



PART I.—CIVIL (L)

Administration Report of the  
Registrar-General for  
1946

(G. L. D. DAVIDSON, Esq.)

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# DEPARTMENT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

## ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL FOR 1946

(G. L. D. DAVIDSON, Esq.)

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### CHAPTER I.—INTRODUCTORY.

1. The last Administration Report published was for the year 1939, and the period under review in this report is not, as hitherto, a single calendar year but the seven calendar years from 1940 to 1946. This is due to the decision of the Board of Ministers that the publication of Administration Reports should be discontinued till the end of the war, and that the first Administration Report to be published after the end of the war should contain an account of the activities of the department throughout the period during which no reports had been issued.

2. In order to facilitate comparison with previous years, the figures for 1946 will be given, where necessary, side by side with the figures from 1940 to 1945.

3. The main activities of the department are as follows:—

- (a) Registration of marriages, births, and deaths, and of Muslim and Kandyan divorces;
- (b) Compilation of vital statistics;
- (c) Registration of documents;
- (d) Supervision of notaries, and custody of notarial records;
- (e) Registration of trade marks and designs; and
- (f) Registration of societies and business names.

In addition, the Registrar-General is Registering Officer for the electoral districts of Colombo North, Colombo Central, Colombo South, and Wellawatta-Galkissa.

### CHAPTER II.—STAFF.

4. The staff of the department at the end of the year 1946 was as follows:—

Gazetted officers (excluding the Registrar of Patents) ..	3
Clerks of the permanent establishment (excluding 48 vacancies unfilled) ..	259
Temporary clerks (including substitutes for permanent clerks) ..	143
Stipendiary medical registrars of births and deaths ..	12
Book Binders ..	41
Minor employees (excluding Patent Office Employees) ..	89

5. The total number of Registrars of Marriages, Births, and Deaths (including the Provincial and the Assistant Provincial Registrars), Kathis, and Muslim Officiating Priests, who held office on December 31, 1946, was 1,114.

Registrars of Kandyan and General Marriages, Births and Deaths ..	322
Registrars of General Marriages, Births, and Deaths ..	334
Registrars of Kandyan and General Marriages ..	19
Registrars of General Marriages ..	71
Registrars of Births and Deaths (including Medical Registrars) ..	104
Kathis ..	38
Muslim Officiating Priests ..	226

Nine registrars retired during 1946, 8 resigned their posts, 10 died, and 1 was dismissed. Two Muslim Officiating Priests died during 1946, 3 resigned, and 1 had his licence cancelled.

#### CHANCES AMONG THE STAFF OFFICERS.

6. Mr. C. E. de Pinto, C.C.S., who was Registrar-General from February 15, 1939, retired from the public service with effect from August 5, 1940, owing to bad health, and died shortly after.

7. Mr. R. S. V. Poulier, C.C.S., was appointed Registrar-General with effect from August 5, 1940.

8. Mudaliyar P. D. Ratnatunga, who had been Principal Assistant Registrar-General from February 15, 1939, retired on January 15, 1941, after more than 40 years' service, 33 of which had been spent in this department. In him the department lost one of its most experienced and efficient officers, whose services throughout were characterized by conspicuous diligence and zeal. He was succeeded by Mudaliyar C. M. Agalawatta, the Second Assistant Registrar-General, whose place was taken by Mudaliyar J. W. A. Perera, Registrar of Lands, Colombo.

9. On Mr. R. S. V. Poulier's transfer to the post of Food Controller, I was appointed Registrar-General with effect from March 20, 1941; and, on my transfer to the Colombo Kachcheri, Mudaliyar C. M. Agalawatta, Principal Assistant Registrar-General, was appointed acting Registrar-General with effect from December 30, 1941. Thereupon Mudaliyar J. W. A. Perera, Second Assistant Registrar-General, was appointed to act as Principal Assistant Registrar-General, and Mr. D. Walton, Registrar of Lands, Jaffna, to act as Second Assistant Registrar-General.

10. Mr. G. D. Parekh, Industrial Engineer in the Department of Commerce and Industries, who had been appointed Registrar of Patents in addition to his other duties with effect from May 13, 1940, resigned his post with effect from February 6, 1942, and Mr. R. H. Paul of the Technical College was appointed as Registrar of Patents in his place.

11. Mr. R. B. Naish, C.C.S., took up duties as Registrar-General with effect from February 22, 1943.

12. Mudaliyar C. M. Agalawatta went on leave preparatory to retirement on February 22, 1943, and retired from the public service on May 1, 1943, after 43 years' service under Government, the whole of which was spent in this department. He was an officer of outstanding ability, whose knowledge and experience of all branches of the work of the department made him invaluable. On his retirement, Mudaliyar J. W. A. Perera became Principal Assistant Registrar-General and Mr. D. Walton became Second Assistant Registrar-General, with effect from May 1, 1943. The former had been acting from December 30, 1941, and the latter from January 3, 1942.

13. Mr. R. B. Naish went on leave preparatory to retirement on August 8, 1946, and Mudaliyar J. W. A. Perera acted as Registrar-General till August 19, 1946, when I succeeded him.

#### LEAVE.

14. The health of the officers during 1946 was fairly satisfactory. Most of the clerks of the department have to serve a period in malarial stations, and many of them are therefore ~~malarial subjects~~ <sup>on leave</sup> about 54 per cent. of the leave

granted to clerks during 1946 was on account of ill-health. The average leave per clerk was 32 days during 1946 (including half-pay, no-pay, vacation, and casual leave), as against 48 days in 1945. Figures for previous years are 38 days in 1944, 32 days in 1943, 26 days in 1942, 27 days in 1941, and 32 days in 1940.

### CHAPTER III.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

15. The direct revenue for the financial year 1945-46 amounted to Rs. 908,018, as against Rs. 881,708 in 1944-45, Rs. 725,626 in 1943-44, Rs. 636,059 in 1942-43, Rs. 508,704 in 1941-42, Rs. 430,887 in 1940-41, and Rs. 451,037 in 1939-40. The indirect revenue from duties on deeds amounted to Rs. 4,356 163, as against Rs. 3,439,543 in 1944-45, Rs. 2,959,519 in 1943-44, Rs. 2,956,998 in 1942-43, Rs. 2,296,066 in 1941-42, Rs. 1,694,477 in 1940-41, and Rs. 1,499,847 in 1939-40.

16. The total revenue of 1945-46, as compared with the financial year 1938-39, shows increases of 141 per cent. in the case of direct revenue, and 208 per cent. in the case of stamp duty on deeds.

17. A detailed statement of the revenue is given in Table I. below.

Table I.—Statement of Revenue for the Financial Years 1939-40 to 1945-46.

Description of Item.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46
<b>I.—Registration of Documents, Custody of Notarial Records, &amp;c.</b>							
Registration duty (separately recovered, i.e., not included in stamp duty on deeds) ..	74,144..	79,607..	98,296..	122,073..	135,337..	103,083..	111,995
Record Room income :—							
Stamp duty on applications for searches and certified copies ..	84,557..	89,406..	96,540..	116,448..	89,217..	126,026..	118,484
Searching fees ..	261..	259..	256..	298..	290..	460..	551
Copying fees ..	60,564..	62,441..	70,183..	92,558..	107,097..	142,268..	119,012
Notarial income :—							
Stamp duty on deeds (originals, duplicates and attested copies) 1,499,847	1,694,477	2,256,068	2,956,998	2,959,519	3,439,543	4,356,163	
Deficiency of stamp duty recovered ..	64,441..	10,702..	18,296..	17,311..	14,044..	38,149..	38,330
Fines and affidavits ..	12,049..	9,105..	14,663..	9,021..	7,661..	18,817..	14,658
Court fines ..	768..	445..	1,160..	1,030..	15..	160..	—
Stamps on notarial warrants ..	4,700..	4,700..	145..	229..	1,975..	2,300..	3,018
Other receipts ..	1,534..	648..	9..	48..	33..	—	73
<b>II.—Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.</b>							
Stamp duties ..	78,643..	75,040..	96,843..	179,538..	250,178..	307,944..	341,406
Searching and copying fees ..	24,280..	22,503..	24,236..	35,066..	49,894..	59,185..	68,477
Fees recovered in stamps by officers in receipt of sterling salaries ..	2,178..	5,024..	5,119..	7,787..	11,423..	14,909..	14,180
<b>III.—Registration of Trade Marks, Designs, Societies, and Business Names—</b>							
Trade Marks and Designs ..	12,173..	35,541..	11,111..	12,094..	13,776..	16,524..	20,447
Societies ..	119..	66..	140..	86..	59..	97..	96
Business Names—Western Province ..	7,640..	9,295..	7,412..	14,152..	13,555..	18,008..	21,705
Business Names—Other Provinces ..	4,465..	5,013..	5,021..	8,060..	7,280..	9,694..	11,936
<b>IV.—Registration of Patents—</b>							
Fees for applications ..	3,225..	4,651..	3,034..	4,495..	5,102..	5,623..	5,035
Fees for renewals ..	14,100..	15,000..	15,050..	14,750..	17,400..	17,150..	17,060
Penalties on renewals and other receipts ..	930..	1,253..	1,009..	573..	935..	1,021..	1,287
<b>V.—Miscellaneous ..</b>	266..	188..	181..	442..	355..	290..	318
Total ..	1,950,884	2,125,364	2,764,770	3,593,057	3,685,145	4,321,251	5,264,181
Indirect revenue (stamp duty on deeds) ..	1,499,847	1,694,477	2,256,066	2,956,998	2,959,519	3,439,543	4,356,163
Direct revenue ..	451,037..	430,887..	508,704..	636,059..	725,626..	881,708..	908,018

18. The expenditure of the department for the financial year 1945-46 amounted to Rs. 907,328, as against Rs. 768,002 in 1944-45, Rs. 749,813 in 1943-44, Rs. 730,754 in 1942-43, Rs. 700,108 in 1941-42, Rs. 719,526 in 1940-41, and Rs. 751,415 in 1939-40. The expenditure for 1945-46 includes the cost of removing the Registrar-General's Head Office from Moratuwa to Colombo, namely Rs. 36,665.

