IEEE Sri Lanka Section Report

PART A - SECTION SUMMARY

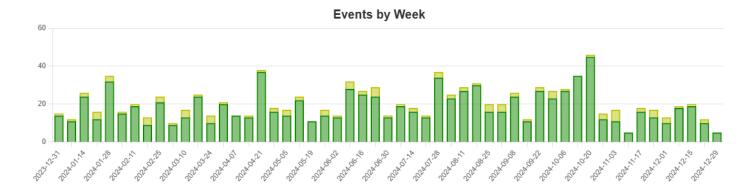
A.1 Executive Summary – (Please follow the format given below)

Section Executive Committee Member List

Position	Name
Chair	Dhammika Marasinghe
Secretary	Sewwandie Nanayakkara
Treasurer	Lakshan Madhushanka
Vice Chair (Chair-Elect)	Prof. Shanmuganathan Vasanthapriyan
Immediate Past Chair	Prof Buddhika Jayasekara
Assistant Secretary/ Chapter Subsection Coordinator	Umaya Balagalla
Assistant Treasurer/ Industry Relations	Kavinga Upul Ekanayaka
Editor	Dimuthu Anuraj
Committee Member/ Awards & Recognition	Prof Lasith Gunawardene
Committee Member/ Membership Development	Dr Logeeshan Velmanickam
Committee Member/ Professional Activities	Prof Anuradha Jayakody
Committee Member/ Educational Activities	Dr Subodha Charles
Committee Member/ Student Activities	Lihini Rajapaksha
Student Representative	Vismini Amarasinha

- Section Highlights
 - Supported the formation of a total of 21 OUs. 02 Technical Chapters, 01 Local Group, 04 Student Affinity Groups, and 14 Student Branch Chapters.
 - o Sri Lanka Section turned out to become the #7 in the Student member population globally
- Major Events (International, National)
 - o Section Student/ YP/ WIE Congress: In 2024, the IEEE Sri Lanka Section Students | Young Professionals | Women in Engineering Congress marked its 13th installment with the theme"Revolutionizing the digital landscape." The event was held for over three inspiring days at the picturesque Hotel Sudu Araliya, Polonnaruwa, with around 200 participants from diverse backgrounds. Throughout the congress, attendees had the opportunity to engage with 15 speakers who shared their expertise and insights on various topics.
 - o <u>Industry-Academia-Government Roundtable:</u> Held on 22nd October 2024, with the primary support of the IEEE R10 Industry Relations Committee (IRC) grant, this full-day event aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry and address sector-specific challenges by fostering a collaborative environment. 150 industry and government leaders joined including senior executives, technical experts, C-level managers, professors, government representatives, and senior members of industry bodies
 - o Education Week Celebration: A two-day physical event held for students and undergraduates to connect with top professionals and educators from the world of engineering and technology. It was held at TRACE Expert City on the 24th & 25th of April 2024, providing educational programs and resources for students, educators, and technical professionals. IEEE Education Week Sri Lanka featured a seminar on higher education pathways for students, an open forum on education, technical sessions, panel discussions, industry stalls, IEEE awareness sessions, etc. This event also showcased all of the amazing work that IEEE volunteers and members do every day to promote education at every level.
 - o IEEE ChallengeSphere: A structured undergraduate technology competition aimed at enhancing technical competencies, while fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and preparing students for global competitions. The program incorporates mentorship, training workshops, and industry collaborations, making it a scalable and sustainable initiative for long-term impact. undergraduate technology competition designed to enhance technical skills, interdisciplinary collaboration, and global exposure for university students. Organized by IEEE Sri Lanka Section in collaboration with IEEE societies and industry partners, this initiative aligns with IEEE R10

- Educational Activities Committee's mission to advance university education through innovation-driven challenges. 200+ participants from 12+ universities, with 16 finalist teams.
- o IEEE R10 PAC Technology Panel Series Inaugural Session: Renewable Energy Integration and Engineering Careers: The session facilitated meaningful discussions on the integration of renewable energy into modern power systems and highlighted the career pathways for engineers in this evolving field. It also fostered collaboration between industry and academia, contributing to the ongoing efforts to advance green energy initiatives in both Australia and Sri Lanka.
- 8 Technically Co-Sponsored Conferences and Conference Quality Management workshops



• Major Chapter Activities

- o <u>IEEE R10 Computer Society Chapters Congress</u>: Held on 8-10th March at Hotel Maratha, Colombo this congress brought together esteemed members of the IEEE Computer Society, including committee members of region 10 computer society, chapter chairs, and top management, both in person and online, to engage in insightful discussions, share expertise, and foster collaboration within the field of computer science.
- <u>IEEE South East Asia IES Chapter Leaders Workshop:</u> In the quest for outreach to IES regional Chapters through the Growth Centre initiative, an IES Chapter Leaders Workshop was conducted on 13 Sept. 2024, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Participated in this workshop, 10 IES Chapter Leaders representing their chapters in the following IEEE Sections: Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bombay, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Kolkata Guwahati, Kolkata Silchar, Kolkata Pradesh. In addition, the workshop was also attended by the local IES SBC's leaders and the Sri Lanka Section Chair
- <u>IEEE Sri Lanka Section Chapter Mini-Symposium 2024</u>: The Sri Lanka Section Chapter Mini-Symposium 2024 was successfully held on 28th September 2024, Saturday at the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. This event was organized by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section in collaboration with the IEEE Region 10 Section Chapter Committee. 51 Chapter leaders in total attended the event. The event was aimed at fostering stronger connections between Technical Chapters and IEEE Conferences that are technically cosponsored by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section.
- <u>IEEE GRSS Sri Lanka Chapter's Forward Thinkers Summit:</u> On 14th December 2024, the IEEE GRSS Sri Lanka Chapter proudly hosted its inaugural Thinkers Summit in Colombo, Sri Lanka. This transformative event united remote sensing and GIS experts, researchers, and professionals from diverse disciplines under one roof
- Major Student and Affinity Group Activities
 - o Refer to B.4 Students Activities and B.5 Affinity Group Activities
- Awards
 - IEEE Sri Lanka Section Awards were conducted for 09 Organizational Unit Awards, 09 Special Activities Awards, 07 Individual Awards, and 01 External Recognition. (Awadee's details are below mentioned under B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities)

