## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION



While having my greetings and the fullest care for the 6th consecutive International Symposium on Social Sciences and Humanities (IRSSSH) 2024, it is my greatest pleasure to send this message to the Symposium Proceedings 2024 as a mark of celebration on behalf of the University Grants Commission in recognizing the significance of the research and innovative projects of the Humanities and Social Sciences for the wellbeing of the humanity.

It is well understood that the curiosity has been in existence ever since man's presence on this planet resulting research, innovation and discovery for the advancement and wellbeing of the society. It always explores some new depths and dimensions to seek if there is any better way to do it: the driving force for all research efforts.

It is so remarkable that the researchers of Humanities and Social Sciences have taken a number of initiatives to engage in more vigorous studies, especially reaching out of the box, to play a leading role in national development in every country, during the past few decades where Sri Lanka is not exempted. The results is so significant that it has further been strengthened by integrating multidisciplinary and inter disciplinary teams to reach remarkable milestones advocating beyond the existing boundaries to produce desired outcomes.

Recognition of such outstanding research achievements of our colleagues is a great motivating factor and a great encouragements for further research. While I understand that there are number of barriers that hinders the progress of such development oriented collaborative research, I also believe that the academics, researchers and professionals must convince the decision makers the importance of the development oriented multi-disciplinary research for the competitive advantage of national development in achieving its long-term targets.

Finally, while congratulating all the presenters: local and overseas, I take this opportunity to thank all the panelists, and the keynote speaker for the great contribution made by sharing your knowledge, expertise and the experience for upbringing new tasks and projects that delve for the sustainable development of our country by achieving new visionary goals. My thanks are also due for the organizing team of the Symposium including the Director and the staff of the NCAS. I wish every success in its future endeavours!!

Senior Professor Kapila Seneviratne Chairman, University Grants Commission