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Sri Lanka's unemployment up in Q2 2019

The number of unemployed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as 420,231 or 4.9 percent during the second quarter 2019, a new report shows.

Data from the state statistics office shows that this is a rise of 0.4 percent from the same period last year and a 0.2 percent rise from the last quarter.

According to the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey (LFS), the estimated economically active population is about 8.6 million of which 64.7 percent are males and 35.3 percent are 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.

There is high male participation compared to female in all age groups with the highest participation rate for male is reported from age group 35-39 years (97.4 percent), while that for female is reported from 40-44 age group (48.9 percent).

During second quarter of 2019, of the total number of employed persons 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 there has been an increase in employment numbers in agriculture and industries sectors.

Youth unemployment rate (age 15 - 24 years) corresponding to the second quarter 2019 is 20.0 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. (LBO) ✓