

Key Terms

Budget: A comprehensive financial plan for a specified time period. It is an estimation of revenue, expenditure, deficit/surplus and debt to understand how finances will be allocated.

Budget cycle: This refers to the major stages of developing, planning, implementing and monitoring a budget.

Budget estimates: The estimated cost of activities before the start of a financial year.

Capital expenditure: Describes expenditure aimed at improving a government's/sector's longer-term productivity and efficiency (i.e. construction of hospitals and clinics, the purchase of medical devices, the training of medical staff, etc.).

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): This refers to the value of economic activity within a country. It is the total monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced in a country for a specific time period. It is used as a marker to measure economic growth.

Nation Building Tax: A compulsory payment by the citizen of a country to its government for the general benefit of their country.

Nominal value: Unadjusted value or current price, without taking inflation or other factors into account

Per capita allocation: Amount allocated per person in the province. This is a simplification, as it is the total budget divided by the total population, but not all population benefits from all allocation; for example in education, or agriculture.

Recurrent/current expenditure: Resources used to keep a system or an institution "up and running" and includes spending on salaries/remunerations, goods and services, operating costs, transfers, and financial operations.

Revenue: Money earned by the government through sources such as taxes.

A Citizens Budget for the Province

This Citizens Budget can be found, in three languages, at www.ep.gov.lk For any enquiries, comments or suggestions, please contact us at planning@ep.gov.lk



The Eastern Provincial Council is proud to present to the public the Eastern Province's first Citizens Budget, which is in fact the first Citizens Budget in Sri Lanka. Transparency, accountability and civic participation are important cornerstones for sound and responsive public financial management. The Eastern Provincial Council is committed to working towards the development of the province and creating a budget that is truly for the people.

In order to ensure that this first Citizens Budget meets the needs of citizens of our great province, the Provincial Council consulted with citizens during three meetings, one at each of the province's districts, to discuss who the target audience would be, what should be included, how the information should be relayed and how to disseminate it. We would like to thank all those who participated in these meetings and thus contributed to this document, which we hope is the first of many.

Citizens have the responsibility to contribute to the government's finances by paying their fair share of taxes, and thus have the right to know how their money is spent. This Citizens Budget shares the Eastern Provincial Council's budgetary information in a concise manner and is intended to equip citizens with a better understanding of the financial mechanisms which drive the Eastern Province and the departments which oversee specific functions. This publication provides a snapshot of the Eastern Province, the budget process and the budgetary allocations allotted to relevant ministries. A brief overview of key achievements and challenges also helps citizens understand the work being done so far. It is hoped that this will allow citizens to engage with the province's budget process and contribute to vibrant and efficient civic engagement, so that we can better serve you and your needs.

A successful alignment of public resources and citizens' needs is imperative for the development of the Eastern Province and its socio-economic and cultural growth. I call upon our citizens to engage with the Eastern Provincial Council effectively and provide their inputs and feedback.

Let us collectively work together to revitalize the Eastern Province and build a prosperous and equitable future for all.

What is a Budget and a Citizens Budget?

A budget is one of the government's most important policies. It is through the budget that the financial means necessary for the realization of the rights of all citizens are allocated. It is used to plan how the government will raise and allocate public finances to meet its policy goals. It outlines proposed expenditure, revenue, borrowings and other transactions for a specified time period.

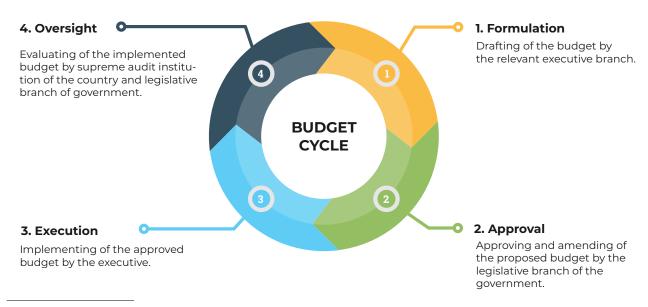
A Citizens Budget is a document developed by the government

exclusively for the public, and it presents the budget in a simpler, less technical format, to build a better understanding of how public finances are managed and used. This understanding is vital for public accountability and increasing inclusive civic participation.

This first edition of the Eastern Province's Citizens
Budget contains the Eastern Province budget 2019
for numerous ministries and their line departments.
It is available in English, Sinhalese and Tamil at
www.ep.gov.lk

The National Budget Cycle

There are several steps involved in developing and implementing a government's budget. The International Budget Partnership (IBP)¹ highlights four stages of a government budget cycle:



The International Budget Partnership is the leading global organization collaborating with civil society around the world to use budget analysis and advocacy as a tool to improve effective governance and reduce poverty. They produce the Open Budget Index (OBI) which assesses how countries are faring on budget transparency, participation and oversight. For more information: www.internationalbudget. org

