

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

Public Administration Country Profile

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
United Nations

February 2004

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SRI LANKA

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook - Sri Lanka](#)

Sri Lanka has had to cope with ethnic tensions since its independence in 1948. The conflict has been between the Sinhalese-dominated government and factions of the Tamil minority in the North who are seeking an independent Tamil state (Eelam). Since the 1980s the Tamil militant group Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE or Tamil Tigers) has resorted to violence to achieve this end. Several ceasefires organized by local and global actors have failed to produce a lasting peace.

In 2000 a team of Norwegian diplomats began working with the parties to facilitate the peace process. Following the parliamentary elections in December 2001 the two sides negotiated a cease-fire, which came into force on 23 February 2002. Six rounds of peace talks have now taken place. However, in April 2003 the LTTE temporarily suspended the peace talks. With a view to accommodate the LTTE the government has produced a proposal for an Interim Administration in the North, which awaits the comment of the LTTE.

Source: [European Commission - The Civil Conflict](#)

Government type

Republic

Independence

4 February 1948 (from UK)

Constitution

Adopted 16 August 1978

[\(click here\)](#)

Legal system:

A highly complex mixture of English common law, Roman-Dutch, Muslim, Sinhalese, and customary law; has not accepted compulsory International Court of Justice jurisdiction

Source: [The World Factbook - Sri Lanka](#)

Administrative divisions

9 provinces in Sri Lanka; only 7 Provincial Councils are functioning (see 2.4).

1. General Information

1.1 People	Sri Lanka	Bangladesh	Madagascar	1
Population				a
Total estimated population (,000), 2003	19,065	146,736	17,404	
Female estimated population (,000), 2003	9,205	71,498	8,746	
Male estimated population (,000), 2003	9,860	75,238	8,685	
Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003	107	105	99	
Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005	0.81	2.02	2.84	
Youth and Elderly Population				b
Total population under age 15 (%), 2003	25	38	45	
Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003	11	5	5	
Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003	10	5	4	
Human Settlements				c
Urban population (%), 2001	23	26	30	
Rural population (%), 2001	77	74	70	
Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05	2.36	4.33	4.92	
Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05	0.51	1.28	1.89	
Education				d
Total school life expectancy, 2000/2001	..	8.4	6.1 ⁱ	1
Female school life expectancy, 2000/2001	..	8.4	6 ⁱ	1
Male school life expectancy, 2000/2001	..	8.4	6.3 ⁱ	1
Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000	11	69.8	40.3	2
Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000	5.6	50.6	26.4	2
Employment				e
Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2001	8.2 ⁱⁱ	3.3 ⁱⁱⁱ	..	1
Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2000	37 ^{iv}	56 ^v	..	2
Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2000	76 ^{iv}	87 ^v	..	2

Notes: ⁱ 1998/1999; ⁱⁱ Persons aged 10 years and over, First quarter of year, Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces; ⁱⁱⁱ 2000, Month of June; ^{iv} Excluding northern and eastern provinces; ^v 1999-2000

1.2 Economy	Sri Lanka	Bangladesh	Madagascar	2
GDP				a
GDP total (millions US\$), 2002	16,373	47,328	4,514	
GDP per capita (US\$), 2002	863	349	275	
PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002	65,390	235,613	12,073	
PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002	3,447	1,736	735	
Sectors				b
Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 2003	19.7	21.7	29.2	
Value added in industry (% of GDP), 2003	25.8	26.6	15.4	
Value added in services (% of GDP), 2003	54.5	51.7	55.5	
Miscellaneous				c
GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2003	5.0	4.5	2.8	
Private consumption (% of GDP), 2003	76.3	77.1	83.0	
Government consumption (% of GDP), 2003	7.9	5.3	9.2	

Notes:

¹ [United Nations Statistics Division](#):

^a [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^b [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^c [Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^{d1} [UNESCO](#); ^{d2} [UNESCO](#); ^{e1} [ILO](#); ^{e2} [ILO/OECD](#)

² [World Bank - Data and Statistics](#):

^a [Quick Reference Tables](#); ^b [Data Profile Tables](#); ^c [Country at a Glance](#)

1.3 Public Spending	Sri Lanka	Bangladesh	Madagascar	
Public expenditures				3
Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987	2.7	1.4 ⁱⁱ	1.9 ⁱⁱⁱ	a
Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997	3.4	2.2 ⁱⁱ	1.9	a
Health (% of GDP), 1990	1.5	0.7	..	
Health (% of GDP), 1998	1.7	1.7	1.1	
Military (% of GDP), 1990	2.1	1	1.2	b
Military (% of GDP), 2000	4.5	1.3	1.2	b
Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990	4.8	2.5	7.2	
Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000	4.5	1.7	2.4	

