

## **A STUDY ON HOW URBAN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES HAVE AFFECTED FLOOD DISASTERS IN THE GAMPAHA DIVISIONAL SECRETARY DIVISION**

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One of the biggest disasters that a tropical country like Sri Lanka experiences is flooding. In Sri Lanka, during the rainy season, several locations frequently experience these flooding circumstances. Different natural phenomena and human actions both have an impact on these floods. One of the most populous city in Sri Lanka's wet region is Gampaha. Every year, it gets between 1400mm and 2500mm of rain. The southwest monsoon and the second inter-monsoon are main sources of rain. The city of Gampaha has frequent floods during the rainy season due to its location in the centre of the “Attanagalu Oya” and “Uruwal Oya” river basins. The main objective of this study is to show how the urban flood disaster in Gampaha Divisional Secretariat Division has impacted the development efforts that are ongoing and being done in the area. This study was conducted using secondary data that was taken from the web sources and the division of disaster management at Gampaha Divisional Secretary Office. The study area is Attanagalu river basin including Gampaha municipal council. The effects of the roads and structures constructed in the city of Gampaha by filling in the river basin. Consider the Central Expressway, the main road in Gampaha - Udugampala, the jogging path, and the buildings constructed by filling the ground and those constructions locates in the river basin. Since these building projects were not done using flood resistant methods and sustainable manner. Therefore, according to data, 42 out of 101 settlements in the Gampaha Divisional Secretariat Division are now affected by floods and it is steadily rising. In 2020 this villages has impacted twice by flood. Therefore, it is necessary to concern about future development plans in Gampaha must be resistant to the flood disaster.

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