

# **1<sup>st</sup> SLBESA ECONOMIC SUMMIT 2019**

***Strengthening the External Sector to achieve  
a 7% Economic Growth***

15th of August 2019

Centre for Banking Studies (Central Bank of Sri Lanka), Rajagiriya, Colombo  
Sri Lanka



*Organized by:*

**Sri Lanka Business Economics Students' Association  
(SLBESA)**



*Hosted by:*

**Department of Business Economics**  
Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce  
University of Sri Jayewardenepura  
Sri Lanka

# 1<sup>st</sup> SLBESA Economic Summit 2019

## *Introduction*

The Sri Lanka Business Economics Students' Association (SLBESA) established by the Department of Business Economics, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Department of Business Economics, University of Colombo announce the 1<sup>st</sup> SLBESA Economic Summit 2019, scheduled to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2019 at the Centre for Banking Studies (Central Bank of Sri Lanka), Rajagiriya, Colombo, Sri Lanka with the participation of undergraduates from local and foreign universities following Business Economics, Economics or Management degrees along with academics, policy makers and renowned business personnel.

This is the promising inaugural project of SLBESA which is an address for the prevailing need of upsurging interest among undergraduates to contribute for the economic development while creating a platform to share learnings and expertise in business, management and economics on one stage leading to a productive discussion over the issues to be addressed for a sustainable future.

The summit will allow the delegates to put their learnings in creative and productive ways by participating in different activities. Furthermore, the summit will host an industry forum where renowned experts will share their experience and thoughts under the theme “Strategic Partnerships: The Way Forward to win Global Markets”.

## *Theme of the Summit*

### **“Strengthening the External Sector to achieve a 7% Economic Growth”**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all the member states of the United Nations in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries-developed and developing-in a global partnership. Amongst the 17 SDGs, the 8<sup>th</sup> SDG is to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth where the developing economies will have a target at least to achieve a 7% economic growth per annum. In achieving this target the external sector of a developing economy plays a vital role as it bridges them with rest of the world. Ultimately that link will uplift the living standards of the people.

The 1<sup>st</sup> SLBESA Economic Summit 2019 will be themed on **strengthening the external sector to achieve a 7% economic growth** to highlight the crucial importance of having a strong external sector towards reinforcing the targeted growth.

## *Participation*

The 1<sup>st</sup> SLBESA Economic Summit 2019 is open to local and foreign undergraduates who are following their degrees in Business Economics, Economics or Management disciplines.

## *Schedule*

Day	Activities
<b>Day 1: 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019</b>	Arrival of delegates who have requested accommodation
<b>Day 2: 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019</b>	Arrival of all delegates to the venue of the summit Registration Inauguration Ceremony Summit Activities (Competitions) Industry Forum on “Strategic Partnerships: The Way Forward to win Global Markets” Award Ceremony Closing Ceremony Departure of delegates

## *Summit Activities*

The summit consists of the following activities.

	Competition	Nature	Theme	No. of Competitors from One Team	Evaluation
1	Panel Discussion	Oral	USA-CHINA trade war and its impacts on developing nations	01 Member Only	By individual contestant
2	Quiz Competition	Written	No theme is applied	01 or 02 Members	By individual contestant
3	Economic Debate	Oral	-Corruption and Business Environment -Export Competitiveness -Foreign Direct Investment	03 Members Only	By the team
4	Economic Critique Writing	Written	South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)	01 or 02 Members	By individual contestant
5	The Budding Economist	Round 1: A written test Round 2: An oral test	No theme is applied	01 or 02 Members	By individual contestant

# *Nature of Competitions*

## *1. Panel Discussion*

A panel of student speakers representing all teams who have applied for this competition would be engaged in a discussion on the theme “USA-CHINA Trade War and its Impacts on Developing Nations”.

The objective of the panel discussion is to create awareness amongst undergraduates on the selected contemporary issue and to encourage them to find solutions.

