



# CEYLON YEAR BOOK



DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS  
COLOMBO, CEYLON

1956







# Ceylon Year Book

1956



தேசிய நூலைப் பிழிவு  
மாநகர நூலக சேவை  
யாழ்ப்பாணம்

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS  
COLOMBO, CEYLON

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## PREFACE

THE Ceylon Year Book 1956 attempts to give in a compact form factual and statistical data compiled from authoritative sources relating to the Dominion of Ceylon. To keep the costs of the publication down the information included has been condensed but wherever possible sources of further information have been included. As purchasers of the booklet usually want complete information a large amount of repetition from year to year is unavoidable.

This Year Book, which is the eighth to appear since the termination of the Annual General Report in 1947, contains in the main a review of the national economy as at 1955, although in some cases the information has been revised to the date of publication.

The Department is indebted to various persons and sources for the material supplied for the Year Book, in particular to the various Heads of Government Departments who have readily placed at its disposal accounts of the activities of their respective Departments.

Owing to the varied nature of the subject matter covered in the Year Book, it is inevitable that a number of errors and omissions may have escaped notice. The Department will be grateful for any information which may lead to the elimination of such errors, and for suggestions which may help to enlarge the scope and usefulness of this publication. Certain suggested improvements have been incorporated in this Year Book and this assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

H. E. PERIES,  
Director of Census and Statistics.

Department of Census and Statistics,  
P. O. Box 563, Colombo,  
Ceylon,  
September 10, 1956.

1944

The New York Public Library is pleased to announce that it has acquired a collection of books from the Library of the University of Toronto. The books are in the field of history and are of great value to the Library. The books are in the field of history and are of great value to the Library. The books are in the field of history and are of great value to the Library.

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J. F. BAKER  
Director of Control and Statistics

Director of Control and Statistics  
R. C. Box 100, Canada  
Ottawa  
September 10, 1944



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## INTRODUCTION

### I—IMPORTANT EVENTS

#### General Elections

THE 4th Session of the 2nd Parliament of Ceylon was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General on 7th June, 1955, and was dissolved in February, 1956.

The Elections were held in early April. This resulted in a change of the Government. A coalition of two parties led by the former Leader of the Opposition, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike obtained a land-slide majority at the Elections and subsequently formed the new Government. This is the first change in Government after Independence and in attaining it by entirely peaceful means the electors have demonstrated that they possess the first qualification for the practice and continuance of democracy.

The 3rd post-Independence Parliament of Ceylon was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General in April, 1956.

#### Admission to U.N.O.

After long years of waiting Ceylon was admitted to the Membership of the U. N. O. in December, 1955. More opportunities will thus be presented for her to pursue the cause of peace and international co-operation as the basic objectives of her foreign policy.

#### Afro-Asian Conference

The then Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, attended the Afro-Asian Conference at Bandung in April, 1955. This was the first conference of its kind in the Region.

#### Good-will Mission

The then Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Kotelawala, visited Australia, New Zealand and Thailand in October, 1955, in the course of a goodwill tour of these countries.

### II—ECONOMIC REVIEW

The terms of trade were favourable to Ceylon in 1955. The trade surplus of 1955 was Rs. 78 million higher than the record of Rs. 412 million obtained in the previous year. External assets increased by Rs. 260 million and stood at Rs. 1,155 million at the end of 1955. The national income for 1955 is estimated at Rs. 5,281 million as compared with Rs. 4,779 million in 1954. The increase is mainly due to the higher average export prices, higher volumes of production of tea and coconut and an increase in the output of paddy. The improvement in the terms of trade resulted from an increase in export prices and a fall in import prices. The volume of exports rose by 5.9 per cent. while the volume of imports was also 4.0 per cent. higher resulting from the higher income enjoyed by the private sector of economy in 1955.

#### Wages and Employment

In 1955 the Colombo Consumers' Price Index was 100.5, 0.6 per cent. lower than average for the previous year. The reduction in the price of rice by five cents at the end of May, 1955, accounted for the drop in living costs. The money wages of Tea and Rubber estate workers were 3.8 per cent. higher in 1955 than in 1954 reflecting the increase in basic wages for the estate workers from August,



1954 onwards. Lower living costs resulted in an increase of 4.3 per cent. in the real wages of those workers. The number of registrations at the employment exchanges was 71,010 in December, 1955 representing an increase of 7,706 over the December, 1954 figure. The increase is attributed to the greater dependence by the public on the Exchanges to find employment and is in keeping with the increasing population.

### Agriculture

Under the Rubber Replanting Scheme, a total of 20,918 acres was replanted during 1955 of which 1,943 acres were on permits issued in the previous year.

28,787 acres were alienated by the Land Development Department during the year to 21,142 families. 44,578 acres of land were developed and provided for alienation to peasants in 3,034 holdings under various schemes.

### Industry

Government passed the Government Sponsored Corporations Act under which hitherto State-owned factories are being taken over by Government sponsored Corporations which are eventually to be converted into limited liability companies through the sale of Government Shares on progressive scale to the public. Government sponsored corporations have already been set up to take over the management of the ceramic, vegetable oil and paper factories while similar corporations are planned for the plywood, leather, cement and caustic soda factories. An entirely new approach to the difficult question of attaining the necessary industrialization to maintain a rapidly growing population is envisaged by the new Government.

The Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research was set up in an attempt to meet the need for technical assistance and research in the development of industry.

### Transport

Further progress was made on the Port development scheme during 1955. The "Prince Vijaya" quay was completed and put into use. The "Queen Elizabeth" and "Delft" quays are nearing completion and are expected to be in commercial operation by September, 1956. The work on the oil dock is also expected to be over soon.

The nationalisation of the bus services and of securing their efficient functioning is being actively pursued.

### Housing

There was much activity in 1955 in housing and large sums were granted in loans. At the Bamba-lapitiya Housing Scheme on a site originally acquired for the proposed new Supreme Court 24 two bed-roomed flats in two blocks were completed. Work on the construction of 9 more blocks containing 150 flats made considerable progress. At Kiribathgoda 105 members of a Co-operative Housing Scheme were placed in possession of houses constructed for them in 1954. At Gongitota 27 houses were completed. Acquisition of land was also initiated in a number of other towns. The shortage of middle class and working class houses continues, however, and is, if anything, more acute.





## CHAPTER I

### HISTORICAL SKETCH

LITTLE is known regarding the pre-historic and proto-historic ages in Ceylon. Traces of prehistoric man have recently been discovered and the scientific elucidation of the data is eagerly awaited. However, more definite information is available regarding the later periods specially owing to the written record preserved in the Pali chronicle, the *Mahavamsa*.

According to the *Mahavamsa* an Indian Prince named Vijaya, with his band of 700 men, colonized the Island of Ceylon in about 543 B.C. The present day Veddas are the survivors of the legendary tribes of *Yakkas* and *Nagas* who inhabited Ceylon then. Travellers from the West have also made certain references in their writings to ancient Ceylon. These too help to obtain more information regarding the ancient period. The Sinhalese royal line consisting of 180 rulers held sway in unbroken succession for nearly 2,300 years.

King Pandukabhaya who founded the City of Anuradhapura, stands out as the most important ruler of the ancient period. It was this city which later became the political capital of the Island for nearly a thousand years. Anuradhapura has been the spiritual home of the Buddhists for well nigh 2,300 years.

In the 3rd century B.C. there occurred an event which changed the whole complexion of the Island and the faith of its people. King Asoka, Emperor of India, sent to his friend King Devanampiyatissa of Ceylon, the Message of the Buddha through his own son, Thera Mahinda. The Island embraced Buddhism. Quick progress followed and art and architecture developed. These were used to subserve the needs of the new religious movement. Another unique event, which occurred at this time, was the arrival of the Bodhi Tree from India. It has survived to this day and is said to be the oldest tree in the world.

South Indian contacts disturbed the peace of the Island from about the 1st century B.C. The northern part of the Island was held by King Elara but after a time he was vanquished in battle by Prince Dutugemunu from Ruhuna. The establishment of peace under one sovereign ruler was the direct result. There followed a period of prosperity leading to the spread of learning, development of art and architecture, and foundation of temples.

Irrigation engineering had attained a unique position in ancient Ceylon as is evidenced by the large tanks. These ensured a proper food supply to the population. In the sphere of learning and arts the Indian influences have been considerable, particularly the Gupta influence is noticeable in the monuments of the 6th century. The fortress at Sigiriya was converted to the living palace of Kasyapa where the well-known frescoes are still preserved. Somewhat later in the 7th century the Pallava influence was also felt in the Island. The monuments at Isurumuniya bear witness to this tradition.

The 9th century is a dark period in Ceylon history. Little recorded evidence, either as rock inscriptions or in any other tangible form, is yet available. This may be due to religious differences or political disputes which troubled the land.

During the mediaeval period Ceylon suffered again at the hands of Cholas and Pandians who from time to time over-ran the capital, burnt the buildings and looted the wealth. Anuradhapura had to be abandoned. Finally the scattered Sinhalese forces rallied together under Prince Kitti who later defeated the enemy and brought complete victory to the Island and ruled at Polonnaruwa as Vijaya Bahu I. To him, more than to any other ruler, the Sinhalese owe an eternal debt for preserving their race. The results of his victory were realised during later times.

King Parakramabahu the Great used his mighty influence to further the good of the Island. The revival of learning, restoration of monuments and the construction of buildings were organized



on a scale that was not to be surpassed since. Some of these monuments stand to this day as worthy records of the spirit of greatness of a great ruler. He also developed irrigation and constructed new tanks with the sole object of attaining economic self-sufficiency in food.

After his reign there followed a period of stress and struggle. The capital shifted to other sites, such as Ruhuna, Dambadeniya, Yapahuwa, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, Gampola, Dedigama, Rayigama, Kotte, Sitawaka and Kandy. The kings contended with each other as well as with outsiders at times to preserve freedom, peace and prosperity. It was with considerable sacrifice through centuries that the nation preserved its spirit and recovered from intermittent feuds.

During the 15th century the capital was at Kotte. It was during this period that the first European contact was felt. This was the beginning of a crucial change which was to lead to further complications and difficulties. It was also the beginning of the eventual loss of freedom. The Portuguese arrived in 1505 A.D. and conquered parts of the Island. They were the first to introduce Christianity. The Portuguese were ousted by the Dutch who ruled over their possessions in the Island from 1640 A.D. They established trade and ruled the maritime provinces through a Governor. In 1796 A.D. the Dutch, too, yielded to the English and in 1815 A.D. the Sinhalese surrendered their country to the British. New changes took place. The country was ruled by a Governor appointed from England. New laws were introduced and European ways and beliefs influenced the people.

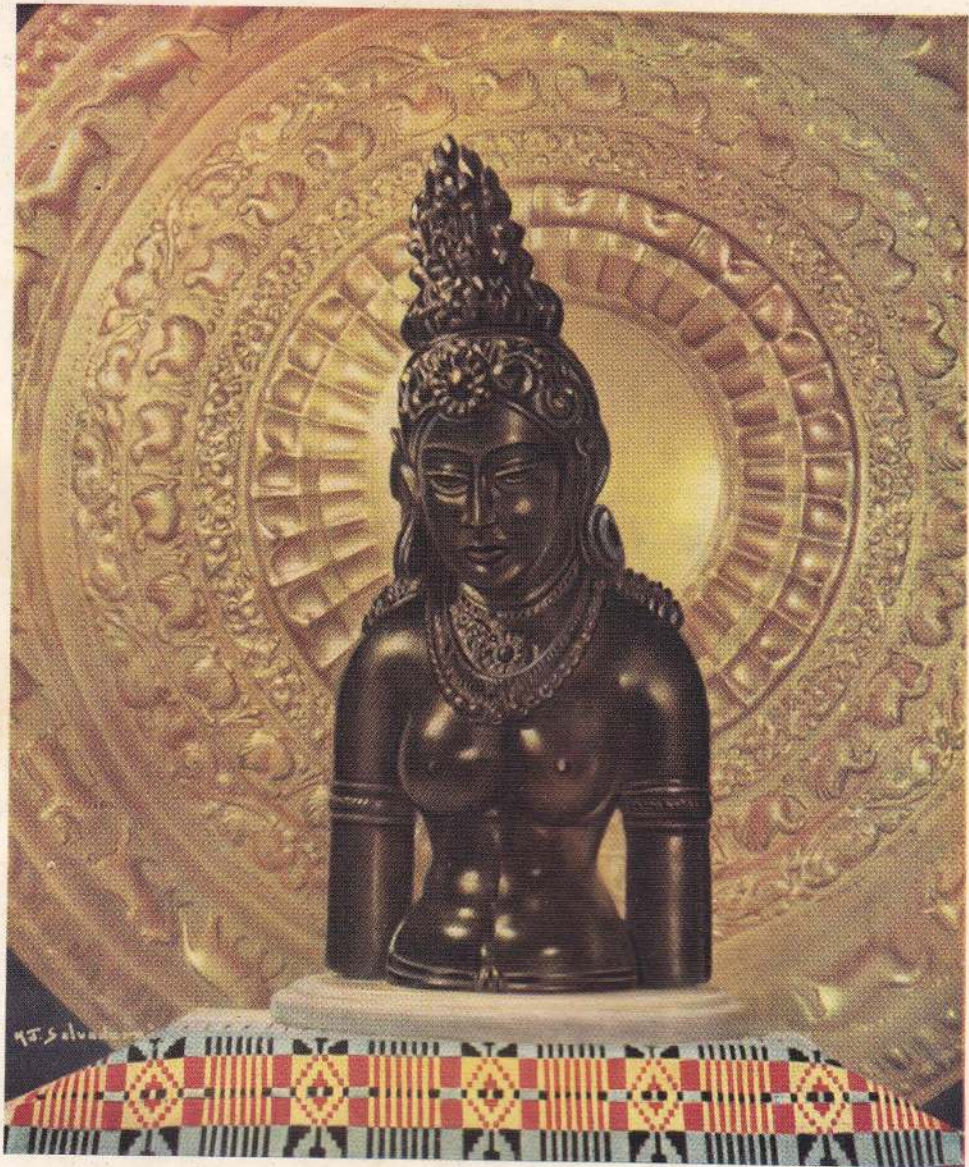
However, the Island regained its Independence in 1948 and today is ruled by the elected representatives of the people themselves under a democratic Constitution based on the British model. Nevertheless, Ceylon continues to be a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.\*

\* For further detailed information the following references are suggested :—

- |                                                         |                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) The Mahavamsa—Wilhelm Geiger (English translation). |                     |
| (2) Short History of Ceylon—H. W. Codrington.           |                     |
| (3) Ceylon and the Hollanders—Paul E. Pieris.           |                     |
| (5) History of Ceylon (I and II) Father S. G. Perera.   |                     |
| (6) Early History of Ceylon and                         | } Dr. G. C. Mendis. |
| (7) Ceylon under the British                            |                     |



5 MAR 1957  
LIBRARY



**EBONY WOOD CARVING**

with Kandyan Moonstone Tray (Brass) in background

*(Courtesy Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries)*





## CHAPTER II

### GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

#### I—GENERAL

AREA and Location—Ceylon has an area of 25,332 sq. miles as compared with the United Kingdom (93,053 sq. miles), Canada (3,845,774 sq. miles) Australia (2,974,581 sq. miles), India and Pakistan (1,686,695 sq. miles), Union of South Africa (790,275 sq. miles), New Zealand (105,072 sq. miles) and Eire (26,631 sq. miles).

The Island is situated between  $5^{\circ} 55'$  and  $9^{\circ} 50'$  N. latitude, and between  $79^{\circ} 42'$  and  $81^{\circ} 52'$  E. longitude. It is separated from the Indian sub-continent by a narrow strip of shallow water, the Palk Strait.

Next to India the nearest neighbours of Ceylon are the Maldivé Islands to its west, the Nicobar and Andaman Islands to its east and north-east respectively.

The Island has a compact land area except for Mannar Island in the north west, the Jaffna Peninsula in the north and its satellite islands, the largest of which are Kayts and Delft. The greatest length of the Island north to south is 270 miles, from Point Palmyrah in the north to Dondra Head in the south. The greatest breadth is 140 miles, from Colombo in the West to Sagamankande on the east coast.

Ceylon's position in the Indian Ocean has proved favourable and today Colombo forms an important port of call (passenger, bunkering, repairs, &c.) for all steamships that cross the Indian Ocean from East to West and *Vice Versa* via the Suez Canal. The following table showing distances from the respective ports reveals its favoured location :—

TABLE 2·1 DISTANCES FROM COLOMBO TO VARIOUS PORTS OF THE WORLD

Colombo to—	Nautical miles	Approximate Journey (days)
(a) London :		
Aden	2,100	5
Suez	3,407	10
Port Said	3,494	11
Gibraltar ( <i>via</i> Marseilles)	5,690	20
London (by sea <i>via</i> Marseilles)	7,005	20
London (by sea direct)	6,725	18
London (overland)	5,868	16
(b) India, &c :		
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Rangoon	1,249	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Singapore	1,567	5
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	12
(c) Australia :		
Fremantle	3,121	8
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	11
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide and Melbourne)	5,556	17
(d) South Africa :		
Durban (touching at African Ports)	3,680	20
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30



With the development of air travel the Colombo Air Port situated at Ratmalana about 8 miles from the city of Colombo has become a busy centre where the chief airways of the world call regularly.

## II—RELIEF OF THE LAND

GENERALLY speaking, the relief of the Island may be said to comprise a mountainous area about the central part or more correctly the south-central part, averaging in elevation from about 3,000 to 7,000 feet which is again surrounded by an upland belt of about 1,000 to 3,000 feet, while the coastal plain occupies the rest of the Island and is narrower on the west, east and south but broadens out to a vast tract in the north.

The Coastal Plain continues for some distance out to sea as the Continental Shelf. The 100 fathoms line is close to the coast, except about the north-west where it opens out to include a large area continuous with the Indian continental Shelf. A coral reef lies close to the coast, which though for the most part submerged can be discerned by the breaking of the waves at a short distance from the coast line. The following table shows the relative heights of various peaks :—

TABLE 2.2 CHIEF MOUNTAIN PEAKS OF CEYLON

<i>Mountain Peak</i>	<i>Height (in feet)</i>
Pidurutalagala	8,291
Kirigalpotta	7,856
Totapola	7,741
Adam's Peak	7,360
Namunukula	6,679
Knuckles	6,112
Haycock	2,167

The essential framework of the Hill Country over 5,000 feet appears in the form of an inverted "T" or anchor, with the Central Ridge forming the shank on which are some of the highest peaks in Ceylon—Pidurutalagala (8,291 feet), Kirigalpotta (7,856 feet), Totapola (7,741 feet) and also the high plains, such as Nuwara Eliya (over 6,000 feet), Elk Plains (6,000 feet), and Horton Plains (over 7,000 feet). At the base of the shank is Kirigalpotta from where one arm of the anchor extends westwards to terminate at Adam's Peak (7,360 feet) while the eastern arm extends through Haputale and continues north-east to form the Namunukula which is part of the north-south aligned Lunugala ridge. To the north-east of the shank are the Matale hills, with Knuckles (6,112 feet) forming the highest point. On either side of this central mountainous anchor-shank are two plateaus—the Hatton Plateau to the west and the Uva Basin (or the Welimada Plateau) to the east—each averaging 4,000 feet. The east-west arm of the "anchor" is termed the Southern Mountain Wall, because here it presents a sheer drop of over 4,000 feet to the southern platform lying at its foot. Forming a detached portion from the massif to its south-west lies the Rakwana Hill Country and the Bulutota massif averaging 3,000 feet; the intervening tract being occupied by the upper tributaries of the Kalu and Walawe rivers. Monadnocks or "relict mountains" composed of resistant rock like granite, stand out to break the monotony of the level stretches. The Jaffna Peninsula and the Island of Mannar are entirely featureless plains.

### Rivers and Waterways

The hydrographic pattern is a function essentially of relief and structure, and in Ceylon with its central hilly mass the radial pattern is clearly revealed—the rivers flowing to the west, east and south being shorter than those flowing to the north, north-west and north-east. The most important and longest river is the Mahaveli-ganga, which rises on the western side of the "shank" of the anchor.



TABLE 2-3 LENGTHS OF PRINCIPAL RIVERS

<i>River</i>	<i>Length in miles</i>	<i>River</i>	<i>Length in miles</i>
Mahaveli-ganga	206	Menik-ganga	81
Aruvi-arui	104	Maha-oya	78
Kala-oya	97	Kirindi-oya	73
Yan-oya	94	Kalu-ganga	70
Kelani-ganga	90	Gin-ganga	70
Deduru-oya	87	Kumbukkan-arui	70
Maduru-oya	86	Mi-oya	67
Walawe-ganga	83	Gal-oya	62

Waterfalls girdle the central mountain massif and offer some of the best scenic features in Ceylon e.g., Dunhinda (Badulla), Diyaluma (Koslanda), Elgin (Hatton Plateau) and Perawella. They are found to occur especially to the west, south and east, and are perennial owing to the heavy rainfall on the central mountain mass, though the fluctuations in their volume occur as a result of changes in the seasonal rainfall.

### III—CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY

#### Climate

ALTHOUGH, on account of its situation close to the equator within the latitudes of 6° to 10°N, the mean temperature is high (ranging from 80° to 82°F in the low-country), the oceanic effect, due to the fact that the maximum breadth of the Island is only 140 miles, helps to reduce the temperature in the plains. The hills in the central regions enhance this effect.

#### Temperature

Variation with altitude—In the hill-country the temperature falls off at a steady rate of about 1°F for each 300 feet rise. Thus at Kandy, 1,600 feet above sea level, it is 77°F, at Diyatalawa 4,100 feet, it is 68°F, and at Nuwara Eliya, the chief hill station in the Island, 6,200 feet, it is 60°F.

#### Seasonal Variation

A noteworthy feature in many parts of Ceylon is the small variation in the mean monthly temperatures throughout the year. The mean temperature at Colombo during the coolest months, November to February, is 79°F—3° cooler than that during the warmest months, April and May. At the other stations the mean annual range of temperature does not vary very much, though in the North and East it is slightly higher.

#### Highest Temperatures

Highest temperatures are experienced in the districts to north or north-west of the hills and in the eastern and north-eastern low-country.

#### Diurnal Variation

The diurnal variation of temperature, the rise to a maximum early in the afternoon and the fall to a minimum shortly before dawn, is well marked in Ceylon. Its magnitude depends on the direction of the prevailing wind. There is a gradual increase in the range, with altitude as well as with distance from the sea.

#### Humidity

The relative humidity varies generally from about 70 per cent. during the day to about 90 per cent. at night, rising as the temperature falls. In the dry zone, however, these values are lower by about



5 per cent., while in the driest areas in the north-west and south-east, the day humidity goes down to about 60 per cent. In the south-western parts, the absolute humidity is rather high on account of the high mean temperature.

### Rainfall

Rainfall is of three types—monsoonal, convectional and depressional. Monsoon rain occurs during the two monsoons, south-west and north-east, and is responsible for a major part of the annual precipitation. Convectional rain occurs during inter-monsoon periods, mainly in the afternoon or evening, and is likely to be experienced anywhere over the Island. Depressional rain also occurs mainly during the inter-monsoon periods.

The annual average rainfall varies from below 40 inches in the driest zones in the north-west and south-east of the Island to over 200 inches at certain places on the south-western slopes of the hills.

There are roughly four rainfall seasons during the year, the periods being as follows :—

- (i) the south-west monsoon period, May to September ;
- (ii) the inter-monsoon period, following the south-west monsoon, October and November ;
- (iii) the north-east monsoon period, December to February ; and
- (iv) the inter-monsoon period, following the north-east monsoon, March and April.

### South-West Monsoon

The rainfall is mostly confined to the south-western parts. But as winds strengthen, it spreads gradually to the interior, with considerably heavy rain in the hill-country from June to August. South-west monsoon rainfall is considerably heavy in the south-western hill-country, where some stations receive over 100 inches of rain for the whole period. During periods of active monsoon weather, these stations aggregate monthly totals of 50 to 60 inches.

### North-east Monsoon

The rainfall is mainly confined to the north-eastern parts. Most of the rain occurs in December and January, February being normally a dry month. The heaviest rain is experienced on the north-eastern slopes of the hills, where some stations receive about 50 inches for the two months. There have been occasions when over 100 inches of rain were recorded at some of the hill-stations in December or January.

### Inter-Monsoon Periods

During inter-monsoon periods winds are generally light, except for the sea breeze which develops from about noon and results in evening thundershowers. These showers may occur anywhere over Ceylon. Another source of rain during these periods is depressional activity. A depression in the Bay of Bengal will cause rainfall in the eastern parts of the Island, while one in the Arabian Sea will cause rainfall in the western parts. If the depression is of great extent, however, the rainfall will be heavy and widespread.

These depressions are most frequent in October and November, and are responsible for a good part of the precipitation during these two months. Rainfall during the first inter-monsoon period is therefore widespread and exceeds 20 inches at many stations. Taking the Island as a whole, this is the rainiest period of the year.

Conditions are similar during the second inter-monsoon period, March and April, but the rainfall received is less, mainly because of less depressional activity.

### Hail

During intense thunderstorms, hail is occasionally experienced. It occurs mainly in the hill-country but reports have been received of the occurrence of hail in low-country stations too.



TABLE 2-4 ANNUAL RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY AT NINE PRINCIPAL STATIONS DURING 1954 AND 1955

	Annual Rainfall (Inches)		Mean Annual Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit)		Mean Annual Relative Humidity (Per cent.)			
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954		1955	
					Day	Night	Day	Night
Colombo	103.40	96.01	80.0	79.7	77	90	75	87
Jaffna	58.23	36.70	81.7	81.4	76	86	74	85
Trincomalee	66.50	59.84	82.3	82.3	72	84	70	82
Hambantota	52.15	37.52	80.5	80.4	79	90	78	89
Ratnapura	149.83	171.66	81.1	80.7	76	95	75	93
Anuradhapura	64.50	61.14	80.9	80.2	72	94	73	94
Kandy	86.29	91.69	75.7	75.2	72	90	70	88
Diyatalawa	66.66	80.18	68.7	68.3	74	89	74	89
Nuwara Eliya	82.60	92.20	60.4	60.1	80	87	79	87

#### Meteorology

Climatic data have been collected in Ceylon since 1880 and today there are altogether 18 main Meteorological Observatories which make daily records of temperature, rainfall, wind, pressure and humidity.

The Colombo Observatory, which for over 40 years was a branch of the Survey Department, was established as an independent department, with effect from October, 1948, and functions now as the Department of Meteorology. In addition to climatological and weather forecasting work, services performed by this Department include seismological work and determination and distribution of correct time.

#### IV—GEOLOGY

The Island of Ceylon forms part of the "old massifs" of the world, and is to a great extent composed of some of the oldest rocks of the earth's crust. These rocks belong to the "Archaean" or Precambrian era. The basement upon which the geological structure of the Island lies, termed the Fundamental Gneissic terrain, is of a very complex character and exhibits "foliation" as a result of metamorphism. The striking resemblance of the Ceylon Archaean Gneissic basement to that of the Canadian Shield has been recognised.

Resting on the fundamental Gneissic basement are the Khondalite group of rocks which are of somewhat later geological age than the Gneisses. Being metamorphosed sedimentaries, they exhibit differences in their original sediments. The following are the principal types of rock belonging to this group :—

- (a) Quartzite
- (b) Crystalline limestone
- (c) Granulite
- (d) Leptynite
- (e) Type Khondalite

These rocks occupy a belt of the Island extending from the south-west to the north-east coast (about Trincomalee). They are folded into a "Synclinorium" with a general axial trend, or strike running north-north-west to south-south-east, veering to north-south in the centre and north-north-east to south-south-west in the north-east.

While the Archaean rocks are fairly well represented, the rocks of the Palaeozoic era are strangely enough completely absent from the Island's surface. This is fair evidence that the Island must have remained above sea level throughout the pre-Mesozoic era. The Mesozoic era is represented only by two small pockets of Jurassic deposits at Tabbowa and Andigama.

Rocks of the Cainozoic or Tertiary era are represented by a large tract of clearly distinct limestone of the Meocene period. This area underlies the whole of the Jaffna Peninsula and continues south-westwards as a coastal belt to the north of Puttalam and Kalpitiya Peninsula.

### Structure

Structurally the Island represents a major Syncline with minor contortions within this central downwarp and is termed a "Synclinorium". The rocks are seen to dip towards the centre so that the rocks on the west dip to the east and those on the east dip to the west. As referred to above the Archaean Gneissic terrain forms the basement upon which the Island evolved. Thus while in the centre the Surface rocks are Khondalites, Fundamental Gneiss outcrops on either side in the west and east.

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### Important References :

- (1) Geography of Ceylon—E. K. Cooke.
- (2) Geography of Ceylon—S. F. de Silva.
- (3) Geology of Ceylon—Adams (Canadian Journal of Science).
- (4) Annual Report of the Colombo Observatory.





### CHAPTER III

## CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

### I—THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON

CEYLON at present possesses a broad-based democratic government after the British pattern. Her position is that of an independent nation within the British Commonwealth enjoying the same status as the other Dominions.

#### Law of the Constitution

The fundamental law embodying the constitution is contained in an Act of Parliament and a number of Orders-in-Council which have been referred to in the earlier issues of the Ceylon Year Book.

#### The Parliament of Ceylon

The Parliament of Ceylon consists of (a) The QUEEN (represented by the GOVERNOR-GENERAL) and (b) Two Houses, namely, the SENATE and the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Executive consists of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet chosen from the party which has the majority in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The QUEEN represented by the Governor-General—The GOVERNOR-GENERAL is appointed by the QUEEN on the advice of the Prime Minister. The constitution lays down that all powers exercisable by the QUEEN or the GOVERNOR-GENERAL shall be exercised as far as shall be in accordance with the constitutional conventions applicable to the exercise of similar powers, authorities and conventions in the United Kingdom by HER MAJESTY.

The first GOVERNOR-GENERAL was Sir Henry Moore who was succeeded by Lord Soulbury on July 8, 1949. Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., K.B.E., succeeded Lord (later Viscount) Soulbury as the first Ceylonese Governor-General on July 17, 1954.

The Senate consists of 30 members, half appointed by the Governor-General and half elected by the House of Representatives in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. Senators serve for a period of six years, one third retiring after every two years.

The Senators appointed by the GOVERNOR-GENERAL are chosen on the advice of the Prime Minister. It is however laid down that the "GOVERNOR-GENERAL shall endeavour to appoint persons who, he is satisfied, have rendered distinguished public services or are persons of eminence in professional, commercial, industrial or agricultural life including education, law, medicine, science, engineering and banking."

The President of the SENATE is Senator the Hon. Sir Cyril de Zoysa, and Lady Molamure, C.B.E., is the Deputy President.

The Fourth Session of the Second Parliament was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General on 7th June, 1955.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES consists of 101 members 95 of whom are elected and six are appointed. The HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES is elected on a wide franchise, every adult citizen of Ceylon being entitled to the vote. The representation has been arranged as to enable every community and interest to have its voice heard in Parliament. The first delimitation of the constituencies under the new constitution was carried out by a Commission. Each Province of the Island was divided into electoral districts, the total number of which is specified in the Order-in-Council and the aggregate of which totals ninety-five for the whole Island. The electoral districts have been demarcated so as to render possible representation of minorities united by the tie of race, religion, or by any other tie. Where after any general election the Governor-General is satisfied



that any important interest in the Island is not represented, he may appoint any persons, not exceeding six in number, to be members of the House of Representatives. Provision has been made for four more members to be elected during a specified period by an Indian and Pakistani Electoral District, after a date which will be specified in a notice published by the Governor-General.\* The duration of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES is five years unless parliament is dissolved earlier.

### The Cabinet

The general direction and control of the Government of the Island are vested in the Cabinet of Ministers who are collectively responsible to Parliament. The Prime Minister is the Head of the Cabinet.

The Prime Minister is also in charge of the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs in addition to such other matters as he may decide to retain in his charge. Every other Minister shall be charged with the administration of such subjects and functions as may be assigned to him by the Prime Minister. Not less than two Ministers one of whom shall be the Minister of Justice must be appointed from the SENATE.

The Prime Minister is the leader of the largest party or group in the House of Representatives and he is appointed by the GOVERNOR-GENERAL. The other Ministers are appointed by the Governor-General on the advice of the Prime Minister. The number of Ministers is not fixed and in the present Cabinet there are fourteen including the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and External Affairs.

The Parliamentary Secretaries are appointed from the SENATE and HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES by the GOVERNOR-GENERAL on the advice of the Prime Minister, to assist the Ministers in the exercise of their parliamentary and departmental duties.

The following is a list of the Ministers and Parliamentary Officials of the present administration :—

THE HON. MR. H. S. ISMAIL, M.B.E.	Speaker
MR. P. TENNAKON	Deputy Speaker
THE HON. MR. S. W. R. D. BANDARANAIKE	Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and External Affairs
THE HON. MR. W. DAHANAYAKE	Minister of Education
THE HON. MR. C. P. DE SILVA	Minister of Lands and Land Development
SENATOR THE HON. M. W. H. DE SILVA, Q.C.	Minister of Justice
THE HON. MR. P. H. WILLIAM DE SILVA	Minister of Industries and Fisheries
THE HON. MR. STANLEY DE ZOYSA	Minister of Finance
THE HON. MR. PHILIP GUNAWARDENE	Minister of Agriculture and Food
THE HON. MR. T. B. ILANGARATNE	Minister of Labour, Housing and Social Services
SENATOR THE HON. A. P. JAYASURIYA	Minister of Home Affairs
THE HON. MR. JAYAWEEERA KURUPPU	Minister of Local Government and Cultural Affairs
THE HON. MR. C. A. S. MARIKKAR	Minister of Posts, Broadcasting and Information
THE HON. MR. MAITHRIPALA SENANAYAKE	Minister of Transport and Works
THE HON. MRS. VIMALA WIJewardene	Minister of Health
THE HON. MR. R. G. SENANAYAKE	Minister of Commerce and Trade
MR. B. P. PEIRIS, O.B.E.	Secretary to the Cabinet

Each Minister is assisted in his work by a Parliamentary Secretary. The following are the names of the Parliamentary Secretaries to the various Ministers :—

MR. T. B. SUBASINGHE	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence and External Affairs
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\* "The Ceylon Constitution (Special provisions) Act No. 35 of 1954."



MR. P. B. A. WEERAKOON	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education
MR. D. A. RAJAPAKSE	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Lands and Land Development
MR. MAHANAMA SAMARAWERA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice
MR. W. J. C. MUNASINHA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industries and Fisheries
SENATOR C. WIJESINHA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance
MR. M. P. DE ZOYA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, Housing and Social Services
MR. I. M. R. A. IRIYAGOLLA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Home Affairs
MR. C. R. BELIGAMMANA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Local Government and Cultural Affairs
VACANT	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Posts Broadcasting and Information
MR. HENRY ABEYWICKREMA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport and Works
MR. I. R. P. G. KALUGALLA	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health
MR. LAKSHMAN RAJAPAKSE	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Commerce and Trade

## II—POLITICAL FRANCHISE

At the last general election there were 95 elected members in the House of Representatives. These members represented 89 electoral districts.

A new electoral district comprising the whole Island was constituted by the Indian and Pakistani (Parliamentary Representation) Act, No. 36 of 1954, for the special representation in the House of Representatives of persons who are registered as citizens of Ceylon under the Indian and Pakistani Residents (Citizenship), Act No. 3 of 1949. The Indian and Pakistani Electoral District is to be represented by 4 members in Ceylon's Parliament.

### Qualifications for Registration as an Elector

- (a) Must be a citizen of Ceylon, and must not, by virtue of his own act, be under any acknowledgment of allegiance, obedience or adherence to any Foreign Power of State which is not a member of the Commonwealth ;
- (b) Must not be less than 21 years of age on the first day of June in the year of the preparation of the register ;
- (c) Must have resided in the electoral district to which the register relates for a continuous period of six months in the eighteen months immediately prior to the first day of June in the year of the preparation of the register ;
- (d) Must not be serving a sentence of imprisonment for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding twelve months ; or must not be under sentence of death, or must not be serving a sentence of imprisonment awarded in lieu of execution of a sentence of death ;
- (e) Must not have been, under any law in force in the Island, found or declared to be of unsound mind ;
- (f) Must not be incapable of being registered as an elector by reason of his conviction of a corrupt or illegal practice or by reason of the report of an election judge or by reason of his conviction of an offence under section 52 of the Ceylon (Parliamentary Elections) Order-in-Council, 1946 ;



- (g) Must not at the time of the preparation of the register be disqualified by section 5 of the Public Bodies (Prevention of Corruption) Ordinance, No. 49 of 1943, from voting at an election of members of any Municipal Council, Urban Council, Town Council or Village Committee, by reason of a conviction, or of a finding of a Commissioner of Inquiry under that Ordinance ;
- (h) Must not have, during a period of five years immediately preceding the time of the preparation of the register, been convicted of an offence under the provisions of any of the following sections of the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance, No. 53 of 1946, namely, sections 75 to 80 (both inclusive) ;
- (i) Must not, at the time of the preparation of the register, be disqualified by reason of a conviction or of a finding of a Commission of Inquiry or Board of Inquiry under the Bribery Act, No. 11 of 1954.

### III—THE ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM

WHILE the Cabinet assisted by the Parliamentary Secretaries is responsible for the formulation of Governmental Policy, the day to day administration of the Island is carried on by the public service comprising of officers of various grades and services.

For purposes of administration several departments of Government are grouped under the various ministries. Each Minister is assisted by a Permanent Secretary who is entrusted with the control and direction of the departments under each Ministry. The functions of the various Ministries and the chief departments under their control are given below.

#### Functions of Ministers and Departments of Government

A Permanent Secretary, subject to the general direction and control of his Minister supervises the Department or Departments of Government in charge of his Minister. When a decision has been taken it is his business to see that it is carried out with all possible energy and skill. The Minister takes responsibility for his departments' acts. He submits to the Cabinet any decision which may have political implications.

#### DEFENCE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Departments concerned with Defence and External Affairs are in the special charge of the Prime Minister. The Ministry supervises the work of the Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Ministers, Trade Commissioners and Consuls abroad.

This Ministry is in charge of the Foreign and Commonwealth relations, Foreign Government Representatives in Ceylon and Ceylon Government Representatives abroad, International Agreements and Treaties, Protocol, Immigration, Emigration, Repatriation and Aliens, Passports, Citizenship and Nationality and Administration of the Indian and Pakistani Residents (Citizenship) Act. It is also in charge of the Police, Army, Navy and Air Force, Public Security and Anti-Bribery measures. The implementation of the Official Language Act, No. 33 of 1956, is also one of its responsibilities.

The departments under this Ministry are :—

Police Department

Department of Defence

Department of External Affairs

Department of Ceylon Government Representatives Abroad

Department of Immigration and Emigration

Department for Registration of Indian and Pakistani Residents

Official Language Department

#### FINANCE

The Ministry of Finance generally manages the finance of the country. It scrutinises the draft estimates of the Annual Appropriation Bill, collects taxes, pays bills and debts of the Government, supervises public expenditure and safeguards the currency through financial institutions under its control. In financial policy it has the advice of the Central Bank which also raises loans on behalf of the Government.



The Ministry of Finance, under which the Treasury functions is also responsible for establishments and salary scales of Government servants. The Departments under the Ministry are :—

Treasury	National Savings Department
• Department of Income Tax, Estate Duty and Stamps	Loan Board
Customs Department	Government Stores
Department of Census and Statistics	Government Press
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Office	

#### JUSTICE •

The subjects and functions of the Ministry of Justice include the administration of courts of justice (other than the Supreme Court) criminal prosecutions and civil proceedings on behalf of the Government, drafting of legislation and legal advice to public departments. The Departments under the Ministry of Justice are :—

Department of the Attorney-General	District Courts
Department of the Legal Draftsman	Magistrates' Courts
Department of the Public Trustee	Courts of Requests
Department of the Custodian of Enemy Property	Rural Courts
Fiscals' Departments of the Provinces of the Island	Department of the Headquarters Officers, Rural Courts
	Debt Conciliation Board

#### HOME AFFAIRS

The Ministry of Home Affairs is in charge of district administration, prisons and probation services, excise, land registration, registration of births, deaths and marriages, parliamentary elections, public ceremonials, rural development, cottage industries and promotion of arts and crafts. It has the following Departments under it :—

Government Agencies (Kachcheries)	Department of Registrar-General
Excise Department	Rural Development and Cottage Industries
Department of the Government Analyst	Department of Probation and Child Welfare Services
Department of Elections	
Prisons Department	Zoological Gardens

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Ministry generally supervises the Local Bodies including Municipal Councils, Urban Councils, Town Councils, and Village Committees and is also in charge of Cultural Affairs. The departments under the Ministry are :—

Department of Local Government	Department of National Museums
Department of the Local Government Service Commission	Archaeological Department
Department of Cultural Affairs	Government College of Fine Arts
Department of the Government Archivist	Department of Town and Country Planning

#### POSTS, BROADCASTING AND INFORMATION

The principal function of the Ministry of Posts Broadcasting and Information is to maintain inexpensive and efficient public means of communication through the Postal and Telecommunication services. It is also responsible for the maintenance of broadcasting services, weather forecasting and distribution of official news. The departments under the Ministry are :—

Post and Telecommunications Department	Department of Broadcasting
Department of Meteorology	Department of Information

#### TRANSPORT AND WORKS

The Ministry has among its subjects and functions, public works, Government roads, buildings, airports and water works, inland waterways, inland transport, ports, civil aviation, Government



railways, electrical undertakings and basic technical training. The departments under the Ministry are :—

Public Works Department	Department of Electrical Undertakings
Port Commission	Department of Motor Traffic
Railway Department	Basic Technical Training Institute
Civil Aviation Department	

#### COMMERCE AND TRADE

The duties of the Ministry are promoting and developing the Island's trade and commerce. It is concerned with tourism, trade exhibitions, copyright, patents, trade marks, business names, weights and measures, merchant shipping, control of imports and exports of commodities and commercial matters relating to the tea industry. The Departments under the Ministry are :—

Commerce Department	Rubber Commissioner's Department
Department of Control of Imports and Exports	Department of the Registrar of Companies
Government Tourist Bureau	Tea Control Department

#### EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education is primarily responsible for the implementation of Government's policy on educational matters and has under its jurisdiction schools and training colleges, and conducts public examinations. The Departments under this Ministry are :—

Education Department	UNESCO Secretariat for Ceylon
Department of Examinations	Educational Publications Board
Ceylon Technical College	

#### LABOUR, HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The Ministry of Labour, Housing and Social Services, concerns itself with conditions, wages, and hours of work of labour, employment, industrial welfare and disputes ; assistance and advice for housing development, public assistance and social insurance. The departments under its control are :—

Department of Labour	Department of Social Services
Department of National Housing	

#### AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

The responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food concerns food production and other forms of agriculture, animal husbandry and veterinary services, control, distribution and rationing of food, co-operative development, and development of marketing. The Ministry has the following Departments under it :—

Agriculture	Rubber Control
Food Production	Marketing
Department of the Food Commissioner (Supply and Control)	Department of Co-operative Development and Registrar of Co-operative Societies
Tea Control	Department of Coconut Rehabilitation

#### LANDS AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry has under its charge the custody of Crown lands colonization and land settlement, the development and maintenance of irrigation works, flood protection, development and exploitation of forests, the protection of fauna and flora, game sanctuaries, elephant kraals, valuation on behalf of Government and surveying. The Departments under the Ministry are :—

Department of the Land Commissioner	Valuation Department
Land Settlement Department	Department of Wild Life



Survey Department  
Forest Department  
Irrigation Department

Agricultural Corps  
Land Development Department (excluding Food  
Production Division)

#### HEALTH

The Ministry of Health is responsible for the public health services, and control of hospitals, and other medical institutions, medical education and research, medical inspection of schools and promotion of health education. The Departments under the Ministry are :—

Department of Health

Department of Indigenous Medicine

#### INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES

The Ministry of Industries and Fisheries has among its other functions, the development and control of industries, and fisheries. The departments under the Ministry are :—

Industries Department  
Department of Mineralogy

Department of Fisheries  
Department of Salt

#### Public Service Commission

The Constitution provides for the establishment of a Public Service Commission consisting of three members appointed (on advice) by the Governor-General. It is also laid down that at least one member of the commission shall be a person who has not at any time during the period of five years immediately preceding, held any public office or judicial office.

The members of the Commission are Sir Eric Jansz, C.M.G. (Chairman), Sir Arunachalam Mahadeva, K.C.M.G., and Mr. George R. de Silva who took the place of Sir Arthur de Silva, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., F.R.C.S.

The appointment, transfer, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers is vested in the commission : but this is subject to the exception that the appointment and transfer of the Attorney-General and the Permanent Secretaries is vested in the Governor-General acting on the advice of the appropriate Minister. Transfers for the present purpose include only transfers which have no financial implications. The Commission has however the power to delegate its functions to public officers and it has in fact only retained direct control over senior appointments, though an appeal may be made to the Commission where any person is dissatisfied.

### IV—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

For Administrative purposes, Ceylon has been divided into twenty districts which are in charge of officers appointed by the Central Government. These officers, known as Government Agents, are experienced members of the Civil Service.

Their offices, known as Kachcheries, are situated in district capitals. District administration goes down right to the village through officers of various grades. The Chief Headmen who were formerly in charge of a division comprising a number of Village Headmen's areas, have now been replaced by officials known as Divisional Revenue Officers (D. R. OO.) who are each in charge of a D. R. O's Division. There are today 107 such divisions.

The D. R. OO. have under them a number of officers, each in charge of a group of villages, known as Village Headmen.

#### Local Government

Although Local Government Institutions existed in Ceylon from very early times they had fallen into disuse at the time the British took charge of the administration of the Island. When first revived in the Nineteenth Century, the Village Community was given limited powers and responsibilities which were mainly in regard to village cultivation and irrigation. Successive Legislative Enactments have since enlarged the powers of Village Committees.



The other Local Governing institutions of Ceylon have been formed after the British model. The first Ordinance establishing Municipalities was enacted in 1865 and the first Local Board of Health and Improvement, which may be regarded as the precursor of the Urban Council, was established in 1876.

Local Government in Ceylon has in the recent past developed very rapidly and there are now four classes of local authorities, namely, Municipal Councils, Urban Councils, Town Councils and Village Committees. The powers and duties of these local authorities are broadly the regulation, control and administration of all matters relating to Public Health, Public Utility Services and Public Thoroughfares, and the protection and promotion of the comfort, convenience and welfare of the people and the amenities of their administrative areas. These functions take the form of the provision of water supply schemes, electricity schemes, street lighting, housing schemes, construction and maintenance of roads other than trunk roads, provision of markets, conservancy and scavenging services, sewage disposal schemes, maternity and child welfare clinics, milk schemes, cemeteries, public baths and bathing places, free dispensaries, recreation grounds, parks, resthouses, fire brigades, &c.

There are now 7 Municipalities, 36 Urban Councils, 38 Town Councils and 403 Village Committees in the Island to-day.

#### MUNICIPALITIES

The most developed type of local authority is the Municipality over which hardly any controls are exercised by the Central Government and is therefore virtually autonomous. Municipalities were first established in 1865 and are now administered under one Consolidated Act, the Municipal Councils Ordinance, No. 29 of 1947. Besides the powers and duties conferred on Municipalities under this Act there are several others under various other Acts.

#### URBAN COUNCILS

Next in Order of importance in local government institutions are the Urban Councils. These local authorities have been established in important Urban towns and are administered under the Urban Councils Ordinance, No. 61 of 1939. Urban Councils too have powers and duties under other Ordinances in addition to those laid down in the Urban Councils Ordinance.

#### TOWN COUNCILS

Town Councils have been established in small Rural Towns which by reason of their development are urban in character. This type of local authority came into being in 1947 and helped to bridge the gap that existed between the Village Committee and the Urban Council. Town Councils have powers and duties substantially the same as those of Urban Councils and are administered by the Town Councils Ordinance, No. 3 of 1946.

#### VILLAGE COMMITTEES

Village Committees (administered under the Village Communities Ordinance (Chapter 198)) like the other types of Local Authorities, are now corporate bodies with perpetual succession and power to hold property, tax lands, and to make by-laws on a variety of subjects. They too have powers and duties under other Ordinances. Elections to Village Committees are, like the other types of Local Authorities, governed by the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance, No. 53 of 1946.

For the proper development of rural Local Government and also the general supervision of the administration of Village Committees, Regional Assistant Commissioners of Local Government were appointed under the Local Government (Administrative Regions) Ordinance, No. 57 of 1946.

With the initiation of the Gal Oya Scheme under the Gal Oya Development Act, No. 51 of 1949, the undeveloped areas falling within the area of the scheme is generally controlled by the Gal Oya Development Board. Five Village Committees were taken over by the Board. In addition seventeen Village Committees will give over their undeveloped areas to the Board. In development areas



the normal machinery of Government will continue to operate, the Board acting, except as regards control of irrigation water, more as a co-ordinating than an executive authority.

### Local Government Service

As a solution to the difficulty of attracting and keeping good men in the Local Government Service the unified Local Government Service was set up by Government under the Local Government Service Ordinance, No. 43 of 1945. The Local Government Service Commission deals with the appointment, transfer, disciplinary control, &c., of about 7,700 employees in the various types of local authorities all over the Island.

### Commission on Local Government

A Commission on Local Government was appointed by the then Governor-General Viscount Soulbury in December, 1953, with Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q.C., as Chairman. Its terms of reference were outlined in the *Government Gazette* No. 10,622 of December 18, 1953.

The Report of the Commission was submitted to the Government and has been published as a Sessional Paper—No. XXXIII of 1955.

## V—DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

### External Affairs

POLITICAL maturity and economic stability at home, a foreign policy based on friendship with all nations and independent of power alignments, and the initiative in calling together, what are now known as, the Colombo Powers are some of the principal factors that have contributed to Ceylon's growing stature in world affairs. Traditional friendships with other nations have been strengthened and new ones have been made. In Ceylon today, 20 nations have established diplomatic missions, while many others are represented by Consulates. Correspondingly, Ceylon's Missions overseas now number 14 and this number is being added to every year, according as resources permit. Contact with the outside world is also maintained on an increasing scale through international conferences. Perhaps the most outstanding conference of our times was the Bandung meeting of 29 Asian and African nations.

Ceylon has continued to take an active interest in the work of the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations which are dedicated to the elimination of economic and social ills, such as, illiteracy, hunger and disease. The admission of Ceylon to the United Nations, after several long years of waiting, will undoubtedly present many more opportunities for her to pursue the cause of peace and international co-operation as the basic objectives of her foreign policy.

### Ceylon's Representation Abroad

At present Ceylon has missions only in the following countries :—

Country	Name of Representative	Designation
Australia	His Excellency Mr. P. R. Gunasekera	High Commissioner
Burma	Vacant	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
Egypt	Mr. A. Pathmarajah Mr. Youssef Abdallah	Chargé d' Affaires ad interim Honorary Trade Commissioner
France	His Excellency Sir G. Claude S. Corea, K.B.E.	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in the U. K.)
Germany	Mr. S. P. Wickramasinha	Chargé d' Affaires en pied
India	His Excellency Sir Edwin A. P. Wijeratne, K.B.E.	High Commissioner
Indonesia	His Excellency Mr. M. Saravanamuttu	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary



<i>Country</i>	<i>Name of Representative</i>	<i>Designation</i>
Italy	His Excellency Mr. H. A. J. Hulugalle, M.V.O.	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
Japan	His Excellency Sir Deepal Susanta de Fonseka, Kt.	Ambassador
Netherlands	His Excellency Sir G. Claude S. Corea, K.B.E.	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in the U. K.)
Pakistan	His Excellency Mr. T. B. Jayah	High Commissioner
Singapore and the Federa- tion of Malaya	Mr. M. Saravanamuttu	Commissioner, (Resident in Djakarta)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ire- land	His Excellency Sir G. Claude S. Corea, K.B.E.	High Commissioner
United States of America	Mr. B. F. Perera, C.M.G., O.B.E. His Excellency Mr. R. S. S. Gunewar- dena	Deputy High Commissioner Ambassador
United Nations, New York	His Excellency Mr. R. S. S. Gunewar- dena	Permanent Representative (Resident in Washington)

Foreign Representation in Ceylon—

**Diplomatic Corps**

Australia	His Excellency Mr. A. J. Eastman	High Commissioner
Austria	His Excellency Dr. Albin Lennkh	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in New Delhi)
Belgium	Baron Fernand de Kerchove D'Ex- aerde Borluut	Chargé d' Affaires en pied
Burma	His Excellency Maha Thray Sithu U. Ba Lwin	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
Canada	His Excellency Mr. J. J. Hurley, O.B.E., E.D.	High Commissioner
Denmark	Vacant	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in New Delhi)
	Mr. K. Borge Raavad	Chargé d' Affaires ad interim (Resident in Bombay)
Finland	His Excellency Mr. Hugo Valvanne	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in New Delhi)
France	His Excellency Monsieur Lucien Colin	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
Germany	His Excellency Dr. Theodor M. Auer	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
India	His Excellency Shri B. N. Chakravarty	High Commissioner
Indonesia	Mr. J. D. de Fretes	Chargé d' Affaires ad interim
Italy	His Excellency Dr. Pietro Solari	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
Japan	His Excellency Mr. S. Yuki	Ambassador
Netherlands	Dr. Karel Engelbrecht Van Der Man- dele	Chargé d' Affaires en pied
Norway	His Excellency Monsieur Knut Lykke	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in New Delhi)



<i>Country</i>	<i>Name of Representative</i>	<i>Designation</i>
Pakistan	His Excellency Haji Abdus Sattar Saith	High Commissioner
Portugal	Dr. Alvaro Brillhante Laborinho	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in Karachi)
Spain	His Excellency Senor Don Manuel Galan	Ambassador (Resident in Karachi)
Sweden	Her Excellency Madame Alva Myrdal	Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (Resident in New Delhi)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	His Excellency Sir Cecil George Lewis Syers, K.C.M.G., C.V.O.	High Commissioner
United States of America	His Excellency Mr. Philip K. Crowe	Ambassador

#### Consular Corps

The following countries are represented by Consular Corps :—

Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Liberia, Mexico, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

#### Other Representation

Other Representation in Ceylon includes Maldiv Islands, Philippine Islands, United Nations Technical Assistance Board and Colombo Plan Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-east Asia.

### VI—THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF CEYLON

#### Supreme Court

THE Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and eight Puisne Justices. It has appellate and revisional jurisdiction in Civil matters and as a general rule it exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. However, under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of housebreaking and robbery. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Magistrate's Court. Special jurisdiction is conferred on the Supreme Court to hear election petitions.

#### District Courts

The District Courts, of which there are at present twenty-five in the Island, have unlimited original civil (including testamentary and matrimonial) jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Magistrates' Courts.

Under Section 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Minister of Justice has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

#### Magistrates' Courts

There are thirty Magistrates' Courts in the Island. There are also a Municipal Magistrate's Court and a Juvenile Court in Colombo. In other stations the Magistrate performs the duties of a Municipal and Children's Magistrate in addition to his normal functions. The offences which a Magistrate's Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Magistrate's Court.



Special jurisdiction is conferred on Magistrates' Courts to make orders for the maintenance of wives and children.

#### Courts of Requests

Courts of Requests have original Civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage or demand or value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 300. There are thirty Courts of Requests in the Island, of which, one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his duties as District Judge or Magistrate.

#### Rural Courts

The Rural Courts Ordinance, No. 12 of 1945, which repealed sections 64-128 of the Village Communities Ordinance and the fourth schedule to that Ordinance, was brought into operation from October 1, 1946.

The civil jurisdiction of a Rural Court extends to the trial of all actions in which the debt, damage or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 100. A Rural Court has criminal jurisdiction to try the minor offences enumerated in section 10 of the Ordinance, and is presided over by a President appointed by the Judicial Service Commission.

There are forty seven Rural Courts in the Island.

#### The Judicial Service Commission

The Judicial Service Commission as constituted under the provisions of Section 53 (1) of the Ceylon (Constitution) Order in Council, 1946, assumed office in October, 1947. From that date until February 3, 1948, the powers of appointment, transfer, dismissal and disciplinary control of Judicial Officers remained vested in the Governor acting on the recommendations of the Judicial Service Commission. With the coming into effect of the Ceylon Independence Act, 1947, and the Ceylon Independence Order-in-Council 1947 from February 4, 1948, appointments, transfers (including those involving increase of salary), dismissal, and disciplinary control of Judicial Officers became vested in the Commission.

In addition to the above powers vested in the Commission, section 6 of the Minute on the Ceylon Judicial Service, modified and published in the *Gazette Extraordinary* of September 24, 1947, placed the Judicial Service for the purpose of leave and general administration under the general control of the Judicial Service Commission.

#### Activities of the Ministry of Justice

With a view to eliminate delay in the disposal of criminal cases and appeals more Commissioners were regularly functioning in various provincial towns and a very large majority of the old cases have been disposed of. The problem of the staff necessary for holding Sessions as a result of the increase in the number of Courts presided over by Commissioners of Assize was successfully handled. Appeals in the cases thus disposed of have been heard and concluded by the Court of Criminal Appeal almost within a fortnight of the trial. As a result of Commissioners being appointed to preside over Sessions it has been possible for permanent Judges of the Supreme Court to concentrate on hearing appeals, and a great impression has thus been made on the list of outstanding appeals which had perforce to be postponed on several occasions before, owing to the absence of sufficient Judges to hear appeals.

#### Legislation

During the year 1955 much progress was made in the matter of legislation in regard to a number of proposals considered by this Ministry during the previous year. A Bill to amend the Children and



Young Persons Ordinance and a Bill to make provision for youthful offenders were introduced in Parliament during this year and a Memorandum was submitted by the Minister with a view to implementing the recommendations of the Final Report of the Criminal Courts Commission.

Considerable progress has also been made in regard to the recommendations of the Report of the Fiscals' Commission. The necessary legislation for the implementation of those recommendations has been prepared, and awaits its passage in Parliament. This legislation will result in a re-organisation of the process work in all the Courts.

The past year has also been an important step in a Scheme which has engaged the attention of the Government for a considerable time in its anxiety to ensure that all citizens, rich and poor alike, enjoy equal protection of the law. A three-man Commission was appointed during this year to investigate how far people for want of financial means are handicapped in defending themselves before Courts of Law and other judicial tribunals or obtaining redress to which, under the law, they are entitled. The Commission has already begun its work, and will make its report and recommendations in due course indicating how far disabilities suffered by persons seeking justice by reason of their poverty or limited financial resources could be eliminated or reduced by a Scheme of State assistance.

## VII—DEFENCE

### The Army

THE Ceylon Army Act No. 17 of 1949 which came into operation on 10th October, 1949, provides for the Army in Ceylon. The Army is composed of the main elements of a modern conventional Army and is still in the process of formation. The Army consists of the Regular Force, the Volunteer Force and the Cadet Corps. Service is entirely voluntary there being no form of conscription.

### The Royal Ceylon Navy

The Navy Act No. 34 of 1950 which came into operation on 9th December, 1950, provides for the Navy in Ceylon. The Royal Ceylon Navy was inaugurated in December, 1950, from a nucleus of officers and men of the Ceylon Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, who were retained in Service at the end of World War II. The Navy mans the Fleet Minesweeper, H.M.Cy.S. "Vijaya", the Seaward Defence Boat H.M.Cy.S. "Kotiya", and Patrol Boats H.M.Cy.S. "Hansaya", "Lihiniya", "Seruwa" and "Diyakawa". In addition there is a Shore Establishment in Colombo, H.M.Cy.S. "Gemunu", the Training Establishment at Diyatalawa H.M.Cy.S. "Rangala" and the Patrol Craft Base at Karainagar H.M.Cy.S. "Elara".

Volunteer Units of the Navy are the Volunteer Naval Force, H.M.Cy.S. "Lanka" and the Volunteer Naval Force (Port Division), H.M.Cy.S. "Tissa".

The Navy has in recent times been actively engaged in operations to combat illicit landings in the North coast of Ceylon.

### The Royal Ceylon Air Force

The Air Force Act No. 41 of 1949 was promulgated on 10th October, 1949, but the Air Force was established as a fighting service on 2nd March, 1951, with the appointment of the first Commander of the Air Force. At present the Air Force consists of only a Regular Force. Personnel of the Royal Ceylon Air Force are trained either in Ceylon or in technical training establishments in the United Kingdom. Royal Air Force officers and airmen are seconded for duty with the Royal Ceylon Air Force and they are mainly responsible for the training of personnel. In the ground trades, Ceylonese airmen are gradually taking over from seconded personnel.

The Air Force is responsible for the provision of air patrols for combating illicit landings, medium range Air/Sea Rescue operations, Army co-operation duties and Air Survey work.

**Home Guard Regiment**

The Home Guard Regiment was formed on May 1, 1955. The regiment consists of Head-Quarters and seven Companies. The following two categories are eligible for enlistment in this regiment :—

- (a) Personnel who have served in the armed forces during the last war,
- (b) Regular army reservists on completion of their service in the reserve.

The present strength of this regiment is 37 officers and 728 other ranks. The Commanding Officer is Col. C. P. Jayawardene, C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., E.D., A.D.C.

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**Important References :**

- (1) Sessional Paper XIV, 1944—Reform of the Constitution.
- (2) Sessional Paper XXII, 1947—Independence of Ceylon.
- (3) Sessional Paper III, 1948—Constitution of Ceylon.
- (4) Donoughmore Report.
- (5) Soulbury Report.
- (6) Constitution of Ceylon—Ivor Jennings.
- (7) An Introduction to Civics and Government—A. J. Wilson.
- (8) Government and Politics—Weerawardene.
- (9) Diplomatic, Consular and other Representation in Ceylon and Abroad.



## CHAPTER IV

### POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

#### I—POPULATION CENSUS, 1953

A Census of population was taken in Ceylon on March 20, 1953, revealing a total population of 8,098,637. The census had a very comprehensive coverage. Twenty-one of the 26 questions asked were obtained on a complete enumeration basis and 5 on a sample basis.

In regard to the employment status, information was asked for the first time in Ceylon about unpaid family workers or persons who were engaged without payment in an enterprise conducted by a member of the family.

The question on fertility, educational attainment, income, and unemployment were asked only from persons residing in households which had been previously selected to constitute a 10 per cent. sample of all households in the Island.

Besides the questions on the characteristics of the population, the following information was obtained in respect of every household in the Island :—the number of rooms, material of roof and wall, monthly rental, length of residence in dwelling ; name, age, sex, occupation and race of head of household, and the total number of persons by age groups.

For the first time an attempt was made to assess the error present in the Population Census count of 1953.

The Post-Enumeration Survey which was conducted in the latter part of 1953 involved the verification of a little over 80,000 persons or roughly one per cent. of the population of Ceylon. The survey was solely concerned with coverage errors consisting of omissions and duplications. No attempt was made to make it a quality check.

The survey revealed that for Ceylon there was a net under-enumeration of 54,559 persons or that 7 persons in every 1,000 persons were probably omitted ; reasonably safe limits being, however, 4 and 9.

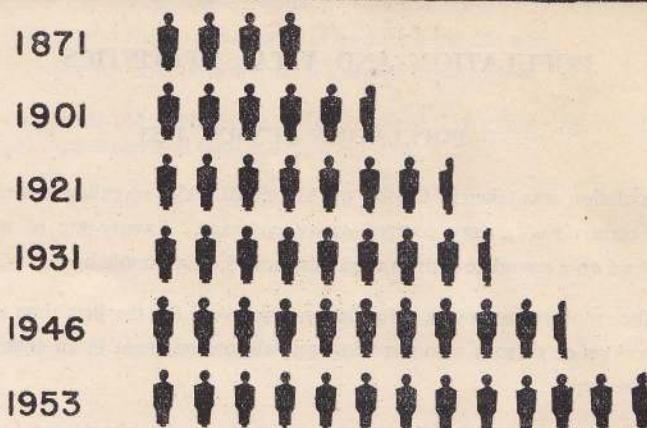
The main results of the Census are summarized in the following tables. It should be noted that these figures, which have been based on abstracts prepared by enumerators, are provisional and subject to correction after verification against the actual schedules.

#### Distribution of Population

The population of Ceylon as at March 20, 1953, was 8,098,637.

The table on page 24 shows the distribution of population according to various revenue districts of the Island (inclusive of municipal and urban population).

### DENSITY OF POPULATION 1871-1953



ONE SYMBOL REPRESENTS 25 PERSONS PER SQ MILE

TABLE 4-1 POPULATION OF CEYLON BY SEX AND REVENUE DISTRICT, 1953

Revenue Districts	All Persons	Males	Females
Ceylon	8,098,637	4,264,936	3,833,701
Colombo District	1,707,872	922,139	785,733
Kalutara District	523,948	268,760	255,188
Kandy District	840,448	439,115	401,333
Matale District	201,126	107,700	93,426
Nuwara Eliya District	325,022	168,879	156,143
Galle District	524,382	258,182	266,200
Matara District	413,904	206,892	207,012
Hambantota District	191,728	100,281	91,447
Jaffna District	492,384	246,842	245,542
Mannar District	43,711	25,820	17,891
Vavuniya District	35,119	20,246	14,873
Batticaloa District	270,722	144,483	126,239
Trincomalee District	84,509	50,524	33,985
Kurunegala District	626,074	332,716	293,358
Puttalam District	58,878	32,935	25,943
Chilaw District	169,963	89,791	80,172
Anuradhapura District	229,174	131,390	97,784
Badulla District	468,835	246,996	221,839
Ratnapura District	420,317	224,674	195,643
Kegalle District	470,521	246,571	223,950



## Urban Population

The following table gives the distribution of the population among the principal towns and cities (Municipal Councils and Urban Councils) :—

TABLE 4.2 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND URBAN COUNCIL AREAS, 1953

<i>Municipal and Urban Councils</i>	<i>All Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Colombo District :			
Colombo M. C.	423,481	256,114	167,367
Negombo M. C.	38,591	20,508	18,083
Avissawella U. C.	3,195	1,877	1,318
Dehiwala-Mt. Lavinia U. C.	80,086	43,785	36,301
Gampaha U. C.	7,526	4,126	3,400
Ja-ela U. C.	3,777	2,147	1,630
Kolonnawa U. C.	21,385	11,577	9,808
Kotte U. C.	53,862	28,885	24,977
Moratuwa U. C.	58,160	29,953	28,207
Wattala U. C.	16,044	8,836	7,208
Kalutara District :			
Beruwala U. C.	12,502	6,130	6,372
Horana U. C.	4,826	2,655	2,171
Kalutara U. C.	20,354	10,630	9,724
Panadura U. C.	20,380	10,840	9,540
Kandy District :			
Kandy M. C.	57,359	33,190	24,169
Gampola U. C.	10,811	6,033	4,778
Hatton-Dickoya U. C.	6,383	4,298	2,085
Kadugannawa U. C.	1,166	752	414
Nawalapitiya U. C.	9,740	5,753	3,987
Wattegama U. C.	1,162	806	356
Matale District :			
Matale U. C.	17,265	9,700	7,565
Nuwara Eliya District :			
Nuwara Eliya M. C.	12,778	7,270	5,508
Talawakele-Lindula U. C.	3,463	2,343	1,120
Galle District :			
Galle M. C.	55,874	28,992	26,882
Ambalangoda U. C.	10,554	5,190	5,364
Matara District :			
Matara U. C.	27,697	14,103	13,594
Weligama U. C.	12,799	6,025	6,774

<i>Municipal and Urban Councils</i>	<i>All Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
<b>Hambantota District :</b>			
Hambantota U. C.	4,300	2,335	1,965
Tangalla U. C.	6,840	3,550	3,290
<b>Jaffna District :</b>			
Jaffna M. C.	77,218	41,320	35,898
<b>Batticaloa District :</b>			
Batticaloa U. C.	17,273	9,494	7,779
<b>Trincomalee District :</b>			
Trincomalee U. C.	28,236	17,496	10,740
<b>Kurunegala District :</b>			
Kurunegala M. C.	17,319	10,859	6,460
Kuliyapitiya U. C.	3,005	1,931	1,074
<b>Puttalam District :</b>			
Puttalam U. C.	10,268	5,683	4,585
<b>Chilaw District :</b>			
Chilaw U. C.	11,274	6,205	5,069
<b>Anuradhapura District :</b>			
Anuradhapura U. C.	18,431	11,075	7,356
<b>Badulla District :</b>			
Badulla U. C.	17,294	9,881	7,413
Haputale U. C.	1,732	1,119	613
Bandarawela U. C.	3,469	2,241	1,228
<b>Ratnapura District :</b>			
Balangoda U. C.	2,476	1,535	941
Ratnapura U. C.	16,002	9,264	6,738
<b>Kegalla District :</b>			
Kegalla U. C.	5,533	3,085	2,448

#### Race and Nationality

The Distribution of the population in Ceylon by Race and Nationality is given in Table 4-3.



# DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY RACE

## 1953 CENSUS

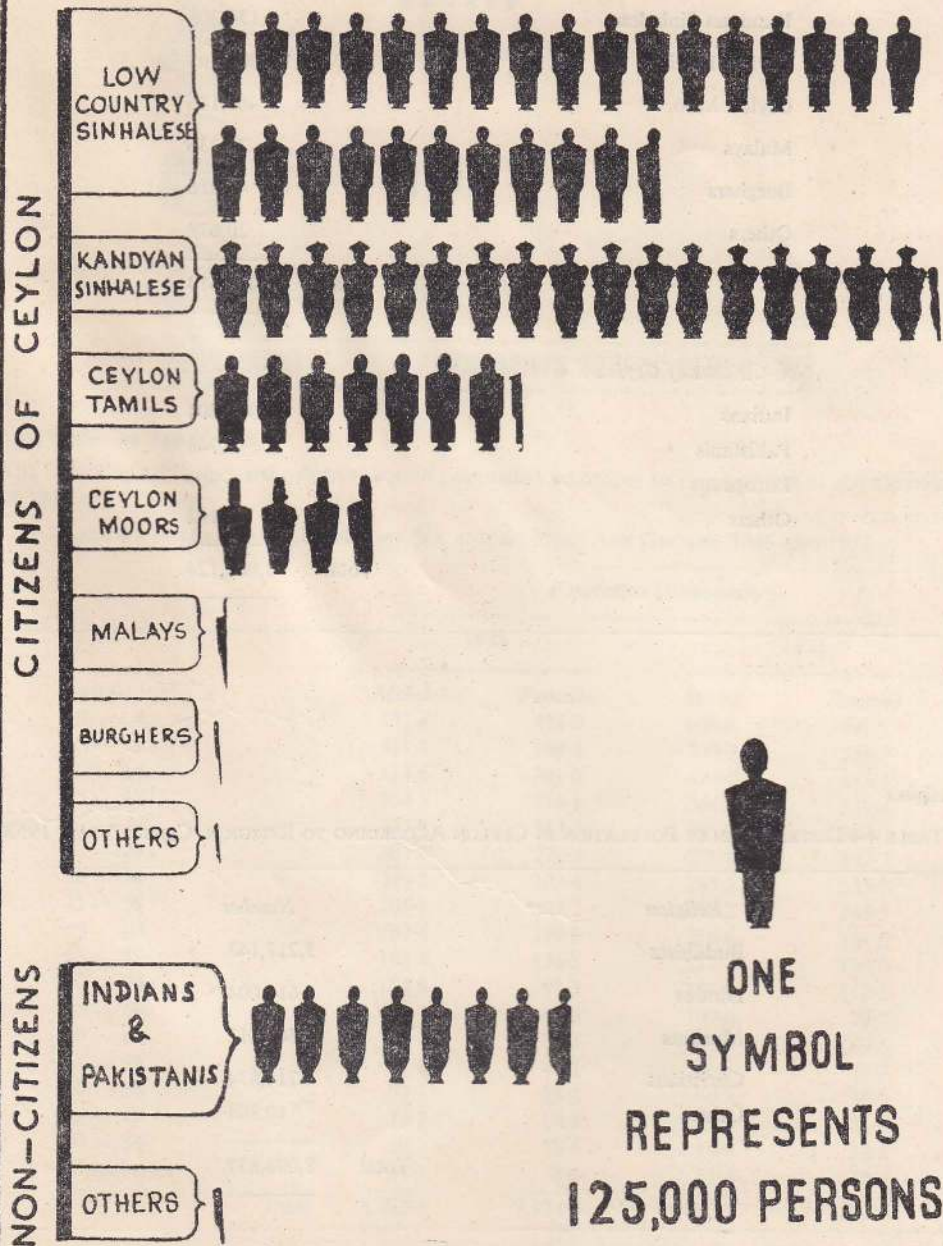


TABLE 4-3 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN CEYLON ACCORDING TO RACE AND NATIONALITY, CENSUS YEAR, 1953

## Race and Nationality :

*Citizens of Ceylon*

Low-Country Sinhalese	3,464,126
Kandyan Sinhalese	2,157,206
Ceylon Tamils	908,705
Ceylon Moors	468,146
Malays	28,736
Burghers	43,916
Others	20,678
Total	7,091,513

*Non-Citizens of Ceylon*

Indians	983,304
Pakistanis	5,749
Europeans	6,909
Others	11,162
Total	1,007,124

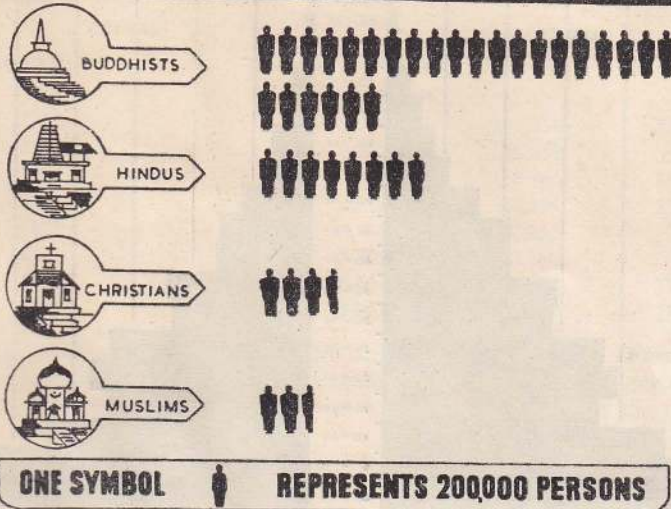
## Religion

TABLE 4-4 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN CEYLON ACCORDING TO RELIGION, CENSUS YEAR, 1953

<i>Religion</i>	<i>Number</i>
Buddhists	5,217,143
Hindus	1,614,004
Muslims	541,812
Christians	714,874
Others	10,804
Total	8,098,637



### NUMBER OF ADHERENTS OF THE PRINCIPAL RELIGIONS 1953 CENSUS



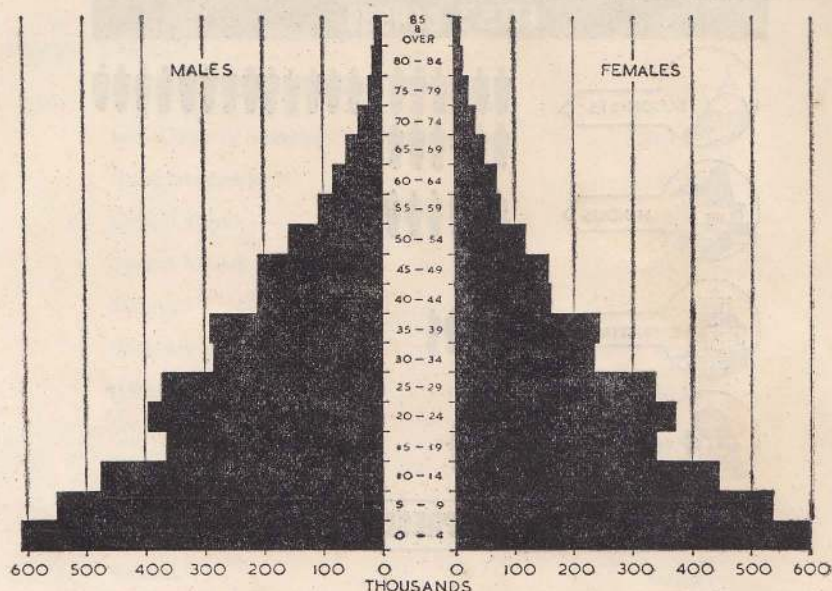
#### Distribution by Age Groups

The following table shows the distribution of population according to Age and Sex at the Censuses of 1946 and 1953 :—

TABLE 4-5 POPULATION CLASSIFIED BY SEX AND SELECTED AGE GROUPS, 1946 AND 1953

Age Groups	Population (thousands)			
	1946		1953	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 — 4	437.4	424.0	608.8	599.7
5 — 9	411.8	399.5	550.0	535.9
10 — 14	414.6	391.0	474.0	445.4
15 — 19	364.5	316.1	364.5	339.4
20 — 24	327.8	313.7	395.2	372.3
25 — 29	307.3	270.3	371.2	337.7
30 — 34	246.5	203.4	285.3	235.5
35 — 39	261.1	207.2	292.2	243.5
40 — 44	182.4	139.9	210.6	161.5
45 — 49	183.4	136.1	211.4	159.0
50 — 54	104.8	91.3	159.7	118.5
55 — 59	94.7	68.5	109.0	79.7
60 — 64	71.2	59.3	84.0	69.5
65 — 69	51.8	41.1	61.8	50.2
70 — 74	33.3	28.4	40.7	35.5
75 — 79	19.2	16.9	22.9	21.8
80 — 84	12.2	10.4	15.5	13.5
85 and over	8.1	7.6	11.4	10.5
Total	3,532.1	3,124.7	4,268.7	3,829.2

## AGE AND SEX COMPOSITION OF POPULATION, 1953

**Literacy**

For census purposes a "literate" person is one who can both read *and* write a language.

There has been a continuous improvement in literacy since 1881 as shown by the following table :

TABLE 4-6 PERCENTAGE OF LITERATES IN CEYLON RELATIVE TO POPULATION AGED FIVE YEARS AND OVER, 1881-1953

<i>Population</i>	<i>Persons Per cent.</i>	<i>Males Per cent.</i>	<i>Females Per cent.</i>
Aged 5 years and over	100.0	100.0	100.0
1881	17.4	29.8	3.1
1891	21.7	36.1	5.3
1901	26.4	42.0	8.5
1911	31.0	47.2	12.5
1921	39.9	56.4	21.2
1946	57.8	70.1	43.8
1953	65.8	76.0	54.2

It is manifest that remarkable progress has been made in female literacy in the recent past.

**II—THE GROWTH OF POPULATION**

THE first decennial Census of Ceylon was undertaken in 1871. The Census of that year numbered the population at 2,400,380 a figure which was to rise to 8,098,637 at the Census of 1953. In eighty-two years, therefore, the population of Ceylon has increased by 5,698,257 or by 237.4 per cent. The mean rate of increase has been 14.6 per cent. per decennium.



The following table indicates the population of Ceylon at the Censuses held in 1871 and thereafter, the amount of increase and percentage increase :—

TABLE 4-7 POPULATION OF CEYLON AT CENSUSES, 1871 TO 1953

Census Year	Population	Amount of increase	Per cent. of increase
1871	2,400,380	—	—
1881	2,759,738	359,358	15.0
1891	3,007,789	248,051	9.0
1901	3,565,954	558,165	18.6
1911	4,106,350	540,396	15.2
1921	4,498,605	392,255	9.6
1931	5,306,871	808,266	18.0
1946	6,657,339	1,350,468	25.4
1953	8,098,637	1,441,298	21.6

The growth of the Island's population has been occasioned by two factors. First, by the natural increase—"excess of births over deaths" and secondly by the increase in immigration.

The following table shows these two factors in operation and also gives the total intercensal increase :—

TABLE 4-8 THE NATURAL INCREASE, IMMIGRATION INCREASE AND INTERCENSAL INCREASE

Period	Natural increase	Immigration increase	Intercensal increase
1871 — 1881	119,792	239,566	359,358
1881 — 1891	144,260	103,791	248,051
1891 — 1901	225,406	332,759	558,165
1901 — 1911	356,157	184,249	540,396
1911 — 1921	319,410	72,845	392,255
1921 — 1931	656,990	151,276	808,266
1931 — 1946	1,280,916	69,552	1,350,468
1946 — 1953	1,362,329	78,969	1,441,298

### Births and Deaths

The increase in population in recent years has been due in a very large measure to the excess of births over deaths. The following table gives figures in respect of births, deaths, birth rate and death rate for the period 1946-1955 :—

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND RATE OF NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION, 1870-1955

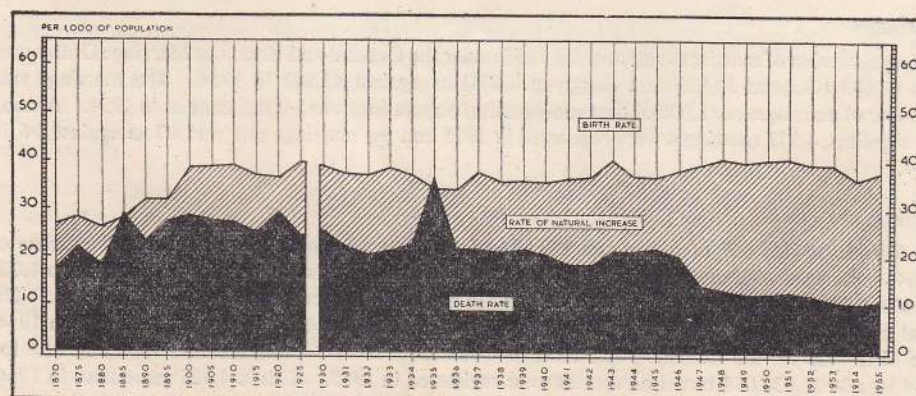




TABLE 4.9 BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1946-1955

Year	Births	Birth Rate per 1,000	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000
1946	256,886	38.2	135,937	20.2
1947	271,191	39.3	98,544	14.3
1948	287,695	40.5	93,711	13.2
1949	291,191	39.8	91,889	12.6
1950	304,635	40.4	95,142	12.6
1951	313,662	40.5	100,072	12.9
1952	313,532	39.5	95,298	12.0
1953	321,217	39.4	89,003	10.9
1954	303,898	36.2	86,194	10.4
1955	325,538	37.9	94,368	11.0
Total	2,989,441	mean 39.2	Total 980,758	mean 13.0

During the fifteen year period 1931-45 the mean crude birth rate fell to 36.8 from 39.8 which was the mean for the decade immediately preceding it. The death rate declined from 26.5 in the period 1921-30 to 22.2 in the period 1931-45. During the following interensal period, 1946-53, although the mean crude birth rate rose slightly to 39.7, the death rate declined rapidly to 13.6. In 1953 the death rate was 10.9 with 89,003 deaths and in 1954 it declined to 10.4 the lowest figure on record but rose in 1955 to 11.0.

### III—VITAL STATISTICS, 1955

The main features of the Vital Statistics for 1955 are summarised below :—

#### Population

The estimated population of Ceylon at mid-year 1955 was 8,589,000 and at the end of the year 8,686,000. There has been an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the Island's population during the year. The excess of births over deaths (natural increase) was 231,170 and of emigrants over immigrants 22,995.

#### Marriages

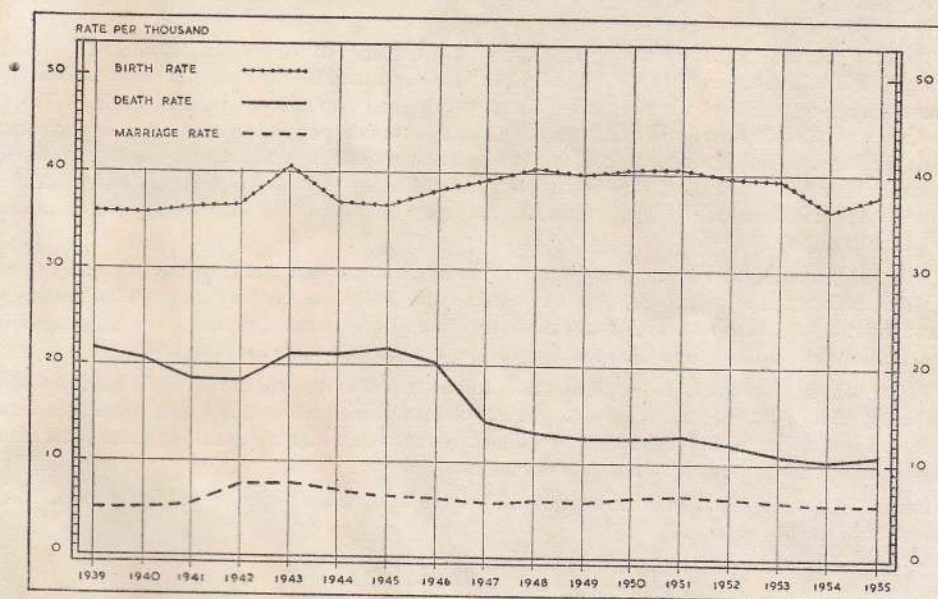
The total number of marriages registered in 1955 under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances was 47,683 (General 38,839 and Kandyan 8,844) as against 45,882 in 1954. The marriage rate (number of marriages per 1,000 of the (non-Muslim) population) was 5.9 the same as in 1954. Among the Muslims, 4,973 marriages were registered in 1955 and the marriage rate was 8.7 as against 8.6 in 1954.

#### Births

325,538 births (165,667 of males and 159,871 of females) were registered in 1955, an increase of 21,644 compared with the 303,894 births registered in 1954. The sex ratio was 1,036 males to 1,000 females. The birth rate was 37.9 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 36.2 in 1954. The total number of births registered in Colombo Town in 1955 was 28,754 as against 25,143 in 1954. The birth rate for the resident population of Colombo was 31.9 while the corresponding rate for 1954 was 30.2. 36,038 births on estates were registered in 1955. This is 4,915 more than in 1954.



## REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH, AND MARRIAGE RATES, 1939-55

**Deaths**

94,368 deaths (48,505 of males and 45,863 of females) were registered in 1955 as against 86,794 in 1954. The death rate which was 10.4 in 1954 (lowest on record) has gone up to 11.0 in 1955. In Colombo Town a total of 8,298 deaths were registered in 1955 compared with 8,161 in 1954. The death rate among residents of the town was 10.0 per 1,000 of the population as against 10.1 in 1954. 12,390 deaths on estates were registered in 1955 compared with 10,073 in 1954.

**Infant Deaths**

There were 23,259 deaths of infants in 1955 while the corresponding figure for 1954 was 21,891. The infant death rate was 71 per 1,000 live births as against 72 in 1954. The infant death rate for the resident population of Colombo Town was 72 against 77 in 1954. The rate on estates was 115 as in 1954.

**Maternal Deaths**

The number of deaths from causes pertaining to pregnancy and child-bearing in 1955 was 1,319 compared with 1,388 in 1954. The maternal death rate of 4.1 in 1955 is an improvement on the rate of 4.6 in 1954 which was then the lowest on record. The rate among residents of Colombo Town in 1955 was 3.2. The maternal death rate on estates in 1955 was 3.8.

**Length of Life**

The effect of changes in the death rate at different periods can best be seen in changes in the expectation of life at birth. The expectation of life at birth for the average Ceylon male was only 32.7 years in 1920-22, but had risen to 43.9 years in 1946 and by 1954 it was 60.3 years. The corresponding figures for the average Ceylon female were 30.7, 41.6 and 59.4 years respectively. The changes in public health conditions during the last 35 years are well illustrated by the consideration that, in the case of the male children born during 1920-22 and those born in 1954, more than 75 per cent. of the latter can expect to live more than 50 years while less than 75 per cent. of the former would have survived their third birthday.



Though Ceylon's expectation of life has gone up considerably in the last nine years, it is still appreciably below that of the more advanced countries like Norway and the Netherlands which have expectation of about 70 years.

The Replacement Indices measuring the expansionist tendency of the population worked from the life tables (for females) are 1.16, 1.44 and 2.12 for the periods 1920-22, 1946 and 1954 respectively where the indices represent the number of times the original population would multiply in about 30 years, assuming that the fertility and mortality conditions of the period considered remain constant. Thus the index indicates a slow rate of growth during the 1920-22 period due to the heavy toll of mortality then, while at present with a vastly reduced death rate there is a strong possibility that the present population may double itself within 30 years unless there is an unexpected change, for instance, to later marriage.

What is remarkable about the expectation of life in Ceylon is that it was greater for males than for females for each of the different periods considered. From the days of Graunt, Vital Statistics throughout the world show a higher mortality for men as compared with women. An exception was India, where in 1931 expectation of life was more or less the same for both sexes.

Perhaps the explanation is that in Ceylon as in India where also the expectation of life has increased by the control of famine and epidemics and Public Health methods and not as a consequence of a general improvement in living conditions, high birth rates and high maternal mortality rates tend to operate against the female rather than the male.

Recent figures given in the table below would seem to indicate the success of medical and sanitary measures of the last decade.

TABLE 4.10 VITAL STATISTICS, 1947-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Infant Death Rate</i>	<i>Maternal Death Rate</i>
1947	39.3	14.3	104	10.6
1948	40.5	13.2	92	8.3
1949	39.8	12.6	87	6.5
1950	40.4	12.6	82	5.6
1951	40.5	12.9	82	5.8
1952	39.5	12.0	78	5.8
1953	39.4	10.9	71	4.9
1954	36.2	10.4	72	4.6
1955	37.9	11.0	71	4.1

#### IV—MIGRATION

THE Department of Immigration and Emigration controls migration into and out of Ceylon and carries out the following activities in the implementation of statutory provisions of the Immigrants and Emigrants Act, No. 20 of 1948, as amended by Act No. 16 of 1955 under which legislation the control is enforced :—

- (1) The issue of residence, transit and visit visas.
- (2) The issue of Ceylon travel documents
- (3) The issue of visas on behalf of Governments of certain countries
- (4) Illicit immigration
- (5) Prosecution in the case of infringements of the provisions of the Act and Regulations made thereunder
- (6) The deportation and removal of persons out of Ceylon
- (7) The supervision of the activities of foreign nationals with particular reference to aliens.





# POTTERY

*(Photo by Mr. P. U. Pathirana)*







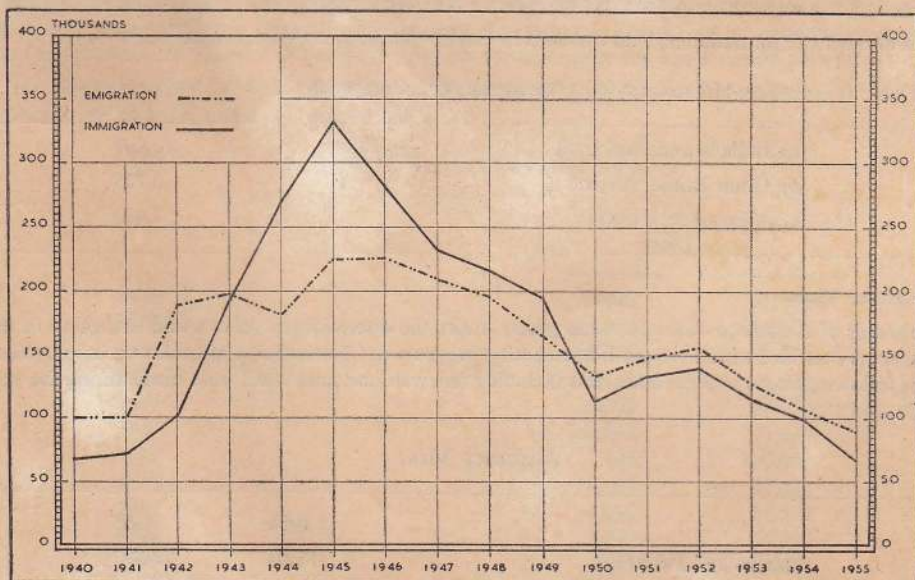
A completely new national policy for the control of migration and the framework for its implementation came into being after the enforcement of the operation of the above Act with effect from 1st November, 1949.

Ceylon Consular representatives function abroad as passport and visa issuing authorities for Ceylon. In countries where Ceylon has yet no Consular representation, the Commonwealth Government's or the United Kingdom passport officers very kindly continue to act on behalf of this Government.

TABLE 4-11 IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1939-55

Year	Thousands		Year	Thousands	
	Immigration	Emigration		Immigration	Emigration
1939	130	156	1948	217	196
1940	68	100	1949	195	165
1941	74	100	1950	114	134
1942	102	189	1951	134	148
1943	194	198	1952	140	156
1944	270	182	1953	116	129
1945	333	225	1954	100	108
1946	283	226	1955	67	90
1947	233	210			

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1940-55



#### Policy Changes

The most significant feature of the year's activities was the passage into law of the Immigrants and Emigrants (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 1955 which brought in far reaching changes on Immigration Control. Under the Act permanent and temporary residence permits were replaced by visas.



Secondly the qualification of past residence in Ceylon as an automatic entitlement to residence facilities was totally withdrawn. Thirdly, necessary legal provision was enacted to combat illicit immigration and to bring to book persons who conceal, harbour, transport or knowingly employ illicit immigrants. The other very important feature of immigration control that 1955 witnessed was the effective scheme of repatriation that was put into operation.

The Indian estate labour is now not dealt with departmentally as a separate category. They are now reckoned as Indian Nationals or non-nationals.

### Passports

The Department of Immigration and Emigration issues Ceylon passports to citizens describing the holder as a citizen of Ceylon by descent or by registration and simultaneously as a British Commonwealth citizen. During 1954 and 1955 the following issues of Ceylon travel documents were made :—

#### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

	1954	1955
Ceylon Passports	2,447	2,803
Ceylon Emergency Certificates	7,365	6,404
Identity Certificates	471	1,178

### Visas

A visa is an entry permit issued to a person of non-Ceylonese nationality to visit Ceylon for a short period not exceeding six months. *Bona fide* tourists of the United Kingdom and Colonies, Pakistan, Canada and Eire are exempt from the requirements of possessing a visa for short visits to Ceylon.

The number of non-nationals who travelled to Ceylon on visas in 1955 are given below :—

#### NON-NATIONALS WHO TRAVELLED TO CEYLON IN 1955 ON VISAS

(a) Indians and Pakistanis	10,467
(b) Other British subjects	6,725
(c) Aliens	7,470

### Residence Visas

Renewals of Residence visas are made purely under the discretionary powers and discretion in this respect is exercised with a view to implementing progressive Ceylonization of trade and employment. The following issues of Residence visas including renewals and final visas, were made during the year 1954 and 1955 :—

#### RESIDENCE VISAS

	1954	1955
Indians and Pakistanis	8,304	13,897
Other British subjects	947	1,483
Aliens	414	364
	9,665	15,744



**Emigration**

Ceylon nationals who wished to emigrate to Australia for permanent settlement in 1955 were allowed necessary facilities. Under an Agreement between the Governments of Canada and Ceylon, 50 Ceylon nationals are permitted to enter Canada annually. The United States of America has similarly allocated an annual quota of 100 for Ceylon nationals desiring to settle there permanently. Statistics of Ceylon nationals who have made use of these facilities during 1955 are as follows :—

Emigrated to Australia	133
Emigrated to Canada	49
Emigrated to U. S. A.	3

**Repatriation and Ceylonisation**

The repatriation scheme which the Department has now launched in the exercise of Immigration Control, broadly speaking, is intended to relieve the acute unemployment and under-employment resulting from a natural increase of population without a corresponding increase of production by making it possible for Ceylonese to replace non-nationals in the fields of Trade, Industry and Employment until more permanent measures are devised for securing increases in productivity consonant with the growth of population.

The difficulties that ensue in achieving this object have been fully realized and the Department has given the utmost consideration in permitting private employers, and the Mercantile and Industrial enterprises as many concessions as possible to carry on with their indispensable non-Ceylonese employees for a reasonable length of time.

The other factor that confronts the Department is the difficulty that has been encountered in repatriating non-nationals who have failed to comply with the Immigration Regulations. A very large number of persons of Indian nationality are overstaying the period of the permits issued to them.

The Department is constrained to take measures to combat this situation. A separate administrative set up has been organised to ensure the departure of non-nationals who do not leave immediately after their applications for renewal of residence visas are refused under the Repatriation Scheme.

The figures for the balance of migration among (a) Estate and (b) Non-Estate Indians for the last sixteen years are reproduced in the table below :—

TABLE 4-12 BALANCE OF MIGRATION

Year	Excess of Arrivals over Departures	
	Estate	Non-Estate
1940	— 14,820	— 21,263
1941	— 16,069	— 11,371
1942	— 31,767	— 55,024
1943	— 16,192	+ 12,156
1944	— 8,591	+ 95,865
1945	+ 446	+ 107,009
1946	+ 2,654	+ 47,835
1947	— 4,035	+ 21,821
1948	+ 3,282	+ 14,987
1949	— 2,415	+ 8,274
1950	+ 628	— 18,334
1951	— 3,870	— 17,062
1952	— 1,154	— 13,549
1953	— 4,421	— 9,263
1954	+ 1,761	— 9,764
1955	—	— 20,153

During the year 1955, Residence visas granted to New Immigrants totalled 518. A classification of these according to nationality was as follows :—

United Kingdom nationals	250
Other Europeans	111
Canadians	23
Australians	4
Americans	48
Indians and Pakistanis	56
Asians other than Indians and Pakistanis	26

These immigrants consisted of mercantile and business representatives, engineers, missionaries, officials of various International Organizations, their wives and dependent children, &c.

#### Important References :

- (1) Population Census, 1953.
- (2) Post-enumeration Survey, 1953 Census.
- (3) Registrar-General's Report on Vital Statistics.
- (4) Administration Report of the Controller of Immigration and Emigration.



## CHAPTER V

### AGRICULTURE

#### I—GENERAL

THE entire economy of the Island depends upon her export trade in the three main agricultural industries, tea, rubber and coconut. The money obtained by selling these three main products, as well as other exports, helps to pay for Ceylon's imports of essential commodities. Ninety-five per cent. of her exports consists of tea, rubber and coconuts.

Tea, rubber, coconut and paddy together account for approximately over three million acres of the total cultivated area. The estimated figures are as follows :—

	<i>Acres</i>
Tea	565,518
Rubber	660,985
Coconut	1,070,942
Paddy	1,031,611*

#### II—TEA CULTIVATION

##### Cultivation

THE total area under tea in Ceylon at the end of March, 1956, was 565,518 acres as compared with 575,504 acres during the previous year. Of this acreage 493,939 acres were under estates and 71,579 acres were under small-holdings. The reduction in acreage is due to the fact that some areas in tea have been uprooted as uneconomic and replanted in Rubber. Apart from this most of the estates have been re-surveyed and all areas where new roads, buildings, &c., have been built were excluded from the original registered areas. An estate as defined in the Tea Control Act refers to an area of land 10 acres or more in extent which is planted with tea, and a small-holding, an area under 10 acres in extent under tea cultivation. The distribution of acreages under these two categories was as follows :—

	<i>Wholly planted acres</i>		<i>Inter-planted acres</i>		<i>Total acres</i>	
	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
Estates	498,367	488,092	6,746	5,847	505,113	493,939
Small-holdings	51,049	52,229	19,342	19,350	70,391	71,579
	<u>549,416</u>	<u>540,321</u>	<u>26,088</u>	<u>25,197</u>	<u>575,504</u>	<u>565,518</u>

Tea is grown at elevations varying up to 6,000 feet above mean sea level ; the variety grown over 4,000 feet is classified as High Grown, and that over 2,000 feet as Medium grown and the variety

\* Asweddumised area.



cultivated below 2,000 feet is referred to as Low grown. The better quality of tea is grown in the higher elevations. The tea plant requires an evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches per year. The plant in addition requires a good drainage of the soil and therefore is mostly found on hill slopes.

In Ceylon immigrant labourers from South India have supplied the labour necessary for tea cultivation. Most of the plucking is done by women and children. The men are engaged in pruning trees or clearing the land of weeds. An estate requires on an average about one labourer per acre.

### Manufacture

Tea is manufactured from the tender leaves and buds of the tea plant which are plucked by hand.

Green leaves are first left to wither in withering lofts and then processed in rolling machines to produce lumps of twisted green leaf which are termed the 'roll'. The 'roll' is now alternatively broken in "roll breakers" and sifted; then it is allowed to ferment on glass or concrete trays. The tea is dried or fired after fermentation, graded and packed for export.

There is no fermenting process in the preparation of green tea and the withering process is substituted by steaming. However, no green tea is manufactured in Ceylon at present.

### Production

There were 985 registered manufacturers of tea in the period 1955-56. These manufacturers are required to furnish returns of production, sales and delivery of made tea during each month. The total quantity of tea manufactured during the control year 1954-55 was 377,467,734 lb. as against 360,920,889 lb. for the control year 1955-56. The following table gives the monthly production figures for the control years 1954-55 and 1955-56.

TABLE 5.1 MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF TEA—CONTROL YEARS, 1954-55 AND 1955-56

<i>Month</i>	<i>Production</i> <i>lb.</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Production</i> <i>lb.</i>
April, 1954	41,655,813	April, 1955	44,381,918
May	41,345,596	May	35,215,380
June	31,522,775	June	23,984,868
July	23,415,167	July	19,952,655
August	20,102,414	August	31,981,389
September	25,549,576	September	25,605,718
October	24,888,548	October	34,010,978
November	31,902,945	November	30,018,923
December	33,570,290	December	31,346,308
January, 1955	29,106,851	January, 1956	26,790,686
February	31,351,421	February	25,226,844
March	43,056,338	March	32,405,222
Total .. 1954-55—377,467,734 lb.		1955-56—360,920,889 lb.	

### Restriction

*Replanting, replacement and new-planting*—No replanting, replacement or new-planting of tea is permissible under Section 11 of the Tea Control Act, except on the authority of a licence issued by the Tea Control Department.



*Licensing of Tea Exports and Export of Tea Planting Material*—The Tea Control Department is responsible for the issue of licences for the export of tea from Ceylon. Direct Exports to the London Auctions are restricted by the Government with the object of building up Colombo as a world Tea Centre. During the Control year 1955-56 exports of tea from Ceylon totalled 366,512,785 lb. of which 278,860,681 passed through the Colombo Auctions.

The Tea Control Department is also required under Section 10 of the Tea Control Act to prohibit the export of tea planting material to all countries except countries participating in the International Tea Agreement i.e. India, Pakistan and Indonesia and that too on the authority of a licence issued by the Department.

#### Tea Thefts Prevention Act

Some of the important functions under this Act include (a) licensing of dealers in made tea, green tea leaf and tea seed; (b) restriction of sale and purchase of refuse tea. No dealer in made tea, green leaf or tea seed is permitted to carry on business of a dealer except on the authority of a licence issued under section 2 of the Tea Thefts Prevention Act. Retailers in made tea were however, allowed to continue business without a licence provided such stocks at any time did not exceed 112 lb. of tea in bulk and 500 lb. of packeted tea. Non-citizens of Ceylon are not issued licences for this purpose.

The sale or purchase of refuse tea is prohibited except on the authority of a permit issued under section 7 of the Tea Thefts Prevention Act.

#### Scheme of Assistance to Tea Small-Holders

Tea Small-holders are granted assistance through a net-work of Tea Producers' Co-operative Societies in order to rehabilitate their small holdings. Financial assistance under this Scheme is limited to loans and grants as follows :—

- (a) Subsidies and loans at the rate of Rs. 30 and Rs. 60 per acre respectively to fertilize the holdings;
- (b) A grant of Rs. 20 per acre for contour draining and terracing for the prevention of soil erosion;
- (c) A loan of Rs. 30 per acre to help in the repayment to factory owners of debts incurred by small-holders so that the amounts now paid as interest can be used for better cultivation operations.

For the purpose of implementing this scheme, a Tea Small-Holders' Advisory Board has been formed. The Tea Controller is the Chairman (*ex-officio*).

### III—RUBBER CULTIVATION

THE rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea Brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa and in the Western, Central and Southern Provinces.

#### Acreage

The total area under rubber in Ceylon on December 31, 1955, was 660,985 acres as compared with 659,209 acres at the end of 1954. The increase was due to the fact that 2,027 acres of newly-planted rubber were registered during the year, while 251 acres of old rubber were uprooted and replanted with other crops.

The Rubber Control Department is required by the Rubber Control Ordinance to maintain a register of all rubber estates and small-holdings in the Island. An "Estate" is defined in the Ordinance as



an area of land 10 acres or more in extent which is planted with rubber and a "Small-holding" as an area of land under 10 acres in extent planted with rubber. The following table shows the distribution of total rubber area of 660,985 acres between Small-holdings and estates of different sizes.

TABLE 5.2 RUBBER ACREAGES BY SIZE OF HOLDINGS, 1954 and 1955

Description	No. of Holdings Registered		Total Extent (acres)	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
(a) Small-holdings (below 10 acres)	128,740	130,369	178,609	181,312
) Estates 10 acres and above but below 100 acres	5,679	5,719	144,159	145,420
(c) Estates 100 acres and above but below 500 acres	657	673	157,849	159,349
(d) Estates 500 acres and above	195	189	178,592	174,904
	135,271	136,950	659,209	660,985

The acreage distributed between Ceylonese and alien owners in 1954 and 1955 was as follows :

	1954		1955	
	Acres	Per cent.	Acres	Per cent.
Ceylonese	421,326	63.9	427,018	64.6
Europeans	220,197	33.4	216,281	32.7
Others	17,686	2.7	17,686	2.7

Of the total area 660,985 acres under rubber in Ceylon 493,680 acres have been planted with ordinary seedling rubber, while the balance 167,305 acres have been planted with high-yielding material (clonal seedlings or budded stumps). The figure of 167,305 acres includes an area of about 40,000 acres planted during the war years (1939-1945), but most of these new rubber plantations have deteriorated through neglect and they can no longer be classed as high-yielding units. The true acreage of high-yielding rubber in the Island is therefore a little over 125,000 acres.

### Production

The total production of rubber in Ceylon in 1955 is estimated at 93,830 tons as compared with 93,935 tons in 1954. The estimated production during each month of the years 1954 and 1955 is shown below :—

TABLE 5.3 MONTHLY RUBBER PRODUCTION FOR 1954 AND 1955

Month	Production in tons		Month	Production in tons	
	1954	1955		1954	1955
January	10,008	9,614	July	8,014	8,457
February	6,333	4,485	August	7,961	9,698
March	4,540	4,892	September	8,229	7,797
April	7,246	7,049	October	7,545	9,307
May	5,296	5,440	November	9,893	9,602
June	7,713	5,835	December	11,157	11,654
			Total	93,935	93,830



It is estimated that out of the total rubber area of 660,985 acres, the actual area in production during 1955 (after excluding areas which had not yet reached tappable age and areas left untapped) was 581,866.

On this basis the average overall yield per acre during 1955 was 361 lb. per acre as compared with 347 lb. per acre in 1954. The higher yield was principally due to the higher price for rubber which prevailed during most of 1955.

### Local Consumption of Rubber

A total of 267 tons of rubber had been consumed locally in the retreading of motor tyres and in the manufacture of rubber goods, such as foam rubber cushions, rubber mats, surgical gloves, rubber-soled shoes and slippers and rubber toys including toy-balloons in 1955 as compared with 259 tons in 1954.

The consumption figures given below indicate that the quantity consumed locally continues to increase slowly :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Tons</i>
1947	72	1952	222
1948	101	1953	235
1949	139	1954	259
1950	156	1955	267
1951	218		

### Replanting

A permit under section 54 of the Rubber Control Ordinance is necessary for the replanting of Rubber.

During 1955, permits were issued to replant 26,471 acres under the Rubber Replanting Subsidy Schemes. Of this area, the replanting of 18,975 acres has been completed. In addition, an area of 1,943 acres was replanted in 1955 on Replanting Permits issued under the Subsidy Scheme in 1954. Permits were also issued to replant an area of 120 acres outside the Subsidy Scheme. The entire area replanted in 1955 was replanted with approved varieties of high yielding planting material.

### Rubber New-Planting

Planting of new areas in rubber can only be undertaken on the authority of permits issued under the Rubber (New-Planting) Ordinance, No. 38 of 1938. All areas authorised for planting under this Ordinance must be planted with high-yielding varieties of rubber. Permission is, however, given to plant areas with ordinary rubber provided such areas are budded within a specified period.

During 1955, 3,670 new-planting permits covering an extent of 5,914 acres were issued. The corresponding figure for 1954 was 4,862 permits covering an area of 8,870 acres.

### Nurseries

647 Permits were issued in 1955 for the opening of new rubber nurseries covering an extent of 218 acres as compared with 559 permits covering an extent of 225 acres issued in 1954.

In addition to these private nurseries, a number of Government Nurseries have been established in the principal rubber-growing districts of the Island to supply high-grade planting material to small-holders participating in the Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme.



The largest of these Government Nurseries is situated at Egal Oya in the Kalutara District. This nursery which covers 90 acres is probably the largest single rubber nursery in the world. A total of 502,533 budded stumps and clonal seedlings were issued from these nurseries to small-holders participating in the Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme during 1955.

### **Oidium**

Sulphur-dusting as an oidium-control measure is, subject to certain exceptions, compulsory for all rubber estates over 50 acres in extent. Oidium-control measures have been vigorously applied by most large estates containing blocks of high-yielding rubber and these areas are now less affected by oidium and carry a heavier foliage than they have done for many years.

The position on most small-holdings is less satisfactory. Small-holders cannot afford to purchase the expensive dusting-machines which are required for effective oidium-control.

A Government-sponsored pilot scheme for sulphur-dusting small-holdings and small estates was carried out with success in selected areas of the Kegalla District during the 1954-55 dusting season. The cost of dusting, however, which worked out to nearly Rs. 49 an acre, was beyond the reach of the majority of small-holders and owners of small estates. During the 1955-56 dusting-season, owners of small-holdings and small estates who wished to have their holdings, dusted were required to form themselves into Co-operative Dusting Groups. Dusting machines purchased with funds provided by the Rubber Control Department will be loaned to these Co-operative Dusting Groups. The members of each Group have to purchase the necessary sulphur and supply the labour necessary for carrying out the dusting operations, which will be supervised by Rubber Inspectors from the Small Holdings Division of the Rubber Research Institute. Sixteen Dusting Groups covering an area of 1,633 acres have so far been formed, and if the experiment proves successful, the scheme will be extended to other rubber-growing areas during the 1956-57 dusting-season.

### **Rubber Study Group**

The Rubber Study Group held its 12th Meeting in Monrovia, Liberia, in October, 1955.

The Ceylon Delegation was composed of Messrs P. H. C. Silva and S. C. A. Nanayakkara, with Mr. B. Mahadeva, Rubber Controller, as leader of the delegation.

### **New Rubber Legislation**

There are at present five main Ordinances dealing with Rubber :—

- (i) The Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 63 of 1938 ;
- (ii) The Rubber (New Planting) Ordinance, No. 38 of 1938 ;
- (iii) The Rubber (New Planting) (Special Provisions) Ordinance, No. 59 of 1946 ;
- (iv) The Rubber Thefts Ordinance, No. 21 of 1908 ; and
- (v) The Rubber Research Ordinance, No. 10 of 1930.

The first four of these Ordinances have been repeatedly revised and amended since they were first enacted. The Government decided to repeal the four Ordinances and replace them by a single Rubber Act designed to meet present-day requirements. The new Rubber Control Act was presented to Parliament on 7th December, 1955.

## **IV—COCONUT CULTIVATION**

DURING the Census of 1946 an effort was made to collect more accurate statistics of the acreage under coconut in Ceylon. Consequently, it was revealed that the extent under coconut estates and holdings in Ceylon was 920,942 acres. This figure does not include coconut growing in towns and village gardens of one acre or less usually forming the compound of a dwelling house. The total of these holdings is 309,391 acres of which extent 150,000 acres are estimated to be exclusively under coconut. Thus the total area under coconuts in Ceylon is over one million acres.



Ploughing and disc-harrowing are usually carried out on estates. It is estimated that only 25,000 acres of coconut land are regularly manured with artificial fertilizers. On small properties cultivation is manual for the most part, some form of cattle manuring is common, usually by tethering cattle round the palms.

Normally about 60 trees are planted to an acre under this crop. In such fertile areas as Madampe and Rajakadaluwa and Marawila, first-class properties give annual yields of 4,000 nuts per acre or more. 3,000 nuts per annum is a reasonable estate average. But the general average of all coconut land in Ceylon is only about 2,100 nuts over a period of 5 years. Crop fluctuations occur because a serious drought in one particular year can reduce yields in the year following. In general, crops are improving through improved cultivation. On the basis of exports and domestic consumption, the production in 1955 has been estimated to be 2,582 million nuts a year, which is equivalent to 2,400 nuts per acre.

## V—OTHER COMMERCIAL CROPS

### Cacao

THERE has been further increase in the planting of cacao in recent years especially under marginal rubber in the semi-dry zone, and it is estimated that approximately 50,000 acres are presently under this crop. Government offers a subsidy of Rs. 450 per acre for underplanting rubber in cacao, and Rs. 600 per acre for planting cacao after killing the rubber and establishing shade.

*Soil and Climate :* Cacao makes the best growth on deep alluvial soils which are well drained and rich in humus. The total rainfall should be well distributed and not less than 60 inches per annum. Excessive rainfall of over 100 inches is likely to favour the incidence of diseases such as *Phytophthora* pod rot and canker. Prolonged drought depresses yields and causes die back. Light overhead shade is essential and in areas subject to heavy blowing wind breaks have to be provided.

*Manuring :* Cacao responds to heavy dressings of well rotted cattle manure or compost. Two pounds per tree of fertilizer mixture containing 100 parts of sulphate of ammonia, 200 parts saphosphosphate and 125 parts muriate of potash is recommended for application immediately after pruning on chocolate red loams derived from dolomitic lime. On acid grey brown soils the potash is reduced to 50 parts.

*Pruning :* Cacao requires regular pruning once a year for satisfactory cropping. The trees are pruned at the end of the major cropping season in February or March.

*Harvesting :* Seedlings come into bearing 5 to 6 years after planting but rooted cuttings and budgrafts bear earlier. The main crop is in season from October to February and the smaller spring crop from May to July.

*Curing :* The beans are fermented in large wooden sweat boxes for about 36 hours. The fermented beans are then washed in running water to remove the disintegrated pulp and spread in the sun on barbecues provided with coir matting. In wet weather they are spread in drying lofts over which hot air is blown from flues. Drying is carried out in stages over a period of 5 to 6 days ; the beans being put out to dry for only a few hours on the first day and for longer periods in subsequent days. The slight fermentation which takes place when the beans are heaped indoors favour the development of flavour and quality in the bean. A well cured bean is fairly plump, brick red in colour and free from purplish discolouration when cut. The dry cured bean is about 33 to 36 per cent. of the wet weight.

*Yields :* The number of pods per tree varies considerably from about 10 to 350. The average yield per tree is about 1 lb. of cacao per annum, and the average yield per acre under local conditions is about 2½ cwt. but some estates produce as much as 5 to 6 cwts. per acre.

*Pests and Diseases :* The most serious pest is the *Helopeltis* bug which attacks the young flush and pods causing die back and favouring the incidence of *Phytophthora* pod rot. Mealy buds have



been found to transmit a mild strain of virus in some areas. A nutritional disorder known as Sick leaf disease is common in the Dumbara Valley ; but *Phytophthora* which causes pod rot and canker is the more serious disease in the cacao producing areas with higher rainfall.

### Citronella

Mahapangiri and Lenabatu (or Heen pangiri) are the two citronella types cultivated in Ceylon. Lenabatu covers about three-fourths of the total extent in citronella and is considered more suitable than Mahapangiri for the poor lateritic soils on which citronella is usually grown. Lenabatu out-yields Mahapangiri in weight of grass ; this difference, however, is usually less than 10 per cent. Grass of Mahapangiri has a higher oil content than that of Lenabatu, but with advancing age this difference is found to even out. In geraniol content, oil of Mahapangiri was strikingly superior to Lenabatu. Mahapangiri is the more profitable variety to grow where good cultivation is maintained with the use of fertilizers.

Manuring with a complete artificial fertilizer mixture of nitrogen, phosphate and potash is the most effective method of increasing yields. Nitrogen alone does not increase yields ; phosphate and potash are particularly important in the manuring of citronella. With a complete fertilizer mixture, grass yields increased three times and oil yields four times over those of unmanured plots.

Harvests at intervals of four months are found better than three-monthly harvests, particularly in the lower rainfall areas.

### Cotton

The extent cultivated under cotton in 1955 was about 2,000 acres. Competition from other crops was the cause of the reduction in acreage, but as prices have risen an increase in the acreage is anticipated. The total acreage was planted in the improved variety *BP 79*, seed of which was distributed free by the Department of Agriculture.

### Tobacco

The assistance of manufacturing companies has contributed to the extension of cigarette tobacco in this country. About 5,000 acres were cultivated with this crop during 1955, special efforts have been made to promote and extend the acreage under this crop in the Jaffna Peninsula in view of the declining market for chewing tobacco in Travancore. The extent under chewing tobacco was 1,000 acres, cheroot tobacco 2,000 acres, Dumbara cigar tobacco 6,000 acres and Beedi tobacco 50 acres in 1955. It is estimated that 10,000 to 12,000 acres are necessary for the production of the entire requirements of flue cured leaf for the local manufacture of cigarettes.

## VI—PADDY AND OTHER FOOD CROPS

RICE is Ceylon's staple cereal and the development of this crop has been the chief interest of the Department of Agriculture. Much work has been done in the production and distribution of improved varieties. No rice selection has shown in the last two decades in this country, the spectacular spread and the consistent performance of Ptb 16. Urgent requirements in rice selections, however, continue to exist. In recent years, rice breeders have attempted supplying the pureline needs of the ill-drained areas and meeting the demand for a wider range of early varieties in the dry zone and also a classifying of Departmental purelines on the basis of fertilizer response.

The programme of rice hybridisation continues to fulfil its early promise. Selection for yield and for resistance to grain shedding, floods, salinity and blast continue in crosses of local lines with introductions.

In 1955 Government farms issued over 33,000 bushels of pureline seed. The bulk of this seed has gone to private seed farmers who in turn keep the cultivators supplied with their requirements in improved seed. The aim of the Department is to ensure a fresh supply of pureline seed to every cultivator once in three years. The spread of improved cultivation methods is also gratifying, particularly the introduction on an extensive scale of Japanese techniques of rice growing, the special features of which include seed selection, row planting, thorough weed control and heavy fertilization.



The following are the acreage and yield of paddy in the different provinces in Maha 1954/55 :—

TABLE 5.4 PADDY ACREAGES AND AVERAGE YIELDS BY DISTRICTS, MAHA 1954/55 <sup>(1)</sup> <sup>(2)</sup>

	(Extent sown)			(Gross acreage)	
	Major Schemes	Minor Schemes	Rainfed	Total	Average Yield per Nett Acre
Ceylon	211,972	201,137	402,106	815,215	32.16
Western Province	3,849	3,769	83,402	91,020	27.82
Colombo District	3,419	1,573	47,220	52,212	34.48
Kalutara District	430	2,196	36,182	38,808	20.65
Central Province	7,643	41,054	28,159	76,856	49.97
Kandy District	4,676	15,373	20,551	40,600	55.85
Matale District	1,046	11,297	7,124	19,467	40.82
Nuwara Eliya District	1,921	14,384	484	16,789	—
Southern Province	35,356	9,315	72,699	117,370	27.44
Galle District	434	3,126	36,750	40,310	21.58
Matara District	7,210	3,516	32,146	42,872	28.15
Hambantota District	27,712	2,673	3,803	34,188	33.52
Northern Province	33,468	16,949	47,952	98,369	29.19
Jaffna District	12,769	640	38,278	51,687	23.48
Mannar District	17,124	3,687	2,078	22,889	38.22
Vavuniya District	3,575	12,622	7,596	23,793	32.12
Eastern Province	65,893	5,365	52,430	123,688	29.12
Batticaloa District	57,324	3,002	41,459	101,705	30.28
Trincomalee District	8,569	2,363	10,971	21,903	24.78
North-Western Province	12,916	52,486	75,633	141,035	28.23
Kurunegala District	9,964	40,264	68,915	119,143	28.68
Puttalam and Chilaw Districts	2,952	12,222	6,718	21,892	25.50
North-Central Province	46,255	46,740	2,147	95,142	42.72
Anuradhapura District	21,150	46,161	2,085	69,396	39.58
Polonnaruwa District	25,105	579	62	25,746	51.18
Province of Uva	5,090	8,461	3,026	16,577	—
Badulla District	5,090	8,461	3,026	16,577	—
Province of Sabaragamuwa	1,502	16,998	36,658	55,158	34.69
Ratnapura District	1,502	13,149	12,865	27,516	26.45
Kegalla District	—	3,849	23,793	27,642	42.15

(<sup>1</sup>) The figures are provisional.

(<sup>2</sup>) Figures furnished by Revenue Officers.



State aid to the rice grower is on a generous scale. Paddy is bought at a guaranteed price of Rs. 12 per bushel. Fertilizers are sold to peasants through the Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies at a subsidised price which is 33  $\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. below cost.

Another aspect of paddy cultivation which has received aid is the control of paddy pests. This work has been promoted by the gift to the Agricultural Department of 10 fully equipped pest control vans from the Government of Canada under the Colombo Plan. Cultivators have now realised the benefits of spraying and dusting with insecticides and fungicides and are prepared to use these chemicals if the necessary equipment is supplied to them. An intensified campaign for the control of the Pentatomid bug in the Southern Province was carried out successfully over 4,000 acres of paddy by the use of an effective insecticide which cost only Rs. 1.07 per acre. It is gratifying to record that the paddy cultivator is becoming aware of the value of prompt control of pests for the preservation of the crop.

### Highland Crops

The cultivation of food crops other than paddy has also received the attention of the Department. The normally cultivated cereals, oil seeds and curry stuffs have been grown on the usual scale mostly under chena conditions. The cultivation of chillies and onions has been largely confined to the dry zone, the Northern Province producing the greater part of both these commodities. The Government guaranteed price of 25 cents per lb. for Grade I onions and 23 cents per lb. for Grade II onions has been mainly responsible for the phenomenal increase in the onions acreage in Jaffna to about 6,000 acres. The import of onions from India has been stopped and this has given the local market an upward trend and should result in further increase of the extent under onions. Thrips which was a pest on onions has been successfully controlled by suitable insecticides.

The production of food crops under highland conditions is mainly on chenas. In the wet zone home gardens are often overgrown with permanent trees some of which like plantains, mango, breadfruit and jak yield food. The importance of home gardens has received the special attention of the field staff of the Department. Soil conservation measures, compost making and the planting of hedges which also yield green manure material have been encouraged by the range officers.

## VII—FOOD PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

### Paddy

THE Food Production Department is directly concerned with increasing the production of paddy. The emphasis has been gradually shifted from extensive to intensive cultivation in achieving the goal of self-sufficiency. The subsidy paid for asweddumizing paddy lands has been discontinued. However, over two million rupees was spent in providing irrigation facilities to paddy lands by the construction of new irrigation works and improving the existing ones.

The intensive methods of cultivation promoted by the Department were :—

(a) *Use of model ploughs as an improved method of preparing the paddy fields.*—In 1955, 16,618 demonstrations in the use of the model plough were held. These demonstrations which were held in all parts of the country helped to maintain the interest of the cultivators in this method of tilling their fields. In all 339,306 acres were ploughed with these model ploughs.

(b) *Use of pureline seed paddy.*—Cultivators were encouraged to use pureline seed paddy. Where recommended pureline selections exist these are multiplied in private seed farms. 167,468 bushels of pureline seed paddy were issued for Maha 1954-55 and 95,541 bushels for Yala 1955. The total acreage cultivated under pureline was 221,220 in Maha 1954-55 and 110,589 in Yala, 1955.

(c) *Fertilizers.*—Demonstration plots were maintained by officers of this department to provide an incentive to the cultivators to use fertilizers. Fertilizers were made available by the department free of charge, up to a maximum of 10 tons per district per season for this purpose. The demonstrations are creating an increased demand for paddy fertilizers which is met through the agency of the Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies. Cultivators all over the country are now aware that continuous enrichment of the soil is essential if the yield is to be maintained or



increased. The increased use of artificial fertilizers in addition to the customary use of green manure and compost has resulted in an increase in the average yield per acre harvested. The 33½ per cent. subsidy granted for purchase of approved paddy fertilizers has made the use of artificial manure very popular among the peasants.

(d) *Transplanting, harrowing and weeding.*—Field days were held in each district to give publicity to the need for transplanting, harrowing and weeding as cultural practices. The field staff of the Food Production Department organised demonstrations in these practices.

The Japanese method of transplanting has gained some adherents mostly in the Wet Zone. An intensive scheme was organized for Maha 1955/56 in Kurunegala, Kegalla, Colombo, Kandy, Matale and Jaffna Districts. When compared with the figures for 1954 the acreages transplanted and weeded have increased considerably while the acreage harrowed has not shown marked improvement.

The sub-joined statement indicates the increase in the average yield resulting from the intensive methods of cultivation :

TABLE 5-5 PADDY ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION, 1952-55

Year	Acreage Sown	Acreage Harvested (nett)	Yield (in bushels)	Average yield per acre Harvested (in bushels)
1952	1,161,869	936,000	28,900,000	30.77
1953*	1,048,228	809,000	21,900,000	27.17
1954	1,262,542	1,030,015	31,200,000	30.29
1955	1,343,551	1,092,000	35,700,000	32.69

*Issue of seed paddy free and on loan.*—Farmers who are adversely affected by successive crop failure or other exceptional circumstances are given seed paddy free of charge. In other cases seed paddy is issued on loan.

The amount spent in 1955 in supplying seed paddy was as follows :—

	Rs.
Free issues	14,878
Loan issues :	
(a) through Government Agents	23,785
(b) through C. A. P. & S. Societies	332,382

*Minor Irrigation Works.*—These works are confined to the restoration of village tanks, construction of small anicuts and channels involving concrete work, &c.

During the year under review a total of 1,154 schemes were completed and work was started on 306 others. A sum of Rs. 2,204,881 was spent during the financial year 1954/55 and it is anticipated that 74,652 acres will benefit from these works.

#### Subsidiary food crops

The Department endeavours to encourage the production of subsidiary food crops as well. Besides the usual facilities available to the cultivators through the extension staff of the Department and the loan facilities granted through the C. A. P. & S. Societies direct inducements are afforded specially by way of subsidies for sinking wells.

\* 1952-53 Maha was a failure due to partial failure of the North-East monsoon.



In certain areas it has been found that though the soil is rich cultivation is hindered owing to the lack of water. Such lands are specially suited for the cultivation of subsidiary food crops provided there are wells to supply the necessary water. A subsidy is paid only for the wells serving food production purposes and the amount payable is on a graduated scale depending on the depth of the well. 129 wells under construction at the end of the previous year were completed. Work was started on another 1,136 this year and of these 105 were completed by the end of the year. The total amount paid by way of subsidy in 1955 was Rs. 400,362. Some of these subsidiary food crops also benefit by the guaranteed price scheme operated by the Commissioner for the Development of Marketing.

*Yams.*—Yams as a substitute food, replacing even rice came into vogue among the urban population during the second World War. In some rural areas, however, yams have been used as a substitute for rice from very early times. Though yams are now used widely in place of rice the marketing of the crop presents considerable difficulty to the growers. The acreage under cultivation was :—

	<i>Manioc</i>		<i>Sweet Potatoes</i>	
	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Production Cwt.</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Production Cwt.</i>
Maha 1953/54	77,428	2,113,725	21,584	426,663
Yala 1954	99,188	2,253,008	19,540	360,353
Maha 1954/55	104,744	2,499,059	21,354	533,681

*Onions.*—The guaranteed price and the restriction of imports have created the necessary economic incentives to increased production. Vagaries of climate, however, affected the crops adversely and short falls in production are followed by a scarcity of this commodity. Considerable quantities were harvested in the Northern Province in 1955. The Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies have continued to help these cultivators by giving them loans of seed onions and marketing their produce. In certain areas the onion plants were sold as vegetables as they had a ready market and the quantity of cured onions was thereby reduced. The acreage cultivated and quantity produced were as follows :—

	<i>Extent Acres</i>	<i>Production Cwt.</i>
Maha 1952/53	8,506	267,970
Yala 1953	6,204	174,757
Maha 1953/54	5,693	270,228
Yala 1954	5,356	182,703
Maha 1954/55	10,144	541,103

*Chillies.*—The extension staff of the Food Production Department carried out field demonstrations and issued seedlings at nominal prices or even free of charge to encourage the cultivation of chillies. The Guaranteed Price for the commodity also ensures a fair price to the grower.

	<i>Extent Acres</i>	<i>Quantity Cwt.</i>
Maha 1952/53	18,822	159,712
Yala 1953	15,954	116,397
Maha 1953/54	16,923	226,317
Yala 1954	13,946	119,995
Maha 1954/55	18,148	229,275



*Vegetables.*—Home Garden Competitions were organised to provide an incentive for the cultivation of vegetables. The price of vegetables remained at a fairly high level.

*Other subsidiary food crops.*—The acreage and production of other subsidiary food crops :—

TABLE 5-6 ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION OF SUBSIDIARY FOOD CROPS

	Maha 1953-1954		Yala 1954		Maha 1954-1955	
	Extent (Acres)	Production (Bushels)	Extent (Acres)	Production (Bushels)	Extent (Acres)	Production (Bushels)
Maize	22,745	250,631	12,250	113,319	22,966	191,838
Kurukkan	66,090	561,128	24,979	204,662	82,331	506,197
Sorghum	1,277	10,126	638	4,638	1,612	29,655

### Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies

The number of societies has steadily increased from 466 in the financial year 1951-52 to 830 in 1955. These societies are the media by which loans are given to cultivators by the Government for the purpose of food production. The total loans granted to societies during 1954-55 was Rs. 14,674,325-08 which was three million in excess of the loans granted during 1953-54.

### Guaranteed Price Scheme

Under the Guaranteed Price Scheme the cultivator is offered guaranteed prices for certain items of agricultural produce and thereby a steady market for the produce is assured so as to encourage increased production. The stimulus given for the production of food crops consumed by the country would ultimately result in replacing food imports by locally produced food thereby achieving self-sufficiency in food. Government has guaranteed prices for the following commodities :—

(a) For a 5 year period ending December 31, 1957 :

Commodity	Price Rs. c.
1. Paddy	12 0 per bushel
2. Maize Grade I	14 0 per cwt.
Maize, Grade II	10 50 " "
3. Kurakkan, Grade I	15 0 " "
Kurakkan, Grade II	11 50 " "
4. Sorghum, Grade I	15 50 " "
Sorghum, Grade II	14 50 " "

(b) For a period of 1 year commencing from October 1, 1955 :

Commodity	Price Rs. c.
5. Mustard	60 0 per cwt.
6. Gingelly	38 0 " "
7. Chillies, Grade I	134 40 " "
Chillies, Grade II	119 84 " "
Chillies, Grade III	105 28 " "
8. Green Gram, Grade I	38 8 " "
Green Gram, Grade II	35 84 " "
9. Tamarind	19 40 " "
10. Black Pepper	100 80 " "
11. Cow Pea	24 0 " "
12. Ground Nut	31 36 " "



(c) For a period of 2 years ending September 30, 1956 :

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Price</i>
	<i>Rs. c.</i>
13. Turmeric	84 0 per cwt.

(d) For a period of 1 year commencing from January 1, 1956 :

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Price</i>
	<i>Rs. c.</i>
14. Red onions, Grade I	22 40 per cwt.
Red onions, Grade II	20 16 " "

Guaranteed price commodities are collected through a net work of C. A. P. & S. Societies functioning in all the major producing areas. These societies purchase produce offered by cultivators at the guaranteed prices and deliver the produce so collected at the nearest departmental store. A commission and transport allowances are paid to these societies for the services rendered.

### VIII—ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

THE exemptions granted to estates under the revised Food Production (Estates) Act was a tremendous fillip to the livestock industry in general while the marketing facilities provided by the Milk Board stimulated country-wide interest in dairy farming. As a result, Departmental farms were called on to meet an increased demand for good breeding stock and every effort was made to meet the demands to the fullest possible extent.

There was a complete re-orientation in regard to breeding policy during the period 1954-55.

It was felt that there was no real necessity to have too many breeds of cattle in this small country and a decision was made to limit the number of European breeds to three, viz. Ayrshire, Friesian and Jersey. In keeping with this decision, the Red Poll and Shorthorn cattle at Bopatalawa Farm are now being graded towards the Friesian breed while at the same farm the Friesians and Jerseys are bred as a pure breed. Ambewela Farm continues its original policy of breeding pure Ayrshire cattle.

At Polonnaruwa Farm, the Red Sindhi and the White Tharparkar are bred pure under identical environmental conditions and information is being collected to determine the superiority, if any, of one breed over the other with the ultimate object of reducing the number of Indian breeds of cattle. A similar experiment is being conducted at Maha Illuppallama with the Sindhi, Tharparkar and Sahiwal breeds.

The Black Sinhala herd cattle at Karagoda-Uyangoda Farm has provided good material for research in the field of livestock improvement. While a part of this herd is bred pure, another part is being crossed successively by Jersey, Friesian and Red Sindhi bulls to determine which of the crosses would have better milking capacity, before attempts are made to fix it as a breed. The first crop of Jersey  $\times$  Sinhala heifers are now in calf and it will be some time before the final assessments could be made.

The Kangayam herd of draught cattle was transferred from Ridiyagama to Nikaweratiya where the Khillari herd was moved to previously. Nikaweratiya has thus become the Department's draught cattle farm with some 585 head of cattle. Ridiyagama farm functions as a buffalo breeding farm as well as a centre for production of high quality curd, which is in great demand in the Southern Province and in Western Province up to Colombo.



The Government Dairy at Narahenpita closed down at the end of 1955 to make room for the milk sterilizing and pasteurizing plant of the Government Milk Board. The supply of milk to Colombo hospitals which was hitherto made from Narahenpita is now met from Welisara Dairy where the herd had been increased by the transfer of animals from Narahenpita.

Considerable difficulty had been experienced in the past in rearing bull calves to maturity at the major farms like Ambewela, Bopatalawa and Polonnaruwa. Towards the end of 1955 a large number of calves were transferred to the Undugoda Dairy which had a favourable climate.

The operation of the Bull Calf Exchange Scheme whereby a bull calf of a superior milch breed was given away in exchange for two scrub bull calves was new feature on livestock extension work which was highly appreciated by the villagers. Bull calves on departmental stations which were so difficult to dispose of at one time are no longer a problem now.

The growing of fodder grasses like Napier, Guinea is not resorted to as a general practice now in most of the farms. *Brachiaria brizantha*, a grass introduced into this country only a few years ago, has been successfully established in the dry zone farms and proved its ability to withstand prolonged droughts. Several thousand bag-fulls of cuttings of this grass have been issued out for planting and the area under this grass at present may well be estimated at over 5,000 acres.

The production of milk during the year 1955 in the major farms including Karagoda Uyangoda and Nikaweratiya where Sinhala cattle and draught cattle respectively are reared was 3,673,097 pints. In the two upcountry farms at Ambewela and Bopatalawa alone there was an increase of 40 per cent. over the production of the previous years.

#### Veterinary Services

Three new Field Stations for Assistant Veterinary Surgeons were opened at Horowapataka, Mullaitivu and Hattton.

An outbreak of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia occurred in the early part of the year among cattle and buffaloes in the North-Central Province.

The number of animals vaccinated against this disease was about 75,000.

Although the vaccine contributed a lot towards the control of this disease, the spread of the disease could not be brought under control speedily due to lack of strict regulations on the one side and lack of co-operation on the other.

Two important schemes were undertaken by the veterinarians in the districts with the beginning of this year—the Estate Food Production (Animal Husbandry) and the Bull-Calf exchange. The latter has become so very popular with the local farmers that the demand for pure-bred bull-calves bred at our animal husbandry farms is very much in excess of the supply available. This Exchange Scheme is operating successfully in the Kegalla District and in the North-Western Province.

Another feature of the year is the formation of Livestock Breeders' Associations in most of the districts with the explicit aim of developing a keen sense of animal husbandry among the farmers and to promote the improvement of our livestock by scientific methods of breeding, elimination and control of menacing diseases and increasing the producing capacity of our livestock. It is of course a long term programme of slow, but steady step-up, and with the impetus given and the enthusiasm noticed among members, these associations are going to prove a success in so far as livestock improvement is concerned.

A number of Goat Farming Societies have been opened in the Northern and the Eastern Provinces where goat rearing is extremely popular. These societies are opened up on a Co-operative basis and the Co-operative Department provides the necessary funds for such enterprises.

In the field of research, there had been marked progress. Many problems had been taken up for investigation and study at the Veterinary Research Laboratory.

The Veterinary Research Laboratory, situated at Peradeniya which was under the control of the Specialist in Animal Husbandry (Diseases), was given in charge of the Veterinary Research Officer. Plans are almost complete for the construction of a 6 lakhs, 3-storied building to house the Veterinary Laboratory.