Notes: ⁱ 1999; ⁱⁱ Data refer to the ministry of education only; ⁱⁱⁱ Data do not include expenditure on tertiary education

1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages						
<i>Data from the latest year available</i>		Sri Lanka 1991-1995	Sri Lanka 1996-2000	.. average ⁴ 1996-2000	.. average ⁴ 1996-2000	Middle income group average ⁴ 1996-2000
Employment						
Civilian Central Government ⁵	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	0.59
Sub-national Government ⁵	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	0.59
Education employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	1.20
Health employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	0.70
Police	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	0.30
Armed forces	(,000)	125	..			
	(% pop.)	072	..	..	..	0.46
SOE Employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	3.61
Total Public Employment	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	6.05
Wages						
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of GDP)	..	..	..	..	8.5
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of exp)	17.8	21.9	..	..	21.6
Average gov't wage	(,000 LCU)	58.599	..			
Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price)	(,000 LCU)	80.154	..			
Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio		1.8	..	..	..	4.2

Source: World Bank - Public Sector Employment and Wages

³ UNDP - Human Development Report 2002

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

⁴ Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

⁵ Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

2. Legal Structure

The 1978 Constitution clearly envisaged a system where the president and the prime minister were from the same party. Since the December 2001 Parliamentary elections, however, the President and the Prime Minister have been from different parties. This has led to serious cohabitation strains. In November 2003, for example, President Kumaratunga suddenly took over three key ministries (Defense, Interior, and Mass Communications), precipitating the most serious cohabitation crisis yet between the two sides. As of January 2004, the impasse between the President and the Prime Minister had not yet been resolved.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Background Notes](#)

In early February 2004, President Kumaratunga dissolved the Sri Lankan parliament. The dissolution of parliament allows the president to create new posts and ministries and Mrs. Kumaratunga immediately appointed two of her own supporters. The prime minister and his cabinet, meanwhile, will assume caretaker functions with no power to make key decisions until the election, officials said.

Source: [BBC News - World Edition \(2/2002\)](#)

2.1 Legislative Branch

Unicameral Parliament (225 seats; members elected by popular vote on the basis of a modified proportional representation system by district to serve six-year terms).⁶

Women in parliament: 10 out of 225 seats: (4%).⁷

Parliament is a unicameral 225-member legislature elected by universal suffrage and proportional representation to a 6-year term. The president may summon, suspend, or end a legislative session and dissolve Parliament.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Background Notes](#)

There are 196 members elected on the basis of the Proportional Representation System. Under this system the political parties obtain a share of seats in the Legislature in proportion to the votes they poll. There are 29 'National List' seats too. These seats are allocated to the political parties and the independent groups contesting the general election in proportion to the votes polled by them at the national level.

As the supreme legislative authority in the country, Parliament has power to enact laws, including laws replacing or amending any provisions of the Constitution or adding any provisions to the Constitution. Most of the Articles of the Constitution could be amended if it is approved by a majority of two-thirds of the whole number of Members. The amendment of certain Articles of the Constitution must receive the approval of the people at a Referendum. Parliament cannot enact any law suspending the operation of the Constitution or repealing it as a whole unless such law also enacts a new Constitution to replace it.

Another principal function of Parliament is to scrutinize Government policy and administration-particularly proposals for raising revenue and for expenditure. Parliament has full control

Fact box:

elections: Last held 7 December 2001 (next to be held April 2 2004 – BBC News)
election results: Percent of vote by party or electoral alliance - UNP, SLMC and CWC 46.8%, PA and EPDP 38%, JVP 9.1%, TNA 3.89%, PLOTE 0.19%; seats by party or electoral alliance - UNP, SLMC and CWC 114, PA and EPDP 79, JVP 16, TNA 15, PLOTE 1

⁶ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook - Sri Lanka](#)

⁷ [Inter-Parliamentary Union - Women in National Parliaments](#)

over public finances and Parliament alone authorizes taxes and duties to be levied and the various objects of expenditure and sums to be spent on each. No payments out of the Government's Consolidated Fund can be made, no taxation, charges or loans can be authorized except by an Act of Parliament. Certain payments which have to be reimbursed can be made, within limits, from the Contingencies Fund which itself has been created by Parliament.