19. The total expenditure of 1945-46 shows an increase of 22 per cent. as compared with 1938-39.

20. The amount allocated to the department during the financial year 1945-46 from Head 7, Sub-head 1, Personal Emoluments—Allowances—Extra Clerical Assistance and bonus to clerks for overtime work in Land Registries was Rs. 21,000, as against Rs. 7,500 in 1944-45, Rs. 2,500 in 1943-44, and Rs. 3,200 in 1942-43.

21. A detailed statement of the expenditure is given in Table II. below.

**Table II.—Statement of Expenditure for the Financial Years 1939-40 to 1945-46.**

	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Salaries and allowances of staff officers, clerks, and minor employees	569,692 40..	555,823 62..	529,207 51..	521,789 0..	547,917 0..	550,915 37..	638,124 31
Salaries and allowances of Stipendiary Medical Registrars, and allowances to Registrars of Births and Deaths and Registrars of Kandyan Marriages	144,254 10..	134,020 27..	141,983 5..	154,174 0..	152,131 0..	156,843 0..	163,623 66
Total personal emoluments	713,946 50..	689,843 89..	671,190 56..	675,963 0..	700,048 0..	707,758 37..	801,747 97
Travelling	8,058 23..	8,681 12..	9,318 34..	9,143 0..	11,821 0..	12,968 44..	15,639 63
Stationery, office furniture, and office requisites	5,211 50..	5,178 67..	5,357 12..	6,572 0..	7,997 0..	11,080 94..	17,299 90
Rent	720 0..	720 0..	720 0..	17,598 0..	11,320 0..	11,733 66..	10,228 75
Binding of birth, marriage, and death registers	974 59..	939 84..	707 80..	1,019 0..	192 0..	1,732 42..	1,520 39
Expenses of administering the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Ordinance	11,328 49..	11,193 5..	9,886 53..	13,484 0..	14,275 0..	17,556 76..	17,140 82
Incidental expenses	2,461 91..	2,969 20..	2,301 33..	6,975 0..	4,160 0..	3,836 92..	4,468 66
<b>SPECIAL EXPENDITURE</b>							
Census	8,713 26..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Notarial examination	—	—	—	626 60..	—	—	—
Expenses in connexion with the training of Rural Registrars	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,318 64
Removal of R. G. O. from Moratuwa to Colombo	—	—	—	—	—	—	36,663 34
Grant for buildings at Colombo Land Registry premises at Rajagiriya	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,300 0
	<b>751,414 48</b>	<b>719,525 77</b>	<b>700,108 28..</b>	<b>730,754 0</b>	<b>749,813 0</b>	<b>768,001 67</b>	<b>907,328 10</b>

#### CHAPTER IV.—REGISTRATION OF DOCUMENTS, CUSTODY OF NOTARIAL RECORDS, &c.

##### BUSINESS TRANSACTED IN LAND REGISTRIES.

22. The work done in Land Registries (with the exception of duties such as administration, correspondence, and preparation of returns) is tasked, *i.e.*, measured in units.

23. A permanent clerk employed in task work is required to do a minimum quantity of work, which is at present fixed at 10 units for Saturdays and 18 units for other working days. The volume of work in the Land Registries is not steady, but varies greatly from time to time. The permanent staff is barely sufficient to deal with the work received on light days. At rush periods, it is necessary either to employ temporary clerks or to let the permanent staff work overtime. By these means it is possible to dispose of the work without undue delay.

24. The business transacted in Land Registries is classified under two main divisions, namely recurrent and non-recurrent. The chief items of recurrent business are registration of deeds, searching and copying of deeds and registration entries, and examination of duplicates; while the consolidation of local indexes to land registers is the largest item of non-recurrent business..

25. The war has had no depressive effect on the recurrent business received in this department, and every year since the war broke out shows a considerable increase in the work received. The year 1943 records the highest receipts since 1927. The receipts in 1946 are 39.79 per cent. more than the receipts in 1939, though 4 per cent. less than the receipts in 1945 and 6 per cent. less than the receipts in 1943, the peak year.

26. The total business done in 1946 amounted to 703,803 units, of which 333,831 units represent the work done by temporary clerks, and 57,483 units the work done as overtime. The work done by the permanent staff, exclusive of the above-mentioned two items of work, amounted to 312,489. Details of the work done will be found in Tables A and B. The total business done in 1946, (703,803 units) is 40 per cent. more than the work done in 1939, and 1.8 per cent. more than in 1945, but 1 per cent. less than in 1943 (704,741 units), which is the highest recorded since 1930.

27. Table F in the appendix gives the regular recurrent business (in units) received and done in each of the Land Registries during the years 1940-1946.

#### DOCUMENTS EXECUTED.

28. Table C in the appendix shows the number of deeds and other registrable documents executed during the period 1940-46.

29. The average stamp duty on a single deed was Rs. 18.04 in 1946, as against Rs. 15.57 in 1945, Rs. 12.54 in 1944, Rs. 13 in 1943, Rs. 8.32 in 1942, Rs. 7.78 in 1941, and Rs. 7.73 in 1940.

#### 30. Deeds bearing the highest Execution Duty.—

1946—A deed of transfer affecting land in Colombo District, attested by Notary John Wilson, the consideration being Rs. 4,600,000, and the stamp duty Rs. 73,603.

1945—A deed of transfer affecting land in Kalutara and other districts, attested by Notary L. S. Fernando, the consideration being Rs. 2,000,000, and the stamp duty Rs. 33,689.

1944—A deed of transfer affecting land in Colombo District, attested by Notary F. J. de Saram, the consideration being Rs. 3,633,443.06, and the stamp duty Rs. 48,183.

1943—A deed of transfer affecting land in Matale District, executed before Notary S. A. Wijayatilleke, the consideration being Rs. 1,100,000, and the stamp duty Rs. 17,616.

1942—A deed of transfer affecting land in Colombo District, attested by Notary C. M. G. de Saram, the consideration being Rs. 2,050,000, and the stamp duty Rs. 32,799.

1941—A deed of transfer affecting land in Matara District, attested by Notary G. T. Hale, the consideration being Rs. 680,000, and the stamp duty Rs. 10,879.

1940—A deed of transfer affecting land in Anuradhapura, Kandy, and Colombo Districts, attested by Notary K. T. Chittampalam, the consideration being Rs. 800,000, and the stamp duty Rs. 13,167.

31. Addresses, Lites Pendentes, Priority Notices, Cancellations, Fiscals' Seizures, Renewals of Priority Notices, Trusts, and Caveats. Particulars are given in Table C.

#### DOCUMENTS REGISTERED.

32. The nature and value of deeds affecting immovable and movable property registered during the period 1940-1946 are shown in Table D of the appendix.

33. Table E of the appendix shows the proportion of deeds registered to deeds executed and the percentage of the deeds that escaped registration during the period 1940-46. In certain districts the number of deeds registered exceeds the number executed. The chief reason for this anomaly is that deeds are often executed in districts other than those in which they are registered, registration being effected in the districts where the land is situated.

34. **Registration of Settlement Orders.**—The following Settlement Orders were registered during the years 1940-1946:—

Year.	No. of Orders.	No. of allotments of land affected.
1946 ..	56 ..	2,714
1945 ..	67 ..	2,500
1944 ..	75 ..	2,381
1943 ..	94 ..	286
1942 ..	47 ..	358
1941 ..	113 ..	1,998
1940 ..	140 ..	1,391

35. **Registration of Grants under the Land Development Ordinance (Cap. 320).**—253 grants were registered in eight districts in 1946, as against 170 grants in ten districts in 1945, 80 grants in six districts in 1944, 177 in six districts in 1943, 107 in six districts in 1942, 436 in seven districts in 1941, and 77 in nine districts in 1940.

36. **Deeds presented to the Head Office for Registration.**—In 1946, 6 deeds affecting immovable and movable properties situated in different districts of the Island were presented at the head office for registration in various Land Registries, as against 3 in 1945, nil in 1944, 3 in 1943, and 2 each in 1942, 1941, and 1940.

37. **Powers of Attorney registered under the Power of Attorney Ordinance (Cap. 104).**—The following were registered:—

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
No. of Powers of Attorney ..	182 ..	171 ..	164 ..	233 ..	261 ..	243 ..	228
No. of Cancellations ..	16 ..	2 ..	8 ..	5 ..	13 ..	9 ..	12

38. **Deeds declared null and void.**—Nineteen deeds were declared null and void by the Courts during 1946, as against 3 in 1945, 10 in 1944, 8 in 1943, 11 in 1942, 18 in 1941, and 14 in 1940.

39. **Consolidation of Local Indexes.**—To facilitate search for previous registration of lands and to secure greater despatch in registration, the local indexes to land registers are from time to time consolidated, *i.e.*, combined and arranged in lexicographical order. Consolidation is, as a rule, commenced after the sixtieth volume of a registration division is reached. Very little work relating to consolidation was done from the year 1942, owing to heavy arrears in registration and insufficiency of staff. At the end of 1945 there were 5,308 volumes in the several land registries awaiting consolidation. The final stages of consolidation (typing of indexes, &c.) are attended to in the head office. In 1941, 5,117 pages were typed, as compared with 6,564 in 1940.

