

A TRIBUTE TO THE 'GREATEST'

The Trade Finance Association paid a tribute to Mr. A. Kathiravelupillai, arguably the best in the field of international banking in Sri Lanka, by presenting a special award at the awards ceremony held at the conclusion of the inter-bank quiz competition held on 24 February 2007 at the Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo.



Mr. Kathiravelupillai receiving the special award from the chief guest Mr. Rajendra Thiagarajah, Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer, HNB.

A promoter and the founder President of the Trade Finance Association of Bankers Mr. Kathiravelupillai has been serving in the Council of our association throughout our ten-year history. He has worked tirelessly and continues to play a major role being the catalyst in the development of our association and its activities to reach the position we are in today.

He had an illustrious career at Bank of Ceylon and made a tremendous contribution to streamlining the international trade. His vast knowledge in this area made him to take on a key role in this committee to make a significant change in the method of functioning of the regulatory authorities, by giving them a more business orientation. Honorary work was something he always found time for, and he has been a promoter and/or founder member of a number of associations. He was a founder member and the first Secretary General and a past President of the Association of Professional Bankers and continues to be a member of its Council even today Being a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers, London he was also involved in the formation of the Chartered Institute of Bankers, London, Colombo Center and was a recipient of their Lifetime Award He is also a member of the Board of the Organization of Professional Associations. He was also a promoter and a founder member of the Sri Lanka Forex Club.

Academic work is another area he is involved in. A lecturer and a most sought-after speaker at seminars on a variety of subjects, he has also been working as a Chief Examiner and a Subject Moderator for the Institute of Bankers Sri Lanka. Mr. Kathiravelupillai has always enjoyed developing the young and helping them to acquire the required knowledge and skills in order to achieve excellence. He has performed this task with a high sense of dedication and commitment and at great personal sacrifice. He is one person who enjoys the successes and achievements of his students / subordinates even more than themselves. He is always extremely humble by nature and a gentleman by all standards. He is loved by his students and subordinates and is one of the most respected bankers in Sri Lanka. He has always demanded the highest standards and insists on clarity and precision in any written work or presentation driving them to excellence.

A key Basketball player for his school and the Bank in his early days, he has always been a sports lover and an ardent cricket fan. He is a fun-loving person with a good sense of humour who loves to socialize.

Mr. Pillai as he is affectionately called continues to be held in the high esteem by not only in the banking industry but also by the business community and the government official in Sri Lanka.

We look forward to his continued guidance and contribution to our association even in the future