## UTILIZATION OF SRI LANKA NAVAL RESOURCES FOR FLOOD RELIEF OPERATIONS AT BADDEGAMA IN SOUTHERN PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA

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## **ABSTRACT**

Galle district is highly prone to flood disaster resulted from Southwest monsoon followed by the spilling of the Gin River. Even though an emergency response plan has been prepared by District Disaster Management Coordinating Unit (DDMCU), it can be noted that the rescue and response plans are highly needed an upgrade and update for effective and efficient approach. The Southern Naval Command (SNC) of Sri Lankan Navy in Galle is also playing an important role in rescuing and responding to the flood disaster management action, but no properly established and wellstructured action plan to cope with the flood disaster management in the area, hence some constraints have been emerged and come across. With this background, this study was carried out with the objective of evaluating the effectiveness of the flood rescue and response mechanism of SNC for proposing an action plan to cope with the flood disaster of the Baddegama in future. In the study, seven Grama Niladari Divisions(GND) which have been highly affected in the last flood disasters were selected as the specific study area and they are Hemmeliya, Gothatuwa, Ganegama South, Dodangoda, Majuwana, Horagampita, Madyama and Walpita North. A desk study on reviewing the literature was conducted to identify the background of the issue and field survey was conducted to collect the primary data as observations and statistical information resulted from structured and open questionnaire survey. In addition, flood related secondary data was also collected. The gathered data were analyzed both statistically and qualitatively in interpreting the results. According to the study, it is well noted that many parts of the Baddegama Divisional Secretariat (DS) Division has been impacted. It further proved the inefficiency and ineffectiveness of the present approach by the SNC in many aspects and it is well noted the greater need of such a mechanism in proper, efficient and effective intervene in flood disaster management and risk reduction. Hence, considering this greater need, an action plan is proposed here to fulfil the gap identified by the study and it describes the involvements, actions to be taken in advance and approaches with structurally controlled. Upgrading and updating the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) of DDMCU as mentioned, in improving it to cope with the developing flood situations and implementing the proposed action plan immediately are recommended.

**Keywords:** Flood Disaster, Baddegama, District Disaster Management Coordinating Unit, Emergency Response Plan, Southern Naval Command of Sri Lanka Navy, Action Plan.