Any treaty or agreement between Sri Lanka and any foreign State has to be approved by Parliament by a two-third majority.

Apart from the passing of law, an important function of Parliament is to provide a forum for members to raise matters of public importance, to discuss Government policy and to ventilate grievances of the people.

The members can make use of the Floor of the House for this purpose during debates on legislative proposals and other Motions. They have the facility of asking Questions for Oral or Written Answers. In addition, they could ask questions relating to urgent public matters during the debate on the Adjournment Motion. The Ministers are required to answer those questions.

Source: [Sri Lanka Parliament - Parliamentary System in Sri Lanka](#)

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: Cabinet appointed by the president in consultation with the prime minister

elections: President elected by popular vote for a six-year term; election last held 21 December 1999 (next to be held December 2005)

The Head of State of the Republic of Sri Lanka is the President. The President is also the Head of the Executive, the Head of the Government, and the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces.

The President is elected by the people and holds office for a period of six years. No person who has been twice elected to the office of President by the People shall be qualified thereafter to be elected to such office by the People. The President has the right to attend, address and send messages to Parliament at any time. The President is also entitled to all the privileges, immunities and powers of a Member of Parliament other than the right to vote, and shall not be liable for any breach of the privileges of Parliament, or of its Members.

Fact box:

chief of state: President Chandrika Bandaranaike KUMARATUNGA (since 12 November 1994); note - Ranil WICKREMASINGHE (since 9 December 2001) is the prime minister; the president is considered both the chief of state and *head of government*

Source: [Government of Sri Lanka - Executive President & 1978 Constitution](#)

The president may summon, suspend, or end a legislative session and dissolve Parliament. Responsible to Parliament for the exercise of duties under the constitution and laws, the president may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of Parliament with the concurrence of the Supreme Court.

The president appoints and heads a cabinet of ministers responsible to Parliament. The president's deputy is the prime minister, who leads the ruling party in Parliament. A parliamentary no-confidence vote requires dissolution of the cabinet and the appointment of a new one by the president.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Background Notes \(edited\)](#)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Supreme Court; Court of Appeals; judges for both courts are appointed by the president.

The Constitution provides for an independent judiciary and the Government generally respects these provisions in practice.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Human Rights \(2001\)](#)

Sri Lanka's judiciary consists of a Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, High Court, and a number of subordinate courts. Sri Lanka's legal system reflects diverse cultural influences. Criminal law is fundamentally British. Laws pertaining to marriage, divorce, and inheritance are communal.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Background Notes](#)

The President appoints judges to the Supreme Court, the courts of appeal, and the high courts. A judicial service commission, composed of the Chief Justice and two Supreme Court judges, appoints, transfers, and dismisses lower court judges. Judges serve until the mandatory retirement age of 65 for the Supreme Court and 62 for other courts. Judges can be removed for reasons of misbehavior or physical or mental incapacity, but only after a legal investigation followed by joint action of the President and the Parliament.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Human Rights \(2001\)](#)

2.4 Local Government

Under the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord of July 1987 - and the resulting 13th amendment to the constitution - the Government of Sri Lanka agreed to devolve significant authority to the provinces. Provincial councils are directly elected for 5-year terms. The leader of the council majority serves as the province's chief minister; a provincial governor is appointed by the president. The councils possess limited powers in education, health, rural development, social services, agriculture, security, and local taxation. Many of these powers are shared or subject to central government oversight. Predating the accord are municipal, urban, and rural councils with limited powers.

Source: [U.S. Department of State - Background Notes](#)

In Sri Lanka, the instruments of transferring political and administrative decision-making authority from central government to elected bodies at lower levels are:

- The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution (1987) and
- The Provincial Councils Act No 42 of 1987

The thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution provides the legal framework for, inter alia, establishment of Provincial Councils, appointment and powers of the Governor of Provinces, membership and tenure of Provincial Councils, the appointment and powers of the Board of Ministers, and the legislative powers of the Provincial Councils.

