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ABSTRACT

1. The Mechanized Infantry Regiment was introduced to the Sri Lanka Army in year 2007 with new concept to the Battlefield. There it gave added mobility radio communication, fire power and protection to the infantry troops during the humanitarian operation in North and East. Leadership is significant element for the progressive development of the Mechanized Infantry Regiment. The research on Assessment of Leadership Based Career Challengers of Middle Grade and Junior Officers in the Mechanized Infantry Regiment was conducted to determine the present level of leadership development among the junior and middle grade officer in the regiment.

2. The process of military leadership development commences with inculcation of organizational values, standards and ethics that are the foundation of the profession. Upon this foundation, the officer develops and abstract body of expert knowledge base primarily on experiences. To understand the mechanism of the mechanized infantry it is very much vital to know its systems and functions so that leader needs added knowledge, experiences, and skills.

3. Through this research, it was revealed that there is a considerable gap between the prevailing and required to enhance leadership qualities, positive attitudes, knowledge, skills, in present day junior and middle grade officers in the regiment and know the tactics, techniques and procedures in the regiment. This research takes up future challengers.

4. This study was conducted through questioner to analysis how far these factors are used by the regiment officers in junior and middle grade level. To determine the extent of coverage of these factors during their training, courses and development programme. Based on the above result, a formal training and development plan, and administrative barriers could be overcome within the regiment. It will open a new avenue to improve junior officers to groom into higher leadership positions by becoming more effective leaders to face up with future leadership challenges.