Every economic system has required and utilised though not fully recognised the work of women. They were involved mainly in occupations such as maintenance of the home, cooking and care of the children which were accepted as their gender-specific roles. Women also assisted their menfolk in their work outside the house especially from the days of the evolution of the agricultural economy. Women's work though important was considered unproductive and the time and energy spent on domestic affairs are undervalued.

The plantation sector which consists of tea, coffee, rubber and cardamom provides significant employment opportunities to women in Kerala and Kerala is considered as the most important plantation state in India. It is in this context that the present study is made about the women workers in the plantation sector of Kerala to evaluate their kept-up position in the socio-economic aspects.

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