

## THE **INFORMANT**

### QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

We are delighted to present the fifth edition of our quarterly newsletter, capturing the activities of Q1 2025 and bringing you the latest updates on payment innovations, key accomplishments, noteworthy events, and forward-thinking developments that continue to drive LankaPay's journey in the digital payment landscape.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Learn about the progress and innovations at LankaPay
- Dive into the highlights of recent events and product launches
- Discover our inspiring work culture
- Get to know the new additions to the LankaPay network
- Discover how LankaPay is driving excellence
- Explore the latest in cross-border payment solutions



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### **SNAPSHOTS**



PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE



EVENTS AND PRODUCT LAUNCHES



LIFE AT LANKAPAY



WELCOME ABOARD



DRIVING DIGITAL INCLUSION



BEYOND BORDERS



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#### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF LANKAPAY Mr. L.H.A. Lakshman Silva

The dawn of the financial year 2025/26 brings with it fresh perspectives and renewed determination as we continue our journey towards building a digitally inclusive Sri Lanka. It is my privilege to present the 5th edition of The Informant—our quarterly newsletter, which reflects the collective progress we have made and the bold aspirations we carry forward.

The first quarter of this year has been remarkable in many ways, presenting opportunities that reaffirmed our purpose and recalibrated our path. For LankaPay, it is a time to reinforce our leadership in the country's digital payment ecosystem and recommit ourselves to national priorities: financial inclusion, digital empowerment, and sustainable economic growth.

This quarter has seen us taking important steps to deepen the trust placed in us by stakeholders across the public and private sectors. Our ability to evolve amidst dynamic technological and regulatory landscapes is a testament to the strength of our foundation and our future-ready strategy.

As we navigate the complexities of digital transformation, it is increasingly clear that success is not merely defined by technological advancement, but by the meaningful impact we create—on every Sri Lankan, every business, and national development. Our systems are not just payment infrastructure; they are enablers of growth, inclusion, and resilience. This edition of The Informant offers a glimpse into that impact. You will read about new initiatives, collaborative efforts, and the forward momentum we are gaining as we continue our journey with ambition and clarity.

Looking beyond this quarter, our focus remains on long-term value creation—building platforms that are not only scalable and secure but also relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of our people. We will continue to champion innovation, advocate for interoperability, and invest in initiatives that take us to the next elevation.

I take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders—including the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, member financial institutions, international payment networks, ministries and government agencies, and technology collaborators—whose trust and patronage are fundamental to our mission. Let us continue working together to build a future where every Sri Lankan can participate confidently in a digital economy that is inclusive, secure, and globally connected.



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#### MESSAGE FROM THE CEO OF LANKAPAY Mr. Channa de Silva

It is with great pleasure that we present you the 5th edition of The Informant capturing the activities during the first quarter of 2025, as we reflect on LankaPay's continued journey in shaping the digital payments landscape of Sri Lanka. The first quarter of this year has been marked by remarkable progress, strategic collaboration and impactful innovation—all driven by our steadfast commitment to creating a secure, seamless and inclusive digital financial ecosystem.

In an era of digital acceleration, our role as the national payment network has never been more pivotal. Over the past quarter, we have made significant strides in enhancing the resilience and efficiency of our infrastructure, while expanding the reach and accessibility of our services. From new partnerships to technology-driven solutions, our initiatives have continued to foster financial empowerment and inclusion across the nation.

This edition highlights some of the key developments and forward-looking initiatives that are shaping the future of Sri Lanka's digital economy. As we continue to align with the strategic direction of the National Payment Council of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, our focus remains on driving interoperability, innovation and long-term sustainability within the financial services sector.

Collaboration remains central to our progress. Our strong engagement with financial institutions, fintech partners, regulators, and other stakeholders has enabled us to deliver a meaningful impact—bringing digital payment solutions to the forefront of economic activity, from urban centers to underserved communities.

As we look ahead, we are excited about the opportunities that lie before us. With a firm foundation in place, we are now focused on scaling our innovations, strengthening the security of our infrastructure, and enhancing the user experience across all platforms. The valuable insights and support from our stakeholders continue to shape our strategic direction and reinforce our commitment to excellence.

We trust that this edition of The Informant will offer useful insights into our recent work and future aspirations. On behalf of the entire LankaPay team, I extend my sincere appreciation to our partners, stakeholders, and employees for your continued support as we work together to unlock the full potential of digital payments in Sri Lanka.