The Provincial Councils Act No 42 of 1987 provides for:

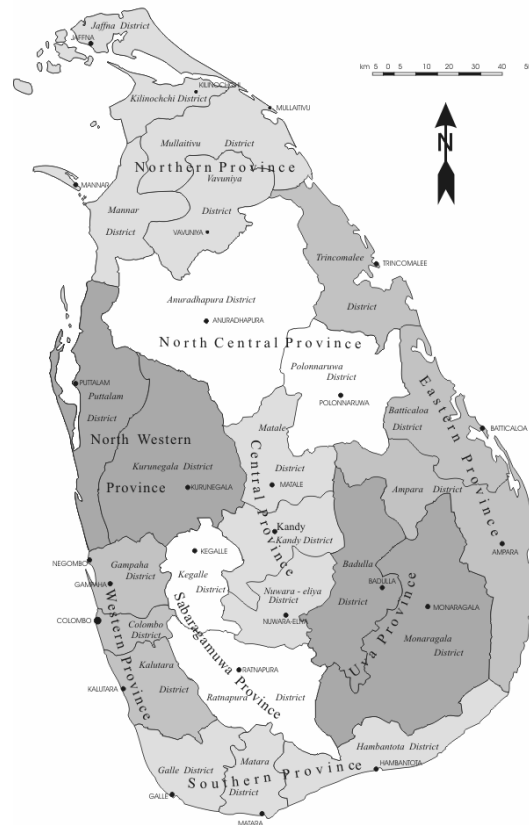
- The Membership of Provincial Councils
- Meetings and conduct of business in Provincial Councils
- The financial procedure in the Provincial Councils
- The establishment of the Provincial, Public Service

There is no legal definition of Provincial Council. A Provincial Council is an autonomous body and is not under any Ministry. It derives its authority and power from the Constitution and Acts of Parliament. A provincial council undertakes activities which had earlier been undertaken by the Central Government Ministries, Departments, Corporations and Statutory Authorities.

There are nine provinces in Sri Lanka. However, only eight Provincial Councils were established because the Northern and Eastern provinces have been temporarily merged into one in terms of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. These were originally established in 1988 for a period of five years and were dissolved in 1993. The North East Provincial Council however ceased to function in 1989 as its administration was taken over by the Government owing to the failure of the administrative machinery. There are seven Provincial Councils functioning now.

Source: [Government of Sri Lanka - Provincial Councils \(edited\)](#)

Administrative Districts and Main Towns:



Source: [International Center for Ethnic Studies](#)

Each province contains two or three districts. A governor appointed by the President is at the apex in each province. The Provincial Council is elected through general election and is headed by a Board of Ministers with the Chief Minister in charge supported by Provincial Secretaries headed by the Chief Secretary. The executive administration of the Provincial Council is divided into five technical ministries for devolved subjects. i.e. agriculture, irrigation, industry, roads, transport and health and education.

The Provincial Council supervises divisions and local authorities. At divisional level, there is also an elected Pradeshiya Sabha operating under the Pradeshiya Sabha Act of 1987. Administration at Divisional level is by a Divisional Secretary (DS) in charge of the Divisional Secretariat. The Divisional Secretary reports to the Chief Secretary on devolved subjects but maintains the functions of Assistant Government Agent (AGA), representing the Government Agent (GA) for non-devolved subjects.

Division of power and responsibilities between Central Ministries, Provincial Councils and the Government Agents and Divisional Secretaries has been a subject of conflict at initial stages.

Source: [FAO - Country case study](#)

Personnel Administration

Matters governing the posts in the Provincial Public Service, including schemes of recruitment, codes of conduct and conditions of service are determined by the following authorities:

Service**Authority**

Provincial Public Service

Governor

P.C. Secretarial Staff

Council

Statutory Bodies

Relevant statute or authority mentioned therein

The Provincial Council Pensions Act No. 17 of 1993 applies to members of the Provincial Public Service and to the members of the P.C. Secretarial Staff.

The Governor can delegate his powers of appointment, transfer, dismissal and disciplinary control of officers of the PPS to the Provincial Public Service Commission. The PPSC can in turn re-delegate its delegated power to the Chief Secretary or to any officer of the PPS. Since 1993 the control of the officers of the All Island Services has been taken back by the Public Service Commission.

Source: [Government of Sri Lanka - Provincial Councils](#)

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

The Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration Act, No. 17 of 1981 was enacted in March 1981 for the establishment of the office of Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman) in terms of Article 156 of the Constitution to define his powers, duties and functions, and to provide for connected or incidental matters. Due to the "filtering" of petitions through Members of Parliament and the Committee on Public Petitions, the public could not make any considerable use of this machinery.

