# Chameleon

Chameleons' colours transform under UV light – representing the unique patterns and designs that differentiate us from the rest.

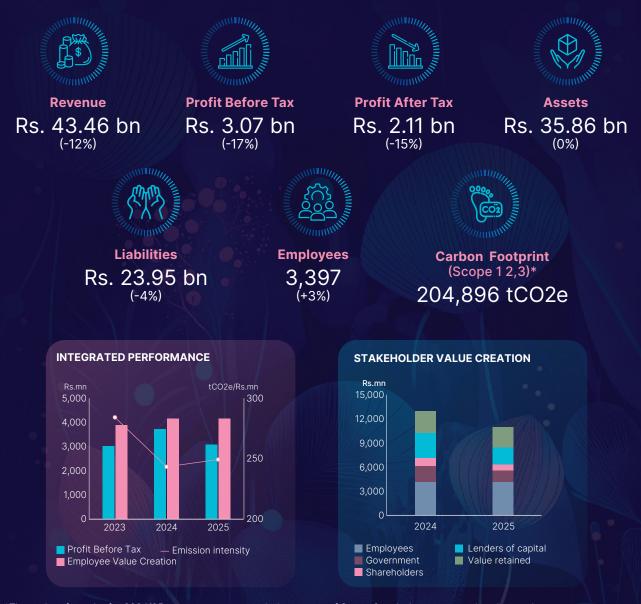


The Sector is the largest textile manufacturer in Sri Lanka, catering to leading global fashion brands through a portfolio of natural and synthetic-fibre based fabrics. The Sector's position is underpinned by its world-class innovation, manufacturing capabilities and sustainability practices.



Insights from Sector Managing Director **Scan to view** 

# **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024/25**



\*The carbon footprint for 2024/25 represents an expanded coverage of Scope 3 emissions compared to the previous year

# **KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2024/25**

Emerged as the first fabric manufacturer in Sri Lanka to obtain verification of its net-zero GHG emissions targets by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) Addition of several exciting, fastgrowing brands to the portfolio 39 awards won across multiple areas of excellence South Asia Textiles Limited obtained the membership of United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Rooted in sustainability, innovation and adaptability, the Sector mirrors the quiet strength of bioluminescence and biofluorescence. Like these organisms, the company radiates value from within and adapts to change with resilience and agility, reflecting its commitment to ecological harmony and purposeful progress.

#### **AGILITY AND ADAPTABILITY**

- Customer diversification with the acquisition of emerging global brands
- Geographical diversification, with exposure to largest market (USA) reducing to 33% from 39%

#### **INNOVATION-LED GROWTH**

- Rs. 42 mn investment in Research and Development
- Strategic focus on performance and premium value-added fabrics
- Continued growth of 'INNO' brand

#### STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY

Scientifically aligned decarbonisation targets and strategy '**Breath**' – Holistic and transformative sustainability journey Reductions in water, energy and emission intensities during the year



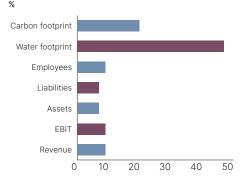
#### SECTOR OVERVIEW

The Group's Textile Sector, represented by Hayleys Fabric PLC and South Asia Textiles Limited is the pioneering and largest textile manufacturer in the country. The Sector manufactures and supplies world-class fabric to leading global fashion brands and has built a strong global reputation for sustainability, quality and innovation. In addition to the conventional cotton range, the Sector specialises in the manufacture of synthetic, knitting fabric suitable for lingerie and casual/lounge wear, with over 50% of its manufacturing capacity comprising synthetic fabric.

