

GII Survey Report

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

1) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1923 - 1923 (Department of Statistics)

Survey ID: 2016

2,000 households

Sample Duration: 2 Month(s)

Notes: Aim: to study level of living of a class of the working population in Ceylon, particularly focused on wages and cost of living of Indian estate labourers of tea and rubber plantations. Undertaken by Department of Statistics.

Survey sent to 2,367 estates, replies obtained from 2,000. It is not clear if each estate had more than one family or not. Information is generally presented by individual rather than by family. Not clear how the estates were picked.

Data was collected between April and May 1923.

Ref ID: 1991

Wages and Cost of Living of Estate Labourers, Sessional Paper XXXI - 1924 (Colombo: H. Ross Cottle, Government Printer, 1924)

Ref ID: 938

M. Rajanayagam, Report of an Inquiry into the Family Budgets of Indian Estate Labourers, Sessional Paper XXVI - 1941 (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, Oct. 1941)

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

2) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1924 - 1924 (Statistics Ceylon)

Survey ID: 930

394 households

Notes: Income, expenditure. Expenditures of 394 families in 1924 were dealt with, 95 in detail.

Need for collection of statistics bearing on the living conditions of the working classes in the city of Colombo.

Questionnaires distributed throughout a part of the city of Colombo, the "slum area" which was decided upon by the municipal council for the inauguration of their scheme for the re-housing of the Colombo poor. This area is admittedly the worst slum area of the city from the point of view of sanitation and overcrowding.

Data on demographics, income, housing, health and nutrition, indebtedness, charitable relief.

No methodological data.

Ref ID: 925

L. S. B. Turner, *First Report on the Preliminary Census of Poverty in the City of Colombo* (Colombo: Municipal Printing Office, 1926)

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

3) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)**

Survey ID: 2057

500 households

Sample Duration: 2 Month(s)

Notes: Another of the surveys of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

Report breaks new ground and presents an analysis of rural economic conditions on a scale.

Collect data (mainly statistical) on the general economic conditions of the rural population of the island. Data on occupation, income, expenditure, property and debt, but also on health, education, trade and transport, crime and corporate effort.

Random sampling carried out. Collection and tabulation of information in the hands of a team of investigators specially recruited and trained for the task.

The direction of the survey is in the hands of the Registrar-General and Director of Commercial Intelligence who is assisted by an Economic Adviser in planning specific enquiries, drafting investigation forms and questionnaires, summarising and tabulating the data and preparing the final report.

The investigation started in the first week of July and by the end of August 1936 the field work was completed. This is the first of the non-trial/preliminary surveys taken. It was carried out in five villages of the Kalutara district.

Information is presented by village. 500 families

Ref ID: 2032

Ministry of Labour, *Report on the Economic Survey of Five Villages in Kalutara District, Bulletin 6* (Colombo: The Ceylon Government Press, 1937)

4) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936**

Survey ID: 931

16 households

Ref ID: 926

Nicholls, 'A nutritional survey of the poorer classes in Ceylon', *Ceylon Journal of Science (Section D, Medical Science)*, Vol. IV, No. 1 (20 April 1936), pp. 1-70.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

5) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)**

Survey ID: 932

662 households

Sample Duration: 4 Month(s)

Notes: Objectives of these rural enquires:

- To acquire complete knowledge of the environment and the factors which determine the development of the community as a whole and to study the ways in which that development can be accelerated.
- To observe the effects of modern inventions and technical improvements and the manner in which the community reacts
- To generate information

Study of the community and its institutions, its hygiene, educational and social services, its road services, generate a complete picture of the life of the community.

Data on income, expenditure, property and debt of the various classes of families residing in the villages.

This is part of the trial survey of the series of rural surveys taken in the late 1930s in Ceylon.

Survey of 662 families in seven villages of Rayigam korale between April and July 1936. Roughly, 1% of the villages are selected in each district by sample or where the district presents clearly defined economic regions, by stratified random sampling. No information as to how the families are selected is provided. The total number of families might represent the whole population of the villages selected.

Ref ID: 927

Ministry of Labour, *Report on the Economic Survey of Seven Villages in Rayigam Korale of Kalutara District, Bulletin No, 5* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1937)

6) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936**

Survey ID: 933

6,459 households

Ref ID: 1442

L. Nicholls, T. Jayaram and D. C. De Fonseka, *Report on Nutrition in Ceylon* (Colombo, Feb. 1937)

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 928

Lucius Nicholls, *Further Report on Nutrition in Ceylon. Part II. A Survey of the Diets of Ceylon. Sessional Paper No. XXIX - 1937* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, Dec. 1937)

7) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)**

Survey ID: 934

340 households

Sample Duration: 2 Month(s)

Notes: Another of the surveys of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

Report breaks new ground and presents an analysis of rural economic conditions on a scale.

