

THE IMPACT OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - CASE STUDY IN KALUTHARA DISTRICT

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The foundational structure of public facilities intended to enable movement is known as the transport infrastructure. Due to its roles in facilitating the movement of people and products through space, transport infrastructure can be observed of as a factor that ensures the growth and economic development. How the society uses the services provided by infrastructure facilities and devices strongly influences how the impact of transport infrastructure on the region's economy. The aim of this study is to examine the impact of transport infrastructure on the sustainable socio-economic development in Kalutara District. A qualitative research design adopted methodology and primary and secondary data was used to collect data. To conduct the analysis, a questionnaire addressed to entrepreneurs from this region was used. Descriptive narratives was used for data presenting. Additionally, graphs and tables have been used to present relevant secondary data and provide a visual representation of key information. The level of transport infrastructure and the level of socio-economic development of the studied area were applied as indicators of sustainable development at the regional level. The study is an attempt to fill the cognitive gap for areas outside the country's main transport corridors it was demonstrated how urban and rural areas differ from one another in terms of economic attractiveness and infrastructure development. The factors that affect how effectively the idea of sustainable rural development is implemented were identified. Findings emphasize that relatively, it seems reasonable to conclude that transport infrastructure influences development by stimulating economic and social development. At the same time, research shows that too slow a development in the region may lead to a large outflow of inhabitants from the study area. Employers have a positive outlook on the region's socioeconomic development, highlighting the efforts made by the local government to increase the region's attractiveness. They not only engage in promotional activities but also unequivocally point out the necessity of funding the expansion of tourist and transit facilities.

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