#### **SECTOR OPERATIONS**

Sub-Sector	Contribution to Sector (%)			
	Revenue	РВТ		
Hayleys Fabrics PLC Fabric manufacturer with an annual production capacity of 11,400 MT	64%	85%		
<b>South Asia Textiles</b> Fabric manufacturer, acquired by Hayleys Fabric in April 2011 with an annual production capacity of 10,320 MT	36%	15%		

#### **RELEVANCE TO GROUP**



Market Presence	Manufacturing Capabilities	Innovation	Sustainability Focus
The Sector caters to high-end global fashion brands such as Nike, Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger and Victoria's Secret among others	Knitting, Dyeing, Printing, Brushing, Sueding and Finishing, with the ability to <b>manufacture a variety</b> of tailor-made natural, synthetic and weft-knit fabrics.	The first Sri Lankan fabric mill to launch its own brand, <b>'INNO'</b> - enabling it to position itself as a niche supplier of fashion- forward fabric	Globally recognised for its strong <b>sustainability</b> <b>focus</b> , with numerous innovations centered on decarbonisation, circularity and resource efficiency

#### **OPERATING ENVIRONMENT**

The global fashion and apparel industry is estimated to have recorded a sluggish growth rate of 3-4% during the year, with geopolitical tensions and economic volatility leading to reduced consumer spending in key markets. Regional disparities prevailed with China and India recording robust growth while the USA and EU saw moderate expansion due to inflation and economic uncertainty. Global competitive dynamics are also shifting with the rise of fast fashion, shifting customer behaviour and wide acceptance of e-commerce platforms reshaping the industry. Sri Lanka's competitive position remained relatively unchanged in the global market, although the appreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee had an adverse impact on exporters during the year.

	<b>EXCHANGE RATE</b> <b>6%</b> Y-o-y appreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee (Monthly average rate)	IMPACT OF GLOBAL GEOPOLITICAL DYNAMICS +3% Global industry growth rate +5% Growth in Sri Lanka's apparel exports in 2024 (USD Terms)	GLOBAL COTTON PRICES -9% Reduction in global prices	ESCALATING CUSTOMER CONSIDERATIONS ON SUSTAINABILITY
Description	The appreciation during 2024 was driven by Improved foreign exchange liquidity and para-tariffs on top of existing customs duties	Shifting global trade dynamics were largely favourable to Sri Lanka in 2024, resulting in increased demand from selected countries.	The relatively sluggish consumption of cotton during the year led to a down in pricing during the year under review	Escalating environmental and social consciousness of buyers is reshaping demand dynamics, presenting both risks and opportunities for current manufacturers
Impact	H	M	M	H M
Implications	<ul> <li>Reduced competitiveness in the global market</li> <li>Impact on profitability margins</li> </ul>	+ Volume growth in selected markets	<ul> <li>Short-term positive impact on profitability margins</li> <li>Intensification of price competition</li> </ul>	+ Strategic integration of ESG through considering broader impacts of the business on environment and communities

H-High, M-Medium, L-Low / Blue circle represents adverse effect while green circle represents positive effect

#### Market risks

Recent geopolitical trade dynamics including the increase in trade tariffs from the USA poses a key short-term risk

### Strategic response

→ Market diversification including pursuing growth opportunities in the EU and UK region

#### Sustainability-related risks

# CRRO 3

Transition-related risks of climate change with customers' increasingly demanding social and environmental consciousness

# Strategic response

→ Strategic integration of ESG considerations across processes and operations

#### **RISK LANDSCAPE**

### Policy and regulatory risks

Potential abolishment of the SVAT system could insert severe financial pressure on exporters

### Strategic response

→ Ongoing engagement with policy makers

# Sustainability-related risks

# SRRO 1

Operating in a water-intensive industry, the Sector is exposed to Sri Lanka's medium-to-high level of water stress

#### Strategic response

- → Increasing reliance on sustainable water sourcing
- → Process and product innovation to increase water efficiency

#### Sustainability-related risks

# **CRRO 1,2**

Exposure to physical climate risks including rainfall and temperature, given that cotton is a key raw material for the Sector

#### Strategic response

- → Diversification of supplier networks
- → Pursuing sustainable innovation to reduce reliance on virgin materials



#### Market opportunities

Shifts in the global competitive landscape has given rise to the emergence of rapidly growing, fresh brands

#### Strategic response

→ Diversification of market and brand portfolio



# **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Technology

Opportunities presented by digitalisation and technology in increasing efficiency and productivity, new product development and improving real-time monitoring

#### Strategic response

→ Ongoing trials on automation and digital transformation

#### Market opportunities

Consumer trends such as hybrid clothes (athleisure segment), smaller capsule wardrobes, reselling platforms and focus on sustainability considerations.

