

Curriculum Vitae

Professor Welgamage Lalith Prasanna Perera

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(Prasanna's areas of expertise include ports, ports-related industries, transport and energy economics, international trade and finance, monetary economics, banking, political economy, macroeconomics forecasting)

Education

- PhD in Economics, University of London and University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Thesis: *Political Economic Perspectives on South Asian Regionalism*, 2008.
- M.A. in Economics, Thammasat University, Thailand. Thesis: *Trade Creation and Diversion in ASEAN*, 1998.
- B.A (First Class Honours) in Economics, (Field: Monetary Economics – Banking and Finance) University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 1995.

Designations and Positions Held

- **Senior Professor** in Economics, Department of Economics, University of Peradeniya, attached to the Department of Economics and Statistics since 1995 to date.
- **Acting Chairman, Sri Lanka Ports Authority**, From 14 January 2016 to 13 March 2016 and from 17 May 2017 to 26 May 2017.
- **Vice-Chairman, Sri Lanka Ports Authority**, From September 2015 to May 2017 and Board Member, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka, September 2015 to 2018.
- **Managing Director and Board Member, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation**, from 26 May 2017 to 22 December 2017.
- **Principal Researcher**, Survey on Youth Social Media and Violence, Island-wide Online Survey with British Council, 2021.

- Principal Researcher, Next Generation Sri Lanka, Island-wide Baseline Study with British Council, 2018.
- Member, Special Standing Cabinet Appointed Oil Procurement Committee (SSCAPC), 26 May 2017 to 22 December 2017.
- Member, Committee of Experts to Formulate the National Sustainable Development Vision of Sri Lanka - 2030, Government of Sri Lanka, 2017.
- Project Committee Chairman, Hambanthota Port Project, appointed by Department of Public Finance, General Treasury, Government of Sri Lanka, 2016.
- Board Member, Magampura Port Management Company (Pvt. Ltd.), Jaya Container Terminal Oil Bank, Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd., South Asia Gateway Terminals Ltd., September 2015 to May 2017.
- Executive Director and Board Member, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka, March 2015 to September 2015.
- Consultant on the policy document on Globalisation and Youth Policy in Sri Lanka, National Youth Council, Government of Sri Lanka, 2001 - 2002.

Current Research Project:

A Comparative Study of Sri Lanka's Free Port Policy, Cross Country Comparison, 2023-25

At the University of Peradeniya

- Deputy Proctor, Faculty of Arts. University of Peradeniya, 2013-2015.
- Coordinator-Foundation Course Unit, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, 2012- 2015.
- Faculty Coordinator on ICT Skills Development for Undergraduates in Arts, Commerce and Management Streams, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, 2012 -2013.
- Co-Coordinator, Sri Lanka Forum of University Economists, Department of Economics, University of Peradeniya, 2013.
- President, Teachers Welfare Society, Faculty of Arts, 2012 – 2014.
- Treasurer, Peradeniya Arts Faculty Teachers Association (PAFTA), 2006 - 2007.

- Faculty Coordinator, Course Unit System, University of Peradeniya, 2006 to 2008.
- Co-Editor, Modern Sri Lanka Studies, University of Peradeniya, 2007 - 2009.
- Resource Person, Centre for Distance and Continuing Education, University of Peradeniya, 2000 - 2002.

Contribution to General Education

- Co-controlling Chief Examiner in Economics, Kandy and Kegalle Evaluation Centres, Department of Examination, Government of Sri Lanka, from 2015 to date.
- Chief Examiner in Economics, Department of Examination, Government of Sri Lanka, from 1999 to date.
- External Resource Person for Teacher Training Programs, Provincial Education Departments in Sabaragamuwa, Western, North Western, North Central and Central Provinces, 1996 to date.
- Resource Person in the Development of Advanced Level Economics Syllabus, Teacher's Instruction Manual, and Training programmes for Advanced Level Economics Teachers Organised by the National Institute of Education, Sri Lanka.
- Member, Board of Study, Economics, National Institute of Education, Sri Lanka from 2009 to date.
- Editorial Board Member, Teachers Instructional Manual, Grade 13(English Medium) in Economics, Department of Business Studies, Faculty of Science Technology, National Institute of Education, Maharagama.

Academic Distinctions

- Commonwealth Split Site Doctoral Scholarship, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, 2003-2004.
- Gate Mudliyar A G Tillekeratne, Post Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Peradeniya, 2001-2002.
- Kodikara Award for the research study titled *Issues of Conflicts and Challenges of Regional Economic Cooperation in South Asia*, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2001.
- Imai Memorial Charitable Fund's Scholarship for the Masters in Economics Programme, Thammasat University, Thailand, 1996-1998.

- University Scholarship for the Best Performance at the Final Examination in Arts (Economics), University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 1995.

