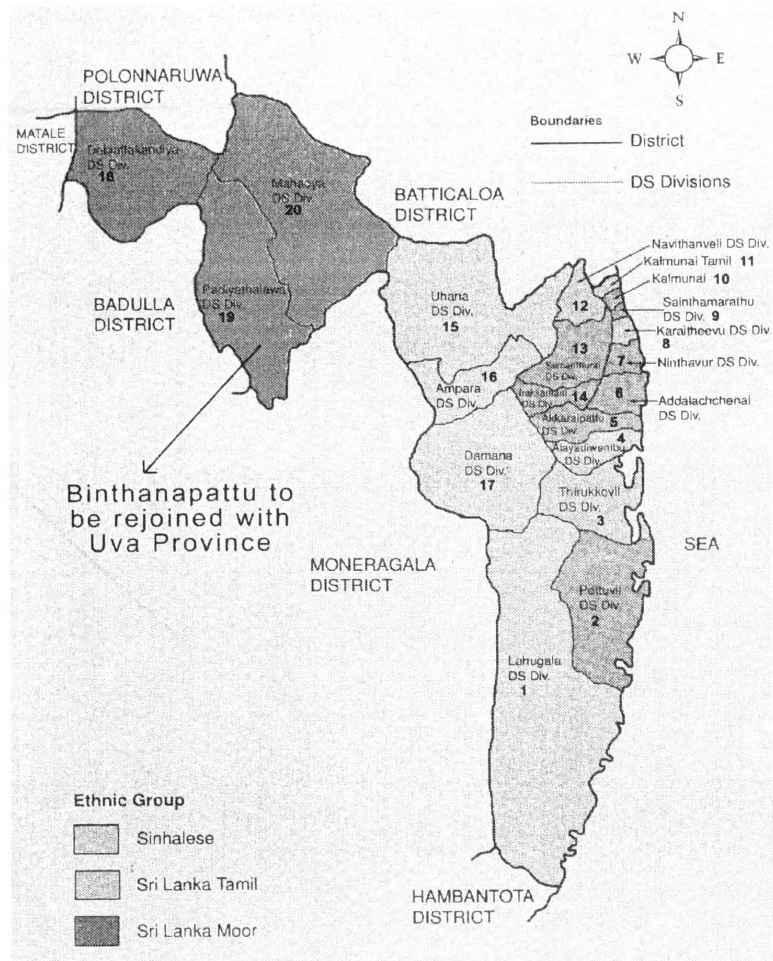


# ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT FOR AMPARA COASTAL AREA



No.	D.S. Division	Total Popula. 2012	District %	Land Available sq. km	Land Eligible sq. km	Sinhalese		Muslims		Tamils		Muslim Registerd Voters 2008
						2012	%	2012	%	2012	%	
<b>Panamapattu</b>												
01	Lahugala	8900	1.37	616.87	60.89	8287	93.1	2	0.0	557	6.3	
02	Pottuvil	34749	5.36	367.50	237.72	871	2.5	27215	78.3	5382	15.5	18,264
<b>Akkaraipattu</b>												
03	Thirukkivil	25187	3.89	190.65	172.31	83	0.3	1	0.0	23965	95.1	
04	Alayadiwembu	22411	3.46	127.50	153.31	217	1.0	22	0.1	19200	85.7	
05	Akkaraipattu	39223	6.05	102.18	268.33	165	0.4	39014	99.5	35	0.1	25,402
06	Addalachchenai	42165	6.51	52.50	288.45	2217	5.3	38950	92.4	952	2.3	25,671
<b>Ninthavur-Karawahupattu</b>												
07	Ninthavur	26329	4.06	55.62	180.12	8	0.0	25347	96.3	952	3.6	16,833
08	Karaitheevu	16781	2.59	31.25	114.80	13	0.1	6753	40.2	9758	58.1	4,629
09	Sainthamaruthu	25412	3.92	66.87	173.84	6	0.0	25389	99.9	17	0.1	17,254
10	Kalmunai	44509	6.87		304.49	125	0.3	44310	99.6	70	0.2	29,458
11	Kalmunai Tamil	29713	4.58		203.27	164	0.6	2377	8.0	24073	81.0	1,263
<b>Sammanthuraipattu</b>												
12	Navithanweli	18672	2.88	256.70	127.74	154	0.8	6402	34.3	10240	54.8	4,208
13	Sammanthurai	60596	9.35		414.54	293	0.5	53124	87.7	6650	11.0	33,667
14	Irakkamam	14373	2.22		98.33	934	6.5	13086	91.0	350	2.4	8,248
<b>Wewagampattu</b>												
15	Uhana	58276	8.99	415.62	398.67	58064	99.6	18	0.0	20	0.0	
16	Ampara	43720	6.75	225.00	299.09	42546	97.3	337	0.8	130	0.3	
17	Damana	38489	5.94	426.25	263.30	38138	99.1	160	0.4	27	0.1	
<b>Binthanapattu</b>												
18	Dehiyattakandya	59628	9.20	432.50	407.92	59275	99.4	111	0.2	47	0.1	
19	Pathiyathalawa	18209	2.81	466.37	124.57	18063	99.2	88	0.5	21	0.1	
20	Maha-Oya	20715	3.20	600.00	141.71	20590	99.4	40	0.2	8	0.0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>648057</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>4433.38</b>	<b>4433.38</b>	<b>250213</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>282746</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>102454</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>184,897</b>

