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A STUDY OF THE FACTORS DETERMINING CHANGE THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Female labor force participation in Sri Lanka has been increased due to the socio-economic development of the country. Growth of female labor force participation in Sri Lanka was very low during the colonial era: prior to the independence in 1948. But with the socio-economic development during 1948-1977 period resulted in a substantial growth of female labor force participation in Sri Lanka but it was mainly confined to the agricultural sector and some fields of the service sector. But with the implementation of liberalized economic policies after 1978 female labor force participation in all the sectors of the economy grew with an increased pace. This growth was mainly attributable to the interaction of number of various demographic and socio-economic factors. Therefore correct identification of main factors seems to be very important because such identification would help planners and policy makers to initiate policy measures to maximize favorable effects and minimize unfavorable effects. In this view present study was carried out to examine the main variables that influenced to determine female labor force participation in Sri Lanka and to measure their impact.

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කි. ලංකාව.

In order to study the factors influenced to change the employment of women in Sri Lanka, the sample was selected from the Sri Lanka Labor Force Survey conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics in the year 2006. The dispersion of conditional female labor force participation at the total sample is investigated by running multiple regressions. In Sri Lanka's female labor market, female headed household and never married female are the most significant factors for the change in the women employment. The results of the study indicate that several implications that resulted to emerge a comparatively slow growth of female labor force participation in Sri Lanka. Size of the never married female population, educational attainment and the size of the segment of female headed households seem to be very important factors than a number of other demographic and socio-economic factors. The study reveals that there is a substantial scope of increasing female labor force participation in Sri Lanka if appropriate measures would be taken.