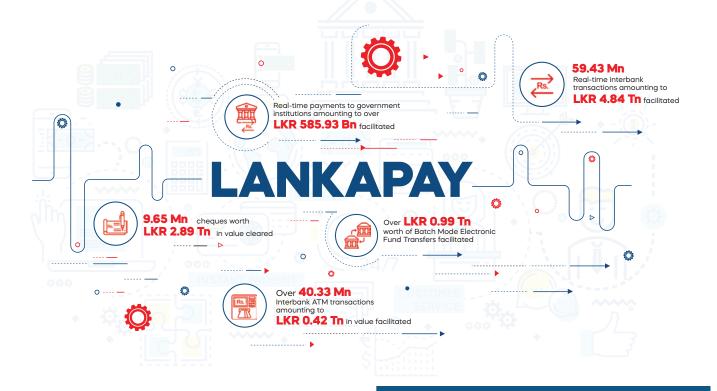
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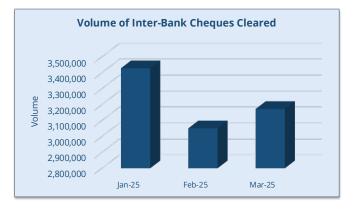
#### STRATEGIC INSIGHTS : QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

We are thrilled to share a brief overview of the latest developments and accomplishments of our business. Explore key indicators, case studies, and the outlook for the future as we make our way towards sustainable growth.



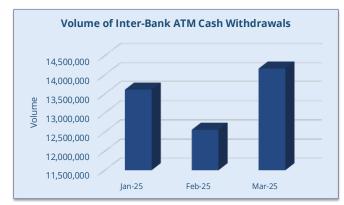


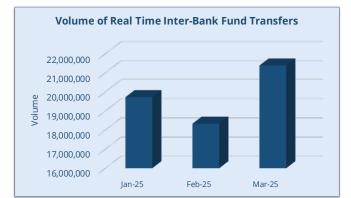
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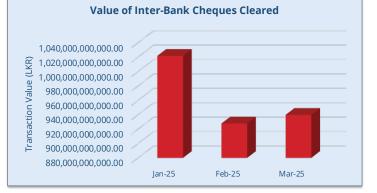


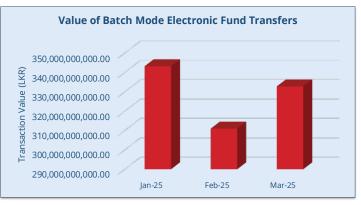
Volume of Batch Mode Electronic Fund Transfers

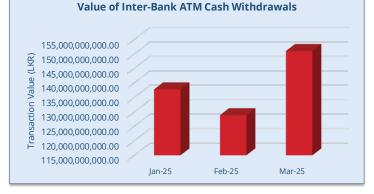










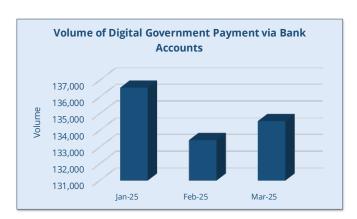


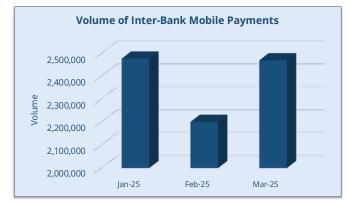
Value of Real Time Inter-Bank Fund Transfers



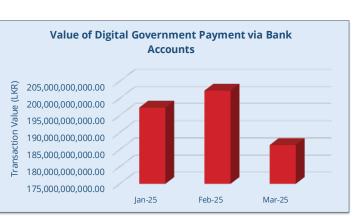


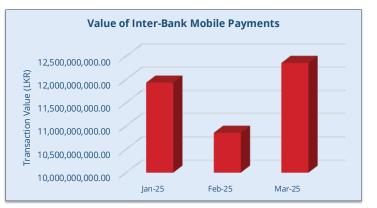
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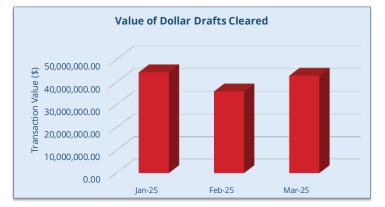














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We are excited to announce updates on our recent events and product launches. Keep an eye out for the innovative solutions we have introduced to the market.

