

# Summary Information

## 1 Background

- This publication provides valuable information pertaining to the most backward 119 Divisional Secretary's (DS) divisions of Sri Lanka. Out of 119 DS divisions, 100 were selected on the basis of poverty indicators prepared by the Department of Census and Statistics. The other 19 were chosen from the districts not represented by the above 100 DS divisions.

All the DS divisions of Hambantota and Kegalle districts are included, while 15 out of the 17 DS divisions in Ratnapura district and 12 out of the 15 DS divisions in Badulla district have also been selected.

## 2 Poverty

- According to the Head Count Index, Siyambalanduwa DS division in Moneragala district is the poorest DS division in Sri Lanka. Rideemaliyadda, Meegahakivula, and Kandaketiya DS divisions in Badulla district and Mundel and Kalpitiya DS divisions in Puttalam district are ranked in that order as the next poorest five DS divisions in the country.

## 3 Population and Demographic Patterns

- Out of the selected 119 DS divisions, literacy rates of 96 DS divisions are below the Sri Lanka's national average of 91.1 percent. Out of these 96 DS divisions the lowest literacy rate is reported for Meegahakivula (72.7 percent) DS division of Badulla district while another 6 DS divisions are having literacy rates below 80.0 percent, viz; Irakkamam (75.5 percent), Navithanveli (77.1 percent) and Lahugala (78.8 percent) DS divisions in Ampara district, Kandaketiya (75.8 percent) and Lunugala (79.0 percent) DS divisions in Badulla district and Kinniya (79.7 percent) in Trincomalee district.
- Kalawana DS division of Ratnapura district has the highest percentage (16.0 percent) of children aged 6-14 years not attending school, while 14 more DS divisions have values more than 10 percent. The second highest percentage (14.1 percent) is reported from Colombo DS division.
- The lowest percentage (7.9 percent) of population passed G.C.E. (O/L) is reported from Meegahakivula DS division in Badulla district and another 15 more DS divisions reported values less than 10 percent. The highest percentage (23.7 percent) is reported from Beliatta DS division of Hambantota district.
- The lowest percentage (3.0 percent) of population passed G.C.E. (A/L) and higher is reported from Wanathavilluwa DS division in Puttalam district and another 9 more DS divisions reported values less than 4 percent. The highest percentage (14.6 percent) is recorded for Kegalle DS division.
- Kinniya DS division of Trincomalee district reported the lowest percentage (30.9 percent) of economically active population while the highest (65.3 percent) is reported in Neluwa DS division in Galle district.

- Out of the selected 119 DS divisions unemployment rate of 61 DS divisions are higher than the national average of 8.2 percent. More than 10 percent of unemployment rates are reported from 31 DS divisions. High unemployment rates are recorded for Okewela (19.0 percent) and Beliatta (15.3 percent) DS divisions of Hambantota district, Irakkamam (14.4 percent) DS division of Ampara district and Thihagoda (14.0 percent) DS division of Matara district.
- The lowest percentage (3.9 percent) of government employees is reported in Neluwa DS division of Galle district.
- Panvila DS division of Kandy district reported the lowest percentage (13.2 percent) of own account workers. Out of the selected 119 DS divisions largest percentage of own account workers are in Nawagattegama (60.7 percent) DS division of Puttalam district.
- Out of the selected 119 DS divisions, 38 divisions have reported that more than 50 percent of their population 10 years and over are employed as skilled agriculture and fishery workers. Out of these 38 DS divisions Madulla (76.2 percent), Thanamalvila (71.5 percent) and Siyambalanduwa (70.7 percent) of Moneragala district, Neluwa (74.6 percent) in Galle district and Rideemaliyadda (75.0 percent) in Badulla district have reported more than 70 percent. The lowest percentage (0.5 percent) of skilled agriculture and fishery workers is in Colombo DS division.

