



SLUMS AND URBAN CENTRE VULNERABILITY: STAGNATE WATER ISSUE: A CASE STUDY OF THE PELIYAGODA URBAN COUNCIL DIVISION, GAMPAHA

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ABSTRACT

Society, environment and development concepts are interrelated with each other. Those concepts must engage each other mutually. If one get try to overlap each one, the system will be harmed. This research shows how those are overlapped one another. Peliyagoda is an urban centre is situated in the Gampaha district. This study explores the challenges faced by the Peliyagoda area during the water stagnating due to the rain. Especially stagnant water was a major environmental hazard in the research area. They have faced many problems not only environmental issues but also there are political, physical and economic issues too. Water stagnating is disrupt the normal life, damage of structures and infrastructure, destruct the domestic animals and loss of income potentials are the encountered effects of water stagnate in the Peliyagoda area. This study based on data collected using the methods of interviews and secondary data sources to identify natural and human impacts of water stagnating, the study deployed a questionnaire survey using 60 samples in accordance with the random stratified sampling method based on their sex, ethnicity and employment. The findings of the study clearly show that people in the study area face challenges during the stagnate water. Many of the health risks associated with stagnate water in the research area. Many of the insects breeding in the stagnate water, for an example mosquitos, dragonfly and fly. As a result of this skin allergic was widespread in these areas. Improper housing is catalyst for stagnate water in the area and weak drainage system also contributed to this issue. Large section of people from this area feel that the administration was doing very little for stagnate water issue. Urban council intervention is very low and they have not enough facility to overcome this issue. Unfortunately lack of budget allocation for infrastructure facilities in Peliyagoda urban council is the main reason for the issue. Findings show that the individuals are potentially conflict between self-interest and collective interest in this research area. As a result of this they are putting self-interest ahead of the collective interest. So weak social capital among people from the research area is one of the reason that cannot be ended stagnate water issue. Improper waste removal blocked drains and clogged waterways. It was quite clear improper waste disposal also caused to water stagnate in the area. And also Poor infrastructures facilities are caused to water stagnate. It is, therefore recommended that the officials should have cut some temporary channels to drain the water. But unfortunately those officials should not implement proper plans for this issue.

Keywords: Development, Slums, Stagnant Water, Self-Interest, Urban Council