

CHANGES IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF UNSKILLED

EXPATRIATE LABOUR

CASE OF SRI LANKA

by

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ABSTRACT

There is a noticeable change in the pattern of out migration from Sri Lanka during the 1980's with the opening of labour markets for almost every level of occupations in the Middle East. This process was beneficial to Sri Lanka's economy in easing unemployment burden as well as in augmenting foreign exchange earnings through private remittances. For instance, the annual flow of private remittances had averaged at Rs. 10,000 million during the last few years. The majority of employment opportunities offered by the Middle East countries was for unskilled category of labour. Therefore, this study has attempted to explore the changes in the socio-economic status of those expatriates.

Chapter One of this thesis is devoted to describe the past and present trends in international migration from Sri Lanka. Chapter Two explains the socio-economic status of expatriate labour for unskilled occupations before their migration. Chapter Three describes the various information relating to the employment granted by those expatriates. Chapter Four is devoted to explain savings and investment through those expatriates' earnings. The object of the Chapter Five was for analysing changes in the socio-economic status of expatriates after obtaining employment opportunities abroad. At the end of text are found Conclusions and Recommendations.