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ABSTRACT

Sustainability of the Regiment Special Forces in the Sri Lanka Air Force is utmost important to act as first line of defence in order to secure air assets from external threats. In compliance, RSF personnel were not constrained with a minute of flaw in terms of their morale during the war even amidst a greater index of life threats and uncertainty projected by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Ealam. They did valiantly operate in myriad of territories including jungle operation and protecting of air bases. Contradictorily, statistics gathered during the study testifies the fact that the prowess of RSF maintained at its peak with respect to their contingent until 2009 until such time the ruthless band of terrorism culminated militarily and the percentage of seeking alternative from the RSF has increased during the post war scenario simultaneous to the level of recruitment which has been subjected to decline due to non-willingness of gunners to become a specialized soldier in the regiment. Therefore, this thesis explores the factors that can significantly impact for the sustainability of the Regiment Special Forces in the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF). In the process of this study, it has been identified that the main factors that affect the morale and motivation among the Officers and Other Rankers of the Regiment Special Forces in the SLAF are non-availability of vision / mission, insufficient amount of motivation allowance, decrement of benefits, physical toughness, isolation at rural area, utilization for basic ground role and amended grade 01 school entrance marking scheme. Data analysis revealed that dissatisfaction and demoralization of majority of RSF personnel and gunners who are serving their duty at SLAF Regiment have become a major issue for the sustainability of the RSF in future which has been aggravated by lesser proportion of recruitment. Therefore, it is utmost important to find immediate solutions based on the findings to increase recruitment in order to sustain Regiment Special Forces in future. Therefore, this skilled manpower which belongs to the Sri Lanka Air Force would become the most readiness and available asset in any aspect in terms of protection of air power in future.