

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by Production Approach

First Quarter of 2025

Base year 2015

Department of Census and Statistics

Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) Sri Lanka has released the estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current and constant (2015) prices in Production approach and the other macroeconomic indicators for the first quarter (January 1st to March 31st) of 2025.

The Gross Domestic Product at current price for the first quarter of year 2025 reported as Rs. 8,274,915 million as against the Rs 7,920,616 million reported in the same quarter of the year 2024. The Gross Domestic Product at constant (2015) price for the first quarter of year 2025 reported as Rs. 3,477,088 million as against the Rs. 3,318,769 million reported for the first quarter of year 2024

- ❑ Sri Lanka's economy expanded by 4.8 percent in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the growth rate of 5.1 percent in the same period of 2024."
- ❑ The Agriculture sector contracted by 0.7 percent, while Industry and Services activities expanded by 9.7 percent and 2.8 percent, respectively
- ❑ The three major economic activities of the economy; 'Agriculture', 'Industry' and 'Services' have contributed their share to the GDP at current prices by 7.6 percent, 26.7 percent, 57.4 percent respectively, while 'Taxes less subsidies on products' component has contributed 8.3 percent of share to the GDP in the first quarter of 2025.

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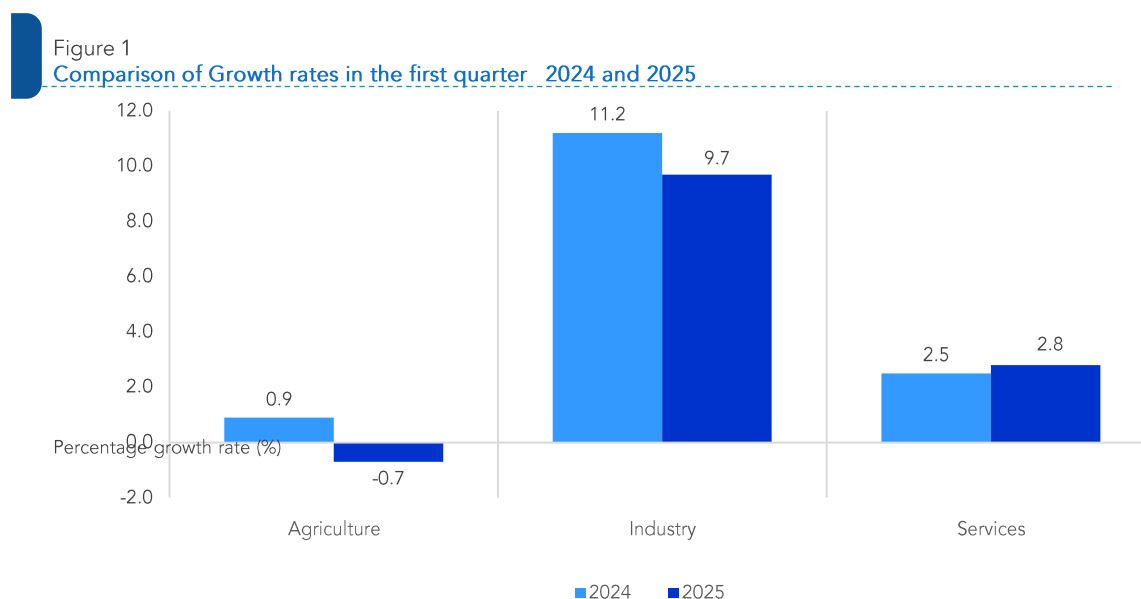
Source Publication

http://www.statistics.gov.lk/NationalAccounts/StaticallInformation/GDP 2015_expand

1.0 General Description for the first quarter of the year 2025

Issuing a communiqué on releasing National Accounts Estimates, the DCS states that the GDP growth rate for the first quarter of 2025 has been estimated as 4.8 percent of positive growth rate.

Accordingly, the Gross Domestic Product for Sri Lanka for the first quarter of the year 2025 at constant price (2015) has increased up to Rs 3,477,088 million from Rs. 3,318,769 million which recorded in the first quarter of the year 2025.



Source:
Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka

DCS

In addition, the Gross Domestic Product for Sri Lanka for the first quarter of 2025 at current price has increased up to Rs. 8,274,915 million from Rs. 7,920,616 million which recorded in the same quarter in 2024 registering a 4.5 percent of positive change in the current price GDP.

The three major economic activities of the economy; 'Agriculture', 'Industry' and 'Services' stood 7.6 percent, 26.7 percent and 57.4 percent respectively as their shares to the Gross Domestic Product(GDP) of the economy and 'Taxes less subsidies on products' accounted for a share of 8.3 percent of the GDP in the first quarter of 2025.