A.2 Financial Report – (Please follow the format given below)

• Summary (as per submitted on NetSuite)

	Туре	Currency	Account Number	Ralance as of	Closing Balance as of 2024-12-31
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70297 - Commercial Bank of CEYLON SRI LANKA	Current	LKR	1100022595	7,495,414.93	12,045,595.14
74284 - Commercial Bank SRI LANKA 2	Current	USD	8770020705	19,599.17	19,797.65
70298 - Commercial Bank Non-IEEE Inv (CD) SRI LANKA	CD	LKR	3100050690	149,898.29	149,898.29
70299 - Commercial Bank Non-IEEE Inv (CD) SRI LANKA	CD	LKR	3100050691	149,898.29	149,898.29
70300 - Commercial Bank Non-IEEE Inv (CD) SRI LANKA	CD	LKR	3100050692	149,898.29	149,898.29

- Any other financial activities
 - o IEEE Sri Lanka Section completed an internal audit through IEEE Internal Audit which turned out be satisfactory.
 - O Currently, the Section is carrying out an external audit for the last 3 years with the support from an external audit firm

PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

B.1 Membership Development Activities

• Total number of active members in the past 3 years.

YEAR	F	SM	M	GSM	AM	StM	TOTAL
2022	2	84	714	103	15	1734	2652
2023	2	88	568	129	41	2141	2969
2024	2	96	590	114	27	3013	3842

 Summary and evidence of work done to improve the value of membership, which leads to retention and growth of members

Sri Lanka was able to secure the **7th Section with the highest number of Student Membership Globally** as a result of the membership development programs.

IEEE Andaheraya: An initiative where Undergraduates from various IEEE Student Branches came together, connecting and learning about Student Branch operations, event organizing, and leadership skills.

IEEE SB Officer Training: This was a training program organized by the Sri Lanka Section for SB officers on various IEEE tools, procedures, and Membership development activities.

B.2 Chapter Activities

- Total number of Chapters in the Section: 12
- Number of Chapters formed in the current year: 02
- Number of active Chapters (Chapters who have reported required number of meetings during the year): 11/12
- Summary of Chapter activities (Chapter wise with attachment table/information)

OU Name	Admin	Hum	Non-Tec h	Pre-U	Prof	Tech	Total Events
Sri Lanka Central Region Subsection	5	0	2	0	1	6	14
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,C16	10	1	7	0	4	30	52
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, MTT17	1	0	0	0	0	5	6
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, PE31	4	0	1	0	2	14	21

Sri Lanka Section Chapter, RA24	0	0	1	0	0	3	4
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, IA34	0	1	3	0	4	13	21
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, EMB18	3	0	0	1	1	6	11
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, COM19	2	0	1	0	1	7	11
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,IE13	3	0	2	0	0	14	19
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,PEL35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,SP01	3	0	1	0	0	8	12
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,GRS29	6	0	2	0	0	7	15
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,CAS04/CEDA44	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Sri Lanka Section Affinity Group, YP	1	0	1	1	20	30	53
Sri Lanka Section Affinity Group, WIE	2	0	5	0	5	7	19
IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT	1	2	0	5	1	1	10

• All the 11 chapters fulfilled the criteria to be eligible for rebates with the guidance from the Section Chapter/Subsection Coordinator. 8 of those are eligible for the activity bonus also by completing 6 Technical Events

B.3 Professional and Continuing Education Activities

Summary of continuing Educational activities including conferences, technical activities, training courses, and distinguished lecture programs with attachment table/information

1. Conducted a "Conference Quality Management Workshop" in November to support the conference organizers.

This is a three-day workshop which was held on 28th September 2024, at the University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka. This workshop was designed to equip potential conference organizers with comprehensive knowledge of IEEE guidelines. The workshop covered various aspects, including the conference application process, timelines, sponsorships, technical program development (addressing plagiarism issues), financial planning, publication of proceedings, and post-conference processing. **Over 50 participants** involved in the conference organizing arena joined the event

