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Current situation of earthenware cooking pots in Sri Lanka

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Clay is a natural material. It feels soft and flexible in the hand. When gradually pinching and pressing it, it takes shape almost by itself. It changes behavior when combined with water and fire. There are several types of clayware in Sri Lanka. They can be identified as terracotta ware, earthenware, stoneware, porcelain and bone china, depending on body composition and firing temperature. Earthenware has a long history. It has been more popular than others from the beginning of civilization and is more familiar to humans. Earthenware is a suitable material for keeping on a hearth and is often used to manufacture cooking pots which play a major role in the kitchen. But at present, the earthenware industry is not updated to cater to the present social needs. This research was carried out to investigate areas for development and the key factors that should be developed in earthenware pots to cater to the present social needs. It will be helpful for the consumers as well as for the manufactures. This will also help to regenerate the earthenware industry in Sri Lanka.