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ABSTRACT

War has been ended by victorious soldiers in 2009, but absenteeism in the SL Army occurs due to many reasons. The absenteeism in Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC) has been increased drastically during the post-war scenario. Statistics indicate that majority of soldiers in SLAC have been absent due to their personal problems, especially the difficulties in applying leave. This has become a major reason to all the tradesmen in the squadrons to proceed on leave at correct time. It is understood that a loyal and patriotic civilian youth becomes a soldier. If he gets absent from his duty, it will drastically affect his career. Then he will be guilty in summary trial and awards with punishments. After that his promotion, overseas courses and UN missions will be curtailed. Then, absent soldiers have to face many financial as well as official problems. Therefore this matter should have given a special concern. Absenteeism is a reaction which is seen in an individual for their problems. Elements that have been identified as factors, can be controlled to minimize this situation. Close supervision on soldiers, limiting major events in units, personnel management and scheduled training programs will lead to reduce the absenteeism. Lack of required tradesmen, weaknesses in leadership, poorly scheduled vehicle inspections, social problems, official problems and personal upheavals form parts of the complex network that causes drastically. The rate of absenteeism in the Sri Lanka Armoured corps has not decreased even more than seven years have passed after the war. Therefore, serious attention is needed to be given by the military leaders and the present government too. Researcher identified during conduct of research that many variables are affecting for absenteeism. The research work can be expanded with other variables like, culture influence to absenteeism, attitude of soldiers for peace time situation, financial issues of soldier and absenteeism, addiction of younger generation to the mobile phones, social influences in post war period, family bond especially after marriage and leadership style in the regiment. Recommend to conduct a research to identify the weak points and necessary recommendations to the existing leave policy. If remedial measures would not take immediately, the situation of security forces may be worsen in the future.