

SUPPLEMENT
TO
The Ceylon Government Gazette,
PART I.

No. 6,346 — FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1909.

**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE
MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1909.**

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

THIS report deals with the Vital Statistics of the 31 principal towns in the Island proclaimed under sections 31 to 36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Births.

2. The births registered in the 31 towns during the month numbered 1,317 (675 males and 642 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 33·09 per 1,000, against 27·21 during the preceding month, 33·91 in the corresponding month of last year, and 30·37 the monthly average for the 24 months, July, 1907, to June, 1909. Of the towns (excluding Vavuniya and Lunugala, which have a population under 1,000), the highest birth-rate was in Matara (61·54, average 39·01), and the lowest in Hatton and Dikoya (6·43, average 16·28).

3. In the city of Colombo the births numbered 484 (254 males and 230 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 32·03 per 1,000, against 23·50 in the preceding month, 27·54 in the corresponding month of last year, and 25·18 the monthly average. Of the wards (omitting Fort and Galle Face and the Pettah, which contain a population mainly adult and floating), the highest birth-rate was in Kotahena (32·41, average 22·10), and the lowest in St. Paul's (23·57, average 18·31).

Deaths.

4. The deaths registered in the 31 towns during the month numbered 1,379 (765 males and 614 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 28·14 per 1,000, against 27·89 during the preceding month, 38·25 in the corresponding month of last year, and 32·29 the monthly average. The health of the town was thus better than usual, but slightly worse than in the previous month. Excluding Vavuniya and Lunugala, the highest death-rate was in Puttalam (54·74, average 41·70), and the lowest in Tangalla (9·62, average 44·93).

5. The mortality in the Puttalam town rose (from an average of 41·70) to 59·88 in July and 66·79 in August, but declined in September to 27·64, which is much below the mean, and to 39·15 in October. This improvement, however, was not maintained, the rate having in the following month risen to 54·74. The unhealthiness is attributed to the depressing action of chills during the month due to the bursting of the north-east monsoon.

The unhealthiness of Jaffna town referred to in my report for October is attributed by the Provincial Surgeon to climatic influence, hot days and nights with chilly mornings causing pneumonia and bowel complaints and high mortality among infants.

6. In the city of Colombo the deaths registered numbered 443 (251 males and 192 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 27·17 per 1,000, against 26·94 during the preceding month, 43·61 in the corresponding month of last year, and 35·04 the monthly average. The city was thus healthier than usual, but slightly worse than in the preceding month. Omitting the Fort and Galle Face Ward and the Pettah Ward, the lowest death-rate was in Kollupitiya (13·91, average 21·67), and the highest in San Sebastian (24·99, average 23·78).

Infantile Mortality.

7. The infantile mortality of the 31 towns was equal to a rate of 222 per 1,000 births registered, against 237 in the previous month, 280 in the corresponding month of last year, and 254 the monthly average. In the towns having an estimated population of 5,000 or more, the infant mortality ranged from a rate of 545 in Puttalam (average 276) to 74 in Matara (average 174).

8. The infantile mortality in the city of Colombo was 238 per 1,000 births registered, against 253 in the previous month, 391 in the corresponding month of last year, and 329 the monthly average, and ranged from 455 in San Sebastian (average 323) to 149 in St. Paul's (average 406), and 149 in Kollupitiya (average 314).

Causes of Death.

9. Infants.—Out of the 1,379 deaths from all causes at all ages in the 31 towns, 292 were among infants under one year. Of these, the chief causes were 88 *Convulsions* (28 in Colombo, 13 in Galle, 6 in Hambantota, 5 each in Trincomalee and Anuradhapura); 58 *Debility* (23 in Colombo, 7 in Jaffna); 25 *Tetanus* (14 in Colombo, 5 each in Moratuwa and Jaffna); 23 *Diarrhoea* (9 in Colombo, 4 in Jaffna).

10. Out of the 443 deaths from all causes at all ages in the city of Colombo, 115 were among infants under one year. Of these, the chief causes were 28 *Convulsions* (12 in Maradana exclusive of hospitals, 5 in Kollupitiya, 4 in Slave Island); 23 *Debility* (6 each in Maradana hospitals and Slave Island); 14 *Tetanus* (8 in Kotahena, 5 in New Bazaar).

11. **General Mortality (One year and over).**—Out of the 1,087 deaths of persons one year and over in age in the 31 towns, there were 145 from *Diarrhœa*, 120 from *Phtisis* (60 in Colombo, 18 in Galle, 7 in Jaffna, 5 each in Kandy and Matara); 115 from *Pneumonia* (37 in Colombo, 13 in Trincomalee, 9 in Galle, 7 each in Moratuwa and Batticaloa, 5 each in Negombo and Ratnapura); 108 from *Dysentery*; 50 from *Dochmius Duodenalis*; 30 from *Enteric Fever* (11 in Colombo, 5 in Kandy).