In the first quarter of 2025, agricultural activities reported a decline of 0.7 percent, however, the Industrial and Services activities expanded by 9.7 percent and 2.8 percent respectively. While taxes less subsidies on products grew by 8.3 percent.

The year-on-year GDP growth rate of the first quarter of the year 2025, is calculated compared to the real GDP value reported in the same quarter (first quarter) of the previous year (2024).

With this reported 4.8 percent growth in the first quarter of 2025, the Sri Lanka economy reported a positive growth rate for the consecutive seventh quarter starting from the third quarter of 2023. The reported growth in the first quarter of 2025 is mainly underpinned by the few economic activities. It is noteworthy that financial and insurance services, manufacturing industry, construction industry, mining and quarrying industry and accommodation services sat firmly behind this reported growth in the first quarter of 2025. Relatively stable exchange rate and low interest rate were seen as the main progresses of this growth and more importantly provided pathways to domestic credit to increase and imports of investment goods as well as intermediate goods to increase.

In the first quarter of year 2025, the agriculture activities reported a 0.7 percent decline when compared to the 0.9 percent expansion which was reported in the same quarter in a year ago.

Even though some important agriculture activities; 'Animal production' (18.8 percent), 'Marine fishing' (14.5 percent), 'growing of tea' (5.6 percent), 'Forestry and logging' (4.3 percent), 'Growing of vegetables' (2.9 percent), 'Growing of spices' (2.7 percent) and 'Growing of fruits' (2.0 percent) reported some interesting increases, it was down to an overall decline owing to reported contractions in 'Fresh water fishing and fresh water aquaculture' (57.0 percent), 'Growing of oleaginous fruits' (27.6 percent), 'Growing of rubber' (22.2 percent), 'Growing of sugar cane and tobacco' (2.7 percent), 'Growing of other perennial crops' (1.9 percent), 'Growing of rice' (0.8 percent) and 'Growing of cereals' (0.4 percent). In fact, remaining agriculture activities too reported expansions, namely 'Growing of coffee, cocoa and other beverages crops' (12.5 percent), 'Plant propagation' (7.7 percent), 'Agriculture supporting activities' (1.2 percent).

Being the main facilitator for the reported overall growth in the economy, the industrial activities grew by 9.7 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the observed 11.2 percent growth which was reported in the first quarter of 2024.

Among the 'Industrial activities', benefitting from the increased supply of investment goods imports and decreased input prices, 'Construction industry' and 'Mining industry' grew by 10.7 percent and 12.6 percent respectively. Similarly, the overall manufacturing industry showed a 9.6 percent remarkable increase during the first quarter of 2025. Among the manufacturing activities, except two activities, namely 'Other manufacturing and repair and installation of machinery and equipment' which was reported 10.6 percent decline and 'Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products' which was reported neither growth nor decline, all other manufacturing sub activities reported expansions during the first quarter 2025. Thus, 'Manufacture of furniture' (23.9 percent), 'Manufacture of paper and paper products' (23.2 percent), 'Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products' (22.9 percent), 'Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and other related products' (16.5 percent), 'Manufacture of basic metal and fabricated metal products' (9.6 percent), 'Manufacture of machinery and equipment' (7.1 percent) , 'Manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco products' (5.7 percent), 'Manufacture of wood and wood products' (3.4 percent),

'Manufacture of rubber and plastic products' (3.4 percent) and 'Manufacture of chemical products and basic pharmaceutical products' (1.7 percent) reported expansions during the first quarter of 2025.

Among other industrial activities; 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply' and 'Sewerage, waste, treatment and disposal activities' while grew by 3.4 percent and 7.9 percent respectively, 'Water collection, treatment and supply' declined by 3.2 percent.

Services activities reported a 2.8 percent growth in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the reported 2.5 percent increase in the same quarter a year ago.

Apart from the reported 2.9 percent negative growth in the 'Public administration and defence' sub-activity, all other services sub-activities reported increases. Hence, the reported growth in the services activities was backed by the 'Insurance, reinsurance and pension funding' (17.4 percent), 'Financial service activities'(14.6 percent), 'Accommodation, food and beverage serving activities' (14.0 percent), 'IT programming consultancy and related activities' (6.2 percent), 'Postal and courier services' (4.5 percent), 'Real estate activities and ownership of dwelling' (3.1 percent), 'Telecommunication' (2.6 percent), 'Transportation of goods and passengers including warehousing' (2.1 percent), 'Professional services' (1.7 percent), 'Wholesale and retail trade' (1.2 percent), 'Programming and broadcasting activities' (1.2 percent), 'Other personal services' (0.7 percent), 'Human health services' (0.5percent) and 'Education' (0.4 percent) respectively.

According to the DCS, detailed information of GDP estimates for the first quarter of 2025 has been published in the

The GDP implicit price deflator, which measures the price change in the economy concerning a specific base year (2015=100), decreased to 238.0 in the first quarter of 2025 from 238.7 recorded in the same quarter of 2024, indicating (0.3) percent inflation rate.

