LB/DON/07/1998 LD

A METHODOLOGY FOR SELECTING AND ASSIGNING CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

by

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A PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ENGINEERING IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

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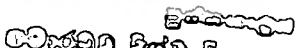

February 1995

Supervised by Dr. N.D.Gunawardena

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ABSTRACT

Most of the construction works in the Mahaweli Development Project have been carried out through crash programmes. Even though, the project planning is vital for the economical and successful completion of any construction project this important aspect has not been given due recognition during the execution of downstream development works of the Mahaweli project. Instead of the proper project planning, the experience and knowledge of the Engineering staff with regard to the works and the performance of the contractors have been used for allocating works for the contractors. Although, this has resulted in achieving the targets of the scheduled programme, in many cases there have been failures too.

Three models were developed for selecting and assigning contractors for three types of contracts used in the Mahaweli Development Project namely, Tendered Contracts, Fixed Rate Contracts and Labour Contracts.

So far, no action has been taken to measure the performance level of the contractors and the performance standards to be maintained in respect of construction works in achieving the targets which are the main factors considered in the above models. As these are the most significant factors used in planning a construction project, this study reveals that the collection of performance data of contractors will be very useful in carring out future projects of similar nature.

This research project also investigates the ways and means of determining the performance standards of different contractors as well as the standards of performance required by different construction activities for timely completion of the projects.

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Furthermore, recommendations are made regarding the planning techniques that could be adopted for various types of contracts encountered in projects of a similar nature.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Author wishes to express his sincere gratitude to all those who assisted him in his challenging task of producing this dissertation with much success. Undoubtedly, this dissertation would not have been a possibility if it were not for their valuable assistance. Particular mention has essentially to be made on

(1). Dr. Neranjan Gunawardana, who is the project supervisor for this dissertation and whose guidance, knowledge, interest and above all his dedication constituted a blessing for a better product.

(2). Dr. A. K. W. Jayawardena, the project coordinator for the post graduate course 92/93, for his continuous encouragement and valuable advices for the completion.

(3). Generally, Senior Engineers of Mahaweli Development Project who contributed their invaluable suggestions and specially Mr. K.A.D.S. Chandrasiri, Mr. Mahinda Panapitiya, Mr X.V. Coonghe, Mr. G.A. Kumaranayaka, Mr R.B. Tennakoon, who spent their invaluable time for expressing their views and opinions on the content of this dissertation.

(4). The MECA Contract Branch for granting permission to use the relevant contract data.

(5). Mr. K.A.D.S. Chandrasiri and Mr. P.D.S. Perera for their kind help and assistance in preparing the report.

(6) Finally, I am grateful to my wife, Kumari, who always encourage me in numerous ways to achieve my goals.
All other well wishers, who provided necessary courage in making this dissertation a reality.

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List of Abbreviations

BOQQ.	- Bill Of Quantities
Bu.	- Bushels
CECB	- Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau
CF	- Conversion Factor
Cu.	- Cubes
DRE	- Divisional Resident Engineer
He	- Hectare
M	- Million
MASL	- Mahaweli Authority Of Sri Lanka
MCM	- Million Cubic Metre
MECA	- Mahaweli Engineering & Construction Agency
OH & PF	- Overhead & profit factor
psi	- Pounds per square inch
RPD	- Resident Project Director
Z-D	- Zacry - Dillingham Joint Venture

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