2. Technically Co-Sponsored 8 Conferences in 2024

- MERCON: 10th Moratuwa Engineering Research Conference Held on 8th -10th August 2024 at the University of Moratuwa (Conference website: https://mercon.uom.lk/)
- ICAC: 6th International Conference on Advancements in Computing 2024
 Held on 12 12th and 13th December 2024 at the Waters Edge Hotel, (Conference website: https://icac.lk/)
- SLAAI: 7th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence
 Held on 18th and 19th December 2024 at the Gen. Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (Conference website: https://slaai.lk/icai)
- ICATC: 9th International Conference on Advances in Technology & Computing Held on 19th December 2024 as a hybrid conference (Conference website: https://conf.kln.ac.lk/icatc/index.php/home)
- ICITR: 9th International Conference on Information Technology Research
 Held on 5th 6th December 2024 at University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka (Conference website: https://icitr.uom.lk/)
- ICARC: 5th International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing Held on the 19th-20th February, at the Sabaragamuwa University Sri Lanka (Conference Website: http://www.icarc.sab.ac.lk/)
- EECON: 4th International Conference on Electrical Engineering
 Held on 12th December 2024 at Colombo (Conference Website: https://eecon2024.eesoc.lk/)
- SCSE: 8th International Conference in Smart Computing & Systems Engineering Held on 3rd APRIL 2025 as a hybrid conference (Conference Website: https://scse.kln.ac.lk/home)

B.4 Students Activities

• Total number of Student Branches in the Section: 22

- Number of Student Branches formed in the current year
- Section level student activities (student congress, paper and other contests, awards, etc)
 - o Sri Lanka Section Student/YP/WIE Congress
 - o <u>The Sri Lanka Circuits Challenge</u>: Launched to facilitate innovation and open-ended electronic product design targeting the IEEE CASS Student Design Competition 2024-25.
 - o R10 Robotics Competition Local Round
 - o <u>The Sri Lanka Arduino Challenge</u> Sri Lanka's biggest Arduino competition launched to showcase innovative skills.
 - o <u>The Sri Lanka Artificial Intelligence Challenge:</u> The premier AI Challenge in Sri Lanka hosted by ChallengeSphere 2024, offers a structured pathway with hands-on experience to develop AI agent-based applications. The event features a series of workshops followed by a 24-hour event that includes a workshop to develop an AI agent and a 12-hour hackathon.
 - o <u>The Sri Lanka Signal Processing for Communications Challenge</u>: Launched to facilitate innovation and cutting-edge technology development in telecommunications and signal processing, targeting undergraduate students.
 - o <u>Sri Lanka Chips Challenge</u>: This serves as the national selection for the International Microelectronics Olympiad in Armenia
 - o YP SL Innovation Nation Sri Lanka Competition
- Number of active Student Branches (Student Branches who have reported required number of meetings during the year)
 - o = 21/22
- Summary of Student Branch activities (Student Branch wise with attachment table/information)

Student Branch	Administ rative	Humanit arian	Nontech nical	Pre-U STEM Program	Professio nal	Technica 1	Total
University of Moratuwa-Sri Lanka	3	5	4	7	15	52	86
University of Jaffna	8	0	4	0	7	47	66
Sri Lanka Technological Campus	11	0	5	0	0	36	52
General Sir John Kotelawal Def Univ	1	1	5	0	6	21	34
Informatics Institute of Technology	11	0	9	0	41	91	152
University of Peradeniya	2	1	4	0	3	20	30
Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology	0	1	1	0	3	12	17
University of Ruhuna	1	0	0	2	3	25	31
University of Colombo School of Computing	0	0	3	6	4	11	24
University of Kelaniya	3	2	4	6	2	25	42
Uva Wellassa University	17	0	6	3	9	19	54
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka	0	1	5	1	7	9	23
University of Vavuniya	1	0	3	1	2	17	24
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka	0	0	5	0	1	2	8
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka SEUSL	1	0	2	0	2	19	24
National School of Business Management NSBM	0	0	0	0	4	11	15
CINEC - Colombo Intl Nautical & Engr. College	0	0	2	2	4	5	13
University of Sri Jayawardenepura	20	1	6	0	4	16	47
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka	4	1	1	1	1	16	24
University of Vocational Technology	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
National Inst of Business Management-Sri Lanka	1	0	0	0	2	7	10
Open University of Sri Lanka	2	0	1	0	1	1	5

Grand Total	86	13	70	29	122	462	782

B.5 Affinity Group Activities

Young Professional (YP)

IEEE Sri Lanka Young Professionals have conducted a total of 53 events during the reporting period.

IEEE YPSL has six major national initiatives categorized into three focus areas:

Education and Career Guidance: StudPro, SLI Inspire
 Technical Skills Development: Let's Talk, Y2NPro

• AI and Entrepreneurship: INSL, AI Driven

IEEE YPSL Summit: An event launched to recognize and celebrate the efforts of non-IEEE young professionals, partners, supporters, YPSL volunteers, and leadership members while providing a platform to showcase the outcomes of key national initiatives. Throughout the year, these initiatives organize numerous sessions, competitions, industry visits, and events, with the support of committed volunteers. The YPSL Summit 2024 gathered all volunteers both current and past, including the Executive Committee (ExCom) and sub-committee members, to appreciate their contributions. Each initiative will also host its key events during the summit.

IEEE SL Inspire: An initiative for uplifting the education of underserved communities in the country. Monthly Island-wide physical seminar series on career guidance for school students covering all 9 provinces in Sri Lanka. **1000+ School Students** were benefited from this project.

IEEE StudPro: This project targeted at preparing undergraduates for their career paths, conducted a series of **Monthly Industrial Visits Series**, which was Open for all undergraduates in Sri Lanka. Undergraduates from various universities in the country were able to visit companies like IFS, Dialog, Virtusa, SLT, Zone 24x7, Calcey, etc. In addition to this, they also facilitated the **DEEE Career Fair 2024**, organized by the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Society (EEES) at the University of Peradeniya and held at TRACE Expert City, Colombo. **500+ Undergraduate Students** were benefited, with the engagement of **15+ Industry Experts**, and **06 Industry Partners**.

IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka: A competition that supports budding entrepreneurs with innovative ideas to launch startups. Innovation and Entrepreneurship Awareness Programs were implemented across Sri Lanka with representation from 22 universities, each having a dedicated representative recruited in collaboration with the IEEE Sri Lanka Student Activity Committee. These representatives played a pivotal role in branding the IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka (INSL) initiative, coordinating workshops, mentoring sessions, and competitions at their respective universities, and fostering active student participation in the provincial Idea and Business Stage Competitions. In October and November, we successfully conducted provincial competitions exclusively for the Idea Stage, bringing together aspiring entrepreneurs from across Sri Lanka. This initiative aimed to identify and nurture innovative ideas with the potential to address real-world challenges. The Investor Lounge at the YPSL Summit provided a unique opportunity for winners and finalists to engage directly with potential investors and mentors in a professional setting. This exclusive event fostered meaningful networking, allowing participants to pitch their ideas, discuss funding opportunities, and receive valuable insights. This helped facilitating partnerships and securing support for the growth and sustainability of the participants' ventures. Among the stakeholders are 1000+ Innovation Enthusiasts, 40+ Innovators, Mentors & Investors, and 13 Financial & Strategic Partners.

• Women In Engineering (WIE)

IEEE Women in Engineering Sri Lanka Affinity Group conducted 19 events during the reporting year of 2024, and additional events which were within the term.

Event	Description	Focus Group
The Power Hour Saga	Stepped into the realm of inspiration and innovation with 'Power Hour,' a transformative session designed to empower aspiring engineering and STEM minds. This included a series of sessions where inspiring women shared their experiences.	Professional, Undergraduates
Code with WIE	The Code With WIE 2024 is a Hackathon organized to promote AI for sustainable development. In this competition,	Undergraduates

	participants are challenged to design and develop software applications, electronics devices or other technology enabled solutions that empower underprivileged communities to access and communicate information more easily and effectively.	
Women in Engineering Day Celebrations	Women engineers can be identified as a set of individuals who carry out a significant number of responsibilities in different areas such as the workplace, family, society, etc. They follow a busy schedule, and most engineers barely find a balanced life. Hence, it is worthwhile to organize a discussion forum under the title of "Work-Life Balance for Women Engineers" by selecting a few leading women personalities in the engineering field who can also consider role models. Also, a plan to give them an idea about WIE and its activities while doing some outbound activities to increase the relationship among WIE members from all the universities across Sri Lanka.	Undergraduates/Gra duates, Professionals
WIE Connect	WIE Connect is an initiative launched by the IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Section Student Activities Committee, aiming to shape the future of women in STEM fields. This initiative brings together all the IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Groups of Sri Lanka, joining their forces to advance opportunities, break barriers, and inspire change beyond their boundaries by carrying out collaborative events.	Undergraduates
WIN the room mentoring program	WIN the room is a mentoring program initiated by IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Section for the 1st time. Online mentoring 2 sessions have been conducted, and 1 physical session with a career supportive session has been conducted.	Undergraduates
WIE Odyssey	WIE Odyssey, a WIE awareness competition hosted by the IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Section, invited participants to share their experiences of being a WIE member through videos or flyers, highlighting their achievements, and benefits they have gained by being a part of the community. This platform fostered awareness and celebrated the diverse experiences within the IEEE Women in Engineering community, empowering more IEEE members to join the cause of WIE.	Undergraduates, Members

- Life Member (LM)
 o Sri Lanka Section doesn't have LM AG

B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities

• Award constituted by the Section

	Emerging Student Branch Award	IEEE Student Branch of Cinec Campus
	Emerging Chapter Award (SB Category)	IEEE RAS Student Branch Chapter of Informatics Institute of Technology
Organizational	Emerging Affinity Group (SB Category)	IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group of the University of Jaffna
Organizational Unit Awards	Outstanding Student Branch Award	IEEE Student Branch of Informatics Institute of Technology
	Outstanding Chapter Award (SB Category)	IEEE EMBS Student Branch Chapter of the University of Moratuwa
	Outstanding Affinity Group (SB Category)	IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group of the Informatics Institute of Technology

