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Press Release
Paddy Statistics - Yala season 2017
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Dr. A.J.Satharasinghe, Director General of Department of Census and Statistics publishing paddy statistics for Yala season 2017, states that the estimated value of total paddy production in Sri Lanka during Yala season 2017 is 909,321 Metric Ton. The highest Paddy production of 186,647 Metric Ton is reported from Ampara district which is 21% of the total paddy production. Polonnaruwa district reports a paddy production of 173,595 Metric Ton (19%) and Hambantota district as 97,050 Metric Ton (11%).

When compared to previous paddy production of Yala season 2016, the total paddy production of Yala season 2017 shows a substantial downward trend by 608,071 Metric Ton (40%). The reasons for the downward movement of paddy production could be: lack of sufficient water facility for paddy cultivation due to dry climate condition prevailed during Yala season 2017 which also lead to paddy cultivation in a limited extent, having low average paddy yield than the expected amount and having reported harvest losses to a considerable degree in some districts.

Total extent of paddy cultivation for Yala season 2017 in Sri Lanka is estimated as 249,123 hectare. Out of which 176,965 hectare (71%) was reported under major scheme, 42,537 hectare (17%) reported under minor scheme and 29,621 hectare under Rainfed scheme. The largest extent of paddy cultivated for this season is reported in Ampara district (46,302 hectare) which is 19% of the total extent of paddy cultivation in the country. Polonnaruwa district and Batticaloa district report paddy cultivation of 40,882 hectare and 24,211 hectare respectively which are 16% and 10% of the total sown extent in Sri Lanka during this season.

The gross extent harvested during Yala season 2017 in Sri Lanka is 236,479 hectare which is 95% of the sown extent. Nuwara Eliya district, Udawalawa Agricultural zone and Mannar district were identified as the districts which had harvested nearly gross extent sown. These districts do not report any harvest losses. The minimum extent harvested from the gross extent sown is reported from Puttalam district (40%). This may be due to drought condition prevailed during the season which resulted in relatively high amount of harvest loss reported without adequate water supply for paddy cultivation.

In addition, the average paddy yield reported for Yala season 2017 is 4,291 Kg per hectare. And the maximum average yield is reported from Udawalawa Agricultural zone as 5,770 Kg per hectare.

Further information on Paddy statistics are published in the web site of DCS (www.statistics.gov.lk)

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