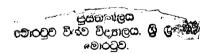
THE IMPACT OF SMALL & MEDIUM TOWNS IN THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF SRI LANKA, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE SOUTHERN REGION.

"A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, SRI LANKA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE COURSE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING"



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M. Sc. Town & Country Planning 1995/1997

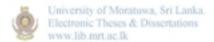
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iv

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SYNOPSIS

The study of small & medium towns is timely important as these towns consist of 56% of the national urban population and 93% of the total number of towns. (1981 census). The main objective of this study is therefore to progress an appropriate solution for the promotion of integration of the small & medium towns within an urban hierarchy conducive to economic growth and development of the country. To achieve this objective, the study has covered its various aspects under five Chapters.

Chapter One of this study has dealt with the theoretical analysis of regional development. In this connection, it has discussed the historical perspective of regional planning, the concept of the region, importance of regional planning and the theoretical framework concerning same.

Chapter Two of the study has been mainly devoted to the review of national and town plans in Sri Lanka which have been previously formulated to enable development. The latter revealed that a number of national and town plans had been prepared in Sri Lanka but these lacked the spatial dimension of an integrated settlements strategy and also deficient in its implementation.

Chapter Three of the study has analysed the role of small and medium towns in regional development. It has discussed the definition of 'urban', classification of small & medium towns, distribution pattern and role of small & medium towns.

Using a Case Study to highlight the specificities outlined in the previous Chapters, the situational analysis of the Southern Region has been discussed in Chapter Four of the study. In the context of regional development, the role of small & medium towns in the Southern Region have been analysed in order to increase the full growth potential that can be generated by these towns through the develop went of urban facilities.

The Final Chapter has dealt with the Conclusions and Recommencations arising from this study. This Chapter has focussed on the overall conclusions of the study and has proposed recommendations.



CONTENTS

Acknowledgm	nents	iii
Synopsis		٧
List of .Table	· •	xi
List of Figur	rs.	Xiii
List of Maps		xi∨
Introduction		XV
CHAPTER 1	: THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL	
	DEVELOPMENT.	1
	1.1 Historical Perspective of Regional Planning	
	1.2 The Concept of the Region was striken	
	1.3 Importance of Regional Planning	
	1.4 Theoretical Framework	
CHAPTER 2	: EXPERIENCE OF PLANNING IN SRI LANKA	<u> 1</u> 9
	2.1 National Plans in Sri Lanka	
	2.2 Town Plans In Sri Lanka	
	2.3 Impact of the Past Development Plans in Regional Develop	ment of
	Sri Lanka	
	2.3.1 Decentralized Budget	
	2.3.2 District Development Council System	

2.3.4 Integrated Rural Development Projects	
2.3.5 Mahaweli Development Projects	•
2.3.6 Greater Colombo Economic Development Programme	
2.3.7 Regional Industrial Estate Development Projects	
2.3.8 Urban Development Sector Project for Small & Medium	
Urban Centres	
2.3.9 Southern Area Development Programme	
Conclusion	
3: THE ROLE OF SMALL & MEDIUM TOWNS IN	
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT	:45
3.1 The Definition of "Urban"	
3.2 Classification of Small & Medium Towns	
3.3 Growth and Distribution Pattern of Small & Medium Towns	
3.4 Significance of Small & Medium Towns	
3.5 Role of the Small & Medium Towns.	
Conclusion	
4 : ANALYSIS OF SMALL & MEDIUM TOWNS WITH	
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE SOUTHERN REGION	72
4.1 Introduction of the Study Area	

4.1.1 Definition of the Study Area

2.3.3 Provincial Council System

CHAPTER 3:

CHAPTER 4:

- 4.2 Land use Pattern in the Southern Region
- 4.3 Demographic Aspects of the Region with Specific Reference to its Small & Medium Towns
 - 4.3.1 Population Density
- 4.4 Infrastructure Facilities with Specific Reference to its Small & Medium Towns
 - 4.4.1 Roads
 - 4.4.2 Water Supply
 - 4.4.3 Electricity Supply
 - 4.4.4 Telecommunication
 - 4.4.5 Educational Facilities
 - 4.4.6 Health Facilities
 - 4.5 Economic Development with Specific Reference to its
 Small & Medium Towns
 - 4.5.1 Employment
 - 4.5.2 Industries
 - 4.6 Fashiening of an Appropriate Hierarchy of Settlements, incorporating the Small & Medium Towns; for the overall Development as the Southern Region
 - 4.6.1 Application of the Central Place Theory in Study Area
 - 4.6.2 Existing Urban Hierarchy of the Southern Region