	Outstanding Chapter Award (Sectional Category)	IEEE Computer Society Sri Lanka Chapter
	Outstanding Affinity Group (Sectional Category)	IEEE Sri Lanka Section Young Professionals Affinity Group
	Special Recognition for Membership Recruitment & Retention	The Student Branch of Informatics Institute of Technology
	Best Sectional Project Award	IEEE Sri Lanka Challenge Sphere
	Best Student Branch Project Award	Power UP'23 - Collaborative event PES of SLIIT and PES of University of Peradeniya
	Best Affinity Group Project Award (Section AG Category)	IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka
	Best Affinity Group Project Award (Student AG Category)	Eminence 4.0, WIE Affinity group of the University of Ruhuna
Special Activities Awards	Best Technical Chapter Project Award (Section Chapter)	Battery Technology and Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles Workshop Series
11101101	Best Technical Chapter Project Award (Student Chapter)	Sri Lanka Arduino Challenge, IES Chapter of Sri Lanka Technological Campus
	Best Industry Collaborative Project Award (Section OU Category)	Residential Workshop on Agrivoltaic
	Best Industry Collaborative Project Award (SB OU Category)	IndSight, by the IEEE Student Branch of Informatics Institute of Technology
	Special Recognition for the Best Humanitarian Project	Heenayata Sawiyak, by the IEEE Student Branch of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura
	Outstanding Branch Counselor or Advisor Award	Dr. Nirthika Rajendran
	Outstanding WIE Volunteer Award (Member Category)	Dr. Akila Wijethunge
	Outstanding WIE Volunteer Award (Student Category)	Hiruni Hettiarachchi
Individual Awards	Outstanding Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Academician)	Warunika Hippola
	Outstanding Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Industry Practitioner)	Tharaka Munasinghe
	Section Outstanding Volunteer (Member Category)	N/A
	Section Outstanding Volunteer (Student Category)	Kulunu Weerasoory
External Recognition	Outstanding Industry Partner Award	IFS, Synopsys, WSO2, Econsulate

Please list all Awards and Recognitions received by the Section, and members in the Section, from R 10 and IEEE
 HQ during the year

IEEE MGA Awards

- Friend of IEEE MGA: IFS Sri Lanka
- IEEE Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award Chasila Withanage
- IEEE Outstanding Branch Counselor Award Dr. Asela Gunasekara
- The Darrel Chong Student Activity Award Silver (General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University) & Bronze (The Darrel Chong Student Activity Award)

- 7 Student Branches received IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award

IEEE Region 10 Awards

- R10 Young Professionals Outstanding Volunteer in Industry Award: Mahsoom Raseen

IEEE Computer Society

- Richard E Merwin Scholarship recipient- Spring 2024: Dimuthu Anuraj

IEEE WIE

- IEEE WIE Inspiring Student Member of the Year: Michelle Perera

IEEE VoLT

- 3 VoLT Graduates in the 2024 Program: Heshan Mallawarachchi, Janitha Dissanayake, Anjana Dodampe Representation in IEEE Global and Regional Committees
 - 4 Members in Global Committees: Prof. Maheshi Dissanayake (EPICS), Dr. Subodha Charles(Catalyst), Warunika Hippola (Awards & Recognition), Sewwandie Nanayakkara(T&D)
 - 2 Members in R10 Excom: Dr. Akila Wijethunga (Newsletter), Warunika Hippola (RSR)

B.7 Communication Activities (Newsletter, Home Page, E-mail etc.)

- Home Page of the Section (give the URL and how often it is updated)
- o https://ieee.lk/ Updated every quarter.
- Other means of contact with Section members, including social media

Social Media

- Facebook Page
- Instagram Page
- Linkedin Account
- Facebook Group

Event Calendars

Event calendar in the website section

Weekly Event Calendars shared through social media by YP

B.8 Industry Relations

• Membership growth and retention

StudPro Industry Connects

StudPro project by YP AG conducted Monthly Industrial Visits Series, which was open for all undergraduates in Sri Lanka, in collaboration with many industry entities. This was a major attraction among undergraduates in the Section, which could attract 500+ Undergraduate Students around this series.

- Activities for/with industrial members
- IEEE Sri Lanka Industry-Academia-Government Roundtable, was held with the primary support of the IEEE R10 Industry Relations Committee (IRC) grant, served as a dynamic platform to strengthen connections between academia and industry in Sri Lanka. This full-day event aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry and address sector-specific challenges by fostering a collaborative environment. We had two main common sessions and four parallel tracks covering diverse fields, all aligned with Industry 4.0 themes, ensuring relevance for both academia and industry participants. 150 industry and government leaders joined, including senior executives, technical experts, C-level managers, professors, government representatives, and senior members of industry bodies.
- Young to Niche Professional (Y2NPro) Project, was successfully launched to inspire, guide, and accelerate niche communities, enabling them to become experts in their specialized fields and transition into successful professionals in the demanding technical sector.

 Workshop series on "Battery Technology and Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles". Workshop on "Polyotics".

Workshop series on "Battery Technology and Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles", Workshop on "Robotic System Engineering". 100+ Young Professionals & Tech Enthusiasts, 15 Industry Experts Supported, 10 Industrial and Strategic Partners

□ Several key partnerships have been established across various initiatives. TRACE and YPSL collaborate as Ecosystem and Knowledge Partners, while Synopsys, Zone24x7, and Acceler support the Y2NPro Project - EDA Workshop Series as Knowledge and Silver Partners. IFS contributes LKR 300,000 to the AI-Driven Sri Lanka Project, and its foundation plays a significant role as the Title Partner (LKR 1.85 Mn) for SLI, IEEE Education Week, and IEEE SIGHT.

B.9 Humanitarian Technology Activities

• Humanitarian Technology-related activities supported by the Section, including collaboration with other OUs.

IEEE Nenasa: Nenasa is a volunteer-led initiative by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT with the support of the Section that aims to ignite a transformation in STEM education across schools in Sri Lanka. **5 STEM workshops** were conducted in **5 Local schools for 1311 school students**.

Career Compass Physical Seminars

The intention was to provide advice, knowledge, guidance, and motivation for students, especially in underserved areas, to make a proper selection when moving toward higher education. Monthly Island-wide physical seminar series on career guidance for school students covering all 9 provinces in Sri Lanka. 1000+ School Students were benefited from this project.