#### 4 Housing, Water and Sanitation

- Katuwana DS division of Hambantota district has the highest percentage (38.7 percent) of one roomed housing units while Kuchchaveli (37.2 percent) of Trincomalee district, Navithaveli (34.6 percent) of Ampara district and Kalpitiya (28.3 percent) DS division of Puttalam district have values more than 25 percent.
- The highest percentage (63.9 percent) of housing units without permanent materials of outer walls is reported for Kalpitiya DS division of Puttalam district, while another 5 DS divisions Wanathavilluwa (61.3 percent) in Puttalam district, Lahugala (59.7 percent) in Ampara district, Uva-paranagama (59.0 percent) in Badulla district, Siyambalanduwa (54.6 percent) in Moneragala district and Kolonna (50.7 percent) in Ratnapura district have reported more than 50 percent.
- Kuchchaveli DS division of Trincomalee district has the highest percentage (69.3 percent) of households without using toilets exclusively, while all the other selected DS divisions of Ampara and Trincomalee districts have also reported more than 55 percent. Nearly half of the households in Colombo (50.2 percent) DS division is also without using toilets exclusively.
- Deraniyagala DS division in Kegalle district has reported the highest percentage (71.8 percent) of households without using safe drinking water. Another 8 more DS divisions, viz; Kalawana (66.4 percent), Nivithigala (63.1 percent), Ayagama (57.4 percent), Opanayaka (53.5 percent) and Kolonna (50.7 percent) in Ratnapura district, Yatiyantota (54.4 percent) DS division in Kegalle district, Walapane (57.2 percent) DS division in Nuwara Eliya district and Neluwa (54.2 percent) DS division in Galle district have also reported percentages more than 50 percent.
- Percentage of households without electricity is above the national average of 36.4 percent in 101 DS divisions out of 119 selected DS divisions. Mahakumbukkadawala DS division in Puttalam District has reported the highest percentage (90.9 percent) of households without using electricity for lighting, while more than 75 percent of households in another 10 DS divisions are without using electricity for lighting. These DS divisions are Nawagattegama (87.1 percent) and Pallama (76.5 percent) in Puttalam district, Rideemaliyadda (85.3 percent) in Badulla district, Siyambalanduwa (84.9 percent), Madulla (81.2 percent) and Thanamalvila (80.9 percent) in Moneragala district, Polpithigama (83.2 percent) in Kurunegala district, Kebithigollewa (81.8 percent) in Anuradhapura district and Weligepola (80.2 percent) and Kolonna (75.4 percent) in Ratnapura district.

- More than 90 percent of households are using firewood for cooking in 109 DS divisions out of the selected 119 DS divisions. The highest percentage (99.0 percent) is reported for Mahakumbukkadawala of Puttalam district. The lowest percentage (11.4 percent) is reported from Colombo DS division.

## 5 Educational Facilities

- Out of the selected 119 DS divisions, 4 DS divisions have more than 50 percent schools with only 1-50 students. The highest percentage (57.1 percent) is reported for Laggala-Pallegama DS division of Matale district. Other 3 DS divisions are Vengalcheddikulam (53.7 percent) of Vavuniya district, Ambanganga Korale (50.0 percent) DS division of Matale district and Kebithigollewa (50.0 percent) DS division of Anuradhapura district.
- More than 20 percent untrained teachers are in Wanathavilluwa (21.4 percent) DS division of Puttalam district and Hanguranketha (21.1 percent) DS division of Nuwara Eliya district.
- Schools with 1 or 2 teachers are highest (53.7 percent) in Vengalcheddikulam DS division of Vavuniya district. Another 5 DS divisions also have more than 25 percent. These are Laggala-Pallegama (47.6 percent) in Matale district, Vavuniya South (33.3 percent) in Vavuniya district, Dimbulagala (32.4 percent) in Polonnaruwa district, Haldummulla (29.2 percent) and Lunugala (25.7 percent) in Badulla district.
- The availability of G.C.E. (O/L) science laboratory facilities is lowest in Kebithigollewa (10.0 percent) DS division of Anuradhapura district while 4 DS division, viz. Mulatiyana (21.7 percent) of Matara, Mahakumbukkadawala (14.3 percent) of Puttalam district, Eravur Pattu (22.2 percent) of Batticaloa district and Kuchchaveli (21.4 percent) of Trincomalee district have percentages less than 25 percent.
- The lowest percentage (12.9 percent) of availability of drinking water for schools is reported for Ganga Ihala Korale DS division of Kandy district while 4 DS divisions viz. Udadumbara (16.0 percent) of Kandy, Sooriyawewa (18.8 percent) of Hambantota district and Mahakumbukkadawala (21.4 percent) of Puttalam district have less than 25 percent.
- Out of the selected 119 DS divisions, 24 DS divisions have less than 75 percent of toilet facilities in schools while 8 DS divisions, viz. Ambalantota (60.0 percent) of Hambantota district, Medagama (64.3 percent) of Moneragala district, Vavuniya South (60.9 percent) and Vengalcheddikulam (53.7 percent) of Vavuniya district, Irakkamam (60.0 percent) of Ampara district, Kinniya (58.2 percent) of Trincomalee district, Welikanda (62.2 percent) of Polonnaruwa district and Ehetuwewa (43.8 percent) of Kurunegala district have percentages less than 65 percent.

