

**POSSIBLE PREVENTION METHODS OF OCCUPATIONAL
INJURIES AND ILLNESSES IN THE TEA MANUFACTURING
INDUSTRY IN SRI LANKA**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this is my own work and that this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any other university or institute of higher learning and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where acknowledgement has been made in the text.

.....

TGRK Hemachandra

.....

Date

Certification

The above candidate has carried out research for the Masters Dissertation under my Supervision.

.....

Dr. Pournima Sriderran

.....

Date

ABSTRACT

The study's objectives were to conduct a thorough review of the literature on work-related diseases and injuries in Sri Lanka's Tea sector, identify the most relevant hazards, and assess existing understanding regarding effective preventive strategies. Using a quantitative approach and convenience sample, 80 tea industry workers were picked from a larger pool. Slips, trips, and falls, as well as musculoskeletal problems, were listed as two of the most dangerous occupational dangers. Contact with agrochemicals has been linked to respiratory difficulties, skin disorders, and vision impairment. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), extensive training and awareness of employees, enhanced safety procedures, and ergonomic improvements were offered as ways to lessen the dangers associated. Future studies should concentrate on evaluating the efficacy of these measures and finding additional possible dangers in the tea business. To summarize, the results of this study underline the need for strong occupational safety and health measures to safeguard employees in Sri Lanka's Tea industry.

Keywords – Occupational safety, Sri Lanka, Tea Industry, Safety measures, Industry related injuries and illnesses

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to Thank my Supervisor Dr. Pournima Sriderran, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa and Prof. (Mrs.) Nayanathara De silva, Head, Department of Facilities Management, University of Moratuwa for their enthusiastic guidance and valuable suggestion given to me in carrying out this study. I also appreciate the useful discussion they had with me and the constructive criticism they made during the study which enabled me to complete this study successfully.

I also wish to thank Prof. (Mrs.) Yasangika Sandanayake, Dean, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa and Ch. QS Dr. (Mrs.) Anuradha Waidyasekara, Head of the Department, Department of Building Economics, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa for their valuable guidance in directing the Msc. In Occupational Safety and Health Management postgraduate Degree Programme.

I also take this opportunity to thank Snr.Prof. N.D Gunawardena, Vice-Chancellor, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka for the valuable directions he gave to this study and the Occupational Safety and Health Management Postgraduate Degree Programme.

My thanks also go to all other lecturers and visiting lecturers of the faculty, who contributed to the Occupational Safety and Health Management Postgraduate Degree Programme.

I also wish to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to the non-academic staff of the faculty and all others whose names I have not been able to mention individually.

I wish to state that I have also been fortunate to receive valuable support from my family and friends who contributed to my study in numerous ways.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

WCI	-	Workmen's Compensation Insurance
ILO	-	International Labor Organization
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
OIIs	-	Occupational Injuries and Illnesses
OSH	-	Occupational Safety and Health
SLR	-	Sri Lankan Rupee
PPE	-	Personal Protective Equipment
RSI	-	Repetitive Stress Injuries
HBM	-	Health Belief Model
TPB	-	Theory of Planned Behavior
SPSS	-	Statistical Program for the Social Sciences
MSD	-	Musculoskeletal Disorders
OSHA	-	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
COPD	-	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease