

Chapter 1 : Ministry of Agriculture - Sri Lanka - AGRICULTURE SERVICE

Agriculture. Find the information you are seeking about agriculture of Sri Lanka Current Trends of Agriculture in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka - Agriculture Photo by: Dmitry Rukhlenko Agriculture is the most important sector of the Sri Lankan economy. Even though its contribution to the gross domestic product declined substantially during the past 3 decades from 30 percent in to 21 percent in , it is the most important source of employment for the majority of the Sri Lankan workforce. Approximately 38 percent of the total labor force was engaged in agriculture in . In the subsistence sector, rice is the main crop and farming rice is the most important economic activity for the majority of the people living in rural areas. During the last 5 decades the rice sector grew rapidly and output more than tripled, reaching the highest ever output of 2. Increases in the area under cultivation, and improved productivity due to the modernization of agriculture are the main reasons for an increase in production. Between , the area used to grow rice increased 6 times to , hectares. The modernization of farming methods, such as the use of high-yielding seeds, tractors, and chemical fertilizers also led to increased productivity in the rice sector. Between , rice yield per hectare doubled from 1, kilograms to 3, kilograms. In addition to rice, various other food crops are produced for local consumption. They include yams, pulses, grains, vegetables, and fruits. Most of these crops are cultivated in family gardens, except for potatoes and sugar. Sugar cane is cultivated in the dry zone, and Sri Lanka produces only 15 percent of what it consumes domestically. The major plantation crops of tea, rubber, and coconuts continue to figure prominently in the economy of Sri Lanka; however, the contribution of these commercial crops to gross domestic product declined from . Tea, the prominent crop of the plantation sector, grows in many parts of the wet zone, and in particular in the central hill country. Sri Lanka is famous for its high quality black tea, and is the largest supplier in the world. The second major commercial crop is rubber, growing in the ridge and valley country of the wet zone interior. Of , hectares under cultivation, about 80 percent was being tapped harvested and in , . A sizable proportion of rubber production is used in the domestic manufacturing sector 56 percent in and the remainder is exported. China is traditionally the major buyer of Sri Lankan rubber. The performance of this sector has been subject to instability due to unfavorable movements in world prices. Competition from synthetic rubber producers has caused rubber prices to drop. However, with rising petroleum prices the major ingredient for synthetic rubber there is a chance for world rubber prices to improve. The third commercial crop, coconuts, is grown mainly in the hinterland of the western seaboard. Production in accounted for 2, million nuts, the highest output since . Coconut mainly coconut milk is a major ingredient used in food preparation in Sri Lanka, and nearly 65 percent of the output is consumed locally. The remainder is exported in the form of kernel products desiccated coconut, coconut oil, copra , coconut cream, and coconut milk powder. Forestry and fishing are less important components of the economy. Forests in the dry zone were cleared for settlement and agriculture early on. Unsustainable agricultural practices such as chena cultivation and logging resulted in land degradation and a reduction in the size of forest reserves. The country has abundant fishing resources, with an exclusive economic zone covering over , square kilometers , miles , a coastline of about 1, kilometers 1, miles , and a massive network of inland water reservoirs suitable for fish farming. However, this potential has not yet been exploited. Most marine fishing is concentrated in coastal areas, which account for about 12 percent of the exclusive economic zone. Total fish production in was estimated at thousand metric tons, and the contribution of this activity to gross domestic product was about 3 percent in . Fishing is a traditional livelihood for people living in coastal areas: A slow-growing sector, fish production increased at an annual average of only about 3 percent between and . Poor production is mainly due to a lack of technical knowledge and equipment. The livestock sector in Sri Lanka is small, consisting mainly of the dairy and the poultry subsections. Unlike in the United States, where dairy production takes place on large farms, in Sri Lanka dairy farming is a small-scale domestic activity. Total milk production in accounted for million liters, sufficient only to meet about one-fourth of local needs. The remainder is imported in the form of powdered milk in , 54, metric tons of milk powder was imported. An important development in the

livestock sector was the rapid increase in the poultry production. In approximately 57 million metric tons of poultry meat was produced, increasingly becoming a common source of animal protein in Sri Lanka.

Chapter 2 : Modernisation Agriculture in Sri Lanka – Sri Lanka Guardian

The primary form of agriculture in Sri Lanka is rice production. Rice is cultivated during Maha and Yala seasons. Tea is cultivated in the central highlands and is a major source of foreign exchange.