## 6 Agriculture

- The highest percentage (96.6 percent) of agricultural households is reported for Thanamalvila DS division of Moneragala district while 7 more DS divisions have more than 90.0 percent. These are Mahavilachchiya (95.1 percent) and Kebithigollewa (90.6 percent) of Anuradhapura district, Siyambalanduwa (95.1 percent), Madulla (93.5 percent) and Medagama (92.7 percent) of Moneragala district, Rideemaliyadda (95.0 percent) of Badulla district and Nawagattegama (90.7 percent) of Puttalam district.
- The highest percentage of agricultural operators who have passed G.C.E. (A/L) and above (17.7 percent) as well as G.C.E. (O/L) and above (46.2 percent) are reported for the same DS division viz. Habaraduwa of Galle district. Similarly Welikanda DS division of Polonnaruwa district has the lowest percentages of agricultural operators who have passed G.C.E.(A/L) and above (1.1 percent) and G.C.E.(O/L) and above (8.0 percent).

- The highest percentage (33.2 percent) of agricultural households without owning any land is reported for Haldummulla DS division of Badulla district while Siyambalanduwa (28.5 percent) DS division of Moneragla district and Sooriyawewa (25.4 percent) of Hambantota district rank second and third respectively.
- The highest percentage (100.0 percent) of paddy holdings is reported for Welikanda DS division of Polonnaruwa district while the lowest (0.1 percent) is reported for Kalpitiya DS division of Puttalam district.
- Eravur Pattu DS division of Batticaloa district produces the highest amount (9954 liters) of milk per day while Hanguanketha of Nuwara Eliya district (6184 liters), Uva Paranagama (5859 liters) and Welimada (8871 liters) DS divisions of Badulla district and Pathahewaheta (5763 liters) of Kandy district have reported more than 5000 liters of daily milk production.
- The highest percentage (93.8 percent) of agricultural households with highest share of income from agricultural activities is reported for Thanamalvila DS division of Moneragala district, while Sooriyawewa (92.1 percent) of Hambantota district and Neluwa (90.5 percent) of Galle district have percentages more than 90.

## **7 Industrial Establishments and Persons Engaged**

- Out of the selected 119 DS divisions, the highest number (1701) of industrial establishments are reported for Colombo DS division, while Navithanveli DS division of Ampara district is reported the lowest (34).
- The highest average of 26 persons engaged in industrial establishments is reported from Habaraduwa DS division of Galle district while the lowest average of only one person is recorded for Lahugala DS division of Ampara district.
- The lowest number (33) of small industries (establishments with persons engaged less than 10) are located in Navithanveli DS division of Ampara district while the highest number (1520) of small establishments is reported from Mirigama DS division of Gampaha district.
- The highest number (267) of medium or large scale establishments (with persons engaged 10 and more) are reported from Colombo DS division. The Laggala Pallegama DS division of Matale district, Okewela DS division of Hambantota district, Navithanveli DS division of Ampara district and Padaviya and Mahavilachchiya DS divisions of Anuradhapura district are having only one medium or large scale establishments. Out of 119 DS divisions, Gomarankadawala DS division of Trincomalee district, Lahugala DS division of Ampara district and Vengalcheddikulam DS division of Vavuniya district do not have any medium or large scale establishments.
- The lowest (75) number of persons engaged in industrial establishments is reported for Vengalcheddikulam DS division of Vavuniya district while the highest (27,074) number of persons is reported for Colombo DS division.