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Economic census 2013-14

The 14th Census of Population and Housing of Sri Lanka was conducted in 2012. Generally, during the first year and second year after a Census of Population and Housing a Census of Agriculture and a Census of Industries are taken. However, in these censuses, trade and service sectors have not been covered.

But as in many developed countries in Sri Lanka too,

The service sector has become largest contributory sector to the National GDP compared to other two sectors namely agriculture and industries.

According to the statistics compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics, in 2012 the contributions of agriculture, industries and services sectors to the National GDP are 11 percent, 30 percent and 59 percent, a press release issued by the Department of Census and Statistics said.

Considering the structural changes in the economy

similar to that of developed countries, arrangements have been made to conduct an Economic Census in 2013/14 covering agriculture, industries, and trade and service sectors instead of conducting agriculture and industries censuses separately, the press release added.

The Economic Census will be conducted in four stages. In the first stage, which will be conducted during July-August 2013, all estates (i.e. agriculture holdings, extent of which are more than 20 acres) will be listed.

The second stage will be conducted during September-October 2013 in which all industries, trade and service units will be listed. The third stage of the census will be conducted during January-March 2014 and in this stage detail data from all Agricultural holdings including estates will be collected. During July-August of the same year, detail data from industries, trade and service units will be collected under the fourth stage.

Grama Niladharis are listing estates these days under the Stage 1. Department of Census and Statistics request all Owners/Superintendents of Estates to provide accurate data to Grama Niladharis to make this census a success.

Data are collected under the Statistical Ordinance and no information at individual level will be divulged to any party, the communique said.