40. **Binding of Registers, &c.**—522 land registers and 833 volumes of notarial duplicates were bound in 1946, as against 456 land registers and 847 volumes of notarial duplicates bound during 1945. These figures do not include the binding of volumes of personal indexes and other documents, nor the rebinding and repairing of existing volumes.

## CHAPTER V.—SUPERVISION OF NOTARIES.

41. An important duty of the department is the examination of duplicates of deeds, in order to see whether they are duly stamped as required by law, and whether all rules and regulations governing the execution of deeds have been complied with. This examination is carried out very carefully, with the result that numerous irregularities are discovered. It does not, however, amount to a complete check, since the duplicates cannot be compared with the original deeds. If such a check were desired, it would be necessary to amend the law, so as to require the duplicate of every deed to be produced at the Land Registry with the original deed. This question is being further considered by the department.

42. As a result of the examination of deeds, a sum of Rs. 52,988 was recovered on account of deficiency of stamp duty, penalties, fines, and affidavits, as against Rs. 56,966 in 1945, Rs. 21,705 in 1944, Rs. 26,332 in 1943, Rs. 32,959 in 1942, Rs. 19,807 in 1941, and Rs. 76,490 in 1940—(See Table I in Chapter III). Various other irregularities were discovered as well.

43. Thirty-one prosecutions (12 of which were on account of failure to deliver duplicates by the prescribed date) were entered by the department against notaries during the year 1946 for offences under the Notaries Ordinance, as against 13 in 1945, 29 in 1944, 15 in 1943, 54 in 1942, 87 in 1941 and 47 in 1940.

44. The table below shows the number of Notaries practising in the Island during the period under review:

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
Proctors ..	1,096 ..	1,087 ..	1,076 ..	1,082 ..	1,069 ..	1,055 ..	1,054
Non-Proctors ..	190 ..	194 ..	200 ..	202 ..	208 ..	211 ..	212
	<hr/> 1,286	<hr/> 1,281	<hr/> 1,276	<hr/> 1,284	<hr/> 1,277	<hr/> 1,266	<hr/> 1,266

From the above figures it will be seen that, while the Proctor-Notaries are on the increase, the non-Proctor-Notaries are steadily decreasing in numbers.

45. Examinations were held by the Council of Legal Education for the admission of Notaries under section 4 of the Notaries Ordinance, with the following results:

Year.	No. of Candidates.		No. Passed.	
	Sinhalese.	Tamil.	Sinhalese.	Tamil.
1940 ..	.. 4 ..	3	.. 2 ..	3
1941 ..	.. 6 ..	—	.. 5 ..	—
1942 ..	.. 6 ..	3	.. 5 ..	3
1943 ..	.. 3 ..	—	.. 3 ..	—
1944 ..	.. — ..	—	.. — ..	—
1945 ..	.. 6 ..	2	.. 5 ..	2
1946 ..	.. 1 ..	1	.. 1 ..	1

One Notary was appointed under section 5 of the Notaries Ordinance in each of the years 1943, 1944, and 1946.

46. Three examinations for the admission of candidates for Notarial apprenticeship were held in 1941, 1944, and 1946, particulars of which are as follows:—

	No. of Candidates.	No. of Vacancies.
1941 ..	.. 210 ..	10
1944 ..	.. 471 ..	14
1946 ..	.. 323 ..	15

## CHAPTER VI.—REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS.

47. **Number of Events Registered.**—The numbers of events registered during the period under review are as follows:—

	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
<i>Marriages—</i>							
General ..	32,182 ..	33,683 ..	35,269 ..	36,613 ..	33,164 ..	25,168 ..	23,237
Kandyans ..	6,397 ..	6,001 ..	6,524 ..	7,344 ..	9,346 ..	6,788 ..	6,220
Muslim ..	4,418 ..	4,641 ..	5,145 ..	6,234 ..	6,012 ..	4,528 ..	4,009
Births ..	256,886 ..	238,494 ..	232,827 ..	248,820 ..	221,064 ..	219,864 ..	212,980
Deaths ..	135,938 ..	142,931 ..	133,985 ..	131,061 ..	112,044 ..	113,003 ..	122,738
Still Births ..	3,093 ..	2,698 ..	2,357 ..	2,357 ..	2,072 ..	2,429 ..	2,472

Full details will appear in the report on Vital Statistics.

48. **Non-registration of Births and Deaths.**—The following events were reported to have escaped registration:—

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
Births ..	5 ..	11 ..	25 ..	28 ..	37 ..	13 ..	18
Deaths ..	3 ..	7 ..	2 ..	5 ..	2 ..	11 ..	6

In most of these cases, the whereabouts of qualified informants were unknown.

49. Past Births, Alteration of Names, Validations, &c.—Particulars are as follows:—

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
I.—No. of declarations received for registration of past births: (1) children over 3 months and not over 1 year ..	2,497..	2,176..	1,451..	1,604..	1,030..	1,003..	863
(2) over 1 year ..	467..	262..	232..	226..	112..	170..	177
(3) Births prior to July 1, 1897 ..	— ..	5..	— ..	— ..	— ..	2..	1
II.—No. of applications received for alteration and insertion of names in birth registers:							
(1) Children not over 2 years ..	134..	103..	97..	66..	65..	79..	89
(2) Children over 2 years ..	1,295..	893..	742..	604..	287..	343..	384
III.—Applications for correction of errors of fact in birth and death registers ..	274..	216..	207..	153..	79..	136..	87
IV.—Orders made validating irregular registration ..	3..	6..	4..	4..	8..	6..	4
V.—Number of registration divisions of which limits were altered ..	— ..	3..	2..	4..	4..	4..	12
VI.—Buildings registered for Christian Marriages ..	6..	3..	8..	12..	7..	10..	17
VII.—Registered buildings cancelled ..	2..	2..	2..	1..	3..	3..	4

## CHAPTER VII.—REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, SOCIETIES, AND BUSINESS NAMES.

### TRADE MARKS.

50. Applications for Registration.—Particulars of the applications received during the period under review are given below:—

	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
(a) Applications for registration in Part A of the Register ..	618..	393..	347..	248..	155..	235..	208
(b) Applications for registration in Part B of the Register ..	2..	1..	2..	3..	— ..	4..	4
	620	394	349	251	155	239	212

The results of the hearings are as follows:

	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
(a) Allowed ..	28..	5..	4..	3..	1..	11..	6
(b) Allowed to proceed subject to certain amendments ..	7..	6..	4..	1..	2..	— ..	—
(c) Withdrawn ..	3..	5..	5..	— ..	— ..	— ..	7
(d) Refused ..	14..	8..	3..	16..	— ..	10..	—
(e) Transferred to Part B of the Register ..	2..	— ..	2..	1..	— ..	— ..	—
	54	24	18	21	3	21	13

### 51. Trade Marks Registered.

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
No. registered ..	301..	209..	165..	147..	112..	152..	150

8,069 marks in all have been registered since 1889, when the registration was commenced. 5,809 are still on the register.

### 52. Renewals of Registration.

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
No. renewed ..	207..	140..	259..	121..	257..	200..	166

53. **Removals for non-payment of Fees.**

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
No. removed ..	102..	71..	85..	100..	92..	136..	101

54. **Oppositions.**—Three notices of opposition were filed during 1946, as against 12 in 1945, 8 in 1944, 5 in 1943, 3 in 1942, 11 in 1941, and 6 in 1940. All 3 oppositions filed in 1946 were pending at the end of the year. Of the oppositions pending at the end of 1945, applications were allowed in 1 case, 2 were refused, 2 were withdrawn, 1 was treated as abandoned, and the other 2 cases are still pending. The 3 appeals pending in the Supreme Court at the end of 1945 are still pending.

## DESIGNS.

55. Twenty applications were received in 1946, as against 10 in 1945, 2 in 1944, 5 in 1943, 3 in 1942, 10 in 1941, and 17 in 1940. Ten designs were registered in 1946. 747 have been registered since 1904 when registration was commenced, and 55 are still on the register. The period of copyright has been extended for a second period of five years in 3 cases, and for a third period of five years in 1 case..

## SOCIETIES.

56. The following societies were registered under the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 105) during the year, 1946:—

- (a) The Negombo Dharmaduta Society, Limited.
- (b) Siri Sugatha Sasana Prawrajadhara Society, Limited.
- (c) The Anuradhapura Vivekananda Society, Limited.
- (d) The Vadamaradchy Hindu Educational Society, Limited.
- (e) The Vidyaloka Society, Limited.

57. The total number of societies on the register at the end of the year 1946 was 58, and 6 applications were still under consideration.

58. The registration of the Ceylon Prevention of Crime Society, Limited, was cancelled during the year 1946.

## BUILDING SOCIETIES.

59. No applications were received during 1946 for the registration of societies under the Building Societies Ordinance (Cap. 106). No societies have yet been registered under this Ordinance.

## BUSINESS NAMES.

60. The work done during the period under review was as follows:—

## Western Province.

	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
New names registered ..	2,732..	2,267..	1,748..	1,823..	867..	1,035..	816
Changes ..	1,273..	963..	842..	934..	786..	705..	675
Removals ..	686..	436..	369..	402..	357..	314..	333

## Other Provinces.

	1,624..	1,352..	1,067..	1,118..	631..	759..	558
New names registered ..	536..	75..	372..	117..	74..	96..	253
Changes ..	279..	220..	191..	213..	186..	160..	186

The total number of business names on the registers of the nine provinces on December 31, 1946, was 31,196, as against 27,805 in 1945, 24,842 in 1944, 22,587 in 1943, 20,261 in 1942, 19,306 in 1941, and 17,986 in 1940.

