

# **A READING OF WOMEN CAREER OPPORTUNITY IN SRI LANKAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Construction industry introduced as male dominated one. Women have to face many kinds of difficulties when enter into construction industry. not only in the entrance they have to face lots of difficulties when they are working in this industry. There are a smaller number of studies that helps for female to join into construction industry. Consequently, this dissertation tries to inspect female professionals career opportunity in Sri Lankan construction field with identifying of career challengers, success factors, improvement strategies and suitable employments for women. The data collection was done through mixed approach such as questionnaire surveying and semi-structured interviews related to the existing literature. Forty questionnaires were received, and five professionals were interviewed. Simple random sampling technique was used to collect questionnaire data and purposive sampling was used to collect interview data in contracting and consultant firms. Analysis of data were done by using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS 22) software and descriptive analysis method. Interview questions were analyzed separately with questionnaire open ended questions. The given factors for objectives were ranked with the help of mean score. Top three challengers were identified throughout this thesis, stress, family responsibilities and physical capabilities. Responsibilities, dedication and leadership skills were top three success factors identified by this study. Commitment to flexibility, role model/mentor and divers form of networking can be introduced as top three improvement strategies for women in building and infrastructure sector. Findings of this paper will be beneficial to professional institutions and government to improve their own strategies to develop women career opportunity in Sri Lankan construction industry.

**Key words:** Construction Industry, Women, Career Opportunity, Challenges