4.6.3 General Characteristic of the Urban Centers

4.6.4 The Small & Medium Towns in an Appropriate Hierarchy of Settlements in the Southern Region

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

115

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ANNEXURES



LIST OF TABLES

Table No. Page 1	No.
3.1 Definition of Urban Areas by World Regions	48
3.2 Distribution of Population in Small & Medium Towns,	51
Sri Lanka by Size & Number of Population	
3.3 Classification of Towns by Population Size	52
3.4 Average Annual Growth Rate of Small Towns - Sri Lanka 1981	54
3.5 Average Annual Growth Rate of Medium Towns - Sri Lanka 1981	5,5
3.6 District Distribution of Small & Medium Towns in Sri Lanka - 1981	61
4.1 Distribution Pattern of Land in the Southern Region	76
4.2 Distribution Pattern of Small & Medium Towns in the Southern Region	77
4.3 General Land use Pattern in the Southerb Region - 1986	79
4.4 Average Size of Homestead in Southern Region - 1994	81
4.5 Areas under Different Types of Agricultural Crops - 1994	82
4.6 Land use Pattern of Major Urban Centers of the Southern Area - 1982	83
4.7 Distribution Pattern of Population & Annual Growth Rate of Small &	84
Medium Towns in the Southern Region	
4.8 Population Density by Divisional Secretariat in Southern Region-1994	85
4.9 Density of National Highways vin Selected Towns of Southern Region -	89
1992	
4.10 Distribution Pattern of Safe Drinking Water Supply in Selected Towns	, 92
for Southern Region - 1992	-
4.11 Distribution Pattern of Electricity Supply in Selected Towns for Southe	
Region	93
4.12 Availability of Telephone in Southern Region	94
4.13 Distribution Pattern of Schools in Southern Region by Small	96
& Medium Towns	
4.14 Employment Pattern in the Southern Region - 1993	99
4.15 Employed Population by Sector - 1995	99
4.16 Existing Hierarchy of Urban Centers in Southern Area	104
	"

4.17 Hierarchical Structure of Urban Centers based on Pop	ation in Southern 108
Region - 1995	
4.18 Total Number of Employees in the Urban Centers So	nern Region 110
5.1 Selected Small & Medium Towns for the Southern Region	-121



LIST OF FIGURES

1.1 Schematic Forms of Central Places		
1.2 A Schematic Form of Settlement Structure	15	



LIST OF MAPS

Map No.	Page No.
2.1 Colombo Regional Plan (Abercrombic Proposals)	24
2.2 Colmbo Urban Area (Colombo Master Plan Project)	25
2.3 Administrative Districts inSri Lanka	30
2.4 Provinces in Sri Lanka	32
2.5 Settlements under the Accelerated Mahaweli Developm	ent
Programme	35
2.6 Small & Medium Towns Development under	
UDA/ADB Project	37
2.7 Southern Development Area	41
3.1 Distribution of Urban Settlements in Sri Lanka - 1982	56
3.2 Sri Lanka Transport Net Work	59
4.1 Settlements of the Southern Area in Relation to Nation	nal
Context Electronic Theses & Dissertations www.lib.mrt.ac.lk	· 74
4.2 Southern Development Area	75
4.3 Distribution of Small & Medium Towns in the Southern	
Region	78
4.4 Population Density by Divisional Secretariat Divisions	87
4.5 Road Network in the Southern Region	90
4.6 Existing & Proposed Industrial Estates in the Southern	101
Region	
4.7 Existing Hierarchical Structure of Urban Centers in the	
Southern Region	106
4.8 Hierarchical Structure of Urban Centers based on	
Population	109
4.9 Main Employment Centers in the Southern Area - 1995	111
5.1 Recommended Linkages of Urban Centres for Development	
of Southern Region with Special Reference to the Small &	
Medium Towns	124