The Veterinary Research Laboratory, in addition to the various research and diagnostic problems handled by it, has manufactured quantities of biologicals for use in the control of infectious diseases among livestock.

Mineral mixture and bricks, composed of the many trace elements which are so vital for the proper growth, maintenance and production of livestock, were also manufactured at the Research Laboratory.

The Veterinary Research Laboratory, probably the only institute in our country, breeds and maintains its requirements of laboratory animals, viz. white mice, guinea pigs and rabbits and supplies the requirements of laboratory animals of the Medical Research Institute, Colombo.

Artificial insemination of cattle is gradually, but steadily on the increase. There are in all, today 25 Artificial Insemination Centres spread all over Ceylon and a total number of 2,500 successful inseminations had been done this year.

The greatest handicap in this field of activity in the many districts is the lack of adequate minimum facilities—transport and trained personnel on the one hand and methods of animal husbandry and apathy on the part of the farmers.

The Veterinary Hospital, Peradeniya, the only Government Institution of its kind in Ceylon, continued to serve a useful purpose for many an owner of livestock and pets. Its greatest handicap is the inadequacy of space and appliances. This also serves as teaching institution for the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Ceylon, for demonstrations and clinics.

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Important References :

- (1) The Tropical Agriculturist.
- (2) Administration Report of the Director of Agriculture.
- (3) Administration Report of the Tea Controller.
- (4) Administration Report of the Rubber Controller.
- (5) Administration Report of the Director of Food Production.
- (6) Ceylon Tea Quarterly.
- (7) Report on the Rubber Replanting Subsidy Scheme.
- (8) Illustrated Guide to Coconuts—Coconut Research Institute.



## CHAPTER VI

### INDUSTRY

#### I—GENERAL

THE year 1955 was significant for two reasons. Firstly it saw the passage into law of two principal enactments, the Government-Sponsored Corporations Act No. 19 of 1955, and the Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research Act No. 15 of 1955.

The first implements an earlier recommendation by the World Bank Mission and by the Gunasena De Soysa Commission for creating the requisite machinery for the gradual transfer of the State-owned factories and the creation of an autonomous structure for the management of these factories. Three State factories were established as corporations under this Act. They were the Ceramic Factory, the Paper Factory and the Vegetable Oil Factory. Boards consisting of Government representatives and nominees from the private sector were set up. All the assets and liabilities of the Government in respect of these factories were transferred to these corporations. Further corporations were proposed to be set up in respect of the remaining State factories of the Government, viz. Leather, Plywood, Cement and Caustic Soda—D. D. T.—Chlorine Factories.

The Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research was set up to implement the recommendations by the World Bank Mission for the creation of an autonomous body, pledged to the development of industry by the rendering of technological services to both the Government and the private sector. A good part of the staff in the Department of Industries who previously performed the same work in the Department of Industries were passed on to the same Institute.

#### II—INDUSTRIAL POLICY

SECONDLY, the year 1955 was important, in that a statement of Government policy in relation to foreign investment was announced in the form of a White Paper on 15th July, 1955.

Reference was made to the right of foreign capitalists to repatriate dividends earned on their investments in Ceylon, the entitlement to bring in foreign personnel for essential purposes of grades not available locally and to the withdrawal of all capital investments when their interest was finally wound up.

This statement was responsible for stimulating foreign interest in a number of local industries to which reference had been made in an earlier statement published in 1954 by the Minister of Industries. Such proposals varied in scope, but in general they offered varying degrees of capital investment to Ceylonese. Only one such proposal was completed in the year for the establishment of a meat processing industry for the manufacture of ham, bacon and sausages.

The budgetary proposals for the year 1955-56 also provided additional inducements for private capital to set up essential industries in Ceylon. These proposals took the form of tariff adjustments in raw materials and of protective duties on finished goods. Among the industries which benefitted by these proposals were the manufacture of agricultural implements, foundry products, neon signs, bon-bons, galvanised buckets, wire nails and cement asbestos products.

#### III—PRIVATE SECTOR

Two private industries were set up—one for the manufacture of hollow aluminium ware with a proportion of foreign capital, and the other for the manufacture of wire nails by three independent Ceylonese Companies with a total output of 1,020 tons per year.



Prior to 1955, little advantage was taken of the tax exemptions provided for companies set up with Government participation in terms of Section 7 (A) of the Income Tax Ordinance. In 1955, two such companies had been set up for the manufacture of kaolin and glassware. The Government's investment is generally confined to a token amount and in appropriate cases, where the investment is appreciable, representation on the Board by a Government nominee is secured.

The Glass Company is to devote its attention to the manufacture of bottles using a semi-automatic plant, but later its scope will be expanded to meet blown glass including tumblers, chimneys, &c.

The Kaolin Company is to refine local deposits of kaolin primarily as raw materials for the manufacture of ceramic ware and insecticides and as a filler for the paper and textile industries.

To facilitate the development of industry, the Government has set up within the Department of Industries a servicing agency which undertakes a reasonable amount of civil, mechanical and electrical work for company promoters free of charge. Guidance is given as to appropriate sources of machinery for which purpose the assistance of foreign Embassies was solicited. Two Departmental Officers were trained abroad in small-scale industries so as to increase the efficiency of the unit.

Among the industries which showed promise of future development with joint participation of foreign and local capital some of which were to be sponsored by the Government were proposals for the manufacture of—

- (a) Pharmaceuticals, drugs and milk foods ;
- (b) Electric bulbs ;
- (c) Confectionery ;
- (d) Bicycles ;
- (e) Dry Cells ;
- (f) Accumulators ; and
- (g) Barbed wire.

The Department initiates and also invites detailed proposals from local industrialists and promoters for departmental examination of the economics of such proposals, and, regarding their technical feasibility, the examination is conducted by the Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research. The final proposals, if approved, are then submitted to the Government for formal approval and contribution of token capital to qualify for tax exemptions.

#### New Industries

Among new industries contemplated with an entirety of private capital from Ceylonese were proposals for the manufacture of razor blades, plasticware, drawn wire, sugar and tiles.

In appropriate cases, the Department of Industries obtains the assistance of the Specialised Agencies to examine feasibility of selected industries. Negotiations were conducted with a team of Japanese Experts in a selected range of eleven industries for this purpose including—

- (a) Agricultural Implements,
- (b) Paint Brushes
- (c) Galvanised Iron Goods (Buckets),
- (d) Chappals and Slippers,
- (e) Cutlery,
- (f) Batteries (wet and dry),
- (g) Pens (ball-point),
- (h) Pen-holders (nibs and clips),
- (i) Pencils,
- (j) Plastic ware,
- (k) Umbrellas.



A proposal for the establishment of a petroleum refinery was made to the Government by the three Petroleum Companies operating in Ceylon. The scheme was to produce one million tons of petroleum products including aviation fuel, petroleum spirits, kerosene, bunker oil, marine oil, diesel oil and furnace oil—in quantities completely adequate for Ceylon's needs for the next 10 years. The negotiations were not finally completed during the year.

#### IV—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS

##### Cement

THE Cement Factory remained a departmental activity up to the end of 1955 and increased its production to 85,000 tons. The consumption in Ceylon has increased to 190,000 tons per annum. Steps for the purpose of increasing the output for the full level of consumption were taken by invitation of tenders on a world basis, but no decision was made.

##### Plywood

The Plywood Factory also remained a departmental activity and continued to produce tea chests under the protection of the Industrial Products Act. The production for the year 1955 was 325,327 chests; Imports were 1,836,360 chests.

##### Leather

The Leather Factory and Tannery continued as a departmental activity and concentrated on Gent's footwear with a small proportion devoted to military type boots. The finished goods section were responsible for making volley balls and suit cases. The re-organization scheme begun in the previous year was completed.

Special attention was devoted to the tanning industry by the gradual curtailment of the export quota of raw goat skins. The diminishing export quota forced local tanners to use their existing tanneries to their full potential. No exports are proposed to be allowed by the middle of 1956, within which time departmental guidance will be given in the choice of machinery and technical advice given for improvements in the method of tanning.

##### D. D. T. Caustic Soda, Chlorine

The D. D. T./Caustic Soda/Chlorine Factory under construction at Paranthan was not ready for transfer to a corporation. Progress has been hindered largely by the shortage of suitable labour and the inadequacy of normal housing and other amenities for staff. Proposals for reducing the tonnage of D. D. T. to be manufactured were under consideration in view of the general improvement in health and the comparative disappearance of malaria from Ceylon. Moreover, D. D. T. is now losing its efficacy as a prophylactic against malaria, and a smaller tonnage is now proposed to be manufactured.

Nevertheless little real progress has been achieved in the field of industrialization and it is one of the principal objectives of the present Government and of the constituted Planning Board to do the basic rethinking which is necessary to start the country on a properly planned and oriented course of industrial development so necessary if the standards of life are to be maintained and improved for the rapidly growing population.

#### V—PLANTATION INDUSTRIES

THE industries forming the subject matter of the preceding sections of this chapter were of recent development. Till this new development took place the main industrial activity of the Island centred round the traditional Cottage Crafts (see Section 6) and a considerable range of industries based on the principal commercial crops of the Island, namely, tea, rubber and coconut.



The manufacturing aspect of tea and rubber production is an inseparable part of the cultivation process and as such these industries were dealt with in Chapter V—Agriculture, which also deals with the cultivation of the coconut palm.

The coconut tree provides a number of products which are marketed after undergoing varying degrees of manufacturing processes.

Ceylon's total annual production of coconuts is now over 2,500 million nuts. Approximately 50 per cent. of this is exported in varying amounts in the form of copra, oil, desiccated coconut and fresh nuts.

The estimated coconut crop was 2,746,000,000 nuts, the exports of coconut products in 1955 were the highest on record, being 320,252 tons.

### **Copra**

Copra is manufactured in Ceylon by sun-drying, artificial drying (using Kilns) or a combination of both. Observations confirm that if copra is dried to 6–7 per cent. moisture content and stored in well-ventilated dry stores at an even temperature it will not seriously deteriorate.

No variations in oil content of Ceylon estate copra with the time of plucking, normal fertilizer treatments, or situation of the estates have been observed. About 68 per cent. of oil (dry weight) could be regarded as a representative average figure for the oil content of Ceylon Estate Copra.

The usual grades of copra recognised in Ceylon are Edible White, Estate No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and mixed (fms.).

### **Desiccated Coconut**

This is manufactured in Ceylon primarily for export. It is usually sent in plywood chests, holding about 130 lb. The chests are lined with grease proof paper (usually of the kraft type) and sometimes packed with light baling pressure. In the presence of more than a minimum amount of moisture (about 2 per cent.) desiccated coconut is very susceptible to the attack of moulds, and excessive moisture is the prime factor in its deterioration. By reason of its fat content (over 70 per cent.) desiccated coconut is also liable to rancidity on prolonged storage, or exposure to light.

Good desiccated coconut as exported from Ceylon is pure white in colour and crisp and has the fresh taste of the nut. It contains from 68–72 per cent. oil and the free fatty acid of the oil is usually below 0.1 per cent.

Exports in 1955 amounted to 68,353 tons and the principal importing countries were the United Kingdom, Germany and Australia.

### **Coconut Oil**

As ordinarily prepared in Ceylon coconut oil is a colourless to pale brownish yellow oil, having (unless refined) a more or less pronounced odour of the coconut. This vegetable oil is characterised by the presence of a high percentage of lauric and myristic acids and notable proportions of the lower saturated fatty acids. This makes the oil eminently suitable as butter substitute in the manufacture, for example, of margarine.

Coconut oil prepared from copra, or refined coconut oil, keeps well for a fair length of time.

The coconut oil milling industry of the Island is extensive and the bulk of the commercial oil is produced using screws expellers and hydraulic presses. The chekku mill is also employed but the oil pressed in this way is used mostly for domestic and culinary purposes and the process is much less efficient. Various grades of oil (depending mostly on the quality of copra used) are produced and are classed as "edible white commercial" and "mill" oils on the basis of their free fatty acid content and colour.



Besides the oil used for edible purposes, the local soap industry also makes use of a fair quantity of coconut oil. In terms of nuts the 1955 exports of oil represent approximately 50 per cent. of the total exports of the principal coconut products and amounted to 97,226 tons. The principal importing country was India.

#### Poonac

Before 1940, exports of coconut cake (poonac) averaged over 20,000 tons a year. There has been very little export since 1940 and the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture in Ceylon is definitely to discourage its export, in order to retain this essential feeding stuff for the Island's livestock. Exports in 1955 amounted to 5,339 tons. The principal importing country was Belgium.

#### Fibre

Two kinds of coir fibre—bristle and mattress—can be produced from the husk of the coconut. There are nearly three hundred fibre mills in the Island for which the husks are obtained from surrounding estates and small-holdings.

A few decorticating plants for the dry milling of fibre are also now in operation in certain parts of the Island. The chief advantage of these appears to be the elimination of the retting process, so that the resulting fibre is of a lighter colour.

Mattress fibre is used for making coir yarn, ropes and matting and for certain classes of upholstery. Bristle fibre is widely used for brush making.

Ceylon is the largest exporter of coir fibre and the total exports in 1955 amounted to 74,704 tons.

#### Coconut Shell Charcoal

The crude charcoal is made by burning coconut shells in pits with exclusion of air. Only a small quantity of coconut charcoal has been exported since 1940, although there is a moderate local consumption as fuel in laundries and bakeries, and for gas engines. Coconut charcoal is a useful absorbent for use in chemical industries and in gas masks.

#### Toddy and Arrack

Toddy and arrack are products dependent on the coconut palm. For the formation of coconuts a large quantity of sachchrine juice is supplied by the tree to the flowering stalks or spadices which are enclosed in spathes. The spadix is tapped before it opens out and the juice obtained contributes to the formation of a liquor known as toddy.

Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyrah and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at about Rs. 3 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy. The consumption of toddy in 1954-55 was 4,983,568 gallons as against 5,362,420 in the previous year.

The consumption figures do not include the toddy consumed in the Jaffna District where instead of toddy taverns, a tree tax system operates. Under this system a person may tap any number of trees up to a maximum of 20 trees on payment of a tax of Rs. 2.50 per male palmyrah tree and Rs. 10 per female palmyrah or coconut tree. The toddy drawn under Tree Tax System is sold at the foot of the tree by each licensee.

Arrack is produced by the distillation of toddy and about 8 gallons of toddy are required to distil one gallon of arrack. Distillation of arrack is done in 9 large distilleries in the Kalutara District and in one State-owned Distillery at Seeduwa in Colombo District. All distilling operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department and the arrack manufactured by the private distillers is purchased by Government at rates fixed by Government annually under what is known as "Contract Supply System". The purchase price of arrack from distillers during the



years 1954 and 1955 was Rs. 10 per proof gallon. The quantity of arrack manufactured during the last 3 years are as follows :—

TABLE 6-1 QUANTITY OF ARRACK MANUFACTURED, 1953-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Private Distilleries (Proof Gallons)</i>	<i>State Distillery (Proof Gallons)</i>
1953	770,625	204,598
1954	766,909	160,861
1955	777,598	146,824

Arrack purchased from the private distilleries and the arrack manufactured at the Government owned distillery are stored in wooden vats and allowed to mature for periods varying from 1 year to 10 years, before reducing, blending and bottling. The arrack is then issued to renters at prices fixed by Government to be sold in arrack taverns, which are sold annually. The renter who offers the highest amount as rent gets the privilege and he has the exclusive privilege for sale of arrack within the local area of the tavern. The consumption of arrack in 1954-55 was 1,568,696 as against 1,554,777 gallons in the previous year. The nett profit for the year 1954-55 from the working of the arrack stock account i.e. storage, distribution and sale of arrack was Rs. 38,800,140 as against Rs. 38,800,000 in 1953-54.

#### **Vinegar Manufacture**

Vinegar is manufactured by the acetification of coconut toddy and it takes 10 to 14 weeks for complete acetification. There are 12 licences in force and the manufacture is confined to Kalutara District.

#### **Malt Liquor**

The Ceylon Brewery's Ltd. manufactures malt liquors at their brewery at Nuwara Eliya. The quantity manufactured in 1955 was 788,151 gallons as against 652,063 gallons in the previous year.

#### **Locally Manufactured Gin**

Mestiya and Rockland Distilleries manufacture Gin and the quantity manufactured is given below :—

	1954 <i>Proof Gallons</i>	1955 <i>Proof Gallons</i>
	1954	1955
Mestiya	3,755	3,310
Rockland	14,947	23,411

#### **Jaggery and Treacle**

Unfermented (sweet) toddy drawn from coconut, kitul and palmyrah palms are converted into jaggery and treacle by boiling. A licence is necessary for the drawing of sweet toddy from coconut palm, but kitul and palmyrah palms are exempted from the provisions of licensing for the drawing of sweet toddy.

### **VI—COTTAGE INDUSTRIES**

#### **General**

On October 1, 1955, the Department of Rural Development was amalgamated with the Department of Cottage Industries into one Department called the Department of Rural Development and



Cottage Industries. In March, 1956, the UNESCO Fundamental Education Project which had up to that time been controlled by the Minister of Education was transferred as a function of the Minister of Home Affairs and for administrative purposes incorporated with the Department of Rural Development. Projection of work in the field, as far as cottage industries is concerned, is through Training Centres each of which is under a Demonstrator specially recruited for his proficiency in a particular industry and the subsequent development is through Co-operative methods.

The training of persons in selected cottage industries and their organization thereafter on business principles is undoubtedly a most important aspect of the work. At present Training Institutions for cottage industrial work are the following :—

1. Government schools.
2. Assisted schools.
3. Demonstration centres.
4. Industrial workshops.

In industries such as weaving and carpentry the raw materials are supplied on government account and the finished product disposed of by sale. No wages in such cases are paid to trainees. There is provision, however, for the trainees purchasing the raw materials, executing an order and realizing proceeds accruing from the sale of the products. This happens particularly in industries such as basketware and needlework. After the period of training the trainees of these Centres are formed into a Co-operative Society. For a period of two years the Demonstrator is attached as an Administrative Secretary to the Co-operative Society. Where financial assistance is required loans are given to the Society. The extent of the work can be assessed when it is indicated that there was at the end of 1955, 1,097 Demonstrators.

The following are the major Industries sponsored by the Department :—

#### Textile

The Handloom Industry continues to receive the same measure of protection as in previous years. Approximately 5,000 handlooms are now working on this Industry, employing about 15,000 to 20,000 full-time and part-time workers. The Industry in the main is being promoted through the medium of Co-operative Industrial Societies which are given every facility for regular production of textiles. Co-operative Unions have been organized in the districts to provide the necessary raw material and also to collect the finished Textiles from the Societies at guaranteed prices. From October, 1955, the scheme for opening 1,000 new Centres was given effect to. At the end of December, 1955, 275 Centres have been established throughout the Island. Each such Centre has facilities to train at least 25 apprentices. Provision is made in this scheme to pay a daily allowance of 75 cents to all trainees during the period of training.

At the end of this training period the trainees will be organized into Co-operatives Societies which will undertake the manufacture of Textiles under the Guaranteed Price Scheme. It is expected that a trainee would earn at least a minimum of Rs. 2 per day after the period of training. Textiles produced at the various centres were purchased by the Department for disposal through the Industrial Products Act and for supply to Government Departments. The production of sarongs which is one of the items under the Industrial Products Act had increased tremendously during the year and it was found necessary to revise the ratio of 5 imported to 1 local, to 5 imported to 2 local. The total quantity of handloom sarongs disposed of under this Act during the last financial year was 304,541 valued at over 2½ million rupees. Ceylon imports as much as 100,000,000 yards of cloth annually and the present local production is about 4,000,000 yards of handloom textiles and 6,000,000 yards from the only weaving mill in the Island, viz. the Wellawatte Mills. For the Island to be self-sufficient in the matter of textiles intensified production is therefore necessary. While the handloom industry is being encouraged mainly as an employment measure, it is also necessary from the economic stand-point that cost of production should be cut down. The Cottage Industries Department has, therefore, decided to encourage the production of Textiles on power looms as a rural scheme. Work on the first power loom project visualised under the six year Plan



which was started in August, 1955, has made considerable headway and at the end of December, 1955—70 of the 150 looms were installed in 5 centres. It is expected to complete work on the first project by putting all the looms into working operation before the end of the financial year 1955-56. At the end of 5 years it is expected to have 1,000 power looms working in rural areas which will contribute 10 million yards of textiles.

### Pottery

Several village potters who were traditionally engaged in pottery work and who had abandoned the industry as a result of competition from imported wares are now returning to the industry as a result of the ban on Indian wares. The Department has organised Co-operative Societies among these traditional workers and is giving them assistance in the form of money, easy availability of raw material and technical advice. The Pottery Centre at Waragoda run by the Department has been equipped with modern equipment for preparing glazed articles. A number of Demonstrators of the Department have been trained in this Centre and have been given every facility to produce similar articles at the Village Centres.

### Coir

Another major cottage industry is the Coir Fibre Industry. About 4 lakhs of people are directly employed in this trade and most of them are from the Southern Province.

These workshops will be adequately equipped and staffed for producing various types of coir products for export purposes. Each workshop is expected to employ about 600 coir workers in addition to a large number of persons outside the workshops in connection with preliminary processing of raw materials.

In order to give advanced training in the manufacture of coir goods 10 fellowships each tenable for a period of 6 months will be sought under the Colombo Plan. The proposal is to send the scholars to Travancore for training.

### Carpentry

Since Government decided to purchase the requirements of furniture for all departments from the Cottage Industries and Industries Departments, there has been a demand for the establishment of the Carpentry Industry in the various parts of the Island, particularly in the form of Co-operative Societies. Altogether 69 Co-operative Societies and 3 Unions have been formed, out of which 17 societies and 2 unions were formed during the period 1954-55.

It is proposed to obtain the services of an Expert on Saw Mills and Wood Working Industry under the Colombo Plan, in order to get advice on the mechanisation of the industry. Also arrangements are being made to send about 10 members of Carpentry Co-operative Societies selected on a competitive basis to the Gal Oya Board Carpentry Workshop for a course of training in the use of wood working machines. These carpenters will be paid suitable allowances to meet their out of pocket expenses.

### Smithy Industry

Four societies have been formed for making agricultural and household implements. An Expert will be recruited from abroad in order to develop the Industry.

### Other Industries

Other industries like rattan, jaggery, twine, metalwork and basket, have all received assistance by the formation of Co-operative Societies. The services of an Expert from the International Labour Organisation are also likely to be available to direct the work at this institute.

The toy industry is being developed on cottage lines and it is hoped to recruit an expert from Japan. This industry will provide employment for about 1,000 persons in the country, particularly from the craftsmen families.



As regards Basket Industry action is being taken to ask for the services of an Expert under the Technical Assistance Programme for 1957 from the F. A. O.

### Marketing

The successful development of cottage industries depends to a very large extent on the availability of suitable facilities to the cottage craftsmen to dispose of their products at a reasonable price within a reasonable time. Towards this end the department has sought, in the past, to assist these craftsmen in the following ways :—

- (a) *The Industrial Products Regulation Act, No. 18 of 1949.*—This Act requires every importer to purchase a specified quantity of the local product in order to obtain a licence to import the corresponding foreign product.  
Protection thus afforded to the industry, though of a temporary nature, has enabled the government to offer a guaranteed price to produce especially textile producers resulting in greatly increased production. The local textile industry is now in a position to meet the full requirements of the country in respect of towels, and it is proposed to remove this item from the I. P. Control and bring it under Import Control.
- (b) *Government Stores Purchase Policies.*—As a result of a Cabinet directive all government departments have been requested to give preference to local cottage industrial products in respect of all their stores requirements provided such products conform to the required standard and quality. The prices payable for such products are determined by a Price Fixing Committee appointed by government for the purpose. Under this scheme goods to the value of approximately Rs. 2,300,000-00 were supplied by Co-operative Cottage Industrial Societies to government departments during the financial year 1954-55. The chief items supplied were furniture, coir mats and matting, coir mesh bags, coir ropes and string, brooms and brushes, textiles, agricultural implements, earthenware, basket ware, mats, tats and brass locks.
- (c) *Departmental Sales Rooms.*—The 2 departmental Sales Rooms at Colombo and Kandy have contributed in no small measure in popularising the local products both among the tourists and the general public. The total sales at these establishments during the last financial year were Rs. 142,324-93.
- (d) *Sales Agencies.*—The Department also appointed 12 Sales Agencies last year in important towns for the sale of cottage industrial products. The scheme was tried as an experiment and goods were supplied on consignment. A Sales Shop has also been established at Kollupitiya with the assistance of the Central Advisory Board on Women's Welfare work.
- (e) *Foreign Exhibitions and Trade Fairs.*—This department participated in an International Gift and Fancy Goods Show, New York, in August last year with encouraging results. Judging from the favourable reaction of the American buyer for our products there are bright prospects for developing an improved market in that country for handicrafts, particularly, wood carving, brassware, costume jewellery and for our coir mats and matting. As a result of participation in these exhibitions this department has already received and executed trial orders to the value of approximately Rs. 30,000 with prospects of increasing business.
- (f) *Designs Development.*—One of the chief reasons for the poor local demand for our cottage products, particularly handicrafts, has been the tendency of the craftsmen to repeat the same traditional designs and patterns without paying sufficient heed to the changing tastes and needs of the consumer. In order to guide the craftsmen in this respect a Designs Development Committee was set up towards the end of last year comprising of leading artists in the country. It is proposed to train selected craftsmen in important methods of designing and send them back to their villages to train others.

### Important References :

- (1) New State-owned Factories (Sessional Paper XXIII of 1947).
- (2) Commission on Government Commercial Undertakings (Sessional Paper XIV of 1953).
- (3) World Bank Report (Section on Industry).
- (4) Administration Report of the Director of Industries.
- (5) Census of Industry, 1952.



## CHAPTER VII

### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

#### I—AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

##### Tea Research Institute

THE Tea Research Institute was founded in 1925, and is maintained by the tea industry from the proceeds of a cess of fifty-five cents per 100 lb. of made tea exported from the Island.

The Institute maintains a fully equipped laboratory at St. Coombs Estate, Talawakelle, which is situated at an elevation of 4,500 feet in the heart of the main tea growing region. This 400-acre estate has its own factory which is equipped with modern commercial machinery and a small scale experimental plant. The Institute maintains sub-stations at Passara in the Uva District, and at Bombuwela in the Kalutara District.

##### Conference

The eleventh biennial Conference was held in Nuwara Eliya on 25/26th February where it was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General. The Conference was repeated in Colombo on 4/5th March.

The general theme of the Conference was replanting. The papers of the Scientific Officers all bore on the various technical problems to be considered in this connection. Future prospects for tea and the commercial considerations involved in replanting were also dealt with by visiting speakers. A notable visitor was Dr. Wight from Tocklai who addressed the Conference on "Selection and seed policy in Assam."

The then Minister of Agriculture and Food was the principal speaker at the session in Colombo.

##### Chemistry

The soil fertility survey has been continued and representative samples have now been taken from all tea growing areas in Ceylon and in most instances comparative jungle soil has also been sampled. Determinations of carbon, nitrogen, pH and moisture have been completed and further analyses are being carried out.

Further studies have been made into the nutrition of the tea bush and experiments in connection with magnesium, potash, calcium and pH have been begun.

Studies into the biochemistry of soil nitrification have continued. Measurements have also been made of the seasonal variation of pH, water, ammonia and nitrate in the field. Rain water analyses for ammonia and nitrate have also been made.

##### Technology

The main line of research was an investigation into the effect of high temperatures in withering. The equipment previously employed for experiments on low temperature withering was used in this experiment in which the effect of withering at temperatures of up to 90° F was examined. The results taken in conjunction with those results obtained with low temperatures suggest that the use of an air conditioning plant, in conjunction with a suitably designed withering chamber such as a drum, may be the solution to the problem of finding a suitable substitute for withering lofts, which are at present so much a part of conventional tea factories. However further investigations are necessary before any recommendations can be made.



*Physiology*

The vegetative propagation work at St. Coombs has continued. Six new clones were planted and cuttings of 56 new clones from 16 estates were put out in the nursery. Clone No. 2,024 from the 1947 area has again been outstanding and during 1955, which was the second year of its 2nd cycle, has given a calculated yield of over 4,000 pounds per acre.

During the year vegetative propagation has been extended and a clonal proving station has been established at Passara. Land at Neuchatel Estate has been leased for a further station in the low-country.

All existing field experiments were continued and a new manurial experiment containing 162 plots and covering over 8 acres, laid down in Endane Estate, Kahawatte.

*Pathology*

Entomological work has been considerably expanded during the year. A Research Entomologist has been seconded from Messrs. Fisons Pest Control Ltd. for an initial period of 2 years to make a special study of shot-hole borer. Many fundamental investigations into the behaviour of the insect under various conditions have begun.

Investigations have also been made into the problem of mite control. Testing of suitable acaricides has been carried out in the field and schedules worked out for the control of scarlet mite.

Pathological investigation has been made on eelworm and pot experiments for the proving of eelworm resistant clones were laid down.

*Activities in the Low-Country*

Activities in the Low-Country have been greatly expanded. The Scientific Officer at Pembroke has maintained the vegetative propagation experimental block on Vogan Estate and a number of clones appear promising. Two new field experiments, one the Endane manurial experiment, and the other, a woodrot experiment at Korahilagoda Estate were begun during the year.

*Small Holdings Advisory Service*

The activities of the Small Holdings Advisory Service continue to expand. Five new Tea Instructors were recruited during the year. Plans to extend the use of visual aids were made during the year. An expert from Australia was sent under the Colombo Plan Scheme to advise on audio-visual training.

Progress under the Government scheme of assistance has been most satisfactory. Eighteen societies, covering an area of 15,000 acres and with a membership of 3,573, received assistance under this scheme.

**Rubber Research Institute**

The Rubber Research Institute was constituted in its present form by the provisions of the Rubber Research (Amendment) Act, No. 30 of 1951. The Institute is financed by a cess of 55 cents per 100 lb. of rubber exported and is controlled by the Rubber Research Board which is an autonomous body. The headquarters of the Institute are at Dartonfield Estate, Agalawatta. There are two experimental stations at Nivitigalakele Estate, Matugama and Hedigalla Estate, Latpandura.

*General Advisory Work*

Laboratory investigations and field experiments on the Rubber crop have been carried out. A Small Holdings Propaganda Officer with a field staff of 40 officers helps to investigate the problems connected with the middle class and small holdings.

The early plant breeding work and the testing of foreign clones carried out by the Botanical Department have given the information for the recommendation of a number of high yielding clones and clonal seedlings for use on a large scale. The plant breeding work carried out since 1938 has resulted in a preliminary selection of 30 new "RLD" local clones in 1955, which are yielding



20 to 30 lb. dry rubber per tree per year. These clones have been offered to the rubber industry for planting on a small scale, as a preliminary to the selection of the best clones for large scale planting in the future. A large part of Hedigalla Estate (1,000 acres) has been planted with large observational plots of the RLD local clones.

25. Clones resistant to South American Leaf Disease (*Dothidella ulei*), have been introduced to our nurseries through the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya. Clone LCB. 870, which has been found to be resistant to *Oidium* leaf disease in Ceylon is used for crown-budding high yielding rubber plants planted above 800 feet elevation. 80 selected high yielding clones have been obtained from Malaya, Java, Sumatra and Indo-China in exchange for 20 selected local RLD. clones supplied to each of the participating countries.

With the correct methods of sulphur dusting adopted in Ceylon during the past four years against *Oidium* leaf disease, greatly improved rubber foliage is seen all over the country. For the first time yields ranged from 1,500 to 1,900 lb. of dry rubber per acre per year as a result of this foliage and of systematic manuring. In 1955 sulphur dusting on a co-operative basis was extended to small and middle class holdings under the supervision of the Small Holdings Propaganda Department. The success of these trials has made it possible for a more comprehensive scheme of dusting to be undertaken in 1956.

In preliminary trials the control of leaf and pod diseases caused by *Phytophthora palmivora* has been investigated using copper and other organic fungicides of the carbamate series with considerable success. It will be possible to make definite recommendations for control in 1956.

A comprehensive replanting programme for rubber under the Government Subsidy has brought the question of root diseases to the forefront again. The advisory services of the Rubber Research Institute in this connection have been greatly appreciated. Advisory Circulars for rubber diseases in general have been revised and increased to meet the increasing needs of the rubber industry.

The Rubber Research Institute has made an outstanding contribution to the successful initiation of the Government Replanting Subsidy Scheme. The development of large nurseries for rubber planting material under the Institute's supervision and the practical help given by the Small Holdings Propaganda Department have made it possible for those responsible for the Rubber Rehabilitation Scheme to keep the replanting work from year to year at a high level of achievement.

The Chemical Department continued its investigations on manufacturing problems in estate factories. A number of advisory visits has helped the Chemist to correct and improve manufacturing methods.

Further attention has been given to the modification of R. R. S. type smoke-houses and to the performance of commercial temporary type smoke-houses. Investigations have also been initiated for improving and cheapening the procedure for R. S. S. bales in Ceylon.

Trials with use of oxalic acid have been suggested in place of formic or acetic acids for the improvement in colour and colour holding properties of crepe rubber with the possible elimination of the removal of the first fraction in certain instances.

Dusting trials with the use of copper fungicides and organic fungicides of the carbamate series have been initiated by the Chemist in 1955 to study the possible contamination of latex by the use of these fungicides, which can be expected to adversely affect manufacturing properties. The preliminary indications are that there is little danger of such contamination with the concentrations of fungicides used for dusting.

In the Agronomy Department the field trials with the use of three main nutrients and investigations on minor nutrient deficiencies progressed satisfactorily. Tentative recommendations with manurial formulations on indications of potash and magnesium deficiencies have satisfied most manurial requirements of the rubber industry for the present.

A booklet giving coloured reproductions of both magnesium and potash deficient foliage has been issued to the industry and provides a practical basis for the determination of manurial requirements by individual planters according to the symptoms observed in the field on various types of planting material.



5 MAR 1957



KANDYAN SILVER WORKER

*(Copyright photograph)*







Special attention has been paid to the adoption of soil conservation methods in replanted and new planted areas. *Pueraria phaseoloides* and *Desmodium ovalifolium* are the more suitable leguminous ground covers planted at the present time. The Institute is trying out several new ground covers, which can be seen in a cover crop nursery museum at Dartonfield. The Agronomy Department has also undertaken small scale trials with weedicides and yield stimulants.

#### Coconut Research Institute

A scheme for research on coconuts was initiated in 1929 under Ordinance No. 29 of 1928; in 1951 it was finally established as the Coconut Research Institute of Ceylon with Headquarters at Bandirippuwa Estate, Lunuwila, and a sub-station at Ratmalagara Estate, Madampe. In addition to research on the selection, breeding and improvement of coconut palms, and on coconut soils, fertilizers and manufactured coconut products this Institute is now studying the problem of animal husbandry in relation to coconut.

A scheme for rehabilitation of the coconut industry was initiated in 1949 and this work is gaining momentum. 13 large central nurseries for the production of high-grade seedlings have been established and it is estimated that about 36,000 acres have been planted or replanted since the inception of the replanting projects. The required rate of replacement is estimated to be 15,000 acres per annum and in addition 12,000 acres per annum of new areas are to be opened up. An isolated seed garden—200 acres in extent—is now being established in Ambakelle Forest to meet the future requirements of the whole of Ceylon for high-grade seed-nuts.

An Advisory Service for small-holders has also been started and the Officers appointed for this work operate in close collaboration with the numerous Coconut Producers' Co-operative Societies and Rural Development and Welfare Societies now in existence. The issue of advisory leaflets, bulletins in Sinhalese, Tamil and English and the publication of the "Ceylon Coconut Quarterly" are carried on by the Research Institute.

## II—INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

#### Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research

SINCE April, 1955, the principal organization for general industrial research and technical development services to industry has been the newly formed Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research. With its formation the research laboratories formerly operated by the Department of Industries were discontinued in 1955, and their research projects and related equipment transferred to the C. I. S. I. R.

The C. I. S. I. R. is an autonomous corporate institution established by Parliamentary Act No. 15 of 1955, and patterned in general after well-known non-profit applied research institutes in major industrial countries. It has its own Governing Board, administration, and a full-time staff of 35 practical research engineers, scientists and assistants experienced in a wide variety of fields. At present the Institute operates two laboratories in Colombo, one in Kalutara and one in the Gal Oya Valley, although the facilities of the first three are soon to be consolidated in the modern new C. I. S. I. R. central laboratory building under construction in Colombo.

The Institute's broad technical services are available equally and confidentially to individual private firms, producers' associations, financial institutions, government departments, specialized research institutions, and others. The actual costs of work performed for individual account are reimbursed to the Institute by both private and government clients—in the latter case partly through a statutory government grant during the first five years. Additional support is received through the World Bank, United Nations, Colombo Plan, Asia Foundation, and other agencies and private donors interested in furthering Ceylon's economic development through this means.

The objects of the C. I. S. I. R., as set forth in its Act of Establishment, are :—

- (a) to undertake testing, investigation and researches in such manner as the Institute may deem advisable with the object of improving the technical processes and methods used in industry, of discovering processes and methods which may promote the expansion of existing or the development of new industries or the better utilisation of waste products ;



- (b) to advise on questions of scientific and technological matters affecting the utilisation of the natural resources of Ceylon, the development of her industries, and the proper co-ordination and employment of scientific research to those ends ;
- (c) to foster the training of research workers ;
- (d) to foster the establishment of associations of persons engaged in industry for the purposes of carrying out scientific and industrial research ;
- (e) to undertake or to collaborate in the preparation, publication and dissemination of useful technical information ;
- (f) to co-operate with departments of Government, universities, technical colleges and other bodies in order to promote scientific and industrial research and the training of investigators in pure and applied science and of technical experts, craftsmen and artisans ; and
- (g) to assist otherwise in the advancement of scientific and industrial research and technical training.

A large part of the Institute's work consists of applied research on specific problems of Ceylon's industries, such as discovering how to improve a certain product, how to reduce a manufacturing cost without sacrificing quality, how to use a new raw material or a waste product profitably, or how to correct an annoying production difficulty.

During its first ten months of existence the Institute had under way or completed twenty-three major long-term industrial research projects, of which fourteen were for government and the rest for private account. Three Government agencies, thirty-three local manufacturing concerns and two other research institutes engaged the C. I. S. I. R. for paid services during this period, while several times that number of industries and public agencies made use of the Institute's free auxiliary services. In addition to the privately sponsored research projects—many of which were of a confidential nature—at the time of publication the Institute had undertaken the following laboratory studies for government account :

- New sources of commercial vegetable oils.
- Improved desiccation of coconut.
- Manufacture of hard board from coir dust.
- Improved distillation of citronella oil.
- Improved distillation of cinnamon oil.
- Rubber compounding and testing for manufacturers.
- Production of commercial factice from rubber seed oil.
- New uses for products of the palmyrah palm.
- Department of Industries special studies.
- Marketable products from banana stalk fibre.
- Extraction of tannin from local raw materials.
- Extraction of *Rauwolfia Serpentina* for export.
- Bottling and preservation of palm toddy.
- Development of local sago (tapioca) manufacture.

The Institute itself also initiates research studies which offer prospects for the creation of new Ceylon industries.

#### Important References :

- (1) Tea Quarterly—Tea Research Institute of Ceylon.
- (2) Report of the work of the Rubber Research Board—Rubber Research Institute of Ceylon.
- (3) Ceylon Coconut Quarterly—Coconut Research Institute.
- (4) Report of the Ceylon Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research.



## CHAPTER VIII

### MINERAL RESOURCES

#### I—MINERALS

A NUMBER of minerals of economic importance exist in the Island. Of these the earliest to be exploited was plumbago or graphite. The Ceylon graphite deposits are the biggest and most productive deposits of this mineral in the world and for several decades the Island was the world's principal source of graphite. Even more famous than this mineral are the gems of Ceylon, principally the Ruby. But the gemming industry is unsystematic and highly speculative. Recent investigations have revealed the existence of a number of rare earth minerals such as thorianite, ilmenite and monazite. There are also large deposits of kaolin and quartz sand, the reserves being large enough to develop an export market. Limestone deposits are now being utilised for the manufacture of cement. Surface deposits of iron-ore are also found. The Island also produces a large quantity of salt obtained from the solar evaporation of sea water.

#### Graphite

The chief mineral industry of the Island is the mining of graphite. During the war years, there was unprecedented mining activity, and the peak year was 1942, when over 27,700 tons were exported. With the end of the war, however, the demand fell and production has declined.

TABLE 8-1 GRAPHITE STATISTICS, 1951-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of mines working at the end of the year</i>	<i>No. of men employed at the end of the year</i>	<i>Quantity* (tons)</i>	<i>Value (Rs.)</i>	<i>Average price per ton (Rs.)</i>
1951	67	1,601	12,621	8,145,524	645
1952	58	1,223	7,659	6,199,606	809
1953	24	1,014	7,218	3,888,752	539
1954	38	910	7,755	4,257,891	550
1955	44	1,252	9,878	6,191,489	625

#### Mica

Small deposits of phlogopite of good quality ("Amber mica" as it is popularly called) occur widely distributed in the hill country in close association with dolomitic lime stones. They occur mainly in the Kandy, Matale and Badulla Districts. The deposits are irregular, the mica being found in pockets with much barren ground in between. Mining has been haphazard and unsystematic. 100 lb. of sheet mica valued at Rs. 304 was exported during the year.

#### Precious and Semi-precious Stones

Precious and semi-precious stones are found principally in the gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important gem stones are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's eyes and the rare stone alexandrite) beryl (Aquamarine) and semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, tourmaline, varieties of quartz (cainngorm, citrine, amethyst) and moonstone.

\* Export figures.



The gem stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels with the solitary exception of moonstone, which is now mined from partly kaolinised (decomposed) pegmatites at Metiyagoda, near Ambalan-goda. Most of the precious stones have been derived from pegmatites associated with the Khondalite series of rocks. According to the nature of the occurrence, the mining methods employed are (1) surface placer mining, (2) pits in old river alluvium and gravel, and (3) dredging of river beds. Very few pits use mechanical contrivances.

#### Rare Earth Minerals

Minerals belonging to the cerium, yttrium, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, thorium and uranium groups have been identified in the Ceylon rocks. Of these, thorianite is perhaps the most important from the scientific as well as from the economic point of view. The mineral was first detected in the heavy residues obtained from the washing of the stream gravels of the Bambarabotuwa area and subsequently in Maddegama in the Galle District. The deposits were however soon believed to be exhausted. Recent work has led to the "rediscovery" of thorianite in Bambarabotuwa and a few other areas where unworked deposits of the mineral have been discovered.

#### Heavy Mineral Sands

The minerals, ilmenite, rutile, monazite and zircon occur in large quantities in the beaches as natural concentrates of a high degree of purity. Where ilmenite predominates the sands are black in colour and are referred to as "black sands". The largest and best known "black sand" deposit is the one at Pulmoddai, north of Trincomalee, which contains about 75 per cent. ilmenite about 12 per cent. rutile and about 6 per cent. zircon and the total quantity of "black sand" available in a well concentrated form is roughly of the order of four million tons. Monazite and zircon are invariable constituents of the west coast black sands, while garnet becomes conspicuous in the more southerly of these deposits. In general the proportion of monazite to ilmenite rarely rises over 2 per cent. but locally in patches and streaks, much higher concentrations of monazite occur, *e.g.* at Kaikawela, near Induruwa and at Kudremalai.

#### Iron-Ores

About six million tons of high grade iron-ore have been located in recent years distributed in more or less well-defined belts in the south-west sector of the Island. The deposits are secondary and the ores are essentially confined to the surface or a few feet below it. The ore consists of a mixture of hydrated oxides of iron, chiefly limonite, and is of more or less uniform composition and structure, being a soft, cellular aggregate of the hydrated oxides and generally free from clayey matter and other impurities. The ore also shows an average content of about 50 per cent. metallic iron. There is no mining at present and the deposits are not being exploited.

#### Kaolin

Very large resources of kaolin or china-clay, lying a few feet below the surface, have been located in many parts of the Island. A deposit estimated at about ten million tons has been located at Boralesgamuwa, a few miles from Colombo, and other deposits occur by the coast from Negombo to Galle. When refined these clays show excellent qualities in regard to chemical composition, burning properties, texture and plasticity.

Other clays found in the Island include brick and tile clays, suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles.

#### Quartz Sand

Several hundred million tons of high grade glass sands containing 98 per cent. silica occur as surface deposits on the west coast (Marawila, Kalpitiya) and in the north, near Point Pedro.

#### Limestone

Miocene limestone of a high degree of purity, suitable for use in the manufacture of cement, is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula.



The coral deposits of the west coast and south coasts and the Archaen (largely dolomitic) crystalline limestones of the interior are extensively burnt for lime.

#### Magnesite

A few thousand tons of crystalline magnesite with a content of about 95 per cent. are known to occur in Randeniya.

#### Peat

Over fifty million tons of peat with 50-60 per cent. total combustible matter have within recent years been estimated to occur in the Muthurajawela swamp, south of Negombo Lake, as well as in the swampy ground on either side of the lower Kelani Valley.

## II—ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINERALOGY

THE Department is responsible for the systematic geological survey of the Island and the supervision of the Mining Industry. Along with geological mapping, specific mineral investigations are undertaken by the Geological Survey Branch, while the Mines Branch is responsible for the inspection of all mines and for the administration of the mining enactments of the country.

Alongside geological mapping, specific investigation of economic mineral deposits, engineering geology and water supply problems were undertaken, and the Department continued to play a useful part in the planning and development of the Island's industrial projects.

The alluvial clays of the Pusweli Oya, Galagedara, Padukka were investigated by drill holes for their suitability in the manufacture of bricks and tiles. The advice of the Technical Officer of the Department on brick and tile manufacture was made available to the general public and demonstrations using semi-mechanised equipment were given at Galapatha near Kalutara, Kochchikade and Malwana.

Investigations into the occurrence of felspar and quartz for use in the new Ceramic Factory at Negombo were continued by the Department at Alutepola and Pussella respectively. Supplies of quartz and felspar now being used in the Factory are obtained from these deposits.

The pilot plant for separating monazite from the beach sands of the west coast was closed in September, 1955. Thirty tons of shipping quality monazite were sold by tender.

Field investigations of the beach sand deposits at Kudremalai and North of the Kelani ganga were undertaken during the year.

Crystalline limestones of Galboda Ela, Welimada and Ambawela were investigated to locate a source of dolomitic lime for use in agriculture.

Investigations for well sites were carried out by boring in eleven colonization schemes, and five water-supply investigations were undertaken and reports furnished to the respective authorities.

The following engineering geology investigations were also undertaken :—

- (a) Classification of the cores obtained from the Castlereagh tunnel trace and tunnel intake—Stage IIB, Hydro-Electric Scheme ;
- (b) Ginigathena land-slip ;
- (c) Quarry site for Castlereagh dam—Stage IIA, Hydro-Electric Scheme ;
- (d) Foundation conditions at dam site, Hatton Water Supply ;
- (e) Stability of land for Housing Scheme, Nuwara Eliya, and
- (f) Stability of proposed tunnel trace, Maha Eliya Scheme, Province of Uva.

## III—THE SALT INDUSTRY

SALT is manufactured by sea-water by lifting the sea-water into earthen enclosures and allowing this impounded sea-brine to evaporate under the natural action of sun and wind until it reaches a stage where salt deposits of its own accord.



With its plentiful availability of flat open clayey lands, with comparatively low annual rainfall, strong, steady and persistent winds throughout half the year, and an excellent transport system, the dry zone coasts of Ceylon present suitable area for the manufacturing of salt.

Prior to 1920, salt was manufactured or collected largely by private enterprise subject to a system of licensing, supervision and a variable excise ; but due to the inefficiency of the system resulting in fluctuating output, insufficient production, and salt of poor quality, model salterns were established at Elephant Pass in the North and at Palavi in the North-Western part of the Island by the Government in the early twenties. There are as many as 15 salterns of widely different productive capacities, lying along the dry coastal areas of the Island, some owned by private parties and the rest controlled and run by the Government. The Salt Industry is a Government monopoly and all salt produced by private enterprise is bought by Government for re-sale to consumers.

Production figures and the average cost per ton for the period 1939 to 1955 are given in the table below :—

TABLE 8-2 SALT PRODUCTION, 1939-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (Tons)</i>	<i>Cost Price per ton Rs. c.</i>
1939	35,559	16 60
1940	33,264	14 20
1941	28,061	—
1942	18,383	15 0
1943	13,563	—
1944	28,233	29 80
1945	41,695	—
1946	42,920	24 40
1947	22,791	—
1948	77,429	18 60
1949	28,220	26 0
1950	66,859	22 0
1951	25,834	56 0
1952	45,308	28 0
1953	57,026	32 65
1954	50,434	n.a.
1955	38,905	n.a.

The production figures indicate very large fluctuations from year to year. With a view to ironing out such violent fluctuations in production and providing the needs of an increased population, as well as meeting the additional demand for industrial and agricultural projects, various schemes had been drawn from time to time until finally the services of a team of salt experts were obtained under the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme.

The team of Salt Experts first came to Ceylon in 1951 and with changes in their personnel, continued till the end of September, 1955. This team of Salt Experts introduced some improvements at Elephant Pass and Hambantota at a cost of about 2 million Rupees. The improvements were successful in stabilising the output of salt, although the cost of production has gone up as a result. The team had also recommended that some of the more remote salterns be closed down and this was duly implemented. It was unfortunately found that the closure was rather premature, especially as the cost of production was in some cases lower than the cost of transport from other places, and most of the salterns which had been closed down have now had to be re-opened, with the consequent expenditure on having to replace those structures which had got into disuse.

With the modern demand for all kinds of minerals, it was discovered that sea water contained several of these minerals which had to be separated from sea water.



Ceylon commands a notable advantage over the countries of the temperate zone in that the elimination of the water is done for us free of cost by the sun and wind, whereas no such possibility exists in cold and wet countries. A whole host of primary and secondary minerals can be produced from sea water, and this includes Magnesia, Gypsum, Potash, Bromine, Borax and secondary derived chemicals like Glauber's Salt, Epsom Salt, Soda Ash, &c. The availability of these chemicals and minerals in solution form in turn creates the possibility of further industrialization, which appears to be extremely profitable. During the past 15 years, therefore, a great deal of interest was taken in Ceylon to ascertain what were the possibilities of putting sea water to better use than merely extracting salt from it, and the first results were published in Sessional Paper XIII of 1948. The information was not complete and ideas had not been fully crystallized at the time when this Paper was published; but the facts quoted in it are still undisputed, although the processes suggested at the time are capable of some improvement at the moment. The whole question has been reviewed recently and it is hoped that with foreign aid a most promising field of industrial development based upon sea-water will be opened out in the near future.

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Important References :

Administration Report of the Director Industries.



## CHAPTER IX

### FORESTS AND WILD LIFE PROTECTION

#### I—FORESTS

Each climato-geographical region of the Island has its distinctive type of forests.

The wet low and mid-country zone forest is characterized by tall, lofty trees, giving the impression of cathedral vaults, and dense undergrowth which usually occupies the forests floor. The principal trees species to be found in these forests are : Hora (*Dipterocarpus zeylanicus*), Duns (*Doona* syp. and *Hopea* spp.), Hedawakas (*Chaetocrapus* spp.), Molpedda (*Isonandra lanceolata*), Tawenna (*Palaquim rubiginosum*), Del (*Artocarpus nobilis*), Damba (*Syzygium* spp.), Milla (*Vitex pinnata*, Liyan (*Homalium zeylanica*), Na (*Messua ferrea* & *M. thwaitesii*), Kekuna (*Canarium zeylanicum*), and other species. Except for those occurring gregariously in high forest, like Hora (*Dipterocarpus zeylanicus*), the Duns (*Doona* and *Shorea* spp.) with Na (*Messua ferrea*) and Aridda (*Campnosperma zeylanicum*), each species rarely constitutes more than one per cent. of the specific composition of such forest. Occurring as they do in the populous quarter of the Island, the proportion of forest to total area is very small. In several districts forest occupies less than one per cent. of the land area. There are only scattered and isolated patches of forests in the wet low country. Most of the forests are to be found in the hinterland at the bases and lower slopes of the central mountains.

In contrast to conditions in the wet zone there is a considerable proportion of forest left in the dry zone. In the northern most region and in a narrow coastwise belt, a low thorny scrub jungle prevails. The natural high forest is generally of the type known as the Dry Mixed Evergreen forest, that is, forest of overall evergreen character with a proportion of deciduous tree species amongst the dominants. The principal economic timber species in this type of forest are Satin (*Chlorozylon swietenia*), Palu (*Manilkara hexandra*), Ranai (*Alseodaphne semicarpifolia*), Milla (*Vitex pinnata*), Halmilla (*Berrya cordifolia*), Kumbuk (*Terminalia arjuna*), Ebony (*Diospyres ebenum*), and like species. The structure of the forest is simpler and the dominant canopy is even without any emergents as in the wet evergreen forest. The undergrowth is relatively light. The tree species mentioned are all durable hardwoods. They are usually to be found scattered as single stems in a matrix of Wira (*Hemecyclia sepiria*) except in the case of Halmilla which is gregarious in moist situations especially on alluvial soils near rivers and streams.

The forests in the sub-tropical montane zone are confined to hill-tops and ridges. The forests in these regions are of the sub-tropical wet montane evergreen type. The trees are generally short-boled, branchy, and xerophytic in character. The canopy is single storeyed, of even height as in the dry evergreen forests, and there are no tall emergent trees as in the wet evergreen forests. The undergrowth is heavy often entirely of *Strobilanthes* spp. The principal timber trees are : Kina (*Calophyllum walkeri*), Domba (*Syzygium* spp.), Mihiriya (*Gordonia* and *Ternstroemia* spp.), and Sapu (*Michelia nilagirica*). These forests are of inestimable importance from the standpoint of the conservation of climatic soil, water, and scenic values. No great economic returns in the form of timber are to be expected. All forests in the region are to be treated and conserved as climatic and scenic reserves. The patanas of the Uva Basin are unique in character, and forests within them are confined only to tree-growth fringing rivers and streams.

#### Research and Education

Periodic observations in the flowering, fruiting, foliar changes, height and girth increments of trees on experimental plots and Arboreta in various parts of the Island were recorded by the Forest Department. Research nurseries and experimental gardens were maintained for the better understanding of the germination and growth conditions of indigenous tree species.



Observations on long term investigations into the effects of fire, grazing and afforestation of the Dry Patana grasslands were continued.

A few specific investigations into the effects of various insect and fungal pests on growing trees and timber were observed and recorded.

A number of special investigations into the regeneration problems of the wet zone forests and afforestation of the Dry Zone forests were conducted.

*Timber Utilization Research.*—Organisation and equipment of the timber utilization experimental section of the Research Laboratory were completed. Valuable experience regarding strengths and properties of local timbers and their behaviour on drying and sawing have been recorded. A number of special investigations were also conducted on timber preservation and timber seasoning, yielding very valuable data.

### Forest Management

The following major schemes were worked during the year.

#### (a) Natural Regeneration :

- (i) Regeneration fellings in Wet Evergreen Forests.
- (ii) Commercial fellings in Dry Mixed Evergreen forests.

#### (b) Artificial Regeneration.

- (i) Afforestation of wet and dry patana grasslands.
- (ii) Reforestation of secondary forests with Teak.
- (iii) Reforestation of secondary forests with Jak and Mahogany.
- (iv) Reforestation of mature Eucalyptus plantations with preferable species of the same gums.
- (v) Reforestation of degraded montane wet evergreen forests.

*Regeneration and Commercial fellings.*—Regeneration fellings in the wet evergreen forests have been continued under rigid departmental supervision in accordance with the respective working plan prescriptions. To this 86,000 acres have been added during the course of the year.

Selective felling in Dry Mixed Evergreen forests have been continued in a girth limit of 4 ft. 6 in. at breast height. In addition a lower girth limit felling, confined only to fuel species continued to meet the firewood needs in Jaffna Peninsula and Trincomalee.

Salvage fellings in released areas were also taken on a commercial basis.

Following is a summary of the areas taken up and their respective output.

#### SUMMARY OF COMMERCIAL SELECTIVE AND SALVAGE FELLINGS

<i>Division</i>	<i>Extent in acres</i>	<i>Yield in cubic feet of logs</i>
Northern —Reserves and Proposed Reserves	7,387	48,928
Other Crown Forests	14,904	104,710
North-Central —Reserves and Proposed Reserves	11,085	163,325
—Other Crown Forests	4,490	88,820
North-Western—Reserves and Proposed Reserves	9,360	39,559
Eastern —Reserves and Proposed Reserves	2,320	26,033
Other Crown Forests	6,490	46,585
Southern —Other Crown Forests	430	2,119
Up-Country —Other Crown Forests	8,200	117,131
Total	64,666	637,210



## SUMMARY OF FIREWOOD FELLINGS

Division		Extent in acres		Yield
Northern	—Reserves and Proposed Reserves	357	Tons	3,853
	Other Crown Forests	11,714	Tons	14,542
North-Central	—Reserves and Proposed Reserves	175	C. yds.	9,133
	Other Crown Forests	208	C. yds.	1,633
		12,454	Tons	18,395
			C. yds.	10,766

*Cultural Operations.*—Completion of the necessary preliminary work enabled the addition of the Jak and Mahogany plantations to the general programme of thinning and tending on working plan basis. These operations are summarised below:

	Acres
(i) Extent thinned under Up-country Working Plan	414
(ii) Extent of Teak plantations thinned	82
(iii) Extent of Jak and Mahogany plantations thinned	454
(iv) Extent of coastal plantations thinned	191

*Artificial Regeneration.*—The programme of artificial regeneration was continued and intensified using specialised mechanical equipment in nursery practice and in actual forestation. In addition to the areas taken up for general afforestation in wet and dry patanas and reafforestation with teak and jak, a windbreak and improved pasture scheme was initiated in the dry patana. This scheme envisages the protection of badly eroded patana grassland by a system of main and subsidiary wind belts running at right angles to each other. At the time of initiation of the wind belts after harrowing, the areas enclosed within the wind belts are planted up with a more suitable exotic grass. The entire area is to serve as a rotational grazing ground.

Summary of areas taken under artificial regeneration are as follows :—

	Acres
(i) Wet Patana grasslands afforested	151
(ii) Dry Patana grasslands afforested	70
(iii) Windbreak pasture schemes afforestation	176
(iv) Reafforestation of degraded montane evergreen forests	100
(v) Reafforestation under the co-operative scheme	681

### Tree Planting Campaign

This campaign organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands has been a very successful means of stimulating the interest of the population in practical forestry. The demand for planting material from schools, rural development societies and the general public has been very encouraging. A total of 345,016 plants were supplied in addition to considerable quantities of Jak, Mahogany and teak seed.

### Utilization

The impregnation plant at Boosa was installed during the year under review. The preliminary treatment proved to be very satisfactory. Work was started only during the latter part of the



year and confined only to the pressure impregnation of Broad Gauge Hora railway sleepers. A total of 23,000 sleepers were impregnated and supplied to the Railway Department. It is the intention of the Forest Department to pressure impregnate the less popular, light hardwoods with a view to meeting the ever increasing demand for building material in this country.

Through the established net work of Central Conversion Depots, sales depots and wayside depots throughout the Island the following material has been supplied to Government departments and the public :

<i>Logs</i>	<i>Sawn timber</i>	<i>Sleepers</i>	<i>Firewood</i>	<i>Outside</i>	<i>Poles</i>
<i>Cu. ft.</i>	<i>Cu. ft.</i>	<i>B. G. No.</i>	<i>Cu. yds.</i>	<i>Slabs No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
715,760.3	421,221.0	51,517	140,867.6	135,829	367,551

The total quantity of logs produced to meet the requirements both for sawn timber and logs was 1,851,787.3 cubic feet.

There was an increase of timber supplies by 258,979.2 cubic feet as compared with the previous year. The Plywood Factory was supplied with 21,494.9 cubic feet more than in the previous year. All the supplies made to the Factory were at cost plus royalty value with no charge on overheads.

## II—BOTANIC GARDENS

THERE are three Botanic Gardens in Ceylon administered by the Department of Agriculture. They are supervised by a Superintendent of Gardens with headquarters at Peradeniya.

These gardens are situated in the different climatic zones and enjoy the benefits of both monsoons.

(a) *Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya.*—The history of these Gardens dates as far back as 1371, when King Wickrama Bahu III ascended the throne and kept court at Peradeniya. The Gardens were established in 1821 for the purpose of accommodating exotic plants and enjoy a world wide reputation for its wealth of tropical vegetation. Situated 68 miles from Colombo, along the Colombo-Kandy Road at an elevation of 1,550 feet above sea-level, these Gardens have an equable climate and an average rainfall of over 80 inches a year.

Many species of tropical plants from various parts of the world are represented there. They are of much interest to Botanists, Horticulturists and students of Botany.

Exchange of plant material with Botanic Gardens and allied institutions in other parts of the world is being conducted on an appreciable scale.

Research is conducted in different aspects of botanical importance and foreign Scientists continue to visit these gardens.

(b) *Botanic Gardens, Hakgala.*—This Garden was Established as Cinchona experiment station in 1861. It is situated more or less in a temperate climate, six miles from Nuwara Eliya, at an elevation of 5,581 feet above sea-level. The vegetation here is sub-tropical and many temperate plants introduced from abroad thrive fairly satisfactorily.

(c) *Botanic Gardens, Henaragoda, Gampaha.*—This Garden was opened up in 1876 to accommodate the original rubber seedlings that came East. It is situated 17 miles from Colombo at an elevation of 35 feet above sea-level. The original rubber plantation is still in existence. The two patches of original jungle on either side of the entrance are of interest.

## III—WILD LIFE PROTECTION

UNDER the Fauna and Flora Protection Act of 1938 the designations and areas of the protected regions are as follows :—

(a) National Reserves, in total extent 1,132.1 square miles, sub-divided into :—

(i) 4 Strict Natural Reserves (two being small flora Reserves) of 234.4 square miles, into which admission is allowed only for the purposes of scientific research ;



- (ii) 3 National Parks, in extent 410.5 square miles, into which the public are freely admitted on permits obtainable on the payment of a small fee for the study and observation of Wild Life ; and
  - (iii) 6 Intermediate Zones, in extent 487.2 square miles, in which restricted shooting is allowed during the Open Season only, on payment of higher admission fees and under Game licences ;
- (b) Sanctuaries, of which there are 25, and whose total extent is 476 square miles. In these Sanctuaries all human activity is permissible except the hunting and shooting of animals and the firing of guns.

The two main National Parks, the Ruhuna Park and the Wilpattu Park, attracted over 15,000 visitors during 1955. Both contain a fully representative fauna and flora of the Ceylon Dry Zone and their popularity is increasing from year to year with the improvement of amenities for visitors.

The wild elephant population of Ceylon may now be estimated at around 850 animals. In the last 5 years this population has decreased by about one-sixth, the main cause of mortality being shooting in defence of crops. Measures to ensure the survival of this valuable animal are under consideration.

The export of products of Wild Life, such as skins, horns, tusks, feathers and the like, in commercial quantities or for commercial purposes is banned.

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Important References :

- (1) A Decade of Silvicultural Research in Ceylon—C. H. Holmes.
- (2) Some Forestry Problems in Ceylon, &c.—C. H. Holmes.
- (3) Administration Report of the Conservator of Forests.
- (4) Administration Report of the Warden, Wild Life Department.



## CHAPTER X

### FISHERIES

THE salient features of the year 1955 in the Second Six-Year Fisheries Programme were the intensive research carried out on the various biological problems; the headway made in regard to the housing scheme for fishermen and the intensification of work on fresh water fisheries with the arrival of an F. A. O Expert.

#### Amendments to existing Fisheries Legislation

Several amendments have been proposed to the Fisheries Ordinance. These amendments seek, *inter alia*, to vest the Minister with more powers in regard to accepting or rejecting recommendations of Boards of Enquiry, and also to ensure that dynamiting of fish is reduced to the barest minimum. Amendments have also been recommended to the Explosives Ordinance and some of these suggestions will be incorporated when the Ordinance is finally amended.

Action is being taken to introduce a consolidated set of regulations to control the erection and maintenance of kraals and also to govern the use of "madel" nets and similar devices in the inland waters of the Island. Necessary action will be taken to restrict the use of "Paramby" net in the Northern waters at the request of the Jaffna fishermen. Some of the other regulations proposed to be introduced by the Department are (i) regulations to aid Research Officers to collect statistics, (ii) regulations to control the use of lures for fishing; and (iii) regulations to declare the Kahapola-kiss and some tanks in the Ragama area as sanctuaries.

Fishing in that part of the Battuluoya adjacent to the Ice Plant has been prohibited as the water turned muddy and became unsuitable for the factory's consumption due to the dragging of nets along the river bed.

#### Registration of Fishing Craft

About 13,800 boats of various descriptions have been registered by the Department. The regulations relating to the registration of fishing craft were amended providing for a system of annual licensing instead of the system of re-registration envisaged in the original regulations. The licence fees too were reduced. About 7,400 boats were licensed for 1955.

219 prosecutions were launched against operators of un-registered and unlicensed boats. In most cases, the owners were discharged with a warning by court to have the boats registered or licensed.

An amendment to the Regulations relating to the registration of fishing craft, which seeks to define the method of measurement is now awaiting the approval of Parliament.

#### Housing for Fishermen

Investigations reveal that at least 7,000 houses are required for needy Fishermen. It is intended to provide approximately 600 houses during the financial year 1955-56 and the amount voted for this year out of a total allocation of Rs. 6,000,000 in the Second Six-Year Programme was Rs. 1,250,000. Sites for buildings have been inspected in several areas and acquisition proceedings are pending.

#### Relief to Fishermen in Distress

359 applications for relief from distressed fishermen were received. Of this number 163 applications have been declined by the Director of Social Services, and out of a sum of Rs. 21,765



recommended by this Department Rs. 16,665 have been paid to the distressed fishermen by the Department of Social Services. The applications for relief were in respect of damage and loss to craft and gear.

#### **Crown Timber for Boat-building**

During this year 61 applications for timber for boat-building have been recommended to the Conservator of Forests and the issue of timber would be at royalty rates only.

#### **Co-operative Societies**

Fourteen societies have been given advances to the tune of Rs. 125,543 as short and medium term loans. These loans have helped fishermen in the past to purchase various types of boats, approved nets and other fishing equipment as well as to assist them in the distribution of their catch. It is hoped that the difficulties of organizing Co-operative Societies will be overcome by the organization of an Extension Department in the School of Co-operation at Polgolla under the advice and guidance of the Co-operative Expert Mr. G. McDonald, who is on a Colombo Plan assignment.

#### **Dry Fish Manufacture and Research**

After intensive investigation a satisfactory manufacturing process was evolved involving the removal of guts and gills and the extraction of surface blood in a 10 per cent. salt dip prior to the bringing in a salt solution maintained at saturation. Salt alone was found to be insufficient to prevent bacterial decomposition especially due to strains of *Red Halophiles* to which however a 0.5 per cent. aqueous solution of citric acid proved inhibitory and 2 per cent. bactericidal. Citric acid besides its bactericidal and fungistatic properties increased the initial rate of salt penetration thus shortening the period of time during which the flesh is most liable to decompose. The salt-citric acid protection permits of slow air drying without deterioration; and the process is also independent of weather conditions.

At the request of the Food and Drugs Committee a chemical examination of marked samples was undertaken with a view to defining standards for quality. The investigation of big fish (over 1 lb.) of the dry salted (Karavala) type showed that amounts of the various constituents present bore no relation to the quality of the specimen. Decomposition tests (such as the sulphide test used for fish meal) answered at too late a stage to be useful. Specialised tests for very small changes in composition (such as estimation of trimethylamine) could not be made to work with the equipment presently available. However, when the technological laboratory is set up further work along these lines may be able to provide a basis for standards of quality.

#### **Wadge Bank Trawl Fishery**

The work that was started in 1954, was continued last year and the purpose of the study was to find out the effect of fishing on the stock. The data on one of the migrant forms, i.e. the Carangides, was analysed. The pattern of migration of these forms appears to be determined by hydrographic conditions. An analysis of the data collected up to 1955 indicates that the stock of Carangides which migrate on to the bank, is greatly increasing, but at present, it is not possible to say what causes this increase, nor how long it will last. An intensive study of the biology and migrations of this family is planned for 1956, and it is hoped that the knowledge thus gained will help, not only the Wadge Bank Trawl Fishery but also the inshore fishery around Ceylon.

