

**THE STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN
THE HIGH-RISE BUILDING PROJECTS OF
SRI LANKA**

MASTER OF SCIENCE

IN

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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**THE STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN
THE HIGH-RISE BUILDING PROJECTS OF
SRI LANKA**

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“This dissertation was submitted to the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of Moratuwa in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science in Construction Project Management”

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DECLARATION

I certify that this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgment any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any university to the best of my knowledge and believe it does not contain any material previously published, written, or orally communicated by another person or myself except where due reference is made in the text. I also hereby give consent for my dissertation, if accepted, to be made available for photocopying and interlibrary loans, and for the title and summary to be available to outside organizations.

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ABSTRACT

Sri Lanka is a developing country and the construction industry plays a vital role in the contribution of the GDP. From the previous research, it was found, the construction workers play an important role in the project success and it's very difficult to keep them sustained in a project from the beginning to the end of a project. There's a huge job opportunity for the construction workers in the industry but still, the workers are not stable. Due to the difficulties in managing the construction workers, main contractors are assigning subcontractors to complete the tasks. Therefore, this research is being initialized to identify the Life status of the construction workers and the challenges faced by the subcontractors in the high-rise building projects of Sri Lanka. Based on the review of the literature a questionnaire that was prepared for the construction workers, main contractors, and subcontractors are reviewed. Analysis of the responses demonstrated that the satisfaction of the construction workers rely on the satisfaction of their family life, the status of the job and the satisfaction of their remuneration. From the main contractors' perspective, it is profitable for them by giving subcontracting. From the subcontractor's perspective retention money is highly influenced by the main contractors in subcontracting to continue the job even though they fail. The subcontractors failing in the industry due to the unskilled labour force and low rates imposed by the main contractors. According to the findings of this research study, it can be concluded that the main contractor, subcontractor, and construction workers are interconnected as a triangle and all three parties must have a strong relationship between them for the project's success. The life status of the construction workers can be increased by implementing the labour standards in the industry. The main contractor should prepare the rates fairly for the subcontractors and should maintain a long-term relationship. Further studies can be done for other industries.

Keywords: Construction, satisfaction, skill, workers, laboures, main contractor, subcontractor, EPF, ETF, job security, building

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BRAA	Budgetary Relief Allowance Act
CBSL	Central Bank of Sri Lanka
CIDA	Construction Industry Development Authority
DOL	Department of Labour
EPF	Employees' Provident Fund
ETF	Employees' Trust Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IESL	Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka
ILO	International Labour Organization
MBO	Maternity Benefits Ordinance
MWRWH	Ministry of Water Resources Works and Housing
PGA	Payment of Gratuity Act
SOEA	Shop and Office Employees' Act
TEWA	Termination of Employment of Workmen Act
WBO	Wages Boards Ordinance
WCL	Workmen's Compensation Law
WYCA	Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act