

# AN ANALYSIS OF LEGISLATION FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON HEALTH

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Health services in Sri Lanka are provided mainly through the Ministry of Health, local authorities, and private sector, but at present it is the government that is responsible to render public health/ community health services.

It is a known fact that the environment has an impact on health. For many years environmental health has been a legal responsibility of national and provincial health authorities, but the control of environmental factors affecting health has long been shared by other ministries, agencies and agents.

The purpose of this study was to analyze the legislation for protection of the environment and its impact on health.

Among the laws that have been enacted to protect the environment, quarantine and prevention of diseases ordinance, housing and town improvement ordinance, town and country planning ordinance, food act, cosmetic and drugs act, control of pesticides act, national environmental act, medical ordinance, urban development authority act, the nuisance act, central environmental authority law, and constitution of Sri Lanka and its amendments were shown to have an impact on health.