#### **Study of the Biology of *Lethrinus Nebulosis* (Sea Bream : Sin.—Miwatiya)**

A study of the biology of this species was continued this year. Trips were made to various coastal areas to collect data and material to determine the distribution, age and growth of this species. The southern half of the eastern coast of Ceylon, i.e. south of Trincomalee, has not been visited yet. Specimens obtained from the catches are very small averaging about 9 cm. or less. From this it appears that the youngest and the smallest forms are found very close to the shore and as they grow older they appear to move into deeper waters.



In order to study the spawning habits of this species, ovaries have been collected from various sizes over a continuous 12 month period, and it is expected to make a detailed study of the spawning season and fecundity from these collections. The knowledge of the spawning season is important as it is necessary to establish the significance of the concentric rings that are found in the otoliths of this species and to attempt to collect larval forms in order to work out the life history of this species.

#### Survey of the Pearl Banks

An inspection of the Pearl Banks was carried out from S. T. "Braconglen" using a dredge between the 23rd October and 3rd of November, 1955. The survey was divided into two sections, areas deeper than 5 fathoms were carried out from the trawler "Braconglen" while the shallow areas were investigated with the help of divers by Mr. Jonklaas. The dredge survey by the trawler covered an approximate area of about 110 nautical sq. miles. 174 dredges were made and about 150,000 oysters were collected in these dredges. The value and the size of the pearls collected confirmed the age determinations from the size of the oysters given by Professor Herdman in 1926.

#### Survey of the Balapitiya Lagoon Prawn Fishery

A short survey of the above lagoon was carried out this year. It was found that the lagoon had a total area of 1,900 acres and is made up of three parts, namely, the Madu ganga or lagoon, the lake, or the Kudakalapu ganga and the River. A brief study of the hydrography of the water of the lagoon, the plankton content and the bottom conditions indicate a low productivity of the three commercially important species of prawns collected from the area—*Metapenaeus monoceros*, *m. debsoni* and *Pencus indicus*. Of these three, the last two species have been established by other biologists working in other parts of Southeast Asia as migratory in nature. They migrate to sea for breeding purposes and the young post larvae return to the lagoon for further growth. The biology of the first species is not defined. A few other members are found in the lagoon, namely, species belonging to the Caridea, but these are of no commercial importance. In order to increase production of the prawns in the lagoon, there should be as little obstruction as possible to the movements of the larvae into the lagoon and the lake.

#### Preventive Force

The Preventive Force, with its limited resources of personnel and facilities continues to crusade against the incidence of dynamiting in the coastal waters of the Island. It has, however, not been possible to achieve optimum success in this direction for a variety of reasons. Experience has revealed that for the successful elimination of this nefarious practice there should at least be two separate units, for collateral preventive work from two points. The Preventive Force, which originally consisted of one Preventive Officer, two sergeants and nine guards, is today working with two guards less. Though the Department pays suitable rewards to informants and witnesses in dynamiting cases, the public has not seriously assisted the Department in preventing the incidence of dynamiting. Preventive measures taken by the Department to reduce dynamiting will be of little avail without the active assistance and co-operation of the public. The Department is now canvassing the question of mobilising the energies of such units as the Volunteer Force, Rural Development Societies, &c. in its campaign against dynamiting.

Though the year 1955 saw a general and marked reduction in dynamiting offences in the areas blacklisted in 1954, Trincomalee continued to lead with its record of forty-five cases.

#### Chank Fishery

There has been a slight improvement in the chank trade since 1954. The Pakistan Government obtained the licence from the Indian Government to import a restricted quantity of Ceylon chanks. The Controller of Imports and Exchange has been issuing export licences to Ceylonese traders to export chanks.



### Beche-de-mer

This industry which showed signs of languishing some years back has in the course of this year been accorded very special attention in view of its importance in the export trade and its employment potential. A sum of over Rs. 26,000 has been advanced to two Co-operative Societies for beche-de-mer fishing in the course of this year.

### Beaching Ground and Auction Sheds

Beaching grounds are being provided at the following centres :—

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Oruwella          | (g) Usaramba-Mirissa    |
| (b) Kurana-Katunayake | (h) Challie-Trincomalee |
| (c) Kaisawella        | (i) Kottegoda-Suduwella |
| (d) Puranawella       | (j) Kurinjanpitiya      |
| (e) Gandara           | (k) Balapiti-modera     |
| (f) Kataluwa          |                         |

Land has been acquired to construct auction sheds at Dehiwela and Mount Lavinia.

### Fish Kraals

Eighty-five licences to operate fish kraals in the Madu ganga and the Kudakalapu ganga were issued by the Department and Rs. 2,225 was realised.

Representations urging that the existing regulations relating to the erection of kraals be so amended as to permit the erection of kraals of increased dimensions, and that the use of the net called "madi dela" be prohibited in the river, were received by the Department from the fishermen of Amabalgoda-Balapitiya. The matter is now under consideration.

### Disputes

During the period under review, regulations were made to give effect to the recommendations of the Boards of Enquiry appointed to report on the following disputes :—

- Galle Fishing Dispute,
- Mutwal Fishing Dispute, and
- Mullikulam-Arippu Fishing Dispute.

At the time of writing this report, regulations in respect of the Chilaw Fishing Dispute expect approval of Parliament. Regulations are being drafted to implement the recommendations of the Boards of Enquiry which reported on the following disputes :—

- Puttalam Fishing Dispute.
- Oluvil Fishing Dispute.
- Vattuvakallu Fishing Dispute.
- Palangathurai Fishing Dispute.
- Negombo Fishing Dispute.

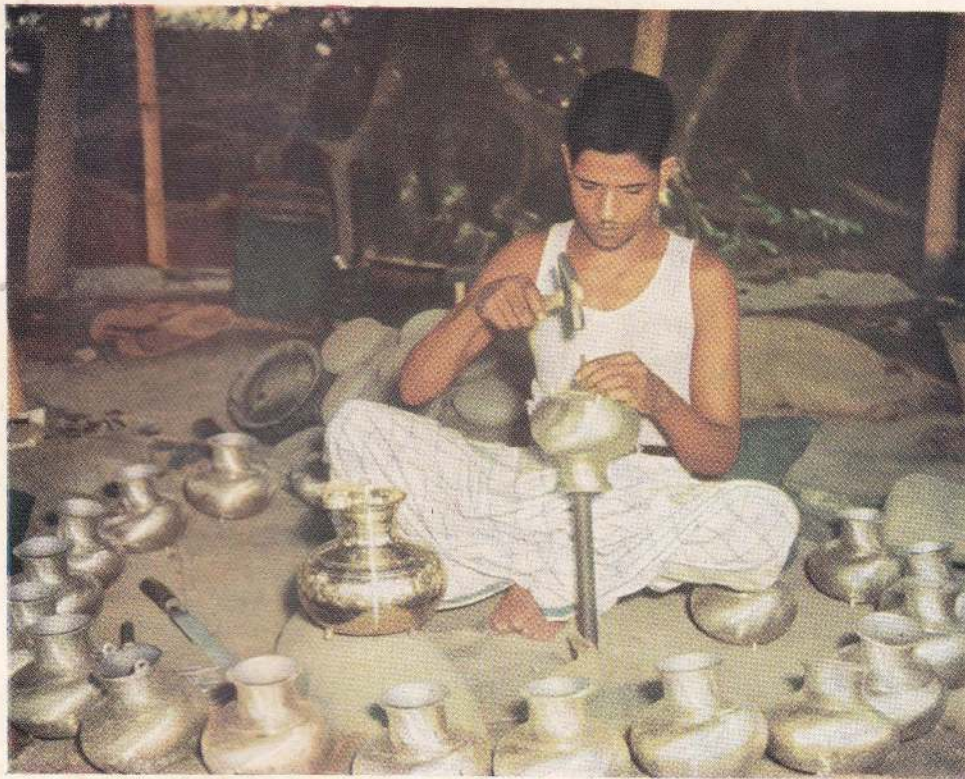
### Propaganda

The Department participated in exhibitions and Live Stock Shows organised by other Government Departments and Institutions.

#### Important References :

- (1) Ceylon Fisheries—Sessional Paper VI of 1951.
- (2) Fish Rearing in Malaya—E. R. A. de Zylva.
- (3) Administration Report of the Director of Fisheries.





KANDYAN BRASSWORKER

*(Copyright photograph)*







## CHAPTER XI

### FOREIGN TRADE

#### I—GENERAL REVIEW

In spite of the many changes in the price trends, the balance of trade reached an unprecedented height and recorded a favourable balance of Rs. 478.9 million in 1955. The total export earnings increased from Rs. 1,809.3 million in 1954 to Rs. 1,940.1 million in 1955. Imports too showed an increase from 1,397.3 million to Rs. 1,461.2 million (including gold and monetary items.) An important feature was the decline in the re-export figures from Rs. 90 million to Rs. 68 million.

The following table illustrates the significant trends of external trade in 1955 compared with 1954 and 1953 :—

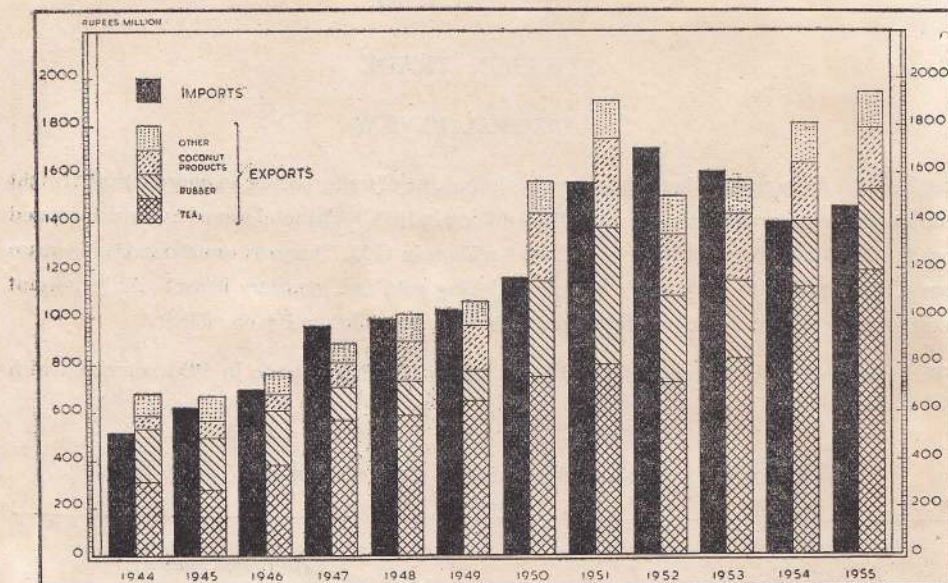
TABLE 11.1 SUMMARY STATISTICS OF CEYLON'S FOREIGN TRADE

		<i>(In rupees million)</i>		
		1953	1954	1955
Total Exports		1,568.0	1,809.3	1,940.1
Domestic Exports		1,485.5	1,714.7	1,872.1
Re-exports		78.1	90.0	68.0
Imports		1,610.2	1,397.3	1,461.2
Total Trade		3,178.2	3,206.6	3,401.3
Trade Balance		—42.2	412.0	478.9
<i>Price Indices</i>				
Domestic Exports		139	155	162
Imports		114	100	101
*Terms of Trade		82	65	62
<i>Volume Indices</i>				
Domestic Exports		120	124	131
Imports		144	143	140

\*Terms of Trade :  $\frac{\text{Imports Price Index}}{\text{Exports Price Index}}$  (Base 1948=100)



## BALANCE OF TRADE, 1944-55

**Composition of Trade**

*Exports.*—During 1955 the contribution of Tea, Rubber and Coconut products amounted to 96.4 per cent. of our domestic exports as against 96.3 per cent. in 1954. Tea remained as usual our highest foreign exchange earner, contributing 63.8 per cent. to the total domestic exports. The quantity of tea exports had increased by only one million pounds. The value of tea exports rose by about Rs. 71 million in spite of the heavy drop in tea prices from February to June, 1955.

The share of Rubber had increased to 18.7 per cent. in 1955 compared with 16.6 per cent. for 1954. The quantity of Rubber exports remained more or less stable, and this could be attributed to the steady rise in Rubber prices.

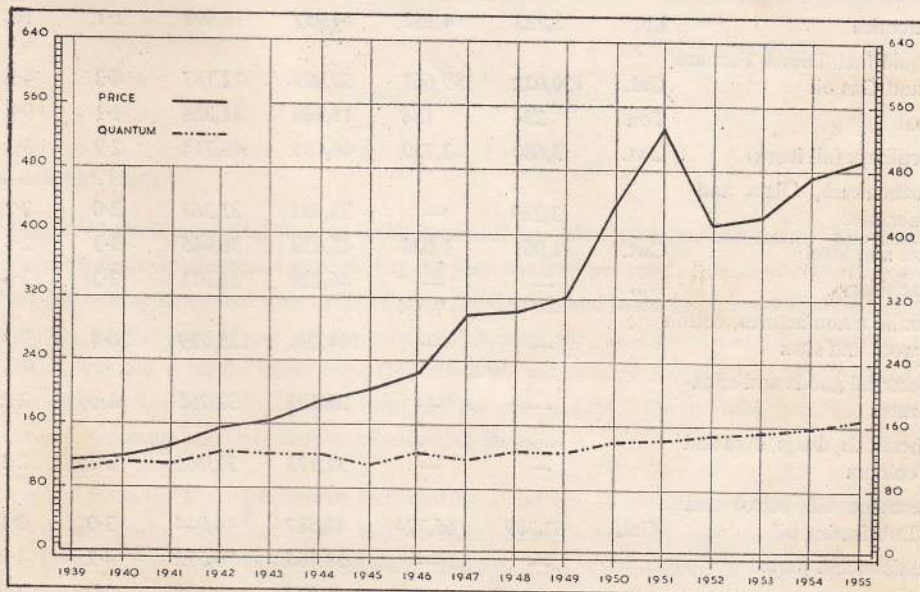
Coconut oil and Copra showed slight increases both in value and volume. Desiccated Coconut and other minor products of Coconut showed declining tendencies. The earnings from Cocoa declined by about Rs. 5 million and that of Cinnamon quills remained more or less stable in spite of the drop in the quantity of exports. Plumbago contributed about Rs. 2 million more to our export earnings which was counteracted by the decline in the value of exports of Papain.

The exports of the other minor products improved considerably and is reflected by an increase of about Rs. 11 million. The following table gives in detail the composition of Ceylon's domestic exports in 1954 and 1955.



TABLE 11.2 MAJOR EXPORTS (DOMESTIC)

Commodity	Unit	Quantity (In thousand)		Value (In thousand Rs.)		Per cent. to Total	
		1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Tea (Black)	Lb.	361,262	362,235	1,122,798	1,194,227	65.5	63.8
Rubber (Raw)	"	202,854	202,524	275,968	336,155	16.1	18.0
Rubber (Latex)	"	6,500	6,831	9,326	14,193	0.5	0.7
Coconut oil	Cwt.	1,378	1,945	100,191	113,291	5.8	6.1
Copra	"	920	1,367	45,445	57,281	2.7	3.1
Desiccated Coconut	"	1,104	1,157	65,250	54,807	3.9	2.9
Other Coconut Products	"	—	—	31,692	33,973	1.8	1.8
Cocoa (Raw)	"	59	50	15,933	10,668	0.9	0.6
Cinnamon Quills	"	54	42	12,096	12,043	0.7	0.6
Plumbago	"	155	198	4,258	6,202	0.2	0.3
Arecanuts	"	97	107	3,976	3,311	0.2	0.2
Papain	Lb.	491	258	4,088	2,090	0.2	0.1
Others	—	—	—	22,655	33,875	1.3	1.8
Total	—	—	—	1,714,676	1,872,116	100	100

 INDICES OF EXPORTS (QUANTUM AND PRICE, 1939-55)  
 (Base 1934-38 = 100)


*Imports.*—The total commodity import bill had gone up by about Rs. 63 million, even though there was no corresponding increase in all the items. The value of imports of Rice and Wheat flour, among others had declined considerably. The proportionate share of Rice declined to 15.2 per cent. in 1955 compared with 19.6 per cent. in 1954.



Among the other food items the imports of sugar dropped by about Rs. 6 million, whereas the imports of Milk products increased both in value and volume.

One significant feature in the composition of imports is the increase in the imports of Liquid Fuel, Fertilizers, Iron and Steel, Machinery, Vehicles and parts.

The principal changes in the composition of imports between the two years 1954 and 1955 are shown in the following table :—

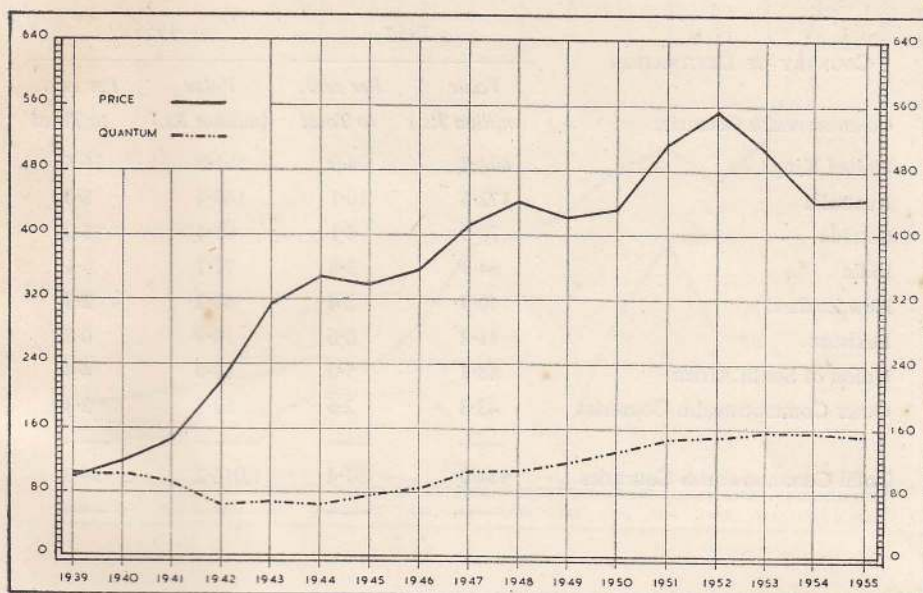
TABLE 11-3 MAJOR IMPORTS

Commodity	Unit	Quantity (In thousand)		Value (In thousand Rs.)		Per Cent. to Total	
		1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Rice	Cwt.	7,919	7,578	273,307	221,502	19.6	15.2
Wheat Flour	"	3,997	4,304	91,445	86,301	6.5	5.9
Fish (all items)	"	718	565	57,411	38,429	4.1	2.6
Curry stuffs (all items)	"	515	—	43,034	67,836	3.1	4.6
Sugar (refined and other sorts)	"	2,662	2,402	59,365	53,652	4.2	3.7
Milk Products (all items)	Lb.	20,365	25,742	28,063	35,173	2.0	2.4
Onions, other than red	Cwt.	848	740	11,273	9,173	0.8	0.6
Potatoes	"	810	798	12,201	13,130	0.9	0.9
Narcotics	Lb.	3,723	4,152	14,957	16,999	1.1	1.2
Liquid fuel, Diesel, Furnace and Gas oil	Gal.	130,022	159,663	59,895	72,187	4.3	4.9
Coal	Ton	284	184	15,868	11,386	1.1	0.8
Fertilizers (all items)	Cwt.	3,680	3,730	40,685	48,714	2.9	3.3
Earthenware, Glass and abrasive		3,289	—	28,492	32,363	2.0	2.2
Iron and Steel	Cwt.	1,061	1,024	45,858	36,945	3.3	2.5
Machinery	"	—	—	46,220	52,971	3.3	3.6
Textile manufactures, cotton wool and silks		—	—	144,694	135,029	10.4	9.3
Electrical goods and apparatus		—	—	22,603	32,765	1.6	2.2
Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours		—	—	37,173	31,062	2.7	2.1
Kerosene oil, petrol and Lubricating oil	Gal.	62,389	65,774	42,587	44,944	3.0	3.1
Vehicles and parts		—	—	58,165	70,572	4.2	4.8
Paper and cardboard		—	—	27,865	28,678	2.0	2.0
Others		—	—	236,095	319,931	16.9	21.9
Total		—	—	1,397,256	1,459,744	100	100



## INDICES OF IMPORTS (QUANTUM AND PRICE, 1939-55)

(Base 1934-38 = 100)



## Direction of Trade

During 1955 the United Kingdom, as usual, remained our principal buyer and seller. The United Kingdom's share in our export trade during the year was 26.8 per cent. of the total exports, a drop of 2.1 per cent. as compared with 1954. Except for Canada and India all the other Commonwealth Countries bought less of our export produce. Among the non-Commonwealth countries, the U. S. A. was our principal buyer importing about 9.4 per cent. of our exports. The position of China dropped to 6.5 per cent. in 1955 from 12.9 per cent. in 1954. On the other hand our exports to France, Germany and Italy showed considerable increase.

Imports from the United Kingdom increased by about Rs. 14 million even though her relative position remained same as last year. Imports from Australia declined considerably while imports from India and Pakistan showed increases. Imports from Commonwealth countries increased by about Rs. 61 million.

Among the non-Commonwealth countries, Japan tops the list compared with China which was our principal non-Commonwealth source of supply last year. A substantial increase in imports from France, Iran and U. S. A. could be noticed.



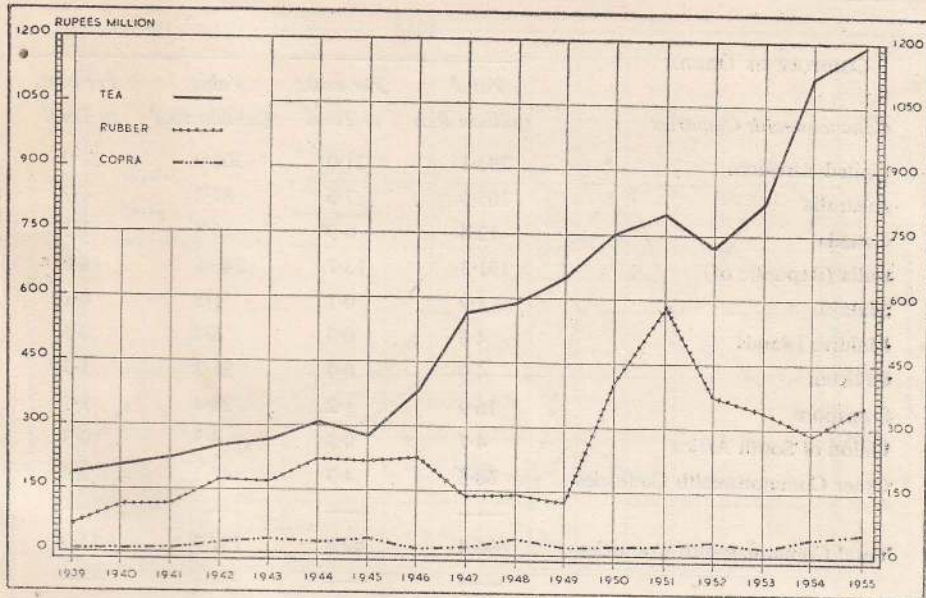
Figures relating to the distribution of Exports and Imports are shown below :—

TABLE 11-4 DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS

COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	1954		1955	
	<i>Value</i> (million Rs.)	<i>Per cent.</i> <i>to Total</i>	<i>Value</i> (million Rs.)	<i>Per cent.</i> <i>to Total</i>
<i>Commonwealth Countries</i>				
United Kingdom	494.8	28.9	501.8	26.8
Australia	172.5	10.1	149.4	8.0
Canada	70.2	4.1	93.4	5.0
India	64.9	3.8	77.7	4.1
New Zealand	40.9	2.4	43.2	2.3
Pakistan	11.2	0.6	14.9	0.8
Union of South Africa	85.7	5.0	83.0	4.4
Other Commonwealth Countries	43.8	2.6	52.8	2.8
Total Commonwealth Countries	984.0	57.4	1,016.2	54.3
<i>Foreign Countries</i>				
Argentine Republic	—	—	0.1	—
Belgium	5.1	0.3	7.0	0.4
China (Peoples' Republic of)	221.6	12.9	121.3	6.5
Egypt	87.5	5.1	89.9	4.8
France	13.0	0.8	22.9	1.2
Germany (Federal Republic of)	34.9	2.0	75.4	4.0
Netherlands	41.6	2.4	44.5	2.4
Italy	33.4	1.9	50.2	2.7
Japan	6.0	0.4	11.0	0.6
Mexico	4.9	0.3	3.8	0.2
Tunis	3.9	0.2	8.5	0.5
U. S. A.	117.1	6.8	176.7	9.4
Other Foreign Countries	160.7	9.4	238.9	12.8
Total Foreign Countries	729.7	42.6	850.1	45.4
Ship Stores	1.0	—	5.8	0.3
	1,714.7	100.0	1,872.1	100.0



## EXPORTS OF TEA, RUBBER AND COPRA (BY VALUE) 1939-55



## EXPORTS OF TEA, RUBBER, AND COPRA (BY VOLUME) 1939-55

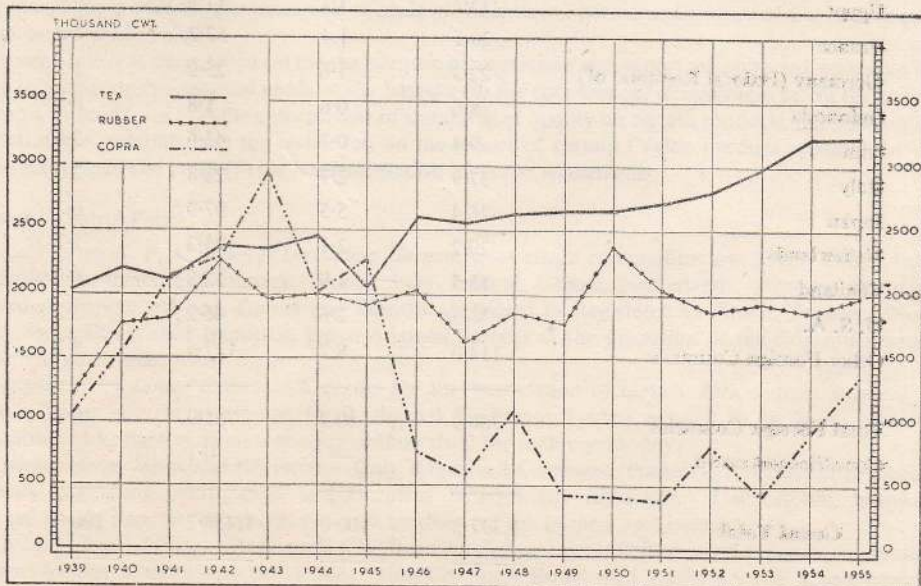


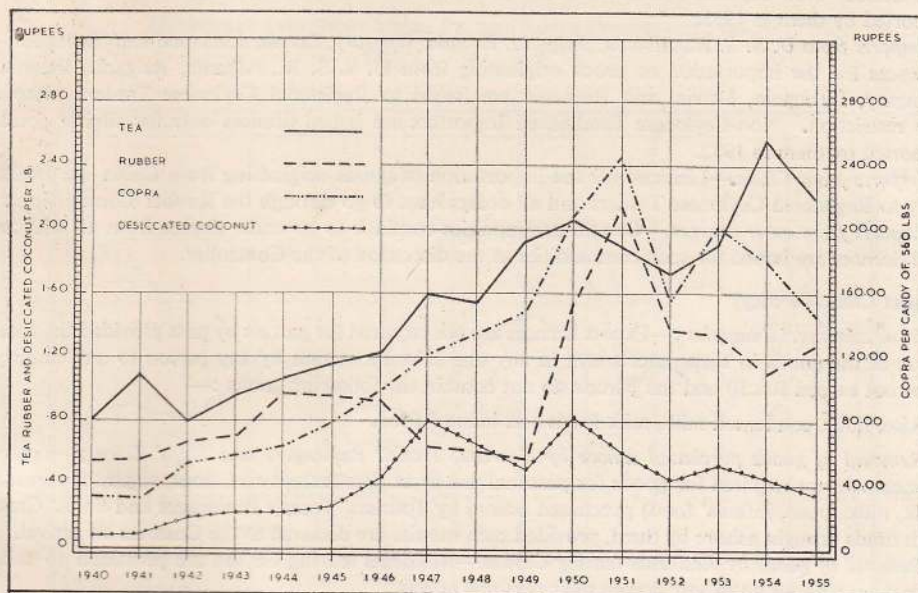


TABLE 11.5 DISTRIBUTION OF IMPORTS

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	1954		1955	
	<i>Value</i> (million Rs.)	<i>Per cent.</i> to Total	<i>Value</i> (million Rs.)	<i>Per cent.</i> to Total
<i>Commonwealth Countries</i>				
United Kingdom	293.1	21.0	306.9	21.0
Australia	105.9	7.6	87.3	6.0
Canada	12.4	0.9	15.8	1.1
India (Republic of)	191.3	13.7	242.1	16.6
Malaya	1.9	0.1	1.5	0.1
Maldiv Islands	4.8	0.3	6.7	0.5
Pakistan	4.9	0.4	21.3	1.5
Singapore	16.9	1.2	24.4	1.7
Union of South Africa	4.7	0.3	4.5	0.3
Other Commonwealth Countries	60.5	4.3	47.2	3.2
<b>Total Commonwealth Countries</b>	<b>696.4</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>757.7</b>	<b>51.9</b>
<i>Foreign Countries</i>				
Belgium	34.1	2.4	26.8	1.8
Burma	125.3	9.0	116.2	8.0
China (Peoples' Republic of)	158.3	11.3	79.9	5.5
Egypt	15.3	1.1	11.8	0.8
France	20.1	1.4	57.7	4.0
Germany (Federal Republic of)	22.3	1.6	25.9	1.8
Indonesia	8.6	0.6	1.8	0.1
Iran	9.4	0.7	43.6	3.0
Italy	37.9	2.7	28.8	2.0
Japan	76.4	5.5	97.9	6.7
Netherlands	29.2	2.1	25.2	1.7
Thailand	13.5	1.0	12.8	0.9
U. S. A.	36.5	2.6	46.2	3.2
Other Foreign Countries	114.0	8.2	127.4	8.7
<b>Total Foreign Countries</b>	<b>700.9</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>701.9</b>	<b>48.1</b>
Countries unknown	—	—	0.1	—
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,397.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,459.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>



ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF TEA, RUBBER, COPRA, AND DESICCATED COCONUT, 1940-55



## II—IMPORT AND EXPORT CONTROL

*Import Control* is directed towards (a) the regulation of the import trade to a greater or lesser degree in the context of Ceylon's Balance of Payments position ; (b) the strengthening of the overall payments position of the Sterling Area ; (c) the protection of certain local industries ; (d) the procurement of goods for which export quotas have been fixed by the supplying countries as well as goods in short supply ; (e) the Ceylonisation of trade which is now a permanent feature of Ceylon's import and export trade policy.

*Export Control* is maintained (a) for the purpose of restricting the export of imported goods which are required for the essential needs of the Island ; (b) the enforcement of minimum prices for certain export commodities ; (c) the enforcement of standards of quality on certain products ; (d) the control of strategic materials ; (e) the restriction on the export of certain Ceylon produce required for the needs of the Island ; and (f) the implementation of Trade Agreements.

### Import Control Policy

*Imports from E. P. U. Sources (excluding Germany).*—Certain commodities are under licence from Belgium, Luxemburg, Denmark, France, Italy, Iceland, Greece, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey and licences are issued to Registered Ceylonese Traders. Non-Ceylonese Established Importers are also issued licences at the discretion of the Controller based on their past trade.

*Import from Dollar Sources.*—Licences for the importation of certain commodities originating from Dollar sources are issued to Registered Ceylonese Traders as well as to Non-Ceylonese Established Importers up to monetary ceilings fixed for each commodity.

*Imports from Japan and Germany.*—Only Registered Ceylonese Traders are permitted to import goods originating from Japan and Germany without any restriction. Licences are, however, issued to any importer for goods required by them for use in their own industry.

*Imports from Austria.*—Registered Ceylonese Traders are permitted to import goods originating from Austria without any restriction. Non-Ceylonese Established Importers are issued licences only for similar goods imported by them in 1952.



*Imports from Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland.*—Registered Ceylonese Traders are permitted to import goods originating from Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland without any restriction. Non-Ceylonese Established Importers are issued licences only for similar goods imported by them in 1952.

*Imports from U. S. S. R., Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Rumania.*—Licences for the importation of goods originating from U. S. S. R., Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, and Rumania are issued to Registered Ceylonese Traders without any restriction. Non-Ceylonese Established Importers are issued licences only for similar goods imported by them in 1952.

*Imports from China.*—Licences for the importation of goods originating from China are issued only to Registered Ceylonese Traders and all orders have to go through the Rubber Commissioner.

*Imports from other sources.*—Certain commodities continue to be under licence from all sources and licences are issued for such commodities at the discretion of the Controller.

### Export Control Policy

*Gifts or commercial samples :*—Export licences are not required for parcels by post provided the total value of the goods in such parcels sent in any one calendar month by any person to any country does not exceed Rs. 50 and the parcels do not contain the following goods :—

Rice, flour, condensed milk, milk foods and infants' food.

*Removal of goods purchased ashore by Tourists, Transit Passengers and Ships' Crew :*—Export licences are not required for goods for personal use or as gifts (except rice, flour, sugar, condensed milk, milk foods, infants' food) purchased ashore by Tourists, Transit Passengers and Ships' Crew with funds brought ashore by them, provided such monies are declared to the Customs on arrival.

*Removal of goods by Residents leaving Ceylon.*—Residents leaving Ceylon are permitted to take with them without an export licence their personal effects.

*Transshipment Cargo.*—Export licences are required for transshipment cargo. The re-export of strategic materials to certain destinations is not allowed.

*Commercial Exports.*—Licences for the exportation of goods which are under control are issued at the discretion of the Controller. Export licences are not required for the exportation of the following goods to any destination other than China. Licences for the exportation of goods to China are issued only to Registered Ceylonese Traders.

Aquarium fish, Arecanuts, Baskets and basketware, Betel leaves, Coconut shell charcoal, Cardamoms, Cloves, Croton seeds, Coir yarn, Mats and matting, Rope and other coir manufactures, Cocoa, Cinnamon, Cinnamon bark oil, Cinnamon leaf oil, Citronella oil, Copra, Coconut poonac, Coconut desiccated, Coconut oil, Coconuts fresh, Curios, Kapok, Kitul fibre, Mace, Mica, Nutmeg, Pepper, Plumbago, Rubber toys, Rubber shoes, Shark fins, Straw, grass, rush and manufactures thereof, Tinned fruits, Tobacco unmanufactured, Vanilla, Wooden furniture.

### III—SHARE MARKET REVIEW

#### Tea

The share market in 1955 opened with a very good demand for tea during the first quarter and the index reached the high figure of 285 when compared with the index of 269 registered during the 4th quarter of 1954. The share market which improved during the first quarter fell rapidly in the next and the index declined to 242. The collapse in the share market was followed by a slow recovery in the values of all tea shares throughout the 3rd and 4th quarters. As a result the index registered an increase and stood at 258 during the last two quarters of 1955.

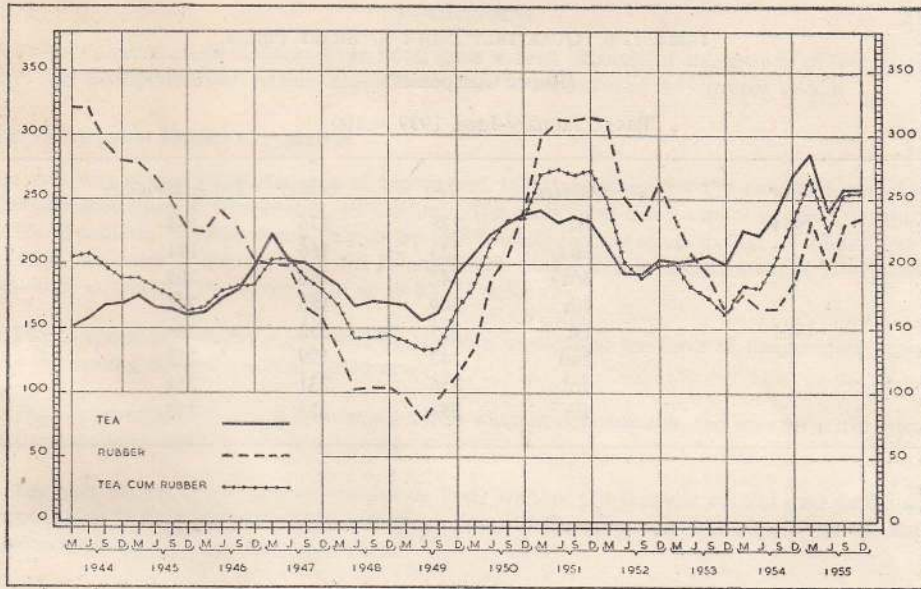
#### Rubber

In view of the demand for rubber and with the prices maintaining an upward trend the index which stood at 185 in the 4th quarter of 1954 increased sharply and reached a figure of 232 in the first quarter of 1955. The market was less active during the 2nd quarter and the index decreased to 199. This decline in the index was mainly due to the restriction in prices in respect of particular grades. The share market was fairly active during the 3rd quarter, chiefly due to the rise of the world prices of rubber and the index showed an increase and stood at 231. Although there was a fair demand

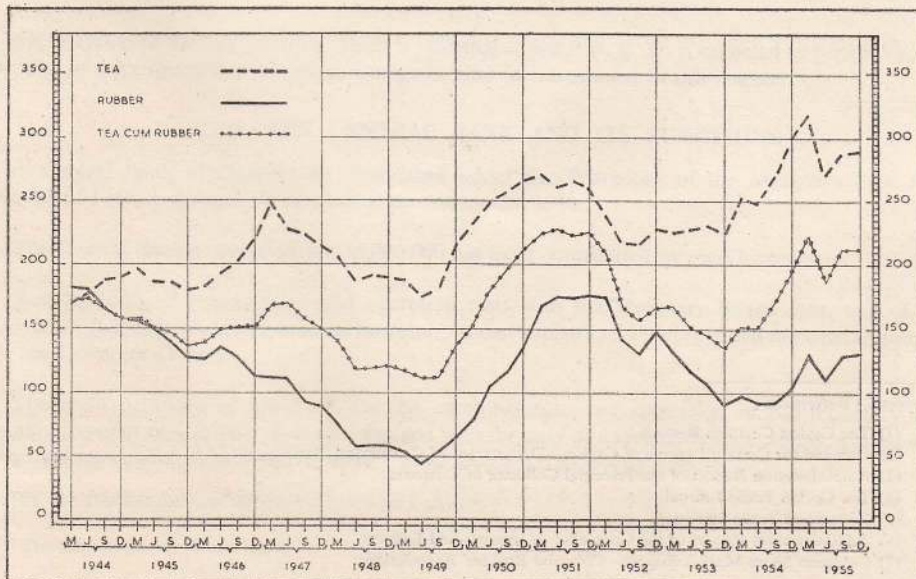


for rubber shares during the latter part of the 4th quarter transactions had been few. In view of this, the index only showed a slight increase and reached the highest figure for the year during the 4th quarter when it stood at 235.

QUARTERLY INDICES OF SHARE PRICES (RUPEE COMPANIES) 1944-55  
(Base : 1939=100)



QUARTERLY INDICES OF SHARE PRICES 1944-55  
(Base : Par Value=100)





**Tea-Cum-Rubber**

Shares in this sector showed an improved demand owing to tea and rubber fetching higher prices in the first quarter. The index stood at 266 being the highest for the year. During the second quarter as transactions were of a selective nature the index fell to 225. With rubber fetching a higher price the shares in this section enjoyed a fair investment demand and the index during the third and fourth quarters rose to 254.

TABLE 11-6 QUARTERLY INDEX OF SHARE PRICES  
(Rupee Companies)

Base : January-June, 1939 = 100

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quarter</i>	<i>Tea</i>	<i>Rubber</i>	<i>Tea-cum-rubber</i>
1954	1st	226	176	183
	2nd	223	166	181
	3rd	242	166	205
	4th	269	185	234
1955	1st	285	232	266
	2nd	242	199	225
	3rd	258	231	254
	4th	258	235	255

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**Important References :**

- (1) The Ceylon Customs Returns.
- (2) Demand for Certain Exports of Ceylon—Department of Census and Statistics.
- (3) Administration Report of the Principal Collector of Customs.
- (4) The Ceylon Trade Journal.
- (5) 30 years of Trade Statistics.
- (6) Administration Report of the Controller of Imports and Exports
- (7) Colombo Share Market Report—Colombo Brokers' Association.



## CHAPTER XII

### MONEY, BANKING AND INSURANCE

#### I—GENERAL

LAST year's issue of the Ceylon Year Book gave a brief account of the growth of commercial banking, the establishment of the Central Bank and the evolution of the currency system.

##### The Development Finance Corporation

An Act was passed by Parliament in September, 1955, providing for the establishment of the Development Finance Corporation of Ceylon. The authorised share capital of the Corporation is Rs. 8 million. Besides being able to borrow from Government up to Rs. 16 million free of interest, the loans it obtains from the International Bank for Re-construction and Development would be guaranteed by Government up to Rs. 24 million.

The Corporation will have considerable freedom in deciding the form of financing of projects and in ensuring the best use of its resources.

The Corporation will also initiate new projects where it is practicable and take an active interest in those projects with which it is connected.

The Corporation is an autonomous private body without Government control over its management though it has been established with the support of Government. The majority of the shareholder-directors will be citizens of Ceylon.

##### International Finance Corporation

A Bill to enable Ceylon to become a member of the International Finance Corporation was presented to Parliament in December, 1955\*. Ceylon's contribution to the share capital of the Corporation is Rs. 800,000.

Membership of the Corporation, which is affiliated to the I. B. R. D. is expected to benefit Ceylon by way of a greater inflow of private foreign capital for investment in this country.

#### II—THE CENTRAL BANK AND ITS FUNCTIONS

THE Central Bank of Ceylon was established under the Provisions of the Monetary Law Act, No. 58 of 1949, and began its operations on August 28, 1950.

The Central Bank's capital of Rs. 15,000,000 has been contributed by the Government.

Responsibility of management and operation rests with the Monetary Board consisting of the Governor (Chairman), the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Finance and a member appointed by the Governor-General.

The main functions of the bank are the administration and regulation of the monetary and banking system of Ceylon. It is also charged with the duty of so regulating the supply, availability, cost and international exchange of money as to secure the following objects :—

- (a) the stabilization of domestic monetary values ;

\* The Bill was passed in early 1956



- (b) the preservation of the par value of the Ceylon rupee ; and the free use of the rupee for current international transactions ;
- (c) the promotion and maintenance of a high level production employment and real income in Ceylon ; and
- (d) the encouragement and promotion of the full development of the productive resources of Ceylon.

The Bank is empowered to adopt the customary technique such as open market operations, adjustment of bank rates, alterations of reserve requirements, &c. The Commercial Banks in the country are required by law to keep with the Bank a minimum reserve against demand and time deposits. Profits from its operations are paid over to the Government.

The decrease in the volume of treasury bill borrowing during the year was associated with a gradual decline in the treasury bill rate. The rate, which at the end of 1954 was 0.87 per cent., declined to 0.67 per cent. in March 1955, but recovered during the next two months and stood at 0.84 per cent. at the end of May. Thereafter it remained relatively steady till the end of November, but dropped to 0.71 per cent. by the end of the year.

The fall in the treasury bill rate caused a corresponding decline in the yields on short, medium and long term government securities—the decline being most marked in the case of short term securities, where the redemption yield fell by 0.54 per cent. to 1.88 per cent. at the end of the year. The redemption yields in respect of long term securities decreased by 0.35 per cent. in 1955. The comparatively low yields prevailing on treasury bills and government securities is explained by the fact that government's budgetary position has been favourable at a time when commercial bank reserves have been high.

The Central Bank's rate of advances to commercial banks remained unchanged at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. during 1955.

The ratio of reserves which the commercial banks are required to maintain with the Central Bank remained unaltered at 10 per cent. in the case of demand deposits and 5 per cent. in the case of time deposits.

The Defence (Finance) Regulations which gave the necessary authority for Exchange Control was repealed in August, 1953, and its place was taken by the Exchange Control Act No. 24 of 1953. Under the Act, the Administration of Exchange Control became the responsibility of the Central Bank and for this purpose a separate Department of Exchange Control of the Central Bank was constituted. The scope of remittances abroad remains undisturbed since 1953.

There was no change in the exchange rate with respect to Sterling and Indian Rupees. The Rupee-Dollar Rate had to be changed from time to time during 1955 to keep in line with changes in the Sterling-Dollar-Rate.

The income of the Bank for 1955, amounted to Rs. 18,245,336 and expenditure which included allocation to reserves in terms of Section 38 of the Monetary Law Act totalled Rs. 15,245,336 giving a net profit of Rs. 3 million which was credited to the Consolidated Fund of Government in terms of Section 39 (c) of the Act.

The total liabilities of the Bank as at the end of 1955 were Rs. 688.8 million as compared with Rs. 555.9 million at the end of 1954. In 1955, notes and coins in circulation amounted to Rs. 425.0 million and Bank deposits Rs. 138.5 million as compared with Rs. 376.2 million and Rs. 105.4 million respectively in 1954. Total assets amounted to Rs. 688.8 million in 1955. This amount consisted of Rs. 655.2 million in International Reserve and Rs. 33.6 million in Domestic Assets, as compared with Rs. 524.5 million and Rs. 31.4 million respectively in 1954 when total assets were Rs. 555.9 million. The table below gives the assets and liabilities of the Central Bank for 1954 and 1955.



TABLE 12.4 ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE CENTRAL BANK

(In rupees million)								
	1954				1955			
	March	June	Sept.	Dec.	March	June	Sept.	Dec.
<b>ASSETS</b>								
<i>International Reserve :</i>								
Cash and balances abroad including treasury bills	184.2	284.2	303.9	370.6	398.5	428.7	469.7	495.7
Foreign bills discounted	3.2	2.2	3.7	2.4	15.7	21.4	19.6	8.2
Foreign Government securities	126.1	151.5	151.5	151.5	151.5	151.5	151.2	151.2
Ceylon Government War Loan (payment guaranteed by the U. K. Government)	15.8	8.4	8.4	—	—	—	—	—
Total	329.3	446.2	467.5	524.5	565.7	601.6	640.6	655.2
<i>Domestic Assets :</i>								
Loans and advances to Government	35.2	—	65.8	—	—	—	—	—
Others	0.4	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	—
Government and Government guaranteed securities	91.0	47.5	18.5	27.0	18.0	20.3	19.0	18.3
Other assets and accounts	3.5	4.2	5.6	4.4	4.5	7.2	10.1	15.3
Total assets or liabilities	459.4	498.0	557.8	555.9	588.2	629.1	669.7	688.8
International reserve as percentage of currency and demand liabilities	79.1	98.6	91.8	103.6	104.8	104.2	104.6	104.5
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
<i>Capital Accounts :</i>								
Capital	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Surplus	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Total	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0



TABLE 12.1 ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE CENTRAL BANK—(contd.)

	(In rupees million)							
	1954				1955			
	March	June	Sept.	Dec.	March	June	Sept.	Dec.
<b>LIABILITIES :</b>								
<i>Currency Issue :</i>								
Notes in circulation	327.9	337.5	358.0	355.8	359.1	356.2	388.1	402.9
Coins in circulation	20.2	20.1	20.0	20.4	20.6	20.8	21.3	22.1
Total	348.1	357.5	378.0	376.2	379.7	377.0	409.4	425.0
<i>Deposits :</i>								
Government	0.3	14.9	8.4	8.8	54.7	71.8	27.8	33.0
Government agencies and institutions	0.2	0.1	5.3	14.2	6.6	16.6	20.1	12.9
Commercial banks	66.3	78.8	115.9	105.4	97.5	110.7	153.5	138.5
International organisations	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Others	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	16.8
Total	68.0	95.1	131.0	129.8	160.2	200.6	203.0	202.0
Other liabilities and accounts	16.3	18.3	21.9	22.8	21.3	24.5	30.4	34.8

### III—COMMERCIAL BANKS

Of the Banks (Foreign and Local) registered under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance, No. 51 of 1938, the following continued to do business during the year 1955 :—

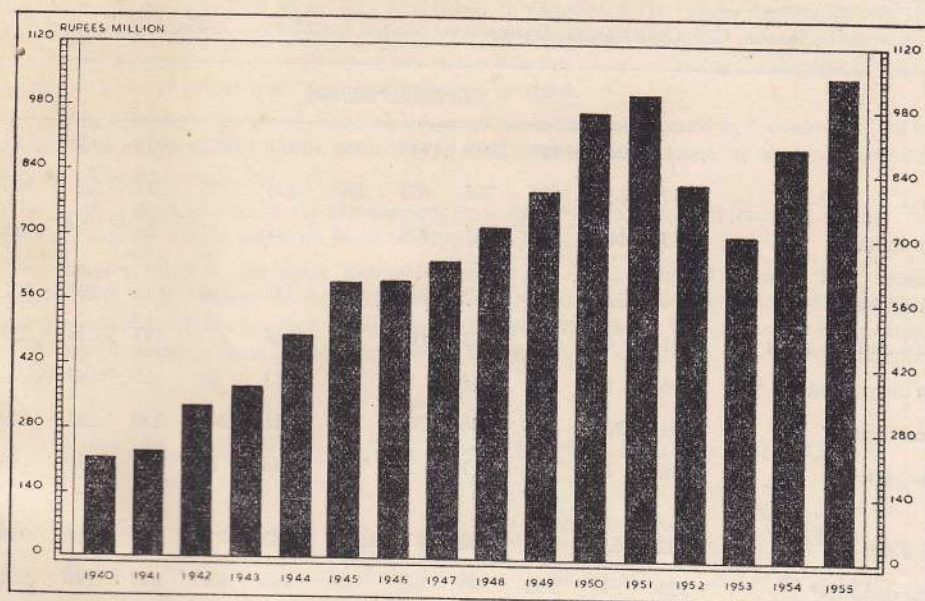
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China ; The Eastern Bank Ltd. ; The Grindlays Bank Ltd. ; The Hatton Bank Ltd. (incorporated under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Ordinance) ; The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ; The State Bank of India ; the Indian Bank Ltd. ; The Indian Overseas Bank Ltd. ; The Mercantile Bank of India Ltd. ; The National Bank of India Ltd. ; The Oriental Bank of Malaya Ltd. ; and The Habib Bank (Overseas) Ltd.

The Bank of Ceylon incorporated by the Bank of Ceylon Ordinance is the only statutory Bank which does commercial banking business as defined in this Ordinance. Other statutory banks on a limited scale are the Ceylon and Post Office Savings Banks, the State Mortgage Bank and the Agricultural and Industrial Credit Corporation.

A certain amount of banking activity of a specialised nature is also conducted by several co-operative organisations such as the Colombo Co-operative Provincial Bank Ltd. ; and the Co-operative Federal Bank of Ceylon Ltd.



## \* COMMERCIAL BANKS DEPOSITS, 1940-55



## Banking Statistics

The total deposits including bankers' deposits have steadily increased as shown in the following table :—

TABLE 12.2 COMMERCIAL BANKS DEPOSITS, 1940-55

Year	(In rupees million)	Year	(In rupees million)
1940	216	1949	801
1941	231	1950	974
1942	330	1951	1,012
1943	373	1952	821
1944	487	1953	709
1945	601	1954	898
1946	606	1955	1,054
1947	649		
1948	724		

In 1943 the banks had Rs. 80 million in local investments. The figure steadily increased to Rs. 273 million in 1950. It rose to Rs. 249 million in 1955 in contrast with the decrease in 1953 and 1954. The cash in hand in banks reached the record level of Rs. 228 million in 1949 falling after the establishment of the Central Bank in 1953 to Rs. 26 million. In 1955 it stood at Rs. 31 million. The advances in Ceylon which was Rs. 21 million in 1945 has increased to Rs. 233 million in 1955.



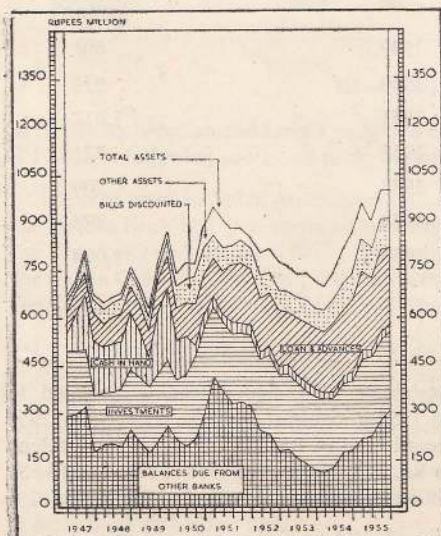
Some of the main items which constitute the assets and liabilities of the local banks are given below :—

TABLE 12.3 COMMERCIAL BANKS ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1945-55

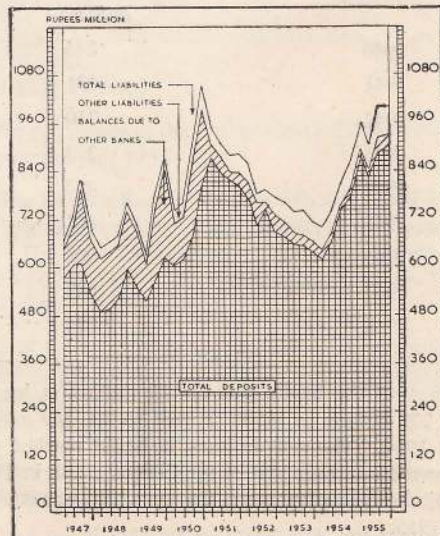
	(In rupees million)										
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
<i>Assets</i>	617	637	675	764	875	887	883	775	711	867	999
Cash in hand	113	113	169	181	228	36	34	27	26	27	31
Balances due from other banks	276	239	180	252	261	301	333	180	120	181	307
Loans and advances	21	49	90	82	101	128	184	177	193	224	233
Bills discounted	6	19	41	47	53	83	73	64	60	83	91
Investments	191	202	179	186	206	273	221	241	230	222	249
Other assets	8	16	16	17	26	66	38	86	83	130	88
<i>Liabilities</i>	622	637	693	762	873	1,051	883	775	711	866	999
Total deposits*	524	541	532	596	625	805	804	686	637	790	901
Balances due to other Banks	84	72	138	145	217	190	33	45	25	11	29
Other liabilities	13	24	21	21	31	56	46	44	50	65	69

\* Demand, time and savings only.

COMMERCIAL BANKS ASSETS



COMMERCIAL BANKS LIABILITIES





### The Ceylon State Mortgage Bank

The Ceylon State Mortgage Bank was established in October, 1931, under Ordinance No. 16 of 1931 for the purpose of providing long-term credit for agricultural and other prescribed purposes on the primary mortgage of immovable property situated in the Island, including the granting of loans to enable people to purchase lands and erect buildings on them.

Funds for the issue of loans are raised by means of debentures guaranteed by Government, the rate of interest being determined by the Board. The total indebtedness at any time on such debentures is restricted to Rs. 25 million.

The Bank is not a charge on the Government since its funds are borrowed from the public. The Bank reserves for itself a marginal profit to cover administrative costs.

The loans granted in the years ending September 30, 1952, 1953, 1954 and 1955 totalled Rs. 3,184,000, Rs. 4,224,500, Rs. 4,934,500 and Rs. 5,379,900 respectively, the last figure being the highest on record. There is now a definite upward trend in the Bank's business and a large demand for the credit facilities provided by the Bank. The Reserve Fund of the Bank now amounts to Rs. 1,317,395.24.

TABLE 12.4 STATE MORTGAGE BANK : LOANS GRANTED, REPAID AND OUTSTANDING

<i>Period</i>	<i>Loans granted during the period Rs.</i>	<i>Capital repayment received during the period Rs.</i>	<i>Total loans outstanding at the end of the period Rs.</i>
1944-45	166,000	1,026,600	3,736,723
1945-46	591,650	716,456	3,611,917
1946-47	1,665,000	524,508	4,752,409
1947-48	2,281,500	661,490	6,372,419
1948-49	2,399,750	639,426	8,132,743
1949-50	2,569,750	799,765	9,902,728
1950-51	2,645,000	1,062,370	11,485,357
1951-52	3,184,000	1,281,884	13,387,474
1952-53	4,224,500	1,425,187	16,186,786
1953-54	4,934,500	1,358,023	19,763,263
1954-55	5,379,900	2,541,613	22,601,550

### The Agricultural and Industrial Credit Corporation

The Agricultural and Industrial Credit Corporation of Ceylon was established in December, 1943, under Ordinance No. 19 of 1943, for the purpose of financing agricultural and industrial enterprises by the provision of long-term credit facilities.

Financial assistance is provided by way of loans which are granted for the purchase, development or expansion of agricultural or industrial undertakings or for the redemption of debts incurred for such purposes.

Loans must be secured by either movable or immovable property situated in any part of the Island the title to which should be acceptable to the Board of Directors. The minimum loan that could be granted to any applicant is Rs. 500.

During the year ended September 30, 1954, 181 loans amounting to Rs. 5,518,110 were granted, and the profit for the year amounted to Rs. 437,637 before taxation.



TABLE 12-5 AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL CREDIT CORPORATION : LOANS GRANTED

<i>Period</i>	<i>Loans granted during the period</i>	<i>Capital repayment received during the period</i>	<i>Total loans Outstanding at the end of period</i>
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
1944-45	3,344,000	883,614	3,643,387
1945-46	2,611,750	493,631	5,759,506
1946-47	1,774,975	742,240	6,792,241
1947-48	2,612,700	666,000	8,255,950
1948-49	3,027,600	438,000	9,889,646
1949-50	6,555,100	1,101,200	13,982,646
1950-51	9,455,133	3,721,639	19,734,004
1951-52	10,250,980	3,921,611	26,063,364
1952-53	8,872,275	5,946,411	28,989,228
1953-54	5,518,110	5,025,344	29,485,349
1954-55			

**Bank Clearings**

The following table showing the average monthly bank clearings, in millions of rupees, gives an indication of the volume of banking business for the period 1939 to 1955 :—

TABLE 12-6 BANK CLEARINGS, 1939-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Monthly Average (In rupees million)</i>
1939	98.6
1940	134.7
1941	151.2
1942	183.8
1943	225.4
1944	279.3
1945	331.4
1946	305.2
1947	349.3
1948	390.7
1949	418.0
1950	549.4
1951	691.4
1952	687.8
1953	670.6
1954	684.4
1955	757.7



## IV—MONEY SUPPLY

## Currency Notes and Coins

THE following currency notes are legal tender in Ceylon :—Rs. 1,000 ; Rs. 100 ; Rs. 50 ; Rs. 10 ; Rs. 5 ; Rs. 2 ; Re. 1.

All these notes are legal tender for payment of any amount.

Rs. 1,000 notes are for inter-bank and Currency Board transactions only.

Subsidiary coins : 50 cents ; 25 cents ; 10 cents.

These are legal tender for payment of sums up to Rs. 5.

5 cents ; 2 cents ; 1 cent ;  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent.

These are legal tender for the payment of sums up to Re. 1.

## Money Supply

After the steady rise from May, 1954 onwards money supply dropped in January, 1955. It fell steadily from March to June. From July onwards money supply rose till November but registered a slight fall in the following month. At the end of 1955 it was Rs. 1,072.9 million or 12.1 per cent. higher than a year previous.

The following table gives the money supply figures for the period 1945-55 :—

TABLE 12.7 MONEY SUPPLY

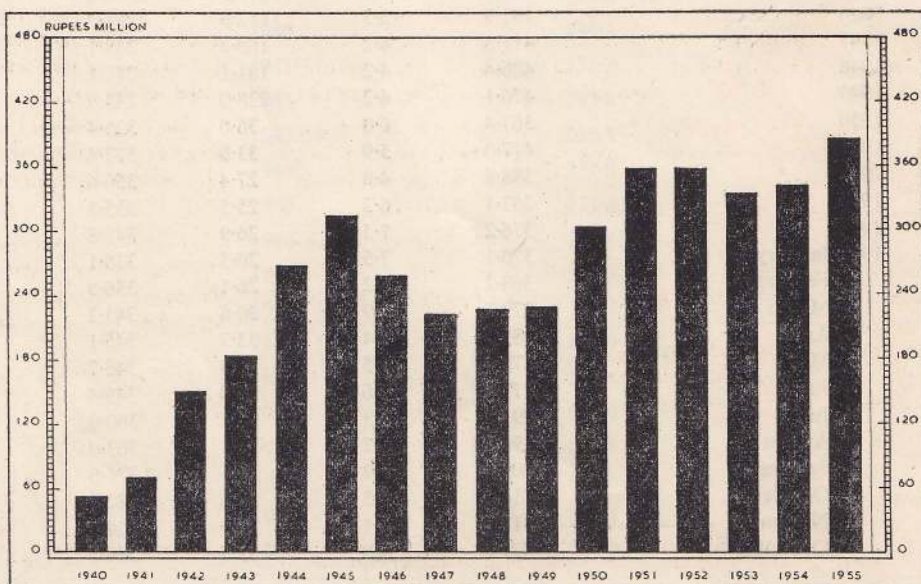
End of period	(In rupees million)			
	Currency			
	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
	Total	Held by Government	Held by Banks	Held by public
1945	449.5	5.6	113.5	330.4
1946	392.9	5.3	112.9	274.7
1947	411.8	4.2	169.5	238.1
1948	426.4	4.2	181.1	241.1
1949	476.1	4.2	228.0	243.9
1950	367.4	6.0	36.0	325.4
1951	417.0	5.9	33.8	377.4
1952	388.8	4.8	27.4	356.6
1953	367.1	6.3	25.5	335.3
1954	376.2	7.5	26.9	341.8
1955 January	370.1	7.5	26.5	336.1
February	368.2	5.2	26.1	336.9
March	379.7	5.9	30.6	343.2
April	385.3	6.4	33.7	345.1
May	379.4	5.5	27.3	346.7
June	377.0	7.6	20.0	349.4
July	391.5	7.3	24.2	360.0
August	394.4	6.2	25.1	363.0
September	409.4	7.9	25.5	376.0
October	416.6	6.5	27.6	382.6
November	419.9	6.1	29.9	384.0
December	425.0	9.0	31.5	384.5



TABLE 12.7 MONEY SUPPLY—(contd.)

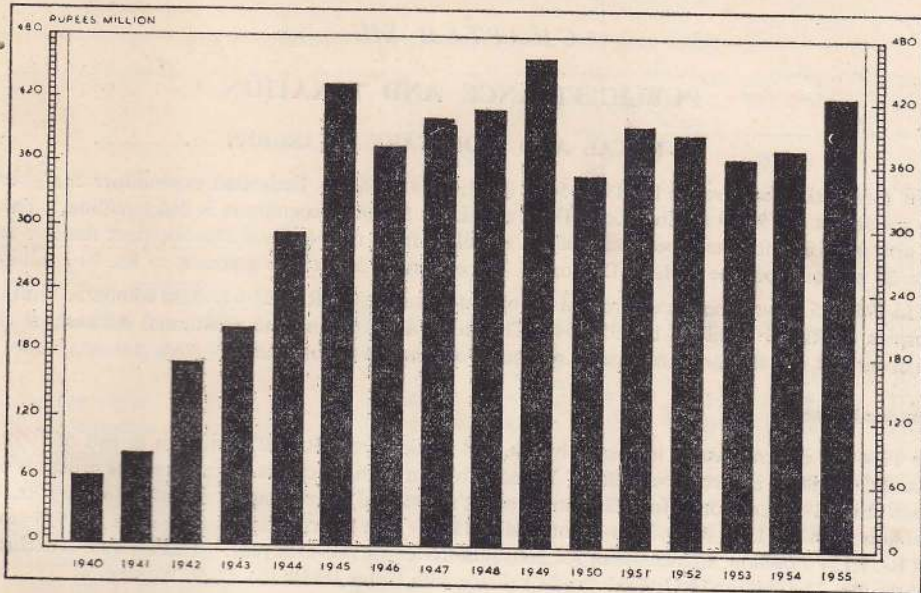
End of Period	(In rupees million)					
	Demand Deposits					
	(v) Total	(vi) Held by Government	(vii) Held by Banks	(viii) Held by public (v) - (vi) - (vii)	(ix) Money Supply (iv) + (viii)	(x) (viii) as Percentage of (ix)
1945	460.8	61.8	n.a.	399.0	729.4	54.7
1946	480.4	88.3	n.a.	392.1	666.8	58.8
1947	468.0	143.6	n.a.	324.4	562.5	57.7
1948	528.9	163.2	n.a.	365.7	606.8	60.3
1949	740.5	153.2	181.8	405.5	649.4	62.4
1950	925.3	147.6	192.3	585.4	910.7	64.3
1951	977.9	119.2	229.9	628.8	1,006.2	62.5
1952	761.8	52.3	170.3	539.2	895.8	60.2
1953	614.9	43.7	79.7	491.5	826.8	59.4
1954	778.2	51.0	111.9	615.3	957.1	64.3
1955 January	816.1	70.5	129.9	615.7	951.8	64.7
February	862.8	88.6	143.6	630.6	967.5	65.2
March	822.7	107.8	103.8	611.0	954.2	64.0
April	827.3	132.6	106.6	588.1	933.2	63.0
May	826.8	141.3	107.0	578.5	925.2	62.5
June	821.5	135.2	116.6	569.8	919.2	62.0
July	866.4	135.8	129.3	601.3	961.2	62.6
August	878.0	135.5	121.4	621.0	984.1	63.1
September	923.7	127.7	160.3	635.7	1,011.8	62.8
October	910.2	84.9	151.5	673.8	1,056.4	63.8
November	920.7	75.7	151.9	693.1	1,077.1	64.4
December	930.6	93.5	148.7	688.4	1,072.9	64.2

NOTE CIRCULATION (ACTIVE), 1940-55





## NOTE CIRCULATION (GROSS), 1940-55



## V—INSURANCE

INSURANCE, like Banking, had till recent years been the monopoly of foreign companies. It was only when the Motor Ordinance of 1938 came into operation, making Third Party Insurance compulsory that the indigenous business interest took to insurance. Since then Ceylonese Insurance Companies have not only increased in number but also taken to underwriting every variety of risk. Many companies, however, commenced with Motor Insurance as their first concern.

In 1911, with the enactment of the Insurance Ordinance No. 11 of that year, an attempt was made to introduce legislation relating to insurance companies. It was based largely on the Assurance Companies Act of 1909 of the United Kingdom. So numerous were the representations made against it that it was not brought into operation and has remained a dead letter to this day.

The enacting in India of the Indian Insurance Act in 1938, based mainly on the recommendations of the Clauson Committee once again brought the question of insurance legislation to the forefront. A draft Ordinance based on the Indian Act with minor changes was published in 1938, but nothing came of it as the war and constitutional changes intervened.

In 1948 a Commission was appointed with Mr. L. M. D. de Silva, Q.C., as Chairman to report on Company Law, Banking, Insurance and Accountants and Auditors. Its first Interim Report "making recommendations as to the measures that should be adopted for the registration and more effective control of insurance activities in Ceylon" was published in February, 1950, with a "Draft Insurance Bill" for that purpose.

The report recommends the establishment of a Department of Insurance with a Superintendent as its head vested with wide powers to regulate and supervise insurance companies.

## Important References :

- (1) Central Bank Bulletin.
- (2) Annual Report of the Central Bank.
- (3) Report of the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank.
- (4) Report of the Agricultural and Industrial Credit Corporation.
- (5) Report on the Establishment of a Central Bank—Sessional Paper XIV of 1949.



## CHAPTER XIII

### PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

#### I—FISCAL AND MONETARY MEASURES

THE total estimated revenue for 1955-56 is Rs. 1,161.8 million. Estimated expenditure chargeable to revenue is Rs. 949.9 million, Loan Fund and Loan Scheme expenditure is 266.1 million. There is also provision for the expenditure of Rs. 8 million from the National Development Reserve and Rs. 32 million from the I. B. R. D. Loan. The estimated deficit thus amounts to Rs. 94.2 million.

In 1954-55 Government had a record net operating surplus of Rs. 127.6 million compared with the surplus of Rs. 33.7 million in 1953-54. The chief factor behind the substantial increase in this cash surplus was the large increase in revenue from the tea export duty.

