

ABSTRACT

Sri Lanka and India separated by a narrow sea channel called "Palk Strait". There is an oscillate proposal flows in decades to setting up road and railway infrastructure cross the "Palk Strait" for trading, commercial, political and social purposes. The main purpose and scope of this research is to identify and discuss about the key issues of this project with focusing and detailing the proposal and recognizing and relatively assessing its economical and social costs benefits and possible increase of the security threats that may arise and identifying measures for countering the costs and increasing the benefits. Also to focus how should reinforce the transportation security (especially in Sri Lanka Railways) to overcome the future transnational and trans - border security threats could be come through this proposed road and rail link and to produce data to future policy makers and researchers to mitigate the transnational security threats in future as a countering measure.

The research problem and research questions are based on the evaluation and recognition of key factors which may be considered as the Cost benefit analysis development, economic commitment and security concerns for the idea of road and railway link. The study based on generic qualitative analysis taken from both primary data and as well as secondary data. In the primary data presentation four key personal were interviewed. The researcher was able to select the intellectuals who possess ample knowledge over the subject matter. The interviewees allowed answering five research questions using direct access "survey method" in order to collect necessary information. The researcher collected secondary data by referring survey reports, web sites, journals and articles related to the research. The data analysis technique mainly developed based on the cost benefit analysis. In theoretical interpretations, each theory analyzed to identify specific subject areas of the research questions, objectives and the variables.

Major findings and trends found as a result of analysis are, through this Road and Rail Link Sri Lanka will connect South Asian and Trans Asian Road and Railway Net Work and also to the Great Asian Highway Net Work and this broad connection with regional and international transportation cross roads and railways, paves the way to expose the country more towards new by lateral, regional and transnational challenges. Therefore as a nation we must conduct research and better understand the context to minimize the costs

of the proposed road and rail link with improving expecting benefits. According to the research, there are both negative and positive impacts of this proposed Road and Railway infrastructure layout. As a result due to the presence of both costs and benefits it is essential to assure that such costs are countered and eliminated. Hence finally the researcher attempted to make more general conclusions and recommendations based on the research findings with suggest measures to counter and eliminate the costs.