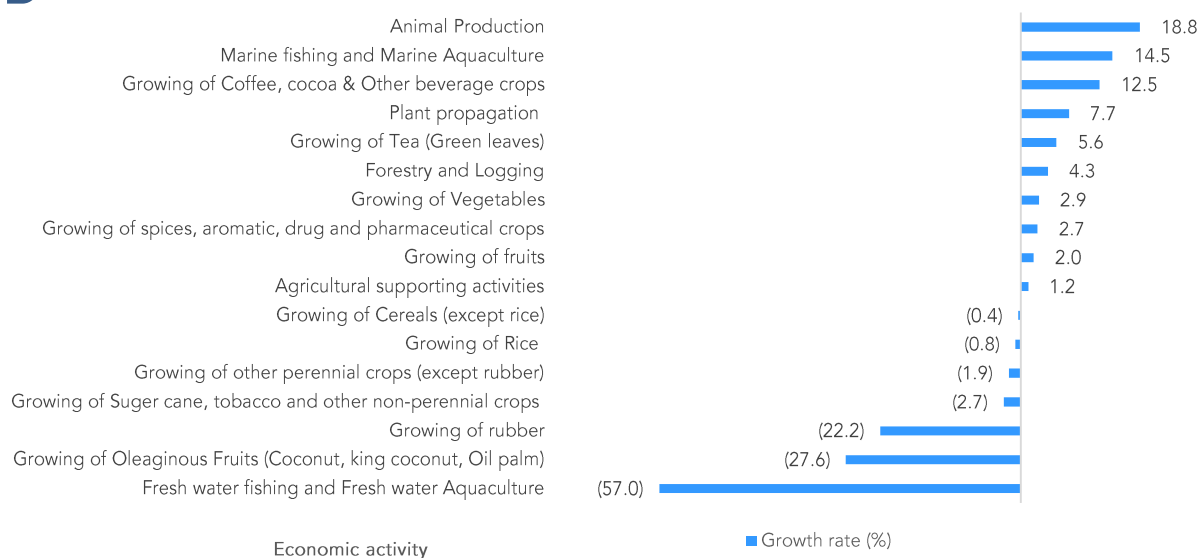
The National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) (2021 = 100) decreased to 206.2 in the first quarter of 2025, from 213.2 recorded in the first quarter of 2024, indicating (3.3) percent of inflation rate.

1.1 Performance in Agricultural Activities

During the first quarter of 2025 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' sector reported a slight contraction by 0.7 percent and shared 7.6 percent of GDP at current prices compared to the first quarter of 2024. The total contribution of agricultural activities to GDP in this quarter was reported as Rs. 627,874 million at current prices and Rs. 227,821 million at constant (2015) prices."

Figure 2

percentage growth rates of agricultural activities in the first quarter of 2025



Source:

Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka

DCS

The sub activity of 'Growing of cereals (except rice)' recorded a negative growth rate of 0.4 percent for the first quarter of 2025 compared to the 16.8 percent of positive growth rate reported in same quarter of 2024. The production of some major crops of 'Maize', 'Black Gram', 'Green gram' and 'Gingelly' have recorded an increase by 8.5 percent, 10.8 percent, 15.2 percent, 23.2 percent respectively during this quarter. However, some productions have shown a decline when compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

The value added of the activity of 'Growing of rice' recorded a negative growth rate of 0.8 percent in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the same quarter of 2024. This activity has contributed Rs. 25,056 million gross value added to the GDP at constant (2015) price in the first quarter of 2025.

In the first quarter of 2025, the value addition of 'Growing of vegetables' was estimated using the 'Crop Forecast' data, which was published by the Department of Agriculture(DOA). In that crop forecast report, for the 2025/24 Maha cultivation season, expected production in both Up-country and Low-country vegetables was mentioned as increased by 7.1 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively. So the real gross value added of 'Growing of vegetables' for the first quarter of 2025 recorded a positive growth rate of 2.9 percent. Furthermore, given the fact that a decrease in producers' price, value added at the current price showed a decline of 16.8 percent. Manioc, Carrots, Brinjals, Leeks, and Beans stood as the highest shared items in the production mix.

