

# BUSINESS

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## North Western provinces second and third

# PROVINCE HIGHEST CONTRIBUTOR TO GDP

at the Western Province con- account for the largest share untry's nominal GDP. Howev- e with recent trends, its share DP declined in 2017, contrib- uring of regional disparity. and North Western provinces second and third highest con- to the national GDP in nomi-. During 2017, increases in are could be observed in

North Western and Uva provinces, while that of Western, Southern, North Central and Sabaragamuwa provinces decreased. The shares of Central and Northern provinces remain unchanged.

Analysis of the economic structures within the province shows that services activities play a dominant role in each province contributing more than 50 per cent to the PGDP, except for Uva province where the contribution from the

services sector was 37.8 per cent. The performance of the services activities in each province was largely backed by the developments in wholesale and retail trade together with the expansion in transportation activities. Provincial GDP of Uva province was largely driven by industry activities (44.2 per cent), for which mining and quarrying contributed significantly.

In other provinces, the contribu- tions from industry activities to PGDP

varied from 16.2 to 31.5 per cent. In line with the trend observed in national GDP, contribution from agriculture activities to PGDP was the lowest in all the provinces ranging from 2.1 to 15.1 per cent. During 2017, Eastern province recorded the highest share of 15.1 per cent, which was led by production of rice and marine fishing.