



[The need for business development between Iran and Sri Lanka in order to reduce the impact of US sanctions. / Sri Lanka is the gateway to Iran's trade expansion with Southeast Asia](#)

President of ECCIMA in the meeting with Iran's Ambassador to Sri Lanka, called the Sri Lanka as one of the gateways to Iran's trade with South and Southeast Asia and emphasized on the need to expand Iran-Sri Lanka's trade development in order to ease the economic pressure imposed by the sanctions.

Masoud Golshirazi, President of Esfahan Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ECCIMA), referring to Sri Lanka as the strategic location between Iran and Southeast Asia, stated: "despite the fact that Sri Lanka's has a high potential in developing Iran's relation with South and Southeast Asia, it is unfortunate to experience a negative trade balance with this country. There is more to be done to expand Iranian export to this area and efforts should be made to improve the situation."

Following to that, Iran's Ambassador to Sri Lanka, Mohammad Zaeri Amirani, described the Esfahan Chamber of Commerce as a good place to increase understanding between Esfahan and Sri Lanka's economic activists to the benefit of mutual business development, and announced: "Iran's Embassy in Sri Lanka is ready for any cooperation to upgrade mutual understanding between economic activists on both sides, as well as to develop trade relations between the two nations."

He expressed his satisfaction from the meeting with the Board of Representatives of ECCIMA said: "being multicultural is one of the distinguishing features of Sri Lanka and said that entrance to this market requires deep study of its cultures."

Mohammad Zaeri Amirani explained that tea is not the only export product of Sri Lanka and tropical products such as rubber, coconut, and other agricultural products are the potential goods which can be exported to other countries with little investment in production and processing.

In this meeting, Mehdi Bakhshandeh, President of Qazvin Chamber of Commerce, said that US sanctions not only didn't reduce Iran's trade volume with abroad but rather boosted the Iran's trade. Furthermore he announced the willingness of Qazvin Chamber of Commerce to develop trade with Sri Lanka.