

## **1. Background Information of the Province**

### **1.1. General description of the Province**

Provincial Councils were set up in Sri Lanka for the first time in terms of 13th Amendment to the Constitution and the Provincial Councils Act. No.42 of 1987.

Elections were held to all the eight Provincial Councils for the first time in 1988. The elected North East Provincial Council (NEPC) was constituted on 5th December 1988. It had only a brief existence as it was dissolved in June 1990. As election to the North East Provincial Council has not been held thereafter it continued to be administered under the direction of the Hon. Governor of the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

After a period of about twenty years, in view of the judgment of the Supreme Court of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on 16th

October 2006, the North East Provincial administration has been de-merged into two viz: Northern Provincial administration and Eastern Provincial administration.

His Excellency the President has appointed Rear Admiral Mohan Wijewickrama USP, NDC, PSC as the Acting Governor for the Northern Province with effect from 22.12.2006. The Chief Secretary, Ministries and Departments for NPC started functioning from 01.01.2007.

Now the Northern Province is being administrated by the Hon.Governor G.A.Chandrasiri

At present there are five Ministries headed by Secretaries. The Secretaries were appointed by the Hon. Governor. The five Ministries are as follows:-

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Lands, Irrigation & Fisheries
2. Ministry of Education, Cultural Affairs & Sports
3. Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medicine
4. Ministry of Infrastructure Development & Reconstruction
5. Ministry of Local Government, Relief & Rehabilitation, Co-operative, Rural, Industries, Social services and Probation & Childcare

The 16 Departments shown below are for different sectors that come under the purview of these five Ministries:

1. Department of Agriculture
2. Department of Animal Production and Health
3. Department of Land Administration
4. Department of Irrigation
5. Department of Education
6. Department of Sports
7. Department of Health Services
8. Department of Indigenous Medicine

9. Department of Local Government
10. Department of Cooperative Development
11. Department of Industries
12. Department of Rural Development
13. Department of Road Development
14. Department of Social Services
15. Department of Buildings
16. Department of Probation & Childcare

The institutions viz: Provincial Treasury, Planning Secretariat, Provincial Administration, Provincial Audit, Legal Unit and Department of Motor Traffic, Management Development and Training Institution, Center for Information Resource Management are under the purview of Chief Secretary's Secretariat.

The following institutions are under the purview of Governor's Secretariat:  
Provincial Public Service Commission, Co-operative Employees Commission and Regional Commissioner's Offices.

### **The flag of the province**



### **Significance**

- Blue border indicates ocean resource
- Green indicates the greenery and agriculture in the Province
- Red indicates labour and industriousness
- White indicates fraternity, peace and co-existence
- Radiating sun indicates synergy of power and natural energy source

## The Emblem of Northern Province



### Significance of the Emblem

- Top of the logo carries the word "Equality".
- Palmyrah tree indicates the traditional source of livelihood and the tree traditionally provided the means to food, shelter and economic activities of the Northern community. It also represents the strength.
- The swan shaped musical instrument "Yarl" consists of three elements viz., musical instrument a "Yarl", a swan and five strings. The musical instrument "Yarl" represents the glorious ancient culture. The name "Yarlpanam" was derived from the word "Yarl".

- The swan represents the inherent nature of the people :- the ability to discriminate between the real and the unreal, peace and beauty. These are the three essential characteristics of Northern community. The five strings represent five Districts in the Province.
- The opened book at the bottom represents the matured state of knowledge of the people - education as base for every aspect of life.
- Paddy panicles indicate agriculture and the teeth of wheels indicate industries.

### The flower of the province



### **White Lotus**

White Lotus is a flower which symbolizes beauty and purity it emerges from mud. This is associated with learning, the most valued treasure of the people. This flower plays a role in moulding the culture and quality of the community and individual persons, going deep into the individual self as per the tradition of the North.

### **The tree of the province**



### **Maruthu Tree**

Incessant foliage, long life, elegant in appearance, high visibility in the North.

### **The bird of the province**

#### **Seven Sisters**

A native bird, friend of the cultivator, a bridge between nature and man and lives in unity.



### **The animal of the province**



## **Male deer**

It is common specie in the North, innocent, friendly, harmless and beautiful which are the core qualities of the Northern community.

Parts of present day Northern Province were part of the pre-colonial Jaffna kingdom. Other parts were ruled by Vanniar Chieftains who paid tribute to the Jaffna kingdom. The province then came under Portuguese, Dutch and British control. In 1815 the British gained control of the entire island of Ceylon. They divided the island into three ethnic based administrative structures: Low Country Sinhalese, Kandyan Sinhalese and Tamil. The province was part of the Tamil administration. In 1833, in accordance with the recommendations of the Colebrooke-Cameron Commission, the ethnic based administrative structures were unified into a single administration divided into five geographic provinces. Jaffna District, Mannar District and Vanni District formed the new Northern Province.

