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A CRITICAL EVALUATION  
OF THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS, IN SRI LANKA

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A DISSERTATION PRESENTED TO

THE DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, KATUBEDDA, SRI LANKA.



IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE  
OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

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IN  
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

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DECEMBER, 1984.

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## SYNOPSIS

This study comprises a critical evaluation of the Environmental Laws in Sri Lanka, as part of the academic requirement of the M.Sc. in Town and Country Planning Degree Course. A comprehensive study has been attempted here to evaluate the Common-law and the Statutory laws and assess their strengths and weaknesses in exerting a positive influence on the environment.

The study constitutes Six Chapters. Chapter one delves into a survey of environmental laws in Town and Country Planning. The importance of legislative provisions is discussed in the overall protection of the environment.

Chapter Two prevails on the management of natural resources through legislative enactments. The laws are examined in relation to the protection and maintenance of natural resources in the country.

Chapter Three highlights some important dimensions in forestry, wildlife and tree preservation. In this context, the appropriate laws are evaluated to appraise their impact on those integral resources of the environment.



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Chapter Four bears on the indispensable aspects of the aquatic environment. The relevant laws are reviewed against this background in perceiving the dominant problems in its scope.

Chapter Five focuses on the salient features of pollution which besets the environment. Legislative enactments are analysed to identify the proportion of pollution and find their origins.

Chapter Six summates the findings of the study and enunciates specific recommendations for timely implementation of the law to protect and enhance the quality of the environment.

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