

SECRET

ABSTRACT

1. The Commando Regiment (CR) as the most elite outfit of the Sri Lanka Army is responsible for securing the motherland from both internal and external threats. In fact, they must be ready to react to any kind of threat such as asymmetric warfare threats, foreign interventions and all kinds of natural disasters. For that, it is required to strategically deploy Commandos in a way that they can be employed quickly and effectively. In addition, the most important thing is maintaining their combat readiness during peace time. However, at this point, the CR is deployed in group strength covering the Northern Province, Eastern Province, and Colombo. Besides that, they maintain elements in strategically important locations such as Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA), Mattala Mahinda Rajapaksha International Airport and Colombo harbour. Therefore, during this research an in-depth analysis was done to identify the best possible deployment for the CR to address the future security challenges in Sri Lanka. During the process theoretical aspects related to Commando operations, possible future threats, how to overcome those and possible deployment for the CR was recommended.

2. Multi-disciplinary nature of the threat mainly because actions of both state and non-state actors were examined. When taking into consideration the behaviours of different actors in recent years, predictions are appears to be impossible and evolving tactics marks significantly different from one action to another. Therefore, to effectively deal with these actions CR has to be timely updated and they must be fully prepared with skills, equipment, and positioning. However, it was found that Commandos are trained in a mixture of total and specialized concepts where all Commandos are not capable of carrying out any task so they need specific persons to conduct different tasks. Because CR was adopting mix concept, though they are deployed in several parts of the country they do not have required skilled personnel and equipment to carry out different tasks.