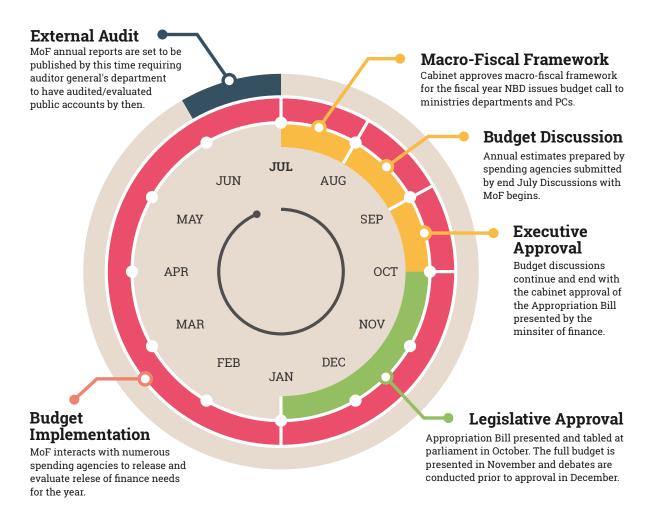
In Sri Lanka, the budget cycle for a year begins in July of the preceding (pre-fiscal) year, and ends in June of the following (post-fiscal) year. The total budget cycle consists of 24 months.

The Sri Lankan government budget is implemented for a fiscal year which runs from January to December. The budget formulation stage consists of 6 months and is guided by the Ministry of Finance's medium term macro-fiscal framework and a set of three-year fiscal targets for the government. The government budget carries resource allocation for three tiers—central government, the nine Provincial

Councils and local authorities (41 Urban Councils, 23 Municipal Councils, 271 Pradeshiya Sabhas). The Constitution requires the central government to allocate adequate funds from the annual budget to the provincial councils to meet their needs, doing so through the Finance Commission.²

The Ministry of Finance's Department of National Budget (NBD) is tasked with negotiating and aligning the budget with relevant agency strategies. This results in an Appropriation Bill that is presented to Cabinet. This Bill is the first disclosure to the public and is published in the gazette, a week before Cabinet deliberations. Parliamentary approval of the Bill is conducted via three readings and related debates.

2. Asian Development Bank, 2018. Public Financial Management Systems – Sri Lanka: Key Elements from a Financial Management Perspective



Source: Sri Lanka Budget: Cycle and Processes.

The Eastern Province – An Overview

Sri Lanka's Eastern Province, which is home to approximately 1.7 million Sri Lankans—a third of which are children--, comprises three districts: Ampara, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee. Development within the province lags several decades due to the country's civil war. This development gap emphasizes the need to undertake strategic and sustainable planned development, which will benefit not just the province, but the entire country.

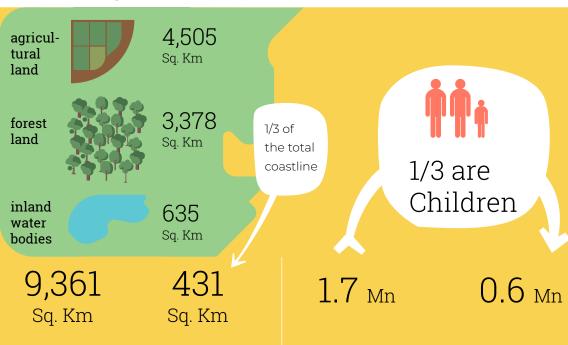
With an abundance of natural resources, the province has high potential for development in areas such as commercialized agriculture, tourism and fisheries. The Eastern Province's geographical terrain encompasses 4,505 square km of agricultural land, 3, 378 square km of forest land and 635 square km of inland water bodies. It also has a natural harbour, an extensive road network and three domestic airports, offering potential for development

Eastern Province in relation to Sri Lanka: Key Indicators

Sri Lanka

Eastern Province





Land

1,340 Sq. Km

Coastal

Line



Population



Children (below 18)

21.4 _{Mn}

6.1 _{Mn}

Eastern Province Sri Lanka The Eastern Province 623 10,448 contributes 6 % to **GDP** the total GDP Rs. Bn Rs. Bn Eastern province 555 407 Per Capita Per Capita GDP is less than the GDP Rs. 000 Rs. 000 national 87.2 <u> Literacy</u> 93.3 percent percent Very high in Life comparison to Higher 74.9 74.0 national figures Expectancy than (Ampara: 2.6%; years years national Trincomalee: average 10%; Batticaloa: 11.3%) 5.7 4.7 Unemployment Ampara: 167; percent percent Batticaloa: 215, Trincomalee: 163 310 7.3 persons/Sq. Km percent Population Poverty Density **Headcount Ratio** 179 persons/Sq. Km percent Eastern Provincial Council Citizens Budget 2019

projects. The province covers 15% of total land and 7.8% of Sri Lanka's total population.

A significant feature of the Eastern Province is its multi-ethnic composition, with 39% Tamil, 37% Moors and 24% of Sinhalese forming the population, according to the Census 2012 projections.