#### "GOVPAY" LAUNCHED TO REVOLUTIONIZE GOVERNMENT PAYMENT SERVICES





Taking the initial step in the digitalisation of government services, 'GovPay' was officially launched under the patronage of His Excellency the President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on February 7th, 2025, at the Presidential Media Centre (PMC), in the presence of Deputy Minister of Digital Economy, Engineer Eranga Weeraratne. The session was attended by several senior officials, including the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Dr. P. Nandalal Weerasinghe; Senior Additional Secretary to the President, Roshan Gamage; Chief Advisor to the President of Digital Economy, Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya; Secretary to the President, Dr. Nandika Sanath Kumanayake; Chairman of LankaPay, Mr. L.H.A. Lakshman Silva; Chief Executive Officer of LankaPay, Channa De Silva and Director of the Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), Harsha Purasinghe.



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GovPay' is an online payment platform designed to facilitate digital transactions for government services. It enables citizens and businesses to securely and conveniently make payments to various government institutions — including taxes, fines, utility bills, educational fees, and other service charges — via online banking channels and digital wallets.

GovPay is a collaborative initiative led by the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka and LankaPay. Supported by the Ministry of Digital Economy, the platform aims to modernize government revenue collection process, ensuring enhanced control, accuracy, security, and transparency in revenue collection. This initiative aligns with Sri Lanka's broader digital transformation efforts to enhance e-governance by streamlining financial interactions with government institutions.

GovPay was launched initially integrating 16 government institutions and the target is to onboard 100 government institutions by the end of 2025. This phased rollout is designed to ensure a seamless and user-friendly experience, allowing citizens to make payments for government services.



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#### JUDGING SESSION FOR TECHNNOVATION AWARDS 2025

The judging session for the LankaPay Technnovation Awards 2025 took place on the 20th and 21st of February, where an esteemed panel of industry experts meticulously evaluated the shortlisted participants.

The Chairman of the Panel of Judges was Mr. Rajeeva Bandaranaike, Chief Executive Officer of the Colombo Stock Exchange and Board Member of the Lanka Financial Services Bureau Ltd. He also serves as a member of the Nominations and Governance Committee of the World Federation of Stock Exchanges (WFE).

The panel also includes Mr. Lasantha Wickremasinghe, Partner at B R De Silva & Company and Past President of CA Sri Lanka; Mr. Manil Jayesinghe, Chairman of the Statutory Accounting Standards Committee and Accounting Standards Committee of the South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA), and Former Country Managing Partner of Ernst & Young Sri Lanka & Maldives; Ms. Chamila Cooray, Chairperson of the South Asian Federation of Accountants Women's Leadership Committee and Member of the Governing Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka; Mr. Dulith Herath, Founder and Chairman of Kapruka PLC, Sri Lanka's largest e-commerce enterprise; and Mr. Oshada Senanayake, Board Director and Group Chief Operating Officer – Digital Transformation at Brandix, and Non-Executive Independent Director at Ceylinco Life PLC.





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#### **FITIS DIGIGO KANDY**

#### PRESENTATION ON CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS AND QR PAYMENTS AT ANC EDUCATION - KANDY



Empowering SMEs with Digital Payments!

As the Strategic Partner of DigiGo, LankaPay had the privilege of contributing to the DigiGo Awareness Program on Business Digitalization and QR Payments, organized by FITIS and the Chamber of Commerce & Industry - Central Province, held at ANC Education, Kandy. Mr. Upul Attanayake, Manager - Global Operations, delivered an insightful session on Cashless Transactions and QR Payments, highlighting the importance of digital payments in driving SME growth.

LankaPay remains committed to fostering a cashless economy and enabling businesses to embrace digital transformation.















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#### INFOTEL KANDY 2025 - STRATEGIC PARTNER OF THE FITIS DIGIGO PAVILLION



LankaPay was honored to have been the Strategic Partner of the DigiGo Pavilion at Infotel Kandy 2025, held on 07th to 08th March 2025 at the Kandy City Center (KCC).

As the National Payment Network of Sri Lanka, LankaPay is dedicated to empowering everyone across Sri Lanka with digital knowledge and payment technologies in driving Sri Lanka's digital transformation journey.





















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#### **LANKAPAY TECHNNOVATION AWARDS 2025**



The 7th edition of the LankaPay Technnovation Awards 2025 concluded on a high note, with Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC clinching the Overall Gold Award for 'Excellence in Digital Payments' in the Banking Institution category. LankaPay Technnovation Awards 2025 was held on 26th March 2025 at the Grand Ballroom, Shangri-La Colombo. Bank of Ceylon secured the Overall Silver Award, while National Savings Bank claimed the Overall Bronze Award. DFCC Bank PLC was recognized with the Overall Merit Award in the same category. In the Non-Banking Financial Institutions category, LOLC Finance PLC continued its dominance, winning the Overall Gold Award for the sixth consecutive year, while Dialog Finance PLC secured Overall Silver.

The ceremony was graced by Dr. P. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka as Chief Guest, along with Hon. Eng. Eranga Weeraratne, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy, and Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya, Chief Advisor to the President on Digital Economy, as Guests of Honour. Deputy Minister Finance and Planning, Hon Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma was also amongst the distinguished attendees.



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The event brought together over 560 industry leaders, including key policymakers, senior officials from the Central Bank and government institutions, as well as representatives from diplomatic missions and global payment networks.

Launched in 2017, LankaPay Technnovation Awards is Sri Lanka's only awards ceremony dedicated to the financial sector, recognizing pioneers in payment technology innovation. The initiative honours institutions that have played a vital role in advancing digital transactions and enhancing customer convenience, thereby fostering a more digitally inclusive economy.

Altogether 38 awards under 14 categories were awarded at this year's awards and the Gold Award winners were;

Bank of the Year for Excellence in Customer Convenience -Category A: Bank of Ceylon Category B: National Savings Bank Category C: DFCC Bank PLC

Non-Bank Financial Institution of the Year for Customer Convenience - LOLC Finance PLC

**Best Common ATM Enabler of the Year - Category A** : Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC **Category B:** Seylan Bank PLC **Category C:** Amana Bank PLC

Bank of the Year for Financial Inclusivity -Category A: Bank of Ceylon Category B: National Savings Bank Category C: DFCC Bank PLC

Non-Bank Financial Institution of the Year for Financial Inclusivity – LOLC Finance PLC

Non-Bank Financial Institution of the Year for Financial Inclusivity – LOLC Finance PLC

Most Innovative Bank of the Year – Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC

**Most Popular Digital Payment Product -** State Bank Category (Internet and Mobile Banking) – People's Bank (Product: People's Wave)

**Most Popular Digital Payment Product -** Private Commercial Banks and Non- Bank Financial Institutions Category – (Internet and Mobile Banking) - LB Finance PLC (Product- CIM)

**Most Popular Digital Payment Product -** Fintech Category – Helakuru Private Limited Lanka (Pvt) Ltd (Product- HelaPay)

Best Bank for Retail Payments - Bank of Ceylon



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Best Mobile Application for Retail Payments via JustPay (Banks and Non-Bank Financial Institutions) – LOLC Finance

Best Mobile Application for Retail Payments via JustPay (FinTech) – Helakuru Private Limited (HelaPay)

Best LANKAQR Enabler - Hatton National Bank PLC

Best Bank for Digital Government Payments - Bank of Ceylon

Best Government Institution for Enabling Digital Payments via GovPay – University of Moratuwa

Best Government Institution for Enabling Digital Payments via GovPay – University of Moratuwa

Best LankaPay Card Issuer of the Year – Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC

Best LankaPay Card Acquirer of the Year – Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC

Financial Institution of the Year for Best Digital Payment Strategy – LOLC Finance PLC

The Inland Revenue Department, Sri Lanka Customs, and Sri Lanka Ports Authority were also recognized for their outstanding contributions in facilitating digital payments to the government. LankaPay Technnovation Awards 2025 was proudly supported by a distinguished group of sponsors.

Mastercard served as the Strategic Partner, marking its first collaboration with the event. UnionPay International and BPC were the Platinum Sponsors, with UnionPay International supporting the event for the third time. Alipay+ joined as the Gold Sponsor, marking its second partnership. The Silver Sponsors included JCB International and NETS Singapore, with JCB International backing the event since its inception in 2017 and NETS Singapore supporting it for the fourth consecutive year. Rolling & Action joined as the Official Creative Agency, partnering with the event for the first time. The event's Media Sponsors included Daily Mirror, Daily FT, Sunday Times, Ada Derana Biz, FM Derana, and TV Derana, ensuring widespread coverage and visibility.