Towards the end of 1994 the principal enactment was amended by Act No. 26 of 1994 to enable a person to send petitions directly to the Ombudsman, and to provide for the determination of the Ombudsman to be reported to the Head of the Institution to which the petitioner belongs and to the Minister to whom that Institution is assigned, instead of the Public Petitions Committee.

Source: [Sri Lanka Parliament - Petitions](#)

3.2 NGOs

Sri Lanka has a long tradition of trade unions and social movements. The social welfare schemes initially introduced by the British and continued in the post-independence period gave rise to what are currently known as NGO. A substantial growth of the NGOs took place since the early 1980s, a few years after the country introduced a free market economic policy. NGOs were able to attract foreign donors to support their work. With the spread of activities in sectoral and geographical terms, the NGOs s became prominent actors in the social, economic and political fabric of the country. This attracted the attention of both government and the private sector.

The State's attitude towards NGOs ranged from no-control to cooperation, and to repression and control. Successive governments since 1977 expected NGOs to implement some of the social welfare activities funded by the World Bank. These developments created new opportunities for NGOs, but they also created problems in the long run.

Initially, the NGOs relationship with the corporate sector was characterized by confrontation. This changed in the late 1980s and 1990s. NGO-Corporate sector collaborations took place in the economic realm. In the late 1990s the collaboration extended to the socio-political realm. NGOs are at a cross road today. Conditions in the aid industry have changed drastically. The NGOs are going through a period of crisis. Their role and strategies are being questioned in the wake of new socio-political trends. The NGOs are currently struggling to re-invent their space, role and identity in society.

Source: [AGIDS - The Landscape of NGOs in Sri Lanka: Issues and Challenges \(2003\)](#)

3.3 Civil Society

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

4. Civil Service

Sri Lanka has a civil service law that reflects its colonial past, and the structure created by this law is typical of the British civil service as it evolved over time.

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

4.1 Legal basis

The Establishments Code, 1985, of Sri Lanka echoes in strong language the special “civil servant” status found in traditional statutes, particularly in countries having inherited the common law legal tradition:

CHAPTER XXX: RIGHTS OF GOVERNMENT OVER ITS OFFICERS

Section 1: Services outside an officer's Regular Employment or Office

1:1 The Government has a total claim to the time, knowledge, talents, and skills of its officers and their salary is fixed on that assumption, unless specifically provided for otherwise.

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

4.2 Recruitment

The Constitution of Sri Lanka vests the power to appoint civil servants in the Cabinet of Ministers and in the Public Service Commission.

In Sri Lanka, initial appointment is on a probationary basis, involving a three-year probationary period.

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS) Recruitment Method wise statistics							
	Class I		Class II/I		Class II/II		
Method	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
Limited	93	16	51	21	126	65	372
Meirt	1	0	1	0	7	0	9
Merit	3	1	17	1	30	13	65
Open	409	125	131	63	328	143	1199
Total	506	142	200	85	491	221	1645

Source: [Ministry of Public Administration, Management and Reforms](#)

4.3 Promotion

In Sri Lanka, the powers to appoint and dismiss for higher posts lie ultimately with the President, and for lower posts are laid down in the Establishments Code, 1985, in accordance with the procedures for disciplinary sanctions.

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

4.4 Remuneration

The Establishments Code, 1985 contains an extremely detailed set of rules in its Chapter VII on salaries. It specifies that the determination of salaries is a function shared by the Director of Establishments and the Director of Budget, General Treasury, who will act in consultation.

The Director of Establishments will assign salary scales in the public service to particular posts or grades, and the Ministry of Finance is to be responsible for the formulation of such scales and the general salary structure as a whole. The chapter makes arrangements for the computation of salary for part of a year or month, paid monthly, and details a number of specific examples where public servants are promoted, or reappointed having left the service and rejoined, and for increments, for example when a civil servant takes leave without pay for a period of study leave and rejoins thereafter.

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

4.5 Training

Sri Lanka is an example of following of tradition built up in the 1950s and 1960s whereby formal job related and formalized training of civil servants was the norm, having a formal Academy of Administrative Studies (AAS) as well as the [Sri Lankan Institute of Development Administration](#) (established by Act No. 9 of 1982) and the Public Service Training Institute (PSTI) established in 1991.

The Sri Lanka statute contains provisions on scholarships for selected overseas training and all ministries have a management development and training unit for specialized in-house development training.

The training provisions were extended in the 1980s to permit a no-pay leave period (for example, for specialized civil servants, like engineers, to undertake a period of overseas employment) of five years in two spells, with the right to accumulate increments during the leave of absence.

