

CONSTRUCTION RAW MATERIAL SURVEY; A POSITIVE APPROACH TO EVALUATE BUILDING RAW MATERIALS

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Construction raw material survey involves assessing materials needed for construction in Sri Lanka. The goal is to evaluate the mineable material available in each district for future construction works. This has been initiated by the request made by the senior advisor to the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs due to delaying of construction project due to insufficient supply of construction raw materials. The Geologists did the field work on all accessible areas in the respective districts and final reports were compiled accompanying maps and tables discussing the results in completed eighteen districts and the rest are underway and will be available in the near future. Mineable quantities of construction materials identified in all the investigated locations were assessed during field investigations. The outcome of this study reveals that North Central province has about 112 MCM of rock, 71 MCM of Gravel and Soil, 0.09 MCM of River and 60 MCM of inland sand resources mostly available in Nochchiyagama, Dimbulagala, Medawachchiya, Welikanda, Kebihigollawa and Elahera DS divisions. Western province has 781 MCM m³ of rock ,53 MCM of Gravel and Soil, 0.04 MCM River sand and 2 MCM of inland sand resources mostly available in Kaduwela, Mahara, Millaniya, Mirigama, Ingiriya, Hanwella and Bandaragama DS divisions. Southern province has 33 MCM of rock and 13 MCM of Gravel and Soil resources mostly available in Hambanthota, Dikwella, Baddegama, Matara and Yakkalamulla DS divisions. Central province has 358 MCM of rock, 26 MCM of Gravel and Soil and 0.6 MCM of River sand resources mostly available in Harispattuwa, Dambulla, Kotmale, Doluwa, Nuwara Eliya and Wilgamuwa DS divisions. Sabaragamuwa province has 160 MCM of rock, 16 MCM of Gravel and Soil and 0.008 MCM of River sand resources mostly available in Dehiowita, Imbulpe Galigamuwa, Kahawatta and Kegalle DS divisions. North Western province has 628 MCM of rock, 108 MCM of Gravel and Soil, 0.2 MCM of River sand resources and 0.1 MCM of inland sand mostly available in Weerambagedara, Anamaduwa, Narammala, Dankotuwa, Bingiriya, Karuwaragaswewa and Dankotuwa DS divisions. Moranragala district has 68 MCM of rock, 1 MCM of Gravel and Soil and 1 MCM of inland sand

resources mostly available in Bibile, Sewanagala and Buttala DS divisions respectively. Trincomalee district has 17 MCM of rock, 99 MCM of Gravel and Soil, 6 MCM of River sand and 1 MCM of inland sand resources mostly available in Muttur, Trincomalee town and Gravets, Kanthale and Verugal Eachchalampattu DS divisions respectively. Vauniya district has 17 MCM of rock, 10 MCM of Gravel and Soil and 180 m³ of River sand resources mostly available in Vauniya south sinhala, Cheddikulam and Nedunkeni DS divisions respectively. This concludes availability of raw materials in completed areas. Unplanned extraction of these resources can create environmental and social impact and therefore mining has to be strictly regulated by the Geological Survey and Mines Bureau.

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