The financial services sector remains one of the most resilient and rapidly evolving industries in the country, playing a pivotal role in stabilizing the national economy amid unprecedented challenges. Despite the ongoing economic crisis, the sector has demonstrated remarkable adaptability, ensuring continued growth and financial stability. LankaPay Technnovation Awards 2025 served as a tribute to the visionary financial institutions, FinTechs and government institutions that have led the way in payment technology innovations, enhancing customer convenience while navigating complex challenges.



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FINNOVATION













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As Sri Lanka's National Payment Network, LankaPay was delighted to be a part of #PayDigital නුවරඑළිය organized by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka held at Gregory Lake, Car Park on 22nd and 23rd March 2025. Organized with the objective of harnessing digital knowledge at grassroot level and driving financial inclusivity, this vibrant event also had participation of financial institutions several giving the attendees—especially MSMEs and the local community -a hands-on experience of LANKAQR and other digital payment tools giving them a flavor of the efficiency, speed, convenience and security of digital payments.

At LankaPay, we remain committed to accelerating this journey by making digital payments accessible, reliable, and rewarding for everyone.



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At LankaPay, we promote collaboration, innovation, and professional growth within an inclusive community, while prioritizing work-life balance and team-building activities.

#### WALKING INTO 2025





As we turned the page to a brand-new year, we proudly marked this exciting beginning from our new home — The Zenith. The move signified more than just a change in location; it represented a renewed sense of purpose, collaboration, and forward momentum.

With this fresh start, our commitment to transforming Sri Lanka's digital payment landscape became stronger than ever. In 2025, we set out to raise the bar by delivering faster, more secure, and increasingly accessible payment solutions to meet the evolving needs of our people and businesses.



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#### NEW ADDITIONS TO LANKAPAY



#### BOC FLEX JOINED JUSTPAY NETWORK



We are delighted to welcome BOC FLEX to the JustPay network.

Not only BOC customers, but customers of any bank can now download BOC FLEX app, link their bank account and make hassle free payments directly via their bank account, conveniently, securely and in realtime with JustPay.



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#### PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARIAT ADOPTS LANKASIGN DIGITAL SIGNATURES



We are delighted to welcome the Presidential Secretariat to LankaSign Digital Signatures!

Embracing a future-ready approach, the Presidential Secretariat now accepts digitally signed documents, streamlining processes with enhanced security and efficiency. This marks another milestone in their digital transformation journey, and LankaPay is honored to be a part of it.

### DRIVING THE ADOPTION OF LANKASIGN DIGITAL SIGNATURES

We are delighted to welcome three esteemed institutions - the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA), Department of Rural Development (Uva Province) and Häfele India Pvt Ltd - to our growing network of LankaSign digital signatures. Their adoption of LankaSign underscores the increased confidence in secure, legally recognized digital signatures and marks another step forward in advancing Sri Lanka's digital transformation journey.



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#### PEOPLE'S BANK JOINS LANKAPAY GOVERNMENT PAYMENT PLATFORM

People's Bank became the first bank to enable online payments to Export Development Board (EDB). Accordingly, both retail and corporate customers of People's Bank can now make online payments to EDB, conveniently and securely in real-time via their online banking portal on 24x7x365 basis.

People's Bank is already integrated with the LankaPay Government Payment Platform facilitating online payments to several key government institutions, including the Sri Lanka Standards Institute (SLSI), Department of Commerce (DOC), Import and Export Control Department (IECD), Central Depository System (CDS), SL Customs, Board of Investments (BOI), Inland Revenue Department (IRD), Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) for vessel, cargo, and entry permit payments, Employee Provident Fund (EPF) and GDPP.



With this continued growth, LankaPay remains committed to enhancing the convenience, security and efficiency of government transactions across Sri Lanka.



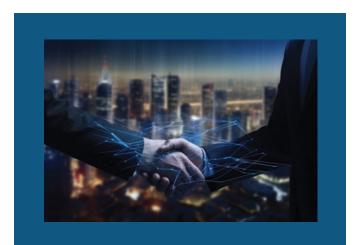
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In line with our vision, LankaPay launched a series of promotions to enhance digital onboarding and drive digital transactions, educating users on seamless and secure payment solutions while encouraging greater adoption of digital financial services.

