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THE CONSEQUENCES OF URBAN IN-MIGRATION IN SRI LANKA: A CASE STUDY OF GAMPAHA DISTRICT.

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Abstract: In recent years, the most popular migration stream has been urban-ward migration. This paper analyzes the consequences of urban in-migration in the Gampaha District which is a fast developing district in Sri Lanka. A sample survey of five urban centres of Gampaha District, have been selected for this study. An interviewer administered questionnaire was administered in 600 households. The sample comprised 49% males and 51% females. The findings reveal that the majority of migrants were of rural origin. Several important issues on war refugees in the Negombo municipal area and the migrant workers in Biyagama and Seeduwa have emerged from the study. The impact of migration was investigated by using several socio-economic indicators. The outcomes reflect major problems, which should be identified and focused on as soon as possible. Also, some of these findings are important in the task of planning urban centres for receiving future migrants, and therefore, would have positive impact on the formulation and implementation of urban policies.