

## ABSTRACT

At present, there is an acute shortage of vehicles in Sri Lanka Navy (SLN) to meet its day to day operational and administrative matters as considerable percentage of available vehicles are nonoperational at an any given time due to minor or major repairs. Efficient and effective transportation system for the SLN is paramount important when considered the allocation of vehicles for tasks in hand and the huge cost for annual repairs and maintenances of the available old and inferior quality vehicles. It is understood that there are a lot of issues when carrying out in-house transport management in SLN. After engaging in 30 years of war, SLN is now in a transition period where it should re-define its operational strategies to achieve high degree of organizational efficiency. Most of the military organizations in the world have been restructured and are moving towards to new concepts in order to achieve the best fighting efficiency. Hence the SLN has to go beyond the traditional frame and search new concepts that can be applied in order to improve the operational efficiency. So now it is the time to find and go for more cost effective means and methods in order to ensure the maximum utilization of public money. To be a professional navy, it is necessary to improve the professionalism of personnel by paying more attention on its core activities rather than supportive activities. In this kind of situation, the management needs to make a decision on effectiveness and efficiency of transportation system of SLN to make the further decision of "in-house or outsource" to achieve operational excellence. Then, SLN has to measure the transportation effectiveness and efficiency to take this decision, based on decision-making criteria. Therefore, this research is intended to address the gap existing, what are the factors which affect the transportation effectiveness and efficiency in SLN? Quantitative nature of the research was used by gathering data from 30 officers who are dealing with SLN transportation. The conceptual framework was developed under five main independent variables and six hypotheses (null and alternatives) were developed based on the theoretical framework. Upon testing the hypothesis based on statistical data analysis, null hypothesis are rejected and alternative hypothesis are accepted. It is indicated that there is an impact of time, cost, security, availability and flexibility on transportation effectiveness and efficiency.