The sub-activity of 'Growing of oleaginous fruits' comprises three sub-activities, namely, 'Growing of coconut', 'Growing of king coconut', and 'Growing of oil palm', and among the three sub-activities, the 'Growing of coconut' is the main activity. The sub-activity of 'Growing of oleaginous fruits' has

contributed Rs. 18,854 million value added to the GDP at constant price in the first quarter of the year 2025, and the share of the GDP was reported as 0.9 percent at GDP at current price. The production of coconuts has decreased by around 28.8 percent in this quarter compared to the first quarter of 2024. According to the Sri Lanka Coconut Research Institute, a prolonged dry period with low rainfall and high temperatures ($T_{max} > 33^{\circ}\text{C}$) from January to April 2024 has contributed to the decline in coconut harvest in January and February 2025. With the decrease in production, the producer price and retail price of a coconut have increased by 86.9 percent and 84.2 percent, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2024. When considering the 'oleaginous fruits' exports, the export of coconut has decreased significantly by about 33.8 percent, while King Coconut exports have also decreased by 27.9 percent during this quarter compared to the first quarter of 2024. Accordingly,, overall contraction of the 'Growing of oleaginous fruits' was reported as 27.6 percent of the GDP at constant price in this quarter, compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

The 'Growing of tea' recorded a positive growth rate of 5.6 percent in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the 3.8 percent negative growth reported in the same quarter of the last year. The 'Made tea' production has increased by 5.6 percent in the first quarter of 2025. The average price of one kg of 'Made Tea' at Colombo auction has decreased from Rs. 1,286.98 to Rs. 1, 179.32 by 8.4 percent in this quarter, compared to the same quarter of the previous year. The low grown tea which has the largest market share around 59.8 percent of the total tea production, recorded a 5.1 percent increase in this quarter.

The value added of 'Growing of rubber' has decreased by 22.2 percent in the first quarter of 2025 due to the 23.7 percent decrease in the latex production. However, in the first quarter of 2024, these values were recorded as an increase of 5.9 percent and 10.2 percent respectively. According to the Rubber Development Department, the average price received for one kilogram of latex increased by 83.0 percent from Rs. 718.83 per kg to Rs. 1315.56 per kg in this quarter.

The activity of 'Growing of other perennial crops' consisted with several sub activities viz; 'Growing of areca-nut', 'Growing of odeyal', 'Growing of betel', 'Growing of jack-fruit, bread-fruit' and 'Toddy tapping'. The overall activity contributed Rs. 5,871 million to the total GDP at constant (2015) prices and showed a decline of 1.9 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the first quarter of 2024..

Animal production activity comprises several sub categories viz. 'Raising animals for meat', 'Dairy farming', and 'Eggs production'. The overall value addition in the first quarter of 2025 at constant (2015) price was Rs. 26,115 million, and the share to the GDP was reported as 1.3 percent. This activity reported a significant growth of 18.8 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the first quarter of 2024. According to the Department of Animal Production and Health, the number of slaughtered Poultry and egg production has increased by 17.1 percent and 53.8 percent, respectively, in this quarter compared to the same quarter of 2024. And milk production has

decreased by 8.4 percent. Average producer price for an Egg have shown considerable decrease during this period

The economic activity of 'Plant Propagation' mainly includes the production of plants coconut, tea, rubber, cinnamon, pepper, flowers, and fruits in the country. Compared to the first quarter of 2025, this quarter has recorded a positive growth of 7.7 percent while giving a value of 130 million rupees to the gross domestic product at constant (2015) prices.

Four-wheel and two-wheel tractors, as well as combined harvesters, are utilized in paddy cultivation, for paddy field preparation, and harvesting, respectively. The economic value generated for the economy by providing these services is considered here, as it is the main supportive service for agricultural activities. In the first and third quarters, tractor utilization for land preparation for other cereal crops is not employed. Only during the second and fourth quarters, the value generated by tractor utilization in cereal crops and vegetable crops is estimated. However, in the cultivation season of 2024/25 Maha, the paddy harvested area is predicted to slightly increase compared with the corresponding cultivation season previous year, increasing agricultural machinery inputs in that cultivation area. As per the increase estimated output values in current and constant terms for this activity can be observed. This increase has led to a 1.2 percent growth in Agricultural Support Activities this quarter.

The main components of this economic activity are the production of logs and firewood. The value added to the economy from firewood production is estimated by estimating firewood consumption requirements. The consumption requirement is estimated separately for domestic, industrial, and other uses. The price of firewood is decreased compared to last year's price, resulting in low value added as per the current price. As the construction industry has shown a considerable growth, log and timber demand shows an increase in this quarter. Furthermore, the State Timber Corporation's log production has also recorded an increase of 32.3 percent in this quarter. Accordingly, at constant prices, this economic activity showed an increase of 4.3 percent

