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ABSTRACT

A natural disaster is most common in the world due to the environment adverse events resulting from uncontrollable natural phenomenon, mostly fueled by manmade causes. Flood is one of the natural disasters which can highly influence on humans and their properties which is most common to Sri Lankan community now, a challenging and contemporary social security concern under the domain of national security objectives. Most of the records highlighted that Colombo district highly affect from floods and the losses and damages are high as it is the capital of the country which is highly populated and commercialized. This research study focused on identifying the effective utilization of SLAF by enhancing air power capabilities and training for flood relief operations in Colombo district. The researcher identified that human error highly affects on flood mission especially due to incident in Baddegama and lack of resources highly influences on effectiveness of flood relief activities.

The researcher used inductive research approach to conduct this study as the researcher needs to find the SLAF related facts and figures which affect on effectiveness of flood relief operation. Mixed method was used to conduct the study which consisted qualitative and quantitative data. Thus, the researcher used statistical analysis methods such as mean value, standard deviation value to analyse quantitative data and code analysis method to analyse qualitative data.

The tactical level employees stated that they faced challenges such as misleading information, communicate with the central location as well as maintain coordination among other helicopters, lack of equipment and etc. during they work on flood relief activities. Operational level employees highlighted the employees have enough competencies to work on flood relief activities but unfortunately, they have not enough fund to train them for special operations.

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Bureaucracy of the government organizations highly influences on purchasing right equipment at the right time which is highly affect on effective utilization of Air Power of the SLAF during such operation.

Key Words: Disasters, Floods, Effectiveness, Air Power