Collect data (mainly statistical) on the general economic conditions of the rural population of the island. Data on occupation, income, expenditure, property and debt, but also on health, education, trade and transport, crime and corporate effort.

Random sampling carried out. Collection and tabulation of information in the hands of a team of investigators specially recruited and trained for the task.

The direction of the survey is in the hands of the Registrar-General and Director of Commercial Intelligence who is assisted by an Economic Adviser in planning specific enquiries, drafting investigation forms and questionnaires, summarising and tabulating the data and preparing the final report.

Survey of 340 families taken between August and September 1936 of five villages in the Chilaw District. This is the second district to be surveyed, after Kalutara. The five villages were selected at random.

Unlike previous report, the data is not presented by village, but aggregated.

Ref ID: 929

Ministry of Labour, *Report on the Economic Survey of Five Villages in Chilaw District, Bulletin No. 7* (Colombo: The Ceylon Government Press, 1937)

8) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)**

Survey ID: 935

173 households

Sample Duration: 2 Month(s)

Notes: This is the first non-pilot enquiry of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce. Survey of 173 families of five villages of the Puttalam district between September and October 1936.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 930

Ministry of Labour, *Report on the Economic Survey of Five Villages in Puttalam District, Bulletin No. 8* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1938)

9) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)**

Survey ID: 936

692 households

Notes: This is part of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce. Survey of 692 families of six villages of the Matale district in some months of 1936.

Ref ID: 931

Ministry of Labour, *Report on the Economic Survey of Six Villages in the Matale District, Bulletin No. 9* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1939)

10) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1936 - 1936 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)**

Survey ID: 937

1,973 households

Notes: This is part of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce. Survey of 1973 families of 28 villages chosen at random of the Kurunegala district in some months of 1936.

Ref ID: 932

B. R. Shenoy, *Report on the Economic Survey of Kurunegala District., Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce Bulletin No. 10* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1940)

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

11) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1938 - 1938 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.)

Survey ID: 938

1,249 households

Notes: This is the part of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

Survey of 1249 families of 9 villages selected by the method of random stratified sampling of the Galle district in some months of 1938.

Ref ID: 933

B. B. Gupta, Report on the Economic Survey of Nine Villages in Galle District, Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce Bulletin No. 11 (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1944)

12) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1938 - 1938 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.)

Survey ID: 939

645 households

Notes: This is the part of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

Survey of 645 families of 6 villages of the Matara district in some months of 1938.

Ref ID: 934

B. B. Das Gupta, Report on the Economic Survey of Six Villages in Matara District, Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce Bulletin No. 12 (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1944)

13) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1938 - 1938 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)

Survey ID: 940

311 households

Notes: This is the part of the national rural study taken by the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

Survey of 311 families of 5 villages of the Hambantota district in some months of 1938.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 935

B. B. Das Gupta, *Report on the Economic Survey of Five Villages in Hambantota District, Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce Bulletin No. 13* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1944)

- 14) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1939 - 1939 (Statistical Assistant of the Department of Commerce and Industries)** Survey ID: 941
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351 households Sample Duration: 14 Day(s)

Notes: Survey of manual labourers of the city of Colombo. Each family was interviewed for 14 days. They were randomly selected in each of the 7 areas. Most families lived in tenement buildings.

1939 survey taken in Colombo by the Statistical Assistant of the Department of Commerce and Industries. 351 families were selected at random in the city and details of the actual expenditure of each family for a period of 14 days were obtained.

Ref ID: 936

Department of Commerce and Industries, 'New Colombo Cost of Living Index Number', *The Ceylon Trade Journal*, Vol. V, No. 9 (1940), pp. 355-360.

Ref ID: 938

M. Rajanayagam, *Report of an Inquiry into the Family Budgets of Indian Estate Labourers, Sessional Paper XXVI - 1941* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, Oct. 1941)

- 15) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1940 - 1940** Survey ID: 942
-
- 232 households**

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 937

Nimalasuriya, 'Rural Dietary Surveys in Ceylon', *Ceylon Journal of Science*, Vol. V, No. 3 Section D, Medical Science (1941), pp. 59-110.

16) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1940 - 1940 (Department of Statistics and Labour Department)

Survey ID: 943

516 households

Sample Duration: 2 Month(s)

Notes: Same population of inquiry of 1923. Inquiry into family budgets of Indian tea and rubber estate labourers. Estates are situated roughly in the central part of Ceylon (hilly districts of the Island).
Labourers are homogenous group with very little variation in their modes or standard of living.
Once the estates were selected, the families on each estate were chosen by the process of random selection. The intention was that the estate should be chosen by the method of purposive selection and families by random. When the returns were received, it was noted that the principle of random selection was not strictly followed by all superintendents in the estates. In certain cases they were selected because it was thought they were likely to keep more accurate figures than those selected at random.
Information collected for the months of April and May probably in 1940.
516 families.