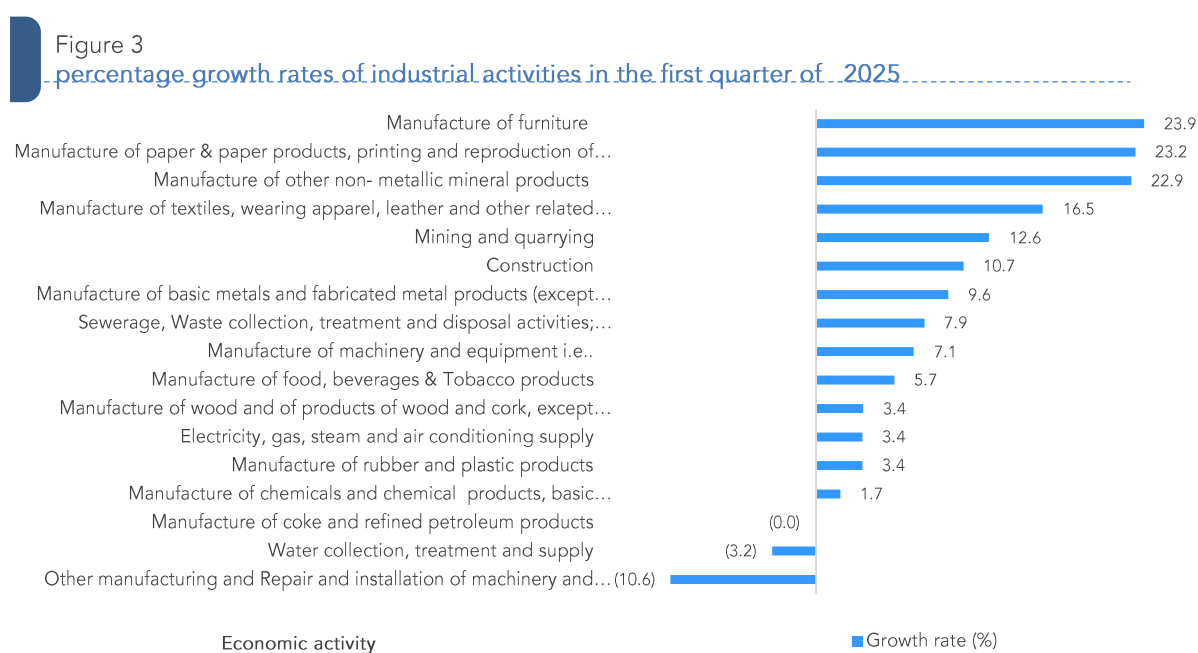
The 'Marine fishing and marine aquaculture' activity contributed Rs. 68,390 million in value added to the total GDP, reporting 0.8 percent share. According to the reports from the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development, in the first quarter of 2025, coastal fish production increased by 6.7 percent and deep-sea fish production by 25.5 percent compared to the previous quarter, resulting in a total increase of 14.6 percent in marine fish production. Accordingly, the value added of the 'Marine fishing and marine aquaculture' activity in the first quarter of 2025 increased by 14.5 percent at constant prices compared to the first quarter of 2024.

The 'Fresh water fishing and fresh water Aquaculture' activity has contributed Rs. 4,817 million value added to the total GDP registering a 0.1 percent share. The value added of the 'Fresh water fishing

and fresh water Aquaculture' activity in the first quarter of 2025 decreased by 57.0 percent when compared to the first quarter of 2024. Accordingly, a decline of 4.4 percent in total fish production can be seen in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the first quarter of 2024.

1.2 Performance in Industrial Activities

The industrial activities have reported a considerable expansion of 9.7 percent in this quarter compared to the first quarter of the year 2024. And also, industrial activities have reported a 26.7 percent share to the total GDP at current price and contributed Rs 2,209,056 million and Rs. 975,783 million at current price and constant (2015) price respectively to the total GDP in this quarter compared to the same quarter of 2024.



Source:
Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka

DCS

'Mining and Quarrying' sub activity which is closely related to the movement of the construction sub activity due to the dominated share of construction materials to this activity's value added and which reported a 12.6 percent expansion in the first quarter of 2025. Further, this growth is mainly supported by the 12.9 percent increase in 'Construction materials' sub category. The second sub category which is 'Gem mining', reported a 7.5 percent increase even though all other gem varieties disclosed declines except the highest shared two categories in 'Blue sapphire' and 'Other sapphire'. Moreover, the third sub category, which is the least when it comes to share of contribution to the value added, 'Mining of other minerals', also grew by 32.7 percent, all in which makes this activity to report a higher growth of 12.6 percent.

