

**High Commission of India
Colombo**

Sri Lanka – Fact Sheet

Name	Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
President	H.E. Mr. Maithripala Sirisena
Prime Minister	Hon'ble Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe
Speaker	Hon'ble Mr. Chamal Rajapaksa
Leader of Opposition	-
External Affairs Minister	Hon'ble Mangala Samaraweera

Government: Parliamentary, with an elected Executive President who is both Head of State and Head of Government. According to Sri Lankan Constitution, the President has overriding executive, legislature and judiciary powers. The current government has pledged to change the executive presidency.

President Maithripala Sirisena (common candidate of the Opposition) elected in the polls held on 08 January 2015, securing 6,217,162 (51.28%) of the total polled votes whereas Mahinda Rajapaksa obtained 5,768,090 (47.58%) of the total polled votes. Total votes polled were 12,264,377 which amounted to 81.52% of the 15,044,490 registered electors. The margin of victory was 449,072 votes. **President Sirisena received a large percentage of the votes in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. In the North, in Jaffna district he received 74.42% of the polled votes whereas Mahinda Rajapaksa received 21.85%. In Vanni district President Sirisena received 78.47% of the polled votes as against Mahinda Rajapaksa's 19.07%.**

At the General Elections on 8 April 2010, UPFA won 144 seats (60.3% votes), while main Opposition-UNP got 60 seats (29.3% votes) in the 225-member Parliament. There are 28 Cabinet Ministers (including the PM), 11 Ministers of State and 13 Deputy Ministers presently.

Parliament elections are expected to take place in June 2015.

National Day: 4 February (Independence in 1948)

Geography: Located between 5° 55'N - 9° 50'N latitude and 79° 42'E - 81° 52'E longitude, South-East of India and separated by the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar.

Climate:	Tropical; average temp 27° C. Monsoons: May-Oct and Dec-March, apart from convectional rains in summer.
Topography:	The Island is elevated at the Centre and South, falling to coastal plains at the periphery, narrow to the South and West and broad in the North. Rivers are generally short. Rainfall is heavier in the South. The uplands and wet zone are most densely populated.
Area:	65,610 sq. Km (62,705 sq. km excluding inland waters- about half the size of Tamilnadu). North-South distance is 434 Km; East-West is 227 Km.
Std Time:	GMT +5.30 hrs; same as IST.
Capital:	Sri Jayewardenapura Kotte. Colombo, the former capital, is the commercial capital and largest city.
Major cities:	Colombo, Jaffna, Kandy, Galle, Trincomalee, Dehiwala, Mt. Lavinia,
Population:	20,483,000 (2013*); Density – 323 per sq.km
Population Growth:	1.3 % p.a. (2012 Census)
Life Expectancy:	Male: 70 years; Female: 76 years (2012 Census)
Ethnic groups:	Sinhalese (74.9%) Sri Lankan Tamils (11.2%) Moors (Muslims) (9.2%) Indian Tamils (4.2%). Other communities include Burghers of mixed European descent, Malay and a small number of aboriginal Veddahs (1.8 %). (2012 Census)
Religion:	Buddhism (70.2%) Hinduism (12.6%) Islam (9.7%) Christianity (6.1%) and others (1.4 %). (2012 Census)
Languages:	Sinhala is the official language. The 13 th Amendment to the SL Constitution (1987) declared Tamil as also an official language; English is the link language.
Literacy:	92 % (2012 Census)
Currency:	Sri Lankan Rupee (1 USD=131LKR; 1 LKR = 100 SL cents)
Unemployment:	4.3% of labour force (in 1 st half of 2014)
GDP (Market Price)	US \$ 75.6 billion (2014*)

GDP per capita:	US \$ 3,654 (2014*)
GDP growth:	7.8% in 2014*, 7.3% in 2013, and 6.4% in 2012
Inflation:	3.3% in 2014* (Average), 6.9% in 2013
FDI inflows:	US\$ 1391.41 million (2013); US\$ 1279.15 million; US\$ 1067 million (2011); US\$ 516 million (2010); US\$ 601 million (2009)
Natural resources:	Limestone, graphite, mineral sands, gems, and phosphate.
Economy:	Agriculture, forestry and fishing (10% of GDP); Industry (33%); Services (57% of GDP). (2014*)

The country's economy is primarily agricultural; the emphasis is on crops such as tea, rubber and coconut. Cocoa, coffee, cinnamon, cardamom, pepper, cloves, nutmeg, citronella, and tobacco are also produced. Rice, fruit, and vegetables are grown for local consumption. Sri Lanka is an exporter of amorphous graphite, its principal mineral industry. Petroleum refining is also important, and precious and semiprecious gems, mineral sands, clays and limestone is mined. Substantial deposits of iron ore have not yet been exploited. The island's swift rivers have considerable hydroelectric potential. Sri Lanka's dynamic sectors now are food processing, textiles & apparel, food & beverages, port construction, telecommunications and insurance & banking.

External:	Total trade turnover: US\$ 28.4 billion (2013*); US\$ 28.97 billion (2012); US\$ 30.83 billion (2011); US\$ 22.08 billion (2010)
Exports (2013*):	US\$ 10.39 billion; Main export destinations for Sri Lanka were: USA (24%); UK (10.4%); India (5.2%); Italy (4.9%); Germany (4.5%); Belgium-Luxemburg (4.3%)
Imports (2013*):	US\$ 18.003 billion; Main sources of Sri Lankan imports were: India (17.6%); China (16.4%); Singapore (9.3%); and UAE (6.6%)
Major Exports:	Textiles and garments, tea, spices, transport equipment, machinery and mechanical appliances, animal fodder, gems, diamonds and jewellery.
Major Imports:	Petroleum products, textiles and textile articles and building material, machinery and equipment.