Prior to the establishment of the present Ampara District in 1961, Kalmunai was the center of administration for the areas South of Batticaloa including the present Ampara and Uhana DS Divisions with an Assistant Government Agent as its head. More than two third of the population of the Ampara District live in the coastal area stretching from Periyaneelavanai to Kumana. The Kachcheri and all activities of civil administration operates from Ampara resulting in the aforesaid two thirds of the population who are Tamil speaking having to travel to Ampara in the Sinhalese area to transact all official business.

In addition to the transport difficulties, they also undergo untold communication difficulties as the prime language of Administration of the Ampara Kachcheri is Sinhala.

According to 1971 census the ethnic composition of the Ampara District was 47% Muslims, 30% Sinhalese and 23% Tamils. Although the land eligibility of the Sinhalese is only 675 sq. miles the new electorate carved out in 1976 for the Sinhalese colonized under Gal Oya scheme is about 850 sq. miles. The land in the present Sinhalese areas amounts to 1,330 sq. miles which is 76% of the total land area of the present Ampara District which is 1.775 sq. miles. The 62% indigenous people - the Muslims and the Tamils are left with only 24% of land - 425 sq. miles.

In the old DRO system, Muslims were the majority in Panamapattu, Akkaraipattu, Ninthavur - Karawavupattu and Sammanthuraipattu while the Sinhalese were the majority in Wewagampattu and Binthannepattu in Ampara District. After the independence, when re-demarcating the Administrative areas as AGA Divisions, the land areas of the Muslims and Tamils were restricted to residential pockets only. Most of the land for agriculture, cattle-farming, inland fishing, etc. were first taken out and attached with the residential areas of the Sinhalese, and the Sinhalese majority AGA Divisions were created. Thereafter maps were prepared to establish these areas as being within Sinhala Divisions.

The present Lahugala Sinhalese majority AGA division was part of the former Muslim majority Panamapattu DRO's Division. In 1981, the population of the new Sinhalese majority Lahugala AGA Division was 6,252 and the land area is 380 sq. miles, whereas the population of the Muslim majority Pottuvil AGA Division in the balance area was 20,152 and the land area is only 116 sq. miles.

The original Sammanthuraipattu DRO's Division included Kondavettuwana beyond Hardy Institute, Ampara Kulam and the entire Ampara U C area. The present Muslim majority Sammanthurai AGA Division is left with only 99 sq. miles. Nearly 65 sq. miles have been taken away from the Muslim Majority DRO's Division and attached with the Sinhalese majority Wewagampattu Uhana AGA Division extent 260 sq. miles.

There is wide disparity in the proportion of land holdings between the Muslims and Sinhalese in the Ampara District. For e.g. the extent of the land held by the Sinhalese in the Lahugala AGA Division is 208 times more than the land held by the Muslims in the Kalmunai AGA Division. The average land holding per person in the Sinhalese majority area is 13 times more than the average land holding per person in the Muslim majority areas.

It is pertinent at this juncture to note that with the enactment of the administrative district Act No. 22 of 1955, the 20 administrative Districts listed below were created and each of those districts were brought under a government Agent.

“Colombo, Kaluthara, Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Badulla, ratnapura and Kegalle.”

