Abstract

Singapore has been relying heavily on foreign workers to complement its local workforce since the 1980s. Therefore, there are no doubts that foreign workers have contributed significantly towards Singapore’s economic growth.

Today, there are about 450,000 work permit holders in Singapore with over 100,000 working as foreign domestic workers in our households. These foreign workers formed more than 20% of our current workforce. This has brought about the issue of providing housing for the foreign workers. As such, it is timely to carry out a study on the different types of workers’ accommodation available and determine the ‘best form’ of housing for the foreign workers.

The survey results found that commercial workers’ dormitories are superior to the other types of foreign workers’ accommodation. However, marginal improvement priorities analysis revealed that greater emphasis should be placed on the location of dormitories, rental and floor area of dormitory units and fulfilling the social needs of dormitory occupants.

**Keywords:** foreign workers, accommodation, commercial workers’ dormitories, marginal improvement priorities.