

Challenges faced by the construction industry in Sri Lanka: perspective of clients and contractors

Nayanthara De Silva

Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa
(email: endds@becon.mrt.ac.lk)

R. W. D. W. C. A. B. Rajakaruna

Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa
(email: aselaraja@yahoo.com)

K. A. T. N. Bandara

Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa
(email: tikiriniroshanqs@yahoo.com)

Abstract

The construction industry is a major contributor to the development of economies in Sri Lanka. However, it faces significant challenges and difficulties which are unique to the specific industry. Therefore, it is a vital role to recognise them and offer solutions. This paper presents findings of a research which was carried out to identify challenges face by the Sri Lankan construction industry and effective mechanisms / motives to overcome such aspects from the consultants' and contractors' perspectives. An industry-wide questionnaire survey was carried out to observe the views of professionals in the building construction industry during June-July 2005. Forty six critical challenges which need immediate attention were identified. Further, 20 mechanisms and motivators were tested to explore solutions in overcoming the above challenges to enhance the image of the construction industry. Thirteen mechanisms were identified and five effective factors were extracted and recommended for up-lifting the image of the construction industry.

Keywords: Construction industry, Challengers, Sri Lanka, Developing countries