Electrical power generation increased from 4,106 Gwh to 4,191 Gwh in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the first quarter of the previous year by registering a 2.1 percent growth. Hydro electricity generation was reported as increased by mere 1.0 percent in the first quarter of 2025 and thermal electricity generation decreased by 2.2 percent. More importantly, NCRE electricity generation reported an 18.5 percent increase in the first quarter of 2025 which made higher increase in value added given the relatively lower Intermediate consumption use in that category of electricity generation. Accordingly, CEB's total output at current prices decreased by 46.8 percent in the first quarter of 2025 and simultaneously the total value of output at current prices in electricity activity including NCRE and other independent power producers' output decreased by 39.3 percent by indicating tariff decrease in electricity. However CEB's value added alone decreased by 44.6 percent. In constant terms, total value of output increased by mere 1.1 percent but value added reported a 3.9 percent growth in this activity, mainly owing to higher increase in NCRE electricity generation in the first quarter of 2025. In the meantime with the help of increase in NCRE electricity generation, the Hydro: Thermal: NCRE ratio which was noted as 31:53:16 in the first quarter of 2024 changed to 30:51:19 in the first quarter of 2025.

Water collection, treatment, and supply activity experienced a 17.8 percent producers' price increase and a mere 0.2 percent water quantity increase in the first quarter of 2025. In the meantime, it was reported a decrease of intermediate expenditures at current terms, mainly owing to a reduction in electricity tariffs between Q1 2024 and Q1 2025. However, in constant terms, Gross Output increased only by 0.2 percent while intermediate consumption reported an increase of 0.4 which made gross value added at constant terms to decrease by 3.2 percent.

Compared to the first quarter of 2024, 'Construction' activity has increased by 10.7 percent in the first quarter of 2025. The share of construction activities to the GDP has recorded at 5.5 percent in this quarter. And also, within the first quarter of 2025, the total supply of cement has increased by 8.9 percent and the decrease in the price of all building materials, including cement, has led to this growth.

1.2.1 Manufacturing Activities

The overall manufacturing industry activities contributed Rs.633,656.5 million of value addition at real terms to the total GDP in the first quarter of 2025 against the value of Rs.578,119 Million which reported in the first quarter in year 2024. The overall manufacturing industry reported considerable expansion by 9.6 percent during this quarter. Further, most of the manufacturing activities have reported significant growth rates.

The sub-activity of 'Manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco products', which contributed 5.7 percent share to the GDP, recorded a 7.2 percent growth rate in the first quarter of 2025, when compared to the contraction of 11.8 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2024.

The 'Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel and leather products' has recorded a growth rate of 16.5 percent in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the negative growth rate of 6.6 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2024.

The 'Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products' recorded (0.04) percent Negative growth rate in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the positive growth rate of 31.3 percent recorded in the same quarter of 2024. The petroleum production Quantity has decreased by 1.0 percent in this quarter.

The activity of 'Manufacture of Chemical products and basic pharmaceutical products' which was recorded 1.7 percent increase in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the growth rate of 19.2 percent recorded in the same quarter of 2024.

The activity of 'Manufacture of rubber and plastic products, leather and related products', reported an expansion of 3.4 percent in the first quarter 2025, compared to the growth rate of 9.9 percent recorded in the First quarter of 2024.

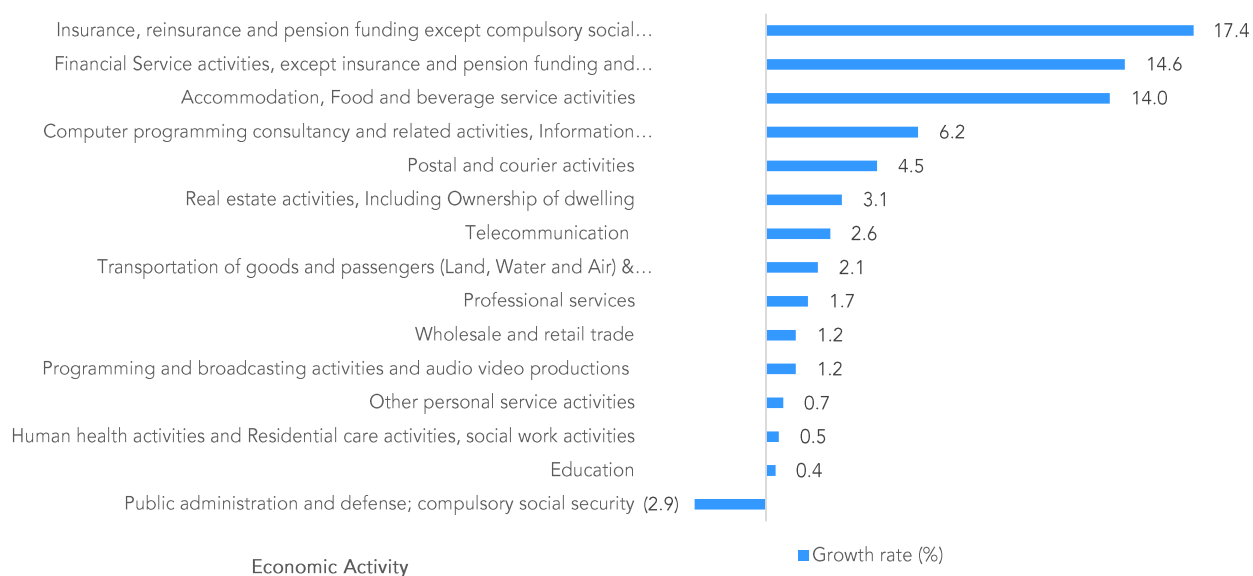
Further, the expansion percentages were recorded as 'Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products' 9.6 percent, , 'Manufacture of Wood and product of wood cork except furniture' 3.4 percent, Manufacture of machinery and equipment 7.1 percent growth rates in the first quarter of 2025. However, the 'Other manufacturing, Repair and installation' product recorded a decline of (10.6) percent in the first quarter of 2025.