### Strategic response

→ Pursuing innovation as a key driver of competitive edge

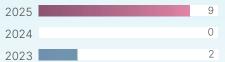
### STRATEGY AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION

The Sector's two-pronged product and brand strategy have enabled it remain resilient to evolving global dynamics through strategic emphasis on premium, value-added products and tier-1 customers. During the year, emphasis was placed on further diversifying its customer base given regional growth disparities, global trade dynamics and emergence of new brands which are reshaping the competitive landscape in the global apparel arena.

### **BRAND DIVERSIFICATION**

**How we performed:** The Sector made significant progress in diversifying its customer base through the acquisition of emerging new brands.

#### New customers acquired



#### About this KPI and why we use it:

This KPI demonstrates the effectiveness of the Sector's marketing, promotional and customer engagement strategies

#### **Resource allocation**

Sales and marketing expenditure: **Rs. 288 mn** 

#### **Strategic KPIs/ Pre-financials**

# VALUE-ADDED PRODUCT STRATEGY

How we performed: The Sector continued to pursue a strategy of differentiation and innovation through its focus on premium and value-added products both in natural and synthetic fibre.

#### New products/ variants developed



#### About this KPI and why we use it: This KPI demonstrates the effectiveness

of the Sector's product strategy and optimum product mix

#### Resource allocation

Investment in research & development: Rs. 42 mn

# STRATEGIC ESG INTEGRATION

How we performed: As an industry leader in sustainability, the Sector continued to reinforce its commitment to embedding the principles of ESG into its operations

Near-term and net-zero emission targets verified

# Science-Based-Targets -initiative (SBTi)

# About this KPI and why we use it:

The SBTI is considered the global gold standard in emission reduction, being scientifically aligned to the emission reduction pathway of the Paris Agreement

#### **Resource allocation**

Investments in renewable energy over the past 3 years: **Rs. 320 mn** 

# INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Challenging operating dynamics: The Sector's performance reflected the challenging operating landscape and shifts in the competitive dynamics of global players during the year. A volume decrease of 7% stemming from deferred orders from a key customer, together with the appreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee led to a 12% decline in Revenue during the year. Intensifying price competition in the global market, the decline in production volumes and the temporary rise in costs aligned with our shift towards premium fabrics resulted in a narrowing of profitability margins, resulting in the Sector's Profit Before Tax and Profit After Tax declining by a respective 17% and 15% to Rs. 3.07 bn and Rs. 2.11 bn during the year.

#### **Diversification-centred strategy:**

Regional disparities in demand together with shifting competitive dynamics among international apparel brands reinforced the strategic imperative of market and brand diversification. Proactive customer acquisition initiatives enabled the Sector to onboard rapidly growing fitness apparel and accessories brands—with considerable growth potential in the expanding athleisure segment. This acquisition also enabled diversification of major markets, with the reliance on the USA declining from 39% to 33% during the year.

Advancing up the value chain: The Sector's product strategy remained consistent with the approach adopted in recent years and has focused on transitioning from basic, conventional cotton-based fabrics to premium, value-added products both in natural and synthetic fabrics. In line with its customer acquisition strategy, the Sector is also driving efforts to widen its portfolio of synthetic fabric to include the Nylon-range, which is widely used in the activewear segment. The Sector's own brand INNO continued to perform well during the year, delivering a volume growth of around 2%.

