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## LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS OF SUITABLE WALL FINISHING MATERIALS FOR RESTAURANT BUILDINGS IN SRI LANKA

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Abstract: This study evaluates the impact of material selection on the lifecycle cost (LCC) of restaurant buildings in Sri Lanka, with a focus on wall finishing materials. The growing restaurant and hotel industry in Sri Lanka is recovering from economic challenges, including the COVID-19 crisis. This research investigates how the durability and performance of wall materials influence both the initial and long-term costs of construction and maintenance. Data was gathered from 10 industry experts, with insights from restaurant constructions near the north-west and beach areas of Sri Lanka. Results indicate that while some materials have higher upfront costs, their longer lifespan and reduced maintenance needs make them more cost-effective in the long run. The findings provide valuable recommendations for stakeholders in the construction sector to make informed decisions about material selection, highlighting the importance of proper maintenance and renovation to extend the lifespan of restaurant buildings.

**Keywords:** Economic Impact, Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA), Restaurant Buildings, Sri Lanka Construction, Wall Finishing Materials.