



THE INFLUENCE OF INDOOR AIR QUALITY ON EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN GREEN BUILDING INTERIORS: A CASE STUDY OF THE APPAREL INDUSTRY AT MAS THURULIE, SRI LANKA

Kariyawasam T.^{1,*} and Samarasinghe A.¹

¹ NIBM National Innovation Centre, Sri Lanka.

* Corresponding author email: thilinaisuru.94@gmail.com

Abstract: This study delved into the crucial relationship between Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) and employee productivity, specifically within the Apparel Industry of Sri Lanka, with a notable focus on the renowned MAS Thurulie. Employing a positivist approach, the research systematically examined IAQ within the context of Green Building interiors. A deductive methodology, guided by established theories, shaped the research objectives. The comprehensive research design combined case study and survey methods to investigate this complex relationship. Structured interviews with key stakeholders unveiled the practical effects of IAQ within MAS Thurulie, while a carefully designed survey captured valuable insights into employee perceptions regarding IAQ and its subjective influence on their productivity. To address productivity, this study emphasized subjective measurements through the employees' own perspectives on their work productivity. Robust statistical analyses, including descriptive and inferential statistics, were conducted to provide a comprehensive understanding of the gathered data, ensuring the study's methodological rigor. The study's sample comprised 230 employees selected via random sampling to ensure representativeness. Findings from this study unveiled the profound impact of IAQ elements, such as air pollution, ventilation, and aromas, on employee productivity. It was evident that MAS Thurulie's commitment to maintaining superior IAQ positively aligned with higher employee productivity levels. In conclusion, this research highlighted the crucial role of IAQ within Green Buildings and urged businesses within the Apparel Industry to embrace and implement these practices to foster employee productivity. In doing so, organizations contributed not only to their own success but also to broader environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation efforts.

Keywords: Air Pollution, Aroma, Green Building, Indoor Air Quality, MAS Thurulie, Ventilation