

RESTRICTED

ABSTRACT



1. A disaster is a serious disruption occurring over a short or long period of time and losses which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources. During the disaster management process Air Force is playing a significant role due to its inherent capabilities. As a developing country, Sri Lanka is facing numerous difficulties due to lack of technology and equipment. Sri Lanka Air Force is the best solution for that. Fire and rescue unit in Sri Lanka Air Force is capable to carry out Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operation in all around the country. However, due to few accident during the recent past effectiveness of the fire fighters are questionable. Therefore, most of the time Regiment Special Force is utilized for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operation, But Sri Lanka Air Force Fire and Rescue personnel have more experience and knowledge in various areas. Hence, this study was carried out to identify the effectiveness of the personnel who are engaging in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operation. This study critically evaluated the organizational factors and individual factors of these units. During the study it has found unique capabilities of particular units. However, among those three units which are utilized for fire fighters are capable to address various kind of disaster situation compare with other two units. Nevertheless, due to outdated equipment and lack of training are adversely affect to the effectiveness of the Fire and Rescue unit. Apart from that job satisfaction and organizational culture also given significant impact to the effectiveness of fire and rescue service in Air Force. Introduce new technological equipment to the Fire and Rescue unit, restructuring of organizational factors towards job satisfaction, update existing equipment and reforming training programme are direct influence to effective employment of Fire and Rescue unit and self-confidence of fire fighters.

Key Words: Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief operation, Sri Lanka Air Force Fire & Rescue, Effective Utilisation,