Nearly 25 years of experience in public policy-oriented research and practice. Publications in international trade and finance, post-conflict development, macro-economic issues, plantation sector and public finance. An expert in turning conflict into a more positive dynamic through collaborative problem-solving and alternative dispute resolution.

Selected Consultancies and Presentations

- Presentation on *FTA and related policies, Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Non-tariff barriers between India and Sri Lanka*, jointly organised by the Institute of policy Studies, Sri Lanka and Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India, 2014.
- Paper Presented on *Sri Lankan Economy, trends, future developments and its effect on the stock market*, Seminar on Investor Day in Anuradhapura, Organised by Colombo Stock Exchange, 29 October 2011.
- Consultant to Government Trade Negotiations for the Sri Lanka Trade Development Project, Appointed by WTO, International Trade Centre, UNCTAD/WTO, Geneva, Switzerland, 2006/07.
- Paper presented on *the functioning of national and international capital and financial markets*, Ceylon Workers Congress, 2000. Participants included CWC parliamentarians and trade Union Leaders from India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan.
- Analyst for the Project on *Sub Regional Labour Market Information Network*, International Labour Office, ESCAP, Bangkok, 1998.
- Resource Person/Trainer on issues of Conflict and Economic Policies with the Government and non-government organisations, 2000 to 2002.

Research and Publications

Books

- *Introduction to Economics -2*, Neo Graphics Pvt Ltd., Colombo, 2021, ISBN:978-624-98685-0-2.
- *Introduction to Economics -1*, Neo Graphics Pvt Ltd., Colombo, 2020, ISBN:978-955-96915-1-8.
- *Overview of Sri Lanka's Regional Trade Initiatives: Theory and Practice*, Godage Publishers, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2014, ISBN: 978-955-30-5468-5.
- *International Economics*, Godage Publishers, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2014, ISBN: 978-955-30-5466-1.
- *Background to SAARC Countries*, Godage Publishers, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2014, ISBN:, 978-955-30-5467-8.
- *Challenges and Opportunities in the Economy of Sri Lanka*, Co-authored, Published by Collective of Social Democrats, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2012, ISBN: 978-955-4611-03-0.
- *South Asia in the Regional Economic Cooperation*, Author's Publication, 1999, ISBN 955-967-81-0-8. This book was recommended as a School library book in the Central Province by the Central Province Education Department in 2003.

Selected Journal Publications

- *Forecasting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Sri Lanka from 2014-2064*, International Journal of Arts and Commerce, Vol. 4, No. 1, 2015.
- *Tourism Economics in Sri Lanka: An Econometric Analysis*, International Journal of Business and Social Research, Vol. 5, No. 01, 2015.
- *Modeling and Forecasting Foreign Direct Investment for SAARC Countries*, International Journal of Business and Social Science, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2015.
- *Political Economy of Post-war Sri Lanka*, International Journal of Business and Social Research, Vol. 4, No. 12, 2014.
- *Tea Smallholders in Sri Lanka: Issues and Challenges in Remote Areas*, International Journal of Business and Social Science, Vol. 5, No. 12, 2014.

- *An Analysis on Foreign Direct Investment, External Trade and Economic Growth in Sri Lanka: 1978-2011*, the Faculty Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Ruhuna, Vol. V (No. 1), 2013.

Scientific and Literary Communications

- *EU as a Model in International Economic Integration*, Economic Review, January/March 2000, Research Division, People's Bank of Sri Lanka, 2000.
- *Globalisation and Sri Lanka*, Economic Review, August/October 2000, Research Division, People's Bank of Sri Lanka, 2000.
- World Economic Organisations, *Study Guide Magazine*, Political Academy, National Youth Service Council of Sri Lanka, 1999.
- *Building a Consumer Sovereign Trading Pattern*, Economic Review, People's Bank Research Department, People's Bank of Sri Lanka, 2002.
- *Foaming a Macroeconomic Model*, Commerce Society, Artha Magazine, St. Anne's College, Kurunagala, Volume 15, 1995/96.
- *World Trade Organization after Seattle Summit*, Artha Magazine, Commerce Society, St. Anne's College, Kurunagala., Volume 17, 2000/01.

Edited Books

- *Basic Mathematics*, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 2014, ISBN: 978-995-589-186-8.

Book Reviews

- Mats Berdal and David M. Malone, *Greed and Grievances, Economic Agendas in Civil Wars*, Sri Lanka Economic Journal, June 2004.

Chapters in Books

- *Issues and Challenges Encountered by Tea Smallholders in Sri Lanka*, Sri Lanka Tea Industry in Transition: 150 years and Beyond, Institute of Policy Studies Sri Lanka 2018.
- *The Political Economic Perspective on South Asian Regionalism*, Prof. Atapattu Felicitation Volume, University of Ruhuna, 2013.

