



Ran Salu Handloom Expo opens

The National Textile and Apparel Exhibition and awards ceremony organized by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to attract more markets in the international platform, was inaugurated by Economic Development Minister Basil Rajapaksa yesterday.

Sri Lanka's handloom sector is one of the low cost, but high earning industries, with an annual production that exceeds six million metres of looms and an estimated annual production value of Rs. 1,500 million (US\$

13.19 million) which had been swallowed by both local and international demand, the ministry stated.

The production is labour intensive and the industry consumes less electricity and utilities while generating higher employment.

The colourful event organised by the Department of Textiles of the Ministry, with an outlay of Rs 5 million and 75 top exhibitors as Colombo enters its Xmas season, will conclude on December 19, also showcased many achieve-

ment awards handed out by Minister Basil Rajapaksa for Lankan hand-loom sector personnel including experienced weavers and designers from well-known hand-loom regions.

Economic Development Minister Basil Rajapaksa inaugurated the National Textile and Apparel exhibition and awards ceremony at the BMICH.

Industry and Commerce Minister Rishad Badiudeen and Ministry Secretary Anura Siriwardena were also present.



Some highlights of the event. Picture by Chaminda Hittatiya