Out of the three districts, the highest population is reported from Ampara (705,000), which represents 42% of the total provincial population, while the lowest is from Trincomalee (412,000, representing 25%). Batticaloa is home to 560,000 people, or 33% of the provincial population.³

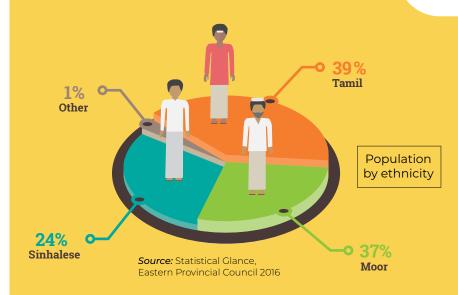
The great majority of the population of the province is rural, while between 22% to 28% of the population are concentrated into urban areas; this is in line with national distribution.

The Eastern Province ranks last in Sri Lanka's prosperity index and 2nd highest in Sri Lanka's poverty rank after North Province.

While in Ampara only 2.6 out of every 100 families live below the poverty line, in Trincomalee this ratio is 10 families out of 100. Batticaloa remains one of the worst districts in the island in terms of poverty, with 11.3 families out of 100 living below the poverty line. At the national level, 4 families out of 100 live in poverty.

Educational attainment in the province resembles national figures. Three percent have never been to school, while 32% have studied up to grade 5 and 40.6% of the population have studied up to grades 6 – 10.14.9% of the Eastern Province's population have passed their GCE O/L while 8.5% passed GCE A/L.

Eastern Province

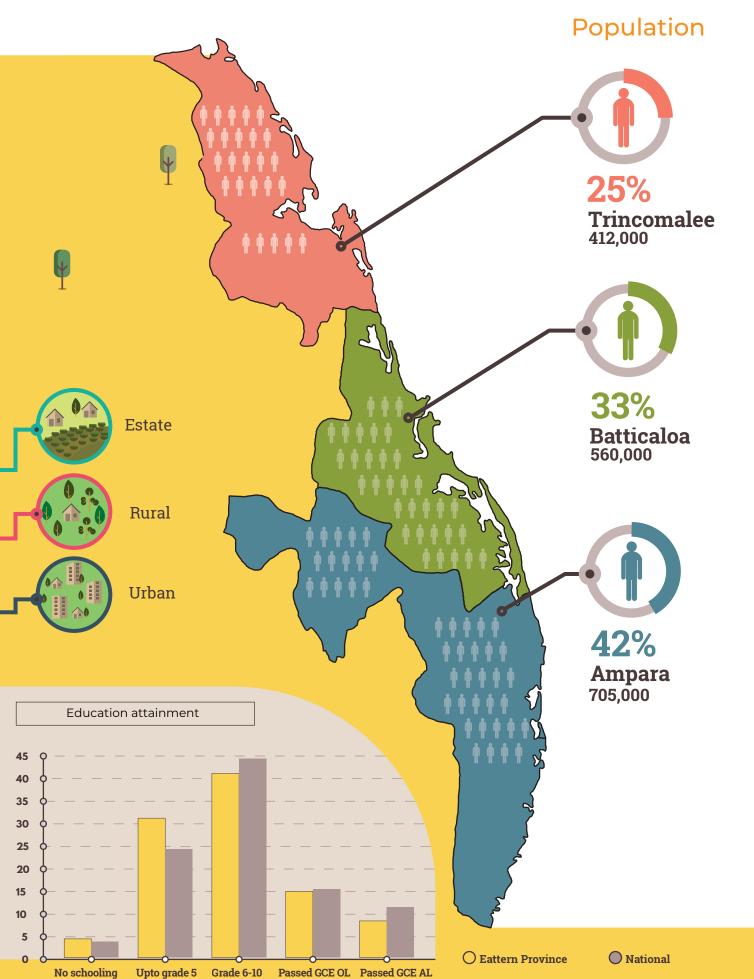




Source: Key Socio-economic indicator 2018, Central Bank of Sri Lanka



Key Socio-economic indicator 2018, Central Bank of Sri Lanka



Source: Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2016

What is the Eastern Provincial Council's Budget for?

Provincial Councils were set up in Sri Lanka for the first time in accordance to the 13th Amendment to the Constitution and the Provincial Council Act No. 42 of 1987. These transferred part of the administrative decision-making authority and financial functions to elected subnational level bodies. Powers that were transferred exclusively to the provincial councils are listed under List 1 (devolved subjects) - Provincial Council List. List 3, the Concurrent List, lists the subjects and functions in which both central government and provincial councils are involved.

From 1988 to 2006, the Eastern Province was merged with the Northern Province.

Later, the North-East Province was demarcated into two separate provinces: Northern and Eastern Provinces.

The Eastern Provincial Council is responsible for providing basic service delivery and guiding, monitoring and facilitating daily administration; supporting small infrastructure, community development and developing institutional capacities. There are more than 40,000 people employed under the Eastern Provincial Council at varied levels. This includes executive officers, 22,000 educational staff, 13,000 health workers (including a significant number of doctors) and frontline officers for major socio-economic sectors such as rural development, rural industries, local government, social service, probation, cultural affairs, sports, agriculture and animal husbandry.

