

Lanka's 2018, 4Q economically active... From page i

Compared to 4th quarter 2017 in 4th quarter 2018 a decline in employment numbers can be observed in Agriculture and Industry sectors while the Service sector employment shows an inverse.

Majority of the workforce are private sector employees followed by own account workers

According to the percentage distribution of male and female employed population by main industry 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 29.1 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 23.8 percent for

males.

The number of unemployed persons is estimated as 346,998 during the third quarter 2018. The unemployment rate for the third quarter 2018 is 4.1 percent. Overall unemployment rate reported for female is 7.1 percent and it is 3.2 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate (age 15- 24 years) corresponding to the fourth quarter 2018 is 21.9 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups. Further the unemployment rates for males and females are 18.1 and 28.7 percent respectively for age group 15-24.

The survey results further reveals that the unemployment among females is higher

than that of males, in all age groups. Youth and female unemployment contribute more to the overall unemployment of the country.

The highest unemployment rate is reported from the G.C.E(A/L) and above group which is about 8.7 percent. Corresponding percentages are 5.5 percent and 11.9 percent for males and females respectively. Female unemployment rates are higher than those of males in all levels of education. Survey results further show that the problem of unemployment is more acute in the case of educated females than educated males, which was observed consistently over the results of previous survey rounds as well.