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

4.6 Gender

The Constitution of Sri Lanka permits special provisions for the advancement of women to be made.

As of 30 June 1998 26% of public employees were women (773,852).

Source: [International Labour Organization - Comparative study of contents of civil service statutes \(2001\)](#)

Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS) Statistics					
	Below 40 years		Over 40 years		
Class	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
I	0	0	506	142	648
II/I	2	2	201	83	288
II/II	188	102	309	120	719
Total	190	104	1016	345	1655

Source: [Ministry of Public Administration, Management and Reforms](#)

General Clerical Service (GCS) Statistics					
	Below 40 years		Over 40 years		
Class	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
A	446	1363	3872	4391	10072
B	1237	2570	1152	882	5841
I	4	2	1860	1493	3359
S	1	1	117	48	167

Source: [Ministry of Public Administration, Management and Reforms](#)

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

Corruption Perceptions Index							
Rank	Country	2003 CPI Score	Surveys Used	Standard Deviation	High-Low Range	Number Inst.	90 percent confidence range
1	Highly clean	9.7	8	0.3	9.2 - 10.0	4	9.5 - 9.9
66	Sri Lanka	3.4	7	0.7	2.4 - 4.45	5	3.0 - 3.8
133	Highly corrupt	1.3	8	0.7	0.3 - 2.2	6	0.9 - 1.7

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

A household survey released by Transparency International in December 2003 reports high levels of corruption in public institutions in South Asia. In Sri Lanka, the police was perceived to be the most corrupt sector in the country, followed by health and education.

Government institutions dominate the education sector. Almost 55% of users reported that they had accessed the institutions through irregular means. 61% of those who interact regularly with the institutions report encountering corruption; irregular fees kinds constituted the most common form of corruption cited. Sixty-two percent of the victims of corruption reported that money was directly demanded. Teachers and the members of the management committee were identified as the major facilitators in this sector. Excessive bureaucracy and discretionary powers were identified as the main reasons for corruption in the education sector.

Most of the users (97%) of health services visit public hospitals; 18% of them reported using irregular processes to access the services. 92% of users report of corruption after admission, with the highest number of cases reported for getting prescribed medicines and also for receiving proper treatment. Hospital staff were identified as the major instigator of corruption in the sector. While 30% report of extortion in the corrupt exchanges, 19% said they paid bribes voluntarily to ensure proper services. Monopoly and discretionary powers were cited as the primary reasons for the prevalence of corruption; 23% identified a shortage of resources as a major cause.

Only 9% of respondents reported interactions with the land administration department. 98% reported encountering corruption; interestingly, more than half of

the victims of corruption (54%) were unable to identify the perpetrators. Monopoly power and a lack of transparency were quoted as the key facilitating factors for corruption in Land Administration.

All respondents who interacted with the police department during the past year reported encountering corruption. Police officers and investigating officers were identified as the key perpetrators of corruption; one-third of the respondents reporting of corruption paid bribes voluntarily. Discretionary powers and influence of powerful interest groups were cited as the major factors contributing to corruption in the police department.

Very few respondents (6%) reported interacting with the judiciary during the past year; 44% of them interacted in the capacity of an accused. Corruption in the judiciary was reported by all users; most victims could not identify the key perpetrator. Monopoly power and excessive bureaucracy were cited as the key contributory factors.

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption in South Asia \(12/2002\)](#)

The present Bribery Commission was constituted under the Permanent Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery and Corruption Act 19 of 1994. It was certified on October 27 the same year. Alongside this, an amendment was brought to the extant laws related to Bribery, through which the term "public servants" was extended to parliamentarians and ministers.

Source: [Daily Mirror Online - \(8/2003\)](#)

The three-man Bribery Commission was rendered nonfunctional after the demise of Commissioner T.N. Abeyweera on February 02, 2003

Source: [President of Sri Lanka - News \(1/2004\)](#)

5.2 Ethics

TEXT (IF POSSIBLE)

