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This dissertation on "A Community Development Programme For Inner City Areas" was submitted as one part of the M.Sc (Town and Country Planning) degree examination in December 1977. It was written over a period 2 - 3 months and during part of this time the students were engaged in other course work.

During the course the students prepared group projects in the fields of Housing, National Urbanisation Planning, Regional Planning and Urban Development Planning. Written papers were submitted on the subjects of Development Planning and Planning Methods and Policies, and examinations held in Applied Planning Theory (two papers) and Planning Practice.

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August 1978

A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR INNER
CITY AREAS

A case study of Gintupitiya in the
City of Colombo

A Dissertation

Presented to

The Department of Town and Country Planning
Katubedde Campus, University of Sri Lanka

In Partial Fulfilment

of the Requirements for the Degree



Master of Science in Town and Country Planning

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SYNOPSIS

This is a document recording a process - the evolution of a Community Development Programme for the people living in the inner city areas of Colombo. The process begins with the identification of these areas where conditions of living are worse than those elsewhere in the city. The identification and selection of action areas lead to an in-depth analysis. The synthesis of data that follows, highlights the problems and the potential of the community. At the end a programme of community development is formulated drawing lessons from similar approaches. The constituent parts of the study are in six.

1. The objectives of our study are stated here in the light of the living conditions of people whose life in deprivation in the inner city areas, call for attention not from the state alone but from concerned individuals and professionals.
2. Major problems of the City of Colombo in general and a detail analysis of such problems in the inner city areas, relating to the socio-economic and physical functions and problems of the areas in the overall urban context. This part of the document describes the methodology of identifying the problem areas of poor urban communities and at the end locates the action areas for further study.
3. Action areas, are then studied in detail. The survey and the outcome are presented here in quantitative terms disclosing, the acuteness of the major problems of the area and also records their aspirations and the abilities of the members of the community.
4. Needs, resources and constraints, as observed during the survey and expressed by the people, are brought to a common format and the significance of such a format are discussed. Further investigation and research which are necessary to maximise the efficacy of the system and the necessary data basis to strengthen the resource-constraint data of the survey.

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5. With a satisfactory collection of necessary information, observations and studies on Projects for Community Development carried out in other parts of the world and attempts made in that direction here, in Sri Lanka, are presented.

6. This part of the document states the goals and objectives of the envisaged community development programme and operates on a three tier system. This comprises of long range goals statements, programme objectives and the projects to meet the community's needs. Projects are presented with reference to proceeding resource-constraint analysis. The projects are seen as work plans and as documents of public discussion with the community.



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