## CHAPTER VIII.—REGISTRATION OF PATENTS.

61. **Applications &c.**—The number of applications received in the year 1946 is shown in the following tables, together with comparative figures for the period 1940-1945:

	1946.				
	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.		Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total
By Ceylon residents ..	20	..	—	—	
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	21	..	12	3	81
By Others ..	9	..	16	—	
Number of patents accepted and sealed ..	52				
Number of patents void ..	5				
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1946 ..	66	(including 5 enemy patents)			

	1945.				
	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.		Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total
By Ceylon residents ..	19	..	—	—	
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	14	..	13	5	53
By Others ..	2	..	—	—	
Number of patents accepted and sealed ..	39				
Number of patents void ..	6				
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1945 ..	42	(including 5 enemy patents)			

	1944.				
	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.		Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total
By Ceylon residents ..	24	..	—	—	
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	4	..	4	7	44
By Others ..	5	..	—	—	
Number of patents accepted and sealed ..	65				
Number of patents void ..	5				
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1944 ..	34	(including 5 enemy patents)			

	1943.				
	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.		Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total
By Ceylon residents ..	41	..	—	—	
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	4	..	4	—	53
By Others ..	3	..	1	—	
Number of patents accepted and sealed ..	26				
Number of patents void ..	2				
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1943 ..	60	(including 5 enemy patents)			

1942.

	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.	Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total.
By Ceylon residents ..	5 .. — ..	— ..	— ..	— } 16
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	2 ..	2 ..	4 ..	4 }
By Others ..	— ..	2 ..	1 ..	1 }
Number of patents accepted and sealed	30			
Number of patents void	6			
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1942	35 (including 5 enemy patents)			

1941.

	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.	Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total.
By Ceylon residents ..	22 .. — ..	— ..	— ..	— } 42
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	12 ..	2 ..	2 ..	2 }
By Others ..	3 .. — ..	— ..	1 ..	1 }
Number of patents accepted and sealed	20			
Number of patents void	5			
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1941	55			

1940

	Ordinary Applications received.	Convention Applications received.	Certificates of registration of British Patents received.	Total.
By Ceylon residents ..	15 .. — ..	— ..	— ..	— } 32
By British subjects not resident in Ceylon ..	3 ..	2 ..	4 ..	4 }
By Others ..	6 .. — ..	2 ..	1 ..	1 }
Number of patents accepted and sealed	54			
Number of patents void	2			
Number of patents pending on December 31, 1940	38 (including 9 enemy patents)			

62.

Year.	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
Renewals ..	174 ..	173 ..	176 ..	181 ..	178 ..	179 ..	166 ..
Penalties on Renewals ..	8 ..	13 ..	6 ..	6 ..	16 ..	20 ..	22 ..
Assignments ..	4 ..	4 ..	9 ..	1 ..	4 ..	13 ..	2 ..
Copies of specifications supplied ..	21 ..	29 ..	33 ..	41 ..	17 ..	12 ..	23 ..
Public inspection of registers &c. ..	2 ..	4 ..	6 ..	5 ..	11 ..	8 ..	21 ..

## 63. Fees Recovered.—

Year	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
Fees for applications ..	4,674 0..	5,699 0..	5,230 0..	5,175 0..	2,333 50..	4,743 0..	3,569 0..
Fees for renewals ..	17,220 0..	16,600 0..	16,950 0..	16,050 0..	15,550 0..	14,850 0..	13,700 0..
Penalties for renewals &c. and other receipts ..	1,420 75..	852 0..	1,124 75..	615 50..	865 0..	1,203 0..	1,131 75..
	<u>23,314 75</u>	<u>23,151 0</u>	<u>23,304 75</u>	<u>21,840 50</u>	<u>18,748 50</u>	<u>20,796 0</u>	<u>18,400 75</u>

64. Trend of Inventions.—Applications for inventions received during the period under review are classified below into different groups:—

Group.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Group.	Tea.	Rubber.	Coconuts.	Agriculture.	Textile.	Chemicals.	Electrical.	General Engineering
1946	.. 11 ..	2 ..	2 ..	2 ..	2 ..	15 ..	7 ..	40 ..
1945	.. 6 ..	4 ..	1 ..	3 ..	5 ..	4 ..	1 ..	29 ..
1944	.. 5 ..	9 ..	1 ..	1 ..	— ..	7 ..	2 ..	19 ..
1943	.. 8 ..	14 ..	— ..	3 ..	— ..	5 ..	4 ..	19 ..
1942	.. 2 ..	5 ..	— ..	1 ..	— ..	2 ..	1 ..	5 ..
1941	.. 6 ..	3 ..	1 ..	1 ..	1 ..	9 ..	4 ..	17 ..
1940	.. 6 ..	2 ..	1 ..	— ..	— ..	5 ..	— ..	18 ..

65. Opposition to Grant of Patents.—Opposition to the grant of patents on application No. 3325 was filed at the end of year 1946.

## CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

66. **Cheetu Ordinance (Chapter 128).**—No agreements under the Ordinance were registered during the years 1941, 1942, 1944, 1945, and 1946. One was registered in 1943, and 13 were registered in 1940.

67. **Board of Kathis.**—The Board of Kathis appointed under section 5 of the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Ordinance (Chapter 99) began to function in 1937.

Throughout the year 1946, Messrs. M. I. M. Haniffa (President), A. H. M. Ismail, A. C. Mohammado, and B. C. Ahlip were members of the Board. Mr. M. C. Abdul Cader, who was a member of the Board from its inception in 1937, resigned on March 9, and Mr. A. R. M. Razeen succeeded him on June 1.

The Board held 43 meetings during the year.

Certain statistics relating to the cases dealt with in appeal are subjoined:—

(1) Pending on January 1, 1946	..	..	..	..	6
(2) Revised during the year	..	..	..	..	42
(3) Disposed of during the year—					
(a) Allowed ..	..	..	..	..	2
(b) Dismissed ..	..	..	..	..	22
(c) Rejected (being out of time)	..	..	..	..	3
(d) Kathis' orders varied ..	..	..	..	..	7
(e) Cases returned for further trial or retrial ..	..	..	..	..	7
(f) Withdrawn ..	..	..	..	..	3
				—	44
(4) Pending on December 31, 1946 ..	..	..	..	..	4

68. **Certificates of Naturalization.**—The British Nationality and Status of Aliens Acts, 1914-43, empower the Governor to grant, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, certificates of naturalization that are valid throughout the British Dominions. Certain statistics relating to the cases dealt with are subjoined:—

	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940
No. of applications received ..	8 ..	7 ..	10 ..	2 ..	5 ..	4 ..	3
No. of certificates granted ..	7 ..	1 ..	2 ..	2 ..	2 ..	3 ..	3
No. of declarations of acquisition of British nationality taken ..	2 ..	1 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	2

69. **Holidays.**—The total number of Public and Bank Holidays under the Holidays Ordinance (Cap. 135), including special holidays under section 7, amounts to 23 in the course of a normal year. The number of holidays observed in each year between 1940 and 1946 was as follows:—

	Public Holidays.	Bank Holidays.
1946 ..	..	23 .. 25*
1945 ..	..	27† .. 23
1944 ..	..	18† .. 23
1943 ..	..	17† .. 23
1942 ..	..	12† .. 23
1941 ..	..	20† .. 23
1940 ..	..	22 .. 23

\* 2 additional holidays were observed in addition to the usual Bank Holidays, owing to conditions necessitated by the Bank Strike.

† 5 additional holidays (2 on account of the cessation of hostilities in Europe and 3 on account of the end of war with Japan) were observed in addition to the usual holidays. The usual holidays were, however, curtailed by 1 day, owing to war-time conditions.

‡ The number was curtailed on account of war-time conditions.

## REGISTRATION OF BHIKKHUS.

70. The preparation and maintenance of the register of Bhikkhus under section 41 of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance (Chapter 222) was assigned to this Department in 1931. During the period under review the Samanera and Upasampada Bhikkhu declarations received were disposed of as follows:—

(a) Samanera Declarations received and registered:—

		No. of declarations received.	No. of declarations registered.
1946	..	112	105
1945	..	232	226
1944	..	109	100
1943	..	135	131
1942	..	50	56
1941	..	181	179
1940	..	307	288

(b) Upasampada Declarations received and registered:—

		No. of Declarations received.	No. of Declarations registered.
1946	..	181	175
1945	..	228	226
1944	..	252	234
1943	..	314	303
1942	..	149	150
1941	..	395	380
1940	..	348	342

## ADOPTION OF CHILDREN.

71. The Adoption of Children Ordinance, No. 24 of 1941, came into force on February 1, 1944. The number of adoption orders registered during the year 1946 was 59, as against 42 in 1945 and 35 in 1944.

## REVISION OF REGISTERS OF VOTERS.

72. The areas comprising—

- (a) the old electoral districts of Colombo North, Colombo Central, and Colombo South,
- (b) the part of Ambatalenpahala in the Colombo Mudaliyar's division, consisting of village headman's divisions Nos. 508 (Kittanpahuwa village) and 509 (Kotuwila village),
- (c) the Kolonnawa Urban Council area, and
- (d) the part of Colombo Mudaliyar's division consisting of Galkissa peruwā (including the Dehiwala-Mt. Lavinia Urban Council area),

were subdivided by the Delimitation Commission of 1946 into four electoral districts, namely, Colombo North, Colombo Central, Colombo South, and Wellawatta-Galkissa, and the Registrar-General was appointed registering and returning officer for all four.

73. The method adopted in the revision of the electoral registers in 1946 was the same as in previous years. The registers, however, were entirely rearranged, and the names of the electors were arranged by streets and assessment numbers, instead of being arranged alphabetically. The number of electors in the final registers is as follows:—

Electoral District.	Number of Electors.
Colombo North	30,793
Colombo Central	55,995
Colombo South	31,864
Wellawatta-Galkissa	38,664

## REGISTRATION OF BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS.

74. The administration of the Printers and Publishers Ordinance (Chapter 137) and the Newspapers Ordinance (Chapter 138), which was transferred from the Colonial Secretary to the Registrar-General by notification dated July 3, 1931, and which was carried on for a time by the Government Archivist and Record-keeper for and on behalf of the Registrar-General, was taken over by this department with effect from February 1, 1941.

75. All books registered under the Printers and Publishers Ordinance and newspapers filed under the Newspapers Ordinance subsequent to the year 1885 were transferred from the Government Archives to this department in February, 1941. These records, which form a valuable source of information for research students, are presently housed in the Land Registry premises at Rajagiriya, along with some other records belonging to this department, for want of accommodation in the head office, where the work connected with the administration of the above-mentioned two Ordinances is done.

76. The number of books registered during the period under review is as follows:—

1842 in 1941; 1038 in 1942; 979 in 1943; 899 in 1944; 1041 in 1945 and 1182 in 1946.

The upward trend in the number of books printed in 1945 is no doubt due to the gradual relaxation of the paper-control restrictions.

#### GOVERNMENT TOURIST AND PUBLICITY BUREAU.

77. In terms of a decision of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry, and Commerce, the Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau was closed for the duration of the war with effect from October 1, 1943.

### CHAPTER X.—ADMINISTRATION.

#### LEGISLATION.

78. Several Ordinances relating to the work of the department were amended during the period under review. A brief account of these Ordinances is given below.

79. The Marriage Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1940, came into operation on August 8, 1940. Its main effect was to amend the provisions of section 35 of the Marriage Registration Ordinance (Cap. 95) relating to licences of the solemnization of marriages elsewhere than in a registrar's office or a place of worship. In the first place, it reduced the fee ordinarily payable for such licences, and, secondly, it restricted the issue of free licences to cases in which the Provincial Registrar was satisfied that the female party not only belonged to a class of people to whose customs it was contrary to require their females to appear in public before wedlock but also had at all times observed such customs.

80. The Muslim Marriages (Validation) Ordinance, No. 17 of 1940, came into operation on August 8, 1940. It declared that the marriages referred to in the Schedule should be deemed to be as valid and effectual as if, in each case, the Kathi who authorized the marriage or the registration thereof had been duly assisted at his inquiry by three Muslim assessors, as provided by the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Ordinance (Cap. 99). It further indemnified every one of these Kathis for his failure to empanel Muslim assessors at such inquiry.

81. The Patents, Designs, Copyrights and Trade Marks (Emergency) Ordinance, No. 32 of 1942, was deemed to have come into operation on September 3, 1939. It contained provisions analogous to those of the corresponding Act of the Imperial Parliament.

82. The Notaries (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 7 of 1943, which came into operation on April 23, 1943, effected a number of amendments to the Notaries Ordinance (Cap. 93). It contained new provisions regarding the number and situation of notaries' offices; it modified rule 25 in section 30 of the principal Ordinance in the case of instruments executed or acknowledged by two or more parties on different occasions; it recast the penal provisions of section 30 of the principal Ordinance, and empowered the Registrar-General to compound

offences under certain sections thereof; and it provided for the destruction of certain protocols and other documents that were delivered to the Registrars of Lands in terms of section 37 of the principal Ordinance.

83. The Notaries Amendment Ordinance, No. 59 of 1943, came into operation on December 23, 1943. Its main effect was to relax the provisions of section 26 (2) of the Notaries Ordinance regarding the issue to notaries of annual certificates to practise, and to extend the right of appeal in such matters.

84. The Adoption of Children Ordinance, No. 24 of 1941, was amended by the Adoption of Children (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 54 of 1943, which came into operation on February 1, 1944. These Ordinances made provision for the adoption of children and for the registration, as custodians, of persons having the care, custody, or control of children of whom they were not the natural parents. They require the Registrar-General to maintain certain registers and records.

85. The Colombo Land Registry (Change of Situation) Ordinance, No. 45 of 1944, came into operation on December 12, 1944. Its effect was to correct certain technical irregularities that had occurred in connexion with the removal of the Colombo Land Registry to Rajagiriya in 1942.

86. The Marriage Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 49 of 1944, came into operation on December 20, 1944. Its object was to remove the difficulties that sometimes arose over the registration of marriages when the boundaries of registration divisions were altered.

87. The Notaries (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 51 of 1944, came into operation on December 20, 1944. It amended section 12 of the Notaries Ordinance (Cap. 91) so as to enable notaries to give security by personal bond and the guarantee of an approved Guarantee Company or Association.

88. The Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 53 of 1944, also came into operation on December 20, 1944. It effected several amendments in the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance (Cap. 94), with a view to ensuring that, wherever possible, births and deaths should be reported by qualified medical practitioners. In particular, it provided that, when a birth or death occurred in a Government hospital, no person except the officer in charge of the hospital should be required to give information of the event to the Registrar.

89. The Land Registers (Reconstructed Folios) Ordinance, No. 18 of 1945, came into operation on August 24, 1945. It provided that, if any folio in a land register were lost or damaged, the Registrar-General might replace it by a reconstructed folio, after giving due notice to the public and hearing any representations that might be made by interested persons.

90. The Marriage Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 20 of 1945, and the Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 21 of 1945, both came into operation on August 29, 1945. They amended the law so as to permit a registrar, in special circumstances, to live or hold an office outside his division.

91. The Registration of Deaths (Emergency Provisions) Ordinance, No. 24 of 1945, was deemed to have come into operation on September 3, 1939. It made special provision for the registration, in time of war, of the deaths of persons subject to military law and members of the armed forces of the enemy, and for the disposal of their bodies.

92. The Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 54 of 1945, came into operation on December 18, 1945, amending the Second Schedule to the Patents Ordinance (Chapter 123). Its effect was to reduce the fees prescribed by the principal Ordinance, some of which were higher than the fees payable in the United Kingdom.

93. The Marriage Registration Amendment Ordinance, No. 34 of 1946, was passed on August 23, 1946. Its main object was to alter the administration of the Marriage Registration Ordinance (Chapter 95) from a provincial basis to a revenue district basis. The Ordinance has not yet been brought into operation.

## INSPECTIONS.

94. The number of offices inspected during the period under review is given in the table below:

	(a) Inspected by the Registrar-General.						
	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
Branch offices ..	..	1..	1..	25..	15..	2 ..	5
Registrars' Offices ..	..	—	—	—	—	..	—
Notaries' Offices ..	..	1..	6..	—	13 ..	14 ..	8
	(b) Inspected by Inspecting Officers.						
	1946.	1945.	1944.	1943.	1942.	1941.	1940.
Branch Offices ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	5
Registrars' Offices ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Noaries' Offices ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	8

## MOVING OF OFFICES AND RECORDS.

95. Early in 1942 it was decided that, as a measure of precaution during the War, certain Government offices, having the custody of important public records should be moved from danger zones to places of greater safety.

The offices and records of this department to be so moved were:—

- (a) The branch Land Registry established for the registration district of Colombo, which was moved to the Hewavitarne School Buildings at Rajagiriya with effect from April 1, 1942, and remains there still. These buildings are inconveniently situated and are unsuitable in various ways, but unfortunately no better premises are available.
- (b) The branch Land Registry established for the registration district of Trincomalee, which was moved to Kovitkudiyiruppu in Tampalakanam pattu with effect from May 18, 1942, and was moved back to Trincomalee on October 2, 1944.
- (c) The office of the Registrar-General (including the offices of the Registrar of Business Names, Western Province, the Registrar of Trade Marks, &c.), which was moved to "Sirimathie", Horetuduwa, Moratuwa, with effect from April 15, 1942, was moved back to Colombo in March, 1946.
- (d) The Marriage, Birth, and Death records of the Registrar-General's Office, which were moved to the Bauddha Mandiraya at Ratnapura, with effect from March 15, 1942, and were brought back to Colombo after the Registrar-General's Office came into occupation of the present building in York Street, Fort.
- (e) The office of the Registrar of Patents, which was moved to the Hewavitarne School buildings at Rajagiriya with effect from April 23, 1942, and was moved to its present building in Lotus Road on July 27, 1946.

## OFFICE ACCOMMODATION, &amp;c.

96. No new buildings were constructed, nor were any extensive improvements effected to any existing buildings of the department, during the period under review. Some improvements were done to the offices of the Provincial Registrar, Batticaloa and Badulla. The Land Registries at Batticaloa, Galle, and Kegalla were supplied with some record presses. Out of the annual allocation made to this Department by the Director of Public Works, some minor improvements were effected to a few buildings.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

97. I have referred in Chapter II. of this report to the excellent work done by Mudaliyars P. D. Ratnatunga and C. M. Agalawatta. The standard they set has been ably maintained by their successors, Mudaliyar J. W. A. Perera and Mr. D. Walton. The Registrars of Lands deserve special mention, because they are in charge of important offices, and have to take greater responsibilities than usually fall upon officers of comparable status. Finally, I wish to record my appreciation of the efficient work of the staff of the head office, and in particular of the heads of branches.

Registrar-General's Office,

Colombo, October 2, 1947

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G. L. D. DAVIDSON,

Registrar-General.

## REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

## APPENDIX.

Table A.—Detailed Statement of Business done in Land Registries for Years 1940-46.

Regular Recurrent Business.	1940.	Percentage of decrease or increase over 1939.	1941.	Percentage of decrease or increase over 1940.	1942.	Percentage of decrease or increase over 1941.	1943.	Percentage of decrease or increase over 1942.	1944.	Percentage of decrease or increase over 1943.	1945.	Percentage of decrease or increase over 1944.	1946.	Percentage of increase or decrease over 1945.
Deeds registered ..	211,438	.. + 6·6 ..	230,584	.. + 9·1 ..	268,188	.. + 16 ..	274,078	.. + 2·4 ..	236,276	.. - 13·9 ..	216,939	.. - 8·18 ..	241,263	.. + 11·21 ..
Registration entries ..	355,961	.. + 8·5 ..	361,592	.. + 1·6 ..	427,165	.. + 18 ..	450,098·5	.. + 5·3 ..	387,570	.. - 13·8 ..	349,137	.. - 9·91 ..	383,270	.. + 9·77 ..
Fiscal Seizures registered ..	1,113	.. - 9·5 ..	991	.. - 11 ..	639	.. - 35 ..	450	.. - 29·5 ..	680	.. + 51·1 ..	595	.. - 12·45 ..	694	.. + 18·64 ..
Priority Notices registered ..	185	.. + 16·4 ..	214	.. + 15·7 ..	125	.. - 41 ..	102	.. - 18·4 ..	217	.. + 112·7 ..	117	.. - 46·08 ..	138	.. + 17·94 ..
Trusts registered ..	7	.. + 16·7 ..	4	.. - 42·9 ..	12	.. + 200 ..	3	.. - 75 ..	8	.. + 166·6 ..	3	.. - 62·50 ..	7	.. + 133·33 ..
Lites pendentes registered ..	3,583	.. + 6 ..	3,637	.. + 1·5 ..	3,529	.. - 2 ..	5,491	.. + 55·6 ..	6,623	.. + 20·1 ..	5,468	.. - 17·43 ..	5,309	.. - 2·94 ..
Application for registration of addresses registered ..	15,743	.. + 7·8 ..	16,957	.. + 7·7 ..	16,994	.. + .1 ..	15,091	.. - 11·1 ..	14,007	.. - 7·2 ..	14,306	.. + 2·13 ..	18,906	.. + 82·15 ..
Addressers registered (entries) ..	27,012	.. + 4·6 ..	28,646	.. + 6 ..	28,342	.. - 1 ..	26,754	.. - 5·6 ..	25,483	.. - 4·8 ..	24,005	.. - 5·60 ..	15,100	.. + 25·54 ..
Renewals of Priority Notices registered ..	4	.. - 60 ..	7	.. + 75 ..	4	.. - 42 ..	15	.. + 275 ..	7	.. - 53·3 ..	15	.. + 114·33 ..	4	.. - 73·33 ..
Cancellation of Priority Notices ..	35	.. - 2·8 ..	27	.. - 22·9 ..	18	.. - 33 ..	30	.. + 66·6 ..	52	.. + 73·3 ..	54	.. + 3·84 ..	42	.. - 22·22 ..
Copies and Extracts issued ..	18,589	.. - 7·1 ..	19,218	.. + 3·4 ..	19,898	.. + 3 ..	26,560	.. + 33·4 ..	30,800	.. + 16 ..	36,764	.. + 19·36 ..	29,693	.. - 19·23 ..
Folios copied ..	123,878·25	.. - 3 ..	131,132·5	.. + 5·9 ..	146,732·75	.. + 11 ..	193,243·375	.. + 31·7 ..	216,331·30	.. + 10·6 ..	284,895·63	.. + 36·31 ..	239,141·09	.. - 18·9 ..
Lands searched ..	230	.. - 7·3 ..	207	.. - 10 ..	131	.. - 36 ..	145	.. + 10·6 ..	163	.. + 12·4 ..	163	.. - 147 ..	9·81	.. - 9·81 ..
Deeds searched (years) ..	350	.. - 10·1 ..	327	.. - 6·6 ..	402	.. + 22 ..	629	.. + 56·4 ..	637·130	.. + 1·2 ..	515·78	.. - 19·15 ..	717·38	.. + 39·8 ..
Records verified ..	340,923	.. + 4·3 ..	317,839	.. - 6·8 ..	384,769	.. + 21 ..	464,873	.. + 20·8 ..	396,016	.. - 14·8 ..	405,097	.. + 2·26 ..	319,249	.. - 21·19 ..
Deeds examined ..	198,996	.. + 5·1 ..	225,178	.. + 13·2 ..	205,330	.. - 9 ..	282,244	.. + 37·4 ..	207,748	.. - 26·3 ..	179,320	.. - 13·69 ..	209,733	.. + 16·96 ..
Crown Grants listed ..	1,823	.. - 17·1 ..	1,780	.. - 2·4 ..	1,058	.. - 40 ..	1,034	.. - 2·26 ..	581	.. - 44·8 ..	489	.. - 14·21 ..	52	.. - 89·36 ..
Miscellaneous* (in units) ..	9,231·58	.. - 12·9 ..	8,575·89	.. - 7·1 ..	9,975·25	.. + 16 ..	15,149·23	.. + 52·9 ..	16,841·84	.. + 11·1 ..	29,916·53	.. + 77·76 ..	28,694·04	.. - 4·08 ..
Total (in Units) ..	507,562·83	.. + 5·6 ..	543,457·08	.. + 7·1 ..	617,579·83	.. + 13 ..	701,095·79	.. + 13·5 ..	641,618·88	.. - 8·5 ..	671,750·26	.. + 10·7 ..	668,801·049 ..	.. - 44 ..
Special non-recurrent work.														
Consolidation of indexes (in units) ..	16,814·03	.. + 24·6 ..	28,516·55	.. + 60·6 ..	4,746·27	.. - 83 ..	3,463·21	.. - 27 ..	2,878·21	.. - 16·8 ..	594·75	.. - 79·36 ..	2,603·85 ..	.. + 337·8 ..
Reverification of deeds (in units) ..	362·5	.. + 35·3 ..	242·48	.. - 33·1 ..	109·11	.. - 58 ..	171·49	.. + 56·8 ..	129·48	.. - 24·5 ..	59·48	.. - 54·27 ..	349·06 ..	.. + 408 ..
Miscellaneous† (in units) ..	9,392·41	.. + 23·5 ..	12,722·10	.. + 35·5 ..	513·01	.. - 95 ..	10·50	.. - 98 ..	6,009·03	.. + 571·3 ..	18,889·45 ..	.. + 214·50 ..	32,048·854 ..	.. + 69·57 ..
Total (in units) ..	26,568·94	.. + 24·3 ..	41,481·13	.. + 56·1 ..	5,368·39	.. - 87 ..	3,645·20	.. - 32 ..	9,016·72	.. + 147·3 ..	19,554·18 ..	.. + 116·80 ..	35,001·764 ..	.. + 78·09 ..
GRAND TOTAL ..	534,131·77	.. + 6·4 ..	584,938·21	.. + 9·5 ..	622,948·22	.. + 6 ..	704,740·99	.. + 13·1 ..	650,635·60	.. - 7·6 ..	691,304·44	.. + 6·25 ..	703,802·813 ..	.. + 1·80 ..

\* Comparing of copies of deeds and extracts and reference to registers where documents are already registered and copying Municipal certificates and comparing them (Colombo).

† Copying old indexes and comparing them.



Table B.—Abstract of business transacted and capacity of staff employed in Land Registries for the Years 1940-46.

	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
1. Arrears at the beginning of the year	15,372.18	..	17,885.91	..	8,787.40	..	24,129.80
Business received—Regular recurrent work	510,083.59	..	535,848.64	..	634,889.10	..	699,136.53
Special non-recurrent work ..	26,568.94	..	41,480.13	..	5,368.39	..	3,645.20
Increase or decrease in regular recurrent work .. +	27,478.55	.. +	25,765.05	.. +	99,040.46	.. +	64,247.43
Total business for the year (Total of 1 and 2)	552,024.71	..	595,214.68	..	649,044.89	..	726,911.53
Minimum task capacity of the permanent staff ..	457,104.51	..	471,765.52	..	466,929.88	..	487,475.93
Business received in excess of capacity ..	94,920.20	..	123,449.16	..	182,115.01	..	239,435.60
Business done ..	534,131.77	..	584,938.21	..	622,948.22	..	704,740.99
8. Arrears at the end of the year ..	17,891.51	..	10,258.66	..	24,129.80	..	20,548.20
							..
							26,312.15
							..
							31,988.60
							..
							36,832.31

*Note.—* Adjustments have been made in figures under items 1 and 8 in respect of deeds returned unregistered and work subsequently treated as non-task work.

Table C.—Number of Notaries practising and Particulars of Deeds and other registrable Documents executed in 1940-46.