1.3 Performance in Services Activities

The total contribution of service activities at current price and constant (2015) price to the total GDP was reported as Rs. 4,751,832 million and Rs. 2,042,423 million, respectively, for the first quarter 2.8 percent growth of 2025 compared to the first quarter of 2024, and it reported an increase of 2.5 percent. The share of the GDP from service activities was reported as 57.4 percent at current prices in this quarter.

Figure 4

percentage growth rates of services activities in the first quarter of 2025



Source:

Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka

DCS

The 'Wholesale and retail trade', which contributes nearly 13.5 percent to the GDP, reported 1.2 percent positive growth rate in the first quarter of 2025 when compared to the 1.2 percent growth rate recorded in the first quarter of 2024.

The value added of 'Wholesale and retail trade' activity is affected by fluctuations in total domestic production and total imports. Therefore, the growth rate of this activity is depended on the variations in above three variables of imports, domestic agricultural production and domestic industrial production. The 'Wholesale and retail trade' activity covers trade of food and non-food essential consumer goods as well as other categories such as clothing, footwear and accessories, fashion and jewellery, electronics, household and consumer durables.

According to the external trade statistics of Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), the total import expenditure for the first quarter of 2025 has increased up to Rs. 1,447,911 million from Rs. 1,377,259 million reported for the first quarter of 2023, by 5.1 percent. Also, the value of consumer goods import expenditure has increased to Rs. 325,145 million by 29.4 percent during this quarter over the value of Rs. 251,204 million reported in the same quarter of 2024. According to the trade indices released by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, the import volume index value of consumer goods has

increased by 42.3 percent. Further, the total import volume index has also increased by 12.4 percent during the first quarter of 2025 when compared with the value of the same quarter in 2024.

Moreover, according to the external trade statistics of CBSL, the total export value to the rest of the world has been decreased by 0.2 percent during the first quarter of 2025, when compared to the first quarter in 2024. According to the CBSL trade indices, however, the total export volume index has increased by 5.8 percent. Among the exports, the volume indices of agricultural exports have decreased by 3.2 percent and the industrial exports have increased by 7.3 percent during this quarter.

The activity of 'Transportation of goods and passengers & Warehousing activities' is a combination of land transport, water transport, air transport and warehousing, and support activities for transportation. In the first Quarter of 2025, land transport activity, which has the highest share among the four components of transport, recorded an expansion of 2.4 percent. To facilitate this growth, number of passenger kilometers in Sri Lanka Railway increased 4.8 percent and in private buses by 5.5 percent. After some time now in the first quarter of 2025, passenger kilometer in Sri Lankan Airlines was reported to increase by 1.8 percent. In the meantime, even though some indicators, like Ceylon Shipping Corporation and VAT output showed a decrease, benefiting from the BOP water transport data, water transport activity reported an increase of 18.7 percent. However, support activities for transportation, including warehousing, recorded a decline mainly owing to a decreased number of cargo throughput handling in Sri Lanka ports. Finally, overall transport activity, including the aforesaid activities, reported an expansion of 2.1 percent in the first quarter of 2025.

The 'Postal and Courier activities' grew by 4.5 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the same quarter a year ago. In the postal department compensation of employees increased by making their value added to increase with the decrease of their expenditure categories like distribution, maintenance etc. Meantime courier activities are expanding for a sometime now to make this activity to report expansions continuously. Thus, in the first quarter of 2025, both postal activity and courier activity reported expansions of 5.6 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively.

The 'Accommodation, food and beverage serving' activities reported 14.0 percent of positive growth rate in the first quarter of the year 2025 when compared to the 41.8 percent positive growth rate recorded in the first quarter of 2024. According to the reports of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA), 635,784 foreign tourists arrived in the first quarter of 2024 and it was reported as 722,276 in the first quarter of 2025. And also, according to the quarterly financial statements of listed hotel companies registered in the Colombo Stock Exchange of Sri Lanka, the quarterly turnover of those hotels in the first quarter of 2025 has decreased by 7.0 percent compared to the quarterly turnover of the first quarter of 2024.