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

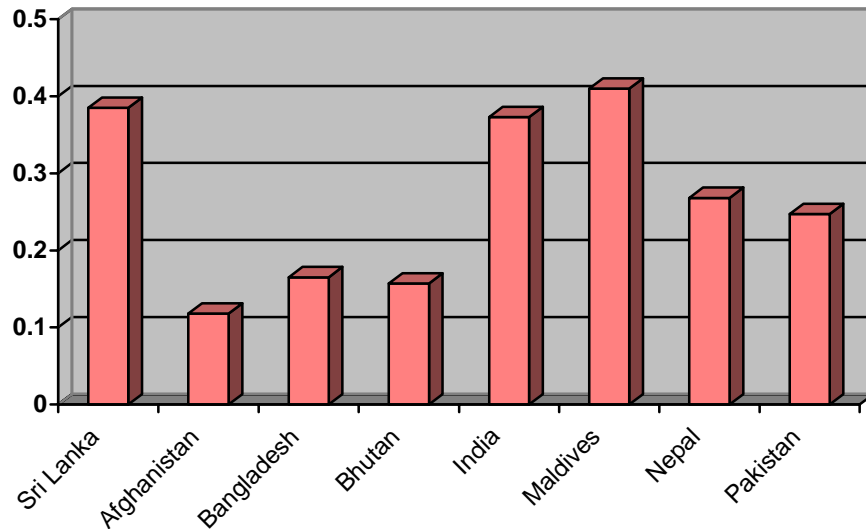
A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones. Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

Human Capital Index:

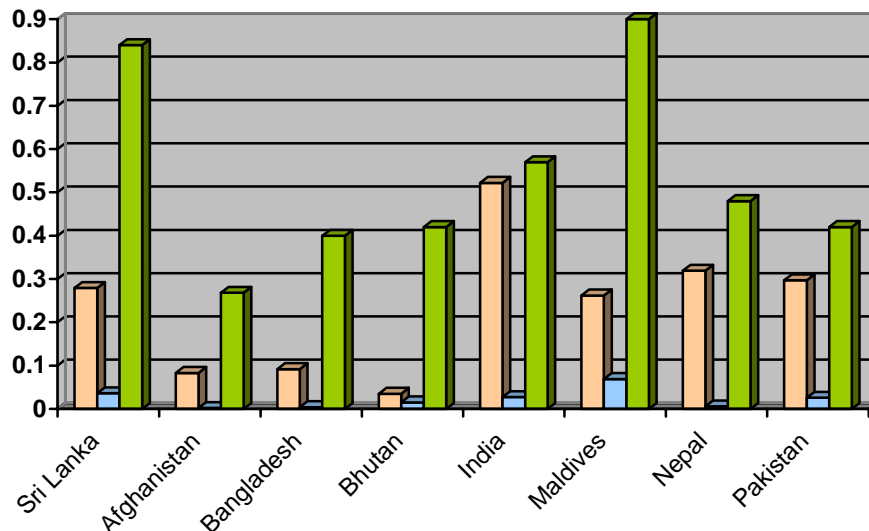
A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.

e-Government Readiness Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

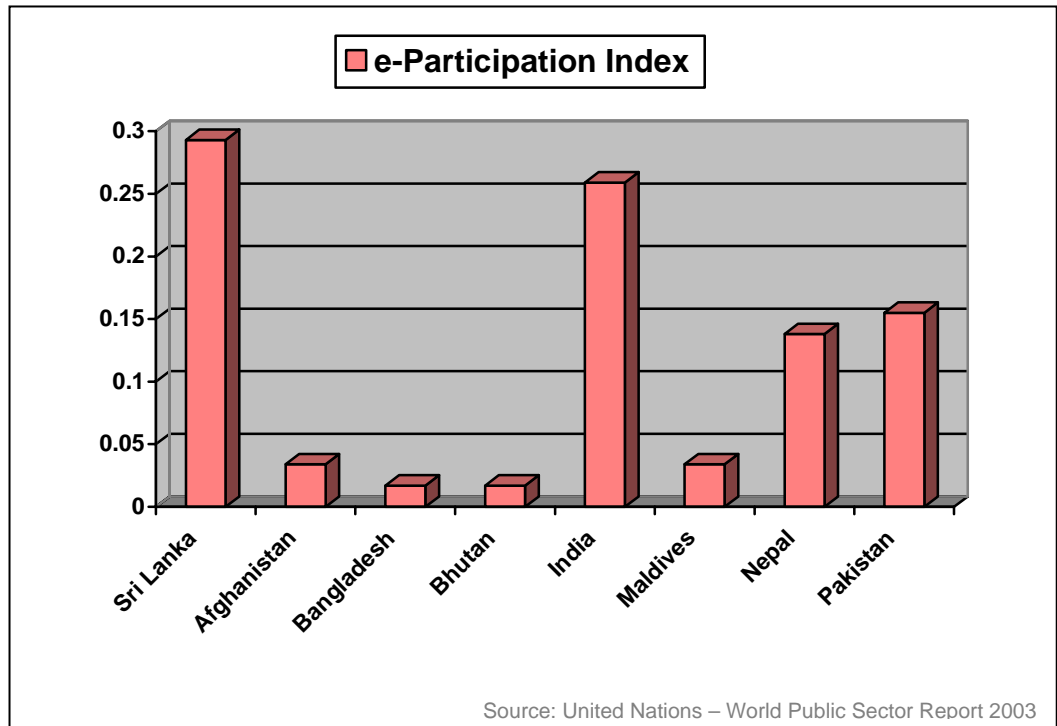
Web Measure Index, Human Capital Index, and Telecom. Infrastructure Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

