

The Maritime Relationship between China and Sri Lanka during the Period of 2010-2018

K. V. C. S. A. Kamburugamuwa¹

Abstract

Today China is the world's second largest economy with a GDP over US\$ 1,100,000 billion and the major power in Asia with huge influential capacity. On other hand, Sri Lanka is smaller state in South Asia that ranked as an upper middle-income country. Both states have been in good relationship over 60 years. During the period of 2010-2015 Sri Lanka-China relationship increased and it was mainly focused on maritime relations. With the establishment of new government in 2015 those relations were limited. The objectives of this study are examining the nature of China-Sri Lanka maritime relationship and identifying the reasons for China-Sri Lanka maritime relationship, opportunities and challenges of China-Sri Lanka maritime relationship to China and to Sri Lanka and how it affected to outsiders. The methodology of this study is qualitative and it will continue based on grounded theory. This study will use both qualitative and quantitative data to analyze the research problem. The data will be collected through secondary data sources. In conclusion the study explains that there is maritime relationship between China and Sri Lanka. And also, there are impacts from the maritime relationship between China and Sri Lanka to both states and outside states too. The study shows that there are positive impacts and negative impacts too. In addition, difference of the maritime relations with China under different governments. Through this research it studies what are the reasons to establish China-Sri Lanka maritime relationship, how it programmed and impact of the relationship on both states.

Keywords: *Sri Lanka, China, Maritime, Trade, Strategic Location*

¹ BA Honours in International Studies, University of Kelaniya
amavichand@gmail.com