

7. Inventory of durable goods

Some selected long durable goods such as radios, cassette players, televisions, V.C.D and, D.V.D. players, personal computers, swing machines, refrigerators, washing machines, vehicle etc. which belong to the household are collected under section 7 of the schedule in this survey.

According to the tables given below,(Table 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4) it is obvious that households in estate sector use long durable goods comparatively less than those use in other 2 sectors. For example 87.5 percent households in estate sector do not have any fixed or mobile telephone. The corresponding figure for Sri Lanka is reported as about 57 percent. In estate sector less than 1 percent of households own both fixed (domestic) and mobile telephones, personal computers and washing machines.

In Sri Lanka 45 percent of households do not have any vehicle, even a bicycle for transport. Only 7 percent of households own personal computers. Watching television and listening to the radio are very popular leisure activities in Sri Lanka. It is evident that 77 percent of households and 81 percent of households in Sri Lanka own televisions and radio/cassette players respectively.

Table 7.1 Percentage distribution of households own telephone by sector – 2006

Sector	Total (%)	Fixed only (%)	Mobile only (%)	Fixed and mobile (%)	No telephone (%)
Sri Lanka	100	15.3	14.7	13.2	56.8
Urban	100	17.5	17.4	29.5	35.6
Rural	100	15.6	14.7	11.2	58.5
Estate	100	4.8	7.1	0.7	87.5

Table 7.2: Percentage distribution of households own radio, television, V.C.D and, D.V.D. players, personal computers by sector - 2006

Sector	Radio/Cassette players (%)	Televisions (%)	V.C.D./D.V.D players (%)	Personal Computers (%)	Not using any of these (%)
Sri Lanka	81.4	77.4	26.7	7.0	9.3
Urban	84.4	86.9	43.9	18.1	5.5
Rural	81.7	76.9	24.4	5.5	9.3
Estate	68.3	58.4	15.8	0.5	19.7