

WELCOME REMARKS BY COMMANDANT



Commodore AARK Perera USP, psc
Commandant
Naval & Maritime academy, Sri Lanka Navy

The Chief Guest, The Commander of the Navy, V Adm Ravindra Wijegunaratne, Distinguished invitees, members of the audience, ladies and gentlemen, a very good morning to all of you! It is my greatest pleasure as the Commandant of Naval & Maritime Academy to deliver the welcome remarks at the inauguration ceremony of Logistics Conference – 2017, Trincomalee on the theme of ‘Fostering Strategic Partnerships for Maritime Logistics’ which reflects the concept that pathway to achieve the status of a Maritime Logistics Hub in the Indian Ocean should necessarily be a partnerships oriented process.

It is with deep sense of honour, I warmly welcome the Commander of the Navy, VAdm RC Wijegunaratne for gracing this occasion as the chief guest at the second Logistics Conference 2017. I also would like to extend a very warm welcome to Professor Amal S Kumarage, Senior Professor, Department of Transport & Logistics Management, University of Moratuwa, as the Key note speaker of the conference.

I would also warmly welcome Commander Eastern Naval Area, RAdm Travis Sinniah, Director Generals of Sri Lanka Navy, GOC 22 Division, Commander Western Naval Area, DIG TCO, flag rank officers and officers of tri services and police; especially, representative officers from respective Logistics Departments of sister services and Sri Lanka Police.

It is my pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to Senior Naval Logisticians from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh who have come all the way from their motherlands, and Defence Adviser of Australian High Commission who is also a Naval Logistician by profession.

It is with deep sense of admiration I welcome distinguished scholars and eminent personalities of Universities, reputed Professional Training Institutes, Government Sector, and Corporate sector who readily accepted our invitation and graced the occasion. The presence of university students to broaden their horizons and share their views and thoughts is highly appreciated. I welcome you all to NMA and conference.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this event is a milestone for the Naval and Maritime Academy which is celebrating the Golden Jubilee this year. Since its establishment in 1967, this academy has produced dedicated and efficient leaders for the Sri Lanka Navy. These leaders have effectively managed to cut off most of the enemy supply chains and Logistics facilities, and to secure own sea lanes of communications to sustain security forces personnel in the battle field, to successfully end the humanitarian war. It clearly shows the importance of Logistics in making a victorious Navy, and a victorious Nation.

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to all course Participants who contributed to make this event a success. They may have faced numerous issues and hardships, but as future logisticians, I am certain that professionalism and wisdom inculcated through the course curriculum helped them to overcome such challenges. I congratulate all Student Officers of LLMC No.3 for organising such an outstanding event, within a very limited time period. It obviously shows your capacity as competent logisticians.

In the light of these achievements, I am pleased to pay my gratitude to the Commander of the Navy, The Director General (Logistics), Senior Course Coordinator, Coordinator and the Staff of LLMC for their guidance and commitment. I firmly believe that this would not have been possible without their assistance and close supervision.

During the forthcoming sessions; as we have with us a very professional group of experts from Universities, friendly navies, and leading government and corporate sector organizations, I am confident that we individually, and collectively will be able to have, a very fruitful discussion, exchange of ideas, and also constructive arguments to benefit through this conference on the theme of ‘Fostering Strategic Partnerships for Maritime Logistics’.

Finally, let me conclude by once again welcoming all the dignitaries, intellectuals, and participants, foreign and local, and wishing that the deliberations of this conference would mark a positive contribution for the betterment of future logisticians in Sri Lanka Navy.

I conclude by wishing that ‘Logistics Conference – 2017, Trincomalee’ will be a fruitful and memorable one for all presenters and participants alike.

Thank you!

