

## **Executive Summary**

The main objective of this thesis is to find the reasons for lead time gap of material supply through the Domestic Textile Allocation Committee (DTAC) to SLAF.

Since 2005, DTAC, the Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee has allocated uniform materials requirements of the state sector to local textile manufacturers. The main objective of this exercise is to empower the Local Textile Manufacturers. However, researcher observed that, there is huge lead time gap when material supplying through DTAC. Pre-processing lead of DTAC purchasing process is very high comparatively to the SLAF procurement process. SLAF have to provide textile material to run their own garment factories situated at SLAF premises and unavailability of material make machine idling situation. Because, SLAF garment factories establish to provide stitching facility only for SLAF requirement and SLAF does not accept any outside orders like in a private sector garment factories. Purposes of establishing of SLAF garment factories is to facilitate SLAF Logistic branch by producing good quality garment for Annual kit issue requirement. SLAF Garments factories are not profit oriented establishment and service providing establishment only. Therefore, no subcontracts undertake even in a critical situation and main purpose is to minimize the Stock out situation of finish garment. Unavailability of Textile Material at S&MD will completely stop the production function at all three garment factories. All serving personnel working in the garments were recruited in to a Uniformed Outfitter trade and they are included in to the SLAF strength. SLAF should pay their salary whether the garment factories function or not. Production planning to be done according to the requirement of SLAF establishment and non productive hours, days directly affected for monthly production. SLAF logisticians have given a task to complete the annual kit issue requirement of all serving personnel on or before AOC's date of that particular Base, Station or Unit. Failure to provide annual kit issue without justifiable reason is a punishable offence and neglecting of primary responsibility of Logistic Branch. During the study, researcher observed that domestic suppliers have not been delivered uniformed material on time as per contract agreement or scheduled date given for them by the state sector organization. Most of the year's DTAC suppliers fail to deliver current year requirements within that particular

year. Researcher identified thirteen steps in DTAC purchasing process and to complete each steps it takes number of days. Sometime it is bellow the scheduled date given and most of the time above the scheduled date given. The study may reveal the reasons for high lead time when purchasing the material from Local Textile Manufactures through DTAC. Therefore, the main research question would be **“Determinants of lead time gap of uniforms and material supply through Domestic Textile Allocation Committee to public sector organizations;”**

Collection of data, both preliminary and secondary were based on the factors contributing to the lead time gap of uniform material supply by Local Textile Manufacturers through the policy adopted by the government. These factors are identified as variables. Accordingly six variables have been selected and to measure those variables researcher has selected several indicators as appropriate. Those six variables are coordination among stakeholders, development of production capacity of the manufacturers, improvement of quality of the fabrics, extent of using modern technologies , the incentives granted by the government and item acceptance.

In view of collecting data, two type of questionnaire were prepared and questionnaire no 2 was distributed among four major factories and held interviews with factory owners and other officials who involved in the scheme. The questioner no 1 was distributed among the personnel who are directly involving with this purchasing process to see the impact of each variable on lead time. To study the production process researcher visited the factories and obtained further details for strengthening the reliability of the data. The study more focused on purchase of uniform materials to the Sri Lanka Air Force because the time and recourses available are very limited and finding and recommendation of this case study can be apply for other sister services too.

The six variables identified as above have critically analyzed to determinants of lead time gap of uniformed material supply through DTAC to SLAF. For this purpose the data collected have been analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. The data were presented in tables and figures in view of identifying trends actual lead time of each purchases. Several indicators have been selected for one variable with a view to understand the level of impact for lead time.