causes, ventures and visions.

These individuals of the Business Today 'Passionate' 2017 segment have been selected entirely by Business Today. This is not a ranking and as such there are no positions. The individuals selected are from diverse sectors, each having proved themselves in their respective fields, and are listed according to the year that their ventures commenced.

- [Barbara Sansoni Lewcock \(1958\)](#)
- [Merrill J Fernando \(1974\)](#)
- [Chandra Wickramasinghe \(1982\)](#)
- [Anselm Perera \(1983\)](#)
- [Fouzul Hameed \(1983\)](#)
- [Udayshanth Fernando \(1987\)](#)
- [Preethi and Neelamani Jayawardana \(1987\)](#)
- [Mohideen Saheed \(1987\)](#)
- [Otara Gunewardene \(1989\)](#)
- [N L M Mubarack \(1992\)](#)
- [Thusitha Wijayasena \(1993\)](#)
- [Dharshan Munidasa \(1995\)](#)
- [Shiwantha Dias and Shalin Balasuriya \(2005\)](#)

Business Today is proud to recognise the achievements of the dynamic individuals of Business Today 'Passionate' 2017. Their determination, confidence and will to succeed are indeed inspirational for generations to come. They have created extraordinary concepts in their respective industries and have elevated Sri Lanka to be renowned globally. Through their feats, these trailblazers have exemplified the power of passion.