FACTORS INFLUENCE ON FEMALE LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION IN SRI LANKA

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DECLARATION

Hereby I state and declare that this project report is the product of my own and is based on a research that I conducted independently without the participation of any other person or authority. The references made to other research in here have been acknowledged appropriately and with appreciation. The source of data and information external to the dissertation and the research has been acknowledged appropriately. In form or substance this research has never been submitted for any other degree, anywhere else. I hereby give my consent to making this available by photocopy for inter-library loans, and for the title and summary of the dissertation to be made available for use by other institution of learning.

Signature: Date: 27 May 2015.

The above candidate has carried out research for the Master thesis under my supervision.

Signature of the supervisor: Date:

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ABSTRACT

This study is attempt to identify the factors that influence female labour force participation (FLFP) in Sri Lanka using explanatory variables as age group, marital status, relationship to household head, religion, level of education, sector, province, number of dependants, literacy in English, currently attending to an educational institute in Sri Lanka and compare this results that for male labour force participation (MLFP). The necessary data was obtained from Sri Lanka Quarterly Labour Force Survey 2012 (QLFS 2012) conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS). Full of The original data set is used for this study consists with 62,299 person records in the data file. The statistical analyses used were bi- variant Chi-square test and binary logistic models. It was found that FLFP is significantly lower than that of MLFP. Low levels of labour force participation was mainly among females who currently engage in studies, who have low levels of education, who are illiterate in English, who have more household responsibilities, place of residence is urban or not in the Western province and who are Muslims. The study recommends that improving human capital, expanding more opportunities for female and providing facilities to working female such as reliable welfare centers for their dependants will support to increase female labour force participation in the country. In literature there are lots of micro level studies on related subjects which were done in other countries but found very few for Sri Lanka. Therefore, findings of this study will be very useful to see the female labour force conditions in the country. The results of this study confirm some previous findings and thus the results can be effectively used for various levels of planning.

Keywords: Binary Logistic Regression, Chi-Square Test, Labour Force Participation Rate, Omnibus Tests

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