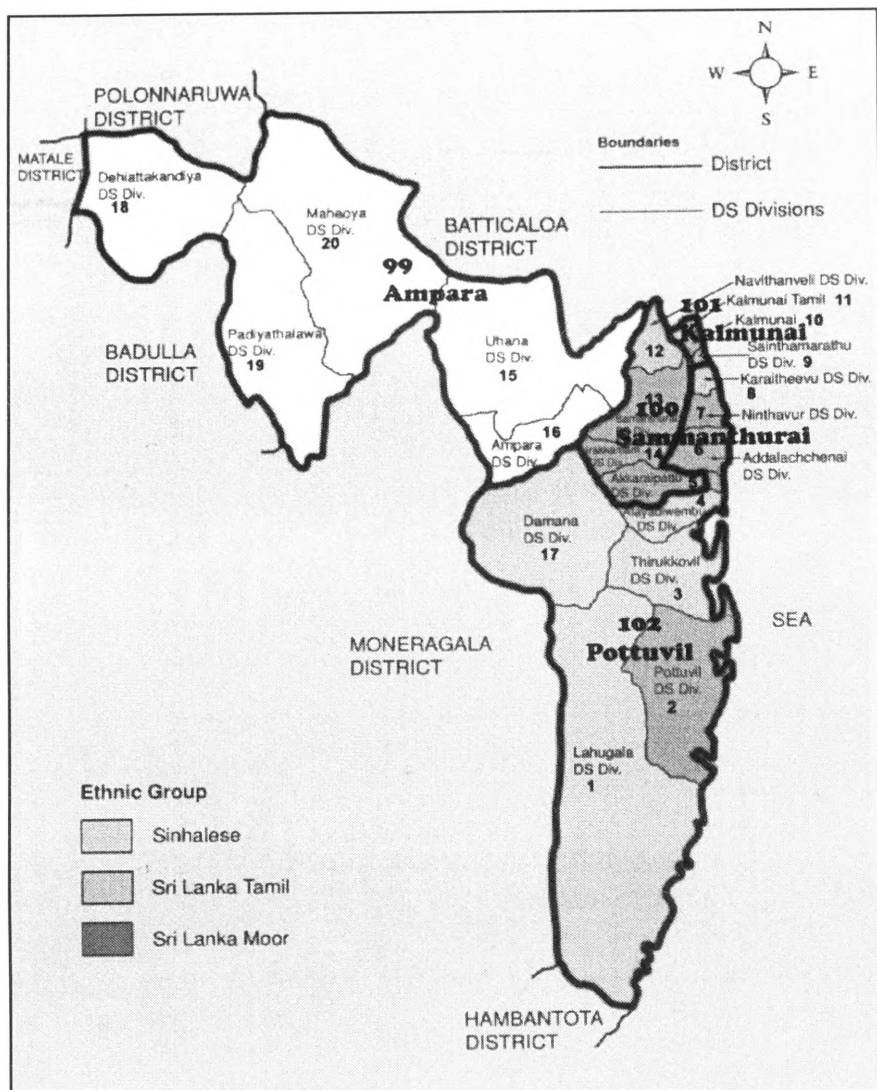
During the past few decades Monaragala (1959), Ampara (1961), Gampaha (1978), Mullaithivu (1979), and Kilinochchi (1984) have been added to the above list by re-demarcating the district boundaries.

It is thus clear that precedent does exist to re-demarcate district boundaries and create new administrative districts. Such actions would go a long way to correct the

great injustice caused by the arbitrary carving out of the land areas at various times since independence.

Under these circumstances we urge the Government, to consider the following which would result in the removal of the grievances caused to the Tamil speaking public of the Ampara coastal area.

1. Create a separate administrative district in the coastal area of present Ampara District comprising the former DRO's Divisions of Panamapattu, Akkaraipattu, Karavahu – Ninthavurpattu, Sammanthuraipattu and Wewagampattu South - Panama, covering the Kalmunai, Sammanthurai, Pottuvil electorates. This new district will cover a land area of 2,293.89 sq. km. and 2012 population – 447,509, Muslims 282,152 – 63.0%, Tamils 102,228 – 22.8%, Sinhalese 51,675 – 11.5%.
2. In order to ensure fair distribution of land and natural resources, re-demarcate the areas of the Divisional Secretariats including the land and natural resources according to ethnic proportions of the different communities within each area.
3. Declare each of the newly carved out DS Area as a Pradeshiya Sabha for the purpose of Local Government.



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04	Alayadiwembu	22411	5.01	127.50	114.88	217	1.0	22	0.1	19200	85.7	
05	Akkaraipattu	39223	8.76	102.18	201.05	165	0.4	39014	99.5	35	0.1	25,402
06	Addalachchenai	42165	9.42	52.50	216.13	2217	5.3	38950	92.4	952	2.3	25,671
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08	Karaitheevu	16781	3.75	31.25	86.02	13	0.1	6753	40.2	9758	58.1	4,629
09	Sainthamaruthu	25412	5.68		130.26	6	0.0	25389	99.9	17	0.1	17,254
10	Kalmunai	44509	9.95		228.15	125	0.3	44310	99.6	70	0.2	29,458
11	Kalmunai Tamil	29713	6.64		152.31	164	0.6	2377	8.0	24073	81.0	1,263
<b>Sammanthuraipattu</b>												
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14	Irakkamam	14373	3.21		73.67	934	6.5	13086	91.0	350	2.4	8,248
<b>Wewagampattu South</b>												
17	Damana	38489	8.60	426.25	197.29	38138	99.1	160	0.4	27	0.1	
<b>Total</b>		<b>447509</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2293.89</b>	<b>2293.89</b>	<b>51675</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>282152</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>102228</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>184,897</b>

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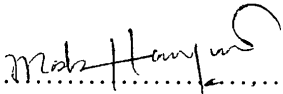
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