SIGHT Activities

Awareness Session & Workshop on Importance of Education: a workshop and awareness session on the Importance of Education was successfully conducted at Eppawala Sri Sumangala College on 14th June, 2024 with the participation of **40 students and 7 teachers**. The workshop was conducted with the partnership of IFS.

Mangrove Plant Restoration Project: With the timely need to care for our sensitive environment and ecosystems, IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT, in collaboration with the Engineering Technology and Society of the Institute of Engineering Technology, launched this initiative to restore and protect the essential mangrove ecosystem. Date: 26th June 2024, Location: Koggala Lagoon

Field Visit and Workshop on Greener Future through Sustainable Energy: An inspiring event took place at the Indurana International Training Center & Hydro Power Plant starting from 9:30 AM on 28th November 2024. The session featured Mr. Athula Bulathgama, Director of Resource Mapping at the Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority, along with his dedicated team. Participants delved into sustainable energy solutions through insightful discussions and a hands-on field visit to the Indurana Power Plant. The event provided a comprehensive experience, including certificates, transportation, lunch, and refreshments, fostering collaboration and driving impactful change toward a greener future with 40+ participants.

Workshop on Waste Management and Energy Conversion for a Sustainable Sri Lanka: On 11th November 2024, an insightful session was conducted via Zoom with Mr. Nalin Mannapperuma, an Environmental Professional, Visiting Lecturer, and dedicated Social Worker. The event, attended by 58 participants, focused on innovative waste management and energy conversion solutions. It explored community-driven practices for effective resource recovery, providing attendees with valuable insights and actionable strategies. This impactful session emphasized the importance of collective efforts in building a cleaner, greener, and more resilient future for Sri Lanka

Filter of Hope This project provides access to clean, safe water to underserved communities in Sri Lanka. Water samples were collected from selected areas that contain impurities in water and have high rates of Chronic Kidney Disease. These water samples were subjected to rigorous testing at the Water Testing and Environmental Laboratory within the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, covering a comprehensive analysis of 31 key parameters, including Nitrates, Nitrites, Chlorides, Arsenic, and Bacteriological assessments. With these obtained results, IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT has installed two customized RO water filtration systems in two villages, which has helped to reduce the incidence of waterborne diseases, especially CKDu. The overall impact of this project is huge; over 1000 residents will have access to clean drinking water under this initiative.

B.10 Community Activities

• IEEE Social activities (Family Day, IEEE Day, Engineers Week)"

IEEE Sri Lanka Section Annual Family Get Together: This event brought together the families of the senior IEEE members as well as the Young Professionals and members of the student body, for a full day of fun games, team events, and many more activities to enjoy. This was held on the 14th of December 2024, as a physical event. Around 50 IEEE and family members participated in this event.

IEEE WIE Day: The Women in Engineering (WIE) Day Celebration 2024 organized by the IEEE Women In Engineering Sri Lanka Section held on June 29th at the IIT Premises. The event brought together engineers, industry leaders, and advocates to honor the remarkable contributions of women in the engineering field. This year's

celebration was filled with inspiring speeches, engaging panel discussions, hands-on workshops, and vibrant networking opportunities.

PART C - OTHERS

C.1 Special Events

• Please briefly describe the importance of special events and the outcomes achieved IEEE Sri Lanka Industry-Academia-Government Roundtable, was held with the primary support of the IEEE R10 Industry Relations Committee (IRC) grant, served as a dynamic platform to strengthen connections between academia and industry in Sri Lanka. There were two main common sessions and four parallel tracks covering diverse fields, all aligned with Industry 4.0 themes, ensuring relevance for both academia and industry participants.

150 industry and government leaders joined, including senior executives, technical experts, C-level managers, professors, government representatives, and senior members of industry bodies.

Outcome:

Many industry attendees expressed strong **interest in IEEE membership**, particularly for their younger colleagues, inspired by the collaborative efforts and networking opportunities the event offered.

Knowledge Exchange and Policy Influence: A report compiling discussion points and recommendations will be circulated among participants for feedback. This report will then be submitted to government and industry authorities, with the goal of informing policies and promoting sustainable collaboration frameworks for education, industry, and government sectors.

Community Impact: The roundtable connected leaders across sectors to initiate actionable, cross-disciplinary projects in IEEE focus areas.

Funding secured from the IEEE and external sources including sponsorships

OU	Description	Amount (LKR)	Amount (USD)
General Sir John Kotelawal Def Univ	CS Startup Fund	46,050.00	\$150.00
	PES HPC Fund	42,877.50	\$150.00
	WIE Fund for Project Cyper 2.0	118,300.00	\$400.00
	YP Step envision	148,075.00	\$500.00
Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology	PES HPC Fund	42,877.50	\$150.00
Sri Lanka Section Affinity Group, SIGHT	HTB Tech4Good Fund	2,946,910.00	\$9,940.00
	Humanitarian Technology Sponsorship by HTB	146,325.00	\$500.00
	R10 HTA Funds	128,512.50	\$450.00
Sri Lanka Section Affinity Group, WIE	R10 Diversity and Inclusion Fund	57,800.00	\$200.00
Sri Lanka Section Affinity Group, YP	IEEE YP Funding	144,075.00	\$500.00
	R10 YP Upskill Project Fund	171,540.00	\$600.00
	YP Fund For Young Protégé Program	294,700.00	\$1,000.00
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, C16	CS DVP Fund 1	73,512.50	\$250.00
	CS DVP Fund 2	73,700.00	\$250.00
	HTB Tech4Good Fund	2,442,300.00	\$8,280.00
	TechX Fund	463,200.00	\$1,500.00
Sri Lanka Section Chapter,	Chapter Local Activity Fund	670,200.00	\$2,250.00

