

Abstract

The unfinished business of Sri Lanka Navy is to protect the island from sea bound threats being the first line of defence of the country. Sri Lanka being a developing country it is utmost difficult to build up a blue water Navy due to existing financial constraints and hence paramount to maintain a higher percentage of operational ability of available ships and craft for achieving the said task.

The operational availability of ships and craft mainly depends upon the effectiveness of the routine; maintenance work and the effectiveness of repairs are directly connected to the timely supply of spares required and the productivity of the technical staff.

Use of obsolete financial regulations inherited from colonial rulers and the outdated procedure adopted for the procurement process are contributed mostly for the delay of supply of spares. However, changes to those regulations and procedures are very difficult since they involve policy changes at the parliamentary level.

In the modern world today, information systems play a crucial role in the procurement process in any organization. Although the use of computers in purchasing and management of inventories began in end 1975, SL Navy still uses manual systems for purchasing and managing inventories which is being the other major reason for the delay in the procurement process.

Establishment of a computer network connecting all the people involve in the procurement process would be the timely requirement for SL Navy to overcome the delays in the supply of spares.

The researcher vehemently recommends introducing these computer networks and believes that it would be the most appropriate and the fastest solution to overcome delays in the procurement process and thereby to enhance the operational availability of ships and craft of SL Navy.

This research discusses the importance of the introducing of such a local area network initially and later to develop that network to a wide area network.