

ABSTRACT

“Climate change” is one of the foremost areas of utmost importance in global discussions in today’s context. It has been scientifically and environmentally proved that climate change causes adverse impacts on the entire living system on the earth. Global community has identified diverse areas that are highly vulnerable to climate change and “agriculture” under which plantation sector lies has been identified as one of the major areas threatened by effects of climate change. Plantation sector which is coming under the broader heading of agriculture is also paid the attention of international community as it constitutes vital element of national economies of developing countries. Tea, being the most popular cultivation among plantation agricultures or sometimes referred to as commercial agricultures, has also been identified as a highly vulnerable sector to adverse impacts of climate change. As a developing nation, the national economy of Sri Lanka is considerably represented by income generated by tea industry, specifically where Sri Lanka is considered to be one of major tea exporters of the world. The adverse impacts experienced during last few decades due to climate change have posed severe threats on tea industry of the country causing economic, social, environmental and other related issues. Despite adaptation and mitigation strategies exist at the national level to address climate change related matters, it is an urgent need of present context of the country to establish a specific legal regime in respect of climate change.

Key Words: Climate change, Plantation sector, Tea industry, Precautionary methods, Specific national legal regime, National legislation