

Post War Tourism in Sri Lanka (Time – Series Analysis)

P.A. Gayeshi Madhushani¹

Abstract

Tourism contributes immensely to the economic growth of Sri Lanka. As it is one of the potential and fasted growing economic sectors in the country. Since 1966, tourism expanded rapidly. But, due to the civil and ethnic conflicts tourism had to faced adverse fluctuations. That is the hypothesis of this study. Hence, as the objective, expect to recognize the opinion of tourists on the territorial, social and political instability by comparing the period of 5 years before and 5 years after war. This study applies annual time series data of total arrivals of tourists and visiting purposes of tourists and total foreign exchange earnings from tourism in Sri Lanka for period of 2004 to 2014. The above quantitative data were entirely based on the secondary data of Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and the World Tourism Organization. Concerning the main characteristics of visiting purposes of tourists during that period, can be recognized as high increased number of visiting for friends and relations and rapidly decreased official and private businesses. The low business purpose implies that it badly affected to the economic growth. During the period of 2008-2010, most of data of above three topics have faced to recession relative to other years. Withal, tourism sector is blooming after the war in Sri Lanka. Long term secular and seasonality are the leading components of the tourist arrival patterns in Sri Lanka within the post war period. The conclusion of this study is the stability of overall condition in Sri Lanka can be paved the way for sustainable tourism including economic growth.

Key words : *Post War Tourism, Time-Series Analysis, Economic Growth*

¹ B.A (Special) Social Statistics, University of Kelaniya
gayeshi.m@gmail.com

