QUALITY OF INTERNAL FINANCIAL AUDIT PRACTICES IN GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA



By

KARALAHINGE INDIKA SANDAMALI KUMARI REG NO: EU/IS/2014/COM/17 INDEX NO: COM 1787



A Project Report Submitted to the Faculty of Commerce and Management, Eastern University, Sri Lanka as a partial fulfillment of the requirement of the Degree of Bachelor of Commerce Honours in Accounting and Finance [BComHons (Accounting and Finance)]

> Department of Commerce Faculty of Commerce and Management Eastern University, Sri Lanka

MAIN LIBRARY, EUSL

2020

ABSTRACT

Quality of internal financial audit practices can be important for the government organizations to stability of financial system. Also, quality of internal audit has an important role in helping a firm to achieve its objective when it is implemented, operated, and managed effectively. Organizations which effectively implemented, operated and managed internal auditing were better able to identify their organizations risks and system inefficiencies for the sake of taking corrective actions and improvement in the process. The purpose of this research is to investigate the quality of internal financial audit practices in government organizations in the southern province.

The Conceptualization framework of this study consists of only one variable and three dimensions. Such as the variable of quality of internal financial audit practices and the dimensions of Auditing staff's competency, independency of internal audit unit and management support. Primary data collection method were used in this research. The primary data were collected using questionnaires from the executive officers. As well as closed ended questionnaire was used as the method of data collection and 130 executive officers as sample out of 192 all executive officers of selected government organizations in the southern province. Sample and the questionnaire was analyzed using five point Liket scale model.

Further collected data were analyzed by using the SPSS version 22 computer package for interpreting and obtaining conclution. Univariate analysis was used to find out the values for mean, standard deviation and percent by using the variables.

The overall research finding indicate that the Auditing staffs competency and independency internal audit unit was high level, Management support was moderate level. And also, the overall variable of quality of internal financial audit practices was high level.

Keywords: Quality of Internal Financial Audit, Auditing Staff's Competency, Independency internal audit unit, Management support

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT i
ABSTRACTii
LIST OF TABLES
LIST OF FIGURES ix
LIST OF EQUATIONS x
LIST OF ABBRIVATIONS xi
CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION
1.1 Background of the Study
1.2 Problem Statement
1.3 Research Questions
1.4 Objectives of the Study
1.5 Significance of the Study
1.6 Scope of the Study 4
1.7 The Organization of the Chapter
1.8 Chapter Summary
CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW
2.1 Introduction
2.2 Concept of Auditing
2.3 Internal Audit
2.3.1 Objectives and Functions of Internal Auditing 10
2.3.2 Internal Auditing Practices
2.3.3 Theories of Internal Audit
2.3.4 Internal Audit in Public Sector
2.3.5 Quality of Internal Audit
2.4 Internal Financial Audit
2.5 Dimensions of Quality of Internal Financial Audit

2.6 Chapter Summary	. 17
CHAPTER THREE CONCEPTUALIZATION AND OPERATIONALIZATION .	18
3.1 Introduction	18
3.2 Conceptual Framework	18
3.2.1 Auditing Staff's Competency	19
3.2.2 Independency of Internal Audit Unit	20
3.2.3 Management Support	20
3.2.4 Quality of Internal Financial Audit Practices	21
3.3 Operationalization	21
3.4 Chapter Summary	23
CHAPTER FOUR METHODOLOGY	
4.1 Introduction	24
4.2 Study Setting, Study Design and Method of Survey	24
4.3 Time Horizon	24
4.4 Research Area Selections	25
4.5 Population of the Study	25
4.6 Sampling Technique Method	25
4.7 Sampling Framework and Sampling Size	26
4.7.1 Sample Size	26
4.7.2 Sampling Framework	26
4.8 Method of Data Collection	27
4.8.1 Primary Data	27
4.8.2 Secondary Data	27
4.9 Method of Data Measurements	27
4.9.1 Method of Measured the Personal Information	28
4.9.2 Method of Measured the Research Information	29
4.10 Method of Data Presentation	29

4.10.1 Data Presentation for Demographic Characteristics	
4.11 Method of Data Analysis	
4.12 Method of Data Evaluation	
4.12.1 Univariate Analysis	
4.12.2 Analysis of Variance (ANOVA Test)	
4.12.3 Independent Sample T test	32
4.12.4 Cross Tabulation Analysis	
4.12.5 Reliability Test	
4.13 Chapter Summary	
CHAPTER FIVE DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS	
5.1 Introduction	
5.2 Analysis of Reliability	
5.2.1 Reliability of Quality of Internal Financial Audit Practices (QIFAP)
5.3 Data Presentation	
5.3.1 Personal Information Presentation	
5.3.2 Data Presentation for the Research Variables	40
5.4 Chapter Summary	59
CHAPTER SIX DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS	60
6.1 Introduction	60
6.2 Discussion of Personal Information	60
6.3 Discussion of Research Information	60
6.3.1 Discussion of Quality of Internal Financial auditing practice	61
6.3.2 Discussion of auditing staff's competency	61
6.3.3 Discussion of Independency of internal Audit Unit	61
6.3.4 Discussion of Management Support	62
6.3.5 Discussions on Results of ANOVA and Independent Sample t-test	
6.4 Chapter Summary	63

CHAPTER SEVEN CONCLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDAT	IONS 64
7.1 Introduction	
7.2 Conclusion	
7.2.1 First Objective of the Study	
7.2.2 Second Objective of the Study	
7.2.3 Third Objective of the Study	
7.2.4 Fourth Objective of the Study	
7.3 Implication of the Study	
7.4 Recommendations	
7.5 Limitations of the Study	
7.6 Chapter Summary	
LIST OF REFERENCES	•
APPENDIX 01	
APPENDIX 02	

.