#### DRIVING GROWTH THROUGH COLLABORATION



#### COMBANK DIGITAL THAILAND TOUR PROMOTION



LankaPay was delighted to partner with Commercial Bank for the ComBank Digital Thailand Tour Promotion, aimed at driving digital onboarding and CEFTS transactions.



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As part of the promotion, Commercial Bank customers who performed six or more transactions each month—including at least three bill payments and three fund transfers—via ComBank Digital from November 2024 to April 2025, stood a chance to win an all-expenses-paid trip to Thailand.



#### STAND A CHANCE TO WIN A FREE TRIP TO MALAYSIA - HNB DIGITAL BANKING PROMOTION



LankaPay is proud to have collaborated with Hatton National Bank (HNB) to launch the Malaysia Tour Campaign, aimed at promoting digital onboarding and CEFTS fund transfers.

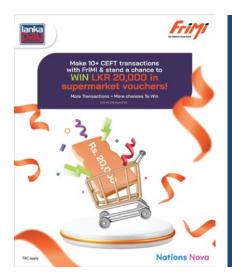
Launched in March 2025, this promotion rewards HNB customers who perform five or more transactions via HNB Digital Banking or Internet Banking platforms before 30th May 2025 with the chance to win a free trip to Malaysia.



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#### STAND A CHANCE TO WIN SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS - FriMi CEFT TRANSACTION CAMPAIGN



LankaPay partnered with Nations Trust Bank (NTB) to launch a special promotion aimed at promoting digital transactions via FriMi.

As part of the campaign, FriMi customers who performed 10 or more digital transactions, including interbank fund transfers and credit card payments stood a chance to win LKR 20,000 worth of supermarket vouchers.

The promotion ran from 17th March until 30th April 2025, driving greater adoption of digital transactions.

#### **INCUBATOR INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR JUSTPAY** WEB MERCHANTS – 2024/25

JustPay Web is one of the latest additions to LankaPay's product portfolio, offering a compelling alternative to traditional Internet Payment Gateways (IPGs). Launched in March 2024, JustPay Web is an extension of LankaPay's groundbreaking payment solution, JustPay, and enables customers to make direct payments via bank accounts on browser-based applications.

Designed with enhanced usability, accessibility, and security, JustPay Web delivers a seamless and convenient payment experience for consumers shopping on e-commerce platforms. With the rapid rise in online retail activity and the high costs associated with IPGs, JustPay Web presents a cost-effective and scalable solution for merchants of all sizes.

Between June 2024 and May 2025, JustPay Web recorded 144,020 registrations and facilitated over 652,526 transactions, amounting to a total transaction value of more than LKR 1.8 billion—a strong indicator of the product's growing adoption and market potential.



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To further drive merchant engagement, LankaPay launched a JustPay Web Incentive Scheme in August 2024, which continued until 31st March 2025. The scheme rewards JustPay Web merchants for increasing customer registrations and transactions, with the incentive period extending 10 months from the date of onboarding. The program has already yielded promising results, with early adopters such as Koko and HelaPay leading the way in performance.

This initiative reinforces LankaPay's commitment to empowering businesses through innovative, inclusive, and affordable digital payment solutions, thereby accelerating the growth of e-commerce in Sri Lanka.

#### ACCELERATING GROWTH THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS: LANKAPAY'S JUSTPAY JOINT PROMOTION SCHEME

Since its inception in 2018, JustPay has shown consistent growth, establishing itself as one of LankaPay's flagship digital payment solutions. To build on this momentum and further incentivize high-performing apps on the JustPay platform, LankaPay has introduced a Joint Promotion Scheme—a performance-based initiative aimed at rewarding and supporting apps that have significantly contributed to increasing transaction volumes.

With fairness and transparency at its core, the scheme evaluates the performance of JustPay-enabled apps over the previous financial year. Marketing support is then allocated in direct proportion to each app's contribution to the network's growth, ensuring an equitable distribution of resources. Recognizing each app's unique marketing strategies and target audiences, LankaPay has allowed participating apps to customize the joint promotions to suit their user bases. This flexible, partner-centric approach ensures that campaigns are not only relevant and targeted but also deliver meaningful impact.