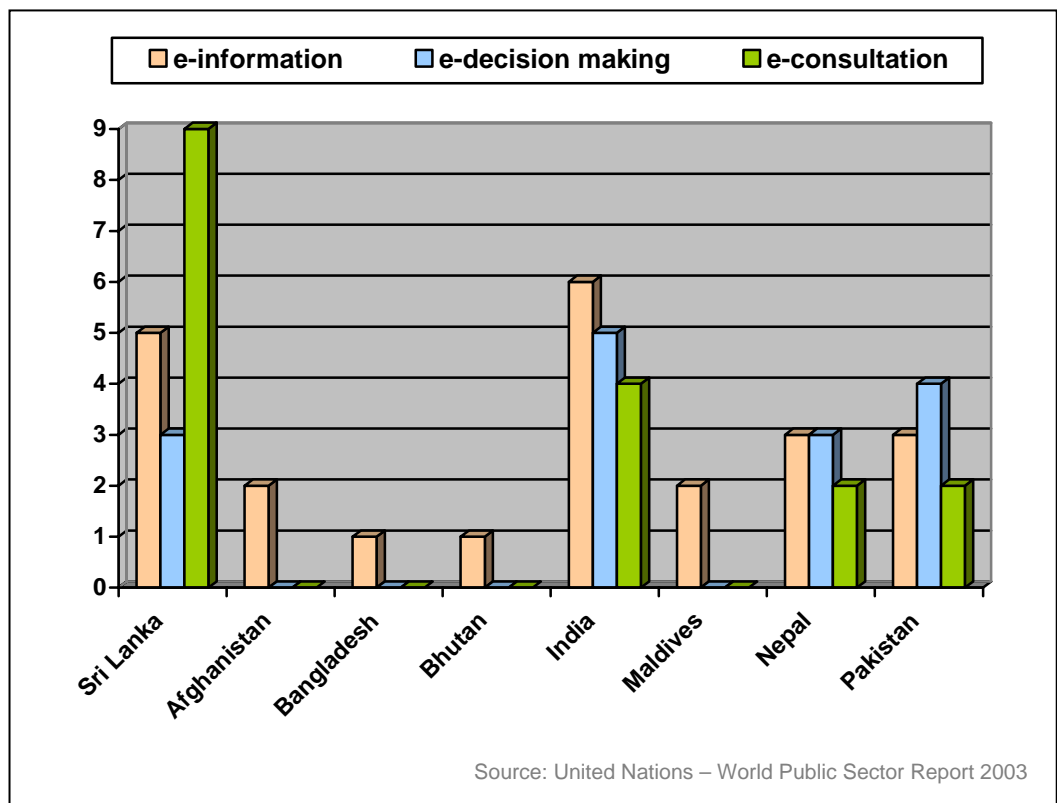
e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.



e-information:

The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating of information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.



e-decision making:

The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.

7. Links

7.1 National sites	
Authority	Topic
President	http://www.presidentsl.org
Parliament	http://www.parliament.lk/
Government of Sri Lanka	http://www.priu.gov.lk/
Ministries	http://www.priu.gov.lk/Ministries/Indexmin.html
Ministry of Public Administration, Management and Reforms	http://www.priu.gov.lk/Ministries/Min_PublicAdmin.html
Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration	http://www.slida.lk/
Sri Lanka Official Website	http://www.srilanka.lk/

7.2 Miscellaneous sites	
Institution	Topic
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	http://www.adb.org/SriLanka/default.asp
European Union (EU)	http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/sri_lanka/...
International Labour Organization (ILO)	http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	http://www.undp.lk
World Bank (WB)	http://www.worldbank.org/lk