40,000 employed

22,000 educational staff

13,000 health workers

There are five ministries headed by the Secretaries who are appointed by the Hon. Governor. The ministries are:

Ministry of Finance &
Planning, Law & Order, Local
Government & Regional
Administration, Transport,
Rural Development, Tourism
& Environment, Building &
Construction, Rural Industries
and Housing

Ministry of Education, Information Technology Education, Pre-School Education, Sports, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs and Rehabilitation & Resettlement. Ministry of Health, Indigenous Medicine, Probation & Childcare, Social Services and Rural Electrification.

Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Animal Production & Health, Fisheries, Cooperative Dev., Food Supply & Distribution.

Ministry of Road Development, Land & Land Development, Skill & Manpower Development, Women Affairs and Water Supply.

The Provincial Budget Formulation Process

The Eastern Provincial Council adopts a participatory process in its governance. Public consultations are held with multiple sectors, civil society organizations and stakeholders during budget formulation and prior to budget recommendations. The annual need assessment is done in mid-June each year by the provincial agencies. This assessment is submitted to the Eastern Provincial Council for further review, improvement and recommendation to the Finance Commission.

The formulated budget at provincial level is called the Annual Financial Statement,

containing income and expenditure sections and it should be approved by the Provincial Governor.⁴

During the execution stage, the provincial council conducts provincial planning committee meetings, multi-sector coordination meetings, sector coordination and advisory committee meetings in order to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the budget.

At the provincial council level, financial management is under the responsibility of the Chief Secretary while the Deputy Chief Secretary for Finance is responsible for the provincial treasury.

4. Asian Development Bank, 2018. Public Financial Management Systems – Sri Lanka: Key Elements from a Financial Manage-

assesment and sector weightage

ment Perspective

1. Formulation Heads of provincial departments prepare revenue/expenditure estimates, which are collated by the Deputy Chief 6. Final Presentations Secretary. **DECEMBER** After adjustments to original draft 2. Internal Review & statements, the Annual Financial Approval Statement is presented to Provincial **MAY - JUNE** Assembly by the Chief Minister. **(**6) Estimates are examined against previous actual values by Chief/Deputy Chief Secretaries and Chief Minister. **PROVINCIAL** Proposals by PC members and 2 BUDGET department heads are 5 considered and referred to the **FORMULATION** 5. Recommendations Planning Director of the PC. **NOVEMBER** Once cost estimates are finalized, they are entered into **Finance Commission informs** the PC investment program tentative allocations, includ-4 (draft estimate) and approved ing funds earmarked for sector by Chief Minister. development, and recommendations of the MoF & President to PCs 3. Finance Commision Review Deputy Chief Secretary sends draft 4. Negotiations with Treasury estimates to Finance Commission. **OCTOBER** Commission summons Chief Secretary Finance Commission meets with Director and senior members of PC staff for discussions to finalize the annual need General of National Budget Department

(MoF) to negotiate budget share allocated

to PCs.

Where Does the Money of the Province Come From?

The main source of funds of the provinces, according to the Provincial Council Act No. 42 of 1987, are:

- **Grants** provided by the government
- Provincial **revenue** transfers collected by the central government authorities
- **Revenue** collected at the provincial level for devolved subjects

Besides those sources, provincial councils also may receive foreign funds for specific projects.

The Finance Commission has the role of facilitating funding allocations from the central to provincial levels of government, based on annual needs assessments, which include also local government financial needs, as financial transfers to local authorities are channelled through provincial councils.

For 2019, the total Eastern Provincial Council budget was Rs. 29,147 million.

This figure shows the respective amounts (Rs.) each of the different sources of funding contributed to the total budget.

The Finance Commission has the role of facilitating funding allocations from the central to provincial levels of government

82% of the provincial council's revenues come from grants



Grants

As provincial revenue is insufficient to meet all expenditure, grants form 82% of the provincial council's revenue source.

Grants are of three main types:

Block grants, which are for **recurrent** expenditure, that is, the ongoing expenditure needed to ensure the functioning of government institutions, like salaries, goods and services, operation costs, travelling expenses, etc.

Criteria-based Grants (CBG) are for **capital** expenditure (expenditure aimed at improving government's longer-term institutional development, like improving office building, staff capacity



development, vehicles for supervision, training centres etc.)

Province-Specific Development Grants

(PSDG), also for **capital** expenditure for reducing regional disparities, but based on projects included in the proposal submitted to the Finance Commission (earmarked for certain sectors)

Foreign-funded projects also contribute towards **capital** investments.

The Finance Commission uses a statistical formula developed in collaboration with the Department of Census and Statistics to apportion capital funds among provinces. This formula considers:

- · Mid-year population
- · Median per-capita income
- Provincial GDP
- · Persons per medical officer
- · Poverty headcount ratio
- Percentage of students qualified in science stream in A/L





Central revenue contributions such as Nation Building Tax, Stamp Duty and vehicle registration fees form 11% of the provincial council's total budget. The Business Turnover Tax (BTT) was a major source of revenue for the provincial councils but was removed in 2011. Motor vehicle license fees, excise duty, stamp duty and court fines are provincial revenue sources, forming 6% of total budget. Other revenue includes liquor license fees, government building rent, department sales, exam fees, charges under the medical act, miscellaneous income and sale of capital assets.

