

HOME BASED WORK / ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES
AN INVESTIGATION OF THEIR IMPLICATIONS ON
THE DOMESTIC LIFE AND
LIVING ENVIRONMENT

A dissertation Presented

To

The faculty of Architecture

The university of Moratuwa



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For

M. Sc Architecture Examination

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PREFACE

Any built form can be taken as a solution to environmental problems and also as a response to a set of requirements which are diverse in nature and change with time. Because the needs of the people change, with time, new dimensions are frequently being added to the built forms. So the built forms should be shaped accordingly to suit the new requirements of the day.

HBE As are one such dimension which gives a commercial facet to the home, which was for merely the purpose of facilitating the domestic activities. So now the house is considered a place of dwelling as well as a base of gaining livelihood.

HBE As as a part of an informal sector, are small scale business activities which take place in a house where the owner and other employees work, produce goods and services.

Pursuit of these activities from living space changes the essence of a house as living space to become mixed house of living and working space. To grow and develop the HBEAs in the area of Nugegoda to Maharagama as in other several cities in Sri Lanka and Asia the flexibility of the design and ease of operation is essential.

In most occasions due to the unplanned changes and modifications made to the houses and as a result of just accommodating HBEAs in the "Living" spaces, the real sense of the "Home" has been lost. The rigidity of the layout plans and lack of space makes the conditions worst.

Therefore this research having two research methods exploratory and descriptive methods looks at a cross section of professional home workers in various occupations, both self employed and company employed. Identifying the different patterns of divergent activities within the home, assesses the success or hindrance in accommodating multiple roles in the same place, and identifies facility requirements to give a supportive hand on home based economic activities.

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