

## **Economic Crisis Impact on Health and Wellbeing of Household in Estate Sector in Sri Lanka**

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The Sri Lankan financial crisis is an ongoing crisis that started in 2019. It causes near-depletion of exchange reserves, shortage of medicine, shortage of food, shortage of food supply, and an increase in prices of food and non-food commodities. This study focuses on the relationship between health and wellbeing of estate households, the current economic shocks due to crisis. The main research objective is to identify the most important factors affecting household wellbeing during the economic crisis. Data on 100 households were collected from the *Kataboola* estate in *Nawalapitiya* by using pre-tested structured questionnaires. The questionnaire contains both quantitative and qualitative questions. Stratified random sampling was used to select respondents for study. Results show that the more than half of the sampled households increased food expenditure by more than 50%. The key concerns reported were about fuel availability, household financial status and cleanness of drinking water. Further, regression analysis showed total income, age of household head, protein availability shock, grain availability shock, Vegetables availability shock, Medical expenditure and transport expenditure are related to subjective and objective wellbeing of households. The finding of this study highlight that encouraging and awareness programmes should be conducted for affected households in estate sector.

**Keywords:** Economic crisis, Estate sector, Health, Households, Wellbeing

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