There have been significant new measures in revenue collection such as increasing collection of assessment tax for local authorities, resulting in actual provincial revenue being higher than estimated. Action has been taken to recruit assessors to the local authorities to increase the collection of assessment tax for local authorities. New statutes are underway to impose taxes on new business registrations, mineral tax and pawning tax.





Provincial Revenue (Mn)



Why Should We Pay Taxes?

Governments are to provide public goods that benefit citizens and private businesses, such as social services like education and health, roads and bridges, and law enforcement. For this, governments depend on taxes, the money that citizens and businesses pay.

This is why it is important, and in the best interest of all individual citizens and businesses, to pay the right amount of taxes, on time. It enables governments to bring the entire province, districts or country to greater prosperity.

How Does the Province Spend its Money?

Government spends money for purchasing goods and services, which include public investment, and transfer payments, such as pensions and social benefits. This includes paying professionals like teachers, nurses, police officers, etc. It also includes building social service infrastructure, like schools or parks.

The total Eastern Provincial Council budget - 2019 of Rs. 29,147 million was allocated for different functions, purposes and geographic areas. The bulk of the resources of the province as a whole—87% - are directed to recurrent expenditure, that is, wages, salaries, goods and services, maintenance costs, etc. In fact, salaries

consume 67% of the entirety of the province's budget. This leaves little room for investment in new infrastructure, like building or expanding education or health structures. Recurrent expenditure budgets are based on the existing cadre and their salaries and a 10% increase of the maintenance budget.

The **budget per capita**, that is, the size of government resources and investment in public services on the basis of its population, totalled **Rs. 17,453** in 2019.

This figure gives a broader picture of the budget, including revenue and expenditures.

87%

of the budget is directed to recurrent expenditure

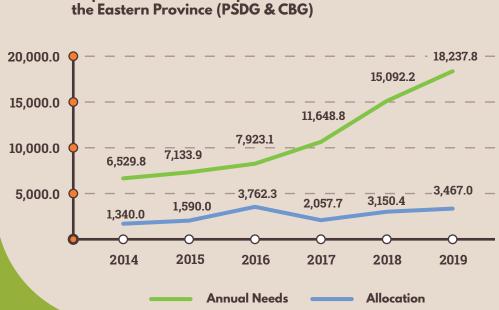
[wages, salaries, goods and services, maintenance costs, etc.]

67%

of the entirety of the province's budget goes towards paying salaries.

A key challenge for the Eastern Provincial Council is the fiscal gap between the annual capital financial requirements, requested to the Finance Commission during the budget formulation stage, and the resources that actually get allocated to the province each year. This can be attributed to government fiscal constraints for additional allocations to provincial councils, line ministries taking precedence over provincial councils, price escalation and a cumulative development gap over time. Sometimes, salary increases by the central government, new appointments or overtime payment, especially for the health sector, lead to a fiscal gap in the recurrent expenditure. The province then requests supplementary budget from the central government.





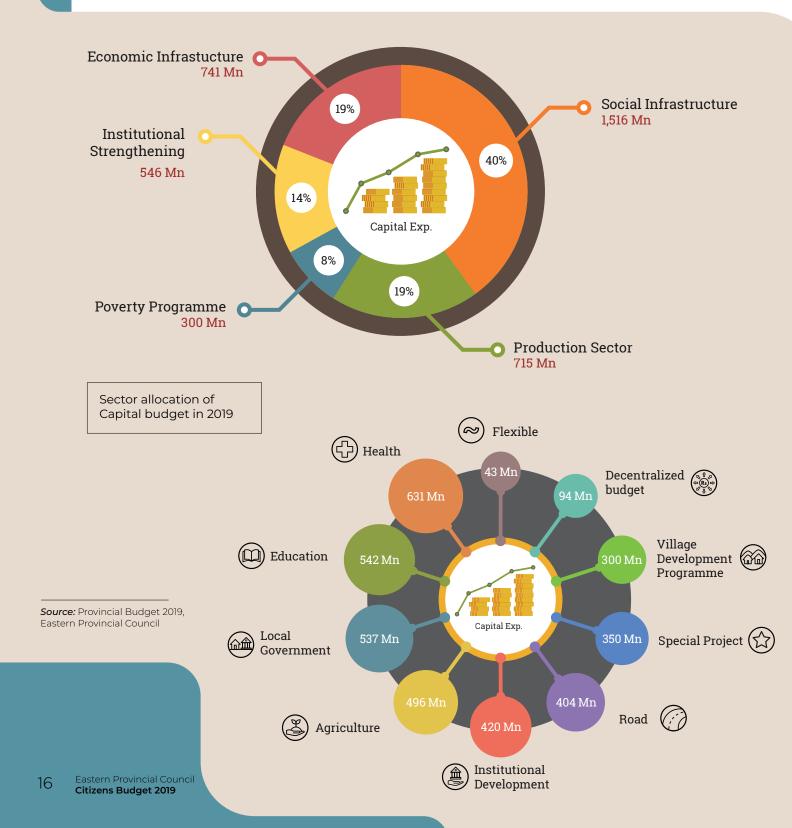
In 2019, the Eastern Provincial Council was allocated Rs. 3,817 Mn as Capital Budget. Out of this, 40% was allocated to social infrastructure including Health, Education, Sports, Culture, Probation & Childcare, Social Services, Pre-school Bureau, Co-operative Development and Women & Youth Affairs.