Ref ID: 938

M. Rajanayagam, *Report of an Inquiry into the Family Budgets of Indian Estate Labourers*, *Sessional Paper XXVI - 1941* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, Oct. 1941)

17) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1940 - 1940 (Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce)

Survey ID: 944

744 households

Sample Duration: 4 Month(s)

Notes: Survey of families of the town of Moratuwa between September and December 1940.

This survey has 2 parts:

- broad survey comprising information on demographics of population, its distribution among various industries and occupations, incomes, debts, unemployment
- special survey of the carpentry industry which is the most important in the town.

Procedure very similar to the rural surveys, but not all households survey. 744 were selected at random.
No income data.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 939

B. B. Das Gupta, *Report on the Economic Survey of Moratuwa and its Carpentry Industry, Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce, Bulletin No.14* (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1946)

18) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1949 - 1950 (Department of Census and Statistics)**

Survey ID: 1355

455 households

Sample Duration: 15 Day(s)

Notes: family expenditure survey conducted during 15 consecutive days in November 1949 among 455 manual workers families of all urban areas in the island.

Only Colombo families were used in CPI estimate.

Survey of urban working class budgets in 1949-1950 chiefly to revise the COLI, published in 1952.

Ref ID: 1958

***A new consumers' price index. Sessional Paper VI* (Colombo: Government Press, 1953)**

Ref ID: 1955

***Consumer Prices. Technical Guide. Descriptions of series published in the Bulletin of Labour Statistics* (Geneva: International Labour Organisation, 1968)**

Ref ID: 1978

Department of Economic Research, *Report on the sample survey of Ceylon's consumer finances, conducted in May, 1953.* (Colombo: Central Bank of Ceylon, 1954)

Ref ID: 356

[Notes], 'Post-War Studies of Family Expenditures', *International Labour Review*, Vol. 74, No. 6 (1956), pp. 576-599.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

19) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1949 - 1949 (Department of Census and Statistics)

Survey ID: 945

404 households

Notes: Middle class family budget enquiry to examine the actual living conditions of the middle class. Needed to elaborate a CPI. Survey taken probably in 1949. 2,500 questionnaires were distributed through 29 associations. Only 404 budgets were usable. No methodological explanation. It is not clear if it is a national survey or just of Colombo. Seems to be only urban, however.

Ref ID: 1974

Report of the Director of Census and Statistics on the Middle Class Family Budget Inquiry (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1950)

Ref ID: 356

[Notes], 'Post-War Studies of Family Expenditures', *International Labour Review*, Vol. 74, No. 6 (1956), pp. 576-599.

20) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1950 - 1951 (Department of Census and Statistics)

Survey ID: 1356

22,082 households

Notes: This report is linked to the other carried out in 1950-1951. This is the final report, the previous one (ID2012) is the preliminary report. Survey of rural population of the island as a whole, it considered 108 villages. No sampling information on how the 22082 families were selected.

Ref ID: 1564

Final Report on the Economic Survey of Rural Ceylon 1950-51 (Ceylon: Government Press, 1954)

Ref ID: 356

[Notes], 'Post-War Studies of Family Expenditures', *International Labour Review*, Vol. 74, No. 6 (1956), pp. 576-599.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

21) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1950 - 1951 (Department of Census and Statistics)**

Survey ID: 2012

6,773 households

Notes: Survey of rural population of the island as a whole, it considered 106 villages.

The survey was started early in the financial year 1950-1 and the major part completed by April 1951. Results of 6773 families were published in this preliminary report. Consider a pioneer survey in terms of its scope.

It aimed to represent as many different strata as possible.

Object of survey: provide information of the Ceylon peasantry. Info on demographics, incomes, expenditures, property, debt, ownership of land.

No information on sampling.