Includes a market overview and trade data. Over 25 percent of Sri Lankans are employed in the agricultural sector. Although Sri Lanka is a fertile tropical land with the potential for the cultivation and processing of a variety of crops, issues such as productivity and profitability hamper the growth of the sector. Rice is cultivated during two seasons. Tea is cultivated in the central highlands and is a major source of foreign exchange. There has been low adoption of mechanization in farming. The president wants to increase mechanization and grow higher value cash crops such as fruit, flowers, and other export oriented crops. The lack of private investment in agriculture due to uncertain policies limits the expansion of the sector. Sri Lanka imports a variety of agricultural products and food including wheat, lentils, sugar, fruit, milk, and milk products. The importation of food and beverages increased by almost 9 percent in Sri Lanka is emerging as an important market for international business and tourism. A variety of upscale international and local hotels, resorts, and restaurants have opened in Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and around major tourist sites. They offer a good platform for introducing new-to-market imported food products. Additionally, upscale retailers are creating avenues for imported foods and beverages. Sri Lanka also imports animal feed. Sri Lanka imported approximately 1. All imports were commercial transactions and mostly of Canadian origin. Prima Ceylon Ltd, a Singapore-based wheat miller, is the largest producer of wheat flour in the country. The flour produced by Prima is for domestic consumption, as well as for exports. The company operates one of the largest flour mills in the world in the eastern town of Trincomalee. A second mill, owned by a company from the UAE, is operated in Colombo. The main competitors in the wheat-supply business are Canada, India, and Australia. India is a main exporter of lentils to Sri Lanka. Many local buyers have expressed an interest in working with U. Soy and corn are the main ingredients used in the animal feed industry, which formulates around , metric tons of animal feed annually. GM restrictions are not applicable for animal feed. Soy bean meal constitutes 82 percent of animal feed exported to Sri Lanka. Currently, some , metric tons of corn are imported to the country annually to supplement the local production.

Chapter 4 : Agriculture in Sri Lanka - Wikipedia

Sri Lanka imports a variety of agricultural products and food including wheat, lentils, sugar, fruit, milk, and milk products. The importation of food and beverages increased by almost 9 percent in

The map does not indicate the cultural division between the lowland Sinhalese who have been influenced by longer contact with the Portuguese and Dutch as opposed to the highland Kandyan Sinhalese who were subject to several centuries less influence by Europeans. Near the end of the 19th century rubber plantations were developed as an additional source of export earnings. The other two major crops of Sri Lanka, rice and coconuts were produced primarily for the domestic market. In fact, the domestic production of rice fell short of the domestic demand and rice had to be imported. Sri Lankans, both Sinhalese and Tamil, were admitted into the lower ranks of the administration created by the British after being educated in the British schools. This created a westernized elite who were in social competition with the traditional Sri Lankan elite based upon caste. The British introduced some elements of self-government in Sri Lanka in along with universal suffrage. The British goal was a secular democracy but there was strong sentiment among the Sinhalese for giving primacy to Buddhism and Sinhalese language and culture. Independence Ethnic Divisiveness The history of Sri Lanka after independence in is largely a story of a squandered opportunity. One element of the failure was the attempt of the dominant Sinhalese political parties after the death of D. Senanayake to deny the Tamil element of the population any cultural autonomy. Sinhala, the language of the Sinhalese, was declared the only official language. Tamils, who under the British had had a greater success in business and administration than the Sinhalese, were discriminated against. For example, admission standards for universities were set higher for Tamils than Sinhalese. The Sinhalese looked upon themselves as being an isolated Aryan Buddhist minority in danger of being swamped by an overwhelming Tamil majority in their region of southern India and that justified the special treatment accorded Sinhalese. When this attitude and treatment prompted a separatist movement in the Jaffna area of Sri Lanka, Sinhalese political leaders made advocacy of separatism a basis for denying political participation. In particular the elected representatives from the Tamil areas were expelled from the legislature on the basis of their refusing to swear an oath against the advocacy of separatism. This effectively denied the Tamils even a minority voice in the government. A tragic consequence of the anti-Tamil policies of the dominant Sinhalese parties was that a rancid Marxist element emerged as the leadership of the Tamil separatist movement. Usually Marxist socialists are people of a feudal mentality pretending to be progressive, but in the case of the Marxist Tamils the mentality was that of a primitive tribal war band. The subsequent guerilla war led to atrocities which escalated the bitterness. For example, in when 13 Sinhalese soldiers were killed in ambush by Tamil separatists in north Sri Lanka, Sinhalese in the south went on a rampage against Tamil citizens and businesses which resulted in deaths. Voter lists were used to systematically locate the homes of Tamils. The civil strife drained the government of financial resources which led to creation of money to cover the deficits. The creation of money led to inflation and economic hardship. Had Britain not conquered the Kingdom of Jaffna in the 19th century most likely there would have been an independent Tamil state on the island. In a number of places around the world the British created administrative units made up of incompatible ethnic elements. As long as the British as outsiders were administering these political Frankensteins the incompatibilities were not important. When independence neared there was even some cooperation among the incompatible elements in their mutual desire to end British control. But these administrative units were turned over to dominant ethnic groups who became the local imperialist who replaced the British imperialists. This was the case in Nigeria and India as well as Sri Lanka. To some extent it is the case of Canada as well. The Turmoil of Sri Lankan Politics Although Sri Lanka achieved independence with a relatively high level of education and literacy there was a negative side to the educational achievement of the British in Sri Lanka. It is clear that the British spread to the Sri Lankan that notion that education was a sufficient qualification to run the country. Government bureaucrats are generally not qualified to run anything, anywhere. The record around the world is clear on this point. It is not a matter of education or intelligence. Probably the average I. Furthermore the market system

