

## ✓ Economically active population to 8.6 mn in 2Q

By the second quarter of 2019, the estimated economically active population was about 8.6 million in the second quarter 2019.

Of which 64.7 percent were males and 35.3 percent were females.

The economically inactive population is about 7.8 million.

Out of the economically inactive population 26.0 percent are males and 74.0 percent are females, the quarterly report of Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey published by the Department of Census and Statistics stated.

It is important to note that, male participation to the labour force was always higher than that of female.

The highest participation rate for male is reported from age group 35-39 years (97.4%), while that for female is reported from 40-44 age group (48.9%).

During second quarter of 2019, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as about 8.2 million. Of which, about 47.5 percent engaged in Service sector, 28.3 percent in Industries

sector and 24.3 percent in Agriculture sector.

Compared to 2nd quarter 2018 in 2nd quarter 2019 a increase in employment numbers can be observed in agriculture and Industries sectors.

The highest employment share is in service sector and this is true for both male and female, while the lowest shares are for agriculture sector.

Among employed females 25.7 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 23.5 percent for males. The number of unemployed persons is estimated as 420,231 during the second quarter 2019. The unemployment rate for the second quarter 2019 is 4.9 percent.

Overall unemployment rate reported for female is 7.5 percent and it is 3.4 percent for male.

Youth unemployment rate (age 15-24 years) corresponding to the second quarter 2019 is 20 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups.

Further the unemployment rates for males and females are 17.1 and 25.5 percent respectively for age group 15-24.