#### External Assets

In 1954 the external assets increased by Rs. 288 million from Rs. 607.2 million at end of 1953 to Rs. 895.2 million in December, 1954. Rs. 63.3 million of this increase represented the proceeds of a loan floated in London. In 1955 Government's External borrowings amounted to only Rs. 8.9 million from the I. B. R. D. loan negotiated in 1954. The external assets at the end of 1955 stood at Rs. 1,154.7 million, an increase of Rs. 260 million over the previous year. This increase is exclusive of the Rs. 21.6 million in Ceylon's credit balance with China under the Trade Agreement.

TABLE 13.1 EXTERNAL ASSETS OF CEYLON, 1950 TO 1955<sup>(1)</sup>

(In rupees million)					
End of Period	Government	Government Agencies and Institutions	Currency Board/ Central Bank	Commercial Banks	Total
	(2)		(3)		
1950	76.8	265.7	560.4	173.7	1,076.6
1951	76.1	291.3	670.8	147.0	1,185.2
1952	65.9	310.6	403.4	57.0	836.9
1953	65.5	228.4	246.6	66.7	607.2
1954	52.2	225.8	527.1	90.1	895.2
1955 January	49.9	226.8	575.6	96.3	948.6
February	74.5	227.1	581.7	112.4	995.7
March	72.1	227.2	569.4	151.3	1,020.0
April	69.7	227.6	583.0	134.5	1,014.8
May	65.5	228.0	591.9	131.6	1,017.0
June	66.4	228.2	606.3	132.7	1,033.6
July	64.2	228.8	628.7	137.1	1,058.8
August	63.0	229.9	643.5	124.7	1,061.1
September	80.8	233.5	645.1	131.3	1,090.7
October	80.1	236.6	652.3	140.7	1,109.7
November	78.0	237.0	644.9	171.6	1,131.5
December	80.8	237.2	658.8	177.9	1,154.7

<sup>(1)</sup> At face value according to books abroad.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes War Loan re-lent to U. K. Government, less the part held by the Currency Board/Central Bank.

<sup>(3)</sup> The assets of the Currency Board were transferred to the Central Bank on August 28, 1950.



## Balance of Payments

Ceylon's balance of payments for 1954 and 1955 are summarised in Table 13.2.

TABLE 13.2 BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FOR 1954 AND 1955

Item	(In rupees million)					
	1954			1955 (1)		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
GOODS AND SERVICES						
1. Merchandise	1,794.1	1,363.1	+ 431.0	1,970.2	1,432.7	+ 537.5
2. Non-monetary gold movement (net)	—	—	—	—	2.0	— 2.0
3. Foreign travel	6.8	33.5	— 26.7	7.7	35.5	— 27.8
4. Transportation and insurance	96.9	110.4	— 13.5	81.0	136.7	— 55.7
5. Investment income	21.5	68.1	— 46.6	34.6	94.1	— 59.5
5.1 Direct investment	3.8	60.4	— 56.6	5.2	84.2	— 79.0
5.2 Other interest and dividends	17.7	7.7	+ 10.0	29.4	9.9	+ 19.5
6. Government expenditures	53.3	27.5	+ 25.8	52.7	28.0	+ 24.7
7. Miscellaneous	38.0	59.4	— 21.4	42.8	66.8	— 24.0
8. Total goods and services	2,010.6	1,662.0	+ 348.6	2,189.0	1,795.8	+ 393.2
DONATIONS						
9. Private remittances and migrants' transfers	4.6	71.4	— 66.8	7.0	83.1	— 76.1
10. Official donations	23.6	—	+ 23.6	0.5	—	+ 0.5
11. Total donations	28.2	71.4	— 43.2	7.5	83.1	— 75.6
Total current account	2,038.8	1,733.4	+ 305.4	2,196.5	1,878.9	+ 317.6
CAPITAL AND MONETARY GOLD						
12. Private capital movements	14.9	63.8	— 48.9	6.0	61.1	— 55.1
12.1 Direct investment	0.8	13.5	— 12.7	0.9	12.5	— 11.6
12.2 Other long-term	13.2	20.2	— 7.0	4.6	29.2	— 24.6
12.3 Other short-term	0.9	30.1	— 29.2	0.5	19.4	— 18.9
13. Official and banking institutions	69.5	297.6	— 228.1	8.2	283.1	— 274.9
13.1 Long-term assets	—	0.8	— 0.8	—	9.3	— 9.3
13.2 Long-term liabilities	69.5	—	+ 69.5	8.2	—	+ 8.2
13.3 Short-term assets	—	287.2	— 287.2	—	272.4	— 272.4
13.4 Short-term liabilities	—	9.6	— 9.6	—	1.4	— 1.4
13.5 Monetary gold	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Total capital and monetary gold	84.4	361.4	— 277.0	14.2	344.2	— 330.0
15. Errors and omissions	—	28.4	— 28.4	12.4	—	+ 12.4

(1) Provisional.

## Explanatory Notes :

Statistics are based on Exchange Control records.

Item 1.—f.o.b. values not available. Invoice values, predominantly c.i.f., have been recorded. Notable exception —Ceylon Government imports which are c. & f.

Item 9.—“Migrants' transfers” are based on actual cash remittances ; they do not include migrants' assets in Ceylon.



**Capital Expenditure**

In 1954-55 the capital expenditure of Government was Rs. 359.3 million against the original estimate of Rs. 460 million. Total capital expenditure in 1955-56 is estimated at Rs. 485.1 million and exceeds the previous year's estimate by approximately Rs. 25 million.

The following tables show how total budgetary and extra budgetary capital expenditures were financed and also analyse the distribution of the total capital budget.

TABLE 13-3 SOURCES OF FINANCE FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE <sup>(1)</sup>

	<i>Original budget estimates</i>						
	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Current account surplus	62.7	84.6	23.2	45.9	120.5	121.1	78.1
Net domestic borrowing	36.8	47.2	51.7	62.3	-35.2	-14.7	7.3
Net foreign borrowing	—	—	—	—	21.6	3.4	6.6
External aid under the Colombo Plan	—	—	1.7	0.9	6.5	6.9	4.2
Reduction in cash balances (including reserves)	0.4	-34.8	23.5	-9.0	-13.5	-16.7	3.8
Total capital expenditure (Rs. million)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Of which expenditure on capital maintenance (Rs. million)	258.5	259.3	379.9	358.3	293.0	359.3 <sup>(2)</sup>	485.1
	(29.5)	(34.1)	(42.5)	(42.0)	(38.1)	(39.3)	(50.4)

(1) Revised.

(2) Provisional.

TABLE 13-4 STATEMENT OF TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET

	<i>(In rupees)</i>	
	1954-55	1955-56 <i>(Estimated)</i>
1. Capital outlays appearing in Revenue Budget <sup>(1)</sup>	103,646,355	149,889,000
2. Loan Fund	202,720,923	261,844,000
3. Loan Scheme	608,691	809,000
4. Deferred Maintenance Reserve Account	—	—
5. Reserve, Extensions and Renewals Fund	2,997,794	3,455,000
6. Colombo Plan Aid Projects	19,640,134	20,375,000
7. National Development Reserve	2,020,713	8,000,000
8. Rubber Rehabilitation Scheme	9,985,000	15,000,000
9. Hydro-Electric Scheme, Stage II (Foreign Costs)	12,064,073	32,000,000
10. Total Capital Budget	353,683,683	491,372,000
11. Less "consumer durables" in revenue budget	5,668,290	14,069,000
12. Capital Budget exclusive of "consumer durables"	348,015,393	477,303,000

(1) These figures include expenditure on maintenance.

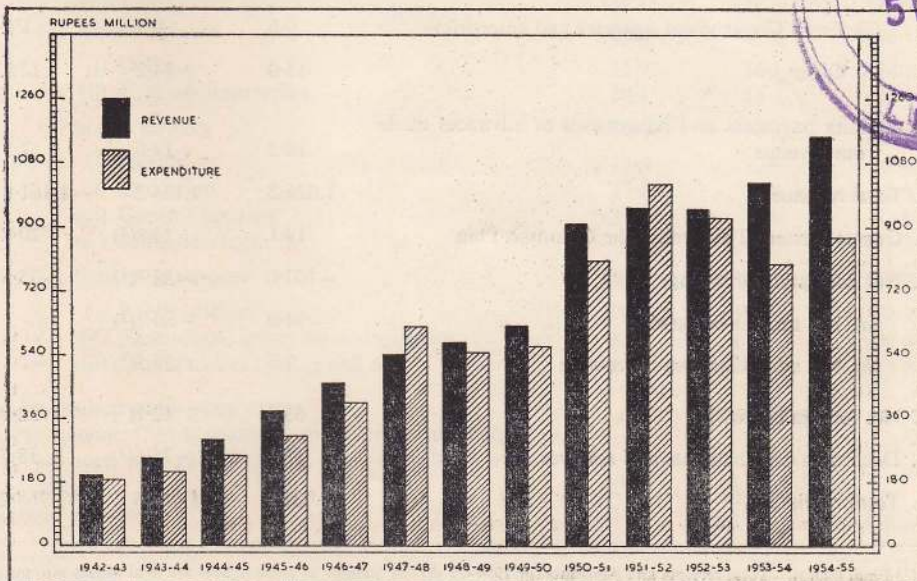


## II—GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS, 1954-55

THE Government's Accounts for the financial year 1954-55 showed the following important features :—

- (i) The net cash operating surplus was Rs. 127.6 million which is the biggest surplus ever recorded.
- (ii) Total revenue reached the record figure of Rs. 1,158.6 million and was due largely to high export duty collections on tea. Revenue from income tax, estate duty and stamps and from excise and salt was lower than in 1953-54.
- (iii) There was an increase in current expenditure as a result of the higher expenditure following the revision of salaries of public servants in April, 1955.
- (iv) Loan and Loan Fund expenditure was Rs. 215.5 million as compared with Rs. 162.3 million in the previous financial year.
- (v) Government's borrowing and lending operations resulted in a net payment of Rs. 39.0 million which was met from the surplus. The balances of the surplus increased Government's cash balances which rose for the first time since 1950-51;

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1942-43 TO 1954-55





A new classification of Government Accounts for the three financial years ending 1955-56 is given in the table below :—

TABLE 13-5 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON

(In rupees million)

<i>Receipts</i>	1953-54	1954-55 (Revised estimates)	1955-56 (Original estimates)
1. Charges and sales	73.8	78.1	80.2
(a) Sale of existing property	1.2	0.7	0.8
(b) Other	72.6	77.4	79.4
2. Taxes on income and profits	217.8	218.5	309.9
3. Social insurance contributions	6.2	6.5	6.9
4. Death duties, &c.	7.3	5.0	6.0
5. Custom duties	503.3	621.5	526.5
(a) Export duties	259.1	370.7	277.8
(b) Import duties	244.2	250.8	248.8
6. Other taxes on goods and services	66.9	62.3	70.1
7. Other taxes and levies	33.7	35.0	43.8
8. Receipts from Government enterprises	91.4	97.6	96.6
9. Income from property	15.6	15.1	14.3
(a) From Government agencies and enterprises	0.6	0.9	1.5
(b) Other	15.0	14.2	12.8
10. Annuity payments and repayments of advances made from revenue	10.2	18.6	7.5
11. Total revenue	1,026.2	1,158.2	1,161.8
12. Grants—external aid under the Colombo Plan	19.1	24.8 <sup>(1)</sup>	20.4
13. Net domestic borrowing	- 103.0	- 52.7 <sup>(1)</sup>	35.5
(a) Net market borrowing	- 94.0	- 80.2 <sup>(1)</sup>	—
(b) Net administrative borrowing	- 9.0	27.5 <sup>(1)</sup>	—
14. Net foreign borrowing	63.3	12.1 <sup>(1)</sup>	32.0
15. Decline in cash balances and reserves	15.6	- 75.6 <sup>(1)</sup>	18.5
16. Total receipts	1,021.2	1,066.8	1,268.2

<sup>(1)</sup> Final figures. Total receipts and payments for 1954-55 do not balance as some figures are final others estimates.



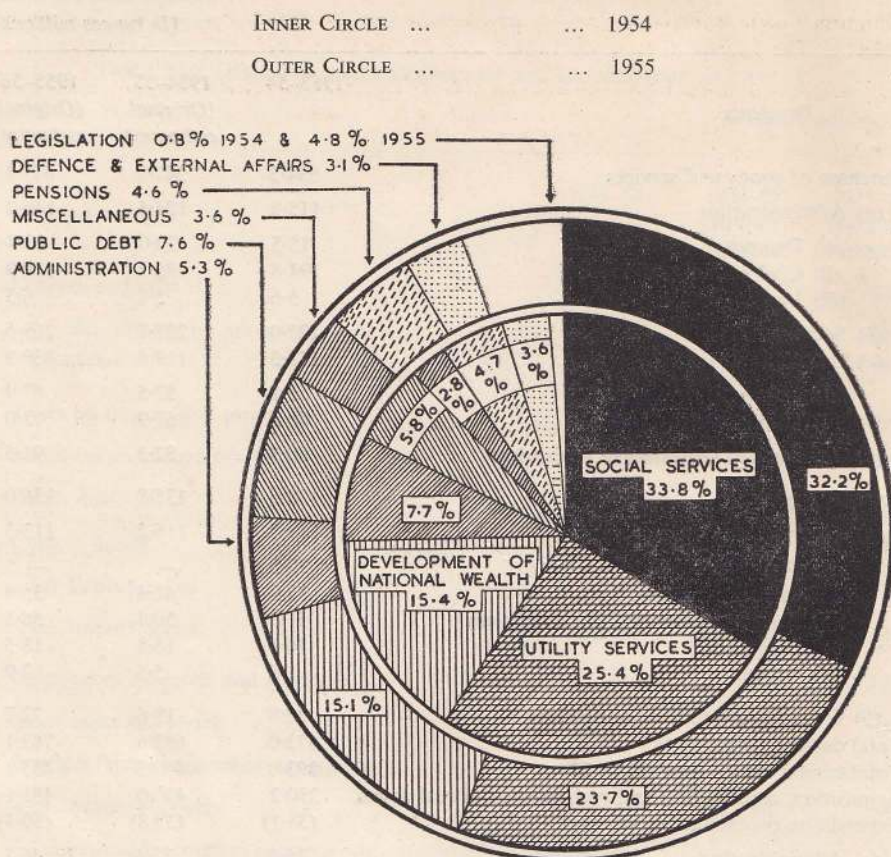
TABLE 13.5 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON—(contd.)

	(In rupees million)		
<i>Payments</i>	1953-54	1954-55 (Original estimates)	1955-56 (Original estimates)
17. Purchase of goods and services	534.5	547.8	647.1
(a) Administration	115.9	124.4	146.2
(i) Defence	15.5	20.0	23.0
(ii) Civil administration	94.8	98.7	116.9
(iii) Legislative	5.6	5.7	6.3
(b) Social services	225.0	221.7	269.5
(c) Economic services	113.3	119.4	139.9
(i) Economic development	53.1	57.5	67.9
(ii) Utility services	60.2	61.9	72.0
(d) Payments to Government enterprises	80.3	82.3	91.5
18. Transfer payments	138.5	135.8	136.0
(a) To private current accounts	115.7	116.2	113.3
(i) Food subsidies	12.5	—	—
(ii) Interest on public debt	35.9	41.4	35.4
(iii) Pension to Government employees	51.3	50.4	56.5
(iv) Direct relief	14.4	18.8	18.5
(v) Other	1.6	5.6	2.9
(b) Grants-in-aid to local authorities	22.8	19.6	22.7
19. Total current payments (17 + 18)	673.0	683.6	783.1
20. Total capital expenditure (21 + 22)	293.0	460.5	485.1
21. Acquisition, construction and maintenance of real assets	290.2	456.0	485.1
Expenditure on capital maintenance	(38.1)	(39.3)	(50.4)
(a) Administration	26.0	32.4	46.1
(i) Defence	15.9	16.1	14.1
(ii) Civil administration	10.1	16.3	32.0
(b) Social services	60.6	94.5	120.8
(i) Health	13.0	22.9	38.0
(ii) Education	17.1	27.3	29.4
(iii) General housing	25.7	33.8	44.9
(iv) Rural development	4.8	10.5	8.5
(c) Economic services	203.6	329.1	318.2
(i) Public utilities	100.1	173.0	167.8
(ii) Agriculture, irrigation and fisheries	85.8	143.8	137.2
(iii) Manufacture, mining and trade	17.7	12.3	13.2
22. Acquisition of financial assets	2.8	4.5	—
23. Net payment on account of operation financed through advance accounts (including other miscellaneous payments)	55.0	15.5 <sup>(1)</sup>	—
24. Total payments	1,021.2	1,155.1	1,268.2

<sup>(1)</sup> Final figure.



## DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, 1954 AND 1955



## III—PUBLIC DEBT

CHANGES in the public debt by calendar years are set out in the tables that follow :—

TABLE 13-6 TOTAL PUBLIC DEBT, 1952-55

(In rupees million)

End of December	Gross	Net
1952	1,025.8	842.4
1953	1,175.0	993.3
1954	1,084.0	885.0
1955	1,105.0	898.4

Total net debt rose by Rs. 13.4 million in contrast with the fall of Rs. 108.3 million in the previous year.



**Funded Debt**

In 1955 gross funded debt and net funded debt increased by Rs. 76.0 million and Rs. 68.4 million respectively. The increase in the gross funded debt was the combined result of two factors :—

- (a) the withdrawal of Rs. 8.9 million from the I. B. R. D. under the Loan Agreement of 1954, and
- (b) the rupee loan transactions in March and December.

TABLE 13.7 FUNDED DEBT

(In rupees million)

End of December	Foreign (Sterling)				Domestic			Total	
	Gross	Sinking Fund	Net	IBRD Loan	Gross	Sinking Fund	Net	Gross	Net
1953	125.4	60.4	65.0	—	730.5	121.2	609.2	855.9	674.2
1954	192.1	67.3	124.8	4.8	782.1	131.7	650.4	979.0	780.0
1955	192.1	65.8	126.3	13.7	849.2	140.8	708.4	1,055.0	848.4

**Floating Debt**

There was a decrease of Rs. 55.0 million in the floating debt, the entire decline being in Treasury bills.

TABLE 13.8 FLOATING DEBT

(In rupees million)

End of December	Treasury Bills	Advances from Central Bank	Loans from semi-Govern- ment institutions	Total	Total Floating Debt as per cent. of	
					Total Debt	Total Rupee Debt
1953	190.0	72.1	57.0	319.1	27.2	30.4
1954	105.0	—	—	105.0	9.7	11.8
1955	50.0	—	—	50.0	0.4	5.6

The proportion of floating debt to total debt decreased further during the year as shown in the above table.

**Prices and Yields of Government Securities**

In 1955 there was a general fall in the interest rates. The Treasury bill rate declined to 0.75 per cent. in December, 1955 from 0.87 per cent. in December, 1954. The yields on medium and long-term securities also showed a marked decline.



## IV—TAXATION AND YIELDS

THE main heads of taxation and yield in respect of the financial years 1953-54 and 1954-55 were as follows :—

TABLE 13.9 TAXATION AND YIELDS, 1953-54 AND 1954-55

	1953-54		1954-55	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Customs	503,256,492	94	628,938,207	91
Port, Harbour, Wharf, &c.	19,283,702	72	21,875,940	42
Excise and Salt	66,858,384	55	57,041,081	53
Income Tax, &c.	237,676,784	65	224,226,814	61
Licences, Internal Revenue, &c.	14,001,794	23	17,806,253	94
Fees of Court or Office, &c.	10,176,865	76	11,781,617	00
Medical Services	3,554,103	00	3,533,355	32
Reimbursements	11,988,072	62	13,741,134	28
Postal and Telecommunication Services	31,924,038	70	33,136,913	54
Interest, Annuities, &c.	12,060,179	10	15,282,503	16
Miscellaneous Receipts	23,912,563	53	35,190,898	19
Land Revenue	3,537,223	72	3,593,049	11
Land Sales	1,066,758	90	1,308,243	59
War Loan Interest	1,751,525	50	1,002,148	50
Railway Revenue	73,396,845	61	74,019,454	39
Electrical Department Revenue	11,803,451	69	16,109,049	15

The following is an analysis of the revenue under the broad heads, Direct Taxes, Indirect Taxes and Miscellaneous Revenue :—

TABLE 13.10 NATIONAL REVENUE (1)

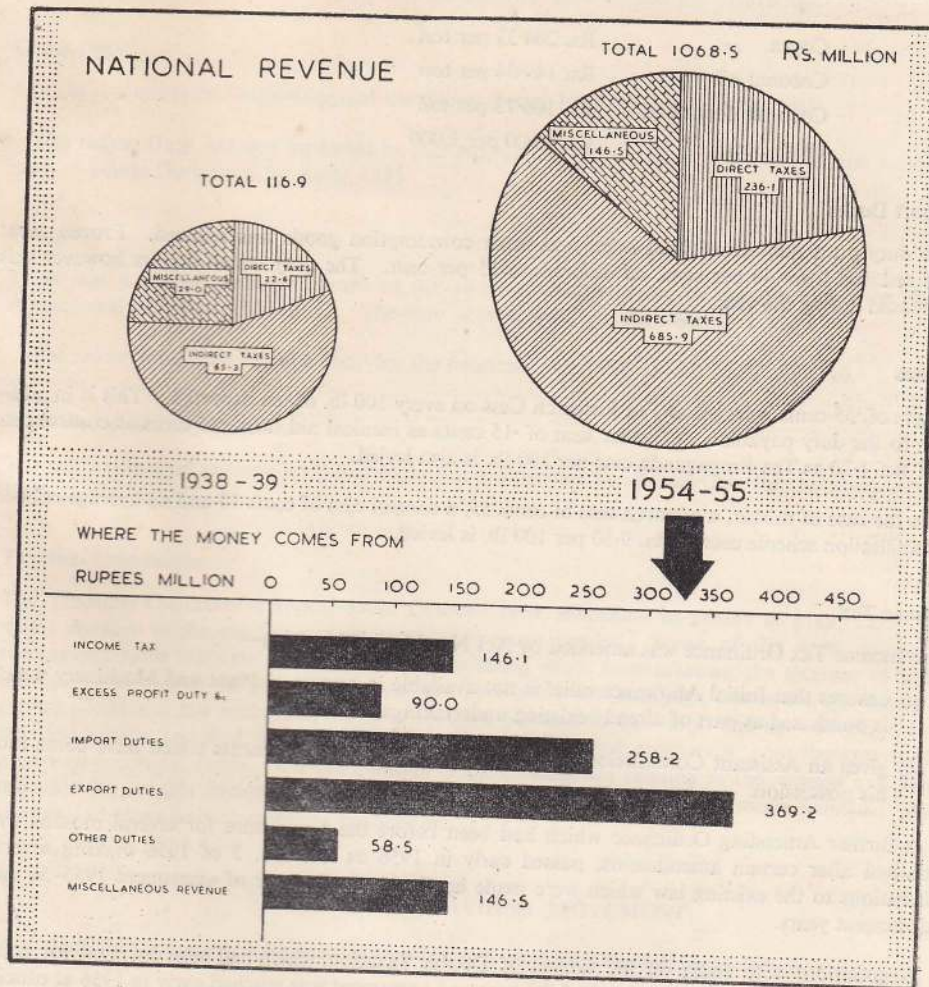
(In rupees million)

	1953-54	Per cent.	1954-55	Per cent.
Direct Taxes	245.7	26.1	236.1	22.1
Income Tax	148.9	15.8	146.1	13.7
Excess profits duty, &c.	96.8	10.3	90.0	8.4
Indirect Taxes	570.1	60.6	685.9	64.2
Import Duties	244.2	26.0	258.2	24.2
Export Duties	258.7	27.5	369.2	34.6
Other Duties	67.2	7.1	58.5	5.5
Miscellaneous Revenue	125.2	13.3	146.5	13.7
	941.0	100.0	1,068.5	100.0

(1) Excludes Railway and Electrical Departments.



## NATIONAL REVENUE

**Excise Duty**

The amount realised from Excise Revenue in 1954-55 was Rs. 75,819,083 as against Rs. 76,951,701 in the previous year.

**Export Duties**

There were a few changes in the duty on rubber during the year 1955.

The average duty on the different kinds of rubber was as follows :—

Sheet Rubber	·17 cts. per lb.
Latex Crepe	·17 cts. per lb.
Sole Crepe	·17 cts. per lb.
Scrap Crepe	·16 cts. per lb.

The duty on tea also underwent a few changes. The average duty in 1955 was ·84 cts. per lb.

9—J. N. B 59542 (10/56)



The average duty on coconut products, namely, copra, coconut oil, coconut desiccated and fresh nuts, was as follows :—

Copra	Rs. 204.33 per ton
Coconut oil	Rs. 149.04 per ton
Coconut desiccated	Rs. 106.73 per ton
Fresh nuts	Rs. 65.00 per 1,000

### Import Duties

The duty on a number of food items and other consumption goods was reduced. Frozen meat was reduced from 40 per cent. *ad valorem* to 15 per cent. The duty on all liquors however was increased during the year.

### Cesses

A sum of .55 cents is levied as Tea Research Cess on every 100 lb. of tea exported. This is in addition to the duty payable. A further sum of .15 cents as medical aid dues, .15 cents as control cess and Re. 1.70 as Tea Propaganda cess per 100 lb. is also levied.

In the case of rubber, a research cess of cents 55, a control cess of cents 10 and an average rubber rehabilitation scheme cess of Rs. 9.50 per 100 lb. is levied.

### Income Tax

The Income Tax Ordinance was amended by Act No. 11 of 1955 which—

- (a) ensures that Initial Allowance relief is not available in respect of Plant and Machinery which is purchased as part of already existing undertakings ;
- (b) gives an Assistant Commissioner certain powers to retain documents which have come into his possession.

A further Amending Ordinance which had been before the Legislature for several months was finalised after certain amendments, passed early in 1956 as Act No. 3 of 1956 making several alterations to the existing law which were made applicable to the year of assessment 1955–56 and subsequent years.

Negotiations with India on the subject of Double Taxation, which had been dormant for some time, became active towards the end of the year and agreement was reached early in 1956 at official discussions. Both Government have now accepted the official draft.

The nett revenue from Income Tax for the financial year 1954–55 was Rs. 152,654,763 which includes—

- (a) Contribution by Department of Electrical Undertakings in lieu of Income Tax and Stamp Duty Amounting to Rs. 3,148,179.
- (b) Contributions in lieu of Income Tax by Government Departments other than the Railway and Electrical Departments in respect of profits from Government trading, commercial and industrial activities—Rs. 3,431,380.

### Excess Profits Duty

The net revenue from Excess Profits Duty for the financial year 1954–55 was Rs. 1,873,995.



**Profits Tax**

The net revenue from Profits Tax for the financial year 1954-55 was Rs. 51,313,524.

**Estate Duty**

The net revenue from Estate Duty for the financial year 1954-55 was Rs. 6,720,188.

The Estate Duty Act was amended by Act No. 34 of 1955 which imposes revised and increased rates of Estate Duty from 1st April, 1955.

**Stamps**

There was a special issue of stamps of the 10 cents denomination to commemorate the Royal Agricultural and Food Exhibition. The date of issue was the 10th December, 1955.

The net revenue from Stamps Duty for the financial year 1954-55 was Rs. 11,093,140.

**Food Subsidies Temporary Tax**

The net amount of revenue collected from Food Subsidies Temporary Tax for the financial year 1954-55 was Rs. 571,204.

**Taxation Commission**

The Taxation Commission appointed in October, 1954, submitted its report in May, 1955. No major changes in the existing tax structure were recommended. Some of the more important recommendations were the exemption of bonus share issues from taxation, the increase of initial allowances in respect of plant and machinery and industrial buildings, lower import duties on capital goods and raw materials, the carry forward of losses without limit and the exemption from taxation within specified limits of Life Insurance premia and employees' contributions to the approved provident funds. Certain changes in the existing law relating to the concept and determination of taxable income and the administration of taxes were also recommended. These recommendations have since been implemented.

**V—NATIONAL SAVINGS MOVEMENT**

THE National Savings Movement came into being in 1943 with the following objectives :—

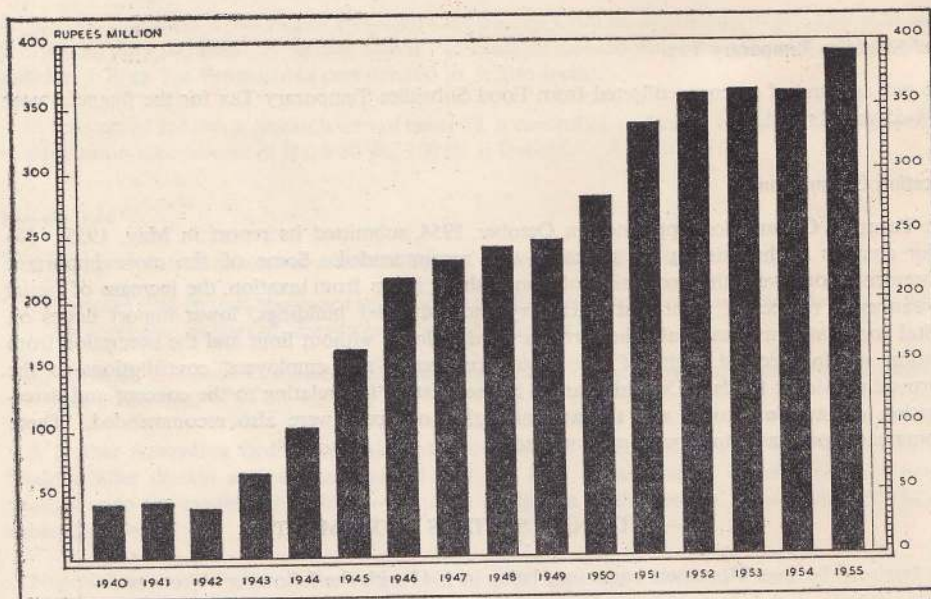
- (i) To promote thrift by inducing people to save in the Post Office Savings Bank, the Ceylon Savings Bank and in Ceylon Savings Certificates ;
- (ii) To assist and encourage regular monthly investment of a percentage of salary or income in Ceylon Savings Certificates, the Post Office Savings Bank or Ceylon Savings Bank, by the promotion of Savings Groups ;
- (iii) To help National Development by securing for Ceylon Government Loans the maximum possible support.

Prior to 1943 the Movement functioned as a "War Savings Movement" and helped to raise Rs. 240 million within 2 years. The Movement was created largely at the direction of the present Governor-General of Ceylon, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, when he functioned as Financial Secretary. Through the Movement it was felt that a vast amount of domestic capital could be raised from year to year for much needed capital equipment and for financing National Development Schemes.



With a view to tapping small savings the National Savings Movement conducts a variety of Savings Schemes through which deposits are made in the Post Office Savings Bank, Ceylon Savings Bank and Ceylon Savings Certificates. The activities of the Movement are to guide and give assistance to the public by the formation of Savings Committees, Savings Groups, organising Savings Drives, Savings Weeks, Rallies, Campaigns, Competitions and making Savings Stamps available even in the remotest parts of the Island through Authorised Sellers of Savings Stamps. During the 13 years of its existence the Savings Movement has enlisted the sympathy of at least 40,000 active voluntary workers. Like the Movement in other countries the National Savings Movement is essentially a voluntary Movement. The paid Staff consists of a Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, 6 Superintendents, 24 Supervisors and an Office staff of 30 in all, including those employed at the branch office at Kandy, and cost the Government 399,430 in 1955-56.

SAVINGS DEPOSITS, 1940-55



During the year 1955, 556 new Savings Groups were registered and 293 defunct Savings Groups were cancelled. At the end of 1955 the number of Savings Groups in operation was 11,767 made up as follows :—

In schools	6,586	In Industrial Centres	137
In Government Departments	553	In Community Centres	47
On estates	838	In Mahila Samitis	116
In Rural Development Societies	1,893	Miscellaneous Groups	751
In Local Bodies	846		

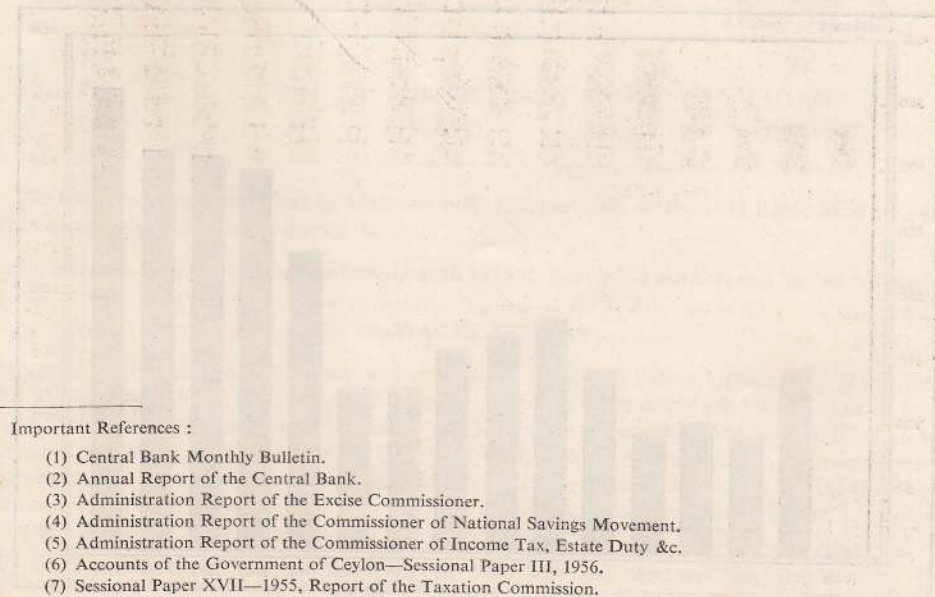


The "small savings" target for 1954-55 was Rs. 80 million. At the end of that financial year the amount realised was Rs. 95,824,051.51.

TABLE 13-11 SAVINGS DEPOSITS, 1946-1955 (AT 31st DECEMBER, IN EACH YEAR)

(In rupees million)

Year	Post Office Savings Bank	Ceylon Savings Bank	Savings Certificates	Commercial Banks	Total
1946	104.4	60.9	27.8	25.9	219.0
1947	117.1	59.1	27.0	26.6	229.8
1948	127.6	57.2	33.2	25.5	243.5
1949	134.9	55.3	32.1	24.1	246.4
1950	163.7	58.4	31.7	27.0	280.8
1951	206.4	61.8	34.0	34.5	336.7
1952	222.1	64.2	35.0	37.8	359.1
1953	222.2	64.1	33.3	41.1	360.7
1954	215.6	62.1	31.3	50.7	359.7
1955	229.3	63.5	30.0	68.1	390.9



Important References :

- (1) Central Bank Monthly Bulletin.
- (2) Annual Report of the Central Bank.
- (3) Administration Report of the Excise Commissioner.
- (4) Administration Report of the Commissioner of National Savings Movement.
- (5) Administration Report of the Commissioner of Income Tax, Estate Duty &c.
- (6) Accounts of the Government of Ceylon—Sessional Paper III, 1956.
- (7) Sessional Paper XVII—1955, Report of the Taxation Commission.



## CHAPTER XIV

### LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

#### I—TRADE UNIONS AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

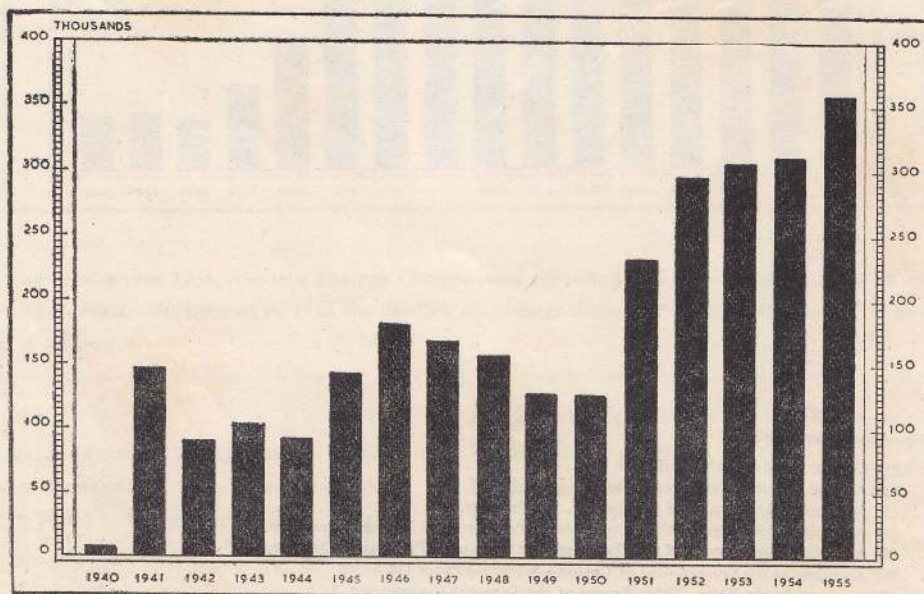
##### Trade Unions

STATISTICS for the period 1951 to 1955 showing the number and membership of Trade Unions are given in the Table below :—

TABLE 14.1 TRADE UNIONS ; NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
(i) No. of Unions registered during the year	94	55	40	70	80
No. of Unions cancelled during the year	42	35	38	46	53
No. of Unions at the end of the year	237	257	259	283	310
(ii) The above figures include the following Unions of Public Officers :—					
No. registered during the year	66	35	17	27	49
No. at the end of the year	129	148	146	154	182
(iii) Membership of Workers' Unions	233,653	297,370	307,369	311,449	359,431
(iv) Membership of Workers' Unions in the Plantation Trade	159,873	201,492	196,078	188,438	220,419

MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH OF TRADE UNIONS, 1940-55





### Industrial Relations

*Legislation.*—The Industrial Disputes Act No. 43 of 1950 makes provision for the prevention, investigation and settlement of industrial disputes.

The Stay-in-Strikes Act No. 12 of 1955 was enacted during the year to prohibit stay-in strikes.

*Negotiations, Conciliation and Arbitration.*—The Joint Agreement between the Ceylon Estates Employers' Federation and the Ceylon Workers' Congress for the settlement of disputes between these parties in the plantation industries continued to be in force during the year, while the Joint Industrial Council established by the Ceylon Estates Employers' Federation and the Ceylon Estates Staffs' Union in 1947 also functioned satisfactorily.

Conferences were held under the aegis of the Labour Department in respect of 340 disputes. 280 disputes were settled at these Conferences while no settlement was reached in the balance 60 cases.

One dispute was settled by conciliation in terms of para (i) of Section 3 of the Industrial Disputes Act and two disputes were settled by arbitration in terms of para (ii) of Section 3. Two other disputes were also referred to arbitration but not under the Act. In one of these cases an amicable settlement was reached while in regard to the other the Arbitrator issued his award.

The Industrial Court had not been set up at the end of the year.

*Collective Agreements.*—Four Collective Agreements transmitted to the Commissioner of Labour during 1955 were published in the *Government Gazette*.

### Strikes

The statistics of strikes during 1954 and 1955 are given below :—

TABLE 14.2 STRIKES, 1954 AND 1955

Year	No. of strikes	No. of workers involved	No. of man-days lost	Approximate amount of wages lost by workers as a result of strikes
				Rs.
1954	114	101,831	476,769	1,111,487
1955	107	22,730	105,929	272,364

The number of man-days lost in 1955 was only 22.2 per cent. of the 1954 figure indicating the absence of widespread strikes during the year.

*Lock-outs.*—There was also one lock-out in 1955 involving 182 workers and lasting one day.

## II—WAGES BOARDS

MINIMUM wage legislation in Ceylon was originally confined to Indian Labour. In May, 1938, the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce approved in principle the introduction of legislation to cover indigenous labour as well. The legislation appeared on the Statute Book in the shape of the Wages Boards Ordinance, No. 27 of 1941, which with three subsequent amendments, continues to be the principal minimum wage legislation in the Island today. Part I of the Ordinance deals generally with all employers and workers in all trades, while Part II provides for the application of the Ordinance to a particular trade involving the setting up of Wages Board Machinery for the trade. Part III deals with the appointment and powers of officers under the Ordinance and with offences and penalties defined by the Ordinance.



17 Trades are covered by Part II of the Ordinance at present.

A Wages Board for any trade is composed of persons representing employers in the trade, an equal number representing workers in the trade, and nominated members who must have no connection or interest in the trade as employer or worker. If a Board so desires, it may appoint District Wages Committees which will serve as advisory and reporting bodies on any subjects referred to them by the Board.

The Wages Boards very often provide a common meeting ground for the discussion and solution of labour problems and their activities have resulted in an increase in the material welfare of the workers in the industries to which the Ordinance has been applied. The task of enforcing the decisions of Wages Boards is cast upon the Department of Labour, which has a trained body of Inspectors, engaged in enforcing the provisions of the Ordinance and the decisions of Wages Boards.

Prosecutions are entered only on failure, to recover short payments, or to correct the employer by departmental procedure. During 1955, the wages of 425,587 workers were checked and short payments detected amounted to Rs. 231,599-20 being the amount underpaid to 11,956 workers.

At the close of the year action was being taken to amend the Wages Boards Ordinance. Proposals for the setting up of a Wages Board for the Beedi Manufacturing Trade, Baking and Confectionery Trade and the Tile and Brick Manufacturing Trade were also being considered by the Department.

### III—FACTORIES, SHOPS AND MATERNITY BENEFITS ORDINANCE

#### Factories Ordinance

The Factories Ordinances, No. 45 of 1942 and No. 22 of 1946 are modelled on the British Factories Act 1937 and came into force on 1st January, 1950.

The Ordinance contains various provisions for the Safety, Health and Welfare of factory work-people.

Other parts of the Ordinance deal with the registration of factories, notification of accidents and industrial disease, employment of women and young persons, application of the Ordinance to electrical stations, institutions, docks, wharves, quays, warehouses, ships, building operations, works of engineering constructions and to lead processes carried on in places other than factories.

TABLE 14-3 STATISTICS RELATING TO FACTORIES ORDINANCE

	1954	1955
Factories registered under the Ordinance	3,325	3,718
Inspectors of Factories	3	3
Accidents reported (Fatal)	13	25
Accidents reported (Non-fatal)	2,378	2,253

#### The Shop and Office Employees Act

The Shop and Office Employees (Regulation of Employment and Remuneration) Act, No. 19 of 1954 covers employees in shops, mercantile offices and those in similar employment. This Act regulates the terms and conditions of employment in the mercantile sector relating to hours of work, holidays and leave, health and welfare and the setting up of machinery for determining minimum remuneration for such employees.

A Closing Order for shops covers all municipal and urban council areas in the Island.





KANDYAN SILVER WORKER

*(Copyright photograph)*







About 5,000 shops inspections were done during the year. The number of offices inspected was about 400. A sum of Rs. 108,141.86 was recovered by the Department being short payments on account of overtime in shops and Rs. 7,620.97 in offices. These amounts were disbursed to the employees concerned.

1,097 prosecutions were entered during the year. Of these 1,078 were launched for breach of the Closing Order.

#### Maternity Benefits Ordinance

The Maternity Benefits Ordinance, No. 32 of 1939 as amended by Ordinance No. 35 of 1946 and Act No. 26 of 1952 ensures the provision by employers of Maternity Benefits to women workers in shops, mines, estates and factories and has been responsible for the improved position of women workers in this respect.

### IV—INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

THE functions of the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the Department of Labour were outlined in the previous issue of the Year Book.

Special investigations are also carried out into industrial conditions in so far as they effect the health of workers, and in particular regarding processes directly dangerous to health. The division undertakes field investigations for the detection of health hazards in industrial processes as well as in agriculture, and for the development of preventive measures to counteract or eliminate such hazards.

It also provides technical services in industrial hygiene to meet Government's obligations as a Member State of the International Labour Organisation. In addition to the provision of technical assistance to the Factories Division, the assistance and advice of the Division is requested from time to time by the Treasury, the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, the Attorney-General's Department, the Police and the Commissioner of Local Government.

An Industrial Hygiene Laboratory is being established with a full range of equipment for assessing most of the hazards likely to be met with in industry.

*Agricultural Workers handling Toxic Chemicals.*—Agricultural workers handling toxic chemicals such as :—

- (i) Arsenical compounds employed as weed killers in rubber estates
- (ii) Parathion compounds and other organo-phosphorus preparations used as insecticides
- (iii) Penta Chlorophenol Compounds used for the eradication of salvinia weed in paddy fields are kept under periodical observation by the Division.

*Maternity Wards on Estates.*—The Maternity Ward facilities, provided on estates which have been granted certificates for provision of Alternative Maternity Benefits, are examined by the Division.

### V—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING

UNTIL recently there were two cost of living index numbers computed and published in Ceylon. One related to the cost of living of working class families in Colombo and the other to the cost of living of Indian estate labourers. These two index numbers have been discontinued and from January, 1953, a new Index number called the "Colombo Consumers' Price Index Number" with the average prices in 1952 as the base is worked and published monthly by the Director of Census and Statistics. The following tables give the Colombo Working Class Cost of Living Index Numbers and the Indian Estate Labourers' Cost of Living Index Numbers for the period 1939 to 1952 and the Colombo Consumers' Price Index Number for 1953, 1954 and 1955.



TABLE 14.4 COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Colombo Working Class <sup>(1)</sup></i>	<i>Estate labour <sup>(2)</sup></i>
1939	108	100
1940	112	107
1941	122	119
1942	162	154
1943	197	199
1944	200	211
1945	221	222
1946	229	228
1947	252	239
1948	260	259
1949	258	264
1950	272	274
1951	283	288
1952	281	287

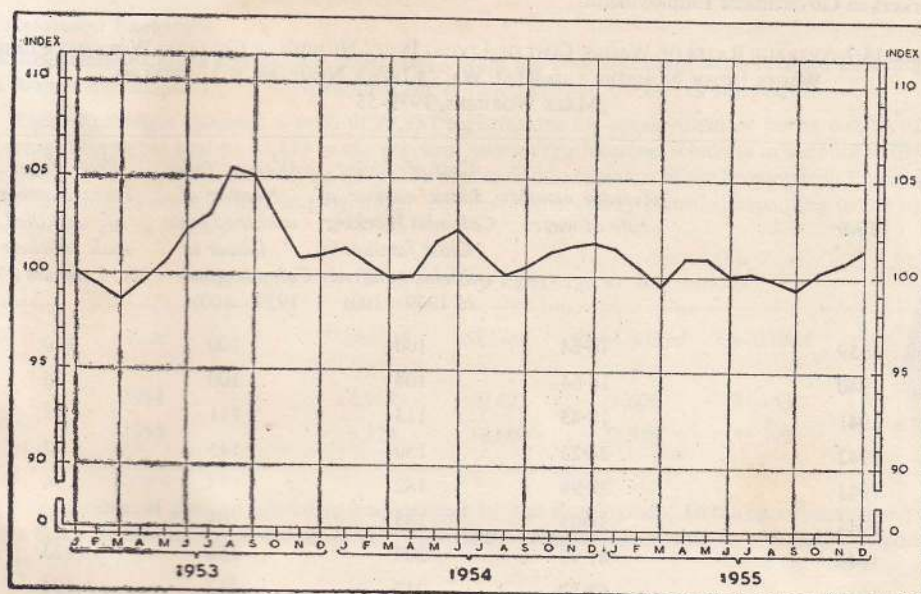
<sup>(1)</sup>Base : November 1938 to April 1939 = 100<sup>(2)</sup>Base : July-September 1939 = 100

TABLE 14.5 COLOMBO CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX NUMBERS 1953, 1954 AND 1955 (MONTHLY)

<i>(Base : Average Prices 1952 = 100)</i>			
	1953	1954	1955
January	100.1	101.4	101.5
February	99.5	100.7	100.5
March	98.7	99.9	99.6
April	99.6	100.0	101.0
May	100.7	101.7	101.0
June	102.3	102.4	100.1
July	103.1	101.2	100.2
August	105.5	100.1	99.9
September	105.1	100.5	99.4
October	103.0	101.3	100.3
November	100.9	101.6	100.8
December	101.0	101.8	101.5
<i>Year</i>	101.6	101.1	100.5



## \* CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX, 1953-55



An index number of wage rates applicable to the country as a whole is not yet available. Details of the minimum wages payable to workers in Tea and Rubber estates, are, however, readily available from the inception of the Labour Department in 1923.

The relative movements of wages and cost of living of estate workers are brought out in the following table which shows the average minimum daily rate of wages, the cost of living index number for these workers, the wages rate index number and the index number of real wages for the period 1939-1955.

TABLE 14.6 AVERAGE WAGES, COST OF LIVING INDICES, WAGE RATE INDEX NUMBERS AND INDEX NUMBER OF REAL WAGES 1939-1955 OF WORKERS IN TEA AND RUBBER ESTATES

Year	Average minimum daily rate of wages	Cost of Living Index Number for Estate Workers (Base : July to Sept. 1939=100)	Wage Rates Index Number (Average Wages 1939=100)	Index Number of Real Wages <sup>(1)</sup>
1939	0.41	100	100	100
1940	0.41	107	100	93
1941	0.45	119	110	92
1942	0.68	150	166	111
1943	0.83	199	202	102
1944	0.87	211	212	101
1945	1.00	222	244	110
1946	1.15	228	280	123
1947	1.20	239	293	123
1948	1.29	259	315	122
1949	1.31	264	320	121
1950	1.53	274	373	136
1951	1.90	288	463	161
1952	1.92	287	468	163
1953	1.95	291 <sup>(2)</sup>	476	164
1954	1.99	290 <sup>(2)</sup>	486	168
1955	2.06	288 <sup>(2)</sup>	502	174

<sup>(1)</sup> Index Number of Money Wages ÷ Cost of Living Index Number = Index Number of Real Wages.

<sup>(2)</sup> Equivalent of Colombo Consumers' Price Index in terms of the Estate Cost of Living Index Number.



Similar information as given for the estate labourers is shown below in respect of unskilled male workers in Government Employment.

TABLE 14.7 AVERAGE RATES OF WAGES, COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBER OF COLOMBO WORKING CLASS, WAGES INDEX NUMBERS AND REAL WAGES INDEX NUMBERS OF UNSKILLED MALE WORKERS, 1939-55

Year	Average monthly rate of wages	Cost of Living Index number of Colombo Working Class families (with base shifted to 1939=100)	Wages Index Number of unskilled male labour in Colombo (base 1939=100)	Real Wages Index Number of unskilled male workers in Colombo <sup>(1)</sup>
1939	16.64	100	100	100
1940	16.64	104	100	96
1941	18.45	113	111	98
1942	24.23	150	145	97
1943	28.98	182	174	96
1944	34.03	185	204	110
1945	41.92	205	252	123
1946	68.52	212	412	194
1947	75.74	233	455	195
1948	78.16	241	470	195
1949	77.81	239	468	196
1950	83.11	252	499	198
1951	89.79	262	540	206
1952	89.79	260	540	207
1953	90.97	265 <sup>(2)</sup>	547	206
1954	91.04	263 <sup>(2)</sup>	547	208
1955	94.94	261 <sup>(2)</sup>	571	219

Cost of Living allowances payable to workers in some of the trades for which Wages Boards have been set up were based on the Cost of Living Index Number of estate labour, while allowances to workers in the other trades were based on the Colombo Working Class Cost of Living Index Number till June, 1953. With effect from July 1, 1953, allowances payable to workers in all the trades for which Wages Boards have been set up except cigar manufacturing trade and toddy, arrack and vinegar trade, were based on the Colombo Consumers' Price Index. The workers in these two trades are paid piece rates of wages.

Government employees were paid Cost of Living Allowances based on the Colombo Working Class Cost of Living Index Number till February, 1953. With effect from March, 1953 they are paid allowances payable on the figure of 285, the cost of living index number for Colombo Working Class families for the month of December, 1952. Allowances payable to most of the mercantile employees were also based on the Colombo Working Class Cost of Living Index Number till January, 1953, the last month for which this Index was published. They are now being paid allowances based on the Colombo Consumers' Price Index.

<sup>(1)</sup> Index Number of Money Wages ÷ Cost of Living Index Number = Index Number of Real Wages.

<sup>(2)</sup> Equivalent of the Colombo Consumers' Price Index in terms of the Cost of Living Index Number—Colombo Town with base shifted to 1939=100.



## VI—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

## Employment Exchanges

A Registration Centre was opened at Beliatta during the year and there were 17 Area Exchanges, 3 Branch Exchanges and 12 Registration Centres functioning at the end of the year.

These Exchanges recorded a total of 83,883 registrations for employment or better employment during the year as against 77,339 in the previous year. The increase, which is in keeping with the increase in population, indicates that the public now seek the assistance of the Employment Exchanges in increasing numbers to find employment. The new registrations, classified according to the main categories, are as follows :—

TABLE 14-8 REGISTRATION AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

<i>Year</i>	<i>Technical and Clerical</i>	<i>Skilled</i>	<i>Semi-skilled</i>	<i>Un-skilled</i>
1954	14,963	9,625	18,608	34,143
1955	18,524	10,609	22,358	32,392

The number of persons placed in employment by the Employment Exchanges during the year was 8,208 as against 7,558 during 1954. This figure, classified according to the main categories, is as follows :—

TABLE 14-9 PLACEMENTS BY EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

<i>Year</i>	<i>Technical and Clerical</i>	<i>Skilled</i>	<i>Semi-skilled</i>	<i>Un-skilled</i>
1954	1,097	879	922	4,660
1955	2,166	1,064	1,187	3,791

Although as many as 83,883 persons were newly registered for employment during the year 1955 alone the number of "live" registrations at the end of the year was only 71,010. This indicates that most persons, particularly of the un-skilled category presumably obtain employment by their own efforts without having to stay unemployed for long. The numbers awaiting employment at the end of each of the years 1954 and 1955, classified according to the main categories, are as follows :—

TABLE 14-10 REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED

<i>Year</i>	<i>Technical and Clerical</i>	<i>Skilled</i>	<i>Semi-skilled</i>	<i>Un-skilled</i>
1954	11,728	7,919	16,287	27,370
1955	14,498	8,544	20,142	27,826

## Ceylonisation

Ceylonisation of labour at the Chalmer's Granaries and at the Manning Market was continued during the year. A marked increase in the percentages of Ceylonese labour employed at these 2 food-distributing centres was achieved during the year, and efforts are being made to increase the percentages and also to extend Ceylonisation to other Government centres of work where labour is employed on contract basis by private contractors.





### Unemployment Relief

There were 3,480 persons employed in the several unemployment relief schemes in the country at the end of the year as against 3,896 at the end of 1954. In the main relief schemes in Colombo, the number employed was 2,861 while in the Port Commission Relief Scheme there were 73 persons and in the Dehiwala Zoological Gardens Relief Scheme 91 persons. Much useful work was done and steady progress was maintained in these schemes.

In the outstations the work in the relief schemes undertaken by the Municipal Councils of Galle and Kandy was continued with 135 persons employed in the former and 320 persons in the latter at the end of the year. The relief scheme which was in operation under the control of the Nawalapitiya Urban Council was closed down on 30th September, 1955.

### Training Schemes

Schemes were in operation during the year for the training of garden labourers, conservancy labourers, and cooks to meet the demand for these grades of workers created by the repatriation of Non-Ceylonese. Arrangements had been made by the end of the year to open a training centre for barbers as well.

The Co-ordinating Committee on Apprenticeship, to which reference was made last year, finalised proposals during the year for the formulation of accelerated schemes of training to train the skilled personnel required for the execution of the Six-Year Programme of Investment.

The various Sub-Committees set up, completed their outstanding reports during the year and circulated them among large scale employers in and around Colombo for voluntary adoptions of the suggestions contained in them.

The scheme known as Training Within Industry (T. W. I.) for Supervisors, to which reference was made last year, made considerable progress during the year. Before he left the Island at the end of August, 1955, the I. L. O. Expert spent an appreciable part of his time in training Staff to be able to present this programme. A Supervisory Training Service has now been established in the Labour Department. Eleven Government Departments and fifteen private establishments have so far adopted T. W. I.; and an extended training plan is also afoot.

The Employment Information Programme inaugurated by Dr. Saks, the I. L. O. Expert was carried on during the year under review. The information collected under this programme is furnished from time to time to the Department of Census and Statistics for publication in the Statistical Abstract and in the Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics.

## VII—CEYLON AND THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

DURING the year Ceylon participated in the 129th and 130th Sessions of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization which were held at Geneva from 27th to 28th May, 1955 and 15th to 18th November, 1955, respectively.

The 38th Session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 1st to 23rd June, 1955.

Ceylon was represented at this Conference by a tripartite delegation consisting of four.

The Third Session of the Committee on Work on Plantations was held at Geneva from 17th to 28th October, 1955.

Ceylon was represented by a tripartite delegation at this Session.

The Asian Technical Conference on Vocational Training for Industry at which Ceylon was represented by a Government Delegation was held in Rangoon, Burma, from 28th November to 8th December, 1955.

#### Important References :

- (1) Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour.
- (2) Consumers' Price Index Number—Sessional Paper VI of 1953.



## CHAPTER XV

### EDUCATION

#### I—HISTORICAL SKETCH

THE early history of Education in Ceylon has been outlined in previous issues of the Year Book.

In 1941 specially as a result of unemployment among the educated classes, a Committee was appointed to examine in full the content of the existing scheme of education and make recommendations. Its Report appeared as Sessional Paper XXIV of 1943. The Report suggested a series of far reaching reforms such as Free Education from the Kindergarten to the University, the adoption of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction in the Primary Classes. It went into the question of providing a varied type of education to fit in with the varying abilities of children, and suggested three types of Post Primary Schools :—

- (a) Secondary Colleges leading to the University and the professions.
- (b) Senior Schools leading to Polytechnic and Technical Schools.
- (c) Practical Schools leading to Agricultural and Trade Schools.

Only some of the recommendations, viz., Free Education and the use of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction in the Primary Schools, were put into effect.

In 1950 the Government White Paper on education was published. It laid down a new classification of schools—

- (a) Primary Schools (ages 5 to 11).
- (b) Junior Schools (ages 11 + to 14 +).
- (c) Senior Secondary Schools (ages 14 +).

At the end of the Junior School a Fitness Test was to select pupils for Senior Secondary Education. Those found unfit for this type of education were to continue their education in Vocational Schools which were to be conducted by other Departments of the State. It was also proposed to establish 4 Polytechnics at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna and Batticaloa. The medium of instruction was to be in the mother tongue but this was to be taken in stages into the Junior Schools. English, however, was to be a compulsory second language in all schools from Standard 3 upwards. The education Amendment Act, No. 5 of 1951 gave effect to the proposals in the White Paper. The Act also provided for a Central Advisory Council to the Minister.

#### National Languages as Media of Instruction

A committee was appointed by the Minister of Education in 1953 to “examine the working of the national languages as media of instruction in Standard 6 and to make recommendations to facilitate the changing-over to the national languages as media of instruction in Standard 7 and Standard 8, with particular reference to the subjects of Science and Mathematics.”

The report of the Committee was published as Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1954. The Committee recommended that schools which in the opinion of the Director of Education do not have adequate staff be allowed to use the English medium in teaching General Science and Mathematics in Standard 7 till January 1956 and in Standard 8 till January, 1957. After these dates all subjects have to be taught in the national languages. The Committee also urged that facilities should be provided for training of teachers in teaching these subjects through the national languages and that the publication of books on these subjects in the national languages be encouraged.



Special Committees were appointed to compile glossaries of terms in Mathematics, General Science and other school subjects. A glossary of scientific and mathematical terms has been published both in Sinhalese and Tamil. The glossaries in all other subjects are nearing completion.

Special courses of training were introduced at the Government Training College, Maharagama to train 100 teachers in Mathematics and Science ; these are given specialist training to enable them to teach these subjects in the media of national languages.

The process of gradually extending the use of national languages into the Senior Secondary School has been laid down in a directive of the Hon. The Minister of Education, published in the *Ceylon Government Gazette (Extraordinary)* of January 6, 1955. In terms of this directive, the medium of instruction in the pre-S. S. C. and S. S. C. Classes of any school or College in certain specified subjects would be English, Sinhalese or Tamil at the discretion of the school or college authorities, while certain other subjects would normally be taught in the Sinhalese or Tamil medium, unless the Minister is satisfied that the use of the appropriate national language in any of these subjects is not practicable in a particular school. In the latter case, the Minister could authorise instruction in such subjects through the medium of the English language. This directive will come into force (a) in the pre-S. S. C. Class from and after January 7, 1956 ; (b) in the S. S. C. Class from and after January, 1957. A subsidized course of tuition in Sinhalese and Tamil for teachers of the pre-S. S. C. Class was organised in 1955 to enable teachers to teach in the pre-S. S. C. Classes in the National Languages.

## II—EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

PRIMARY and Post Primary Education under the control of the Minister of Education is administered by the Director of Education with the advice of thirty-four Local Advisory Committees.

Local Advisory Committees have been established in Municipalities and Revenue districts. These committees consisting of officials, Members of Parliament and other local representatives are appointed by the Minister of Education and advise the Director of Education on the Educational needs of the areas they represent.

The Central Advisory Council on Education which was set up under the Education Amendment Act of 1951 replaced the Board of Education. Its function is to advise the Minister of Education on any question referred to it by him.

Attendance at school is compulsory between the ages of five and fourteen except under certain conditions ; such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is available within reasonable distance of the place of residence of pupils. Attendance Officers of the Department of Education enforce the regulations governing compulsory attendance and prosecute parents violating these regulations when methods of persuasion prove ineffective.

### The Free Education Scheme

Free Education was the chief recommendation of the Special Committee on Education (Sessional Paper XXIV of 1943). All education in the Island "from the Kindergarten to the University" was declared free as from October 1, 1943. This scheme mainly affected the Assisted English Schools which had earlier charged fees, whereas the Sinhalese and Tamil Schools had not. Under the free scheme the Government pays the total salary cost of staff and in addition an equipment and maintenance grant calculated at specified rates.

A large number of schools joined the scheme from its inception, others were given time to decide. Since then, all schools except a few which became private schools, have joined the scheme.

The only fees that could now be levied in any school under the free scheme are :—

- (a) a fee for the provision of facilities for games or physical training.
- (b) a fee for the provision of dental treatment.





POTTERY

(Photo by Mr. P. U. Pathirana)







### The School System

All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality or religion.

There are four distinct types of schools, viz. (a) schools administered directly by Government, (b) schools assisted by Government and under the control of Managers, (c) schools which do not receive any aid from Government, (d) Pirivenas purely intended for Buddhist *Bhikkus*.

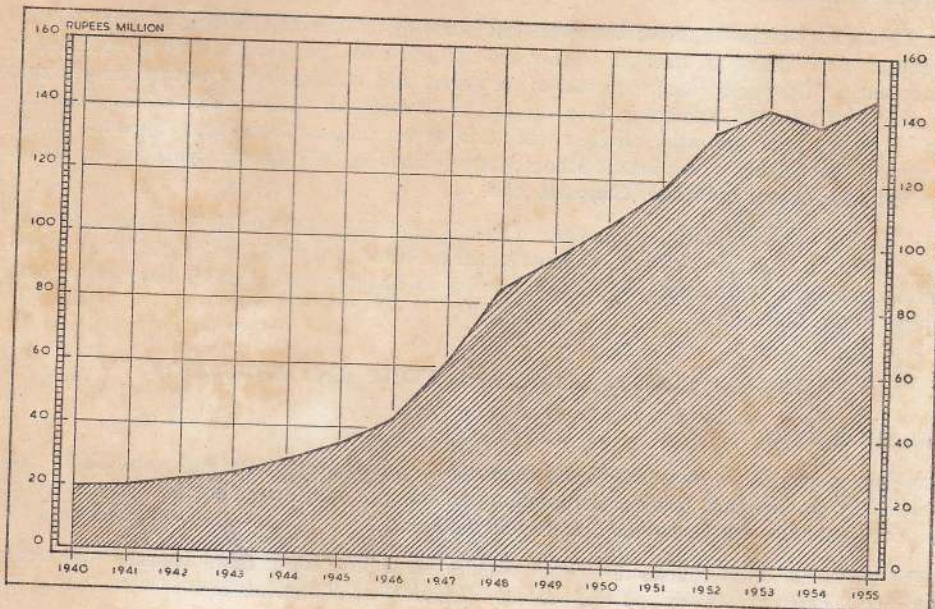
On May 31, 1955, there were 3,675 Government Schools with 861,770 pupils and 23,938 teachers. The arrangements for running these schools are entirely in the hands of the Education Department. In addition to these schools there were 2,213 Assisted Schools with 711,875 pupils and 23,529 teachers. These schools are conducted by Managers subject to the Code of Regulations for Assisted Schools.

TABLE 15.1 EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION, 1950-55

Year	Total Expenditure <sup>(1)</sup> (Rs. Thousand)	Per Capita Expenditure Rs. c.
1950	105,598	14 00
1951	117,114	15 13
1952	135,484	17 06
1953	142,989	17 53
1954	138,264	16 49
1955	143,581	

(<sup>1</sup>) From current revenue.

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION, 1940-55





### Supply of Teachers

The following table shows the number of teachers in training in recent years :—

TABLE 15-2 NUMBER OF TEACHERS IN TRAINING IN 1950-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Teachers in Training</i>
1950	2,570
1951	2,854
1952	2,908
1953	2,814
1954	2,790
1955	2,905

A new feature in the training of teachers was the establishment of two National Training Colleges at Mirigama and Palaly which provide a six-months' course of practical training under four main heads, viz., Occupation (mainly Agriculture, Handicrafts and Building Construction), Health, Study of the Locality and Cultural Activities—e.g. music, dancing and art. This is specially designed to give the teachers a training in practical subjects and in methods of correlating practical work with the normal subjects in the school curriculum. This experiment will be tried out in select schools in January, 1956.

At the Government Training College, Maharagama, in addition to the special course of training in Science and Mathematics given to teachers, provision has been made for courses in handicrafts, woodwork, metal work and arts and crafts.

### Revision of Syllabuses

The Schemes of Studies and Syllabuses were last issued by the Education Department in 1939 and revised in 1940. These are now out of date and unsuitable for the present set up of education in this country. The purely literary content of the system and its failure to provide persons desirous or capable of technical training is, in particular, to be deplored. The revision of the syllabuses was a long felt need and much progress was made by the various Committees appointed for the purpose. The syllabus of the Infant School was published in 1953 and the syllabuses in English as a Second Language in Primary Classes in 1955.

The then Minister of Education appointed a Special Committee with Mr. N. E. Weerasooriya, Q.C. as Chairman to draw up a curriculum most suited to Primary and Junior Schools of the Island. This Committee is at work and the task of drawing up Schemes of studies will have to await the findings of this Committee.

## III—UNIVERSITY, LEGAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### University of Ceylon

THE University of Ceylon was established under the Ceylon University Ordinance, No. 20 of 1942. It is legally autonomous, being a Corporation consisting of the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Court, the Council and the Senate.

The University offers courses in Oriental Studies, Arts, Education, Law, Science, Agriculture, Medicine, Veterinary Science and Engineering. The number of students in 1955 was 2,429. The



following table gives the distribution of these students over the various courses for the years 1951 to 1955 :—

TABLE 15.3 CENSUS OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, 1951-55

Course	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Arts	716	761	848	873	878
Sinhalese and Tamil Courses	109	51	19	19	24
Diploma in Education	48	61	74	72	58
Law Degree	36	34	32	30	31
Science Degree	223	272	322	332	397
Agricultural Degree	21	16	17	19	17
Pre-Medical Course	116	132	129	157	173
Medical Degree	689	696	706	677	644
Medical Diploma	19	11	12	—	—
Dental Degree and Diploma	43	44	48	46	42
Veterinary Science Degree	19	25	38	37	21
Engineering Degree	156	110	134	148	116
Higher Degrees	15	19	13	24	28
Total	2,210	2,232	2,392	2,434	2,429

The number of students who graduated in 1954 was 354. The corresponding figure for 1955 was 475. The table below gives the degrees awarded other than honorary degrees during the period 1943-55 :—

TABLE 15.4 DEGREES AWARDED (OTHER THAN HONORARY DEGREES), 1943-55

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	Total
M.D.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	5
M.O.G.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ph.D.	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	6
M.A.	—	1	2	4	—	2	4	3	2	3	—	4	1	26
M.Sc.	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	5
B.A.	44	59	64	56	66	87	108	172	139	171	148	157	207	1,478
LL.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	8	14	7	7	10	50
B.Sc.	20	22	27	31	33	40	44	52	48	40	34	52	64	507
B.Sc. Agric.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	10	8	3	6	5	46
M.B.B.S.	23	36	34	61	43	70	59	56	97	80	111	93	147	910
B.D.S.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
B.Sc. Eng.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	23	31	60
B.V.Sc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	8	17
Total	87	119	128	153	142	200	217	302	304	320	312	354	475	3,113

### The Law College

The Ceylon Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as



Advocates and Proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time.