has an intelligence that is superior and independent of the intelligence of the people who operate in the market. It is no surprise that the Sri Lankan government in taking properties away from private individuals and putting them under the control of bureaucrats produced an economic disaster. Sri Lankan politics added the additional touch that led to Trotskyite communists getting into the Sri Lankan government to try to create so-called Welfare Socialism. This took the form of the government giving a free rice ration to all families. As a result those who produced rice had no incentive to go to the effort of growing rice for themselves if it was available from the government free. The domestic production of rice declined and the government had to use more and more of its scarce foreign exchange credits from the export crops like tea to buy rice. Bandaranaike was assassinated by a Buddhist monk in 1976. There had been a previous assassination attempt involving a glass of milk laced with cobra venom but Mr. Bandaranaike did not take heed. She became the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka in 1976, the first female head of a parliamentary government. Bandaranaike who was responsible for the ill-conceived welfare socialism policies of the party. In order to gain control of the government Mrs. Bandaranaike. Among socialists the Trotskyites are considered not sufficiently militant. There occurred during Mrs. Bandaranaike's tenure. It was put down harshly by the Sri Lankan military with a death toll in the thousands. Jayewardene wanted to get the economy going again and he turned to a water development project that was originally scheduled to be built over a thirty year period and called for its construction to be accelerated so as to complete it in six years. Sirmavo Bandaranaike came back into the prime ministership in 1978 but the constitution had changed the role of the prime minister to a position of little power. Instead the real power was in the office of president. Her daughter, Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, had won the presidency and did not want to share power even with her own mother. The Mahaweli Ganga Project The geography of Sri Lanka is dominated by the mountains and highlands that block the rainfall from the winds from the southwest and make north central Sri Lanka relatively dry. The southwest portion of the island is well watered and agriculture quite productive, two to three crops per year being harvested. So the extensive water development project, the Mahaweli Ganga Project, was built to provide irrigation water to the drier north central parts of the island. The success of this project depended not only upon the construction of the water facilities but also upon relocating families from their traditional homelands into a frontier-type environment in the dry interior. While rice is grown wherever there is sufficient water the major rice-growing area, as shown on the map below, are in the coastal areas and the interior of the west above Colombo where coconuts are also grown. Coconuts are also grown in many areas, particularly near urban markets. One major area of coconut production is the west coast of the island. As mentioned previously, rice and coconut production is primarily for the domestic market. The top export crop is tea, which is grown in the highlands. To the west of the tea production area there are rubber-tree plantations. Cotton is grown on the southeast and northeast coasts.

Chapter 5 : Sri Lanka - Agricultural Sector | calendrierdelascience.com

Agriculture is the most important sector of the Sri Lankan economy. Even though its contribution to the gross domestic product declined substantially during the past 3 decades (from 30 percent in 1970 to 21 percent in 2000), it is the most important source of employment for the majority of the Sri Lankan workforce.

Chapter 6 : Ministry of Agriculture - Sri Lanka - Home

Information related to agriculture is collected, processed and disseminated by the Agriculture and Environment Statistics Division of the Department of Census and Statistics. Statistics collected by the Division include extent and production of Paddy, other seasonal and permanent crops, livestock and cost of production.

Chapter 7 : Agricultural Industry Companies and Suppliers in Sri Lanka | Agriculture XPRT

Calling Applications for Posts of Director, District Director of Agriculture, Principle Agriculture Scientist and Additional Director, Grade I of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service - Download Application for Posts of Director/ District Director of

Agriculture/ Principle Agriculture Scientist/ Additional Director, Grade I of the Sri Lanka.

Chapter 8 : FAO in Sri Lanka | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Feature: Building Sri Lanka's resilience to climate change. By World Bank year-old Sivasidambaram Vasugi is the General Manager of one of the first cooperative-owned seed paddy processing centers in Killinochchi, Si .

Chapter 9 : Ministry of Agriculture (Sri Lanka) - Wikipedia

The overarching goal of FAO's programme in Sri Lanka continues to be the reduction of food insecurity, malnutrition and vulnerabilities, and the sustainable management and use of the country's natural resources.