

**ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF LICIT AND ILLICIT
DRUG USE ON SRI LANKAN CONSTRUCTION LABOUR
PRODUCTIVITY**

MASTER OF SCIENCE

IN

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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June 2023

**ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF LICIT AND ILLICIT
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PRODUCTIVITY**

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“This report was submitted to the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of Moratuwa in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science in Construction Project Management”

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June 2023

DECLARATION

I certify that this report does not incorporate without acknowledgment any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any other university or institute of higher learning institute and to the best of my knowledge and believe it does not contain any material previously published, written, or orally communicated by another person or myself except where due reference is made in the text.

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Date

Dedication

This report is dedicated to my all Teachers, loving Parents, Wife, Son, and Family

and particularly to

all the construction workers on their hard work to build their motherland, Sri Lanka.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to offer my heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Chandana Siriwardana, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Moratuwa, for his advice and assistance during this project. His knowledge and experience were the driving forces behind the creation of this paper. This research would not have been possible or successful without his unwavering support. I'd also like to express my gratitude to my family for allowing me to be preoccupied with the numerous tasks required to perform this research.

I want to thank M.Sc. Course coordinators Prof. Asoka Perera and Dr. Lesly Ekanayake for assistance and guidance during the program. I would also like to thank all the academic and non-academic staff of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Moratuwa for their advice and assistance in successfully completing the course.

Further, I am grateful to my Employer, the Director General of Buildings, and my office staff for helping and keeping a good working environment for me during the course.

A special thanks to all the contractors who support all views to complete this data collection and heartiest gratitude to all the respondents who took part in the survey.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge all who helped me in numerous ways in the completion of this work.

I hope the conclusions of this article will be useful for the construction project management discipline and will provide insight into further research on the subject.

Abstract

It is assumed that licit and illicit drugs are commonly used by construction workers. The risk profile for alcohol and drugs on construction sites varies, from catastrophic accidents that result in severe injury or death to minor incidents. An investigation of the impacts of substance misuse among construction workers was carried out in Sri Lanka, which served as the basis for this study. Information was gathered about the issues that lead to substance abuse among construction workers, and qualitative and quantitative research method was used. According to the study's findings, many construction workers do not use drugs or alcohol to cope with the financial crisis. Additionally, these issues affect the workers' families, generating a setting that encourages the "vicious cycle." The research findings highlight the significance of eliminating substance abuse in the construction industry due to the socioeconomic impact it has on construction workers and the industry as a whole in Sri Lanka.

The management of safety measures as well as the views, attitudes, and conduct of construction workers were the main subjects of this study. By dissecting its conclusions, this study shows that the major construction firms in Sri Lanka that were taken into account have a high level of risk awareness and perceive health and safety as critical issues, notably the effects of legal and illicit substances on productivity.

This study aimed to understand the data collected and create a question-and-answer survey based on it. This study examines and compiles quantitative data on productivity in the construction sector to give the first systematic examination of the economic effects of drug usage in Sri Lanka. As a result, policymakers will better understand the current condition and the problem's severity.

Productivity loss is one of the consequences of drug abuse. Costs of healthcare, crime, institutionalization, and incarceration, as well as the cost and loss of welfare. Many of these costs must be borne by the industry, which has an adverse effect. Externalities are borne by society as well. Due to Sri Lanka's continued development, it is essential to calculate the economic cost of drug misuse in order to assess the severity of the issue and how it affects the nation.

The value of resources lost as a result of a specific illness is referred to as the direct cost. According to this study, the total cost of drug abuse for institutionalized people includes direct medical costs, direct non-medical costs, and lost productivity due to drug abuse.

According to the study, Sri Lanka project management is experiencing a micro- and macroeconomic crisis, as is the construction industry, and as a result, the use of expensive drugs and alcoholic beverages is very low, with some inexpensive substances such as smoking beedi and bit betel being used. In terms of productivity loss, it is estimated to be very minor.

Keywords: Project Management, Construction Workers, Productivity, Drug Abuse, Substances

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---------------------|---|
| CBSL | Central Bank of Sri Lanka |
| CDDA | Cosmetic, Devices, and Drugs Act |
| CIDA | Construction Industry Development Authority |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| NDDCB | National Dangerous Drug Control Board |
| NVQ | National Vocational Qualifications |
| RII | Relative Important Index |

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