Admission to the Law College takes place in the month of September and the number of students admitted during the year 1955 for the Advocates' course was 44 and the Proctors' course was 41.

The number of candidates who in 1955 entered for the examinations of the Law College and the number successful are as follows :—

	<i>Entered</i>	<i>Passed</i>
Examination for the admission of Advocates	199	112
Examination for the admission of Proctors	408	160

#### **Ceylon Technical College**

The Ceylon Technical College is a Department under the control of the Ministry of Education and is the principal Institution in the Island providing training for the Junior Technical Grades. The courses of study are conducted under three sections—Engineering, Vocational and Commerce.

*Bursaries and Scholarships.*—Bursaries are provided at this Institution to deserving students. Scholarships and Exhibitions are awarded to those students who come first and second in the order of merit in each class.

### **IV—OTHER EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**

#### **Vocational Schools**

In addition to the Technical College there are a number of vocational schools and demonstration centres, run by the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries or assisted by that Department.

The only full-time vocational schools controlled by the Department of Education are the Training Colleges for teachers. There are eighteen such institutions. Ten of the institutions are administered by Government and the rest are conducted by various denominational bodies assisted by Government grants. There are two schools for lepers, one at Hendala and another at Mantivu.

#### **Education of Defective and Delinquent Children**

*The Ceylon School for the Deaf.*—Since 1949, the schools for the deaf and blind function as two separate institutions. The change facilitated planning for the educational needs of the deaf and blind separately. The number on roll during 1955 was 175.

The ages of students range from three to twenty-one. Subjects of training include carpentry, masonry, gardening, pottery, coir work and home science. Extra-mural activities include cricket, volley ball, net-ball, athletics, table tennis, scouting and guiding.

The students follow a normal course of education with suitable extra-curricular activities up to the age of eighteen, and as the school-leaving age has been raised to twenty-one, they are given an education with a practical bias during the last three years of their schooling.

*The Ceylon School for the Blind.*—The number on roll at present is 149. Technical training has been started to teach young people a trade till they are twenty-one years of age. The practical subjects so far introduced are rattan-work and knitting. Shorthand and typing for the blind were also introduced into the curriculum. Students are taught scientific massage. Music plays an important part in the curriculum of the school. Musical drill has also been introduced.

*Certified Industrial School, Maggona.*—The institution is a reformatory school for male juvenile offenders. The number on roll in 1955 was 273.

The ages of the new admissions range from ten to sixteen. The majority of these were sentenced by courts in the Western Province.



The boys were taught the following trades in the workshop of the institution :—Carpentry, tailoring, printing, book-binding, iron-work, kitchen and infirmarians' work.

There are two schools in the premises—one a Sinhalese School and the other Tamil. There are also two jail schools at Welikada and Mahara.

## V—PRACTICAL EDUCATION IN CEYLON

It has become increasingly evident that the economic development of the Nation hinges ultimately on the encouragement of more and more young people to use their hands with intelligence and skill to increase and improve production in all fields of endeavour, agricultural and industrial.

By the beginning of 1953 some 350 practical handicrafts sections had been opened up in Secondary Schools, the rate of progress being governed by the amount of money available for workshops and specialized equipment. Timely and generous offers of Technical assistance under the Colombo Plan were made by the Governments of the United Kingdom and Australia. Acceptance of more advanced equipment brought with it the necessity for a Technical Education Branch of the Education Department, the building of a great number of new workshops, the adoption of improved syllabuses of instruction and the provision of trained technical staff.

The Technical Education Branch set up and equipped 193 new workshops comprising Woodwork (76), Metalwork (42), Cloth Weaving (50) and Lacquerwork (25). The opening of new sections in 1955 was held up owing to delay in the arrival of equipment. Each unit of workshop equipment is sufficient for the training of 20 students per class. While the equipment has been supplied under the Technical Co-operation Scheme, the Government for its part, has supplied the workshops and the fittings.

Staff for the workshops has been found from a "pool" of Vocational Trained Teachers which had been created over the last few years. The Government of New Zealand very generously offered complete units of training equipment whilst the Government of Ceylon set about erecting in 1955 a large new work-shop block as an adjunct to the existing Government Training College at Maharama near Colombo. The New Zealand Instructors, Messrs. Dowding and Hare, arrived in Ceylon and set about the organisation of the new workshop block which commenced operations on January 10, 1955, the initial number of handicraft specialist students being 50. The course of instruction which is, in the main, of a highly practical nature, will last for two years. The teachers who complete the course will be trained to a stage where they will be competent to handle the major handicrafts of the secondary schools.

Junior Technical Schools are planned for Galle, Kandy and Jaffna. The Galle project is well advanced, most of the equipment being provided under the Technical Co-operation Scheme, whilst the Government of New Zealand has provided Capital Aid to the extent of Rs. 1½ million for the erection and equipping of similar institutions at Kandy and Jaffna. These schools will offer full-time courses in pre-vocational work and at the same time, day and evening courses for apprentices and others already engaged in industry.

The Government of Canada has provided some Rs. 2 million for the establishment of an Institute of Practical Technology designed for the training of students at technician levels.

The staffing of the new technical schools has presented a problem. In 1954 a party of students with satisfactory industrial background undertook a one year training course at Auckland, New Zealand, whilst another party was sent in 1955. The absorption of these young men into the new schools will assist greatly in solving the problem of skilled staff. From time to time specially selected men and women have undertaken special training courses in U. K. and Australia and in most cases, on their return, have been given posts of responsibility in their special fields. This is another field in which the new Government has to face years of neglect and the accumulated debris of generations and has not merely to improve but completely to recast the line of approach if basic obstacles to national well-being are to be removed.



## VI—ADULT EDUCATION

FROM 1949, Adult Education has been organised on an extensive basis. 4 Regional Organisers are in charge of this work and the scheme consists of adult classes and where these classes have been successful, they have been converted into adult centres where varied activities have been provided. In addition, classes specially intended for illiterates and classes in academic subjects for adults who have not been able to complete their education in school have been held and several young men and women have been successful at the Senior School Certificate Examination both in the English and Swabhasha media. 9 Mobile Cinema Units visit the adult education centres and the schools in the rural areas.

The UNESCO Government of Ceylon Fundamental Education Project is engaged in developing fundamental and adult education work in the 3 colonization schemes of Minneriya, Giritale and Parakrama Samudraya and 39 villages within a radius of 20 miles of the town of Hingurakgoda. The project was transferred to the Ministry of Home Affairs in March, 1956 and taken over for administrative purposes by the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries.

One of the most useful features of Adult education work is the establishment of centres in colonization schemes and prisons. Special mention should be made of the prison centres where they are serving a very useful purpose.

The following table gives statistics relating to the adult education centres and classes conducted in 1955 :—

TABLE 15.5 DISTRIBUTION OF ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES

<i>Province</i>	<i>Adult Classes</i>	<i>Adult Centres</i>	<i>Total</i>
Western	3	13	16
Southern	6	2	8
Central	11	20	31
Uva	13	4	17
Eastern	28	5	33
Northern	3	2	5
North-Western	10	5	15
Sabaragamuwa	12	7	19
North-Central	12	5	17
	98	63	161

## Important References :—

- (1) Report of the Special Committee on Education—Sessional Paper XXIV of 1943.
- (2) Administration Report of the Director of Education.
- (3) Annual Report of the University of Ceylon.
- (4) Administration Report of the Director of the Ceylon Technical College.



## CHAPTER XVI

### PUBLIC HEALTH

#### I—GENERAL

HEALTH in this country is now becoming less a matter of gaining freedom from the great killing diseases and more a matter of thoughtful organised planning for real living (for the population) by a Government that deploys approximately one-eighth of its total national revenue and one-eleventh of its total public servants for the purpose.

In spite of the control of the major communicable diseases and Malaria there is no evidence of any fall in the demand for the services of hospitals—the number of in-patients and out-patients treated continues to increase every year. The number of in-patients treated in 1955 was 914,900, that is 129,547 more than in the previous year. It would appear that nearly 1 in 9 of the whole population was at least once an In-patient of a hospital. In the case of outdoor treatment the attendance was 17,631,826 an increase of 2,215,803 over the previous year's figure. An out-patient is most often counted afresh at each visit and therefore the figures represent the number of visits of patients and not persons. The figures however, show that a large proportion of the population was stricken with disease during the year and disabled, with consequent loss of gainful employment for varying periods.

In 1955 the increase in the actual number of beds available in all hospitals was 2,296. Ceylon has now approximately 25,341 beds in 354 hospitals and 25 special institutions giving a ratio of 2.9 beds per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 2 per 1,000 in 1938. The buildings that were nearing completion in 1955 will give an additional 1,100 beds in 1956. With the present rate of increase at the end of the current Six Year Development Programme the bed ratio of 3.6 per 1,000 of the population which was considered adequate for this country will be exceeded.

One reason for overcrowding in hospitals appears to be that the "Killers" of a quarter century ago—cholera, plague, small-pox, malaria, pneumonia and typhoid fever, have now given way to cancer, degenerative diseases of the tissues of the heart and blood vessels, and to the chronic systaltic diseases of strains and stresses of modern life. These diseases require long hospitalisation for a cure. As medical science is still without the knowledge of their causes very little can be done to prevent morbidity from them.

With the greater Expectation of life gained year by year the proportion of the aged in the population will increase placing a heavier load on the social services of the State. If this longer life span is to be accompanied by health and happiness, the state will have to make more provision to give better care and an adequate income to the old and chronically ill, directly or, through various charitable organisations providing housing and care and rehabilitation of the aged.

#### Hospital Buildings

The building programme of the Department of Health Services has gone on at an accelerated rate. The new hospitals at Ratnapura and Anuradhapura, the five-storeyed block at the General Hospital, Colombo, with an up-to-date operating theatre and sound proofed wards for a Neuro-surgical Unit, and the new wing of the Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital will be put into use in 1956. A modern kitchen, dispensary, stores and two four-storeyed blocks of wards for the General Hospital, Colombo, are also planned to commence in 1956 in the programme for modernizing this hospital.

An entirely new hospital of 114 beds was opened at Weligama. The development of the Colombo North General Hospital at Ragama has progressed in regard to additional buildings and provision of treatment by more specialists.



Building operations were commenced in December, 1955 for a 560 bed General Hospital costing 3½ million rupees on a site in the Dehiwala/Mount-Lavinia Urban Council area planned to serve Colombo South.

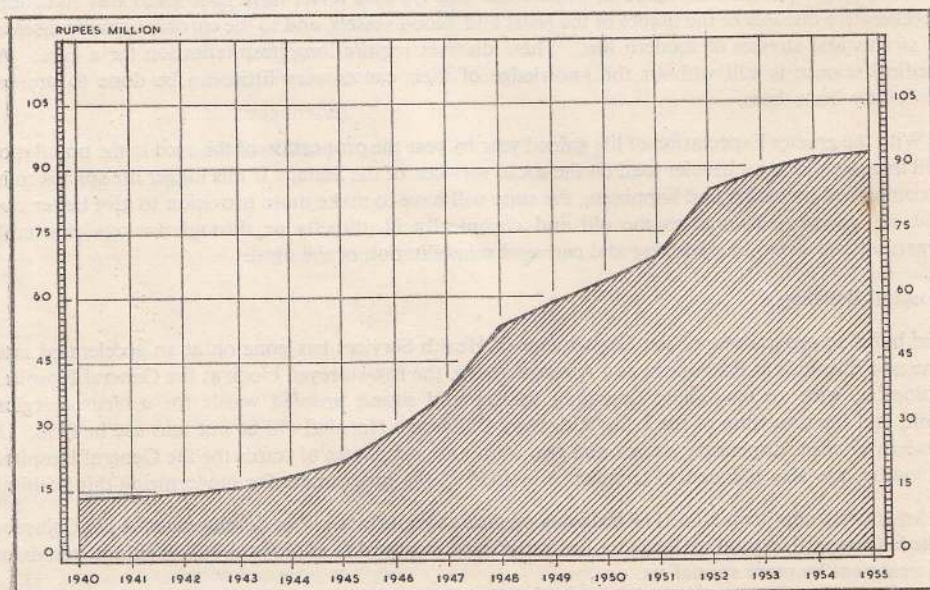
#### Expenditure on Public Health

The total expenditure of the Department during the year 1954-55 approximated to that of the previous year. A reduction in the expenditure on Anti-Malaria work was off-set by an increase on the T. B. Campaign, the V. D. Campaign and the Filariasis Campaign. New hospitals and wards were also opened during the year. The provision of salaries and allowances had a marked effect on expenditure. Despite these factors, the over-all increase in expenditure over the previous year was only a little over Rs. 800,000.

A statement showing the trend of expenditure on the Health Services during the last ten years is given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount Rs.</i>
1945-46	28,663,401
1946-47	37,201,294
1947-48	51,659,938
1948-49	57,041,147
1949-50	62,364,132
1951-52	82,489,943
1952-53	87,047,048
1953-54	90,139,535
1954-55	90,952,634

EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, 1940-55





## II—MEDICAL SERVICES

MAJOR administrative changes were made in the sphere of administration of Hospitals. The Administration of the General Hospital, and later that of the special Hospitals in Colombo, were placed under the charge of a Hospital Committee.

The administration of these Hospitals was unified, so that they could be administered as a single group of teaching hospitals on a pattern which is familiar in the United Kingdom. The Administrative changes were made under the supervision of a Colombo Plan Expert, Mr. Eric Hurst. Several other experts have supervised the reorganization of individual departments in these hospitals.

It is intended that the benefits of the special attention which was given to hospital organisational and administrative problems in this Group of Hospitals should eventually be derived by other large hospitals in the Island, and that hospital procedures which have been found to be eminently satisfactory should eventually be standardised in other hospitals as well. At the end of 1955, the number of Hospital Beds had increased to 25,341 with the record addition of 2,296 beds. The increase covers both general and special beds. There were 255 hospitals with 18,398 beds and 26 special institutions with 5,863 beds.

The number of Peripheral Units were 52 with 1,412 beds. A group consisting of a Rural Hospital, Maternity Home and Central Dispensary, constitutes a Peripheral Unit. Since Decentralisation, work in Peripheral Units integrates both Preventive and Curative health activities. They provide all the ordinary medical needs for the common ailments thus preventing overcrowding in the District and Provincial Hospitals.

TABLE 16.1 COLOMBO GROUP OF HOSPITALS AND BED-STRENGTH

<i>Name of Institution</i>	<i>No. of beds</i>
(1) General Hospital, Colombo	1,445
(2) Lady Havelock Hospital, Colombo <sup>(1)</sup>	35
(3) Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Colombo	369
(4) De Soyza Maternity Hospital, Colombo	340
(5) Castle Street, Maternity Hospital, Colombo	164
(6) Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital, Colombo	200
(7) Dental Institute, Colombo	20
	—
Total	2,573
	—

(<sup>1</sup>) Converted into Children's Beds in December, 1955, and this portion of the Institution closed down as from this date.



TABLE 16.2 PROVINCIAL, BASE AND DISTRICT HOSPITALS AND BED-STRENGTH

<i>Superintendent of Health Services' Division</i>	<i>Revenue District</i>	<i>No. of Hospitals</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>
Colombo	Colombo	10	1,519
Kalutara	Kalutara	7	935
Kandy	Kandy	15	1,652
Matale	Matale and Tamankaduwa	5	516
Badulla	Badulla and Nuwara Eliya	20	1,354
Galle	Galle	7	961
Matara	Matara and Hambantota	8	883
Jaffna	Jaffna	8	1,077
Vavuniya	Mannar and Mullaitivu	6	306
Anuradhapura	Anuradhapura and Trincomalee	5	436
Batticaloa	Batticaloa	5	304
Kurunegala	Kurunegala	6	1,078
Puttalam	Puttalam and Chilaw	4	354
Ratnapura	Ratnapura	9	863
Kegalle	Kegalle	6	724
		121	12,962

TABLE 16.3 PERIPHERAL UNITS AND BED-STRENGTH

<i>Superintendent of Health Services' Division</i>	<i>Revenue District</i>	<i>No. of Peripheral Units</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>
Colombo	Colombo	4	95
Kalutara	Kalutara	—	—
Kandy	Kandy	5	140
Matale	Matale and Tamankaduwa	4	105
Badulla	Badulla and Nuwara Eliya	2	43
Galle	Galle	5	166
Matara	Matara and Hambantota	6	152
Jaffna	Jaffna	3	86
Vavuniya	Mannar and Mullaitivu	3	62
Anuradhapura	Anuradhapura and Trincomalee	3	90
Batticaloa	Batticaloa	1	52
Kurunegala	Kurunegala	12	302
Puttalam	Puttalam and Chilaw	3	85
Ratnapura	Ratnapura	—	—
Kegalle	Kegalle	1	34
		52	1,412



TABLE 16.4 RURAL HOSPITALS AND BED-STRENGTH

<i>Superintendent of Health Services' Division</i>	<i>Revenue District</i>	<i>No. of Hospitals</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>
Colombo	Colombo	2	40
Kalutara	Kalutara	6	115
Kandy	Kandy	9	176
Matale	Matale and Tamankaduwa	2	40
Badulla	Badulla and Nuwara Eliya	5	107
Galle	Galle	4	84
Matara	Matara and Hambantota	8 <sup>(1)</sup>	177
Jaffna	Jaffna	4	85
Vavuniya	Mannar and Mullaitivu	2	40
Anuradhapura	Anuradhapura and Trincomalee	5	108
Batticaloa	Batticaloa	4	68
Kurunegala	Kurunegala	5	153
Puttalam	Puttalam and Chilaw	3	78
Ratnapura	Ratnapura	5	88
Kegalle	Kegalle	4	92
		68	1,451

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes Kataragama which is situated in Badulla District.

TABLE 16.5 MATERNITY HOMES AND BED-STRENGTH

<i>Superintendent of Health Services' Division</i>	<i>Revenue District</i>	<i>No. of Homes</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>
Colombo	Colombo	13	152
Kalutara	Kalutara	4	41
Kandy	Kandy	7	80
Matale	Matale and Tamankaduwa	5	60
Badulla	Badulla and Nuwara Eliya	5	60
Galle	Galle	4	34
Matara	Matara and Hambantota	13	142
Jaffna	Jaffna	12	124
Vavuniya	Mannar and Mullaitivu	3	34
Anuradhapura	Anuradhapura and Trincomalee	12	127
Batticaloa	Batticaloa	7	78
Kurunegala	Kurunegala	9	94
Puttalam	Puttalam and Chilaw	2	24
Ratnapura	Ratnapura	4	44
Kegalle	Kegalle	7	76
		107	1,170



TABLE 16-6 SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS AND BED-STRENGTH.

<i>Name of Institution</i>	<i>No. of Beds</i>
Anti-Tuberculosis Institute	—
Kandana Sanatorium	308
Ragama Chest Hospital	586
Tallagolla Chest Hospital	48
Welisara Chest Hospital	709
Wirawila Chest Hospital	96
Kankasanturai Sanatorium	84
Puttalam Chest Hospital	118
Mental Hospital, Angoda	2,158
Mental Hospital, Pelawatte	150
Leprosy Hospital, Hendala	608
Leprosy Hospital, Mantivu	220
Leprosy Colony, Uragaha	34
Fever Hospital, Angoda	248
Prison Hospital, Kandy	45
Prison Hospital, Galle	11
Prison Hospital, Jaffna	20
Infectious Diseases Hospital, Jaffna	20
Prison Hospital, Anuradhapura	19
Prison Hospital, Batticaloa	5
Police Hospital, Colombo	37
Prison Hospital, Colombo	176
Training School for Youthful Offenders, Negombo	24
Training School for Youthful Offenders, Wathupitiwela	22
Mahara Jail Hospital	112
Prison Hospital, Matara	5
Total	5,863

#### Ambulance Service

There has been no marked change in the Ambulance Service. Most of the Provincial Hospitals and all the District Hospitals have been provided with one or more ambulances. The ambulances continue to be of great service to patients living in areas remote from the District Hospitals. There are 85 ambulances in the service.

#### III—LABORATORY SERVICES

PLANS for expanding and improving the Laboratory Services which commenced last year progressed satisfactorily during the period under review.



At the General Hospital Pathology Department the Biochemistry and special Haematology Sections were considerably expanded.

A central Blood Bank supplying all Colombo Institutions was established.

Towards the end of the year the whole of Planters Ward of the Kandy Hospital was handed over to the Pathology Department. Certain structural alterations and fittings are being carried out and soon this Laboratory will have all accommodation for immediate needs.

A fully qualified Pathologist was appointed to Galle. The whole of the top floor of the new X'Ray block is being fitted up for a laboratory and will be ready shortly supplying much needed space for the Galle Hospital Laboratory.

In the Jaffna Hospital additions and improvements to the existing laboratory were carried out. A Pathologist was appointed just before the close of the year. Expansion in the scope of the work can now be expected.

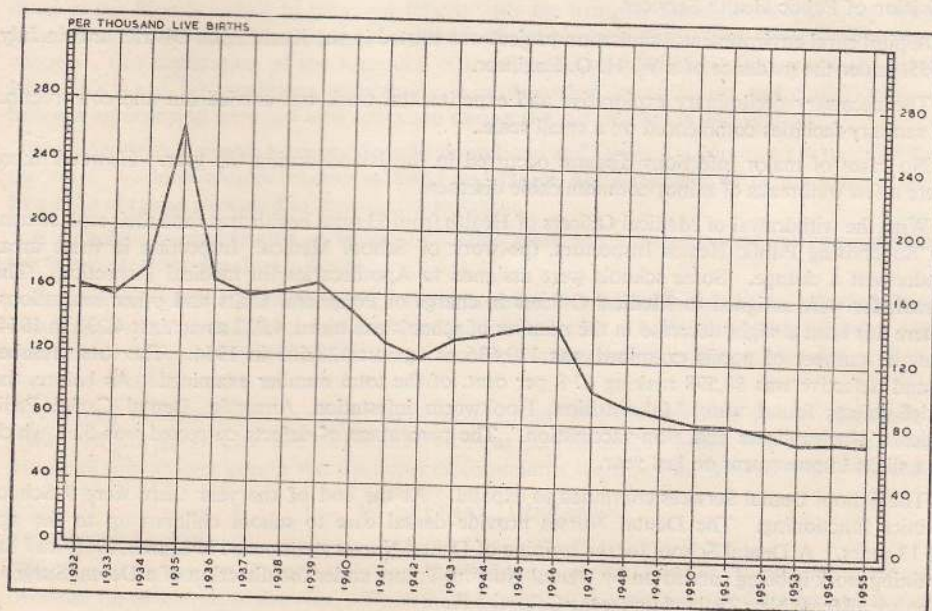
Equipment in District Hospital Laboratories have been increased. Several laboratories are being built in the divisions. Through the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund it has been possible to supply 32 Peripheral Units in charge of Medical Officers, complete equipment for all simple routine laboratory tests.

Apart from these physical improvements a growing consciousness in the Clinicians of the value of the laboratory is encouraging.

#### IV—PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

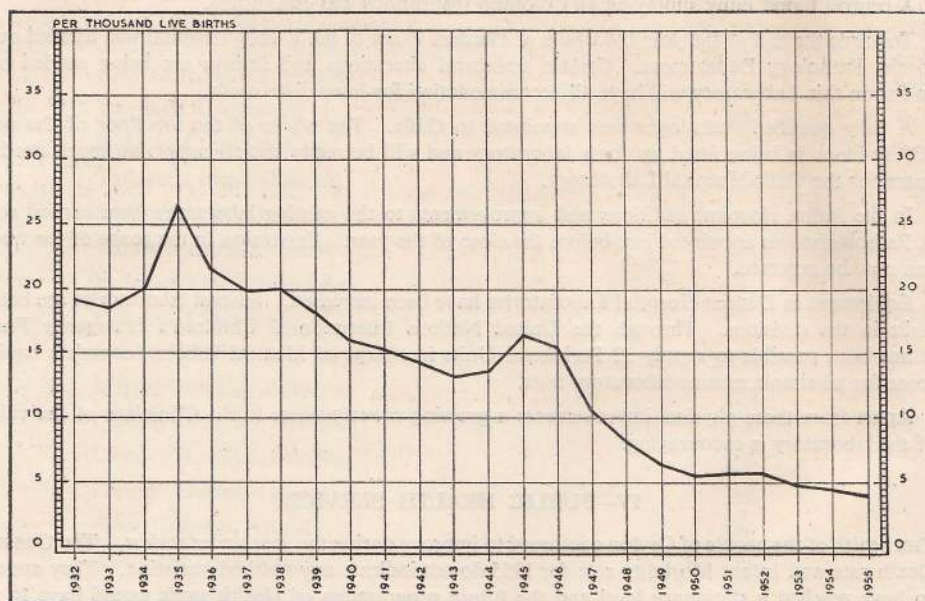
The health of the people of Ceylon continued to improve during the year under review. The General Death rate and Infant Mortality rate for 1955 do not indicate any marked variation. They appear to have reached a stationary level and the future programmes of Health work would have to be intensified by paying greater attention to detail if a higher degree of improvement of the health of the people is to be achieved.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE—CEYLON, 1932-55





## MATERNAL DEATH RATE, CEYLON, 1932-55



Supervising Public Health Inspectors were in charge of 53 predominantly rural Health areas. These officers have paid special attention to Environmental Sanitation and some of them have done creditable work in this respect.

The problem of Environmental Sanitation continued to receive the special attention of the Division of Public Health Services.

A pilot rural environmental sanitation project was started in the Kurunegala District area in July, 1955, under the guidance of a W. H. O. Engineer.

The necessary preliminary explorative and experimental work was carried out and construction of sanitary facilities commenced on a small scale.

No cases of major infectious diseases occurred in the Island during the year. However there were a few outbreaks of minor communicable diseases.

With the withdrawal of Medical Officers of Health from 53 rural health areas and their replacement by Supervising Public Health Inspectors, the work of School Medical Inspection in these areas underwent a change. Some schools were assigned to Apothecaries for medical inspection. The remainder were assigned to Medical Officers in charge of Peripheral Units and other institutions. There has been a slight decrease in the number of schools examined, 4,022 as against 4,231 in 1954, but the number of pupils examined was 130,636 as against 128,503 in 1954. The total number found defective was 88,598 making 67.8 per cent. of the total number examined. As before, the chief defects found were Mal-nutrition, Hookworm infestation, Anaemia, Dental Caries, Pediculosis, Uncleanliness and Non-vaccination. The percentage of defects corrected was 52.2 which is a slight improvement on last year.

The School Dental Services continued to expand. At the end of the year there were 9 School Clinics functioning. The Dental Nurses provide dental care to school children up to the age of 13 years. A Dental School for the training of Dental Nurses was opened in March, 1955, and the training work is being carried on by Dental Nursing Tutors under the direction of a Dental Surgeon who are all from New Zealand under the Colombo Plan.



Special attention continued to be paid to the nutrition of the people. Active steps have been taken to promote improvement in the diet of the people and to enlist the co-operation of other departments interested in the improvement of nutrition. This work is carried out in close collaboration with the Department of Laboratory Services. The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund has provided 400 tons of skimmed milk and 4 million fish liver oil capsules for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children. In addition they have provided drugs and diet supplements consisting of skimmed milk powder and whole milk powder for use at 32 Peripheral Units and 36 Health Units.

Inspection of plantation estates is now carried out by two Inspecting Medical Officers (Estates) stationed at Bandarawela and Nawalapitiya. In addition, Medical Officers of Health do estate inspection of some of the estates situated within their areas.

The total number of estates inspected during the year was 591 compared with 288 in 1954. There is still a great shortage of Midwives on estates and action is being taken to encourage departmentally trained midwives to seek posts on estates. There is also a shortage of approved dispensers and a scheme is being worked out whereby nominees of the Planters' Association of Ceylon are being trained as Apothecaries at the Ceylon Medical College to work on estates.

Out of the Zoonoses, Rabies is still the most important infection which is engaging the attention of the Public Health Veterinary Officers. The number of human deaths from Rabies for 1955 was 43 as compared to 117 in 1954. This is the lowest recorded number of deaths due to human rabies for the last 25 years.

The Food and Drugs Act No. 25 of 1949 and the subsidiary regulations framed thereunder continued to be enforced actively in the administrative area of the Colombo Municipal Council. Although the Act was made operative in all the administrative areas from October 1, 1949, the Food and Drugs Regulations Nos. 1, 2 and 3 were made operative in the first instance only within the Colombo Municipality. As it was felt that these Regulations, should be extended to all other administrative areas of the Island, action was taken during the year to make them applicable by Local Authorities to all the administrative areas outside the Colombo Municipality.

The Food and Drugs (No. 6) Regulations, 1955, for the control of drugs (the competent authority being the Director of Health Services) have been brought into operation with effect from November 1, 1955. Important provisions are (i) the licensing of dealers in drugs other than those listed in the First Schedule to these regulations; (ii) the fixing of Standards of purity of drugs as prescribed in the British Pharmacopoeia, British Pharmaceutical Codes and International Pharmacopoeia; (iii) declaration of the formulae of the Proprietary Medicines; (iv) standards for Fish Liver Oils; and (v) conditions governing sale of Biological Preparations and Anti-biotics. The Schemes of licensing were put into operation during the last quarter of the year.

The Inter-Departmental Advisory Committee on Food and Drugs Act continued to function during the year. Various matters relating to Food and Drugs Act were referred to the Committee and its advice obtained in regard to their implementation.

A complete re-organization of Health Education work was initiated on the recommendations of the WHO Health Education Adviser.

The former Public Health Museum was transformed into a Health Education Materials Production Unit for the preparation of all health education materials. A Public Health Inspector (Artist) and Health Educator (Public Health Inspector) were appointed to undertake the preparation and maintenance of all health education materials.

A special training course in Health Education for 28 experienced Public Health Inspectors was conducted during August and September, 1955, at the Kalutara Health Unit. A characteristic feature of this training course was the informal community life that was fostered among the trainees.

#### V—SPECIAL DISEASES

##### Tuberculosis Control

The Campaign against Tuberculosis had the assistance of Professor R. T. Neubauer, W. H. O. Adviser, up to the end of the year. He trained the medical men to view the Curative and Preventive



aspects of the Tuberculosis problem in their proper perspective. The dark clouds that hung so ominously over the unfortunate victims of Tuberculosis in this country are now dissipating as a modern and up-to-date chain of Chest Clinics with improved methods of diagnosis, hospitalisation facilities, efficient drugs coupled with more intensive Public Health work for detection and supervision of contacts are bringing about a position from which we can now look hopefully to the effective control of the disease, if only those other equally important adjuncts of better sanitation, the clearing of slum areas, the provision of better housing, better and cheaper essential food for better nutrition, could be made to play their all important part in the Campaign's general plan.

The Anti-Tuberculosis work of the Department, now committed to an annual recurrent expenditure of nearly 11 million rupees, at present employs one-eleventh of the total cadre of medical officers of the Department of Health Services.

Progressive improvement in the bed position for Tuberculosis patients has been maintained. The total bed strength which was only 1,962 three years ago was raised to 2,286 at the end of 1955 and will reach the level of 3,750 in the ensuing year—a number which can definitely assure patients prompt arrangement for institutional treatment in most parts of the Island without a significant waiting list.

In 1955 the number of patients treated for Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Special T. B. Institutions was 4,846; in the General Hospital, Colombo, 1,179 and in the other hospitals of the Department 10,806 (these figures are partly overlapping) making a total of 16,831 as compared with 12,093 in 1954. This increase is primarily due to better diagnostic facilities available at the new Clinics and to the readiness with which suspected cases now seek advice. The eight Chest Clinics that were functioning from varying dates during the year diagnosed 5,571 cases.

### Leprosy

In 1955, the Preliminary Report of the World Health Organisation Consultant in Leprosy was implemented. This constituted a mile-stone in the long road for the control and eradication of Leprosy. The W. H. O. Expert Committee has drawn attention to the futility and even the danger of measures for compulsory segregation of lepers except in cases presenting a real danger to infection. In keeping with this opinion, treatment for leprosy in all suitable cases was transferred to the local hospitals and dispensaries throughout the Island. The total number of inmates in the Asylums at the end of 1955 was 974 as against 976 at the end of the previous year. There were 53 new admissions which included 5 re-admissions while 23 were discharged.

The survey that is now in progress to ascertain the incidence is throwing up a large number of new cases—316 cases in 1955 as against 265 in the previous year. At the end of 1955 there were 4,052 known cases of Leprosy as against 3,774 in 1954. As usual most of the new cases are in the Western Province.

The Survey is important not only to assess incidence but also for the institution of early treatment of a disease for which there is as yet no miracle drug. The prospect of recovery without any disability is great when the treatment is given before the disease has advanced to any great extent. The leprosy patient needs to be treated as a whole, not only for his physical ailment but also for his mental outlook, depending so much upon the reaction of society towards him. In order to meet this a Psychiatric Clinic was established at Hendala during the year.

### Venereal Diseases

Progress made by the Venereal Diseases Campaign has been maintained. The total number of new cases of Syphilis treated was 2,822 in 1955 as against 4,514 in 1954. The number of clinics that functioned was the same in both years. There is a fairly large reservoir of infection in the community and until this is eradicated with the active co-operation of an intelligent public as well as of the medical profession effective control of the disease cannot be achieved. Contact investigation which is the best means of getting at the reservoir of infection has been a routine activity of all the clinics. The records show that there is a definite link between prostitution and venereal disease. While much is known of the social menace of the unsuccessful prostitutes (those who have



fallen into the hands of the law) little is known of successful ones who have never been apprehended and constitute the real danger to that proportion of the male population estimated in other countries to be 15 per cent. who will have extra-marital intercourse, however difficult such opportunities are

### Yaws

Yaws is still prevalent in certain inaccessible areas of the country and a systematic eradication programme in these localities is being put through by the officers of the Venereal Disease Campaign. The total number of cases found in the area covered was 559. This eradication campaign was carried out in 1955 in Batumulla (Kandy District), Lakgala/Pallegama (Matale District) where the average positive serology rose from 6.5 per cent. in certain villages up to 38 per cent. in others. In all these cases 92.5 per cent. of the population received the full course of treatment.

### Mental Care

Statistics of admissions indicate that there had been over the years a steady rate of increase in admissions to the Angoda Mental Hospital. The admissions for 1955 were 2,692. There was a daily average of 4,596 patients in the hospital. No marked difference in incidence in the sexes was noted. Those afflicted were mainly in the second to fourth decade of life and not in the senile group as in Western countries. In the diagnostic group the largest number of inmates are schizophrenics followed by those with maniac-depressive psychoses.

Estimates based on the experience of other countries indicate that the number of mentally disordered persons in Ceylon's population would be in the region of 8,000 to 10,000 persons. Nearly half that number is now under the State care. It does not necessarily mean that this vast number needs institutional treatment or custodial care but that they need to be under the treatment of Psychiatrists. Voluntary treatment of mental illness on written application without certification has been provided in the new legislation that will come into force early in 1956. This change will make the public recognise the Mental Hospital as a place for active treatment and not merely an institution for the custodial care of the insane.

This outlook on mental ill-health is fostered in the constructional design of the new psychopathic hospital at Mulleriyawa and also in the proposal to make in-patient accommodation and facilities for out-door examination and treatment available in most of the larger ordinary hospitals for patients suffering from mental illness, under the care of a Psychiatrist/Physician on the staff or from a visiting member of the Mental Hospital at Angoda.

More use is being made of the facilities at the Out-patients Clinics for diagnosis and treatment by psychological and physical methods at the General Hospital, Colombo. An Epileptic Clinic was added in 1955 to the other special Mental Clinics functioning there.

The problem of mental deficiency in children was an aspect of mental ill-health that received special attention in 1955 with assistance of a WHO Consultant, Dr. L. T. Hilliard. His opinion was that further studies were needed to ascertain the number of backward children, handicapped children, feeble minded and the idiots.

### Cancer

A planned attack on cancer with a special hospital for research as well as by providing diagnosis and treatment, will have to await the completion of the Maharagama Cancer Institute, which will have a bed accommodation for 168 patients and a Waiting Hall which has been put up by the Cancer Society. The building will be ready in the latter part of 1956. In the absence of a system of Cancer Registration accurate morbidity records from Cancer are not available in this country to enable one to obtain a true picture of the pattern of development of cancer at different sites and its relationship to social and environmental factors.

### Filariasis

In the control of the rural type of filaria the weedicide, Phenoxyline—39p, has been a total answer to the destruction of the pistia plant, the preferential aquatic plant associated with the vector, the Mansonoid mosquito. In the eradication of rural filaria, removal from the blood of residual



microfilaria in the population and constant vigilance to maintain village cultivation tanks and water courses free of pistia are the activities now in existence. This work is neither difficult nor costly. The filaria worm being narrowly specialised as regards its host and there being no reservoir of infection apart from man, the sterilisation of the carriers of microfilaria with Hetrazan would prevent further infection and the disease would die out in rural areas, where there is mostly a settled population without migratory habits.

The existence of endemic areas for the Bancroftinn type of urban filaria along the coastal belt from Chilaw southwards to Matara continues to provide a problem of the first importance that needs the combined efforts of several Government Departments to solve, in addition the co-operation of the population resident in the areas and much money to improve environmental sanitation.

The suggestion made by the Department for many years that the control of Filaria in all its aspects should be made a Central Government responsibility has been accepted and a programme of work through several Departments concerned was in formulation during the year. In the financial year 1956-57 the Filaria Control programme will operate on an expanded Central Government Budget and with a determination in keeping with the magnitude of its threat to health.

### Malaria

The rate of incidence of Malaria in 1955 was only 0.85 per thousand of the population and is the lowest on record. The rate per thousand of the population was 412 in 1946 and 196 in 1947 the year in which this downward trend commenced when insecticides were applied to habitations. This trend has continued without a set back up to the present time. The highest incidence within the last 20 years was in 1940 when it was 527 per thousand i.e. every second person of the population was a victim of Malaria in that year.

The parts of the country where Malaria is now met with are the Batticaloa District and certain parts of the Ratnapura and Hambantota Districts. The vector, *A. Culicifacies*, is now virtually extinct in the country except in the areas adjoining the jungles of the Dry Zone and there too in unsprayed houses. The parasite was detected in 1955 only in the blood of two infants and that in the Dry Zone, out of the blood samples of 4,746 babies examined from all over the country. In fact the parasite has become such a rarity that the medical students now are able to study the characters of the parasite only in stained specimens preserved from the endemic days of the past.

The cost of control work in 1955 for malaria was Rs. 0.33 per head of population protected.

## VI—INDIGENOUS MEDICINE

### College of Indigenous Medicine

THE course of studies at the College extends to a period of 5 years.

Number of students on roll :—

Ayurvedic Section	141
Siddha Section	9
Unani Section	25
	<hr/>
	175*

\* Inclusive of 25 women students.

*Final Examination.*—Number of students completing the Final Examination for the Diploma of the College :—

Ayurvedic Section	16
Siddha Section	1
Unani Section	1



**Scholarships and Bursaries :—**There are 40 Scholarships of the value of Rs. 240 per annum and 40 Bursaries of the value of Rs. 120 per annum. These are distributed as follows :—

	Scholarships	Bursaries
Ayurvedic Section	26	35
Siddha Section	6	1
Unani Section	8	4
	40	40

### Hospital of Indigenous Medicine

The number of patients treated in the hospital in 1955 was 2,922 and the fees recovered from paying patients amounted to Rs. 6,105. The total number of cases treated during 1955 was 309,865 while the total number treated during the previous year was 320,977. The average daily attendance for the year under review was 1,025 as compared with 1,042 for 1954.

### Research

Research on Ayurvedic Drugs are being carried out at the hospital with the assistance of the Pharmacological Department of the University of Ceylon and the Medical Research Institute. Research is being conducted at present on Anti-diabetic Drugs—“Kotala Himbutu” (*Salacia Reticulata* Wight), “Ranavara” (*Cassia Auriculata*-Linn), (Sanskrit—“Akuli”), “Gammalu” (*Pterocarpus Masupium-Roxib*), (Sanskrit—“Piyala”), “Koskola” (*Artocarpus Integriofolia*-Linn) (Sanskrit—“Panasa Pathra”), “Minee Mal” (*Lochnera Rosea-Reichb*), “Madam” (*Eugenia Jambolana*-Lam), (Sanskrit—“Jambu”); Drugs affecting the heart—“Kumbuk” (*Terminalia Arjuna*-W & A), (Sanskrit—“Arjuna”) and Anti-rheumatic Drugs—“Detta Ala” (*Baliosperma Montanum*-Muell), (Sanskrit—“Danti”) and “Araththa”—(*Languas Vittata*-Swart) (Sanskrit—“Rasna”).

Clinical experiments on Vitamin B Tablets made from toddy sediments are being conducted and these tablets have proved to be effective in Vitamin B complex deficiency.

### Pharmacy

The Pharmacy attached to the Hospital continued to manufacture all the medicines necessary for the treatment of patients in the Hospital and Out Patients' Department.

### Grants to Free Ayurvedic Dispensaries

Annual grants varying from Rs. 80 to Rs. 1,500 have been made to Ayurvedic Dispensaries which are maintained by recognised Bodies and conform to certain conditions laid down by the Ministry of Health. Free Ayurvedic Dispensaries maintained by Local Bodies have also been given grants from Rs. 100 to Rs. 13,000 per annum. During the year under review grants were given to 82 Dispensaries maintained by Private Bodies and 52 Dispensaries maintained by Local Bodies. During the previous year grants were given to 87 Dispensaries maintained by Private Bodies and 43 Dispensaries maintained by Local Bodies.

### Registration of Practitioners of Indigenous Medicine

The total number of practitioners of Indigenous Medicine registered by the Board of Indigenous Medicine on the recommendation of the Registration Committee up to the end of 1955 is 7,340. Of this number 5,175 Practitioners have been registered as General Practitioners and 2,165 Practitioners as Specialists.

During the year 1955, 347 Physicians have been registered as General Practitioners and 220 Physicians as Specialists.



### Additions and Improvements to the Hospital

A new Building Programme has been drawn up with a view to modernising the present hospital.

The construction of these buildings will be spread over a number of years. Financial provision has been made for the construction of a one Storeyed Ward Block, Administration Block and Out Patients' Department, Operating Theatre and the Research Centre and it is expected that these buildings will be completed during the year 1956.

### Silver Jubilee Celebrations

The Silver Jubilee of the College and Hospital was celebrated during the period January 5 to January 11, 1955.

An Exhibition was also held in the College premises during the Silver Jubilee Celebrations. Over 30,000 persons visited the Exhibition during this period.

### Aid under the Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme

The Medical Superintendent, who was awarded a Fellowship under the above scheme to study Medical Administration, proceeded to Canada in July, 1955, and returned in November, 1955.

## VII—QUARANTINE SERVICES

CEYLON'S defence against the introduction of dangerous infectious diseases like Cholera, Small-Pox and Plague from neighbouring countries and against Yellow Fever from Yellow Fever endemic Zones, is its Quarantine Regulations, made under the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance of 1897. Due regard is also paid to Ceylon's obligations under International Sanitary Regulations.

Mandapam and Tattapparai Quarantine Camps guard against the entry of Cholera and Small-Pox infection into Ceylon from India through the rail route and sea route respectively. Immigrant labourers, now few, are subject to quarantine procedures. They also receive the attention of the Protector of the Indian Government and of the Commissioner of Labour at Mandapam Camp. Passengers (other than Immigrant labourers) are subject to medical surveillance in Ceylon, provided they conform with the usual requirements.

The Port Health Organisation at Colombo, Galle, Trincomalee and Out-Ports, is an important part of the Quarantine Department. Ships are inspected on arrival to determine whether they are healthy or carry infection. Ships, their personnel and cargo, are appropriately dealt with in case infection is found to be present. The fumigation of plague-suspect cargo with Hydrogen Cyanide gas is a conspicuous feature of Ceylon's defence against plague.

The Airport Health Service is well established and passengers are increasing in numbers rapidly. Ratmalana, as the principal Airport in Ceylon, has a full time Airport Health Officer with the necessary staff to combat the importation of infection by aircraft. At Kankasanturai (Jaffna Airport) and at Katunayake (Royal Airforce Station, Negombo) part-time Airport Health Officers are functioning.

In view of the possible entry of Yellow-Fever into Ceylon through aircraft, special precautions are taken at our Airports, e.g. Mosquito control at Ratmalana and Katunayake, disinfection of aircraft arriving from Yellow-Fever endemic zones and isolation of non-immunised passengers arriving from such zones.

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#### Important References :

Administration Report of the Director of Health Services.



## CHAPTER XVII

### SOCIAL SERVICES, RURAL WELFARE AND NATIONAL HOUSING

#### I—SOCIAL SERVICES

A separate Department of Social Services was created in 1948 to deal with the subjects of Poor Relief, Relief of Distress, Charitable Institutions, Workmen's Compensation and Social Insurance. All these subjects with the exception of Social Insurance were previously administered by the Department of Labour on a limited scale.

##### Public Assistance

The administration of the Poor Law Ordinance of 1939 promulgated for rendering public assistance to poor was vested in the three major Municipalities of Colombo, Kandy and Galle. The Municipal authority established its own standards of determining relief within a general pattern set by this Ordinance.

In areas outside these Municipalities, payment of monthly allowances to the needy continues to be the basic social service and still affords the major governmental protection against the hazards of old age, sickness and disability. Assistance to destitute widows and to women deprived of their husband's help owing to imprisonment or physical disability is also provided. The standards determining relief are set out in the Manual of Public Assistance Orders and Procedure, and the maximum payments are Rs. 10 per mensem for an individual and Rs. 20 per mensem for a person with dependants.

The number of persons who received monthly allowances and the total sums expended in such cases since 1952-53 are as follows :—

TABLE 17-1 MONTHLY ALLOWANCES, NUMBER AND TOTAL SUM EXPENDED

Year	Number of Persons	Total Sum Expended
		Rs.
1952-53	85,688	8,031,717
1953-54	75,151	7,330,304
1954-55	76,161	6,890,673

The full responsibility for the administration of Public Assistance and relief of distress, whether casual or widespread, is borne by the Central Government through its Revenue Officers.

##### Casual Relief

Assistance is given to relieve distress resulting from accidents or other emergencies affecting individuals or small groups. The relief covers distress resulting from loss of earnings or food supply by fire or accident, repair or reconstruction of houses, assistance to purchase clothing, implements of trade or tools or cooking utensils lost through fire, rain, storm or other similar cause. The maximum grant payable in any one case is Rs. 300. In 1954-55 Rs. 187,726 was spent in assisting 2,407 applicants for relief.

##### Relief of Distress

Floods and droughts are a common cause of distress. Any catastrophic occurrence like a cyclone, earthslip or an epidemic, which involves the people in suffering and helplessness is also regarded as abnormal distress.



The scheme for relief of distress due to floods provides for the immediate grant of relief in the form of foods, clothing and shelter to those rendered homeless, and grants of money up to a maximum of Rs. 300 to those whose houses require repair or rebuilding or for implements of trade damaged or destroyed. Assistance to relieve distress due to crop failure usually takes the form of provision of unskilled employment in relief works.

#### **Assistance to Tuberculosis Patients**

A scheme of financial assistance for indigent tuberculosis patients and their dependants has been formulated by the Department of Social Services in close collaboration with the Department of Health Services with the object of compensating for loss of earning power during treatment and thus encouraging early and complete treatment and care. The maximum payment to a family where the patient is receiving institutional treatment is Rs. 60 per mensem and where outdoor treatment is taken Rs. 80 per mensem. Supplements of Rs. 40 per mensem are also payable in respect of dependants who are themselves afflicted by the disease. In 1955 a total amount of Rs. 3,143,867 was spent in assisting 5,436 applicants.

#### **Voluntary Agencies**

The Voluntary Agencies continue to perform a very necessary and useful service. The paucity of funds generally makes their effort inadequate in relation to the large numbers seeking assistance. Even though the sphere of State action has greatly expanded in recent years, Government in pursuance of its policy of encouraging voluntary effort has given liberal grants to such agencies in varying amounts. In 1954-55 Rs. 1,029,285 was paid as grants to 134 Voluntary Agencies including Orphanages.

#### **Homes for the Aged**

Government policy in regard to the Homes for the Aged has been to assist by means of grants to existing Homes financed by private subscription and voluntary agencies. A sum of Rs. 266,637 was paid to 23 such organisations in 1954-55 as grants-in-aid. But since the Voluntary Agencies are unable to cope with the demand for institutional relief, Government had decided to establish State Homes for the Aged in suitable areas. Three such Homes have been established at Koggala, Anuradhapura and Jaffna and one is nearing completion in Mirigama.

#### **Creches**

A scheme to provide Creche facilities for the daytime care of children between the ages of about three months and 5 years in areas where there is a concentration of working mothers came into force in 1951. Grants are given to Voluntary Organisations or Local Authorities for the erection of buildings, purchase of equipment and furniture and for the running of the creches. An annual maintenance grant is payable depending on the number of children cared for in the creche. In 1954-55, 19 creches were assisted by Government grants amounting to Rs. 224,747.

#### **Rehabilitation of the Disabled**

Although the term "disabled persons" is popularly associated with disabled ex-servicemen and civilian war casualties, industrial accidents and diseases are an equally important cause of disablement. Liability for compensation in such cases is placed on the employer under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance but no obligation is imposed on him to assist either in their rehabilitation or re-settlement.

A scheme to provide vocational training for the orthopaedically disabled persons in the Orthopaedic Workshops was inaugurated in September, 1952. The period of training varies from six months to three years depending on aptitude, extent of physical disability and the particular trade. A maximum allowance of Rs. 2 per diem is paid for the duration of the training.

#### **Deaf and Blind**

Government policy in regard to the deaf, and blind was to entrust their care and welfare to voluntary organisations and confine State activity to practical measures for the prevention of deafness and



blindness. In 1948, however, this policy underwent a change when the State, in effect, accepted responsibility for the after-care of the adult deaf and blind as well. In pursuance of this policy an annual Government grant of Rs. 147,500 is being paid to meet the running costs of the existing scheme of Sheltered Workshops, and steps have been taken to provide improved buildings for the Sheltered Workshops at Seeduwa.

### Problem of Vagrancy

The rehabilitation of vagrants and other anti-social elements is being done by the Government through the House of Detention and the Home for Vagrants. At present the House of Detention and the Home for Vagrants are two separate institutions, the former being under the direct management of the Department of Social Services while the other is managed by the Salvation Army on behalf of the Government. Training in Cottage Industries is given to the inmates. This training, in addition to keeping the inmates gainfully occupied while under detention, helps them in obtaining employment on their release.

### Workmen's Compensation

The payment of compensation to workmen meeting with accidents in the course of their work is provided for under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance No. 19 of 1934 which was brought into operation in 1935, and administered since 1948, by the Director of Social Services. The Ordinance expressly extends the term "accident" to include occupational diseases like anthrax, lead poisoning, &c. The compensation payable is determined on the basis of wages earned by a workman in relation to the loss of earning capacity sustained by him. Insurance is not compulsory under the Ordinance, but an employer may insure with an Insurance Company in order that he may safeguard himself against these risks. Claims paid to employees who met with accidents since 1953 are as follows :—

TABLE 17-2 WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, 1953-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Claims</i>	<i>Amount</i> <i>Rs.</i>
1953	7,779	693,189
1954	7,863	706,391
1955	7,722	610,930

### Social Insurance

The Department of Social Services has done preparatory work for the introduction of Social Insurance as recommended by the Social Services Commission. A modified scheme covering Health and Unemployment Insurance and a National Provident Fund, drawn up by the Department of Social Services, was considered by the Government and it was decided to establish only the National Provident Fund in the first instance and a draft bill is receiving consideration of Government.

### Legislation

The Poor Law Ordinance for rendering public assistance is in force in the Municipalities of Colombo, Kandy and Galle since 1940.

The preparation of a draft bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance in the light of past experience and with reference to the recommendations of the Social Services Commission is in its final stages.



A draft Charities Regulation Bill to prevent the improper collection of funds allegedly for charitable purposes is receiving the attention of Government.

## II—RURAL WELFARE

### Rural Development

THE basic objectives of the Rural Development movement are to co-ordinate village activities through a welfare organisation and formulate village development schemes on a collective basis.

The total number of Rural Development organisations are as follows :—

TABLE 17-3 STATISTICS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETIES

	<i>Men's Societies</i>	<i>Women's Societies</i>	<i>Group Societies</i>	<i>Unions</i>
	<i>Number</i>			
1952	5,562	1,696	530	150
1953	5,869	2,068	659	164
1954	5,812	1,895	595	135
1955	6,172	2,195	703	136

The activities undertaken by the Societies can be broadly classified under these groups :

- (i) Purely self-help activities,
- (ii) Assisted Schemes,
- (iii) Contractual work.

### Purely Self-help Activities

Great importance is attached to purely self-help activities such as detection of village crime by the village volunteer squads and settling of disputes by the Conciliation Boards. Up to 1955 a total of 30,182 cases have been settled.

The Rural Development Societies also organise donation of blood to the Blood Banks of the Health Department and give assistance to the National Savings Movement and Milk Feeding Schemes.

### Assisted Self-help Schemes

The Societies make a contribution of self-help effort in respect of items of Public Utility value, which entitles them to assistance from Government to complete the work.

The Ceylon Government received a gift of Rs. 3,574,164.83 from the Canadian Government under the Colombo Plan for improvement of Rural Roads already cut by Rural Development Societies on the basis of self-help. Upto 1953, 3,015 miles of roads had been cut by Rural Development Societies.

Wells and latrines in Rural areas are also constructed on this basis. A total of 11,345 wells and 64,569 latrines have been completed since the inception of the movement.





LACE WEAVER—WELIGAMA

*(Courtesy Government Tourist Bureau)*







**Contractual Work**

The Rural Development Societies are increasingly undertaking work for Government Departments and earning profits for the Societies. Values of works undertaken during the last few years are as follows :—

Year	Land Development	Irrigation	Local Government	P. W. D.	Other Departments
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1952	1,418,141 25	94,619 87	83,692 50	3,730 0	—
1953	75,334 65	261,623 73	42,245 0	4,141 55	60,963 75
1954	82,541 0	91,666 91	3,995 0	—	1,655 17
1955	27,307 0	63,607 96	5,688 0	—	1,200 0
	1,603,323 90	511,518 47	135,620 50	7,871 55	63,818 92

**Women's Welfare Work**

For the further development of women's welfare, a central advisory committee was formed in July 1954, on the advice of Miss D. Moses, U. N. Expert in Training then attached to this Department. The Committee consisted of 15 experienced women workers, 9 from the provinces and 6 others from the Colombo District. The function of the Committee was to tender such advice as it thought necessary in regard to the promotion of women's welfare work in the Island.

A sub-committee of this body was nominated to deal with the specialised activities :

- The sale of Cottage Industrial products,
- Propaganda to stimulate women in rural areas in village welfare work, and
- To guide the department in the training of women workers.

There are at present 2,195 women's welfare societies.

Women's welfare work is also undertaken by Mahila Samitis directed by the Central Board of the Lanka Mahila Samiti. The department provides them with grants and assistance.

For several years the department has recruited competent men and women workers under the designation Gramasevakas and Gramasevikas from the backward villages to lead the Kantha and Rural Development Societies and to rehabilitate the condition of men and women under the guidance of this department. In this category 35 women workers were engaged.

Treasury has also approved the appointment of honorary women organisers, one for each D. R. O's division.

Steps are now being taken to recruit a Lady Assistant director and a Lady Rural Development Assistant.

**Evaluation of Rural Development**

The services of a Sociologist and an Economic Statistician were obtained through the U. S. Educational Foundation in Ceylon to make an evaluative study of the progress made by the Rural Development Movement since 1948. The study commenced in July 1955 and is expected to be completed by June, 1956. The Economic Statistician is making an overall study of the movement while the Sociologist is making a detail study in selected villages. The study includes both men and women welfare movements in rural Ceylon.

**Training**

An important feature of Rural Development work is the training programme both for departmental officers and village workers. Training is provided at Rural Development Training Centres in the Island.



The knowledge gained from these training courses enable the trainees to initiate various welfare programmes for improving living conditions in their villages.

Short field seminars of 2 to 3 days' duration are also held in central places in rural areas for the benefit of leading members of societies who are unable to attend the residential classes at Training Centres.

#### Staff Training Centre

The rural Development Training Centre at Dalugama was used for training "in service" officers and volunteers with considerable experience. Each training course lasts for about 5 months. The trainees also do practical work in selected villages in order to gain first hand experience of working with people. The work is analysed and evaluated at Seminars and tutorials in which the visiting lecturers and the training staff at the Centre participate. Two courses of training were held in 1955 at which 31 Rural Development Officers were trained.

### III—THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

THE Co-operative Societies Ordinance of 1912 made provision for co-operative credit societies. Other (non-credit) types of societies and secondary institutions could not be organised under it. These and other defects led to the passing of Ordinance No. 34 of 1921 which in turn was repealed by the Ordinance No. 16 of 1936 consolidating and amending the law relating to the constitution and control of Co-operative Societies.

The following table shows the progress made between 1921 and 1941 :—

TABLE 17.4 PROGRESS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, 1921-41

Year	No. of Societies	No. of Members	Turnover Rs.	Owned Capital Rs.	Assets in Rupees	
					Primary Societies	Secondary Societies
1921	154	18,000	132,000	143,000	204,000	—
1931	600	24,000	1,243,000	641,000	1,610,000	249,000
1941	1,852	79,000	4,458,000	3,230 000	4,952 000	1,243,000

The co-operative Movement in its early stages was concerned mainly with the provision of rural credit. The last world war gave a new pattern by shifting emphasis from credit to productive and distributive functions. The consumers' movement became the life-line of food distribution during the years 1942-45. The following table indicates the development of the movement in recent years :—

TABLE 17.5 ANALYSIS OF CO-OPERATIVES BY TYPE OF SOCIETY, 1942-55

Type of Society	1942*	1945*	1948*	1952†	1955†
1. Credit	1,622	1,811	1,959	2,495	3,292
2. Thrift and Savings	164	198	228	320	385
3. Consumers' (Primary)	52	4,027	3,887	3,408	2,720
4. Agricultural Production and Sale Societies	11	23	47	498	842
5. Marketing and Production Societies (excluding 4)	56	135	146	404	826
6. School Co-operative Societies	26	46	65	793	1,266
7. Other types	105	196	230	321	483
Total	2,036	6,436	6,562	8,239	9,814

\* Year ending April 30.

† Year ending December 31.



The Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies (now familiarly known as CAPS) which originally started in 1947 have 218,000 Agriculturists as members. The principal objects of these societies are :

- (1) to act as agents of the Government in financing cultivators for their agricultural operations, and
- (2) to act as agent of the Government in purchasing produce under the Guaranteed Price Scheme under which the cultivator is ensured of a fair price for his produce.

The total assistance by way of loans given by the Government to these societies since 1947 has amounted to Rs. 74.7 million of which Rs. 58.6 million have been repaid. Under the Guaranteed Price Scheme these societies collected during 1955 produce worth Rs. 121.0 million which included 9,422,455 bushels of paddy.

The Coconut industry is being rehabilitated on Co-operative basis and there are 33 societies covering an acreage of 98,547. The Central Organisation is a Union of Coconut Producer Societies which is a direct shipper of coconut produce, (Copra, D. C., Coconut Oil and Fresh Nuts), and sold for its member societies produce worth Rs. 5.0 million while the societies alone sold produce worth Rs. 13.6 million.

Co-operative Cottage Industrial Societies have encouraged the development of Cottage Industries and there are about 568 societies in all, of which 255 are Textile Weavers', 88 Coir Workers', 82 Carpentry, 56 Pottery, 16 Mat Weavers', and 71 others. The total membership is 19,453.

The Fishermen are helped through the Fishermen's Co-operative Credit and Sales Societies and the Co-operative Fishing Societies. The Ceylon Co-operative Fish Sales Union, which is a Union of the Producer Societies, was registered in 1952 to assist them in selling their catch. It received during the year 239,749 lbs. of fish from the member societies.

This Union performs yet another function. The entire catch of the trawlers engaged by the Government Department of Fisheries and by the Firm Ocean Food and Trade Co., Ltd., is purchased by the Union and sold at a fair price to the consumer, thereby acting as a check on the Market Price of traders' fish. 2,975,208 lbs. of fish were received from the trawlers. During the year it sold 1,943,612 lbs. of fish for Rs. 1,849,175.

The Government has made available a sum of Rs. 3 million and Rs. 2 million respectively for the development of the Fishing Industry and of Cottage Industries on Co-operative lines.

Co-operative production and distribution of milk are making rapid advances. There are 31 societies, with the Colombo Co-operative Milk Union at the apex, which function on much the same lines as those in Stockholm and Geneva. The primary societies among themselves sold during the year 3,077,027 pints of milk for Rs. 1,381,000.

The Co-operative Milk Union has its own building and owns the most up-to-date pasteurization plant in Ceylon, with a capacity of 400 gallons an hour. Both these cost Rs. 4 lakhs. During 1955 it sold 2,489,658 pints of milk for Rs. 1,343,000. Its selling price is 55 cents per pint which is well below the outside price for comparable milk.

Credit Societies continue to be a great boon to the poor peasants, for as many as 365 new societies were registered during the year bringing the total number to 3,292—the largest number of any single type of society. Total loans granted by this type of society during 1955 amounting to Rs. 9,847,000 ; the majority of the loans were for agricultural operations in the rural areas and for trade in Urban areas. Total savings in Credit Societies (as deposits) and in Thrift Societies at the end of 1955 amounted to Rs. 13,037,000.

There are 13 Co-operative Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Island. Over a lakh of persons received treatment during the year. The Tholpuram Moolai Co-operative Union Hospital (Jaffna) the great pioneer, deserves special mention for its long period (now 20 years) of sustained and inspiring effort. It has 54 rooms and 30 open wards. Free treatment and concessions to indoor patients are afforded as relief to poor patients. It receives an annual grant of Rs. 15,000 from the Government for maintenance and free treatment.

In Kegalle District, 5 Rubber Producers' Societies operate in estates acquired by Government for village expansion. There are also another 7 Societies registered for small-holdings.



The Tea Small-holders' societies number 19 with a membership of 3,699. The total extent served by these societies at present is 13,694 acres. The assistance received by these societies from Government was Rs. 238,743 by way of loans and Rs. 63,038 as subsidies to members. One society has set up a tea factory in order to process the produce of the members' plantations. The quantity of green leaf collected by all societies was 2,061,122 lbs.

The Consumer Section of the Co-operative Movement comprises 2,720 primary societies and 94 Unions of such societies ; the latter's function is to supply goods to groups of societies and save them the trouble and expense of individual buying. The sales of the primary societies during the year amounted to Rs. 190 million and that of the Unions Rs. 320 million.

The C. W. E. was established in 1943 as a wholesale supplier of consumer goods to co-operative retail stores in the Island. Originally a Government Department, it is now managed by an autonomous board of Directors appointed by the Government.

The Co-operative Youth Club Movement is now 4½ years old. Its aim is to help youths between the ages of 14 and 21 who are generally on the drift without anything definite on their hands. These clubs plan and conduct their activities on thoroughly co-operative lines and members are taught to be self reliant and to honour the principles of co-operation. There are at present 77 Youth Clubs with 4,700 members, 59 for boys, 16 for girls and 2 mixed.

Other spheres of co-operative activities include Transport, Dairy Farming, Better Living, Labour, Welfare and Housing.

The Co-operative Movement is financed by the Co-operative Federal Bank of Ceylon, the Co-operative Provincial and District Banks (of which there are eleven), the Department of Food Production, the Department of Fisheries and the Cottage Industries Department. The Government had deposited a sum of Rs. 6 million in the Federal Bank to enlarge its Working Capital ; and a sum of Rs. 3 million has been returned.

The rapid expansion of the movement is reflected in the financial turnover of the Co-operative Societies of all types. In 1955 it reached the very high figure of Rs. 1,257 million excluding the C. W. E.

The progress of the Co-operative movement would be entirely satisfactory if the corrupt co-operators who debase the societies for personal gain could be eradicated or at least kept in check and the present Minister is paying special attention to this.

The School of Co-operation at Polgolla run by the Co-operative Department has earned world-wide recognition within the last few years. The school although primarily meant for the training of the Departmental Officers has also undertaken the training of foreign students, unofficials and employees and officers of other Departments.

The Department of the Commissioner of Co-operative Development and Registrar of Co-operative Societies has a number of statutory functions to perform such as Registration, Supervision and Audit of Societies.

#### IV—NATIONAL HOUSING

THE Department of National Housing established under the National Housing Act No. 37 of 1954 seeks to relieve the housing shortage in two principal ways, viz., the granting of loans to land owners for the construction of houses and secondly, the building of houses departmentally to be rented or sold outright or sold on an instalment plan to persons needing houses.

In the year 1955, 4,308 applications were received for loans for the construction of 7,070 houses. 635 of these applications were disposed of in the course of the year. They covered the construction of 1,041 houses, the loans sanctioned aggregating Rs. 36,102,016. About a third of the sum sanctioned was actually paid out as work on the construction of houses progressed. The loan scheme of the Department proved to be very popular on account of the comparatively low rates of interest charged, the fact that the development value of land on which houses are constructed



after completion of such construction was taken into account as constituting the security for a loan and because the Department has generally been prepared to accept title pronounced as being passable by its lawyers although it might not be perfect.

In the Departmental construction of houses emphasis was laid in 1955 on relieving congestion in the City of Colombo. At the Bambalapitiya housing scheme 24 two bed-roomed flats in two blocks were completed and tenants were selected for them. Considerable progress was made in the construction of nine blocks more containing 156 flats.

At Kiribathgoda 105 members of a Co-operative Housing Society were placed in possession of houses constructed for them in the previous year and the construction of 192 middle-class houses and 53 workers' houses was commenced on an adjoining block of land of about 50 acres in extent.

At Gongitota 27 houses were completed in addition to 100 houses completed in the previous year and 105 tenants were placed in occupation of as many houses. The construction of a further 200 houses on neighbouring lands mainly for workers was commenced. In the area between Kelaniya and Gongitota an extent of about 105 acres was taken over out of a total extent of about 220 acres approved for acquisition.

At Battaramulla an aggregate extent of 110 acres was selected for acquisition in three blocks, two of which were taken over during the year. On these lands the construction of 66 middle-class houses was commenced through Building Societies.

Acquisition was initiated of about 350 acres of land at other places within a radius of 10 miles of the City, about 50 acres of which were taken over in the course of the year, about half of this extent being at Nawala where construction was commenced of 75 houses. In the City itself, three blocks of land aggregating about 10½ acres were taken over for the construction of multi-storeyed flats. The persons earlier resident on these lands whose dwellings had to be demolished to make room for the flats were moved into temporary accommodation which was also provided by the Department in 100 Emergency Houses. They will be offered accommodation in the flats when they have been completed. These 100 emergency units together with others which will hereafter be constructed are intended to provide temporary accommodation for persons displaced from congested areas taken up for improvement through the construction of storeyed flats, whether such construction is undertaken by the Government or even by private land owners.

Acquisition of land was initiated in areas outside Colombo too. At Kandy an estate 80 acres in extent was acquired for a Building Society of Public Servants for whom 220 houses will be constructed. In the same area arrangements were made with the Kandy Municipality for the taking over of 25 acres out of land which was being acquired for the Council. The acquisition of about 50 acres in various estate areas in the Central Province was initiated to relieve congestion in the estate bazaars. At Horana five acres were acquired and the construction of 39 houses commenced.

Investigation was made of the possibility of housing schemes on Crown Land, and tentative proposals were made in respect of Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Mannar, Nuwara-Eliya, Hambantota and Puttalam.

At Welikada arrangements were made for the taking over of the Urban Council playground for housing. A portion of this land sufficient for 12 houses was released in the course of the year, and the construction of 12 houses was commenced.

The Department encouraged the formation of Building Societies with a view to disposal of land for housing schemes in blocks to groups of persons who would eventually undertake the maintenance of common amenities like roads and water supply and with a view to securing the services of such Societies, if suitable as contractors and for the supervision of the work of construction of houses for their own members. 26 Building Societies were registered in the course of the year, while the registration of 78 more which had applied for registration was under consideration.