ESG as a differentiator: Hayleys Fabric has an established track record in sustainability, and is globally recognised as an industry leader in environmental consciousness and responsible and ethical business practices. The Sector's remarkable achievements in sustainability (some of which are listed in the table below) have been supported by its relationships with global fashion brands, which has paved way for ongoing collaborations on sustainability products and the transition to a lowcarbon operation through ambitious targets. In a key milestone during the year, the Hayleys Fabric Group emerged as the first fabric manufacturer in Sri Lanka to secure validation of its net-zero GHG emissions targets from SBTi. During the year, the Sector also made significant progress in complying with the SLFRS S1 and S2 Sustainability Disclosure Standards. The Sector continued to be recognised for excellence in sustainability practices winning the 'Sustainability Impact Category' as the International Quality Awards 2024 and the Gold Award at the Green Productivity Awards 2024 among many others.

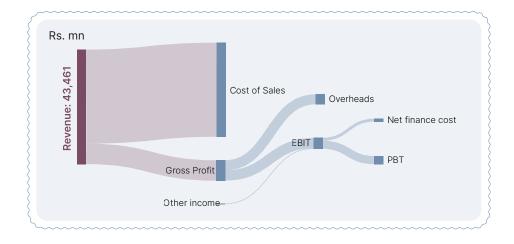
#### Managing sustainability risks: The

dyeing process involves the use of chemicals, necessitating strict guidelines on the management of risks or hazards. Safety measures adopted include maintenance of comprehensive safety data sheets detailing relevant procedures, use of appropriate PPE, storage in line with manufacturer recommended specifications among others. The Sector also complies with the zero discharge of hazardous chemicals (ZDHC). The most significant environmental risks along the Sector's value chain include water stress, implications of climate change and its impact on the availability of cotton as well as drought and flood risks.

#### SECTOR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



	Revenue (y-o-y) %	РВТ (y-o-y) %
Hayleys Fabrics PLC	-6	-11
South Asia Textiles	-19	-33



# **PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS**

FINANCIAL METRICS	2025	2024	%	2023
Revenue	43,461	49,167	(12)	60,014
Earnings before interest and tax	4,179	5,660	(26)	4,129
Net finance income/(cost)	(1,104)	(1,941)	(43)	(1,115)
Profit before tax	3,075	3,719	(17)	3,013
Profit after tax	2,111	2,488	(15)	403
Assets	35,858	35,721	0.4	40,175
Liabilities	23,952	24,979	(4)	29,824
Operating cash flow	1,966	6,011	(67)	481
OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS				
Production volumes (%)	15,856	16,413	-3	16,612
Capacity utilisation (%)	>85	>90	-6	>90

PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

Revenue	Profit before tax
Budget	Budget
Actual	Actual

ENVIR	ONMENTAL METRICS	2025	2024	%	2023
t	Energy consumption (GJ)	1,472,273	1,476,777	(0.3)	1,500,360
commitment areas	Energy intensity (GJ/Revenue USD mn)	10,082	9,508	6	9,004
mmit	Carbon footprint (tCO2e)- Scope 1 & 2	36,326	37,775	(4)	47,316
com are	Emission intensity (tCO2e/Revenue USD mn)	249	243	2	284
ESG	Water withdrawn (m3)	3,398,195	3,345,198	2	3,469,131
ш	Water intensity (m3/Revenue USD mn)	23,270	21,537	8	20,819
ASB	% of suppliers in compliance with wastewater discharge permits Tier 1	92	91	1	98
Relevant SA metrics	Amount of priority raw materials purchased (MT) and certified %				
Sele	-Cotton	8,021(41%)	8,815 (58%)	(9)	9,062
	-Polyester	10,609 (18%)	7,553 (26%)	40	6,640
	-Dyes and Chemicals	13,385 (100%)	13,273 (100%)	1	11,698

PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS				
Emission reduction	Renewable energy	Sustainable water sourcing		
Target: 6% reduction (Scope 1 and 2)	Target: 90% renewable energy	Target: 30% sustainable water sourcing		
Target: 4% reduction (Scope 1 and 2)	Actual : 73% renewable energy	Target: 19% sustainable water sourcing		