19% was allocated to the production sectors, which include Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock, Irrigation, Rural Development, Rural Industries, Tourism and Land Development.

19% was allocated to Economic Infrastructure which consists of Roads, Transport, Housing, Water Supply and Local Authority Services.

14% was allocated to Institutional Strengthening.

8% was allocated to the Poverty Programme, titled "Isolated and underserved village development programme" targeting marginalized communities and border villages.



Territorial Allocations

Capital (investment) allocations for the Eastern Province are distributed among the districts through a formula which gives 50% weightage for population, 30% for land area and 20% for the poverty index. Consideration is also given to justifiable criteria such as community sensitivities and disparities. A similar formula is followed for divisional

distributions. For both the divisional distribution and district allocation, previous investments and commitments from other sources of funds also influence the distribution of resources.

The table below outlines the provincial investment balance policy among the districts in the Eastern Province.

Capital (investment) allocations for the Eastern Province are distributed among the districts through a formula...



30%

Land area

50%

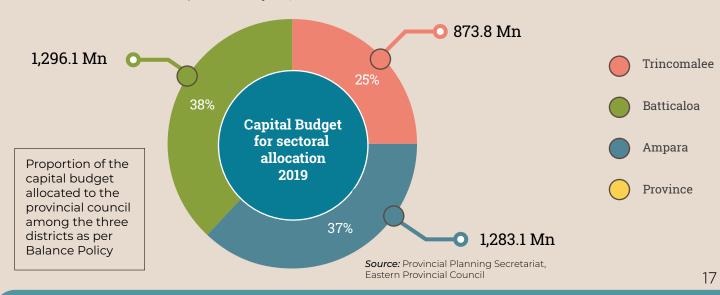
Poverty

20%

Provincial Investment Balance Policy among districts

	Population			Land area			Povert	y index	Total Weight		
				0 0 25			h				
	412,610	24%	12.2	2,728.8	25%	7.6	10.0	42%	5.3	25.1	
	562,073	34%	16.9	3,559.2	33%	9.9	11.6	47%	11.5	38.3	
	705,122	42%	20.9	4,476.6	42%	12.5	2.6	11%	3.2	36.6	
	1,679,805	100	50	10,764.6	100	30	7.3	100	20	100	

Source: Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2016, Central Bank of Sri Lanka



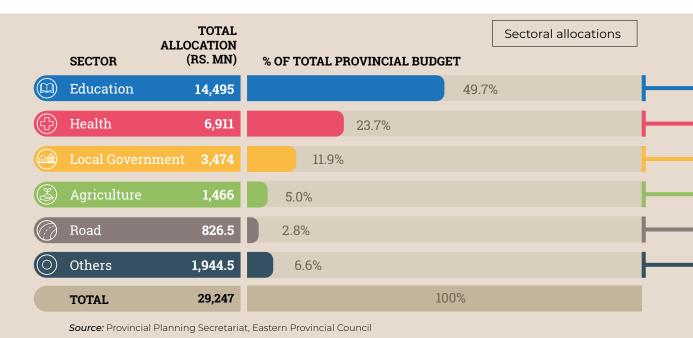
Sectoral Allocations

Capital allocations are based on the Eastern Provincial Council's needs assessment while **recurrent** expenditure is based on current/planned cadre and movable and immovable assets.

In 2019, the education sector received the largest share of the Eastern

Provincial Council's budget with half of the entire

budget. The health sector received the second highest share, approximately one quarter of the provincial budget. Ministry of Local Government received around 12% of the provincial budget, and the agriculture sector received around 5%. Other sectors account for the remaining provincial budget.



In terms of **capital** expenditure, the largest share of provincial budget was allocated to the Department of Education while the Department of Health, Department of Local Government and the Department of Road received second, third and fourth highest capital expenditure allocation in the budget respectively.

