Exploitation of Women Workers in the Apparel Industry in Sri Lanka

K.I. Suraweera¹

Abstract

This study explores the issues of low wages, long working hours, and unsafe working conditions faced by many women workers in the Apparel Industry in Sri Lanka. This is objected to identify key factors that contribute to the exploitation of women workers in apparel industry, and develop recommendations for improving the working conditions and rights of women workers in the relevant industry. This study is significant because it will provide necessary findings to sort out issues regarding exploitation of women in the Apparel industry. There is a primary data analysis which is sampled by a selected group of people, and this is also based on secondary data sources. The mixed method is followed as the methodology of this research. As a major finding of this study, it is apparent that the women workers are vulnerable to sexual harassment and abuse in the apparel industry, due to long working hours, and unsafe working conditions. The exploitation of women workers in this industry has a negative impact on their health, and well-being. In conclusion, this study summarizes the key findings and recommendations for improving the working conditions and rights of women workers in the Apparel industry in Sri Lanka, as one of the major parts under the entire sphere of the human rights.

Keywords: Apparel Industry, Gender Equality, Human Rights, Sri Lanka, Women Exploitation

25

¹ BA Honours in international Studies, University of Kelaniya *k.imayasuraweera@gmail.com*