SOCIAL METRICS			2025	2024	%	2023
ent	No. of employees		3,397	3,285	3	3,088
commitment areas	Revenue per employee (Rs. mn)		13	15	(15)	19
ommit areas	Remuneration per employee (Rs.	mn)	1	1		1.0
9 0 0	Investment in CSR (Rs.mn)		12	13	(1)	11
ESG	No. of CSR beneficiaries		6,850	6,800	1	6,700
SASB cs	% of tier 1 suppliers that have completed the Higg FEM assessment		75	86	(13)	92
Relevant metrio	Higg FEM assessment         % of suppliers that have been audited to a         labour code of conduct		79	84	(16)	70
Rel	No. of Tier 1 suppliers		48	58	(17)	64
		PERFORMANC	E AGAINST TARGE	тѕ		
Training hours Health and Safety		cy Community relationships		relationships		
Target	: 40 Average training hours/pa		e with zero workplac ional diseases in 20	inget. Incl	<b>Target:</b> Increase CSR beneficiaries b 50% by 2030	
Actual:	10.8 Average training hours/pa	<b>2024/25:</b> 39% re	eduction in injuries	<b>2024/25:</b> C	)ver 6,850 benefic	iaries

\*The Environmental and Social metrics disclosed above represent the Sector's most material impact areas, long-term ESG commitments and topics prescribed by the SASB Standard- Apparel, Accessories and Footwear Standard

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Hayleys

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# Long-term ESG commitments

#### Accelerate climate action

- Interventions to increase reliance on renewable energy sources including biomass and wood chip
- Real-time energy monitoring through AI
- Verification of SBTi emission targets
- Annunununun • Rs. 23 Mn in solar investments and one of the largest private sector rooftop solar systems

#### **Restore and regenerate nature**

- · Coastal preservation activities in line with the 'Breath' initiative
- Mangrove restoration project in Galle
- 9-acre thriving biodiversity park Diyathuru Uyana

#### **Optimise resource footprint**

- Increased water recovery in blowdown process
- 100% chemicals and dyes certified as ZDHC Level 1 and 94% certified as ZDHC Level 3
- Sustainable innovation yarn sourced from recycled PET bottles and waste-to-value initiatives

#### Responsible work place

- Investment in talent developing focusing on technical and leadership skills
- Book distribution to all employees' children

#### Partner progress

- Rs.12 mn CSR investment in numerous CSR initiatives, including Sathdiyawara-Going Beyond (Page 307)
- Rs. 42.40 bn payments to suppliers

#### **Responsible and responsive** corporate citizenry

- Launch of 'Breath- a better environment for all' a transformative sustainability journey
- Strengthened emission reporting with the coverage of Scope 3 computation expanded

# PROSPECTS AND PLANS

While recent geopolitical trade dynamics have led to increasing global uncertainty, the long-term prospects for the industry remain promising, presenting niche opportunities for manufacturers. Key trends shaping the industry landscape will include increasing popularity of e-commerce platforms in fashion, value-driven and price sensitive customer behaviour, demographic shifts and emergence of sustainability as a competitive edge. Against this backdrop, the Sector will continue to leverage its strengths in innovation and sustainability to sharpen its competitive edge, access new markets and create long-term value.

# Alignment to Group strategy

	Short-term		Medium to Long-term
Portfolio optimisation ()	<ul> <li>Pursue growth in non-traditional markets</li> <li>Strengthen position in synthetic fabric se</li> <li>Diversify customer base</li> </ul>		of manufacturing capabilities and
Customer Centricity	• Widen value-added synthetic portfolio	• Technical	developments through collaborations
Strategic ESG Integration	<ul> <li>Retain sustainability leadership in industr</li> <li>Increase reliance on renewable energy so</li> <li>Accelerate positive impacts through 'Breat initiative</li> </ul>	ources Drive decr	arbonisation strategy in line with SBTi
What we hope to achieve		•	2% Scope 1 & 2 emission reduction average training hours/employee

Opportunities and levers	Risks to strategy
→ Customers' increasing sustainability consciousness	→ Escalating geo-economic confrontations
$\rightarrow$ Favourable shifts in consumption patterns	→ Escalating implications of climate change and water availability on the cotton value chain (SRRO 4)
→ Emergence of new apparel brands	