* Provisional

Bilateral Trade Figures (US\$ Million):

Year	Imports from India	Exports to India	Total Trade	Trade Deficit for Sri Lanka	EXIM Ratio SL Imports: SL Exports
All figures in US \$ million, (FTA implemented in March 2000)					
1999	512	49	561	-463	10.4:1
2000	600	58	658	-542	10.3:1
2001	602	72	674	-530	8.4:1
2002	835	171	1006	-664	4.9:1
2003	1076	241	1317	-835	4.5:1
2004	1358	385	1743	-973	3.5:1
2005	1439	560	1999	-879	2.6:1
2006	1800	489	2289	-1311	3.7:1
2007	2782	516	3298	-2266	5.4:1
2008	2845	419	3264	-2426	6.8:1
2009	1694	325	2019	-1369	5.2:1
2010	2548	474	3022	-2074	5.4:1
2011	4351	525	4876	-3826	8.3:1
2012	3534	571	4105	-2963	6.2:1
2013	3186	544	3730	-2642	5.9:1
2014 (Jan-Nov)	3530	533	4063	-2998	6.6:1

Main item of exports to India	Ships, boats and floating structures, Residues and waste from the food industries, prepared animal fodder, Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders, Coffee, tea, mate and spices, Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic materials waste & scrap of paper, Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials, Glass and glassware, Edible Fruit and Nuts; Peel of Citrus Fruit or Melons, Glass and glassware
Main item of imports from India	Pharmaceutical products, Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement, Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous, Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts, Sugar & sugar confectionery, Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers, Residues and waste from the food industries, prepared animal fodder

Tourist Arrivals: 1527,153 (2014); largest number of tourist arrivals from India – 242,734 (15.9% of total arrivals)

Group Membership: SAARC, BIMSTEC, IOR-ARC, G-15

Free Trade Agreements: SAFTA, India-Sri Lanka FTA, Pak-Sri Lanka FTA, APTA
BIMSTEC (under negotiation)

Council of Ministers:

President Maithripala Sirisena retains the portfolio of Defence, Mahaweli Development & Environment.

There are 28 Cabinet Ministers (including the Prime Minister), 11 Ministers of State and 13 Deputy Ministers. They include:

Cabinet Ministers

1. Prime Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe and Minister of Economic Development, Reconciliation, Policy Development and Economic Affairs
2. John Amaratunga – Minister of Public Order, Disaster Management Christian Affairs
3. Joseph Michael Perera – Minister of Home Affairs
4. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera – Minister of Food Security
5. Mangala Samaraweera – Minister of Foreign Affairs
6. Karu Jayasuriya-Minister of Public Administration, Democratic Governance and Buddha Sasana
7. Lakshman Kiriella – Minister of Plantation Industries
8. Ravi Karunanayake – Minister of Finance
9. Rauff Hakeem – Minister of Urban Development, Water Supply and Drainage
10. Patali Champika Ranawaka – Minister of Power and Energy
11. Dr. Rajitha Senaratna – Minister of Health and Indigenous Medicine
12. Duminda Dissanayake – Minister of Irrigation
13. Kabir Hashim – Minister of Highways and Investment Promotion
14. M.K.D.S. Gunawardena – Minister of Lands
15. Sajith Premadasa – Minister of Housing and Samurdhi
16. Wijedasa Rajapaksa – Minister of Justice
17. Gayantha Karunathilake – Minister of Media
18. Naveen Dissanayake – Minister of Tourism and Sports
19. Arjuna Ranatunga – Minister of Ports and Shipping
20. Rishad Bathiudeen – Minister of Industry and Commerce
21. Palani Diganbaram – Minister of Plantation Infrastructure Development
22. D.M. Swaminathan – Minister of Resettlement, Reconstruction and Hindu Religious Affairs
23. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam – Minister of Education
24. Thalatha Athukorala – Minister of Foreign Employment
25. Ranjith Maddumabandara – Minister of Internal Transport
26. P. Harrison – Social Services and Welfare
27. Chandrani Bandara – Minister of Women’s Affairs
28. Abdel Halim Mohamed - Minister of Posts and Muslim Affairs

Ministers of State

1. Nandimithra Ekanayake- Ministry of Culture
2. V. Radhakrishnan- Ministry of Education
3. Faizer Mustapha- Ministry of Aviation
4. Palitha Range Bandara- Ministry of Power and Energy
5. Dilip Wedaarachchi- Ministry of Fisheries
6. Rosy Senanayake- Ministry of Child Development
7. Rajiva Wijesinghe- Higher Education
8. Ruwan Wijewardene- Defence Ministry

9. K. Velayudhan- Ministry of Traditional Industries
10. Hon. Niroshan Perera - Minister of Youth Affairs
11. Hasan Ali - Minister of Health

Deputy Ministers

1. Champika Premadasa - Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce
2. Harsha de Silva- Deputy Minister of Policy Development and Economic Affairs
3. Eran Wickramaratne - Deputy Minister of Highways and Investment Promotion
4. Sujeewa Senasinghe - Deputy Minister of Justice
5. Wasantha Senanayake - Deputy Minister of Tourism
6. Vijayakala Maheswaran - Deputy Minister of Women's Affairs
7. Ajith P. Perera - Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
8. Anoma Gamage - Deputy Minister of Irrigation
9. Dunesh Harsha Gankanda - Deputy Minister of Urban Development, Water Supply and Drainage Board
10. Ranjan Ramanayake - Deputy Minister of Social Services, Welfare and Livestock
11. Wasantha Aluwihare - Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
12. Amir Ali Sahabdeen - Deputy Minister of Housing and Samurdhi
13. Mohammad Shariff Thoufeek - Deputy Minister of Internal Transport
