

ABSTRACT

Aircraft accidents result in damages of vital resources, namely persons and equipment. However it is difficult to accurately assess the real or actual cost of aircraft accidents. Financially, they can be extremely expensive, because of aircraft and equipment replacement costs. The main objective of this study is to identify the significant causes for the aircraft accidents happened in the Sixty Seven years history of SLAF by finding the knowledge gap between the existing SLAF's flight safety mechanism and internationally accepted flight safety management systems. Periodical study of the adverse events (aviation incidents) statistics is assumed as a basis of this work. Using statistics of adverse accident causal factors, taking place in the recent years, in the SLAF the analysis of such factors were carried out. Analyses of those factors were carried out with the assistance of the Aircraft Accidents and Incidents data derived from the Command Flight Safety Inspectorate and Command Quality Assurance Inspectorate of Sri Lanka Air Force. The study, in its later chapters assesses the most probable causes for the aircraft accidents in the SLAF and consideration was given to the organization needs of preventing such accidents in the SLAF. Finally, it is recommended that, flight safety surveys and audits are to be conducted by the Command Flight Safety Inspectorate and Command Quality Assurance Inspectorate in all Aerodromes in the SLAF to monitor the Aviation safety functions as per the flight safety criteria. Further, recruiting and training of new pilots and available aircrew get sufficient rest, to have future plans to ahead of inducting new aircraft to SLAF after conducting a good market survey, and training of aircrew with flight simulators, were some of feasible recommendations to eliminate the most probable causes for the accident occurrences in the SLAF.