12. The highest mortality in the town of Colombo was from *Phtisis* (18 per cent. of all deaths one year and over), followed by *Pneumonia* (11 per cent.), *Diarrhœa* (6 per cent.), *Enteric Fever* (3 per cent.). Out of 120 deaths from *Phtisis* in all the towns, 60 occurred in Colombo. This and *Pneumonia* were responsible for 111 deaths at all ages in the city, or 25 per cent. of the deaths from all causes in it.

13. Taking all the towns together, *Diarrhœa* and *Dysentery* contributed the highest mortality (20 per cent.), followed by *Bronchitis* and *Pneumonia* (12 per cent.), *Phtisis* (9 per cent.), and *Infantile Convulsions* (8 per cent.).

14. For detailed information see Tables I. and II. for all towns, and Tables III. and IV. for the city of Colombo, in the Appendix.

Registrar-General's Office,
Colombo, December 13, 1909.

P. ARUNACHALAM,
Registrar-General.

Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during November, 1909, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of
Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

| Causes of Deaths. | All 31 Towns. | Western Province. | Central Province. | Northern Province. | Southern Province. | Eastern Province. | North-Western Province. | Provinces of Sabaragamuwa. | Deaths among all Races. |
|---|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| III.—General Mortality—contd. | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. Enteric Fever | 30 | 11 | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 7. Remittent Fever | 18 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 8. Ague | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 9. Malaria | 29 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10. Cholera | — | 20 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 5 | — | — | — |
| 11. Diarrhoea | 145 | 20 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 13 | 5 | 6 | — |
| 12. Dysentery | 108 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 7 | — |
| 13. Diphtheria Duodenitis | 50 | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — |
| 14. Cancer | 5 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| 15. Phthisis | 120 | 60 | 2 | 3 | 3 | — | 5 | 2 | — |
| 16. Other tubercular diseases | 9 | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — |
| 17. Anaemia | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 18. Diabetes Mellitus | 8 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 19. Convulsions | 23 | 7 | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| 20. Tetanus | 7 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 21. Bronchitis | 15 | 9 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 22. Pneumonia | 115 | 37 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | — |
| 23. Other Diseases of Respiratory System | — | 6 | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — |
| 24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis | — | 17 | 10 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 25. Puerperal Convulsions | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| 26. Puerperal Fever | 15 | 3 | 3 | — | — | — | 6 | — | — |
| 27. Miscarriage | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth | 7 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| 29. Starvation | 6 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 30. Accidents or Negligence | 27 | 7 | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 31. Homicide | 4 | 3 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 |
| 32. Suicide | 4 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| 33. Execution | — | 117 | 10 | 20 | 16 | 5 | 19 | 2 | 11 |
| 34. All other causes | — | 286* | 117 | 10 | 20 | 16 | 310 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | 1 | 3 |
| | | | | | | | | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | 1 | 5 |
| | | | | | | | | 1150 | 32 |
| | | | | | | | | 150 | 84 |

* Here are included 79 deaths from Old Age, (14 in Colombo, 13 in Galle), 39 from Debility (16 in Colombo, 6 in Lunugala), 26 from Enteritis (21 in Colombo), and 11 from Paralysis (6 in Colombo).

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of November, 1909, and their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population, and the Deaths of Children under One Year and their Proportion per 1,000 Registered Births, together with the Average Birth- and Death-rates and Infantile Mortality from January, 1908, to June, 1909, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

| Wards. | Population (inclusive of the Military) at the Census of 1901. | Total Births registered. | | Total Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails. | | Deaths of Non-residents. | Deaths of Residents. | Per Mille per Annum. | | Deaths of Children under One Year. | Deaths of Children under One Year of Age to 1,000 Births registered. |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|----------|---|----------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | | | Birth-rate. | Crude Death-rate. | | |
| City of Colombo | 155,869 | 183,872 | 254 | 230 | 484 | 251 | 192 | 443 | 74 | 389 | 25.87 |
| Fort and Galle Face | 2,285 | 2,285 [†] | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5.26 | 15.97 |
| Pettah | 7,561 [†] | 7,561 [†] | 3 | 3 | 6 | 5 | — | 5 | 5 | 9.65 | 12.30 |
| San Sebastian | 9,349 ^{..} | 10,709 ^{..} | 6 | 16 | 22 | 15 | 7 | 22 | 22 | 21.94 | 24.99 |
| St. Paul's | 20,260 ^{..} | 24,285 ^{..} | 24 | 23 | 47 | 20 | 18 | 38 | 38 | 18.31 | 23.57 |
| Kotahena | 33,355 ^{..} | 38,666 ^{..} | 57 | 46 | 103 | 36 | 40 | 76 | 76 | 22.10 | 32.41 |
| New Bazaar | 17,470 ^{..} | 20,404 ^{..} | 18 | 29 | 47 | 18 | 22 | 40 | 40 | 23.13 | 28.03 |
| Maredana Hospitals | 30,381 ^{..} | 37,549 ^{..} | 41 | 35 ^{..} | 76 | 79 | 41 | 120 | 72 | 48 | — |
| Maradans (exclusive of Hospitals) | .. | .. | 49 | 41 | 90 | 39 | 31 | 70 | 70 | 22.61 | 29.16 |
| Slave Island | 16,927 ^{..} | 20,286 ^{..} | 27 | 16 | 43 | 21 | 20 | 41 | 41 | 25.30 | 25.79 |
| Kollupitiya | 18,261 ^{..} | 23,610 ^{..} | 27 | 20 | 47 | 15 | 12 | 27 | 27 | 15.72 | 24.92 |
| | | | | | | | | | | 21.67 | 21.67 |
| | | | | | | | | | | 13.91 | 13.91 |
| | | | | | | | | | | — | — |
| | | | | | | | | | | 314 | 314 |
| | | | | | | | | | | 140 | 140 |

