

## **Spatial Distribution of Mineral Water Bottle Usage in Batticaloa District: A Case Study**

**Dasinaa, S & Delina, EJP\***

### **Abstract**

The current trend of using water in bottles shows the remarkable adaptation in each part of the world, varies with the geographical location, lifestyle, needs and comfort of the people in nature. Theme behind this kind of changes in the society is due to the scaring of polluted water and its impact on human health and livelihood performance. In Sri Lanka, higher percentages of people who live in Western Province take much role in handling bottled water comparing with other provinces. Southern and Central Provinces play a vital role than Eastern Province in last few years. However, this has been changed a lot due to the development of industries, hotels and tourism in the Eastern Province. Number of distributors and sellers are increased because of the demand in these areas. This study focuses on spatial distribution pattern of mineral water bottles and its socio economic and health impacts in Batticaloa District. Data were collected from the agents of mineral water bottle in the region and their trend of sales rate and geographical distribution pattern were analyzed. Study revealed that there is an increasing trend in the sales of the mineral water bottle for the last 5 years in the 5 DS divisions (Koralai Pattu, Koralai Pattu North, Eravur Pattu, Manmunai North and Kattankudy) which show high usage distribution among 14 DS divisions in the District which are well known for its tourist's spots and urban activities. The study also points out, people change their attitude from traditional way of purification to bottled water due to the easiness and time consuming. Further, engineered land filling and large scale recycling are promoted instead of open dumping by considering environment as well as health impacts. The trend would be fully changed due to the awareness of ground water pollution and the usage of recycled water bottles, where a hidden link can be noticed between geographical locations and factors influencing the mineral water bottle industry in the district.

**Key words:** Bottled Water, Distribution, Geographical Location, Ground water

---

To whom correspondence should be addressed: [evandel\\_foa@yahoo.com](mailto:evandel_foa@yahoo.com)

\* Department of Agricultural Engineering, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.