

# People's Bank Establishes Export Hubs for SMEs



Sujeewa Rajapakse, the Chairman of People's Bank opening the Export Hub in the presence of other officials from People's Bank.

People's Bank has launched an Export Hub concept to support SME sector exporters.

Accordingly, the first ever 'Export Hub' of the Bank was opened at the People's Bank, Nugegoda branch. Initially, this concept will be implemented at seven branches in seven regions across the country. Sujeewa Rajapakse, the Chairman of People's Bank, said, "Small and Medium Scale entrepreneurs play a pivotal role in shaping our country's future by providing employment opportunities, creating innovation, and supporting the economy's growth. SMEs comprise more than 75 percent of enterprises in Sri Lanka and account for more than 20 percent of our exports, providing 45 percent of employment and 52 percent of our GDP. As a Government Bank, we understand the different requirements of the Entrepreneurs and aim to empower SMEs of Sri Lanka through this novel concept".

Clive Fonseka, Acting Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of People's Bank, added, "Our staff at the Export Hubs have been well trained and provided with expertise and knowledge to facilitate the customer requirements to provide convenient service to the customers. Successes in the SME sector will generate more local employment opportunities and sustainable foreign currency inflows that will contribute to our country's economy."

Sujeewa Rajapakse, Chairman, People's Bank; Clive Fonseka, Acting Chief Executive Officer and General Manager; A.S.M.V. Kumarasiri, Deputy General Manager - Trade Finance; Wickrama Narayana, Deputy General Manager-Enterprise Banking; T.M.W Chandrakumara, Deputy General Manager - Channel Management; N.H. Wijayawardana, the Head of Marketing, and other Corporate and Executive Management members of People's Bank participated in the opening of the first Export Hub in Nugegoda along with bank staff and customers.