Case Study

ABSTRACT

Public Enterprise Pathology: Sri Lanka’s Experience in Perspective

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This article examines the relationships between parliament, government and public enterprises in Sri Lanka, a developing country. The study investigates the hypothesis of Mascarenhas that poor performance of public enterprises may be due, at least in past, to the policy inefficiency of governments. A qualitative analysis of the control mechanisms instituted by government to monitor and control these enterprises is conducted. The analysis and the author’s experience as a chief executive in the public enterprise system in Sri Lanka supports Mascarenhas’ reasoning. Policy inefficiency is an important issue to be addressed by those countries, which continue to make considerable use of public enterprises.

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