

EXPORTS REVENUE GROWTH RATE INCREASES

The exports earnings that declined in 2009 has recorded a growth during the first quarter of 2010.

The export earnings declined by 13 per cent to US \$ 7085 million in 2009 due to the lower demand from the Sri Lanka's major trading partners stemming from the rapid contractions in the respective economies.

The transformation from the undesirable global financial crisis to a satisfactory economic situation has paved the way to Sri Lanka to earn revenue through exports.

The revenue earned during the first four months by exports is US \$ 2.7 billion.

The government managed to withstand the global economic and financial crisis without experiencing a collapse in the exports sector. Despite serious financial constraints and fiscal stress the government has successfully carried forward strategies to keep up the exports.

One of the key areas to promote exports is developing the plantation sector. To make this a reality a strategy is being worked out by the plantation sector to increase the products as well as exports through private investments. (W.L)