



ABSTRACT

The dry port concept is widely used in developed countries in the maritime logistic fields compared to Sri Lanka. The growing traffic in Colombo city area and the direct impact of container transportation in and out of the port has arose the concern of governing authorities over the cargo transportation of the port. More over the port users especially importers and exporters and transport providers are facing numerous issues in the procedure in and out of the port premises which is located in a highly urban city area.

The report first provides an introduction to the current situation of port of Colombo, its capacity and the projected levels of increase in imports and export of the country. This is followed by an introduction to the theme of the operation and a detail discussion of the strategy of a dry port to handle Containerized cargo at port of Colombo.

The responses from the industry and port users were collected through a questionnaire and interviews and supporting data was gathered from the SLPA statistics and web journals for a statistical analysis of the projection of the port capacity. The final chapters of the report have an analysis of the gathered data and, the responses were analyzed on customer expectations of dry port and how a dry port could solve current issues in the import/ export receive and delivery process. This provides an idea on the effectiveness of a dry port to handle Containerized cargo at SLPA and the expectations of the port users who are willing to use the port.