	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Number of notaries practising ..	1,266	..	1,266	..	1,277	..	1,281
Number of deeds executed—							1,286
Notarial ..	200,111	..	212,073	..	252,039	..	247,006
Non-Notarial ..	22,715	..	25,107	..	32,477	..	32,975
Total ..	222,826	..	237,180	..	284,516	..	279,981
Number of other documents executed—							
Addresses for Service (No. of applications) ..	15,733	..	16,814	..	17,513	..	11,530
Deeds pendentes ..	3,593	..	3,610	..	3,623	..	5,524
Fiscal seizures ..	1,163	..	927	..	612	..	511
Priority notices ..	186	..	212	..	119	..	159
Saveteats ..	133	..	118	..	102	..	123
Renewals of priority notices ..	5	..	10	..	8	..	13
Cancellations ..	33	..	29	..	18	..	26
Trusts ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1
Total ..	20,846	..	21,720	..	21,995	..	17,887
Grand Total (deeds and other documents) ..	243,672	..	258,900	..	306,511	..	297,868
Percentage of deeds registered to deeds executed ..	94.9	..	97.2	..	94.6	..	98
Consideration of deeds executed ..	Rs. 117,899,706	..	Rs. 138,359,259	..	Rs. 200,664,855	..	Rs. 240,342,997
Value of stamps affixed to deeds ..	Rs. 1,611,798	..	Rs. 1,845,296	..	Rs. 2,652,188	..	Rs. 3,211,166
Percentage of deeds written in—	English ..	41	..	41	..	40	..
	Sinhalese ..	49	..	48	..	49	..
	Tamil ..	10	..	11	..	11	..

.. Rs. 263,114,774 .. Rs. 303,943,527.54 .. Rs. 366,616,037.78  
.. Rs. 4,369,539 .. Rs. 3,523,684.94 .. Rs. 4,512,570.29

40.37 .. 39.5 ..  
49.64 .. 50.2 ..  
9.99 .. 10.3 ..

## REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

Table D.—Nature, Number and Value of Deeds affecting Immovable and Movable Property registered in 1940-46.

Nature of Deeds.	Number.	1940.		1941.		1942.		1943.		1944.		1945.		1946.																				
		Consideration.		Consideration.		Consideration.		Consideration.		Consideration.		Consideration.		Consideration.																				
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.																			
<i>Immovables.</i>																																		
Transfers by sale, gift, &c.	123,162	..	60,711,695	0	..	133,971	..	75,389,351	0	..	161,088	..	107,503,743	0	..	166,073	..	148,621,810	0	..	138,994	..	160,866,419	90	..	125,462	..	177,299,001	83	..	137,154	..	213,292,719	65
Mortgages	51,870	..	24,577,167	0	..	55,399	..	25,847,466	0	..	58,786	..	30,932,667	0	..	53,497	..	32,924,750	0	..	52,494	..	42,161,923	8	..	52,118	..	45,121,029	0	..	59,985	..	76,827,209	92
Discharges*	13,660	..	16,857,559	0	..	16,545	..	19,919,372	0	..	25,525	..	26,510,516	0	..	27,853	..	26,983,589	0	..	21,993	..	23,970,324	41	..	19,593	..	41,463,620	82	..	20,030	..	30,327,811	60
Leases	13,887	..	4,874,931	0	..	14,858	..	5,273,387	0	..	13,663	..	3,569,486	0	..	17,343	..	6,110,754	0	..	14,623	..	8,162,680	20	..	12,072	..	6,919,623	65	..	15,544	..	16,944,897	73
Other deeds	8,339	..	5,988,636	0	..	9,111	..	8,604,275	0	..	8,639	..	8,782,745	0	..	9,210	..	11,350,131	0	..	7,397	..	13,191,515	0	..	6,708	..	15,566,867	60	..	7,401	..	14,022,948	30
Total	210,918	..	113,009,988	0	..	229,884	..	135,033,851	0	..	267,701	..	177,299,157	0	..	273,976	..	225,991,037	0	..	235,501	..	248,952,862	59	..	215,953	..	286,370,147	61	..	240,114	..	351,415,585	21
<i>Movables.</i>																																		
Transfers by sale, gift, &c.	182	..	533,516	0	..	197	..	529,845	0	..	121	..	813,263	0	..	166	..	584,590	0	..	160	..	577,831	78	..	164	..	845,507	14	..	219	..	1,810,718	83
Mortgages	209	..	743,333	0	..	369	..	1,317,823	0	..	219	..	1,675,458	0	..	293	..	4,578,185	0	..	339	..	4,312,420	38	..	417	..	6,434,474	57	..	606	..	18,723,592	95
Discharges*	21	..	76,250	0	..	23	..	236,087	0	..	20	..	1,945,278	0	..	33	..	571,790	0	..	55	..	1,455,650	0	..	36	..	453,800	0	..	43	..	593,556	0
Leases	7	..	1,610	0	..	9	..	7,995	0	..	16	..	11,893	0	..	11	..	23,140	0	..	17	..	10,940	0	..	9	..	23,250	0	..	36	..	275,855	0
Other deeds	101	..	1,132,350	0	..	103	..	136,768	0	..	111	..	319,196	0	..	196	..	501,289	0	..	223	..	1,272,858	89	..	362	..	745,075	13	..	237	..	632,420	17
Total	520	..	2,537,059	0	..	700	..	2,228,518	0	..	487	..	4,765,088	0	..	699	..	6,258,995	0	..	794	..	7,629,701	5	..	988	..	8,502,106	84	..	1,149	..	16,585,942	95
GRAND TOTAL	211,438	..	115,547,047	0	..	230,584	..	137,262,369	0	..	268,188	..	182,064,245	0	..	274,675	..	232,250,032	0	..	236,295	..	256,582,563	64	..	216,941	..	294,872,254	45	..	241,263	..	368,001,538	16

\* Includes only discharges by means of endorsement on mortgage bonds and not discharges by means of receipts, court decree, &c.



Table E.—Proportion of Deeds Registered to Deeds executed in each District in the Years 1940-46.

1940.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.			Number of Deeds registered.			Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Immovables.		
Anuradhapura	2,437	2,434	2,412	2,405	1	1·2		
Badulla	5,922	5,887	6,161	6,143				
Batticaloa	5,461	5,407	4,383	4,381	19·7	18·9		
Chilaw	4,136	4,100	4,320	4,307				
Colombo	42,034	40,516	38,356	38,145	8·75	5·9		
Galle	17,429	17,297	17,111	17,090	1·8	1·2		
Jaffna	23,984	18,943	17,258	17,246	28·1	8·9		
Kalutara	17,310	17,225	17,756	17,727				
Kandy	18,328	18,148	17,741	17,690	3·2	2·5		
Kegalla	18,014	18,007	17,291	17,281	4	4		
Kurunegala	19,401	19,376	20,373	20,358				
Mannar	689	655	674	649	2·17	·9		
Matale	5,338	5,309	5,388	5,376				
Matara	13,711	13,701	13,426	13,409	2·1	2·1		
Negombo	11,406	11,340	10,609	10,600	6·9	6·5		
Nuwara Eliya	2,468	2,423	2,772	2,767				
Puttalam	1,021	1,001	1,120	1,104				
Ratnapura	7,921	7,898	8,492	8,479				
Tangalla	4,514	4,504	4,614	4,605				
Trincomalee	946	932	873	850	7·7	8·8		
Vavuniya	356	330	310	306	12·9	7·3		

1941.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.			Number of Deeds registered.			Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Immovables.		
Anuradhapura	2,748	2,735	2,575	2,571	6·3	6		
Badulla	6,048	6,007	6,287	6,267				
Batticaloa	6,539	6,496	5,503	5,500	15·8	15·3		
Chilaw	4,332	4,308	4,648	4,629				
Colombo	42,807	41,345	39,814	39,496	7·0	4·5		
Galle	18,442	18,294	18,867	18,828				
Jaffna	24,624	19,549	18,727	18,702	23·9	4·3		
Kalutara	16,769	16,737	16,781	16,754				
Kandy	20,893	20,673	20,018	19,967	4·2	3·4		
Kegalla	18,688	18,672	19,667	19,642				
Kurunegala	23,130	23,090	24,217	24,195				
Mannar	608	583	594	571	2·3	2·1		
Matale	6,075	6,045	5,806	5,787	4·4	4·3		
Matara	15,111	15,111	15,677	15,666				
Negombo	11,456	11,405	11,046	11,015	3·6	3·4		
Nuwara Eliya	2,606	2,568	2,997	2,986				
Puttalam	1,115	1,093	1,213	1,199				
Ratnapura	7,899	7,886	8,746	8,731				
Tangalla	5,942	5,928	6,075	6,071				
Trincomalee	893	880	923	907				
Vavuniya	455	423	403	400	11·4	5·4		

Table E.—*contd.*

1942.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.			Number of Deeds registered.			Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Im- movables.		
Anuradhapura	3,053	3,048	2,970	2,965	2·7	2·7		
Badulla	7,880	7,864	7,786	7,773	1·1	1·1		
Batticaloa	7,210	7,180	6,055	6,054	16·	15·6		
Chilaw	4,920	4,915	5,370	5,360				
Galle	22,673	22,445	22,349	22,324	1·4	·5		
Jaffna	36,088	27,573	26,328	26,301	27·04	4·3		
Kalutara	18,693	18,617	18,529	18,488	·8	·6		
Kandy	22,801	22,614	22,313	22,273	2·1	1		
Kegalla	21,535	21,528	22,114	22,102				
Kurunegala	29,424	29,361	31,226	31,204				
Mannar	705	685	741	730				
Matale	7,965	7,944	7,536	7,525	5·3	5·2		
Matara	20,187	20,186	20,274	20,266				
Negombo	13,836	13,778	12,723	12,694	8	7·8		
Nuwara Eliya	3,682	3,629	3,883	3,874				
Puttalam	1,160	1,080	1,338	1,323				
Rajagiriya	43,727	42,578	37,772	37,599	13·6	11·6		
Ratnapura	10,361	10,348	10,682	10,674				
Tampalagamam	392	376	366	353	6·6	6·1		
Tangalla	7,607	7,578	7,384	7,383	2·9	2·5		
Vavuniya	617	560	449	446	27·3	10·3		