* For explanation of "corrected death-rate" see note, * Table I. The population of the several wards of the city not being available by age- and sex-constitution, their corrected death-rates cannot be calculated.

[†] Infantile death-rates omitted where number of births is less than five.

[‡] The population of these two wards being a fluctuating one, their estimated population cannot be calculated. Hence the Census figures are retained.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of November, 1909, in each Ward and Race of the City of Colombo.

| Causes of Deaths. | Colombo Town. | Ward. | Deaths among all Races. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|--------|-------|--------|
| | | | Burmahers. | Europeans. | Kollupitiya. | Silave Island. | Maradana Hospitals (exclusive of Hospitals). | New Bazaar. | Kotahena. | St. Paul's. | San Sebastian. | Maradana Hospitals. | Slave Island. | Kollupitiya. | Burmahers. | Tamil. | Moor. | Malay. |
| All Causes | 443 | 4 | 5 | 22 | 38 | 76 | 40 | 120 | 70 | 41 | 27 | 5 | 21 | 205 | 123 | 63 | 16 | 10 |
| I.—Infantile Mortality | 115 | — | 2 | 10 | 7 | 26 | 13 | 21 | 16 | 7 | — | 4 | 62 | 24 | 15 | 9 | 1 | |
| A.—One Week and under. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Prematurity | 6 | — | 14 | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 4 | 6 | 2 | — |
| 2. Debility | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 4 | — | — | — | — | 5 | 1 | — | — |
| 3. Convulsions | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 6 | 2 | — |
| 4. Diarrhea | 10 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5. Tetanus | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 6. Bronchitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 7. Pneumonia | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8. Other Causes | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Prematurity | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 2. Debility | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | — |
| 3. Convulsions | 22 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 12 | 5 | 2 | — |
| 4. Diarrhea | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 1 | 2 | — |
| 5. Tetanus | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 6. Bronchitis | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | — | — |
| 7. Pneumonia | 12 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 7 | 5 | — | — |
| 8. Other Causes | 11† | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over) | 323 | 4 | 3 | 12 | 31 | 50 | 27 | 107 | 49 | 25 | 20 | 5 | 17 | 143 | 99 | 48 | 7 | 9 |
| 1. Smallpox | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2. Chickenpox | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3. Measles | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4. Influenza | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

* Includes 1 death from Syphilis (in Kotahena), 1 from Asthma (in Slave Island).

† Four from Enteritis (2 in Maradana, exclusive of hospitals, 1 in Kotahena), 2 from Phthisis (in New Bazaar), 1 from Starvation (in Kotahena), and 1 each from Influenza (in Kotahena), Abscess and Peritonitis (in Slave Island).

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of November, 1909, in each Ward and Race of the City of Colombo—contd.

| Ward. | Causes of Deaths. | Deaths among all Races. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | Colombo Town. | Port and Galle Face. | St. Paul's. | New Bazaar. | Slave Island. | Kolupitiya. | Europeans. | Burghers. | Sinhalese. | Tamils. | Mosrs. | Malays. |
| II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)—contd. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Simple Fever | 8 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6. Enteric Fever | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 7. Remittent Fever | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 8. Ague | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 9. Malaria Cachexia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Cholera | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 11. Diarrhea | 20 | 19 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 12. Dysentery | 12 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 13. Dochnius Duodenitis | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 14. Cancer | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 15. Phthisis | 60 | 60 | 2 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 17 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 16. Other Tubercular Diseases | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 17. Anemia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 18. Diabetes Mellitus | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 19. Convulsions | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 20. Tetanus | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 21. Bronchitis | 9 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 22. Pneumonia | 37 | 37 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 23. Other Diseases of Respiratory System | 6 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis | 10 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 25. Puerperal Convulsions | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 26. Puerperal Fever | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 27. Miscarriage | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 28. Other and undefined Accidents of Child-birth | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 29. Starvation | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 30. Accidents or Negligence | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 31. Homicide | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 32. Suicide | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 33. Execution | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 34. All other causes | 118* | 118* | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 22 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 35 | 13 |

* Here are included 21 deaths from Enteritis (18 in Maradana hospitals, 2 in Maradana, exclusive of hospitals), 16 from Debility (5 each in Maradana hospitals and Kotahena), 14 from Old Age (5 in Kotahena), 6 from Paralysis (2 each in St. Paul's, and Kollupitiya), and 5 from Pyaemia Septicemia (3 in hospitals).