



**A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EXISTING LAWS ON
PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES AGAINST
OVEREXPLOITATION: A COMPARATIVE STUDY**

By

KAMANI DEVIKA SENEVIRATHNA

The Dissertation submitted to

**GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE
UNIVERSITY,
SRI LANKA**

*In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree
of*

MASTER OF LAWS

16th August 2024

Abstract

This study focuses on the current legislative frameworks designed to protect natural resources from overexploitation. The researcher assesses the efficacy of these regulations in different jurisdictions through a comparative analysis and critical examination of the current legislation pertaining to the preservation of natural resources from excessive exploitation. The main objective of this study is to analyze Sri Lanka's environmental legislation and assess its effectiveness in preventing excessive natural resource depletion. This requires a comprehensive analysis of all existing legislation, including its enforcement mechanisms and the outcomes it has produced. The procedure involves examining case studies and best practices that demonstrate successful environmental management and sustainable development strategies through secondary data using the qualitative research method. The researcher also conducted a comparative legal analysis with advanced jurisdictions. The expected outcome of this study is a thorough examination of the environmental legislation in Sri Lanka, encompassing both its advantages and disadvantages. Specific policy recommendations tailored to Sri Lanka's unique conditions and derived from more advanced legal frameworks will enhance this. Ultimately, the study aims to demonstrate to other developing nations the means by which they might enhance their legal systems in order to achieve sustainable growth without causing harm to the environment. It is a comprehensive strategy, ultimately.

Key words: Existing Laws, Natural Resources, Overexploitation