

The impacts of under constructing brodland dam on nature tourism industry in kithulgala

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Kithulgala is a famous nature tourism destination in the world. It has concerned by most tourists as an adventure tourism hotspot too. Activities such as White Water Rafting, hiking, trekking are there to experience. Furthermore kithulgala Makandawa rain reserve is a high sensitive bio diversity hotspot. In upper land of Kelani River, A big dam is being constructing by a china company under authority of Sri Lankan government. As a result of that nature tourism activities in this area won't be done properly. The main research objective is to identify negative environmental impact of broad land dam. Propose some suggestions to minimize them, getting attention of government to regard about it too. From 3107 people in Kithulgala, 60 people were selected to give structured questioners. Geographical books, journals and other publications and more articles and researches were studied about environmental impacts of hydropower dams in the world. Online information databases were followed through the university E-Library. Through this research many environmental impacts were found take place due to the developing project. First one is water level will get lower in the Water Rafting area after completion of the project. As a result of that flora and fauna of this river area will be decline. Makandawa rain forest is situated close to this project. A 2k.m long tunnel is being constructing at this forest. That has negatively affected on water resource of this forest. After completing the dam, Wide upper land area will be drown by water. This also may affected on bio diversity. All these problems will be affected to nature tourism in the area. This 35mw hydro power project should be run only night and government should begin solar panel project. In day time solar panel should be paralleled to national electricity line. It may be effect on strengthen resident's economy in the area. Then water can be released for water rafting in day time, Government should supervise the construction to lessen negative impacts, Environmental organizations should supervise the project to ensure endemic flora and fauna.

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