The sessions will be moderated by a Contest Chair.

The contestants are expected to be prepared in advance and to bring supportive materials to the discussion. Each contestant is required to speak 4 minutes on the theme in the first session and at the end of the 4 minutes the contestant will be questioned by the moderator, other panelists and the audience related to the speech.

In the second session, each contestant will be allowed to deliver the reply speeches within a duration of 2 minutes.

The best speaker will be chosen by the panel of judges.

## *2. Quiz Competition*

There will be a written test on general knowledge on Economics. The paper will consist of 50 questions (30 multiple choice questions and 20 short answers questions). Time duration will be one (01) hour.

The contestant who obtains the highest score will be awarded as the winner. The evaluation will be done by a panel of judges.

## *3. Economic Debate*

Three (03) teams will compete on one stage in one debate session (A triangle debate). This will consist of three rounds.

Round 1: The first debater of each team will deliver the introduction speech on the assigned topic for 2 minutes.

Round 2: This is the Face-to-Face round of the debate. The other two debaters (except the first debater) of each team are required to rebut the arguments presented by the other two teams. Each team will receive 3 minutes to rebut the points of the opposite teams with facts and prove the topic further.

Round 3: This is the replying and concluding round. One of the speakers except the first speaker will have to speak for 2 minutes to provide a closure about their topic.

The debate will be conducted based on

- Export Competitiveness
- Foreign Direct Investment

- Corruption and Business Environment

Further details regarding motions will be informed in due course.

#### ***4. Economic Critique Writing***

This will be a written test which consists of two parts.

In the first part, contestants are required to write a critique within 30 minutes on the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA). The specific topic will be announced at the competition.

The second part will be an analysis of a case study related to SAFTA where contestants are required to provide their own views/suggestions/recommendations within 15 minutes.

The contestant who obtains the highest score will be awarded as the winner. The evaluation will be done by a panel of judges.

#### ***5. The Budding Economist***

This is a competition that seeks to test the knowledge and creativity of the contestants. This consists of two rounds as follows.

Round 1: This will be a written test on general knowledge on Economics. The paper will consist of 40 questions (30 multiple choice questions and 10 short answer questions). Time duration will be 45 minutes. Top five (05) contestants who obtain the highest marks will be selected to the next round.

Round 2: This will be an oral test to evaluate the creative thinking of the contestants in relation to Economics. The contestants are required to present their thoughts and economic interpretations on an image/video shown.

The Budding Economist will be selected by the judges based on the best interpretation he/she presented.

**Note: Evaluation criteria and detailed explanations of each competition will be informed in due course.**

#### ***Overall Championship***

The team which scores the highest marks from all the competitions they participated will be awarded as the Champions. Therefore, the organizing committee encourages teams to participate in every competition.

## *Registration Guidelines*

- The competition is open to all undergraduates reading a bachelor's degree in the fields of Business Economics, Economics or Management.
- More than one team is allowed to take part representing one university.
- Each team should appoint a leader and the leader will be the coordinator regarding the summit activities.
- One member can compete only in one competition (See the table in page 2 for a summary of Summit Activities).
- It is not mandatory for one team to participate in all the competitions.
- Teams should register through the Google Form and the respective team must upload a recommendation form authorized by a lecturer (see Attachment 3) to the Google form.
- One lecturer can provide recommendation for more than one team.

Link to Google Form: [\*http://bit.ly/SLBESA\\_EconomicSummitReg\*](http://bit.ly/SLBESA_EconomicSummitReg)

Deadline: On or before **7<sup>th</sup> July 2019 23:59 hrs in Sri Lankan Standard Time**

*Considering the number of teams applied, a screening session will be conducted.*

**Note: Agenda of the summit will be circulated in due course.**

## *Accommodation*

Accommodation for the date prior to the summit (14<sup>th</sup> August 2019) will be provided upon request made through the Google Form.

## *Contact Details*

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