



## ABSTRACT

Although Sri Lanka is not known as a drug producing country it is relatively attractive as a drug transit country. Narcotic industry has caused many socio-economic problems in Sri Lanka. In order to maximize drug seizures trends of drug smuggling need to be identified. Objective of this study was to gather and analyze secondary data in order to identify trends and patterns of illicit drug trafficking in Sri Lanka. In this research secondary data was gathered from Sri Lanka Customs Narcotic Branch and from Sri Lanka Police Narcotic Bureau. Data was analyzed using SPSS 17 and Minitab software. The results suggest that most frequently imported and exported drug type is Heroin. Pakistan and India are the main countries from where drugs are imported to Sri Lanka while drugs are exporting mainly to Australia and Maldives. The most commonly used mode of operation to both import and export drug is concealing them in travelling bags. Air mode is the most preferred transportation mode transport Drugs to and from Sri Lanka. Overall there is a rising trend of importing drugs to Sri Lanka while exporting trend is on the decline. Research suggests that in order to maximize drug seizures in the future, the law enforcement agencies should focus on investigating most commonly used transportation and operational modes and measures to control import and export of drugs should be taken in cooperation with governments of commonly involved countries.