## STUDY OF THE CHANGES IN MOTHER AND CHILD CARE HEALTH SECTOR BASED ON SELECTED INDICATORS IN KORALAIPATTU DS, BATTICALOA

In relation to per capita allocation, with special reference to war and post war period -

## A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL COMPLETION OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY OF THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

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## **ABSTRACT**

The process of pregnancy and childbearing is an essential aspect of human life and every person born is vulnerable to various diseases and health conditions, because of this the continuous demand for MCH services exists in Sri Lanka and other developing countries.

According to the World Health Organization, Sri Lanka's health indicators are satisfactory and have improved over the recent decades. In particular, national level maternal and infant mortality, and life expectancy. Even though Sri Lanka's health standards are good when compared to other countries in the region, it is obvious that the country is undergoing demographic, epidemiological and social transition and is facing a unique situation.

It is accepted that even though there was continuous increase in the per capita health allocation in the country the health indicators are not uniformly of relatively good standard in all the regions in the Island. Sri Lanka has emerged from a long conflict that lasted three decades, right now recovery and rebuilding of health services in the north and east is a priority for the Government.

The overall the MCH indicators of Sri Lanka are good according to the Human Development index and MDG report, per capita health allocation is up to the standard of other developing countries. According to the analysis many factors are affecting the MCH indicators (IMR, MMR and children under-weight), allocation of funds/resources, age, access to appropriate health care service, education, nutrition, and poverty. In the meantime MCH services are influenced by socio demographic factors, such as family income, food prices, livelihoods, but are also linked to the physical and mental health of parents. Further in the Northern and Eastern province of Sri Lanka during the war and post war situation stress, uncertainty, insecurity, early marriages and decision to have babies also influencedMCH indicators.

The study is focused on the Changes in MCH sector based on selected MCH indicators, in relation to per capita allocation, with special reference to war and post war period.