Cantan	Sector capital allocation 2015 – 2019 (nominal values)									
Sector	2015	%	2016	%	2017	%	2018	%	2019	%
Department of Education	223.70	19%	1,080.00	33%	190.00	12%	450.00	17%	480.00	16%
Department of Health	208.00	17%	690.00	21%	220.00	14%	400.00	15%	428.00	14%
Department of Road	70.00	6%	371.28	11%	225.00	15%	361.56	14%	395.00	13%
Isolated & Underserved Village Development	44.30	4%	105.00	3%	120.14	8%	300.00	11%	300.00	10%
Department of Local Government	129.00	11%	237.00	7%	137.00	9%	150.00	6%	270.50	9%
Department of Agriculture	78.00	7%	230.00	7%	125.00	8%	150.00	6%	164.00	6%
Department of Irrigation	48.00	4%	60.00	2%	100.00	6%	140.00	5%	156.00	5%
Department of Indigenous Medicine	38.00	3%	125.00	4%	45.00	3%	85.00	3%	84.00	3%



Ministry of Education

The Departments of Education, Sports, Cultural Affairs, Preschool Education bureau, Rehabilitation & Resettlement and Youth Affairs come under the purview of this ministry. The Eastern Province has 1,085 schools, 20,060 provincial teachers and 301,109 students.

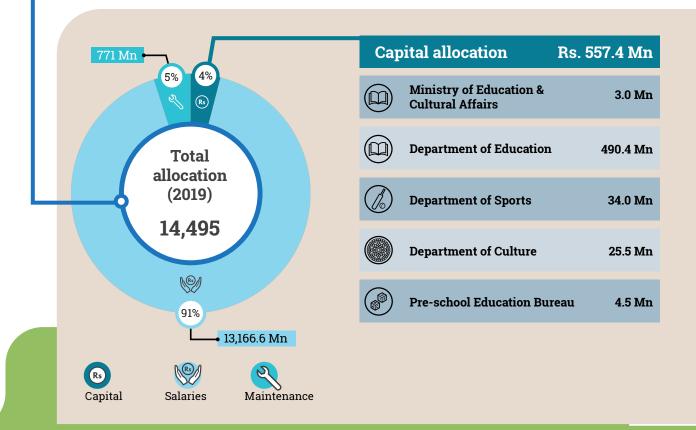
Its capital allocation goes into the construction and improvement of school buildings, water and sanitation facilities at schools, supply of furniture and equipment, training and development of teachers and supervision and monitoring of teachers and students.

The per capita allocation of education is Rs. 8,643.

1085
Schools

20,060 provincial teachers

301,109 students











Ministry of Health and Social Services

The Department of Health Services, Department of Indigenous Medicine, Department of Social Services and Department of Probation and Rural Electrification unit come under the purview of the ministry.

There are 127 Provincial Hospitals, 46 Ministry of Health (MoH) offices and 451 maternal & childcare clinics in the Eastern Province. There are 1,186 provincial doctors, 2,559 provincial nurses and 796 health midwives.

The capital budget is allocated to the supply of medical equipment and construction and improvement of hospital units, MoH offices and staff quarters.

The per capita allocation in health is Rs. 4,121.

 $127 \begin{array}{l} {\rm provincial} \\ {\rm hospitals} \end{array}$

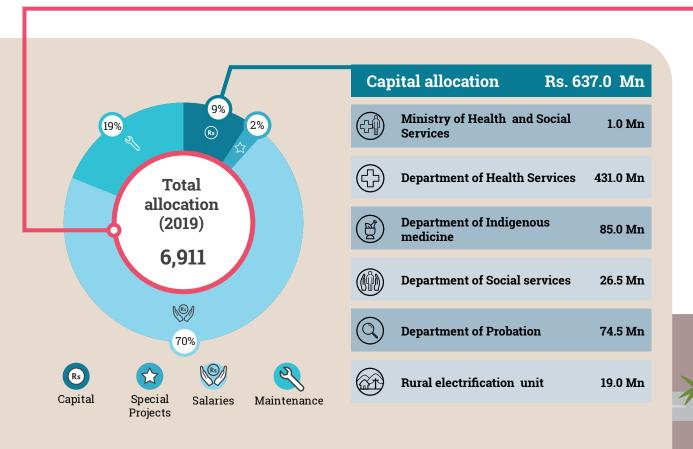
46 MoH offices

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1,186 provincial doctors

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796 health midwives

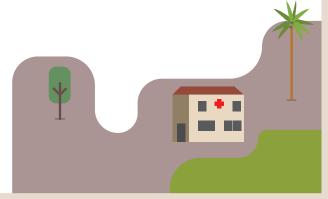


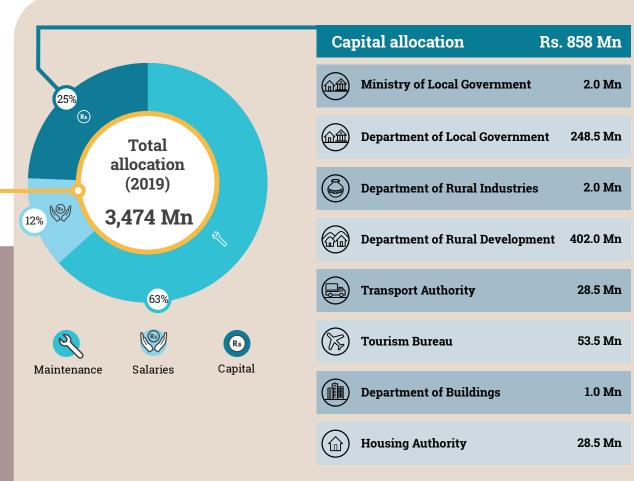




Ministry of Local Government

The Departments of Local Government, Rural Industries, Rural Development, Road, Passenger Transport Authority, Tourism Bureau, Housing Authority and Building come under the purview of this ministry.