1943.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.			Number of Deeds. registered.			Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Im- movables.		
Anuradhapura	2,648	2,645	2,942	2,936				
Badulla	6,806	6,756	6,722	6,707	1·2	·63		
Batticaloa	7,473	7,290	6,953	6,951	4·5	4·6		
Chilaw	5,395	5,582	6,680	6,665				
Galle	19,178	19,043	22,174	22,142				
Jaffna	30,889	24,548	23,354	23,317	24·3	6·3		
Kalutara	19,566	19,466	19,830	19,791				
Kandy	21,923	21,757	21,600	21,545	1·4	·9		
Kegalla	22,139	22,123	22,041	22,011	·4	—		
Kurunegala	30,819	30,780	35,269	35,254				
Mannar	809	774	724	703	10·5	9		
Matale	7,146	7,141	7,203	7,188				
Matara	18,569	18,569	18,999	18,987				
Negombo	14,160	14,122	13,458	13,420	4·9	4·9		
Nuwara Eliya	3,048	3,018	3,572	3,562				
Puttalam	1,330	1,306	1,455	1,428				
Rajagiriya	45,724	44,550	41,349	41,054	9·5	7·8		
Ratnapura	10,662	10,635	11,569	11,548				
Tampalagamam	825	815	752	743	8·8	8·8		
Tangalla	7,155	7,121	7,670	7,668				
Vavuniya	536	476	362	339				

Table E—*contd.*

1944.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.		Number of Deeds registered.		Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Im- movables.
Anuradhapura	2,385	2,384	2,452	2,444	—	—
Badulla	6,570	6,535	6,728	6,703	—	—
Batticaloa	6,863	6,809	6,492	6,488	5·4	4·7
Chilaw	5,215	5,211	5,773	5,766	—	—
Galle	19,593	19,472	20,147	20,084	—	—
Jaffna	27,616	22,449	21,158	21,127	23·4	5·5
Kalutara	17,179	17,079	16,848	16,808	1·9	1·5
Kandy	19,323	19,083	19,236	19,125	·4	—
Kegalla	18,603	18,595	17,960	17,962	3·3	3·4
Kurunegala	26,978	26,942	28,253	28,238	—	—
Mannar	820	800	971	946	—	—
Matale	6,065	6,050	6,034	6,024	·5	·4
Matara	14,897	14,888	15,120	15,111	—	—
Negombo	11,632	11,595	10,923	10,879	6	5·8
Nuwara Eliya	2,969	2,947	3,276	3,254	—	—
Puttalam	1,252	1,238	1,417	1,387	—	—
Rajagiriya	40,090	38,677	36,588	36,269	8·7	6·3
Ratnapura	7,638	7,628	9,529	9,522	—	—
Tangalla	936	914	850	839	9·1	8·2
Trincomalee	6,054	6,017	6,045	6,043	—	—
Vavuniya	554	507	493	482	11	4·9

1945.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.		No. of Deeds registered.		Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Im- movables.
Anuradhapura	2,190	2,190	2,937	2,935	—	—
Badulla	5,990	5,959	5,888	5,860	1·7	1·6
Batticaloa	7,005	6,945	7,252	7,248	—	—
Chilaw	5,145	5,144	5,552	5,528	—	—
Galle	16,540	16,398	16,713	16,679	—	—
Jaffna	25,120	20,899	20,665	20,612	17·7	1·4
Kalutara	15,379	15,285	15,377	15,332	—	—
Kandy	17,212	17,001	16,513	16,416	4·5	3·4
Kegalla	16,696	16,696	16,439	16,419	1·5	1·7
Kurunegala	27,038	27,000	25,576	25,555	5·4	5·3
Mannar	662	644	705	687	—	—
Matale	6,160	6,138	5,797	5,786	5·9	5·7
Matara	13,076	13,068	13,531	13,518	—	—
Negombo	11,097	11,063	10,187	10,149	8·2	8·2
Nuwara Eliya	2,523	2,490	2,899	2,893	—	—
Puttalam	1,169	1,165	1,369	1,362	—	—
Rajagiriya	38,621	36,885	34,638	34,127	10·3	7·5
Ratnapura	7,859	7,845	8,359	8,332	—	—
Tangalla	5,634	5,595	5,545	5,540	1·5	·9
Trincomalee	545	524	579	561	—	—
Vavuniya	578	507	493	482	27·3	22

Table E—*contd.*

1946.

District.	Number of Deeds executed.		Number of Deeds registered.		Percentage unregistered.	
	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	Total.	Number affecting Immovables.	All Deeds.	Im- movables.
Anuradhapura	2,756	2,755	2,550	2,544	7·4	7·6
Badulla	6,497	6,388	6,278	6,237	6·4	2·3
Batticaloa	7,714	7,650	7,531	7,499	2·3	1·9
Chilaw	5,867	5,857	6,169	6,144	—	—
Galle	18,355	18,177	18,087	18,043	1·4	·63
Jaffna	27,541	23,565	22,217	22,147	19·3	6
Kalutara	16,995	16,886	16,924	16,887	·4	—
Kandy	19,210	18,937	18,144	18,010	5·5	4·8
Kegalla	17,696	17,550	17,783	17,756	—	—
Kurunegala	29,571	29,539	33,500	33,484	—	—
Mannar	688	658	757	735	—	—
Matale	6,162	6,142	6,108	6,088	·8	·8
Matara	14,977	14,977	14,845	14,827	·8	1
Negombo	12,475	12,392	12,170	12,120	2·4	2·1
Nuwara Eliya	2,741	2,682	2,927	2,916	—	—
Puttalam	1,530	1,518	1,777	1,743	—	—
Rajagiriya	43,169	41,293	37,198	36,692	1·3	11·1
Ratnapura	8,442	8,437	8,874	8,866	—	—
Tangalla	6,328	6,310	6,140	6,133	2·9	2·8
Trincomalee	925	891	847	818	8·4	8·2
Vavuniya	437	414	437	425	—	—

Table F.—Comparative Statement of Regular Recurrent Business (in Units) received and done in Land Registries, 1940-46.

District.	Recurrent work received (in units.)						Recurrent work done (in units.)					
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Anuradhapura	4,564..	5,418..	6,219..	5,888..	5,425..	6,159..	5,914..	4,467..	5,112..	5,787..	6,373..	4,981..
Badulla	13,130..	13,510..	15,957..	16,726..	15,585..	16,320..	16,518..	12,898..	13,954..	15,727..	16,671..	16,236..
Batticaloa	8,418..	9,662..	10,704..	12,575..	12,826..	15,946..	15,476..	8,287..	9,793..	10,223..	12,756..	16,422..
Chilaw	11,746..	11,309..	14,218..	17,058..	16,321..	20,007..	16,684..	11,652..	11,477..	13,702..	17,570..	16,248..
Galle	43,974..	44,213..	54,399..	62,787..	59,407..	56,581..	56,657..	56,256..	42,854..	45,862..	53,305..	62,090..
Jaffna	42,351..	42,510..	61,028..	58,099..	56,891..	52,375..	50,990..	52,375..	59,276..	41,416..	43,969..	59,390..
Kalutara	41,281..	41,208..	46,798..	52,579..	50,979..	50,990..	50,990..	50,990..	51,360..	43,763..	41,726..	45,838..
Kandy	45,928..	48,776..	52,758..	60,188..	53,750..	60,968..	58,547..	45,838..	45,838..	47,338..	54,612..	58,615..
Kegalla	42,391..	43,802..	52,430..	59,583..	50,731..	52,881..	50,757..	42,124..	42,124..	52,712..	59,407..	49,540..
Kurunegala	47,062..	54,947..	70,864..	72,803..	73,467..	73,467..	77,986..	46,555..	54,270..	66,639..	78,168..	65,706..
Mannar	1,496..	1,304..	1,516..	1,712..	2,064..	1,956..	1,906..	1,498..	1,240..	1,687..	1,568..	1,952..
Matale	12,358..	13,313..	16,850..	16,751..	15,682..	15,514..	15,061..	12,847..	13,120..	15,629..	16,220..	14,623..
Matara	31,832..	36,506..	47,026..	51,479..	48,442..	46,129..	45,249..	30,765..	38,356..	46,194..	50,603..	46,873..
Negombo	22,519..	23,191..	28,216..	31,078..	28,360..	33,629..	29,005..	22,168..	24,107..	27,481..	30,991..	28,068..
Nuwara Eliya	6,168..	4,416..	8,222..	7,999..	7,947..	7,586..	6,687..	6,165..	6,552..	8,244..	7,843..	7,312..
Puttalam	2,943..	3,020..	3,274..	3,269..	3,544..	3,269..	4,231..	2,935..	3,030..	3,267..	3,225..	3,587..
Rajagiriya	78,122..	71,538..	78,257..	111,043..	100,382..	111,079..	115,491..	73,719..	74,658..	75,491..	108,819..	102,163..
Ratnapura	23,716..	25,190..	29,850..	37,365..	34,960..	29,928..	30,430..	23,668..	26,137..	28,736..	38,149..	33,925..
Record Room R.G.O.	22,131..	24,463..	18,137..	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tampalagamam	2,338..	1,929..	916..	14,188..	13,965..	13,889..	13,889..	2,317..	1,958..	910..	1,958..	1,910..
Tangalle	8,979..	12,820..	16,336..	18,036..	14,188..	13,965..	13,889..	9,358..	12,894..	15,180..	15,667..	14,160..
Trincomalee	† 641..	806..	† 912..	† 713..	† 912..	961..	921..	† 642..	† 800..	† 916..	† 712..	† 893..
Vavuniya												

\* See under Rajagiriya.

† See under Trincomalee.

‡ See under Tampalagamam.

