

**RESTRICTED**

**ABSTRACT**

Aviation Safety or flight safety is a matter of importance for any aviation related organization to ensure its smooth functioning and minimizing the fatal accidents rate. SLAF consists various types of trades and certain trades directly involve with flying operations while few trades do not. The trades which directly does not involve into flying operations can be categorized as non-flying related trades. SLAF largely consists with non-flying related tradesmen. According to the Air Staff Orders, all airmen and civilians who work in the SLAF, should possess adequate flight safety knowledge. Despite of various improvements that have been implemented to uplift the Flight Safety awareness in the SLAF, it is observed that the number of accidents/ incidents related to manoeuvring areas of airfields have not been reduced remarkably. According to the ATC records, most of these violations are committed by tradesmen related to non-flying duties. Hence, this study is a significant endeavour to assess the current flight safety awareness of non-flying related tradesmen in the SLAF, to find factors affecting to the flight safety awareness and improvements that should be inducted to the future awareness programmes. The research was conducted at the busiest SLAF airfield i.e SLAF Academy China Bay and 04 major trades related to non-flying duties were selected as the sample. Total 78 samples were selected using the stratified random sampling method and questionnaire was distributed to evaluate the current flight safety awareness, perception on flight safety and involvement towards flight safety. Further two semi structured interviews were carried out with SLAF flight safety experts to evaluate the organizational commitment towards flight safety. Research finding indicates that the airmen's perception on flight safety, involvement on flight safety and organizational commitment imposes a positive impact on flight safety awareness. Further, it is revealed that the organization has failed to provide the required priority to improve flight safety knowledge. Finally, the researcher recommends ways and means to improve flight safety awareness in the SLAF.

**Keywords:** Aviation safety awareness, military aviation, Non-flying related airmen