Ministry of Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture oversees the Departments of Agriculture, Animal Production & Health, Irrigation, Fisheries, Co-operative Development and Co-operative Employees Commission. It leads the development of the food and agricultural sector ensuring food security, job creation and poverty eradication.

There are 27 major tanks, 41 medium tanks, 1,091 minor tanks in the Eastern Province. The province also has 206,176-hectare acres of paddy land and 272,503 farm families, emphasizing the importance of maximizing the sector's contribution to the provincial economy.

The per capita allocation in agriculture is Rs. 0.874.

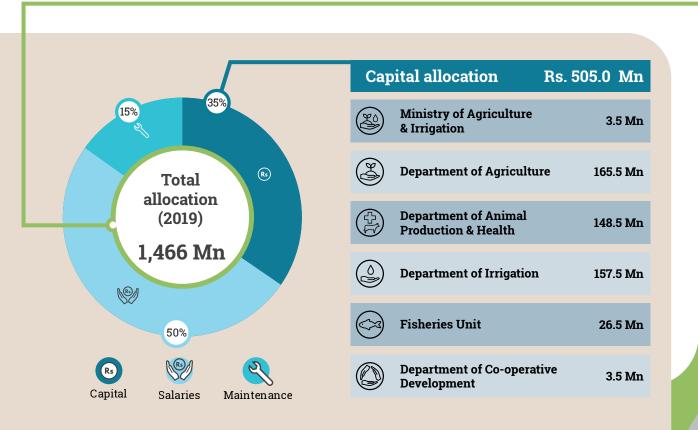
27 major tanks

41 medium tanks

1,091 minor tanks

206,176 hectare acres of paddy land

272,503 farm families

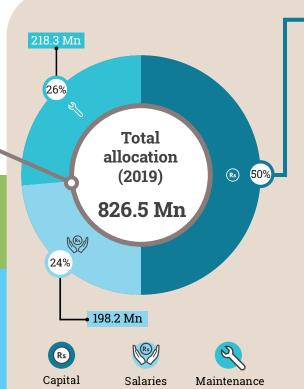




Ministry of Road

The Ministry of Road oversees the Department of Road Development, Department of Land Administration, Women Affairs and Skills & Manpower.





Cap	oital allocation	Rs. 410.0 Mn
	Ministry of Road Developm & Land	nent 1.0 Mn
	Women's Affairs Unit	1.0 Mn
	Skill & Manpower Unit	0.5 Mn
	Department of Road Development	397.5 Mn
	Department of Land Development	10.0 Mn



What Does the EPC Intend to Achieve in 2019 with its Budget?



Education

- Completion and refurbishment of 21 school buildings, repairing of school furniture and equipment and the construction of 22 new school buildings
- · Conducting awareness programmes to reduce school dropout rates
- · Allocation of a monthly allowance of Rs. 500 for 3,000 orphan students in the primary sector



Health

- · Extension of Outpatient Department (OPD) services till 10pm daily
- · Improvement of hospital facilities.
- Construction of Outpatient Department (OPD) at Primary Medical Care Units,
 China Bay (15.0 Mn)
- · Construction of Chest Clinic at Manayaveli (53.0 Mn)
- · Construction of quarters at Base Hospital Kattankudy (Rs.5.0 Mn)
- · Construction of Laboratory, Base Hospital Maha Oya (15.0 Mn)
- · Improvement of hospital unit in Kalmunai (12.0 Mn)
- · Reduced infant and maternity mortality rates
- · Introduction of medical tourism activities
- · Increased payment from Rs. 500 to Rs. 5,000 for tuberculosis patients



Electricity

- · Providing an extension of 15km to grid lines in three rural areas in the Eastern Province.
- · Installation of 43 solar energy lamps in three rural areas in the Eastern Province.



Culture and Tourism

· Improvement of 16 cultural heritage sites from all communities.



Agriculture, Farming and Food Security

- Increasing awareness on modern technology and agricultural diversification among farmers.
- · Creating awareness on post-harvest technology to minimize losses.
- · Establishment of two fruit villages and three food villages in 2019.
- Provision of inputs and equipment for farmers Ground nut pod removers (10), black gram dehullers (5), inter cultivator machines (70), chainsaws (40), grass cutters (100)
- · Seed distribution Ground nut seeds (MT 3000), cowpea seeds (MT 2500)
- Establishment of agricultural extension service centre and segment extension service centre 02 Nos.
- Establishment of traditional food promotion centre and supply of equipment (Hela Bojun) at Batticaloa Kinniya Road & Navalady Junction Batticaloa KPW
- The Eastern Province contributes to 17% of national milk production.
- · Increase of livestock production the province saw buffalo milk production of 53, 625 litres, egg production of 413, 459 eggs and 119, 976 litres of dairy milk produced daily.



