TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA

Brewing Innovations
1925 | TRI | 2025

244th MEETING OF THE EXPERIMENTS & EXTENSION FORUM

Date: 30th January 2026

Venue: Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Talawakelle

THEME: "Looking Ahead Together: Disaster Preparedness, Production Outlook, and Cultivar-Led Responses to Market Demands"

AGENDA

09.00–09.30 a.m.	Participant Registration
09.30–9.40 a.m.	Welcome, Correspondence and Announcements
09.40–10.10 a.m.	Address by the Chairman, Tea Research Board - Prof. Janendra De Costa, Chairman, TRB
10.10–10.40 a.m.	Keynote Address - Dr. Mahasen A B Ranatunga, Director/CEO, TRI
10.40–11.10 a.m.	T E A B R E A K
11.10–11.30 a.m.	New Generation of Tea Cultivars: A Strategic Intervention for Environmental Challenges and Emerging Market Opportunities - Dr. J H N Piyasundara, Head, Plant Breeding Division
11.30–11.50 a.m.	Exploring the Adaptability of Mechanized Harvesting in the Present-Day Context - Dr. T G N Mahinda, Senior Advisory Officer, Advisory and Extension Division
11.50–12.50 p.m.	Round Table Discussion on "Disasters and Disaster Preparedness in Sri Lanka's Tea Plantations: Lessons from Recent Events"
12.50–1.30 p.m.	Open Forum
1.30 p.m.	L U N C H