The primary goal of the Joint Promotion Scheme is to encourage continued growth in JustPay transaction volumes. By actively collaborating with partner apps, LankaPay reaffirms its commitment to advancing digital payment adoption, driving innovation, and strengthening Sri Lanka's digital payment ecosystem.



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#### **RIDE WITH IPAY JUSTPAY PROMOTION**



The "Ride with iPay" campaign, powered by JustPay, ran from 1st December 2024 to 31st January 2025 and proved to be a resounding success.

During the campaign, the iPay users who completed at least two JustPay transactions via other bank accounts were eligible to enter a raffle draw.

The lucky winner rode away with a brand new Yadea electric bike, inclusive of registration charges. The campaign effectively encouraged interbank digital transactions while promoting sustainable transportation.

#### HELAKURU VALENTINE'S DAY RELOAD BONUS CAMPAIGN



JustPay partnered with Helakuru to run a special Valentine's Day Reload Bonus campaign from February 13th to 16th, 2025.

The campaign encouraged users to make mobile reloads seamlessly through Helakuru, offering exciting bonus rewards to celebrate Valentine's Day.



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Explore our insights and advancements in cross-border payments. Explore emerging latest trends, technologies, and strategies that are shaping the future of global transactions.

#### ALIPAY+ IS NOW ENABLED IN SRI LANKA





LankaPay announced it's partnership with Ant International, a leading global digital payment, digitisation and financial technology provider, launching Alipay+ acceptance in Sri Lanka at a press conference held on 25th March 2025 at the Shangri-la Hotel, Colombo.

Accordingly, over 400,000 LANKAQR merchants across Sri Lanka can now accept cross-border mobile payments from tourists and business traveller via 15 international mobile payments providers connected to Alipay+.



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Alipay+, Ant International's cross-border mobile payment and digitalisation solution, now connects over 1.7 billion users via 36 international e-wallets and banks apps worldwide. During the initial phase, travellers from 10 countries and regions, can simply scan the LANKAQR code at more than 400,000 merchants across the island to make payments, just as they are used in their home countries.

The Alipay+ partner mobile payment providers enabled for cross-border payment acceptance in Sri Lanka include Alipay China (China), Touch 'n Go (Malaysia), GCash (The Philippines), TrueMoney (Thailand), AlipayHK (Hong Kong), Tinaba (Italy), MPay (Macao, China), OCBC Wallet (Singapore), Changipay (Singapore), HiPay (Mongolia), Naver Pay (South Korea), Toss (South Korea), PBB Wallet (Malaysia), BigPay MY (Malaysia), BigPay SG (Singapore), BigPay TH (Thailand), Bluecode (Austria), Bluecode (Germany).

The launch of Alipay+ would represent the biggest acceptance of cross-border payments in Sri Lanka, including their partners from top inbound operators and potential markets such as Italy, Singapore, Malaysia and China, as identified by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA), and other top growth markets like South Korea and Thailand. All these travellers will now be able to make seamless payments when they visit Sri Lanka, paying with their preferred home payment app/e-wallet, which not only offers added convenience to mobile-savvy customers, but also ensures more business for local merchants.



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Figures from SLTDA showed steady growth in Sri Lanka's tourism sector, with visitor arrivals increasing by 38 percent in 2024, compared to the previous year. For 2025, Sri Lanka is targeting 3 million tourist arrivals and US\$5 billion in tourism related revenue.

Welcoming Ant International into Sri Lanka, Mr. Channa de Silva, CEO of LankaPay stated: "We are delighted to partner with Ant International and enable Alipay+ cross-border payment solution, which signifies a landmark milestone in our global journey. This partnership connects us with international Alipay+ partner users worldwide, enabling them to make seamless payments during their visit to Sri Lanka, similar to their experience at home.

This collaboration signifies our commitment to enhance payment convenience to tourists and business travellers to Sri Lanka and attract much needed foreign exchange into the country. Our aim is to support the country's booming tourism sector with seamless and secure digital payments providing a greater convenience to the travellers whilst providing a cost-efficient digital payment acceptance mechanism to local merchants."

LANKAQR is a national initiative launched by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to ensure all QR code based transactions are standardized and interoperable in Sri Lanka. Introduced in 2020, LANKAQR network is managed and operated by LankaPay, providing a platform to connect consumers, banks and merchants into a single payment network across the country.