### **1.1.2. Location:**

Northern Province is located in the north of Sri Lanka and is just 22 miles (35 km) from India. It is connected with Indian mainland by mythical Adam's Bridge (also known as Sethu Paalam or Rama's Bridge). It has an area of 8,884 square kilometres (3,430 sq mi).<sup>[1]</sup>

The province is surrounded by the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay to the west, Palk Strait to the north, the Bay of Bengal to the east and the Eastern, North Central and North Western provinces to the south.

### **1.1.3. Population:**

As per the last complete census of 1981 the population of the Northern Province was 1,109,404 and lot of internal and external migration has taken place thereafter and the demographic pattern has changed. The total population of Northern Province was 997,754 for the year 2011 (According to Census Reports)

### Population of Northern Province by District –2011

Districts	2011
Jaffna	567,229
Kilinochchi	103,717
Mullaithivu	66,526
Vavuniya	164,852
Mannar	95,430
<b>Total</b>	<b>997,754</b>

### 1.1.5. Ethnic and Religious composition

#### 1.1.5.1. Ethnic composition (Census 2011)

Tamil	942,824
Muslim	32,659
Sinhalese	21,860
Others	411
<b>Total</b>	<b>997,754</b>

### 1.1.4. Topography and rainfall Temperature

#### 1.1.4.1 Temperature 23.5 C° - 34.9 C°

**1.1.4.2. Rainfall** is less than 1250 mm in the North West and south east of the Inland. It has two rainy seasons South West Monsoon- May to August, North East Monsoon- November to February

### 1.1.5.2. Religious composition (Census 2011)

Hindu	755,066
Christian	187,663
Muslims	33,185
Buddhist	20,451
Others	1,389
<b>Total</b>	<b>997,754</b>

### 1.1.6. Land Area:

Land Area: 8,290sq. km

Inland water: 594sq.km

Forest Area: 3,946 sq.km

## 1.2. Present Status of Socio Economic Indicators:

### 1.2.1. Provincial Gross Domestic Product

Year	NP
2006	81,978
2007	104,224
2008	139,001
2009	155,828
2010	191,559

(Source: Central Bank Annual Report 2011)

### 1.2.2. Regional Development Process

Regional Development contributing to reduce regional disparities in addition to sectoral investments, there should be specific programs aimed at regional development and contributing to reduce regional disparities among province. Province could identify development projects in collaboration with private sector on a public , private partnership or joint venture basis to enhance economic activities, generate employment and increase income levels within their respective provinces to reduce regional imbalances. Provinces could explore new initiatives to obtain the involvement of eminent and successful businessmen for provincial investment activities, Comparative advantages of the provinces and also the resource base have to be considered when planning regional development projects for the province. Through Implementing the Regional Development process the Northern Province could be able to reduced disparities among the regions and it will lead to the Economic growth of the Province.

The following aims will be gained through implement this process

1. Physical and Demographic Variations will be reduced
2. Overcome Socio Economic Variations
3. Uplift the Urban Growth
4. Urban Development
5. Economic Growth
6. Poverty Reduction

**1.2.3. Poverty Status of the Province:** 12.8%

**1.2.4. Per capita income:** Rs. 3,208 /= per month

**1.2.5. Labour force:** 48.1 % (2010)

**1.2.6. Unemployment rate:** 4.9 % (2010)

**1.2.7. Scrotal Contribution to GDP**

Agriculture	25.9%
Industry	17.7 %
Services	56.4%



### Vital Statistics – Northern Province

**1.2.8.** GDP shares (2011): 3.7%

**1.2.9.** Life expectancy rate 73%

**1.2.10.** Infant mortality rate 12.9%

**1.2.11.** Maternal Mortality Rate: 87.9%

**1.2.12.** Teacher Student Ratio: 18

#### **2. Resettlement:**

Resettlement activities are taking place in the all 5 districts namely Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu and Vavuniya. In the Northern Province The total Number of displace people is estimated as 353,400 all displace people have been re settled in their own districts.

Detail of Information	Total
Districts	5
Divisional Secretariat Divisions	34
Grama Niladhari Divisions	921
Municipal Councils	1
Urban Councils	5
Pradeshiya sabhas	28
National Schools	4
Type I AB	57
Type I C	125
Type II	335
Type III	499
Private Schools	6
Zones	12
Teaching Hospital	1
District General Hospital	4
Base Hospital Type A	2
Base Hospital Type B	5
Divisional Hospitals	54
Primary Medical Care Units	31

Detail of Information			Total
Major tank (National Programme)		Nos.	9
Major Tank (Provincial programme)		Nos.	9
Medium Tank (Provincial Programme)		Nos.	45
Minor Tank		Nos.	2066
Aswedumised Extent-Hec.		.	98779
Fruits Crops Extent-Hec.		Nos.	7757
Extended land for subsidiary food crops - Hec		Nos.	18197
		Nos.	5419
Extended land for Vegetables - Hec		Nos.	3628.83
		Nos.	3347
"A"Class K.m			727.62
"B"Class K.m			537.39
"C"Class K.m			1524.15
"D"Class K.m			435.85
Multi Purpose Cooperative Societies			47
Libraries			114
Community Centers			1193
Preschools			948