

The Waste Collection of Imported Food Items and the Reasons for It: A Study  
Focusing On the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center

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**Abstract**

Dedicated Economic Centers are a platform that caters to all types of the needs and wants of human resource. That is to say, it is not only the basic necessities of men's food but also the various goods and services that are meant to serve the benefits of the public. Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center is a site located at a division of Dambulla Divisional Secretariat of Matale District of the Central Province of Sri Lanka. Not only the food stuffs which are locally produced brought to this Dedicated Economic Center, but a wide variety of goods are also imported from other countries too. There is a shortage of food here as the imported food items are wasted due to various factors. No studies have been conducted in the specific study area (Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre) in this regard. Therefore, this study was conducted to fill the gap. The first and second status of data were used to carry out this study with the main objective of identifying the causes of wastage of imported food items at the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Center and to identify the wasted food items and to present effective suggestions for saving food items without wastage used as supportive objectives of this study. Questionnaire, Interview and Direct Observation methods were used as the first status of data and Dambulla Divisional Secretariat Reports, Websites and Articles were used as the second status of data. At the end of the study, the causes of wastage of imported food items were identified and suggestions were put forward to prevent it from being wasted into the study area. Therefore, there is a need for time to study the economic status of such people in relation to the Dedicated Economic Centers.

**Keywords:** Dedicated Economic Center, basic necessities, foodstuffs, waste