COM19	HTB Tech4Good Fund	3,178,700.00	\$11,000.00
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, GRS29	Best Local YP activity Award Fund	287,200.00	\$1,000.00
	GRSS Chapter PR Funds	687,300.00	\$2,400.00
	GRSS Chapter Support Fund	599,200.00	\$2,000.00
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, IE13	IES Sri Lanka Section Chapter Support	770,475.00	\$2,580.00
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, PE31	IEEE PES Member Driven Initiative 2024 Fund.	507,575.00	\$1,700.00
	PES HPC Fund	179,974.50	\$630.00
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, SP01	EA Fund for Undergraduate Project Competition	171,750.00	\$600.00
Sri Lanka Technological	2024 IES Day Funding	42,637.50	\$150.00
Campus	IES Support Fund	210,861.00	\$708.00
	IES Support Fund	59,050.00	\$200.00
Univ Of Kelaniya	TryEngineering Fund	594,700.00	\$2,000.00
	HTB Tech4Good Fund	2,884,500.00	\$9,600.00
	IEEE Computer Society Chapter Grant	89,250.00	\$300.00
	IEEE SPAx Fund	74,950.00	\$250.00
University of Jaffna	PES HPC Fund	42,877.50	\$150.00
	R10 Diversity and Inclusion Fund	173,400.00	\$400.00
	TryEngineering Fund	590,237.50	\$1,985.00
	YP STEP Fund	145,075.00	\$500.00
	GRSS Chapter PR Funds	572,500.00	\$2,000.00
University of Moratuwa-Sri Lanka	IES Support Fund	259,475.75	\$871.00
	NPSS Student Branch Chapter Support Fund	136,845.58	\$451.88
	PES HPC Fund	42,877.50	\$150.00
	SPS Student Branch Chapter 2023 Growth Reward	73,700.00	\$250.00
	YP STEP Funding	143,825.00	\$500.00
	PES HPC Fund	42,877.50	\$150.00
University of Peradeniya	WIE Fund	87,300.00	\$300.00
University of Ruhuna	WIE Fund	94,072.88	\$322.72
University of Sri Jayawardenepura	CS Startup	44,775.00	\$150.00
	IES New Chapter Fund	60,400.00	\$200.00
	IES Support Fund	226,966.50	\$762.00

C.2 Relationship with National and International Societies and Non-Government Organizations (NGO)

- Nature of relationship and details of any formal agreement signed
 - Memorandum of Understanding with IET Sri Lanka: Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the IET Sri Lanka Chapter
 - Memorandum of Understanding with TRACE Sri Lanka, paving the way for collaborative efforts and benefits. <u>TRACE – Technologically Re-Awakening Culture of Excellence</u>, is an organization that promotes collaboration, creativity, and entrepreneurship through technology and innovation across disciplines. It owns a commercial office complex in Colombo.
 - Engagements with "Electrical, Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering Sectional Committee" of Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka
- Details of joint activities
 - In collaboration with "Electrical, Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering Sectional Committee" of Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka and R10 Professional Activities Committee, a session on **Renewable Energy Integration and Engineering Careers** was conducted for engineers in Sri Lanka and Australia.
 - Conducted the SHED sessions for the health care, and education sectors in collaboration with TRACE on driving public policies.
- Benefit to IEEE members (for example discounts, access to technical information, etc.)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IET Sri Lanka

- Access to events conducted by these entities, and discounted rates for IEEE members when registering for paid events
- Benefit to Section (for example help in membership development, venue facilities, cost saving etc.)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TRACE organization

- IEEE YPSL is to be part of the TRACE community and recognize TRACE as an ecosystem partner in all initiatives of IEEE YPSL
- IEEE YPSL provides their volunteers and equipment to support TRACE initiatives focused on promoting science, technology, and innovation
- TRACE provides a virtual office address for IEEE YPSL operations and handles mail and parcels on behalf of IEEE YPSL.
- TRACE to provide relevant services to IEEE YPSL with discounted rates to build the virtual accelerator space to promote science, technology, and innovation

C3. Collaboration with other IEEE Sections

• Support extended to neighboring Sections

N/A

• Joint activities with any other Section

IEEE WIE Global Glow – International Women's Day Celebration

WIE Global Glow, a collaborative online event, brought together Women in Engineering (WIE) from different countries under the international Women's Day theme 2024.

Participated Sections: Miami Section, Central Texas Section, Victoria Section.

Major activities: Keynote Address, Panel Discussion, Networking Session, Cultural Showcase

C.4 Support extended to Sub-sections & Society Chapters within the Section

• Support extended for organising technical, educational, and professional activities

OU Leadership Meeting held as a residential training program for all OU volunteer leaders

A residential meeting was conducted on the 18th and 19th of May at the National Institute of Plantation Management for the purpose of streamlining all the activities across the OUs within the Section while raising awareness on some important aspects of the governing procedures. (e.g., eNotice, vTools usage, financial practices)

Bi-monthly OU Sync-up meetings (Chapters, Subsection, AGs) (Meeting Schedule)

The Section ExCom conducts a bi-monthly OU sync-up meeting to enhance the collaboration between entities and make sure Chapters and subsections are receiving the support they require for joint activities for membership development.