Ref ID: 1975

Preliminary report on the economic survey of rural Ceylon, 1950 (Colombo: Ceylon Government Press, 1951)

22) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1950 - 1950 (Department of Medical and Sanitary Services)**

Survey ID: 2017

17,946 households

Sample Duration: 2 Day(s)

Notes: In 1950 professor Cullumbine conducted with co-operation of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services an island survey on sickness and disabling illness. Some info on family income was collected in survey, but nothing on expenditure. The survey was designed to answer the question "How many people were unable to work because of a disabling illness or condition on the day of the investigation?" Each sanitary inspector, or dispenser, was asked to visit a total of 25 houses in his area. These houses were chosen at random, a different sample of random numbers being provided for each inspector. The latter obtained a numbered list of houses in his area (from village headmen, etc.), and the sample of random numbers as applied to this list indicated the houses he had to visit. The sanitary inspectors are distributed throughout Ceylon on a population basis, and previous calculation had shown that this method of sampling would provide a sample population of almost 1 in 80 of the total population. The survey took place on two days: 11 and 12 December 1950. This allowed time for travelling between the selected houses and was particularly necessary in isolated and scattered rural areas. The questions were asked of one responsible member of each household, for example, the wife or the husband. In all, 17,946 households were sampled; this gave a sample of 94,128 persons of all ages (53,945 aged from 15 to 64 years).

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 1982

H. Cullumbine, 'A Survey of Disabling Illness in Ceylon', *Bulletin of the World Health Organisation*, Vol. 7 (1952), pp. 405-429.

23) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1952 - 1953

Survey ID: 1359

1,085 households

Sample Duration: 1 Year(s)

Notes: 12 months April 1952 - March 1953 (detailed inquiry on food April- June 1953) of the overall population of the country. Urban and rural families.

Ref ID: 356

[Notes], 'Post-War Studies of Family Expenditures', *International Labour Review*, Vol. 74, No. 6 (1956), pp. 576-599.

Ref ID: 1915

Household Income and Expenditure Statistics 1950-1964 (Geneva: International Labour Organisation, 1967)

24) Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1953 - 1953 (Central Bank of Ceylon)

Survey ID: 2014

970 households

Sample Duration: 1 Month(s)

Notes: First all-island enquiry into consumer income and expenditure conducted in May 1953 on a fairly limited sample. Taken by the Central Bank of Ceylon. Simple unistage stratified random sampling. It covered all important aspects of consumer finance: income, expenditure and saving/borrowing. 970 households were surveyed.

Ref ID: 1978

Department of Economic Research, *Report on the sample survey of Ceylon's consumer finances, conducted in May, 1953*. (Colombo: Central Bank of Ceylon, 1954)

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

25) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1956 - 1956 (department of census and Statistics and the Medical Research Institute.)**

Survey ID: 2013

75 households

Sample Duration: 3 Week(s)

Notes: Survey made by the request of Ministry of Agriculture and Food to study the dietary habits of the various income groups in the island for purposes of planning food production and distribution. In view of the inherent difficulties of conducting a survey of this nature, a pilot survey of a small number of families in the upper income ranges was conducted in the first instance, in the city of Colombo.

Survey undertaken jointly by the department of census and Statistics and the Medical Research Institute.

Inventory method was adopted to collect information.

A list showing particulars of income and occupation by household was prepared for Municipal area of Colombo from the schedules that were filled up in connection with a sample survey on fertility that was carried out at the same time as the General Census of 1953. From this frame, a sample of 335 households with incomes of Rs 500 and above was selected systematically. Replies were received from 87 households offering to cooperate. A total of 75 households were ultimately investigated as 12 had to be rejected as the survey progressed.

Survey was conducted during the period January 15 1956 to February 6 1956.

No income data.

Ref ID: 1976

A report on a dietary survey of upper income households in the city of Colombo (Colombo: Department of Census and Statistics, 1957)

26) **Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon), 1963 - 1963 (Central Bank of Ceylon)**

Survey ID: 1923

4,984 households

Sample Duration: 3 Week(s)

Notes: Second survey of consumer finances conducted by the Central Bank with the assistance of the Department of Census and Statistics in March and April 1963.

The primary objective of this survey is to secure direct estimates relating to income, expenditure, housing and other social characteristics, and indebtedness of households and spending units.

Allows comparison with 1953 enquiry, though sampling very different than in 1953. The larger size of the sample and the need to keep down costs at a reasonable level made it necessary to deviate from the simple unistage stratified random sampling adopted in 1953. The population was stratified into urban, rural and estate sectors, whereas in 1953 the stratification was into estate and non-estate sectors.

Stratified two-stage sampling design was used for the rural and estate sector. Stratified random sampling method was used for the urban sector.

Fieldwork was taken between March 4 and April 10 1963.

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Ref ID: 1977

Central Bank of Ceylon, *Report on the sample survey of consumer finances. 1963* (Colombo: Department of Economic Research, 1964)

Ref ID: 1921

'An Annotated Bibliography', *International Labour Review*, Vol. 108, No. 2-3 (1973), pp. 247-262.

Report Stats:

Selection: Sri Lanka (prev. Ceylon).

Surveys: 26
Reference instances: 36
Total Households: 72,031