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## **A study of trends of eco-tourism in Sri Lanka: In association with Kanneliya & Sinharaja tourism centers**

Eco-Tourism is defined as protecting the environment with a view to relishing its elegance and enjoying the environment. Sri Lanka is highly enriched with various locations of environmental diversities suitable for eco-tourism as a country of the tropical region.

The main objective of this study is to identify trends of eco-tourism in respect of Kanneliya-Dediyagala-Nakiyadeniya and Sinharaja forest complex which belong to low country tropical rain forest realm.

The main problem of this study is to reckon as to whether the eco-tourism sector has been developed in association with select sample of regions related to tourism in Sri Lanka. Primary data were collected through basic observation and field interview methods, while the secondary data were gathered by publications and internet web sites.

This research was helpful in recognizing the high stature of the development in the sector related to eco-tourism of Sri Lanka. It was also identified that environmental friendly and development of tourism services along various themes have been enhanced with regard to the trends of eco-tourism. The attractions by local tourists towards eco-tourism in the selected areas were seen as more prominent than that of foreign tourists.

**Keywords: Eco-Tourism, Low country tropical rain forest**