

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to explore the perceptions of satisfaction of Karagahawawa farmers on the Resettlement and Rehabilitation Project of the Mahaweli Authority. Study was carried on the assumptions that "people in this location are not satisfied and their perceptions of satisfaction have declined now". Study was conducted using a sample of 30 farmers which was randomly selected. Additionally In-depth interviews were conducted with 8 farmers. The instrument used for assessing the perceptions of satisfaction was a questionnaire. It also gathered information with general characteristics of the sample and the perceptions of satisfactions. Farmers responded to the statements of perceptions. Statements highly related to the attitudes of satisfaction on irrigation activities was evaluated by using the Sign and Wilcoxon tests and by the Weighted Value method which was rated on the scale ranged from 1 = strongly agree to 5 = strongly disagree. Then each statement was analyzed using the number of farmers and per perceptions. Based on the analysis with regard to the monthly income, satisfaction on the adequacy of the irrigation canals to supply water, and satisfaction on the bushels taken from fields, farmers have expressed less satisfaction with the situation in 2011 as compared to that in 1998. It was also found Water, availability of land, loss of soil fertility and lack of maintenance were major issues that affected there perceptions.