The National Housing Act No. 37 of 1954 was amended by the National Housing (Amendment) Act No. 30 of 1955 which came into operation on 25th August, 1955. The amending Act had two principal objects, viz., the making available to the Commissioner for National Housing of the procedure already available to Building Companies, Building Societies and Housing Bodies for the recovery of possession of houses from occupiers who for any reason were no longer entitled to remain in occupation and the dis-establishment of the Housing Loans Board, with the repeal of the Housing Loans Act. The Act provided for all loans by the Housing Loans Board to be deemed to be loans granted by the Commissioner for National Housing and for all assets of the Board to be transferred to the National Housing Fund.

As remarked earlier all this activity and expenditure has not had commensurate results in reducing the cost of housing to the middle and lower classes and it is the endeavour of the present Government to use public funds in such a way as to benefit those sections who are most in need of assistance.

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Important References :

- (1) Administration Report of the Director of Social Services.
- (2) Administration Report of the Director of Rural Development and Cottage Industries.
- (3) Administration Report of the Commissioner for Co-operative Development and Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
- (4) Administration Report of the Commissioner for National Housing.





## CHAPTER XVIII

### TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

#### I—RAILWAYS

THE Railway system of the Island has been patterned to meet her commercial and agricultural requirements and falls naturally into two types ; (a) railways serving the flat country and (b) railways serving the central hilly portion of the Island and the Kelani Valley which produce its tea and rubber.

All the lines except the Kelani Valley line are broad-gauged. A double track exists only in portions of two lines : (1) on the main line up to Polgahawela and (2) on the coast line up to Panadura.

The total length of railway line open in Ceylon is 897 miles for which 810 miles are broad-gauge ( $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet gauge) and 87 miles narrow gauge ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet gauge). The number of passengers and the tonnage of goods conveyed annually since 1950 were as follows :

TABLE 18·1 VOLUME OF RAILWAY TRAFFIC

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Passengers* (Conveyed) (thousands)	24,317	27,582	27,945	26,042	18,479	18,763
Season Ticket Holders (thousands)	476	518	535	516	468	451
Goods Conveyed (thousand tons)	1,281	1,505	1,614	1,582	1,593	1,604

\* Excludes Season Ticket holders

#### Organization

The Railways in Ceylon are State-owned and controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department. The set-up, at present, consists of five divisions or sub-departments whose work is organised under the General Manager.

#### Finances

Commercial accounts were introduced into the Railway in the financial year 1928-29. Excluding provision for interest and annuities, the following table compares results since 1940-41.

TABLE 18·2 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE OF THE RAILWAY, 1940-41 TO 1954-55

Year	Working Expenditure (Rs. Million)	Gross Receipts (Rs. Million)	Net Receipts (Rs. Million)	Paying Train Miles (Million)
1940-41	22·7	18·6	- 4·1	4·5
1941-42	24·4	28·3	3·9	4·2
1942-43	28·9	39·7	10·8	3·5
1943-44	32·1	52·0	19·8	3·6
1944-45	39·7	59·6	19·6	3·8
1945-46	52·1	56·3	4·2	4·2
1946-47	62·8	48·3	-14·5	4·4
1947-48	70·9	52·5	-18·4	5·1
1948-49	71·2	55·1	-16·2	5·5
1949-50	71·3	57·7	-13·6	5·7
1950-51	72·8	66·0	- 6·8	6·0
1951-52	83·2	73·9	-12·3	6·2
1952-53	85·6	70·1	-15·4	6·2
1953-54	81·6	73·4	- 8·2	5·9
1954-55	83·3	74·0	- 9·3	6·1



The Railway worked at a profit during the period 1928-29 to 1933-34 and 1941-42 to 1945-46. In 1953-54 the deficit was eight million rupees the corresponding figure for 1952-53 being fifteen million rupees.

The annual capital outlay on the Railway since 1947-48 was as follows :

TABLE 18.3 ANNUAL CAPITAL OUTLAY, 1949-50 TO 1954-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. Million</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. Million</i>
1949-50	6.3	1952-53	9.1
1950-51	7.6	1953-54	12.1
1951-52	9.7	1954-55	19.3

The capital expenditure on the Railway since its inception up to the period 1954-55 was Rs. 300,386,726.

#### Train Service

A new train service has been introduced providing a number of well equipped express trains with both sleeping berth and buffet facilities. In addition fast goods trains operate between provincial towns ensuring quick delivery of goods.

#### Co-ordinated Road Motor Services

With a view to affording the general public the facility of through transport by rail and road, regular road motor services for passenger and freight traffic have been established by the Railway linking up outlying areas with rail-head stations. Such services now function between Chilaw and Puttalam, Matara and Tissamaharama, Nanuoya and Ragalla and Bandarawela and Welimada.

In addition to these services, seasonal passenger services are provided in connection with pilgrimages to Sri Pada and Kataragama and the major religious festivals at the more important shrines in the Island, viz., Talawila, Madhu and Wahacotte Churches.

Collection and delivery services by a fleet of departmental lorries are in operation within the Municipal limits of Colombo and Kandy and their suburbs, providing Railway customers with a cheap and speedy door-to-door transport service for goods and parcels. The Colombo service has recently been extended to Nugegoda. Collection and Delivery work is also performed by cartage agents in the Matara-Tissamaharama, Chilaw-Puttalam, Nanuoya-Ragalla and Bandarawela-Welimada areas.

## II—ROADS, ROAD TRANSPORT AND CANALS

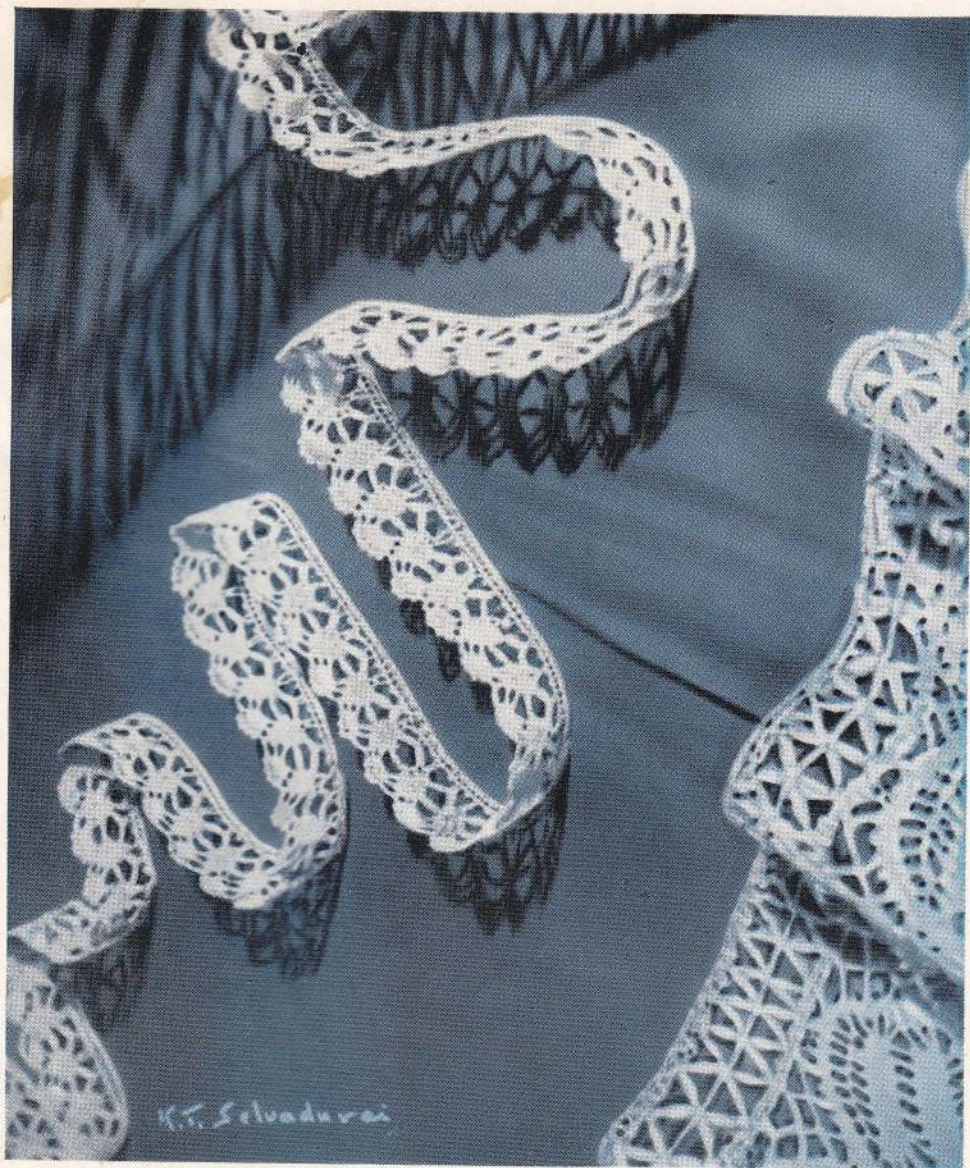
### Roads

A total of 11,189.93 miles of road were maintained by the Public Works Department. This excludes 20.58 miles of trunk roads maintained by the Colombo Municipal Council at the expense of the Central Government. Of the total mileage maintained by the Public Works Department 9,744.60 miles are motorable ; 6,339.29 miles are bitumen surfaced and a further 836.16 miles are metalled but not bitumen surfaced.

The general average spent on the maintenance per mile of all P. W. D. roads in 1954-55 was Rs. 935 compared with Rs. 778.19 in 1953-54, Rs. 1,031.90 in 1952-53 and Rs. 1,207.59 in 1951-52. Though the average expenditure per mile in 1954-55 is slightly higher than in the previous year, the expenditure was still appreciably lower than in 1951-52.

With regard to the former D. R. C. and P. R. C. roads, out of a total of 4,400 miles taken over in April, 1951, 475 miles of road have been metalled and bitumen surfaced, 77 miles metalled and 287 miles gravelled up to the end of 1953-54.





### GALLE LACE

*(Courtesy Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries)*







The Public Works Department has been entrusted with the construction of roads to serve Kandyan Villages in hilly districts in Central and Uva Provinces according to the proposals of the Kandyan Peasantry Commission. The work necessitates engineering surveys along very difficult terrain and the preparation of plans and estimates for a large number of roads and bridges. The Department has also been entrusted with a large volume of work on rural road construction carried out on the Canadian Grant by the Director of Rural Development. The Department also takes over 30 miles of Village Committee roads every year.

#### Construction and Maintenance of Bridges

The P. W. D. Bridges Organization is in charge of the construction of new bridges and the maintenance including heavy repairs of bridges already constructed.

A sum of Rs. 182,072.48 was spent on the maintenance of iron and timber bridges over 50 feet in length of which there are 574 on the roads maintained by the Department.

The Department is now faced with a very large programme of bridge work for a number of years in order to bring the communications of the Island up to a standard suitable for present day traffic. New bridges will be constructed in prestressed concrete where this type of construction is economical. The construction of the new Kelani Bridge is proceeding apace.

In June 1955 the services of an Engineer was obtained from the Bridge and Construction Department of the Research Institute of the Public Works of Japan under the Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme to report on the design and construction of bridges in Ceylon. In his preliminary report he suggests that the introduction of more and better plant would be advantageous. His final report is awaited.

#### Maintenance of Inland Navigation

A total length of 145.77 miles of inland waterways was maintained by the Public Works Department at a cost of Rs. 211,656.54. The presence of *Salvinia* weeds continues to be a major problem. No satisfactory method of dealing with this pest has yet been devised.

#### Motor Transport

Mention has been made in earlier issues of the Year Book of the factors responsible for the favourable position of Motor Transport in Ceylon.

The development of road transport in Ceylon has been very rapid especially during the post-war period. During the war years, there was a decline in the number of motor vehicles owing to the restriction of import of new vehicles. Since then there has been a steady increase in the number of motor vehicles from year to year. The number of vehicles at the end of each year beginning with 1947 was as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Motor Vehicles</i>
1947	39,783
1948	47,210
1949	52,085
1950	56,646
1951	64,864
1952	73,379
1953	80,201
1954	83,404
1955	88,750



### Registration of Motor Vehicles

The total number of new motor vehicles registered during 1955 was 6,970. About 50 per cent. of the total number of motor vehicles are garaged within the Colombo District.

### Motor Vehicles Taxation

Various fees prescribed by the Act are collected in uncanceled stamps for registration of vehicles, transfers of vehicles, issue of driving licences and extensions of such licences, issue of Conductors' and Ticket Inspectors' licences, applications for permits, issue of permits, &c. The total amount of fees collected by the Commissioner of Motor Traffic during the financial year 1953-54 amounted to Rs. 914,373.

### Driving licences

The total number of drivers in registers up to December 31, 1955, was 157,430. As licences are not renewable, it is not possible to give the actual number of drivers in the Island. The number of licences issued since 1950 was as follows : 1950—7,057 ; 1951—8,223 ; 1952—9,895 ; 1953—11,966 ; 1954—8,896 ; and 1955—8,816.

There has also been a steady increase in the number of accidents. Owing to the increase in the number of motor vehicles, traffic congestion has become a serious problem in most of the important towns.

Provision exists in the Motor Traffic Act to call upon a person convicted of the offence of rash or negligent driving to undergo a fresh test and to cancel his licence if he is found unfit to drive motor vehicles.

### Regular Road Passenger Transport Services

With a view to the proper development of Road Passenger transport the Motor Traffic Act provides for a system of exclusive permits to operate regular omnibus and hiring car services.

At the end of 1955 bus services on 1,103 routes were operated by 75 regular operators. Although the number of buses in use and bus miles run have increased the latter increase has not been on the scale necessary to meet the traffic demands. The number of passengers have increased by 6 per cent. when compared with 1954 while the increase in the number of buses in use has been only 6 per cent. when compared with the previous year. The new buses no doubt are of larger capacity and it has been possible in many cases to provide somewhat adequate services by better utilisation of buses by running more miles per day. The following table shows the number of buses in use, the number of bus miles run and passengers carried during the years 1948-55.

TABLE 18.4 BUS PASSENGER TRAFFIC, 1948-55

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of buses licensed</i>	<i>No. of miles run during June</i>	<i>No. of passengers carried during June</i>
1948	1,502	3,912,017	11,891,586
1949	1,631	4,359,746	14,333,708
1950	1,849	5,089,612	15,946,096
1951	2,007	5,718,308	19,175,152
1952	2,329	5,976,337	22,915,685
1953	2,560	6,682,462	23,915,251
1954	2,731	7,234,211	27,429,824
1955	2,902	7,124,204	29,149,869



The number of new buses registered during 1955 was 384. The frequency of the services has been increased but irregular running and failure to run services according to approved time-tables are still frequent.

At present the fare per passenger mile on regular services varies from 8 to 5 cents, according to the nature of the roads, the availability of traffic and economy of operation. Regular hiring car services are allowed fares varying from 7½ to 10 cents per passenger mile. The operators of regular bus services have been agitating for an increase in fares and this matter is now under consideration.

#### **Lorry Transport**

The chief means of goods transport are lorries, the railway and bullock carts. Bullock carts are used for transport in rural areas and for short-distance transport in cities. There has been a rapid increase in the number of lorries during the post-war period. The licences issued each year were 1946—5,200 ; 1947—5,528 ; 1948—8,337 ; 1949—8,337 and 1950—9,091.

The Motor Traffic Act provides for the issue of Carriers' permits authorising the use of lorries. There are two kinds of permits, namely, Public Carriers' Permits and Private Carriers' Permits. 6,738 Private Carriers' Permits and 1,463 Public Carriers' Permits have been issued up to the end of 1955. It is in the sphere of goods transport that road transport provides the greatest competition to the railway. In order to eliminate wasteful competition and to secure better co-ordination of road transport with rail transport, the Motor Traffic Act prohibits the issue of permits authorising long-distance carriage of over 60 miles in competition with the railway. The main exceptions provided are :—

- (a) Carriage of fresh fish, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables or other perishable or fragile articles,
- (b) Any carriage which is justified on strong economic grounds, and
- (c) Carriage by persons who were providing long distance services in 1949, but this is permitted only till the end of 1957.

#### **Commission on Omnibus Services**

The Commission on Omnibus Services which was appointed with extremely wide terms of reference to investigate every aspect of omnibus passenger transport in the Island has completed its sittings. Recommendations of the Commission including the formation of Public Corporation to take over certain services from the existing operators and the setting up of a Transport Board are under consideration by the Government.

#### **The Automobile Association of Ceylon**

This Association is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Associations and Clubs in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo), will afford any relevant information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs and Registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association.

#### **Tramways and Trolley Bus Service**

The Passenger Transport Department of the Colombo Municipal Council was providing Trolley-bus Services along 9.75 route miles and Tram Services along 3.5 route miles. The Rolling Stock consists of 35 Double Deck Trolleybuses and 37 Single Deck Trams.

Electric Power to operate the vehicles is drawn from the Government Hydro-Electric Scheme at 11,000 volts A. C. and the Council owns and maintains Rectifier Sub-stations and Distribution Systems for supply to the Overhead Trolley wires.

During the year the Council placed orders for 20 Single Deck and 6 Single Deck Crushload Trolley-buses and the necessary Overhead and Rectifier equipment for operating an additional 3 route miles.

### **III—SHIPPING**

THE Port of Colombo today ranks as the seventh busiest port in the British Commonwealth of Nations. Although it is one of the biggest artificial harbours in the world, Colombo lacked many



of the facilities essential for a modern port of this size—quays for alongside berthing, modern warehouses, mechanical cargo handling equipment, &c. A start was made in 1950 to modernize the port by providing these facilities. The work, undertaken by a combine of two well-known French firms, Messrs. Schneider & Co., and Messrs. Etablissements Billiard, of Paris, is expected to provide about seventeen alongside berths at quays, a large number of warehouses and the latest mechanical equipment for cargo handling. This scheme of development will place the Port of Colombo on par with other large modern ports.

Progress was made on the Scheme during 1955. Of the four quays planned, the "Prince Vijaya" quay was completed and put into use. A part of the Oil Dock was also completed and the North arm is in use. It is expected that the South arm will be completed soon and the Port of Colombo will then have an Oil Dock with modern equipment capable of accommodating two tankers simultaneously at alongside berths. The other two quays, the Queen Elizabeth Quay and the Delft Quay are nearing completion and may be in commercial operation by September, 1956.

A sum of Rs. 4½ millions is being spent on the electrification of the port. This work was begun several years ago and is now nearing completion. When it is complete, it is expected that almost all port facilities, equipment &c., will be electrified, with appreciable economy in working costs.

The Beira Lake which lies adjacent to the harbour is being developed by the construction of new Locks and Bridges, which will permit larger craft to the Lake. A new 100 ton Lock was opened in 1955.

#### Imports and Exports

The quantity of imports and exports, excluding coal, fuel oil, water and transshipment cargo handled in the Port of Colombo in 1955, amounted to 2,734,361 tons (1,782,859 tons imports and 951,502 tons exports). The increase over the 1954 total of 2,728,322 tons (1,780,709 tons imports and 947,613 tons exports) is 6,039 tons.

#### Port Railway

The total volume of railborne traffic handled by the Port railway system in 1955, showed a marked decrease. 549,364 tons were handled in 1955, as against 679,320 tons in the previous year.

#### Passenger Traffic

The Passenger traffic handled in the Port during the year 1955, was 348,128—a decrease of 17,582 over the figure for the previous year. This was caused by a reduction in the numbers of "transit" passengers, who constituted the main group.

#### Landing and Shipping

Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service.

In addition the Port has numerous modern cargo handling appliances for easy stacking and quick delivery of cargo. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The largest lift which can be made is 60 tons and the conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by licensed stevedores and landing companies.

#### Merchant Vessels

The total number of merchant vessels engaged in foreign trade which entered the Port and the total nett registered tonnage are as follows :—

	<i>No. of Ships</i>	<i>Nett Registered Tonnage</i>
1954	2,963	12,872,961
1955	2,940	12,325,996



**Transshipment and re-shipment**

There was a decline in the volume of transshipment and re-shipment traffic handled through the Port. The tonnage fell from 86,094 tons in 1954 to 52,395 tons in 1955, a fall of 39 per cent.

**Coal Imports and Bunkers**

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1954 and 1955, were as follows :—

	1954	1955
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Imports	271,829	216,516
Bunkers	19,019	13,650

**Liquid Fuel Imports and Bunkers**

Liquid fuel imports during the last two years were as follows :—

	<i>No. of tankers discharging</i>	<i>Tons</i>
1954	52	591,565
1955	52	577,831

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the two years were :

	<i>No. of ships bunkered</i>	<i>Tons</i>
1954	1,470	427,768
1955	1,422	452,470

**Bulk Coconut Oil Facilities Scheme**

The receipts collected from operating through Bulk Coconut Oil Facilities Scheme during 1954 and 1955 were Rs. 232,046 and Rs. 458,508 respectively.

**Fresh Water**

In 1955, 852,040 tons of water were supplied as against 869,494 tons in 1954.

**IV—CIVIL AVIATION****International Relations**

Ceylon is a member state of the International Civil Aviation Organization since July 1948. The Ceylon Government in common with other Member States continues to implement through its National legislation the International Standards and practices that are recommended by the Organization for the systematic and orderly development of Air Transport.

**Air Transport Services**

Air Ceylon Ltd. operates a daily service with Dakota Aircraft between Colombo, Jaffna, Tiruchirappalli and Madras. In addition foreign Air Lines—the Indian Air Lines Corporation, the BOAC, Qantas Empire Airways, T. W. A. and KLM operate weekly foreign services through Colombo.



### Aerodromes

The two civil airports available for use by international services are :—

- (a) Colombo Airport (Ratmalana) situated eight miles south of the Colombo Harbour. This is the chief civil aerodrome in the Island designated as an international airport by the Government.
- (b) Jaffna Airport (Kankasanturai) : This aerodrome is situated on the northern-most tip of the Island approximately twelve miles north of Jaffna and is the designated international alternate to Colombo Airport. Improvements to the terminal building costing Rs. 45,000 have been completed. These will provide essential additional accommodation and facilities to air travellers.

### Other Aerodromes

The aerodromes at Puttalam, Minneriya and Vavuniya have been maintained by the Government as emergency landing grounds.

Negombo airport is a military aerodrome, and is situated nineteen miles to the north of Colombo Harbour, and may be used by civil aircraft with permission from the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs.

### Flying Training

The Ceylon Air Academy has provided flying training facilities to the youth of Ceylon, the provision of these services being incidental to its flying programme. Charter flights and internal services are periodically undertaken by the Academy.

## V—POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

On December 31, 1955, 240 Post Offices (including the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) 1,194 Sub-Post Offices, 121 Village Receiving Offices and 4 Railway Receiving Offices were open for business.

Post Offices deal with all classes of Postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, Savings Bank and Savings Certificates work and telegraph and telephone business.

Sub-Post Offices provide facilities on a lesser scale. Village receiving offices deal with mail work only while at the Railway Receiving Offices facilities for despatch and receipt of inland postal telegrams are available in addition to mail work.

### Air Mail Service

Foreign Air Mail Service is available to practically all countries, the rates of air postage and other information are shown in the Air Mail Leaflet issued from time to time by authority of the Postmaster-General.

Inland Airmail Service for first class mail (letters and postcards) is available between Colombo and the principal post offices in the Jaffna Peninsula. A special air fee of 5 cents per article in addition to the ordinary inland postage is levied.

Facilities for transmission of postal articles by inland post on the value payable system are available provided the amount specified by the sender is between 50 cents and Rs. 600. In addition to the ordinary postage payable on the article a posting and delivery fee of 5 cents to 15 cents is charged on every article.

### Money and Postal Orders

Money Orders are issued and paid at any Post Office in the Island. They also may be sent to most foreign countries. The maximum amount for which an Inland or Indian money order can be issued is Rs. 600. The rate of commission on Inland Money Orders is 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 20 and 20 cents for the remainder.



The maximum for Foreign orders expressed in sterling is £40 and the rate of commission is 25 cents on the first £1 and 20 cents on each complete additional £1 or part.

The Telegraph Money Order System is in operation between all Money Order Offices in Ceylon and those in India, Burma and United Kingdom and the States of the Federation of Malaya.

The charge for a Telegraph Money Order (Inland or Indian) is the cost of the telegram and a fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount, in addition to the usual Money Order Commission.

Postal Orders for 50 cents, Re. 1, Rs. 1-50, Rs. 2, Rs. 2-50, Rs. 3, Rs. 4, Rs. 5, Rs. 7-50 and Rs. 10 are issued and paid at all the money order offices. The commission is 5 cents for sums up to Rs. 3 and 10 cents for others.

### Post Office Savings Bank

Post Office Savings Bank business is transacted at all Money Order Offices during the hours appointed for Money Order business. The Post Office Savings Bank receives deposits from Re. 1 up to a maximum of Rs. 4,000 per year provided the total amount standing to the credit of a depositor does not exceed Rs. 10,000. Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on every complete sum of Rs. 10.

### Savings Certificates

Savings certificates are issued at Post Offices (including Sub-Post Offices), Kachcheries, D. R. O. Offices and Banks. The interest is free of Income Tax. Five-year savings certificates—"Third series"—with the face values of Rs. 5, 10, 50, 100 and 1,000 are issued at the purchase prices of Rs. 4-25, 8-50, 42-50, 85-00 and 850. They reach maturity in 5 years. The difference between face value and purchase price represents 3-3 per cent. compound interest.

Twelve year Savings Certificates with face values Rs. 7-50, 15, 75, 150, 1,500 are issued at the purchase prices of Rs. 5, 10, 50, 100 and 1,000. The certificates mature in twelve years. The difference between face value and purchase price represents 3-5 per cent. compound interest.

### Telecommunication

Telecommunication services in the Island are provided by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications which holds a monopoly in respect of these services.

There are 11,215 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires) of which 3,197 are laid underground, and 114,199 miles of telephone wire (including trunk and junction lines) for subscribers circuits of which 72,331 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines). There are also 126 miles of underwater cables. The number of automatic exchanges as at December 1955 was 186.

Telephone communications exist between the principal towns and most of the rural districts. They are generally served by Government Exchanges. A few rural districts are served by private licensed exchanges connected to the General trunk system by means of Government trunk lines.

At the end of 1955 the number of telephone subscribers in Colombo was 8,938 and those in the provinces was 7,061. The number of telephone call offices was 821. There are 347 telephone exchanges of capacities ranging from 5 lines to 10,000 lines. The largest is in Colombo and consists of a central automatic exchange of 8,000 lines capacity and two satellite exchanges of each 2,800 lines capacity. Other large exchanges are in the towns of Kandy, Galle, Jaffna and Nuwara Eliya with capacities ranging between 300 and 600 lines. Kandy, Galle and Nuwara Eliya have automatic exchanges.

Telephone call office facilities have been made available to 518 sub-post offices without telephone exchanges.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents.



### Telegraph

Telegraph network is as widespread as the telephone network in that telegrams handed in at Sub-Post Offices are transmitted by telephones.

### Telegrams in National Languages

Inland telegrams written in Sinhalese and Tamil are accepted at certain specified telegraph offices. A system of transliteration based on code letters has been adopted. There is no difference in the charges for Sinhalese or Tamil telegrams. The rates levied are as for telegrams written in English.

The minimum charge for inland ordinary telegrams is 75 cents for the first ten words including the address and 5 cents for each additional word. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is Rs. 1.50 for the first ten words including the address and 10 cents for each additional word.

### Foreign and Colonial Telegrams

The rates for telegrams to India are Rs. 2.50 (express) and Rs. 1.25 (ordinary) for the first 12 words or less and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word. Telegrams to other Empire countries can be sent "Via Imperial" at rates varying from 90 cents to Rs. 3.40 per word according to the distance of the places of destination and the charges levied by other administrations.

A plain language letter-telegram service is available to most of these points at approximately half these rates with a minimum charge for 22 words. Social telegrams can be sent to all British Possessions at a charge of Rs. 4.50 for 10 words and 45 cents for each additional word.

### Photo-telegrams

The charges for facsimile service will depend on the dimensions of the picture and the country to which transmission is desired the minimum being Rs. 40.80. Photo-telegrams are accepted only at the Central Telegraph Office, Colombo. The rates and the countries to which the service is available are shown in the *Ceylon Post Office Guide*.

### Overseas Telecommunications

Ceylon is very well served with overseas telecommunications both by cable and by wireless.

The Ceylon Government took over the assets of the Cable and Wireless Ltd. on June 1, 1951, following the lead set by the United Kingdom and other Dominion Governments. Submarine telegraph cables radiating from Ceylon connect with the main cables and wireless system and provide rapid communication to all parts of the world.

In addition, radio telegraph circuits are in operation to and from the United Kingdom, Burma, Japan, China and Malaya. Telegrams to foreign countries are forwarded either by cable or by wireless according to whichever service is the more expeditious dependent on the load of international telegraphic traffic.

A radio telephone service is available to and from the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, Malaya and most European Countries and countries in Africa and a subscriber in Ceylon can therefore communicate with a large proportion of the world's telephone subscribers.

The Radio Telephone service is available to the public on all days except Sundays and Good Friday at a basic charge of Rs. 40 for three minutes. The exception is to and from Malaya on Mondays and Thursdays only.



*India.*—Telephone and Telegraph communication with India is via a submarine cable laid across the Palk Strait between Talaimannar and Rameswaram. Contact is made with the Indian Telephone's net work through two carrier telephone circuits between Colombo-Trichinopoly.

Five voice frequency teleprinter circuits are in use between Colombo-Madras and Colombo-Madura, and from these stations distribution and collection of traffic from other places in India takes place.

Radio Telegrams are accepted at any postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio telegraph apparatus. These telegrams are transmitted through the coast stations to Colombo.

#### Important References :

- (1) Administration Report of the General Manager, Ceylon Railways.
- (2) Administration Report of the Commissioner of Motor Transport.
- (3) Administration Report of the Director of Public Works.
- (4) Administration Report of the Port Commissioner, Colombo.
- (5) Administration Report of the Postmaster-General.



## CHAPTER XIX

### LAND DEVELOPMENT

#### I—PROGRESS OF LAND DEVELOPMENT

##### Introduction

THE Government's policy regarding alienation and administration of Crown land is embodied in the Land Development Ordinance, No. 9 of 1935 and in the Crown Lands Ordinance, No. 8 of 1947. The alienation of Crown land for agricultural development by peasants and middle-class Ceylonese is one of the main objectives of the Land Development Ordinance.

##### Alienation of Crown Land

*Alienation to Peasants.*—During the year 1955, 629 Land Kachcheries were held throughout the Island and 31,818 acres of Crown land were offered for alienation. At these Land Kachcheries 22,660 acres were alienated to 15,652 allottees. The largest extents alienated were in Batticaloa, Badulla, Anuradhapura and Kurunegala Districts. In addition 3,840 acres were alienated to 3,245 allottees without Land Kachcheries being held as people were either in illegal occupation of Crown land or were in urgent need of land to live on and the need had to be met immediately.

The Government also, during the year, offered for alienation 2,251 acres of acquired land in the Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Colombo and Kalutara Districts where little Crown land is available. At these Land Kachcheries 2,220 acres were alienated to 2,178 peasant families. Sixty-seven acres were alienated outside Land Kachcheries to 67 families. Thus, a total of 28,787 acres were alienated during the year to 21,142 families. In 1954, 24,823 acres of Crown and acquired lands were alienated to 20,570 families. These acreages do not include land alienated to peasants in colonization schemes which are dealt with separately.

Lands alienated under the Land Development Ordinance are subject to constant inspection and review in order to ensure that the conditions of the permit regarding residence and development are being fulfilled. During the year, 6,705 acres allotted to 6,051 peasant families were cancelled for non-observance of the conditions of the permits. Of these 1,617 permits were cancelled for non-development; 1,366 for non-residence; 55 for illegal dispositions; and 1,381 for non-payment of annual payments. Deducting the cancellations made during the year, 225,282 families have been given holdings of 320,451 acres of Village Expansion land under the Land Development Ordinance by the end of 1955.

*Alienation to Middle-Class Ceylonese.*—Sixteen Land Kachcheries for the alienation of 14,502 acres were held and 8,670 acres were alienated to 508 individuals. The largest extents alienated were 3,684 acres in Kurunegala District; 1,490 acres in Jaffna District, 1,335 acres in Badulla District and 525 acres in Polonnaruwa District. In Kurunegala District applicants for more land were interviewed. Selections had, however, not been finalised before the end of the year. In 1954, 11,353 acres were alienated to 565 individuals. At the end of the year, 65,482 acres were held by 4,799 individuals. During the year, 104 middle-class allotments were cancelled for non-development, non-residence or non-payment of annual payments. There was keen demand for middle-class land in the wet and Semi-Wet Zones where commercial crops can be grown. Lack of capital is yet a grave drawback in the development of land alienated to these individuals. The question of providing capital on more liberal scales to these middle-class Ceylonese was examined by Government during the year but no final decision had been made by the end of the year. Work on construction of roads to some of the land alienated was started and it was encouraging to note that the investment of Government capital on roads has resulted in the development of their vicinity taking a greater interest in the development of their allotments. The pace of road construction has, however, been slow owing to insufficient funds and there is no organisation to undertake the pioneering work of tracing roads on difficult terrain and constructing them.



The activities of the Land Settlement Department during the year 1955 were curtailed by the inadequacy of the Survey Staff engaged on Block and Demarcation Surveys. There is now a marked time lag between the completion of an Inquiry into claims to lands in a village and the completion of the Demarcation Surveys depicting Settlements of land. The development of land is consequently arrested and complaints are received from allottees of land.

Settlements of lands under the provisions of the Land Settlement Ordinance were made in the Districts of Jaffna, Kegalle, Ratnapura, Anuradhapura, Matale, Badulla and Puttalam. Mapping out Schemes were prepared in respect of a large number of villages.

The pressure of population on land is increasing in all parts of the Island. In many areas forest is being felled for chena cultivation. In areas like the North-Western part of the Matale District chena lands are now insufficient for village requirements.

#### Re-Settlement in Colonization Schemes

Re-settlement of families from the thickly populated parts of the Island in colonization schemes in the scantily populated parts continued to be an important feature of Government's programme for the development of new land during the year. As a result of the co-ordinated activities of the Survey, Irrigation, Forest and Land Development Departments 2,889 families were resettled in colonization projects in the Dry Zone of Ceylon during 1955. The following numbers of families were settled in the schemes mentioned below :—

<i>District</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>No. of families</i>	<i>Settled on (acres)</i>
Trincomalee	Kantalai	756	3,780
Jaffna	Iranamadu	643	3,215
Anuradhapura	Huruluwewa	541	2,194
Kurunegala	Palukadawela	193	675
	Siyambalangamuwa	108	432
	Kimbulwana Oya	88	176
	Abakolawewa	30	60
Matale	Kandalama	94	470
Badulla	Mapakadawewa	258	1,032
	Yudagannawa	84	420
		2,795	12,454

The demand for land in colonization schemes continues to be great throughout the Island.

In response to the agitation from the educated youth for a share in the new settlements, Government decided to allocate 10 per cent. of all allotments developed in colonization schemes to educated youth. In addition, the Agricultural Department's Farms which were closed down in the Dry Zone were also reserved for alienation to educated youth. During the year, 393 educated youths were selected to receive colonization allotments. 222 of them were settled under Iranamadu Tank in the area which was once a cattle farm of the Department of Agriculture.

During 1955, Government examined the schemes to establish Highland Colonization Schemes and provided necessary funds. The proposal was that land should be cleared, houses constructed and communal facilities such as roads, schools, medical institutions, &c., should be provided at



Government expense and subsistence allowance should be paid while the new families grow commercial crops. The unit approved for each crop was 2½ acres per family for tea, 3 acres per family for rubber, 5 acres per family for coconut and 3 acres per family for cocoa. It is hoped that a family would be able to obtain an average income of Rs. 100–Rs. 150 per mensem from such holdings. In November 1955, a hundred families from the thickly populated parts of Chilaw District were resettled at Serukelle in Puttalam District on land cleared and fenced by Government. The new settlers made a magnificent effort and planted 500 acres of land in coconut by the 20th of November. Unfortunately, the severe drought at the end of the year raised doubts as to the survival of the plantation.

Plans have been prepared for the development of the following extents of land in tea, rubber and coconut :

## CROP—TEA

(Unit of allotment 2½ acres)

District	Name of Scheme	Extent			No. of allottees to be settled
		A.	R.	P.	
Ratnapura	Madalagama	225	0	00	100
	Delgoda	225	0	00	100
Matara	Dangala	180	0	00	80
		630	0	00	280

## CROP—RUBBER

(Unit of allotment 3 acres)

Badulla	Katugahagalge	600	0	00	200
Ratnapura	Karawita	300	0	00	100
Kalutara	Hedigalla	450	0	00	150
		1,350	0	00	450

## CROP—COCONUT

(Unit of allotment 5 acres)

Kurunegala	Kadigawa	700	0	00	140
Puttalam	Mudalakkuliya	700	0	00	140
	Serukelle	475	0	00	95
Jaffna	Kiranchi	500	0	00	100
Badulla	Veherayyakelle	1,000	0	00	200
		3,375	0	00	675

These lands should be available for alienation in 1956 and 1957.

Up to the end of 1954 the Land Development Department had developed an extent of approximately 97,600 acres in several Colonization and Major Village Expansion Schemes in the Island for the settlement of about 13,811 peasant families thereon.



During 1955 another 14,578 acres of land were developed and provided for alienation to peasants in 3,034 holdings in the following schemes :—

TABLE 19.1 EXTENT PROVIDED FOR ALIENATION IN COLONIZATION SCHEMES, 1955

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>No. of Holdings</i>	<i>Paddy Land</i>	<i>Garden Land</i>	<i>Reservations for Townships, Roads &amp;c.</i>
Kantalai	757	2,271	1,514	378
Huruluwewa	516	1,548	516	206
Iranamadu	649	1,947	1,298	324
Mi-Oya Diversion	244	488	345	69
Kandalama	140	420	280	70
Mapakadawewa	324	648	436	108
Siyambalangamuwa	120	240	240	34
Yudaganawa	84	252	168	7
Kimbulwana Oya	100	200	—	—
Serukelle Highland Scheme	100	—	500	71
Total	3,034	8,014	5,297	1,267

Each holding consisted of approximately 3 acres of irrigable land for paddy cultivation and between 1 and 2 acres of garden land for the colonists' cottages, garden crops and permanent plantations. In Mapakadawewa, Siyambalangamuwa, Mi-Oya Diversion and Kimbulwana-Oya Schemes, the paddy allotment was reduced to 2 acres as an Experimental measure but the highland allotment remained unaltered. In Serukelle, which was the first of the highland schemes undertaken during the year, allottees received only 5 acres of highland each for cultivation with Coconut, without irrigable allotments.

2,584 colonists settled during 1955 and 122 colonists settled in Katupotha Scheme during 1954 also received their Type Plan cottages and latrines during the year. Communal wells were provided at the rate of one for every twenty colonists generally and 96½ miles of roadways providing access to garden allotments were constructed during the year. 60 Public buildings consisting of 13 Colonization Officers' quarters, 10 Schools, 12 Teachers' quarters, 9 Co-op. Stores, 5 Midwives' quarters, 6 Dispensaries, 2 Sub-Post Offices and 3 quarters for Apothecaries and Sanitary Assistants were also provided by the Department in 1955.

The total expenditure incurred by the Department from Loan Funds during the financial year 1954-55 was Rs. 14,139,259.

#### Assistance to Peasant Allottees

From the time the Government adopted the policy of alienating Crown land on preferential terms to peasants on the restricted tenure of the Land Development Ordinance, Government adopted the practice of providing assistance to peasants who re-settle on Crown land. Assistance now provided for the construction of—

a Type Plan house is Rs. 700,

a Latrine is Rs. 75, and

a Well is Rs. 300 to Rs. 600 according to the depth.



Soil conservation measures are paid for at Rs. 2 per chain up to a maximum of 10 chains per acre.

Planting material is supplied up to a sum of Rs. 50 per allottee.

Roads are constructed at Government expense to new lands.

During the year 6,894 houses, 3,939 latrines and 2,861 wells were constructed and at the end of the year 10,805 houses, 2,781 latrines and 3,213 wells were under construction. A sum of Rs. 130,471 was spent on the supply of planting material. 85 miles of road-ways were constructed at a cost of Rs. 409,833. The total amount of assistance to peasant allottees in Village Expansion Schemes and Acquired Estates during the year was Rs. 9,940,278.

#### **Loans to Middle-class Allottees**

The Government makes available Rs. 400,000 each financial year for these loans. During the financial year 1954-55 loans amounting to Rs. 397,035 were granted to 95 applicants and there were no applications outstanding at the end of the financial year. This satisfactory result was achieved by granting loans in instalments to as many applicants as possible, and arranging to ensure that instalments granted were utilised on the development of the allotments. A careful scrutiny of applications has also ensured that loans are only granted to allottees in genuine need.

#### **Harnessing of Private Capital for the Development of Crown Land**

The Report of the Land Utilization Committee (Sessional Paper III of 1953) emphasised the need to make land available for development by private capital after meeting the needs of the peasant and middle-class Ceylonese. During the year all advertisements of land for alienation to middle-class Ceylonese contained provision for applications to be made by capitalists. The demand from middle-class Ceylonese, however, was so great that practically all land advertised was alienated to middle-class people, except some 250 acres on the borders of the Dry Zone. With the present demand for land among the middle-class, that is persons with an income of less than Rs. 24,000 a year, it is unlikely that monied classes will, in future, play an important part in the development of the unalienated Crown estate. The Land Utilization Committee also recommended that private capital should be afforded opportunities to restore the abandoned tanks in the Dry Zone. During the year, one tank was given for restoration by private enterprise in Vavuniya District.

#### **Land Redemption**

Work under the Land Redemption Ordinance, No. 61 of 1942 is being gradually wound up. No new applications were entertained during the year. Final decisions have been made in respect of all outstanding applications but one. During 1955, 123 blocks of land totalling 824 acres have been acquired and alienated at a cost of Rs. 1,531,612 to 104 applicants. By the end of the year, 741 permit-holders had been issued Crown Grants under the Land Development Ordinance.

#### **Acquisition of Land for Village Expansion**

During the year 882 acres were acquired in thickly populated areas where Crown land is scarce for alienation to landless peasants. The cost of these acquisitions was Rs. 1,125,430. The acquisitions were largely strips and were intended to be alienated in small units of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  acres each to provide living space to landless families in congested rural areas. Since the inception of this policy of acquiring private land in congested areas a total extent of 28,111 acres has been acquired.

#### **Crown Lands within the City of Colombo**

During the year under review the disposal of Crown land within the City of Colombo was the subject of a number of conferences at which priority was given to finalising the layout of the Anderson Golf Links which is expected to be released by the Admiralty at the end of 1956, and the planning of the Maligawatta site.

Consideration was also given to the allocation of land for Public Institutions, Public open spaces and the requirements of the Colombo Municipality and Government Departments. Sixteen applications for Crown land in the city were considered during the year.



**Management of Estates acquired for Village Expansion**

The acreage of estates managed showed a further decline during the year under review as a result of alienation.

The total acreage of the estates under departmental management at the end of September, 1955, was 1,247 acres as against 3,599 acres and 4,303 acres at the end of September, 1954 and 1953 respectively.

**Appointment of a Land Commission**

On 20th July, 1955, a Land Commission was appointed by His Excellency the Governor-General with the following terms of reference :

- (1) To inquire into and report on—
  - (a) the laws of Ceylon relating to the alienation and administration of Crown land with particular reference to the Land Development Ordinance (Chapter 320),
  - (b) the administrative arrangements for carrying out the provisions of the aforesaid Ordinance,
  - (c) the policy of Government regarding the alienation of Crown land,
  - (d) the policy of Government regarding assistance to peasants for settling on Crown land alienated to them,
  - (e) the credit facilities available for the development of new land, and
  - (f) the revenue collected by Government in respect of Crown land that has so far been alienated ; and
- (2) to make such recommendations as they may consider necessary in the light of their inquiries and investigations into the aforesaid matters, with particular regard to—
  - (a) the amendment of the laws referred to in paragraph (1) (a),
  - (b) the promotion of greater efficiency in, and the reduction of the cost to Government of, the administrative arrangements referred to in paragraph (1) (b),
  - (c) revision of the policies referred to in paragraph (1) (c) and paragraph (1) (d),
  - (d) securing an adequate return on the capital invested by Government on the development of Crown Land,
  - (e) the efficient use of Crown land that has been alienated under the aforesaid Ordinance and the remaining Crown land,
  - (f) the prevention of the alienation of private land in Ceylon to persons who are not citizens of Ceylon, and
  - (g) the prevention of the fragmentation of private land.

By the end of the year a comprehensive questionnaire was prepared by the Commission and issued to the public.

**Agricultural Corps**

During the year 1955 the Agricultural Corps operated in the following Colonization Schemes :—

- (a) Allai Scheme—Trincomalee District.
- (b) Huruluwewa Scheme—Anuradhapura District.
- (c) Pavatkulam Scheme—Vavuniya District.
- (d) Periyapandivirichchankulam Scheme—Vavuniya District.
- (e) Periyathambanai Scheme—Vavuniya District.
- (f) Kimbulwana Oya Scheme—Kurunegala District.



Work in the Allai Scheme was completed by May, 1955, and the Camp closed down. At Huruluwewa, the work was nearing completion. New Camps were put up and work was commenced at Periyapandivirichchankulam and Kimbulwana Oya Schemes in January and April 1955 respectively. Work was also undertaken in the Periyathambanai Scheme and two more new schemes at Padawiya and Vavunikulam.

In view of the increasing demand at short notice for the clearing of small tracts of land by tractors, both by Government and the private sector, a tractor unit was established. Work was done at Meegawewa, Puthumurippu, Anuradhapura New Town, Morakanda and Sravasti Estate, all in the Dry Zone.

During the year 1955, approximately 2,801 acres of jungle were felled and 4,229 acres were burnt. Fencing of large tracts of land and excavation of field channel also were carried out. A total of 154,884 man days and 2,152 tractor hours were involved in the work done during the year.

## II—IRRIGATION

CEYLON has been blessed with an abundant rainfall, many rivers and streams, and a climate and soil particularly suitable for paddy cultivation. This fact had been appreciated from time immemorial. One could trace the history of Irrigation in Ceylon through the period of the Sinhalese Kings back to the pre-Christian era. During the 12th century the country had reached the height of its prosperity and self-sufficiency in food. The irrigation schemes during the reign of Maha Sena, and Parakrama Bahu the Great are among the most outstanding works executed.

The period of foreign rule that followed, however, was one of neglect. There is probably no form of Civil Engineering work that demands more constant and unremitting attention to its maintenance than that connected with the control of water. It is therefore not difficult to imagine how the once great irrigation works, rapidly succumbed to the onset of the floods and the ceaseless inroads of the jungle, resulting in a state of almost total desolation and ruin by the end of the 19th century.

In 1900 the present Irrigation Department was constituted, for the exclusive purpose of investigating, restoring, maintaining and operating the ancient irrigation schemes. Since then the activities of the Department were extended to cover the field of flood protection, drainage and salt water exclusion also. With the impact of the two World Wars, and with the transition from the stage of British Crown Colony to that of an independent country, the programme of work of the Department was stepped up considerably. Several new major projects were launched under a planned scheme of development in the march towards self-sufficiency in food.

With the completion of the First Six Year Plan it was realised that if anything substantial was to be achieved in national progress, the scheme of development should be taken according to set targets and financed accordingly. During the year 1954-55 the Second Six Year Plan commenced. The target set was 110,000 acres of paddy land at an estimated cost of Rs. 235,000,000 on construction.

Construction work on the following major projects were in progress :—

- (i) Gal Oya Scheme, E. P.
- (ii) Allai Extension Scheme, E. P.
- (iii) Kantalai Scheme, E. P.
- (iv) Huruluwewa Scheme, N.-C. P.
- (v) Iranamadu Extension Scheme, E. P.
- (vi) Padawiya Scheme, N.-C. P.
- (vii) Pavatkulam Scheme, N. P.
- (viii) Kandalama Scheme, C. P.
- (ix) Vavunikulam Scheme, N. P.



Work on the following new projects also commenced during this year —

- (i) Mahawillachchiya Scheme, N.-C. P.
- (ii) Badulu Oya Scheme, Uva P.

The extent of land developed during the year was as follows :—

15,870 Acres under major works,  
1,319 Acres under village works,  
400 Acres under Drainage and Salt Water Exclusion Scheme.

#### The Gal Oya Scheme

The period 1954-55 saw further development and expansion of the Left Bank Colonisation and preliminary work on the Right Bank. 8,747 acres of jungle were cleared and irrigation facilities expanded by approximately 100 miles of field channels. Construction of Navakiri Aru Detention Reservoir was also completed. The work on the extension of the Right Bank Channel from the 5th to the 10th mile was in progress, and construction work commenced on two detention reservoirs, namely, Ekgal-Aru and Pallang-Oya. The total extent of land cleared by the Board for development since the commencement of the scheme is approximately 63,200 acres.

Colonisation during the year and since commencement is indicated in the following table :—

Type	No. of Allottees settled	Population of Allottees settled	Highland Acreage	Paddy land Acreage	Reservations Communal reserves &c., Acreage
<i>Peasant Settlement</i>					
During 1955	619	4,400	594	1,820*	—
Up to the end of 1955	4,659	32,217	7,013	17,559	23,474
<i>Middle Class</i>					
During 1955	—	—	—	—	—
Up to the end of 1955	47	—	611†	564†	889
<i>Public Companies</i>					
During 1955	—	—	—	—	—
Up to the end of 1955	1	—	241	1,000	299
<i>Co-operative Societies</i>					
During 1955	—	—	—	—	—
Up to the end of 1955	1	—	174	296	181

\* Excluding Middle Class Area in Units.

† Extent of Actual Allotment.

Agricultural development was directed to improve the methods of cultivation by introducing pure-line varieties, transplanting, harrowing, manuring and rotational cultivation. These improved practices are proving popular.

The construction of the second section of the Power Transmission System from Amparai to Chadayantalawa, Chavalakkadai, Kalmunai and also to Uhuna was completed, and bulk supply from Inginiyagala Hydrei Station was made available to these places.



The Brick and Tile Factory which was closed for sometime for introduction of improved methods of manufacture was recommenced with a production of approximately 50,000 tiles per month. Plans for the Rice Mill (capacity being 80 tons per 24 hour day) were completed, and construction work was nearing completion. Plans for a Sugar Project are under consideration.

The Government grant for the year amounted to Rs. 51,000,000.

### III—REGISTRATION AND VALUATION

#### Land Registration

THERE is no system of registration of titles to land in Ceylon. What is registered are deeds and other documents affecting land. For this purpose, every instrument presented for registration is required to embody an accurate and clear description of the land affected, its boundaries, extent and situation specifying the district and the village, pattu, korale or other division of the district in which the land is situated. These instruments are registered at the Land Registry established for the district in the books maintained in that office. Each district is divided into divisions and a book is allotted to each division.

The present law relating to registration of documents is "the Registration of Documents (Cap. 101)", as amended by the Registration of Documents Amendment Ordinance, Nos. 34 of 1939 and 13 of 1947. Under this law, registration is not essential to the validity of a deed but merely confers priority, i.e., an unregistered deed is void against any later registered deed adverse to it, if executed for valuable consideration.

Before a deed is tendered for registration it should be stamped in accordance with the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance. Registration of a deed which is improperly stamped or registered in a wrong folio will entail serious consequences to the public, such as loss of title to land.

The nature and number of deeds affecting immovable property registered during the year 1950-1955 are shown in the following table :—

TABLE 19-2 NATURE AND NUMBER OF DEEDS REGISTERED AFFECTING IMMOVABLE PROPERTY, 1950-55

<i>Nature of Deeds</i>	<i>Number</i>					
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Transfers by Sale, Gifts, &c.	138,921	142,020	137,547	145,230	142,195	140,471
Mortgages	63,521	58,215	66,666	80,956	82,600	78,307
Discharges	26,252	29,692	27,919	32,684	30,999	30,555
Leases	16,112	14,521	13,249	15,654	15,769	13,962
Other deeds	11,624	7,664	8,785	9,939	15,300	14,169
Settlement Orders	16	21	30	37	48	—

Another class of documents registered in the Land Registries are Grants issued under the Land Development Ordinance. These Grants are registered in separate registers. During the year 1955, 723 Grants were registered.

#### Land Valuation

The Valuation Department is responsible for making valuations for Government as well as for Local Bodies and demi-official Institutions. The two main branches of work are :

- (i) Assessment of capital values of properties.
- (ii) Assessment of rental values.



*Assessment of Capital Value.*—Assessment of capital values is done chiefly for the following purposes :

- (a) Acquisition of land for a public purpose under the Land Acquisition Act No. 9 of 1950.
- (b) Collection of Estate duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance.
- (c) Collection of Stamp Duty under the Stamps Ordinance.
- (d) For Local Bodies and demi-official institutions like the State Mortgage Bank, Central Bank, &c., for various purposes.

(a) *Valuation for acquisition.*—As in the past, the number of acquisitions for public purposes is on the increase, primarily due to the large number of acquisitions both for Village Expansion Schemes, Housing Schemes, Road Widening Schemes, Hydro Electric Scheme, Hospitals and extensions to them, &c.

The procedure with regard to valuation for land acquisition is that when notice of acquisition is given by the Acquiring Authority, namely the Government Agent, the Department makes independent investigation and places before the Acquiring Authority expert evidence in regard to the amount of compensation to be awarded.

A total of 1,696 lots, in extent 2,176 acres valued at Rs. 5,356,400 were assessed during 1955.

In addition to these the Department furnished a large number of estimates of cost of proposed acquisitions to various Government Departments and Local Bodies.

(b) *Valuations for purpose of Estate Duty.*—Estate Duty work constitutes a major item of work of the Department, in spite of the fact that by arrangement with the Commissioner of Estate Duty rural properties and properties in towns other than Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya and Galle are attended to by Revenue Officers without consulting this Department. During the year under review 1,352 lots, in extent 13,850 acres were valued, the official valuations totalling Rs. 40,286,004 as shown below :

Nature of Property		Number of Properties	Extent (acres)	Declared Value	Official Valuations
				Rs.	Rs.
House Properties	(a)	1,099*	115	11,835,009	18,165,268
	(b)	126†	20	—	9,400,850
Agricultural Estates	(a)	109*	13,145	9,285,046	11,819,098
	(b)	18†	570	—	900,788

(c) *Valuations for purpose of Stamp Duty.*—When properties are gifted, it is not unusual for stamp duty to be fixed on low valuations, and in such cases the Registrar-General, the Commissioner of Stamps, and the Registrar of Lands consult this Department. With the steady increase of market value of properties the valuations in cases of understamped deeds have also increased in recent years. During the year under review 454 lots were valued for Stamp Duty, the total of official valuations being Rs. 19,532,996.

(d) *Miscellaneous Valuations.*—Assessments of capital values, apart from the three main items mentioned above, are made for Local Authorities and demi-official institutions like the Savings Bank, Loan Board, Public Trustee, &c.

\* Where declarants have furnished valuations.

† Where no valuations have been furnished.



*Assessment of Rental Values.*—Assessment of rental values is mainly done for the following purposes :

- (a) Rating within Local Government areas for levying rates.
- (b) Payment of rent by Government where properties are leased out from private owners.
- (c) Collection of rent where Government leases or rents out Government property to private owners.

(a) *Assessment for Rating.*—The Assessment of towns for rating purposes involves revision of assessments, generally every five years, and also making fresh assessments in case of towns which have not been assessed by this Department hitherto.

(b) *Assessment of rents for private property hired by Government.*—In Colombo as well as in outstations, Government rents out buildings from private parties, and in these cases the rental value is assessed by this Department. During the year under review 1,012 properties have been assessed.

(c) *Assessment of rent of Crown property leased to private parties.*—Crown lands are leased out to various private parties and in these cases the Revenue Officers as well as the Land Commissioner consult this Department regarding the amount of rent that should be recovered.

*Fees for valuations.*—The Department recovers fees in cases where work is undertaken for Local Authorities and demi-official institutions whether it be for assessment of capital value or rental value.

#### IV—LAND SURVEYS

No land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Government until it has been surveyed and demarcated by the Survey Department.

*Triangulation.*—Records of systematic triangulation in Ceylon began with the measurement of a base at Negombo, on the West Coast, in 1857, and the subsequent building up of a system of triangulation. Where this was impracticable especially in the flat parts of the Island a frame-work of primary traversing was substituted.

In the year under review, 13 Conformal Points were added to the Records and 243 Trigonometrical Points were added to the list of Trigonometrical stations. Heights of 31 Trigonometrical points were computed. 390 miles of Primary Traversing were surveyed.

*Levelling.*—The earliest recorded levels were taken in 1865, the average determination of mean sea levels being made at five tidal stations. Since then Primary and Secondary Levelling has been carried out serving in subsequent years the requirements of engineering surveys scattered over many parts of Ceylon.

During the year under review, 103 miles of Precise Levelling, 481 miles of Secondary Levelling and 21 miles of Tertiary Levelling were carried out. 12 miles of Benchmarks along old Precise Level Lines were also constructed.

*Topographical Survey.*—The topographical survey of Ceylon commenced in 1897. A contoured topographical map on the scale of an inch to a mile, covering the whole Island, was completed in 1924. Systematic revision has, since then, been carried out and new editions of the maps issued.

86,400 acres were revised during the year.

*Engineering Surveys.*—Engineering Surveys for the provision of contoured plans for use in the design and construction of Irrigation Schemes, Drainage Works and Flood Control Projects, &c., were carried out at the request of the Irrigation and other Government Departments.

177,470 acres were surveyed in connection with major irrigation projects.

75 miles of Irrigation and drainage channels were traced.

A further 9,390 acres were contour surveyed for the development of lands under 13 village tanks.

*Block and Settlement Surveys.*—Block Surveys comprise the survey of large blocks of villages for the final settlement of claims as preferred by private parties.



Block Surveys of 148,700 acres were completed.

Plans of 31 Demarcation Requisitions and 29 other Requisitions in Block Surveyed Areas were completed. 119 Draft Settlement Orders were checked and 44 Settlement Plans were prepared for the Settlement Officer and 92 Final Village Plans showing Crown and Private lands were issued to the Revenue Officers.

*Air Surveys.*—The application of air survey methods for the production of medium scale contoured maps and the use of photographic mosaics was not attempted until 1952.

The medium scale contoured mapping of about 175 square miles of the Kotmale-Nuwara Eliya area which is the last of the pilot projects undertaken in 1952 to assess the potential to which air survey methods can be applied in Ceylon, has been completed. The accuracy of both the detail survey and the contouring was found to be very satisfactory.

The Government approved the establishment of a self-contained Air Survey and Integrated Photo-analysis Centre, and arrangements are under way for equipping and housing. It is hoped that the nucleus of personnel manning the Centres will receive training under the team of Air Survey Experts obtained from Canada under the Colombo Plan.

The Canadian team will also carry out, on a two year programme, vertical air photography of the whole Island on 1 : 40,000 scale, semi-controlled photo-mosaics of the whole Island on 1 : 31,680 ; topographic mapping and photo-analytic resources survey of mineral, forest, soil, land and water potential for planning the development of the Kirindi Oya Basin : and Photography and mapping of a few selected areas of immediate interest which will also serve as tests of the applicability of air survey methods to special needs, such as, cadastral, assessment, town and regional planning surveys, &c. At the request of the Land Commissioner mosaics were used as a basis for picking out random samples of paddy cultivation.

*Land Development Surveys.*—Land Development Surveys for colonisation and peasant proprietor allotments were continued in many parts of the country during the year under review.

The extent surveyed under this category on 154 requisitions was 26,150 acres.

*Town Surveys.*—Town Surveys dealt with during the year under review were as follows :—

*Medawachchiya.*—The field work has been completed and plans are being printed.

*Kotte.*—The Skeleton Survey was completed and the Assessment Survey is in progress ;

*Polgahawela.*—Work which had been suspended was re-started in September.

*Kekirawa.*—The Skeleton Survey is in progress ;

*Haputale.*—The field and plan work have been completed in field, and plans were received in Head Office in December.

*Colombo Town Revision.*—The third revision of the town started in 1948 was continued and 710 acres were completed.

*Map Publication.*—Among the maps published in 1955 were revised editions of the one inch Topo sheets, Anuradhapura and Trincomalee, and re-prints of Rakwana and a centralised sheet of Galle.

For the first time work was begun on one inch Topo sheets with annotations in Sinhalese. Polonnaruwa sheet is ready for publication.

A new series of one inch Topo sheets was introduced this year showing administrative boundaries in Block Surveyed areas in red and other available administrative boundaries in green. It is hoped that this series when complete will be of use to Revenue Officers.

Preparatory work on a new series of medium scale Topographical map is nearly over and it is hoped to publish some sheets next year.



*Topographical Revision Survey.*—The one inch Topo sheet of Vavuniya was revised and work is in progress in Murunkan. The North West corner of Avissawella sheet has been surveyed at 12 chains to an inch scale for issue of maps as five inches to a mile. Air Survey plots of the area covered by the Kotmale Air Surveys have been revised in the field and will also be taken out for issue of five inch maps early in 1956.

*Technical Assistance under the Colombo Plan.*—The expert in Surveying and Photogrammetry from India completed his assignment in March, 1955.

An Assistant Superintendent of Surveys proceeded to the United Kingdom in September for a course of training in Photogrammetry and a Superintendent of Surveys visited several Air Survey Institutions in Europe and the United Kingdom and Canada under the Canadian Air Survey Assistance Plan studying the Organisation and equipment of Air Survey Centres for establishing an Air Survey Branch in this Department.

The offer of the Canadian Government to carry out an Air Survey of the Island and to train Ceylonese personnel has been accepted and an advance party of the Canadian Team arrived in the Island in November.

*Training School for Surveyors.*—The Survey Department conducts a school for training Surveyors at Diyatalawa. One batch of 17 students completed their course of training at this School in June. Another batch of 21 students who reported in February continued their training. This School also afforded facilities for officers of other Government Departments to be trained in field work.

## V—TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

### Housing Schemes

DURING the year the Department of Town and Country Planning provided the Ministry of Industries, Housing and Social Services and the Department of National Housing with plans for 33 housing schemes.

These schemes consisted of storeyed flats to replace insanitary houses in the slum areas of Colombo, emergency houses on reclaimed land within the Municipal Council limits of Colombo and housing estates outside the city. The services of the Department in connection with these housing schemes consisted of inspections of the sites, preparation of layout plans and plans of buildings and the demarcation of the sites and buildings when required to enable construction work to proceed.

Several new Type Plans for low cost and middle class houses were also prepared by the Department during the year.

### Building Research

Priority was given during the year to the construction of demonstration low cost houses at different centres. These houses were built with stabilised earth walls and floors and other inexpensive building materials which were proved to be satisfactory after investigations carried out on them at the Experimental Station of the Department of Town and Country Planning at Jawatte under the direction of the Advisory Committee appointed by the Ministry of Industries, Housing and Social Services.

### Technical Assistance for the planned Development of Urban and Rural Areas

During the year 143 applications for service of the Department from 6 Municipal Councils, 31 Urban Councils, 10 Town Councils and 11 Village Committees were attended to and required advice on the schemes were supplied after making the necessary inspections.

In the same period the Department attended to 126 requests from the Land Commissioner, Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents and other Government Departments for technical assistance and advice on the planning and disposal of Crown Land and the location of sites for Government buildings. Layout plans were prepared after the necessary inspections and consultations with the Government officers and Departments concerned in connection with 24 of these requests.



### Town and Country Planning Ordinance

The Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act No. 10 of 1954 came into operation in April, 1955. The Central Planning Commission was newly constituted under this Act.

A draft town planning scheme for approximately 250 acres in Kataragama was prepared by the Department and approved by a Sub-Committee appointed by the Commission. The Scheme provides two sites each approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles from the Devala, which have been laid out for the erection of Madams, Commercial Buildings, Government Buildings, a Hospital and Car and Cart Parks. It is proposed to direct new development that is now taking place in the Second Zone of the sites.

The preliminary civic Surveys for the planning of Enderamulla, Battaramulla and Hendala were also completed by the Department.

### Slum Clearance Schemes

The services of the Department of Town and Country Planning were fully utilised during the year by the local authorities for the preparation and execution of slum clearance schemes. These services consisted of the giving of advice on schemes, inspection and selection of sites for new housing, preparation of contour surveys of sites selected for housing schemes, preparation of plans, specifications and estimates for the layout of housing sites and for the construction of houses, inspection of housing schemes during construction, the submission of reports to the local authorities concerned on the progress of schemes and the selection of insanitary dwellings for demolition.

During the year the Department prepared 7 new housing schemes for the Municipal Councils of Kandy and Kurunegala, the Urban Councils of Kotte, Anuradhapura and Tangalle and Town Council of Piliyandala comprising in all 325 houses to enable these local bodies to demolish 123 insanitary dwellings which were selected for demolition. In the same period the Department examined and approved 4 housing schemes prepared by the Colombo Municipal Council for the erection of 234 flats in the City for the purpose of rehousing families living in insanitary houses which are to be demolished.

### Planning and Development of the New Town of Anuradhapura

The year 1955 was a year of unprecedented progress in the development of the new town. In March Parliament approved a supplementary vote to enable the work in the new town to be accelerated and to acquire the commercial premises in the bazaar area near the Sri Mahabodhi with a view to completing the transfer of the Government and Commercial activities from the old town to the new one before the end of the financial year 1955-56. High priority was given by the Government to this work.

Side by side with this Government activity the pace of private development in the new town was also increased during the year. Several sites were released for commercial and residential development and the construction of buildings commenced on many of these sites.

#### Important References:

- (1) Agricultural Wages and Earnings of Primary Producers in Ceylon—Sessional Paper II of 1950.
- (2) Administration Report of the Director of Land Development.
- (3) Administration Report of the Land Commissioner.
- (4) Administration Report of the Director of Irrigation.
- (5) Annual Report of the Gal-Oya Board.
- (6) The Gal-Oya Valley—R. L. Brohier.



## CHAPTER XX

### ELECTRICITY, WATER SERVICE AND PUBLIC WORKS

#### I—ELECTRICITY

In addition to the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity at Norton Bridge, Nuwara Eliya, Diyatalawa, Bandarawela, Haputale and Colombo, the Department of Government Electrical Undertakings maintains all Government Installations in the Island and acts in an advisory capacity to those local bodies which operate their own electricity supply undertakings. It is also empowered by the Electricity Act No. 19 of 1950 to inspect and report on electricity undertakings operated by licensees.

##### Hydro-Electric Scheme—Stage IIA

Work on this Scheme has been progressing very satisfactorily. 75 per cent. of the total excavation work for the Castlereagh Dam has been completed and concreting will be started early. Excavation for the Power Station extension is also nearing completion.

The most difficult section of the Civil Engineering work for the Laksapana Pipe Line has now been completed.

Work in the Electrical and Mechanical Section has been confined to design and manufacture in Europe, but preparations have been made to commence work in the substations at Badulla and Nuwara Eliya early in January, 1956.

Progress on the Transmission Lines has been good; survey and design have been completed except for the Bolawatte Line. About 50 per cent. of the tower steelwork has already been delivered and 90 of the 100 towers for the Badulla-Nuwara Eliya Line have been erected.

Thirty-eight step-down transformer substations and 2 primary substations totalling 3,835 kVA and 1,500 kVA respectively were constructed while  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles of 33 kV and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles of 11 kV lines were erected.

##### Commercial Operations

The highest peak load for the financial year was 33,540 kW., reached in September, which is 3,740 kW higher than that reached for the previous year.

The additional connected load on the system is 6,711 kVA with a guaranteed monthly minimum payment of Rs. 23,492.

The resulting increases in maximum demand and units consumed compared with the previous year are as follows :—

TABLE 20-1 ELECTRICITY : UNITS GENERATED AND CONSUMED

	1953-54	1954-55	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
<i>Units Generated :</i>			
(a) Laksapana Hydro Station	124,106,000	131,091,529	+ 5.6
(b) Norton Construction Power House	—	52,270	—
(c) Thermal Stations (Colombo Thermal Stations only)	6,116,440	16,067,720	+ 161
(d) Total	130,222,440	147,211,519	+ 13
(e) Laksapana Station Load Factor	47.35%	50.2%	—



TABLE 20·1 ELECTRICITY : UNITS GENERATED AND CONSUMED—(contd.)

