

STUDY ON SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OLUVIL PORTS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - SRI LANKA

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Introduction:

In 1997 the government of Sri Lanka decided to construct ports in Oluvil. Then the ports and harbor development minister MHM Ashraff in the forefront of constructing harbor was in Oluvil. The Eastern province was under developed though it has much natural recourse. Lack of infra structure development of this area the government identifies this port at Oluvil as a way of improving infrastructure. Constructing ports at Oluvil at that time will enable the bulk import and export and also breaking bulk transporting goods through the Island. So the government took all the necessary action to acquire land and find an efficient constructor to do the project and the government contracted with Denmark Company to the construction work. Now the ports constructing work are at the initial stage.

Because of the construction work of oluvil port, the people of oluvil and the other people living in surrounding area are facing many problems.

Objective:

The main objective of the study is how people of oluvil and the other people living in surrounding area are affected by the construction of ports in Oluvil.

Result:

The port project adversely affects the people of Oluvil in respect of traditional employment and way of life. Further the port project has an impact on the social, cultural, religious and economical aspect of Oluvil people. Also there is a danger of widening the ethnic divide.

Methodology:

The collecting data is divided into two categories first one is primary data and the other is secondary data. This research is to analyze with qualitative data collected by means of primary and secondary methods. Interviews, observations, discussions with target groups and facilitators are used to obtained primary data. Then the relevant academic writings, government publications and the records of the government institutions and nongovernmental organizations to be used as secondary data for this analytical study. In addition to that the qualitative method is also applied in correlating this research where statistical data, tables and diagrams are used.

Key Words: *Ports project; traditional employment;*