

COASTAL EROSION STUDIES IN SRI LANKA : A REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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Although the coastline of Sri Lanka stretches for more than 1700 km., comparatively little attention has been given so far to coastal studies. In recent times, however, the problem of coastal erosion has received much attention because of the immediacy of the problem. Studies on coastal erosion have been done from different points of view, and on the basis of the specific interests of the scholars. A review of such studies from an applied geomorphological approach was considered useful for scientists, planners, and other personnel who are engaged in activities of coast conservation and management.

In this paper, the authors have categorized coastal studies into six broad groups, according to the nature of their basic content : coastal geomorphological principles; coastal erosion; processes and morphology; coastline changes; coastal environment; coast conservation planning. Also, a comprehensive bibliography of coastal studies is presented.