

## BRIEF-SRI LANKA

AREA: 65,610 km sq.

POPULATION: 17.5 million

CAPITAL: Colombo

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT: Parl. Republic

HEAD OF STATE: Junius R. Jayawardene

PRIME MINISTER: Ranasinghe Premadasa

LANGUAGE: Sinhala, English widely spoken  
in commercial area

ETHNIC BACKGROUND: Sinhalese, Tamil,  
Muslim, Burghers, Malay, Veddah

GDP: \$6.5 bn U.S.

PER CAPITA INCOME: \$360 US

CURRENCY: 27.9 S.L. rupees = \$1 Cdn.

INFLATION RATE: 13%

DEBT SERVICES RATIO: 23%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: n.a.

### MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS (1988):

Exports (Total \$1,500 mn U.S.)

1. USA 26%
2. W. Germany 7%
3. UK 6%
4. Japan 6%
5. Egypt 5%

Imports (Total \$2,100 mn U.S.)

1. Japan 17%
2. USA 6%
3. UK 6%
4. UAE 6%
5. China 5%

### CANADIAN TRADE STATISTICS (in Cdn \$ mn.)

	1986	1987	1988
Exports	28.9	30.6	26.9
Imports	35.8	34.2	33.1
Balance	-6.9	-3.6	-6.2

### MAJOR SECTORS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR CANADIAN BUSINESS

1. Agriculture/Forestry
2. Transportation
3. Energy
4. Housing Construction & Rehabilitation
5. Telecommunications

EDC STATUS: Limited exposure

CIDA STATUS: Program country with emphasis on  
irrigation, agriculture and transportation

RESIDENT CANADIAN BANKS: None

### CANADIAN REPS.:

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### DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE/ASIA PACIFIC SOUTH TRADE DEVELOPMENT CONTACT:

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### SRI LANKAN REPS. IN CANADA

Ambassador - General Tissa Weeratunga, 85 Range Road, Suite 102, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 8J6 Tel: (613) 233-8440