The sub activity of 'Programming and broadcasting activities and audio video productions' has reported a positive growth rate of 1.2 percent in the first quarter in 2025. In two components, audio video productions marked an increase of 1.4 percent whereas broadcasting notably grew by 1.1 percent in this quarter. And also, the 3.6 percent decrease in the Colombo Consumer Price Index and the 5.0 percent decrease in NCPI Non-food Index contributed to the increase in gross value added.

In the first quarter of 2025, 'Telecommunication services' reported an expansion of 2.6 percent. During the first quarter of 2025, the wireless landline connections increased by 0.12 percent and mobile phone connections increased by 2.9 percent. The telecommunications services sector has recorded a significant growth of 19.4 percent in data usage for communication activities carried out using data during this quarter.

The 'IT programming and consultancy related activities' including Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) sectors which correspond to 1.3 percent of share to the GDP, has reported a positive growth 6.2 percent in their generated value added in the first quarter of 2025, when compared to the first quarter of 2024. According to the CBSL Balance of Payment Statistics, the export revenue of computer services in USD terms has increased from \$ Mn 190 million to \$ 202 million by 6.4 percent during the first quarter of 2025, when compared to the first quarter of 2024. In addition, in the first quarter of 2025, the credit value of export revenue from computer services in LKR terms has increased to Rs. Mn 59,861 from Rs. Mn 59,313 in the first quarter of 2025, when compared to the first quarter of 2024.

Financial intermediation is the main service, provided by financial institutions of licensed commercial banks (LCB's), licensed specialized banks (LSBs), other registered financial companies, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Colombo stock exchange (CSE) and persons representing household in Sri Lankan economy. This activity recorded 0.8 percent positive growth rate in this quarter. The financial sector reported value added at constant prices of Rs. 117,999 million in this quarter as compared to Rs.117,056 million in the first quarter of 2024. The value of loans & advances of financial institutions has recorded an increase of 7.9 percent and the value of deposits of financial institutions has recorded an increase of 12.8 percent in this quarter. 'Average Weighted Lending Rate' (AWLR) and 'Average Weighted Deposit Rate' (AWDR) compiled by Central Bank of Sri Lanka recorded 11.8 percent and 7.2 percent respectively in the first quarter of 2025.

The real value added of the 'Insurance, reinsurance, and pension funding' sector increased by 17.8 percent in this quarter, compared to a 0.0 percent increase in the first quarter of last year. The growth of this activity, reflected by premium earned, which rose by 15.2 percent, while claims incurred increased by 11.5 percent.

The 'Real Estate Activities including Ownership of dwellings' increased by 3.1 percent in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the first quarter of 2024. This activity reported a value addition of Rs.155, 894 million in real terms to the total GDP, and has contributed 4.0 percent of share to the GDP at nominal terms.

The activity of 'Professional services' has contributed Rs.63,554 million at constant (2015) price and has shared 1.7 percent to the total GDP at current price. This activity is a combination of eight compilation categories. It is mainly comprised by 'Legal and accounting activities', 'Architectural and engineering activities', 'Scientific research and development', 'Advertising and market research, Other professional, scientific and technical activities and publishing activities', 'Veterinary activities', 'Rental and leasing activities', 'Employment, travel agency, security and investigation activities' and 'Services to building and landscape activities'. The real value added of these sub activities in this quarter has increased by 1.7 percent compared to the same quarter of 2023.

The human health services sector an increase in the first quarter of 2025. The growth rate for this sector was recorded as a positive value of 0.5 percent, indicating an expansion in economic activity compared to the same period in the previous year. According to the first quarter (January to March) financial statements of listed companies of major six hospitals in the country which are registered at 'Colombo Stock Exchange', the reported nominal value of quarterly turnover of hospitals altogether has been increased by 5.8 percent during this first quarter when compared to the financial statements of the same quarter (January to March) in the year 2024. In addition, e-channelling services expanded at a rate of 3.0 percent during this quarter. However, during this quarter, the health sub-index of the National Consumer Price Index increased by 4.7 percent from the index value of 261.0 to 273.3. It shows some increase in the price levels in the health sector during the first quarter of 2024 and first quarter 2025.


The economic activity "Other personal service activities", which contributes 7.0 percent to the GDP at current prices, consists of the economic activities "Arts and public entertainment", "Other personal activities" and "Activities of households as employers". Compared to the first quarter of 2024, a growth of 0.7 percent was recorded in this quarter, which is due to the growth in domestic and foreign tourism, the growth of festive entertainment and musical performances.

The Vision of DCS

"To be the leader in the region in producing timely statistical information to achieve the country's development goals."

The Mission of DCS

"Making contribution in the socioeconomic development of the country by providing accurate timely statistics, more Effectively by means of new technology, and utilising the services of dedicated staff under a strategic leadership to become a prosperous nation in the globalised environment."

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