- A co-authored research article titled *Impact of International Trade on Economic Growth in Sri Lanka*, Prof. W.D. Laxman Felicitation Volume, Social Scientists Association, 2008.
- *Importance of Mathematics to Social Science Students*, Chapter 1, Basic Mathematics, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, 2014, ISBN: 978-995-589-186-8.
- *Solving Linear Equations*, Chapter 04, Basic Mathematics, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, 2014, ISBN: 978-995-589-186-8.
- *Solving Linear Inequalities*, Chapter 05, Basic Mathematics, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, 2014, ISBN: 978-995-589-186-8.
- *Derivatives*, Chapter 11, Basic Mathematics, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, 2014, ISBN: 978-995-589-186-8.

Unpublished Research Studies

- *Non-tariff barriers between India and Sri Lanka: Sri Lankan Perspectives*, presented at the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop, by the Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka and Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India, 2015.
- *Economic Relations between Iran and Sri Lanka: Past, Present and Future*, Seminar on *Iran-Sri Lanka Relations: Past, Present and Future*, Presented at the International Seminar organised by Iranian Center, Sri Lanka, 31 January 2015.

Selected Workshops, Events and Seminars

- *Chairperson, ECA Financing in India: Financing solutions for leveraging business opportunities*, German Engineering Federation (VDMA) in association with KfW IPEX-Bank GmbH and Ernst & Young LLP (EY), Mumbai, India, 31 May to 2 June 2016.
- Chief Guest, Annual Price Giving, St. Anne's College, Kurunagala, 2016.
- Participant and Represented the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka and the Government of Sri Lanka at the Paris Air Show France, June 2015.
- Participant in the Workshop on Free Trade Zones in Asia, Beijing, China, from July to August 2015.

- Resource Person, Seminar on IT-based education in the social science disciplines and its contribution to undergraduate education development in Sri Lanka, Organised by Institute of Development Alternatives and Reconciliation, Colombo, 13 October 2014.
- Chairperson, International Research Session, iPURSE, 2014, Theme: Economics and Management, University of Peradeniya, Day 1, 4 July 2014.
- Chairperson, Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference (SLERC), Theme: Macroeconomics and Trade, Department of Economics, University of Ruhuna, 22 December 2014.
- Chairperson, Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference (SLERC), Theme: Macroeconomics and Trade, Department of Economics, University of Peradeniya, 14 December 2013.
- Discussant, Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference (SLERC), Theme: Banking and Financial Sector, Department of Economics, University of Peradeniya, 14 December 2013.
- Training for Grassroots Peace Activists in Ampara on *Ethnicity, Culture and Conflict Transformation*, Oxfam Australia, Colombo, December 2009.
- Training for Grassroots Trade Union Activists on *How Trade Unions Use Bargaining Power in the Budgetary Process*, Fredrick Ebert Stiftung, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2008.
- Participant, *Good Governance and Public Policy Planning*, Workshop for Young Scholars, Collage House, University of London, 10-30 April, 2004.
- Participant, training programme on "International Trade: Theory and Policy with a Supplement on World Trade Organisation: Implications for Trade Policy", Management and Development Centre, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, 2002.
- Participant, *Sources of Conflict in South Asia: Globalisation, Governance and Environment*, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Beruwela, Sri Lanka, 2001.
- Participant, *Conflict Resolution and Negotiations*, Trainer Training Workshop Series, National Integration Programme Unit, Government of Sri Lanka, 2001/2002.
- Resource Person: Workshop on the impact of globalisation on consumer behaviour in Sri Lanka, 17 July 2002, Organised by the University of Sabaragamuwa, Sri Lanka.

Selected Media Programs and Public Discussions

- Regular Discussant, *Mawatha and Davasa Programs*, Sirasa TV.
- Regular Discussant, Swarnawahini programmes, *Wada Pitiya* and *Punchi Parliament* program, Derana TV.
- Discussant, National Television channels MTV (*Business Focus*) and National Rupawahini.
- A regular contributor on current events with political economy perspectives to the national News Paper *Lanka Deepa*.
- Regular radio interviews on current economic issues to national Radio stations *Neth*, *Siyatha*, *Yes FM*, and *SLBC*.

Reviewer/Editorial Board Member

- The Ruhuna University Journal of Social Sciences, Dept. of Economics, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka: Vol. I, Issue I, 2014.
- Peradeniya Economics Research Symposium (PERS), 2014, Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Peradeniya.
- Sri Lanka Journal of Economic Research, Volume 2, Number 1, 2014, Sri Lanka Forum of University Economists (SLFUE), University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
- Annual Academic Sessions, - 2014, the Open University of Sri Lanka.
- Faculty Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2013, University of Ruhuna, Matara, Sri Lanka.

Referees:

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