

(J) EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR RELATIONS**I. Number Placed In Employment By Employment Exchanges**

The annual figures of the number of persons placed in employment by employment exchanges from 1961 to 1973 are given in table II (J) I. The total number of persons placed in employment by the employment exchanges in 1974 was 1,278. For all categories of workers the numbers placed in employment in 1974 were 51.3 per cent less than in the previous year.

TABLE II (J) I

The Number of persons placed in employment and its relative importance to total registrants in each category

year	Technical & Clerical		Skilled		Semi-skilled		Unskilled		Total	
	No. placed	Percent of total Registrants in the category	No. placed	Percent of total Registrants in the category	No. placed	Percent of total Registrants in the category	No. placed	Percent of total Registrants in the category	No. placed	Percent of total Registrants in the category
1961	1,259	4.6	631	3.5	964	2.8	2,794	3.9	5,648	3.7
1962	1,263	3.7	468	2.7	809	2.3	2,315	3.5	4,857	3.2
1963	1,322	3.7	502	3.0	836	2.3	2,466	3.9	5,129	3.4
1964	1,722	4.4	535	3.2	945	2.5	3,599	5.5	6,801	4.3
1965	1,495	2.7	846	4.2	1,035	2.1	3,753	5.0	7,129	3.6
1966	1,056	1.6	740	3.4	917	1.5	4,089	4.5	6,802	2.9
1967	1,018	1.4	588	2.5	712	1.1	1,936	2.1	4,254	1.7
1968	680	0.9	780	3.1	794	1.1	2,696	2.6	4,950	1.8
1969	865	1.0	710	2.3	800	0.9	2,908	2.1	5,283	1.5
1970	526	0.5	584	1.5	428	0.4	1,287	0.7	2,825	0.7
1971	640	0.6	778	1.8	462	0.5	1,701	0.9	3,581	0.8
1972	612	0.7	529	1.2	656	0.6	1,496	0.7	3,293	0.7
1973	561	0.6	385	0.9	413	0.4	1,350	0.6	2,622	0.6
*1974	294	0.3	188	0.4	249	0.2	547	0.2	1,278	0.3

Source: Department of Labour.

* Provisional

2. Employment in the Public Sector

The response to the annual survey conducted by the Central Bank on employment in semi-government institutions (public corporations, universities, research institutes, statutory boards, etc.) and government service for the year 1974 was satisfactory. Figures for those government departments which did not respond to the inquiry were obtained from the Estimates of Government Revenue and Expenditure for 1973, which gave the approved cadre, but not necessarily the numbers in actual employment. Employment figures for 14 semi-government institutions which did not respond to the questionnaire were estimated using previous data.

The employees are classified according to categories and status (permanent, temporary and casual). The categories considered were:

1. Administrative, technical and professional officers of staff rank.
2. Subordinate employees
3. Minor employees
4. School teachers
5. Others.

(a) *Government Departments*

The estimates of employment in government departments for the years 1973 and 1974 are given in table II (J) 2.

In 1974 the total number of employees in government departments had increased by 7.5 per cent. The increase in the number of employees in the subordinate grades was the highest recorded and exceeded the figure for 1973 by 12.8 per cent. In 1974, employees in the administrative grades, minor employees and school teachers increased by 10.9, 7.6, and 1.2 per cent respectively.

In 1974, about 62 per cent of the total number of employees in government departments were in the subordinate and minor grades. Of the total number of employees 26 per cent were government school teachers while officers in staff rank were 3.7 per cent.

The percentage of permanent employees in government departments decreased from 88.4 in 1973 to 86.8 per cent in 1974, while the number of temporary employees increased from 5.6 to 5.8 per cent. Casual employees increased from 6.0 to 7.5 per cent in the course of the year.

TABLE II (J) 2

Employment Statistics-Government Departments*

Occupational Category	Status and Number Employed								Per-centage Change over 1973
	Permanent		Temporary		Casual		Total		
	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	
1. Administrative, Technical and Professional Officers of Staff Rank	13,643	14,072	387	1,487	—	—	14,030	15,559	+ 10.9
2. Subordinate Employees	120,236	135,593	5,498	5,804	4,04	5,603	130,338	147,000	+ 12.8
3. Minor Employees	69,499	69,897	14,972	15,715	17,856	24,503	102,327	110,115	+ 7.6
4. School Teachers	106,674	107,979	—	—	—	—	106,674	107,979	+ 1.2
5. Others	31,259	32,534	782	1,035	611	833	32,652	34,402	+ 5.4
Total	341,311	360,075	21,639	24,041	23,071	30,939	386,021	415,055	+ 7.5

Source: Central Bank of Ceylon.

* Notes.

1. (i) Legislative officers and government administrators.
(ii) Managers, chairman and other staff grade officers.
(iii) Scientists, technicians and engineers, doctors, professors and lecturers accountants, valuers.
2. (i) Clerical grades.
(ii) Shroffs
(iii) Stenographers, typists and cypher operators
(iv) Telephonists and office machine operators.
(v) Translators.
(vi) Extension inspectors and investigating officers
(vii) Police and gramasevakas.
(viii) Storekeepers.
3. (i) Messengers.
(ii) Karyala Karya Sahayakas.
(iii) Attendants and orderlies.
(iv) Drivers (motor cars, lorries, etc.)
(v) Unskilled workers.
(vi) Semi-skilled workers
(vii) Skilled workers.
4. (i) Principals, vice-principals, headmasters and assistant headmasters.
(ii) Professionally qualified such as trained teachers, certified teachers and english certified teachers.
(iii) Graduates, inter-arts.
(iv) Non-professionally qualified, part-time and casual teachers, trainee teachers and pupil teachers.