	1953-54	1954-55	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
<i>Units Consumed :</i>			
(a) Units sold, including Norton Bridge & Nuwara Eliya	107,134,807	120,221,799	+ 12·2
(b) Installed Plant capacity kW	43,890	43,890	
<i>Maximum Demand :</i>			
(a) Maximum Demand in Kilowatts	29,800	33,540	+ 12·5
<i>Supply Statistics :</i>			
(a) Miles of Transmission Lines and Distributors	903	1,009	+ 11·7
(b) Number of consumers (excluding Norton Bridge and Nuwara Eliya)	22,072	23,005 <sup>(1)</sup>	+ 4·2

(1) 525 temporarily disconnected

**Finance**

The total income from all activities of the Department for the year amounted to Rs. 20,829,030 as against Rs. 19,146,133 in the previous financial year. Operation and Maintenance expenditure for the year inclusive of interest and annuities and income tax amounted to Rs. 16,109,049 as against Rs. 11,803,452 in 1953-54.

The net profit for the year was Rs. 4,719,981.

The financial results of the years 1953-54 and 1954-55 are summarised in the table below :

TABLE 20·2 ELECTRICAL UNDERTAKINGS : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1953-54 AND 1954-55

	1953-54 Rs.	1954-55 Rs.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
Gross Revenue	19,146,133	20,829,030	+ 8·8
Total Working Expenditure	7,772,482	11,853,422	+52·5
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	11,373,651	8,975,608	-21·0
Interest and Annuities	4,030,970	4,255,627	+ 5·5
Net Profit	7,342,681	4,719,981	-35·7

The expenditure on capital works during the year amounted to Rs. 21,245,681, bringing the total expenditure on capital works up to 30th September, 1955, to Rs. 111,750,499.

The total sum to the credit of the Reserve, Extensions and Renewals Fund at the end of September, 1955, was Rs. 13,587,745 after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 2,997,794.

**II—WATER SERVICE**

DURING 1954-55, a number of water schemes were completed and several new schemes commenced. Work on the Kalatuwawa Pipe Line and Service Reservoir, which is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 24,000,000 is being carried out by a firm of French Contractors. It is hoped to complete the



work by April, 1957. When completed a sufficient supply of water will be ensured to the Colombo Municipality for many years to come. The Towns South of Colombo Scheme, Stage I, which will be started in 1956 is the first stage of a comprehensive scheme covering the supply of water to the coastal towns as far south as Kalutara. Under Stage I, Kotte, Kolonnawa, Mt. Lavinia-Dehiwala, Moratuwa and Panadura will be supplied initially from the surplus water from Kalatuwawa and later by pumping from an intake in the Kelani Ganga. Stage I of this scheme is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 31,000,000 and will take three years to construct.

*Colombo.*—The Colombo water supply is obtained chiefly from the Labugama Reservoir which is situated in the Western Province, at a distance of 28½ miles from the City. The reservoir was formed by impounding the water of the Wak Oya, a tributary of the Kelani-Ganga.

The catchment area which is 2,500 acres in extent is free from any habitation or cultivation, all the land as far as the summit of the watershed having been reserved with a strip, two chains in depth, along the adjacent water sheds. The area of the Reservoir at the present top water level is 205 acres. This lake is 374 feet above sea level and has a maximum depth of 73 feet. The storage capacity of the reservoir is 1,960 million gallons.

The water has a very low alkalinity and is remarkably pure. Water service is available to almost all premises within the City and also to shipping in Colombo Harbour. The average daily consumption is now 19½ million gallons, or 46 gallons per head of the resident population.

The construction of another reservoir impounding the water of the Kalatuwawa Ela, a tributary of the Kelani River in the Ratnapura District, was begun in 1949 to augment the present supply of water from Labugama and the construction of the dam was completed in 1954.

The catchment area feeding the new reservoir is 3,320 acres. The total storage capacity of the reservoir will be 3,900 million gallons. The estimated safe yield from this source is 20 million per diem.

*Kandy.*—The existing water supply to the Town consists of an Impounding Reservoir of 44 million gallons constructed in 1874. This Reservoir is fed from a conserved catchment of 400 acres. There are three River Pumping Schemes using the Mahaweli-ganga as the source of supply to augment the Reservoir supply. Of these three pumping schemes, the Lewella Scheme completed in 1953 delivers the highest, about 420,000 gallons per diem of 19 hours pumping. Since the completion of this scheme the Town is not supplied with water from the Lake.

Designs, detailed plans and specifications for a major pumping scheme using the Mahaweli-ganga as the source of supply have been submitted to the Government by the French Engineers (Societe Eau et Assainment). Stage I of this scheme was to be completed under the current Six-year Plan

Among the schemes under construction in outstations are the following :

- (a) *New Town Anuradhapura.*—The supply of water to the New Town of Anuradhapura consists of an intake on the Nuwara Wewa and Low Lift Pumps capable of delivering ¾ million gallons a day to a purification plant a mile away. The water is then pumped to a 125,000 gallons water tower from where it gravitates to the distribution main. Water will be supplied in time for the Buddha Jayanthi Celebrations in May 1956.
- (b) *Hatton.*—A concrete dam 30 feet high will be constructed on Darrawella Estate to form an impounding reservoir of approximately 12 to 15 million gallons capacity ensuring ninety days' storage for the town. The work on the dam is in progress.
- (c) *University Scheme, Peradeniya.*—This scheme when completed will supply 50 gallons of water per day to each inmate at the University site. The purification plant, service reservoir and pipe line have been already constructed and the distribution mains are now being laid.

In addition to the above a number of smaller schemes for the supply of water to other towns have been completed. A number of works are under construction while several others are under various stages of investigation.



### III—PUBLIC WORKS

UNDER the Second Six-Year Plan of the Government which commenced in 1954-55 the Public Works Department is expected to execute approximately Rs. 900 million worth of work. In order to cope with the increasing volume of work, the Public Works Department was reorganised during the year 1955 following the recommendations of the P. W. D. Investigating Committee.

The expenditure incurred on public works during the financial year 1954-55 was Rs. 74,282,830 while salaries and expenses of the Department amounted to Rs. 6,133,339.

#### Buildings

Designs for many new major works were completed during the year.

Work on the University Scheme and the Army Cantonment, Homagama, also continued.

As against Rs. 2,204,786 in 1953-54 a sum of Rs. 2,159,794 was spent on maintenance of buildings in 1954-55. The total number of buildings in charge of the P. W. D. increased by 224 from 3,731 in 1953-54 to 3,955 in 1954-55. During the year a large programme of new building works within the scope of the second Six-Year Plan was executed.

#### The Government Factory

All factory workshops were fully occupied during the year. Among the major jobs undertaken and completed were the design and manufacture of a new Scarifier attachment for road rollers ; the construction of 2 power driven ferry boats for service at Jaffna and Batticaloa ; the turning out of a large variety of wooden, concrete, steel, brass and iron articles for the Medical, Irrigation, Electrical, Telegraph, Government Stores and Public Works Departments.

The average total number of workers employed in the Factory during the year was 1,875.

The total expenditure in 1954-55 amounted to Rs. 8,028,475.

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#### Important References :

- (1) Administration Report of the Chief Engineer and Manager, Government Electrical Undertakings.
- (2) Administration Report of the Director of Public Works.



## CHAPTER XXI

### THE PRESS, INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

#### I—THE PRESS

THERE are three main newspaper groups in Ceylon. The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon, Ltd., the biggest group, owns five dailies and three Sunday papers in the three languages. The Times of Ceylon, Ltd., the next biggest group, publishes three dailies and two Sunday Papers in the two languages, Sinhalese and English. The third organisation—The Virakesari, Ltd., Colombo, publishes one Tamil daily and one Sunday paper.

On a language basis there are two morning and one afternoon and two Sunday papers in Sinhalese ; two morning two afternoon and two Sunday papers in English and two morning Tamil dailies and two Sunday papers. Of the Sunday papers the "Silumina" (Sinhalese) and "Lankadipa" (Sinhalese) are supposed to have the largest circulation in South-east Asia.

The oldest of the Ceylon Newspapers is the "Ceylon Observer", the next in age is the "Times of Ceylon", each of them being over a century in continuous publication.

Most of the dailies are politically independent and are not officially controlled or censored.

The following shows particulars of the principal daily newspapers and their approximate circulation.

TABLE 21.1 DAILY NEWSPAPERS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Year Established</i>	<i>Language of Publica- tion</i>	<i>Circula- tion<sup>(1)</sup></i>	<i>Publishers</i>	<i>Address</i>
Ceylon Daily News	1918	English	42,008	Associated Newspapers of Ceylon, Ltd.	} Lake House, McCallum Road, Colombo
Ceylon Observer	1834	"	21,928		
Dinamina	1909	Sinhalese	66,433		
Janata	1953	"	25,803	"	} 3, Bristol Street, Colombo
Lankadipa	1947	"	n. a.	Times of Ceylon, Ltd.	
Morning Times	1954	English	n. a.	"	
Times of Ceylon	1846	"	n. a.	"	} Lake House, McCallum Road, Colombo
Thinakaran	1932	Tamil	18,506	Associated Newspapers of Ceylon, Ltd.	
Virakesari	1930	Tamil	21,573	Virakesari, Ltd.	} 185, Grandpass Road, Colombo

(1) Average daily net sales for 1955.

n. a. = not available.

There are also a number of other weekly and monthly publications in all the three languages which serve a very useful purpose though they may not have such big circulations.

#### II—INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

##### Activities of the Information Department

The present Information Department came into existence in 1948.

The Department of Information is usually represented at Press Conferences of Ministers and Permanent Secretaries, and Communiques of Government Departments are expected to pass through



its Press Room. The Department publishes information booklets and pamphlets for the various Government Departments. It publishes an illustrated monthly magazine in English entitled, "Ceylon Today", and monthly magazines in Sinhalese and Tamil respectively. It issues a weekly Ceylon News-Letter mainly for overseas distribution and also "The Week in Ceylon" for distribution to the Ceylon Missions abroad. The Department reprints books of which the Government holds the copyright, and publishes new books with a cultural value relating to Ceylon. It edits a daily bulletin of Home News which is broadcast to India and South and South-East Asia.

The Publication Bureau is the Government's bookshop. There is a sale centre at the General Post Office, Colombo, and one or more other such centres are contemplated.

The Government Film Unit has laboratory facilities for the limited output of documentary and instructional films. They are made with dialogue or commentaries in English, Sinhalese and Tamil. The Department has a number of mobile Units for showing 35 mm. and 16 mm. films. The new Government proposes to review and reorient the activities of this Department to ensure a fuller discharge of its educative functions.

### III—BROADCASTING SERVICES

THE Broadcasting Department runs a National Service and a Commercial Service.

The National Service which has a School Broadcasting Service as well, broadcasts its normal programmes in Sinhalese, Tamil and English, The Commercial Service broadcasts programmes to Africa, India, Pakistan and South-East Asia in addition to its local programmes.

Two journals are published by Radio Ceylon—"Radio Times" and "*Tarangini*" (in Sinhalese). The former carries particulars of the programmes for each fortnight in all three languages.

The total number of licence holders at the end of 1955 was 122,860. The licence fee in Ceylon is Rs. 15 per annum.

### IV—TOURIST BUREAU

#### Introduction

In 1955 Ceylon earned Rs. 8.3 million from tourism—a drop of Rs. 1.6 million from earnings in the previous year.

The chief causes of this decrease were the vast publicity campaigns being conducted by other countries in S. E. Asia and the delays caused in berthing ships owing to the improvements now being made to the Harbour.

#### Ceylon Tourist Travel Trends

*Volume and Value of Traffic.*—In 1955 the volume of traffic showed a decrease of 16,476 from the previous year. The volume of Holiday traffic had been decreasing regularly from 1952 although the volume of Holiday to total traffic kept on rising from 9 per cent. to 14 per cent. and then went back to 13 per cent. in 1955.

TABLE 21-2 VALUE OF TRAFFIC

*Rupees*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1951	7.3 million	49.4 million
1952	10.9 "	37.6 "
1953	8.6 "	36.1 "
1954	9.9 "	29.9 "
1955	8.3 "	32.2 "



TABLE 21-3 VOLUME OF TRAFFIC

Year	Stop-over	Transit	Total
1951	64,938	414,300	479,238
1952	66,185	416,236	482,421
1953	60,114	388,751	448,865
1954	59,111	354,332	413,443
1955	52,601	344,366	396,967

*Balance of Payments.*—The deficit in the balance of payments on Travel Account worsened slightly during 1955, having increased by Rs. 3.9 million over the previous year.

#### Development of Tourist Services

*Ceylon Travel Centre.*—The Ceylon Travel Centre which tourists find very useful passed on business amounting to Rs. 33,326 to Registered Tourist Agencies as against Rs. 26,397 in 1954. Tourist Introduction Cards are now being issued to tourists at the Ceylon Travel Centre. These cards enable their holders to obtain concessions on the Railway and from certain jewellery and photographic shops.

*Touting.*—Many establishments dealing in curios and gems were found to be employing touts to bring their wares to the notice of tourists. A registration scheme was therefore launched under which those registered agreed not to pay commissions to guides or touts, and to price-tag all articles exhibited for sale. This scheme is working satisfactorily.

#### Resthouses

A uniform tariff with a combined rate of Rs. 9.50 per day with local meals and Rs. 12.50 per day with European food has been introduced into the following Resthouses operated by the Bureau : Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya, Belihuloya, Pussellawa, Ella, Kantalai, Hikkaduwa, Tissamaharama, Bentota, Ambepussa, Dambulla and Habarana.

#### Publicity

*Advertising Campaigns.*—Publicity campaigns were launched in U. K., Australia and Burma at a cost of Rs. 39,000 ; Rs. 25,000 ; and Rs. 10,000 respectively. Large stocks of pamphlets, maps, and folders were sent to these countries as supporting material for the campaigns.

*Other Advertising.*—A small volume of miscellaneous advertising was also done in "ASTA Travel News", "The New York Times—International Travel Supplement", "The Daily Mail Ideal Home Book" and in local publications with an overseas circulation.

*Travel Literature.*—Large stocks of travel literature were sent to travel agencies, shipping lines, airlines, hotels, &c. throughout the world.

*Films.*—A valuable contribution towards publicity on the Continent of Europe was the making of a cinemascopic film of Ceylon by the Italian Film Company—IFIMA. This film will be used for publicity in Italy and the rest of Europe.

### V—TEA PROPAGANDA BOARD

ACTIVITIES to maintain and promote the consumption of Tea in Ceylon were continued in 1955 as in previous years through the media of (a) The Tea Caravan Service, (b) The Tea Service in Schools, (c) Resthouse and Advisory Service, and (d) General Publicity.

*The Tea Caravan Service.*—In keeping with the change made in 1954 the Tea Caravans were stationed in regional centres to cover the areas around each centre intensively and over a fairly long period of time. During the first half of the year, the Caravan Units operated from Vavuniya, Jaffna, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Amparai and Colombo. In accordance with the Board's decision



to reduce the number of Units from six to three over a period of three years, one Unit was disbanded by July, so that during the second half of the year, there were four in the regional centres and one in Colombo. The Units participated wherever possible, at events of local, national or religious importance.

*Tea Service in Schools.*—With the Board's decision to curtail expenditure on this service, it has confined the free tea scheme only to schools in the Northern areas, where the tea usage is less than in others. The Board has however decided that during the following year, the scheme will be continued only in those schools whose authorities are able to make satisfactory arrangements themselves for the supply of sugar, which forms by far the largest item of expenditure.

*Resthouse and Advisory Service.*—There was close co-operation between the various responsible authorities and the Board in an attempt to improve the standard of the tea service in resthouses and leading hotels. Some of the important resthouses were regularly visited whilst the others were visited whenever the Caravan Units and the executive staff passed by them. A new illustrated folder "Tea Tips—Calling all Resthouse-keepers and Hoteliers" was brought out during the year in the three languages and copies were sent to all the resthouses in the Island, hotels, restaurants and caterers.

With the transfer of control of some of the important resthouses to the Government Tourist Bureau, there will be a central organisation with which the Board can co-operate towards improved tea-services and the Board is in consultation with the Government Tourist Bureau in the matter.

*General Publicity.*—The general slogan of the campaign in Ceylon continued to be "DRINK MORE TEA FOR GOOD HEALTH". Thousands of leaflets were distributed to people on the correct preparation of a good cup of Tea, the proper manner of storing tea and advice on the merits of tea drinking.

Copies of the Board's Tea posters and Ceylon Tea Map as well as various publications brought out by the London Tea Bureau and photographs depicting the different aspects of the Ceylon Tea Industry were also distributed to persons requiring them both in Ceylon and abroad.

Eight copies of the Ceylon Tea film-strip "Tea Growing in Ceylon" with lecture notes in the three languages were sent to the Education Department for use in schools under their audio-visual education scheme.

*Tea for Visitors to Ceylon.*—The service at the Board's four Tea-counters in the Passenger Jetty, the Royal Naval Yard, Trincomalee, and the two air-ports at Ratmalana and Katunayake was maintained during the year.

43,922 lbs. of the Board's Tea were sold at these counters and 15,922 lbs. despatched abroad as gift parcels.

#### **The Food and Drugs Act—The Tea Thefts Prevention Act**

The administration of the Tea Thefts Prevention Act by the Tea Controller has been to the benefit of the Industry. Strict enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to refuse teas has made trade in "rubbishy" teas both at home and abroad difficult and the complaints against Ceylon Tea from certain overseas markets which at one time were so numerous as to constitute a threat to the fair name of Ceylon Tea abroad, have now begun to decline. As for local consumption, there is evidence that less and less refuse or "reclaimed" tea is passing through retail channels.

*Figures of Tea Consumption in Ceylon.*—The consumption of Tea in Ceylon in 1955 was estimated at slightly over 15 million lbs.

#### **Important References :**

- (1) Administration Report of the Director, Government Tourist Bureau.
- (2) Sessional Paper XX of 1955—Report of the Commission on Broadcasting.
- (3) Annual Report of the Tea Propaganda Board.



## CHAPTER XXII

### MUSEUMS, ARCHAEOLOGY AND FINE ARTS

#### I—NATIONAL MUSEUMS

THE Department of National Museums comprises the Colombo, Kandy, Ratnapura and Jaffna Museums which are open from 10-00 a.m., to 6-00 p.m. on all days except Fridays.

They contain the national collections pertaining to paleontology, zoology, prehistory, archaeology and antique Art. Apart from the official bulletin *Spolia Zeylanica*, numerous monographs, mostly dealing with Ceylon's fauna, have been published recently.

The Colombo National Museum contains not only one of the finest zoological libraries in Asia but also the largest known collection of Sinhala palm leaf manuscripts which are now being published in book form. All these publications are available at the various Museums. It also possesses an educational section which conducts a regular series of free lectures throughout the year while its two guide lecturers cater to visitors.

The series of special exhibitions of loan exhibits have been revived and three important ones have already been held during the past year.

Field work has yielded various interesting finds especially in paleontology, prehistory and zoology and has brought to light both new facts pertaining to these sciences and species new to science.

In view of the rapid spread of man and his destructive effect upon the fauna, the department is now taking steps to conduct a Zoological Survey of the entire Island which will at least record for posterity one of the most remarkable faunas of the World which is now being rapidly exterminated.

The Department has on sale a number of publications at the various museums.

#### II—ARCHAEOLOGY

##### Publications

The two quarto volumes of Sigiri Graffiti were printed by the Oxford University Press. The first volume comprises of 16 preliminary pages and 221 pages of the Introduction which deals exhaustively with palaeography, grammar, and other topics necessary for an understanding of the documents. This volume also includes 55 collotype plates in which over half of the Graffiti are reproduced. Volume II, of 472 pages, contains the texts and translation of the Graffiti notes, glossary and index. The two volumes have been priced at £10. 10s. A prospectus on this publication has also been printed and distributed to institutions and persons who are likely to be interested in the purchase of a work of this nature. Proposals have been made for the issue of a publication in Sinhalese embodying the verses and including explanations and notes which would enable those educated in Sinhalese to understand and appreciate them.

Part I of the fifth volume of the *Epigraphia Zeylanica* was published in November, 1955. This part consists of 176 pages ; it is thus equivalent in size to more than three normal parts of the *Epigraphia Zeylanica*. From the time this publication was initiated by the late Dr. Wickremasinghe in 1904, twenty-four parts had been printed and published, up to 1941, by the Oxford University Press. The last war interrupted its publication and pre-occupations of the Archaeological Commissioner with other tasks impeded its progress. In the meantime, it was decided to have the printing done in Ceylon by the Government Printer. The get up of this number of the *Epigraphia Zeylanica*, the first to be issued from Ceylon, compares favourably with that of the parts printed by a publishing house of such reputation as the Oxford University Press. This part comprises of fifteen papers on





**DUMBARA MAT (Hana Fibre)**

*(Courtesy Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries)*



தேவிய நூலைப் பிடிவு  
யாநகர நூலை சேவை  
யாழ்ப்பாணம்



inscriptions of various dates and of outstanding historical and linguistic importance, fourteen of which have been contributed by the Archaeological Commissioner Dr. S. Paranavitana. Mr. W. S. Karunaratne, Assistant Commissioner (Epigraphy) has contributed a paper on the Katagamuva Slab Inscription, the only one so far known of Mahabharana.

#### Excavation

The investigations of the Internal structure of the Kotavehera at Dadigama were brought to a close in December, 1955.

#### Conservation

The restoration of the larger of the twin tanks known by name of Kuttam Pokuna at Anuradhapura was completed in December, 1955. The department thus brought to a successful conclusion the heaviest as well as the most complicated work of conservation that it had ever undertaken. As has been mentioned in the previous reports, the western side of this tank had been restored about half a century ago and the stones had been mixed up at that time. In fact, several moulded slabs belonging to the parapet wall of the smaller tank had been utilised in the lower tiers of the western side of this tank. It has therefore not been possible on the western side to restore the stones exactly to the positions in which they were laid by the original builders but there has been no deviation whatsoever from the original design in the present restoration of this tank. Aesthetically, the Kuttam Pokuna is among the most noteworthy creations of the ancient Sinhalese architects, and the two tanks, now restored to their original design, form one of the principal attractions to tourists and sightseers. At Mihintale, the waterproofing of the top of the ruined *dagaba* to the east of the Kantaka Cetiya has been completed. The conservation of the remains of the monastic hospital, was continued and brought to a close during the year. The remains of the wall enclosing the forecourt of the hospitals were conserved using the scattered rubble and bricks. Three outhouses projecting from this *prakara* on the north, west and south were similarly dealt with. The fallen jambs and lintel of the stone doorway at the entrance to the forecourt have been reset. The second stage of the flight of steps which lead from the base to the summit of the Mihintale hill, a few yards above the base of the flight of steps leading to the Kantaka Cetiya, was repaired by a Buddhist Society at the beginning of this century, before the constitution of the archaeological reserve at the place. The work, however, was so badly done that the stones had been displaced, and this part of the stairway had to be completely rebuilt. All the stone stairways on the slopes of the Mihintale hill have now been restored. The conservation of the Bodhighara at Nillakgama, went through its final stages during the early months of 1955.

The Guard House opposite the House of Representatives at Galle Face in Colombo, a building of the early British period, has been taken over for maintenance by the department. The modern additions to this building have been removed, and necessary repairs have been effected to the original fabric so as to preserve its distinctive features.

Necessary attention and repairs were effected to the Dutch Forts at Kalpitiya, Galle and Jaffna and the remains of Portuguese churches in the Jaffna District.

### III—FINE ARTS

THE pictorial tradition of Ceylon goes back to the 3rd Century B.C. when Buddhism was introduced from India in the Missionary enterprise of that sub-continent's greatest Emperor, Asoka. Painting came, with other aspects of culture, as a dower of the new religion. When religious buildings were reared to the glory of the Buddha, paintings formed part of the scheme of moral edification and less aesthetic decoration. The themes of these paintings were selected from the 550 Jataka Stories which were connected with the life of the *Bodhisatva* and were visual aids to bring home the value of *Paramitta* or strivings towards perfection.

The remains of these ancient paintings, we know through notices in ancient books as well as from the researches of the Archaeological Department. The earliest paintings of any note extant are however datable no earlier than the 5th century A.D. They are known as the Sigiriya frescoes but are not patently religious. In the twelfth century we still find the classical school, samples of which



are found in Polonnaruwa and in desolate rock-caves of the forests. The Kandyan school and its counterpart in the South evolved its own method of painting technique. In September 1955, a UNESCO team visited these places with a view to publishing a volume on Ceylon's murals in the well known UNESCO WORLD ART SERIES.

In the opinion of an Indian expert Ceylon's remnants of paintings are more numerous than in India. The folk art of the Island, known as *Sittara*, is peculiarly of Ceylon. This type of art persists to our day. During the Kandyan times, i.e. 16th to 18th centuries, this art received its best expression. With the coming of the first Europeans (Portuguese) with vested interests in Ceylon, a new trend in art appeared which became most noticeable in British times.

Modern Ceylon Art may be classified into two broad groups the Folk Arts and the Fine Arts.

*Folk Arts.*—The tradition in folk arts is what has been handed down from the Middle Ages of Ceylon. The Golden age of Sinhala folk arts was the Kandyan age of Ceylon History, with the system of Service tenure which ensured the economic self-sufficiency of the artisan. The stimulus was so profound that it took shape in the *Kottal Badde*, the Department of Folk Arts, one of the fourteen departments of the Kandyan Public Services.

Among the most colourful of the folk arts, are the Masks of Ceylon—the artistic expression of the folk mind, as distinguished from the “fine arts” the art of the sophisticated. Ceylon masks are of two categories—those used in the ritual dances—the *Yak Natun*, and those featuring in the *Kolam*. In the ritual dances, the myths and legends of the past are vigorously danced out to the singing of the deeds of the supernatural. The *kolam* is the popular masquerade of the South. Actors don masks suited to the several roles. Disguised by the masks, short episodes are enacted giving free scope for the comic. The art of the mask is a highly realistic art, emphasizing the idea conveyed most effectively. The art of the Ceylon mask ranks among the highest expressions of the art of simple folks.

A folk art of medieval Ceylon was the *Rukada*, or the art of puppetry, dramatising stories with the use of figures in the round, gorgeously coloured, and manually operated.

*Fine Arts.*—The Ceylon Society of Arts is the premier art organization of the Island. Under its auspices periodical exhibitions are held of all types of art, indigenous and foreign.

Another influential art organisation of the Island is the “43 Group”, created as the expression of a new urge in fine arts. Among the “43 Group” are George Keyt, Harry Peiris and Justin Deraniyagala, and L. T. P. Manjusiri whose work is well recognized at home and abroad.

Among the more noteworthy of this renaissance in art and culture is a consciousness of the place of the Kandyan Dance art in the life of the nation. Kandyan dance art finds its expression today in the *Ves Natuma*, the *Naiyandi*, *Udekki* and the *Pantheru* dances. These dance forms are spectacular displays of artistic excellence and possess great entertainment and educative value.

#### Important References :

- (1) Coomaraswamy, Ananda K.—Mediaeval Sinhalese Art (soon to be re-issued by Pantheon Books Inc., New York.)
- (2) Paranavitana, S.—The Art and Architecture of Ceylon (The Arts Council of Ceylon, Colombo).
- (3) Paranavitana, S.—Sinhalese Art & Sculpture (Journal of the Royal Society of Arts, Lond. Vol. XCVIII No. 4822 June 1950).
- (4) Rowland, Benjamin—The Art and Architecture of India, etc. (Pelican History of Art Series).
- (5) Saratchandra, E. R.—The Sinhalese Folk Play (The University of Ceylon).
- (6) Annual Reports of the Archaeological Survey of Ceylon.
- (7) Annual Reports of the Director of National Museums, Ceylon.



## CHAPTER XXIII

### POLICE AND PRISONS

#### I—POLICE SYSTEM AND CRIME STATISTICS

THE Police Service of Ceylon was established and is regulated under Ordinance No. 16 of 1865, as amended by subsequent Ordinances though there was a Police Branch of the Administration dating as far back as the early 19th century. Before the Police Service was constituted these duties were attended to by the Village Headmen who still do so in certain parts of the Island which are not policed as yet. Even in policed areas, and particularly in rural areas, the Headmen play a useful part in the detection and investigation of crime.

At the end of the year 1955 there were 227 Police Stations in the Island, and the strength of the Service was 7,490 although the sanctioned strength was 8,451. Financial considerations have compelled the Department to go slow in taking over the unpoliced areas.

#### Causes of Crime and Preventive Action

There has been an appreciable decrease in grave crime in 1955 there being 18,163 cases as against 19,704 in 1954. In 1953, however, a total of 18,016 cases was reported. In addition to the decrease in crime the percentage of convictions has increased from 43·8 per cent. in 1954 to 44·17 per cent. in 1955, whilst cases per 100,000 of population decreased from 234·99 in the previous year to 211·47 in 1955.

The main cause of violent crime is still the sudden quarrel or long-standing enmity and these factors are being eliminated by the Police in conjunction with Conciliation Boards and Rural Development Societies who seek to effect a settlement before they lead to crime.

#### Rural Development Societies and Rural Volunteer Patrol Movements

Patrols organised under the auspices of these Societies continue their valuable contribution towards the reduction of crime particularly in the rural areas by making up for the lack of Police for patrolling and in addition render useful preventive action by settling disputes and family feuds, giving information, checking up on strangers, supervising local criminals and assisting the Police in Crowd and Traffic Control. The following is an analysis of crime reported during the five year period 1951–55.

TABLE 23·1 CRIME STATISTICS, 1951–55

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Population at mid-year	7,742,000	7,942,000	8,248,000	8,385,000	8,589,000
Total crime	18,090	17,911	18,016	19,704	18,163
True	12,110	11,940	11,690	13,004	12,296
Convictions	5,007	5,135	5,152	5,701	5,431
Percentage	41·3	43	44	43·8	44·17
Pending	2,833	3,158	3,489	3,815	3,205
Cases per 100,000 of population	233·6	225·3	218·4	234·99	211·47

#### Motor Traffic

A total number of 49,687 prosecutions were entered by the Police for Motor offences in 1955 as against 55,259 in 1954. In addition to these prosecutions, 2,216 Warning Tickets were issued to Motor Offenders for instruction in lieu of prosecution, the accent being more on corrective than on punitive action. This has had a very salutary effect on motorists.



The accident figures are as follows :—

TABLE 23·2 ROAD ACCIDENTS, 1951–55

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Total No. of accidents	10,772	12,050	13,945	14,172	14,912
Persons killed	286	282	358	300	311
Persons injured	5,734	6,316	7,068	7,600	7,930

## II—PRISONS

THE Department of Prison and Probation Services is responsible for the administration of all prisons, Fiscal's lock-ups, Borstal Institutions, Certified and Approved Schools, and the Probation Services in the Island.

There are thirteen prisons and two Training Schools in the Island providing accommodation for about 4,500 prisoners. The four largest of these institutions are those at Welikada (Colombo) Mahara, Kandy and Jaffna. Smaller prisons are situated at Galle, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Batticaloa and Matara. In addition, there are two separate Remand Prisons in Colombo, one in Kandy and an Open Prison Camp at Kundasale near Kandy. Each prison has a separate female section entirely in charge of female officers.

All prisoners capable of being trained in industrial work are given training in selected trades. At Welikada and Kandy Prisons there are large scale industrial establishments providing up-to-date training in carpentry, tailoring, laundry, shoe-making, blacksmith and tinsmith work, rattan work, weaving, mat making and printing. In those institutions where land is available for agricultural work, small groups of prisoners are trained in gardening, horticulture and agriculture. The output from prison workshops is mainly supplied to Government Departments and local bodies.

The total value of industrial and agricultural operations is as follows :—

Year	Value Rs.	Year	Value Rs.
1949–50	1,180,736	1952–53	1,037,774
1950–51	1,175,109	1953–54	1,198,046
1951–52	1,074,188	1954–55	1,317,490

### Education and Recreation

Besides vocational training, every effort is made to give prisoners who require it some form of basic education. Educational classes are held in all the larger prisons, including evening classes by voluntary workers.

Provision has also been made for moral and spiritual guidance for prisoners of all denominations. The work of spiritual ministration is carried out by ministers of all religions, assisted at some prisons by members of religious societies and voluntary workers. At some prisons, attendance at outside churches or temples is allowed to specially selected prisoners on particular occasions. Regular recreation apart from cinema shows and concerts has been provided for and is a regular feature of prison routine. Prisoners are also encouraged to take up hobbies in their spare time.

### Health

At Welikada Prison there is a centralised well-equipped Prison Hospital with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 for infectious cases. There is also an operating theatre, and dental and eye clinics are held regularly. There are separate hospitals in each of the other prisons, and full-time Medical Officers are attached to the institutions at Welikada, Mahara and Kandy.



### Young First Offenders

Special mention should be made of the Welikada Prison Rover Troop, which is a unique feature in prison administration. A number of prisoners are selected for training on scout lines from well-behaved young offenders between the ages of 16 and 21 with long sentences.

A very successful venture, recently introduced in Ceylon, has been the Open Prison Camp established at Kundasale in the Kandy District. Here about 100 specially selected prisoners, who have served a fair proportion of their sentences in prison, are given a training with an agricultural bias under conditions of trust and freedom.

### Borstal Institutions

There are two Borstal Institutions in Ceylon for the training and treatment of offenders between the ages of 16 and 21. The one at Wathupitiwela is of the Open type and provides accommodation for about 250 inmates. It is run on the lines of a residential school and is divided into a number of "Houses", each house in charge of a House Master and Assistant House Master. Provision exists for training in agriculture and animal husbandry in addition to industrial training. There is also a Scout Troop where training on scout lines is given to selected inmates. The Institution at Negombo is a closed Borstal and accommodates about 200 inmates. Here provision exists for industrial training only. The training at these institutions includes education, indoor and outdoor games, hobbies, camps, hikes, &c.

### Certified School

A certified school for offenders below the age of 16 years has been established at Hikkaduwa with a branch at Koggala. There are at present over 400 boys in both institutions. The programme of education and training follows lines similar to that of the Borstal Institution.

### Statistics

Statistics for the years 1952, 1953, 1954 and 1955 appear in the following table :—

TABLE 23-3 PRISON STATISTICS, 1952-55

	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number of admissions on conviction	{ Total	7,924	8,764	9,914
	{ Males	7,766	8,597	9,721
	{ Females	158	167	193
Number of admissions on conviction from Supreme Court and District Court		400	467	305
Convictions for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder		108	193	150
Number of male persons sentenced to death		40	52	56
Number executed		21	20	35
Number pardoned and released		—	—	—
Daily average population (convicted and unconvicted)	{ Total	4,720	5,003	4,925
	{ Males	4,670	4,942	4,858
	{ Females	50	61	67
Number of reconvicted prisoners		4,097	4,441	4,687
Admissions for non-payment of fines		1,908	2,796	3,238
Imprisonment for statutory offences		1,981	3,407	4,046



TABLE 23-3 PRISON STATISTICS, 1952-55 (contd.)

<i>Race :</i>	1952	1953	1954	1955
Europeans	21	9	9	1
Burghers	131	744	213	269
Sinhalese	14,535	17,306	17,623	16,099
Tamils	8,175	6,278	5,459	5,311
Moors	2,139	1,905	1,887	1,763
Malays	228	91	159	165
Others	108	173	5	11
	<u>25,337</u>	<u>26,506</u>	<u>25,355</u>	<u>23,619</u>
<i>Religion :</i>				
Christians	2,434	3,085	2,357	1,777
Buddhists	13,533	15,899	16,037	15,264
Hindus	7,154	5,295	5,013	4,606
Muslims	2,127	2,106	1,935	1,903
Others	89	121	13	69

### III—PROBATION SERVICE

THE Probation Service, since its inauguration in 1944, has been progressively expanded and now covers the whole Island. There are 28 Probation Units, 11 of which are single-officer and 17 multi-officer units. These units cover the 30 Judicial Divisions of the Island, and have been grouped, for facility of administration and control, into 6 Area Groups, each under a Chief Probation Officer. The Chief Probation Officers supervise, assist and advise the Probation Officers in their work.

The Service consists of 86 full-time salaried Probation Officers, 6 of whom are female officers. Several Voluntary Lady Probation Officers are also attached to the various units in the Island.

The Probation Hostel which was opened at Koggala in Galle District in 1953, to provide accommodation and training facilities for probationers who did not have suitable homes of their own, was closed down in August, 1955, owing to financial stringency. To fill the breach thus created, the assistance of voluntary agencies and others engaged in Social Service have been secured, and Homes run by them and private residences have been approved under the law for purposes of providing probationers with residential accommodation and training facilities.

In addition to the work under the Probation of Offenders' Ordinance No. 42 of 1944, the Probation Service has, since the promulgation of the Children and Young Persons' Ordinance No. 48 of 1939, in April, 1952, been called upon to administer certain provisions of this Ordinance, viz. Investigation and Supervision of cases &c. In this respect, Remand Homes have already been established at Pannipitiya (Colombo) and Koggala (Galle). These Homes are intended to provide remand and observation facilities for offenders under the age of 16 years. These Remand Homes are staffed with officers carefully selected and trained for this purpose. Besides these State Remand Homes certain other Homes run by private persons and voluntary organizations have been approved in terms of the law to provide remand facilities in areas for which the State Homes do not cater.

A Probation Officer's statutory functions mainly devolve from :

- (1) The Probation of Offenders' Ordinance No. 42 of 1944,
- (2) The Payment of Fines Ordinance No. 49 of 1938,
- (3) The Children and Young Persons' Ordinance No. 48 of 1939, and
- (4) The Vagrants' Ordinance Chapter 26 of the Legislative Enactments of Ceylon ;



while his other duties include the supervision of offenders Conditionally Discharged under the Criminal Procedure Code, Adoption Inquiries and acting as Guardian *ad litem* in accordance with the Adoption of Children Ordinance, Prisoners' Welfare Association, Inquiries and Supervisions, After-Care supervision of ex-Borstal and ex-Certified or ex-Approved School lads, Supervision of prisoners released on Licence, Matrimonial conciliation work, Inquiries into applications for consent to marry, &c.

TABLE 23-4 PROBATION STATISTICS, 1952-55

	1952	1953	1954	1955
Carried over under supervision from the previous year	1,298	1,797	1,894	2,050
Placed on probation during the year	1,221	1,055	1,256	1,286
Completed satisfactorily	530	670	825	786
Completed unsatisfactorily	248	288	275	296
Remaining under supervision at the end of the year	1,797	1,894	2,050	2,347

#### Important References :

- (1) Administration Report of the Commissioner of Prison and Probation Services.
- (2) Report of the Special Committee on Prison Administration : Sessional Paper XVIII of 1949.
- (3) Prison and Probation Journal—January and June issues.
- (4) Administration Report of the Inspector-General of Police.



## CHAPTER XXIV

### CENSUSES AND SURVEYS

#### I—CENSUS OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

##### **The Census**

THE Census of Financial Institutions was taken during the period commencing on October 1, 1952, and ending on November 30, 1952, and covered Insurance Companies, Finance Companies and Pawnbroking and Money Lending establishments. Owing to the nature of the statistics collected by the Central Bank of Ceylon it was decided to restrict the Census of Financial institutions to the activities of Insurance Companies, Finance Companies and Establishments carrying on the business of pawnbroking and money lending.

##### **Insurance Companies**

The schedule relating to Insurance Companies comprised five parts and sought information on the classes of insurance business carried on, employment and pay-roll, share capital, life insurance and other insurance. The schedule specifically excluded Marine Insurance business.

##### **Finance Companies**

The schedule served on Finance Companies sought information on pay-roll and volume and nature of financing.

Details were asked for separately for personal consumption goods and commercial and industrial goods. In the former category were included items like passenger cars, radios, electrical and gas household appliances, furniture, &c. The latter included items like commercial vehicles, agricultural implements, factory equipment, &c. Information was also sought on repossession in the year by main types of commodity and proportion of contract value paid, as also the value realized on sale of such repossessions.

##### **Pawnbroking and Money Lending**

A feature of the Pawnbroking and Money Lending schedule was that it was available not only in English but also in the National languages—Sinhalese and Tamil. Owing to the nature of the organization in this field of activity this was indeed advisedly done.

##### **Findings of the Census**

The principal findings of the Census are summarized below :—

**Pawnbroking.**—Information on this financial sector was sought from 966 institutions scattered all over the Island. The largest concentration was in Colombo District which had 291 or 30.1 per cent. of the total number. The total advances in the Island amounted to Rs. 90,299,709 and to this amount Colombo contributed Rs. 45,568,369 or 50.5 per cent.

Interest earned was Rs. 9,583,295 or 10.6 per cent. of the advances made.

Of the 966 establishments only 282 were in Ceylonese hands while as much as 684 or 70.8 per cent. were in non-Ceylonese or Indian hands. The advances made by the non-Ceylonese institutions amounted to 74.6 per cent. of the total.

The nature of the organization of the business is evident from the fact that 611 establishments were individual proprietorships, 350 partnerships and 5 belonged to some other category. Business generally was on a small scale and the proprietors themselves usually transacted their own business.



The total wage and salary bill for the year in question was Rs. 1,688,008 and this constituted 17·6 per cent. of the interest earned during that year.

Money was advanced by placing gold and silver jewellery, and furniture and other movables in pawn. The largest volume of money was advanced on the pawn of gold and silver jewellery and 99·7 per cent. of the total number of advances in the case of pawnbroking was made on its security. In the case of the money lending business, advances were made on the security of mortgages, pro-notes or other miscellaneous types of security. The total number of advances made with pro-notes as security constituted the largest number or 77·8 per cent. of the total.

The pledges redeemed in the year of return amounted to Rs. 40,885,654 or 86·7 per cent. of the amount advanced in the case of pawnbroking which was Rs. 47,173,074. Pledges not redeemed and so auctioned realised Rs. 570,931 or 1·2 per cent. of the volume of advances. The surplus realized at auctions of unredeemed pledges was Rs. 72,960 while the deficit was Rs. 43,402.

*Finance Companies.*—The Census of Financial Institutions included the business of Finance Companies. These companies were mainly new companies which had not been in business for any considerable length of time, and their main business was the financing on a hire-purchase system of goods bought for personal consumption and to a lesser extent commercial and industrial goods. Advances to purchase passenger cars both new and old formed the largest amount in the case of goods for personal consumption, while a considerable number of advances were for the purchase of radios and a similar number for the purchase of electric, gas and other household appliances. In the case of advances for commercial and industrial goods, the largest number was for the purchase of commercial vehicles new as well as old, while a small number was for the purchase of agricultural and commercial equipment.

*Insurance.*—The other type of Financial Institutions covered by the Census was insurance companies. The survey covered all insurance companies in the Island including agency houses transacting insurance business for more than one company.

The information was published in the "Report on Census of Financial Institutions".

## II—CENSUS OF MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES

A CENSUS of merchandising and service establishments was conducted for the first time in Ceylon during the latter part of 1952. It covered establishments which normally sold goods at retail in shops or parts of shops, &c. Practically every known type of retail shop ranging from the well established department store to the humble cigar boutique, vegetable and betel boutiques came under this Survey in addition to service establishments such as hotels and resthouses, restaurants, cafes, laundries, &c.

The Census was an Island-wide survey. The information collected was for the calendar year 1951, but in certain cases where the details were not available for the calendar year, returns were made in respect of a business or accounting year which corresponded very closely to the calendar year.

Five different types of schedules were used for the survey of retail and service trade establishments—three were used for collecting information on retail trade and two for service trades. The questions asked related to kind of business, total sales, employment, wages and salaries and trading purchases. The returns on employment, wages and trading purchases were not satisfactory and hence these figures have not been published. The results of the Census showed that there were in all 79,183 establishments engaged in the distributive and service trades. Of these 53,094 were retail establishments and the rest, 26,089, were engaged in service trades. Quite a large number, viz. 32,010 establishments, were classed under the category of "Sundry boutiques" in the retail trade section. In the service trades, the "tea boutique" tops the list with a total of 21,509 establishments. It is a significant fact that in Ceylon most of the consumer businesses are transacted under these two well known and popular classes, viz. "Sundry boutique" and "tea boutique". Almost any



article, ranging from a pencil and pen-knife to textiles, footwear, groceries of every description and even sewing machines and radio sets, are available in quite a large number of the "Sundry boutiques" in rural areas. The "tea boutiques" too, in the majority of cases, combine the sale of services with the consumer goods as well, but in these establishments the consumer goods are generally confined to food and groceries. It must be stated here that the "kind of business" description was left entirely to the person who furnished the returns and the results may be said to be satisfactory since the categories conform more or less to an anticipated pattern of trade in the Island.

The survey revealed that the total distributive and service trade transacted during the year 1951 was Rs. 2,742,938,000. 93 per cent. of the total trade was realized by the retail establishments. Of this 45 per cent. was conducted by establishments in the grocery and food group. In this group the Sundry boutique had the highest volume of business with a total turnover of Rs. 860,350,000. Together with the retail Co-operative Stores, the volume of trade transacted by the food and grocery group was nearly 52 per cent. of the total distributive trade. The other substantial contribution towards the volume of trade in the retail sector was the "clothing group" which accounted for nearly 15 per cent. of the total distributive trade.

Only a very small proportion—about 7 per cent.—of the total trade accounted for the "service" section of the Census. But, within this sector, the group "Restaurants, Cafes, Taverns and other Eating Places" had the largest volume of business, bringing in a total turnover of Rs. 161,334,000. This accounts for nearly 87 per cent. of the total service trade. But within this group, the tea boutique tops the turnover figure with a total of Rs. 136,641,000 which accounts for nearly 85 per cent. of the total volume of trade within this group and is 74 per cent. of the total service sector.

The basic information collected during the Census is summarized in the following table :

TABLE 24.1 NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, TOTAL SALES, &C.

District	No. of establish- ments	Percentage Distribu- tion of establish- ments	Total sales Rs. '000	Percentage distribu- tion of total sales	Average sales per establish- ment (Rs.)	Sales per capita (Rs.)
Ceylon	79,183	100	2,742,938	100	34,640	354
Colombo	19,096	24.12	1,139,850	41.56	59,691	682
Kalutara	5,403	6.82	137,840	5.03	25,512	260
Kandy	8,215	10.38	312,092	11.38	37,991	381
Matale	1,902	2.40	76,126	2.77	40,024	425
Nuwara Eliya	1,967	2.48	63,163	2.30	32,111	208
Galle	6,015	7.60	115,203	4.20	19,153	215
Matara	4,003	5.06	73,757	2.69	18,425	181
Hambantota	1,904	2.40	24,751	.09	12,999	144
Jaffna	3,501	4.42	111,791	4.08	31,931	229
Mannar	538	.69	10,310	.37	19,164	279
Vavuniya	360	.45	3,811	.14	10,586	141
Batticaloa	2,302	2.91	47,712	1.74	20,726	206
Trincomalee	955	1.21	16,674	.61	17,460	172
Kurunegala	6,875	8.68	139,714	5.09	20,322	249
Puttalam	683	.86	12,766	.47	18,691	255
Chilaw	1,832	2.31	34,527	1.26	18,847	214
Anuradhapura	2,394	3.02	49,127	1.79	20,521	292
Badulla	2,757	3.48	192,945	7.03	69,984	449
Ratnapura	3,538	4.47	62,221	2.27	17,586	154
Kegalla	4,943	6.24	118,558	4.32	23,985	253



The distribution of establishments by size of turnover is given in Table 24·2.

TABLE 24·2 ESTABLISHMENTS : SIZE OF TURNOVER

	No. of Establishments	Percentage to Total Establishments	Cumulative Percentage
Ceylon	79,183	100	—
Withheld to avoid disclosure	456	·58	·58
Under Rs. 2,000	35,728	45·12	45·70
2,000 — 5,000	14,133	17·85	63·55
5,000 — 10,000	8,459	10·68	74·23
10,000 — 25,000	8,241	10·41	84·64
25,000 — 50,000	4,869	6·15	90·79
50,000 — 100,000	3,364	4·25	95·04
100,000 — 250,000	2,257	2·85	97·89
250,000 — 500,000	887	1·12	99·01
500,000 — 750,000	304	·38	99·39
750,000 — 1,000,000	163	·20	99·59
1,000,000 and over	322	·41	100·00

The number of persons employed in all the establishments covered by the Census was 229,098 of which approximately 70·3 cent. were employed in the retail trade section of the Census, while the grocery and food group alone accounted for nearly 46 per cent. of the total number employed.

The service establishments which were 32·9 per cent. of the total number, accounted for 29·7 per cent. of all the employees.

Establishments employing one person formed the largest group and numbered 30,979. Of these, 12,964 were sundry shops and 10,431 were tea boutiques. Establishments employing one and two persons totalled 50,505 or 63·8 per cent. There were only 415 establishments employing more than 20 persons. Approximately 34·4 per cent. of persons employed were in the Urban establishments.

Being a “ pioneer ” venture, the survey was fraught with many difficulties. There was no trade directory or any other register from which a framework of trading establishments could be prepared nor has it been possible to assess the growth or decline of particular trades. Explanatory notes in respect of various terms used in the schedule had to be embodied in the schedule itself. This obviously meant a careful perusal of all details in the schedule by the traders who already had to fill up various forms required by Government. Added to this was the suspicion that the information collected would be used for purposes of taxation, although every assurance was given by the Department that no information which would be detrimental to a trader's interest would be disclosed.

Considering all these difficulties, the response was most encouraging particularly because the survey was conducted by post in all the Urban areas of the Island.

### III—MILK SURVEY, COLOMBO

#### Objects of the Survey

THE survey was carried out by the Department of Census and Statistics during the month of October, 1954, at the request of the Chairman, Government Milk Board. The purpose of the survey was primarily to estimate the present consumption of cow milk in the city of Colombo.



**Coverage**

The survey covered all households and milk consuming institutions within the Municipal limits of Colombo. The milk consuming institutions consisted of hospitals and nursing homes, hotels and restaurants, school boardings, tea boutiques, lodging houses, eating houses and milk feeding centres. The survey excluded the Navy and Military Quarters in the Fort area.

**Scheme of Survey of Households**

A suitable frame for selecting the sample consisted of the lists of households prepared for the 1953 Census, which gave the names and addresses of the chief occupants of all households. A systematic sample from these lists (that is the selection of every *n*th household from the list) ensured that the sample would be distributed in the right proportions geographically, and to some extent socially also, as similar social groups generally tend to live together in close proximity. The total number of households selected for all income groups was 587 of which only 580 were finally surveyed.

**Scheme of Survey of Institutions**

Lists of all milk-consuming institutions classified according to the type of institution were prepared, by making use of the lists maintained by the Colombo Municipal Office, as well as from information collected elsewhere. The total number in the lists thus prepared was 1,806. From these, a sample of 313 were selected for the survey.

**Quantity of Fresh Milk consumed in Households**

Fifty-nine per cent. of the households do not consume any fresh milk.

Among the remaining 41 per cent. of the households that consume fresh milk, the quantities consumed vary between households. Table 24.3 shows the distribution of households according to the quantity of fresh milk consumed.

TABLE 24.3 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN EACH INCOME GROUP  
ACCORDING TO QUANTITY OF FRESH MILK CONSUMED

Quantity of Fresh Milk consumed (bottles per day)	Percentage of Households of Income Groups					
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	0-50	50-100	100-150	150-200	200-300	300-400
0 and less than $\frac{1}{2}$	100	96	89	79	59	53
$\frac{1}{2}$ do. 1	—	4	7	16	25	35
1 do. $1\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	4	5	12	6
$1\frac{1}{2}$ do. 2	—	—	—	—	3	2
2 do. 3	—	—	—	—	1	4
3 do. 5	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100



TABLE 24.3 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN EACH INCOME GROUP ACCORDING TO QUANTITY OF FRESH MILK CONSUMED—(contd.)

Quantity of Fresh Milk consumed (bottles per day)	Percentage of Households of Income Groups					
	Rs. 400-500	Rs. 500-750	Rs. 750-1,000	Rs. 1,000-2,000	Rs. 2,000 & over	Rs. All Incomes
0 and less than $\frac{1}{2}$	27	32	13	15	—	63
$\frac{1}{2}$ do. 1	21	19	11	9	12	14
1 do. $1\frac{1}{2}$	21	12	32	12	8	8
$1\frac{1}{2}$ do. 2	14	18	17	19	14	5
2 do. 3	17	11	12	20	28	5
3 do. 5	—	7	13	23	30	4
5 and over	—	1	2	2	8	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

The average consumption of fresh milk for all incomes within the Municipality is .582 bottles per household per day.

TABLE 24.4 AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF FRESH MILK IN HOUSEHOLDS FOR DIFFERENT INCOME LEVELS AND THE STANDARD ERRORS OF THESE AVERAGES

Income Group (1)		Average Quantity of Fresh Milk consumed per Household per Day in Bottles (2)	Standard Error of Average in Column (2) in Bottles (3)
Rs.	Rs.		
0 and less than	50	—	—
50 do.	100	.022	.015
100 do.	150	.098	.037
150 do.	200	.162	.038
200 do.	300	.340	.047
300 do.	400	.397	.075
400 do.	500	.922	.147
500 do.	750	1.106	.152
750 do.	1,000	1.424	.153
1,000 do.	2,000	1.816	.139
2,000 and over		2.585	.178
All Incomes		.582	.025

#### Consumption of Fresh Milk and Milk Products

The estimated total consumption of milk and milk products in the city of Colombo for household and institutions is shown in Table 24.5.



TABLE 24-5 ESTIMATED CONSUMPTION OF FRESH MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS IN THE CITY OF COLOMBO FOR A MONTH OF 30 DAYS

	Fresh Milk			Condensed	Other Milk Products (in lbs.)				
	Total Number	Cow (bottles)	Buffalo (bottles)	Milk 14 oz. tins	Malted Milk	Infant Food	Milk Powder	Skimmed Milk	Total of other milk products
Households	55,172	963,026	—	157,118	43,641	36,364	38,891	—	118,896
Canteens	138	15,972	1,360	31,685	95	—	—	—	95
Tea boutiques	809	30,512	67,816	101,854	639	—	60	—	699
Eating houses	630	93,832	118,314	109,998	3,459	—	—	—	3,459
Lodging houses	91	9,282	—	4,195	36	—	82	—	118
School hostels	17	8,082	—	2,253	86	—	175	—	261
Nursing homes and hospitals	24	51,147	—	2,096	990	434	610	—	2,034
Hotels and restaurants	56	24,916	8,223	20,217	70	12	1,444	—	1,526
Milk feeding centres	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,929	7,929
Total	—	1,196,769	195,713	429,416	49,016	36,810	41,262	7,929	135,017

TABLE 24-6 ANALYSIS OF AVERAGE AND TOTAL CONSUMPTION OF FRESH MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS IN HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME GROUPS

Income Group		Percentage of households	Estimated Number of households	Average Quantity of fresh milk consumed per household per day (In bottles)	Average Consumption of condensed milk per household per month (14 oz. tins)	Average Quantity of other milk products* consumed per household per month (lbs.)	Total Quantity of fresh milk consumed per month (Bottles)	Total Quantity of condensed milk consumed per month (14 oz. tins)	Total Quantity of other milk products* consumed per month (lbs.)
Rs.	Rs.								
0 and less than	50	3.62	1,997	—	—	—	—	—	—
50 do.	100	15.46	8,530	.022	1.000	.685	5,630	8,530	5,843
100 do.	150	15.07	8,314	.098	1.239	1.446	24,443	10,301	12,022
150 do.	200	12.15	6,703	.162	1.825	.965	32,577	12,233	6,468
200 do.	300	13.66	7,536	.340	2.642	2.019	76,867	19,910	15,215
300 do.	400	8.92	4,921	.397	3.490	3.216	58,609	17,174	15,826
400 do.	500	5.72	3,156	.922	4.759	4.362	87,295	15,019	13,766
500 do.	750	9.82	5,418	1.106	3.973	3.795	179,769	21,526	20,561
750 do.	1,000	4.09	2,257	1.424	6.472	2.816	96,419	14,607	6,356
1,000 do.	2,000	7.09	3,912	1.816	4.913	4.594	213,126	19,220	17,972
2,000 and over		4.40	2,428	2.585	7.660	2.100	188,291	18,598	5,099
All Incomes		100.00	55,172	.582	2.848	2.159	963,026	157,118	119,128

\* Milk products consist of malted milk, infant foods and milk powders.

Table 24-6 gives an analysis of the present consumption of fresh milk and milk products, by income groups, in the household sector.

For further details the reader is referred to "Survey of Milk Consumption in the City of Colombo" published by the Department of Census and Statistics.

#### IV—MILK SURVEY, KANDY

A survey for Kandy was undertaken in June, 1955, on the same lines as for Colombo with few modifications. The survey for Kandy, as in the case of Colombo, consisted of a survey of households and a survey of the milk consuming institutions comprising hospitals, nursing homes, hotels, tea kiosks, school hostels, boarding houses and canteens.



**Survey of Institutions by complete enumeration**

The survey of institutions except that of tea kiosks was carried out by complete enumeration by sending by mail to each of the different milk consuming institutions in Kandy a copy of the institution schedule.

**Sampling of Households and Tea Kiosks**

The "Frame" used for selecting the sample of households was the list maintained at the Kandy Municipal Office. The total number of households selected and surveyed was 325.

The Frame for selecting the sample of tea kiosks was also obtained from the Kandy Municipal Office.

TABLE 24.7 AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF FRESH MILK IN HOUSEHOLDS FOR DIFFERENT INCOME LEVELS AND THE STANDARD ERRORS OF THESE AVERAGES

Income Group		Average Quantity of Fresh Milk consumed per Household per Day (in bottles)	Standard Errors of Average in Column (2) (in bottles)
(1)			
Rs.	Rs.	(2)	(3)
0 and less than	100	·26	·05
100 do.	200	·53	·07
200 do.	300	·76	·10
300 do.	400	1·23	·12
400 do.	500	1·42	·19
500 do.	750	1·62	·26
750 do.	1,000	2·15	·45
1,000 and over		2·48	·32
All Incomes		·72	·04

Table 24.8 shows the quantities consumed by households classified by income groups.

TABLE 24.8. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN EACH INCOME GROUP ACCORDING TO THE QUANTITY OF FRESH MILK CONSUMED

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Quantity of fresh milk consumed bottles per day	0-100	100-200	200-300	300-400	400-500	500-750	750-1000	1000 and over	All Income Groups
NIL	50	34	30	15	15	21	15	12	36
Less than $\frac{1}{2}$	13	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
$\frac{1}{2}$ and less than 1	28	35	30	10	9	17	—	—	25
1 do. $1\frac{1}{2}$	9	14	20	25	32	7	23	8	14
$1\frac{1}{2}$ do. 2	—	5	13	28	18	14	15	23	8
2 do. 3	—	3	6	17	15	21	8	19	6
3 do. 5	—	1	1	5	9	13	31	27	3
5 and over	—	—	—	—	2	7	8	11	1
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100



**Total estimated consumption for the Municipal area**

A comparative statement of the consumption classified by households and institutions for Kandy is given in Table 24-9.

TABLE 24-9 ESTIMATED TOTAL CONSUMPTION OF FRESH MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS IN HOUSEHOLDS AND INSTITUTIONS PER MONTH OF 30 DAYS

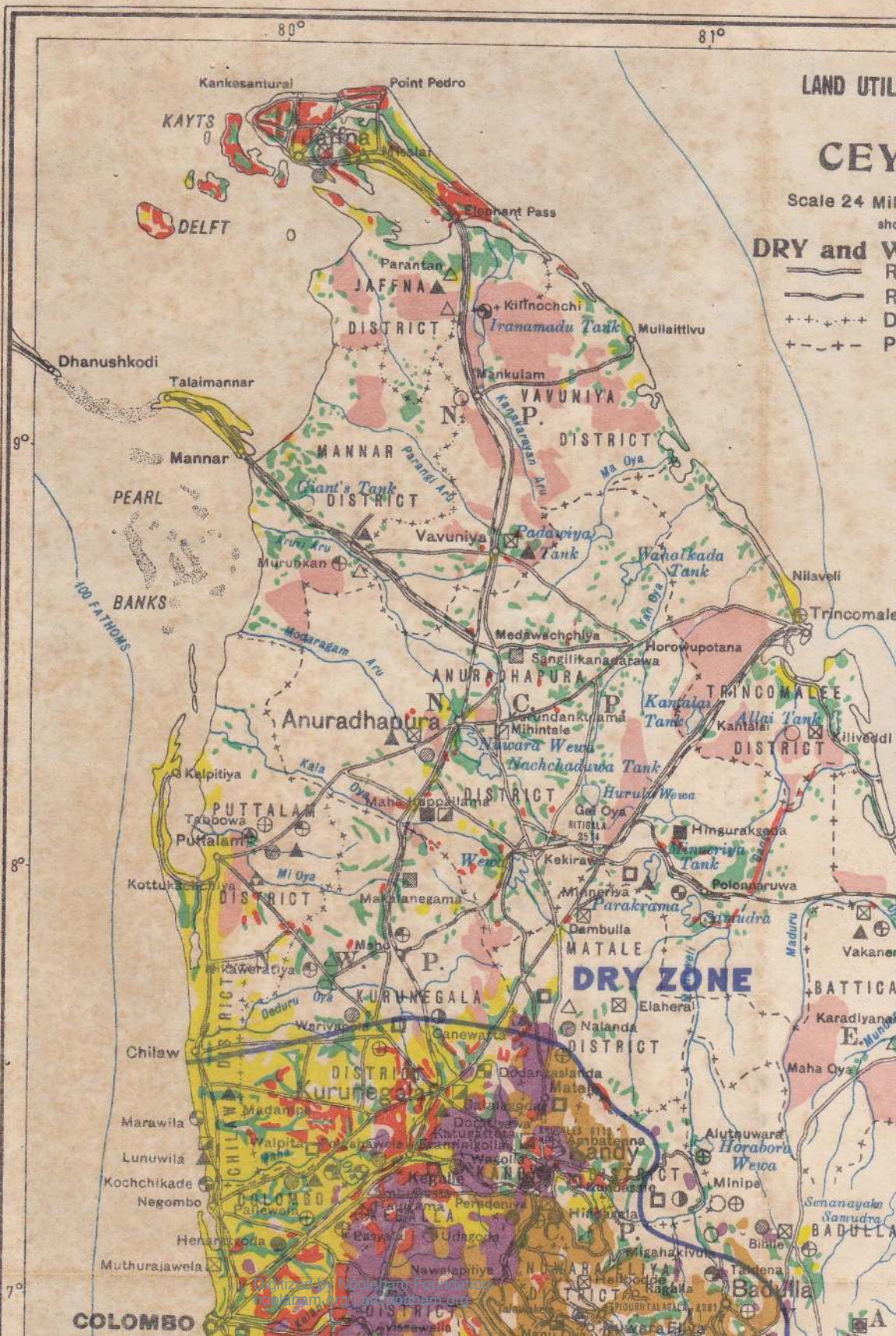
<i>Institutions</i>	<i>Total Number</i>	<i>Fresh Milk (bottles)</i>	<i>Condensed Milk (14 oz. tins)</i>	<i>Other Milk Products (Lbs.)</i>
Households	7,598	163,661	6,512	14,208
Tea Kiosks and Eating Houses	186	113,582	4,410	529
Hotels and Restaurants	18	23,365	1,620	45
School Hostels and Boarding Houses	14	9,552	1,222	15
Canteens	9	4,360	863	252
Hospitals and Nursing Homes	3	8,418	15	826
Milk Feeding Centres	20	7,500	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>330,438</b>	<b>14,642</b>	<b>15,875</b>

“The Survey of Milk Consumption in the City of Kandy” published by the Department of Census and Statistics gives a detailed account of the survey.

**Important References :**

- (1) Census of Financial Institutions.
- (2) Census of Merchandising and Services.
- (3) Survey of Milk Consumption in the City of Colombo.
- (4) Survey of Milk Consumption in the City of Kandy.





LAND UTIL

CEY

Scale 24 Miles

DRY and W

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P

DRY ZONE

COLOMBO



## LAND UTILIZATION MAP

OF

# CEYLON

Scale 24 Miles to One Inch

showing



























## DRY and WET ZONES

ROADS

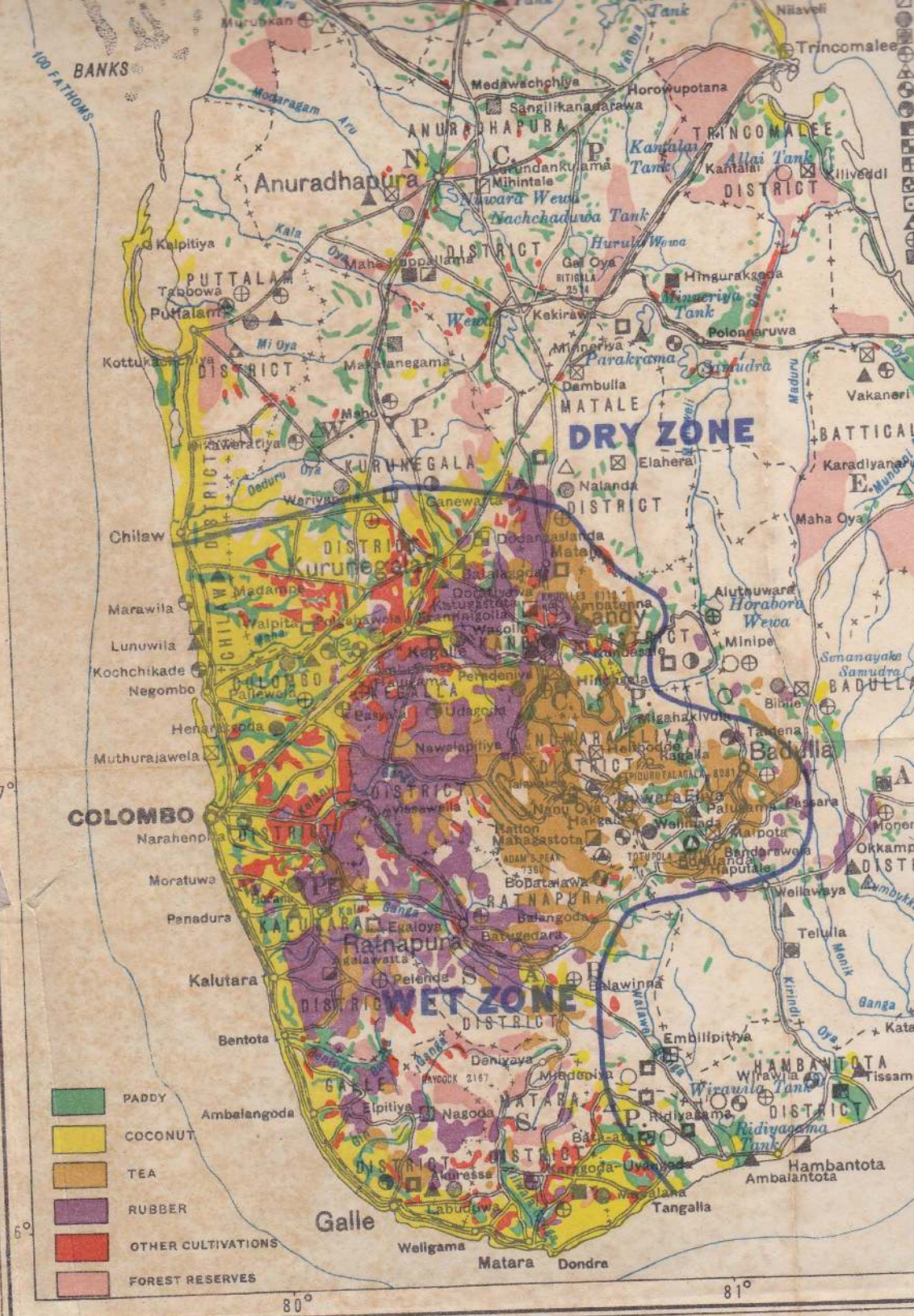
RAILWAY

DISTRICT BOUNDARY

PROVINCE BOUNDARY

-  BOTANIC GARDEN  
 MAJOR AGRICULTURAL STN.  
 AGRICULTURAL STATION  
 RESEARCH STATION  
 EXPERIMENT STATION  
 PADDY STN. & PADDY FARM  
 PADDY SEED STATION  
 STATE CHENA  
 VEGETABLE SEED STN.  
 TOBACCO STATION  
 CINCHONA STATION  
 ROTATIONAL FARMING  
 FARM SCHOOL. (SCHEME  
 CITRUS ORCHARDS  
 CATTLE & ANIMAL BREED-  
 FRUIT FARM. (ING CENTRE  
 CATTLE, BUFFALO STUD,  
 DAIRY. (LIVESTOCK FARM  
 COTTON MULTIPLICATION  
 KITUL TRIALS. (STATION  
 COTTON ROTATION STN.  
 BOARD & LODGING FARM  
 SUGAR CANE STATION  
 CASHEW PLOT  
 PLANT NURSERY  
 COLONISATION SCHEME





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