6 meetings were held for 2024 and multiple collaborations were initiated among the section-level entities.

Collaborative Fund (Guidelines)

This fund was used to promote the activities of Section-level OUs that would support 75% of the total cost of up to 30,000 LKR on a reimbursed basis upon the submission of reports.

Section OU Tracker (Tracker Link)

Maintained "IEEE Sri Lanka Section OU Tracker" to monitor Chapter/Subsection/AG membership, events, collaborations, and officer information. This was also shared with OUs to review their entity's status by themselves.

- Joint activities for membership development
 - Section coordinated the organization of initiatives like IEEE Education Week, Challengsphere, Annual Family Get-together with the collaboration of OUs, which are targeted towards Membership Development of the Section
- Support extended for the formation of a Sub-section or transition of a Sub-section into a full Section

C.5 Best Practices of your Section (which you would like to share with other Sections for the benefits of members)

Bi-monthly OU Sync Ups

OU officers were previously working in silos, and this made the OUs miss the chance to deliver more effective initiatives through collaborations.

To maintain communications and enhance collaborations among chapters, we introduced bi-monthly meetings. During the meetings, the OU leadership engages in meaningful discussions on improving the quality of initiatives.

OU Trackers

The OU Tracker is a mechanism we used to visualize the overview of Chapters, Subsections, and AGs, during our OU sync-up meetings. The information regarding membership stats, collaborations, number of events, rebates & bonus eligibility was shown in the trackers to make it easily accessible by OU leaders. This enhanced the motivation among OU officers to improve their respective OUs.

Funding Release Tracker

Created a funding release tracker for efficient fund tracking across all OUs, chapters, and affinity groups.

C.6 Problems anticipated and suggestions for solutions, if any

Lack of collaborations among OUs

The Section noticed a lack of collaborations between OUs for a long period of time. This led to duplicated efforts of volunteers and OUs, as a solution, Section mediated in combining the efforts into Umbrella programs where certain duplicated efforts could be streamlined into a unanimous effort. (e.g, To combine the efforts of competition organizing in various OUs, Section's Education Activities Committee launched a new initiative called IEEE SL Challengesphere. Under this initiative, challenges were identified and assigned to related OUs (Technical Society Chapters). Certain efforts like the Awards Ceremony, Awareness sessions were conducted as common events under the brand Challengesphere.)

Lack of Industry Government involvement for IEEE activities in the Section

The Section identified the lack of awareness of IEEE activities among the industry & Government. As a solution, the Industry Relations Committee of the Section organized the IEEE Sri Lanka Industry-Academia-Government Roundtable with the participation of 150+ industry and government representatives, where they got together with the IEEE Sri Lanka section to build up effective discussions.

Lack of Senior Membership

Section recognized the necessity of promoting senior membership elevation and planned on conducting a proper senior membership elevation program for the potential members.

PART D - GOALS AND PLANS

D.1 Continuation of project/activity in progress and their implementation plans

9 primary national projects of IEEE Sri Lanka Section are to continue with respective OUs participation.

D.2 Goals and Future Plans

• Enhancing Conference Experience:

Improve the overall quality of technical conferences by fostering stronger collaborations with IEEE operating units (OUs) and industry partners. This includes elevating the technical depth and ensuring that conference deliverables align with IEEE global standards.

• Research & Development Product Showcase:

Develop a dedicated platform for showcasing research and development outputs, thereby increasing innovation visibility among members and potential industry collaborators.

• Senior Professional Engagement:

Enhance benefits for senior professionals through targeted initiatives that facilitate greater participation and leadership roles, ensuring their extensive expertise is leveraged for mentoring and guidance.

• Public Visibility & Communication:

Improve the quality of public visibility efforts and regular updates to the membership base, reinforcing transparency and showcasing IEEE's contributions to technological advancements.

A Full, detailed 2025 plan of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section and its standing committee is available here.

D.3 Any innovative ideas to make IEEE more creative and value added for sustaining the membership retention and recruitment goals.

• Elevating Senior Membership:

Introduce initiatives that not only recognize the contributions of senior members but also provide platforms for their continued engagement, including speaking engagements, awards, and leadership roles.

• Facilitating Student-to-Young Professional Transitions:

Establish structured programs focused on training, mentoring, and career support to ease the transition from student to young professional membership. This may include mentoring schemes, tailored workshops, and collaborative projects with industry.

• Integrative Professional Development:

Launch continuous learning initiatives such as leadership training, career guidance webinars, and technical workshops to add value to membership and retain talent across all career stages.

D.4 Business Plan for Sustainable Growth and Financial Stability.

• Securing Financial Stability:

Leverage existing sponsorships and IEEE grants to maintain and enhance the Section's financial foundation. This approach has already proven effective, as many activities are supported by these funding channels.

• Exploring Co-Sponsorship Models:

Following R10 guidelines, the plan includes developing strategies to generate additional income through conference technical and financial co-sponsorships. This involves partnering with industry stakeholders and leveraging the IEEE brand for mutually beneficial sponsorship agreements.

• Sustainable Growth Initiatives:

Continue to invest in initiatives that promote long-term sustainability—both in terms of financial health and organizational impact—by streamlining budget allocation, monitoring funding utilization, and ensuring transparent reporting.