(b) Semi-government Institutions

In 1974, employment in semi-government institutions increased by 13.8 per cent in comparison with an increase of 4.6 per cent in 1973. According to the data presented in table II (J) 3 the major reason for this increase in employment in 1974 seems to be the rapid rise in the minor employees grade. The increase in this grade in 1974 was 23.4 per cent; the comparable figure for 1973 being 6.4 per cent. However, the growth in employment in other categories seems to have been much less than in 1973. For example the category of administrative, professional and technical employees recorded an increase of 4.1 per cent in 1974 in comparison with an increase of 7.2 per cent in the previous year.

About 85 per cent of the employees in semi-government institutions, in 1974 were permanent cadre while casual and temporary employees accounted for 10 per cent and 5 per cent of the total respectively.

3. Registrants for Employment

The number of registrants at employment exchanges for employment or better employment at the end of 1974 was 505,935 compared with 470,369 at the end of the previous year (see table II (J) 4). The number of registrants in respect of all categories of employment increased. The same trend was observed for the year 1973 as well

4. Labour Relations

The data for 1974 on the number of strikes, the number of workers involved and the number of man days lost in the private sector are given by the table II (J) 5.

In 1974, there were 75 strikes in the plantation sector, as compared with 215 in 1973; a decrease of 65 per cent. The number of workers involved decreased from 89,393 in 1973 to 25,381 in 1974. The decrease in the number of man-days lost during the year was 281,289. Among other employments the number of workers on strike and the number of man-days lost decreased by 2,571 and 3,736 respectively.

It was observed that in 1974 the demand for wage increase was a less important cause for strikes than the demands for improvements in general working conditions. About 57 per cent of the work stoppages were on account of demands for better working arrangements and disputes with junior staff. Food matters accounted for 25 per cent while loss of employment accounted for 7 per cent of the total number of strikes in 1974.

TABLE II (J) 3

Employment Statistics-Semi-Government Institutions (a)*
Status and Number Employed

	Status and Number Employed								Percentage change over 1973
	Permanent		Temporary		Casual		Total		
	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	31st. Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	31st Dec. 1973	31st Dec. 1974	
1. Administrative, Technical & Professional Officer of Staff Rank ..	14,668	15,220	568	629	124	140	15,360	15,989	+ 4.1
2. Subordinate Employees ..	30,021	31,618	525	557	630	827	31,176	33,002	+ 5.9
3. Minor Employees ..	89,162	116,162	10,655	10,953	20,525	21,433	120,342	148,548	+ 23.4
4. Others ..	41,325	39,703	420	365	983	1,023	42,728	41,091	- 3.8
5. Total ..	175,176	202,703	12,168	12,504	22,262	23,423	209,606	238,630	+ 13.8

Source: Central Bank of Ceylon

(a) Notes

1. (i) Legislative officers and government administrators.
(ii) Manager, chairman and other staff grade officers.
(iii) Scientists, technicians and engineers, doctors, professors and lecturers, accountants, valuers.
2. (i) Clerical grades
(ii) Shroffs
(iii) Stenographers, typists and cypher operators
(iv) Telephonists and office-machine operators
(v) Translators.
(vi) Extension inspectors and investigating Officers.
(vii) Police and gramasevakas.
(viii) Storekeepers.
3. (i) Messengers.
(ii) Karyala Karya Sahayakas.
(iii) Attendants and orderlies.
(iv) Drivers (motor car, lorries etc.)
(v) Unskilled workers.
(vi) Semi-skilled workers.
(vii) Skilled workers.

*Public Corporations, Universities, Boards, Banks etc.

TABLE II (J) 4

Number of registrants for employment or better employment
according to registers maintained at the
Employment Exchanges in the Island.

		End of Period Figures				
		Technical & Clerical	Skilled	Semi-Skilled	Unskilled	Total
1972	December	89,170	43,234	101,554	211,464	445,422
1973	March	85,847	43,017	104,003	216,281	449,148
	June	86,585	43,342	105,271	221,213	456,411
	September	85,828	43,676	105,978	227,220	462,702
	December	86,341	43,689	107,367	232,972	470,369
1974	March	87,111	43,731	109,332	237,038	477,212
	June	88,523	44,570	112,100	242,189	487,382
	*September	90,292	45,506	114,080	245,901	494,846
	*December	92,120	46,043	116,882	250,890	505,935

Source: Department of Labour

* Provisional

TABLE II (J) 5

Strikes in Private Sector Trades

	Plantations			Other Employment		
	No. of Strikes	Workers Involved	Man-days lost	No. of Strikes	Workers Involved	Man-days lost
1961	90	29,223	317,866	39	38,013	170,372
1962	138	42,569	193,792	50	25,730	801,882
1963	174	62,511	359,905	58	29,819	479,678
1964	201	68,009	611,060	103	21,409	274,623
1965	175	70,929	482,259	55	10,085	89,952
1966	132	138,259	4,117,264	32	4,592	34,351
1967	194	74,968	414,636	36	14,883	284,709
1968	171	65,909	722,690	26	11,308	265,726
1969	146	56,861	406,150	43	6,317	58,015
1970	254	125,530	1,030,310	86	23,488	281,253
1971	125	50,847	273,531	32	39,955	239,760
1972	165	52,832	273,717	22	2,205	25,181
1973	215	89,393	360,217	23	4,263	30,552
*1974	75	25,381	78,928	16	1,692	26,816

Source: Department of Labour.

* Provisional