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Edward Yue, General Manager for Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Ant International said: "The national LANKAQR infrastructure by the Sri Lanka Central Bank and LankaPay lays a strong foundation for the digitalisation of local businesses and we're proud to partner with LankaPay to enhance interoperability and connect global customers to the local payment ecosystem".

Tourism will be a significant driving force in the global economy and based on trends we are seeing, Sri Lanka will significantly benefit, as travelers seek rich cultural, nature and unique experiences. Beyond payments, Alipay+ also enables merchants to reach travelers through new digital services directly within mobile apps digitalizing key travel scenarios, opening new channels of engagements and driving even more vibrant and inclusive growth. Ant International and LankaPay will enable more Alipay+ partner e-wallet acceptance in Sri Lanka and collaborate on joint marketing efforts.

#### SRI LANKA'S FIRST CROSS BORDER PAYMENT SYMPOSIUM PAVES THE WAY FOR SEAMLESS GLOBAL TRANSACTIONS

LankaPay successfully hosted the Sri Lanka's inaugural Cross Border Payment Symposium on 27th March 2025 at the Atrium Lobby, Cinnamon Grand Colombo. The landmark event, organized in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO) and other travel industry bodies, brought together a distinguished gathering of financial leaders, tourism stakeholders, and regional payment network representatives.

The symposium featured insightful discussions on Sri Lanka's advancements in cross-border payment solutions and their transformative impact on the tourism and financial sectors. Key decision-makers from destination management companies, tour operators, and financial institutions attended the event alongside senior representatives from LankaPay's global partner networks.



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LankaPay, as the country's trusted payment infrastructure provider, has played a pivotal role in driving digital payment innovations. Since launching its global expansion in 2022, LankaPay has established strategic partnerships with major international payment networks, including NPCI International Payment Limited (NIPL) for UPI payments, Alipay+ and WeChat Pay for cross-border QR payments, UnionPay International for cross-border ATM and QR payments, JCB International Japan for cross-border ATM and card payments, Mastercard for QR payments under the "pay as a local" initiative, and Discover Financial Services for cross-border ATM acceptance in Sri Lanka. These collaborations ensure a seamless and convenient payment experience for international visitors while reducing transaction costs for local businesses.

At the symposium, several industry experts shared their insights on global payment trends and the role of digital payments in boosting Sri Lanka's economy. Presentations were delivered by Mr. Edward Yue, General Manager of Ant International for Southeast Asia, Australia, and New Zealand & Global Strategic Partnerships at Ant International (Alipay+); Ms. Sandhya Panicker, Regional Vice President – APAC, Discover Financial Services; Mr. Lakshman Liyanage, Consultant to JCB International in Sri Lanka; Mr. Dhanushka Thenabadu, Manager- Retail & Commerce at Mastercard for Sri Lanka & Maldives; Ms. Sonal Asnani, Head – Asia Pacific, NPCI International Payments Ltd.; Mr. Binghan Hu, Head of South Asia – UnionPay International; and Mr. Gary Wong, Head of Innovative and Strategic Partnership - Weixin Pay Southeast Asia at Tencent. Their presentations provided valuable insights into how seamless cross-border transactions can transform Sri Lanka's tourism and financial landscape.

A highlight of the event was the engaging panel discussion, where industry experts shared insights on regional best practices and strategies for accelerating the adoption of seamless payment solutions. The symposium underscored LankaPay's commitment to fostering a digitally empowered economy and strengthening Sri Lanka's financial ecosystem.





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#### 20% CASHBACK FOR COMBANK LANKAPAY CARD HOLDERS IN COLLABORATION WITH JCB



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In an exciting initiative to promote cross-border payment convenience, LankaPay, in collaboration with JCB International, partnered with Commercial Bank to launch a special 20% cashback promotion for ComBank LankaPay cardholders traveling overseas. Through this promotion, LankaPay ComBank cardholders were able to enjoy 20% cash back at JCB merchant points in 6 popular destinations including Dubai, Thailand, India, Singapore, Japan, and Malaysia.

Commenced on 15th February, the promotion ran successfully until 31st March 2025, further strengthening LankaPay's efforts in delivering greater value to cardholders and contributing to the growth of Sri Lanka's cross-border payment ecosystem. Through strategic partnerships like this, LankaPay continued to create meaningful opportunities for customers to experience seamless, cost-effective digital payment solutions both locally and internationally.



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