4 – CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the most suitable time to find solutions for the increased congestion in the urban roads. Merely widening and construction of new roads will give only a short time solution. Besides increasing traffic congestion, urban areas are also faced with several other transport related problems such as pollution, fuel wastage etc. studies have shown that an effective transport system is important for a city’s economic competitiveness and severe congestion is known to have negative impact on country’s GDP.

Several countries are trying to build intelligence into the transport system to overcome these issues. Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), the new generation of solutions, offers features such as traffic prediction, analytics and decision support, traveler information, advisory services, ticketing and fare collection. Innovative tools such as roadside sensors, radio frequency tags and global positioning systems also help monitor and manage transport more effectively.

Even though there are several Intelligent Transportation Systems applications, we are at a starting level and we have to start with the simplest method and go up step by step. Considering our economic position, a cost effective but very effective, essential tool is necessary to start with. This will show the public, the worthiness of Intelligent Transport Systems to them and would help us to get their blessings and support for further development. Starting with an advanced, high costly technique could result negatively.

The framework proposed here is simple and mainly use the available infrastructure and personnel and does not require any foreign involvement financially or physically for its implementation. This proposal needs only a small investment and personnel and efficient use of the existing infrastructure in a fundamental way to understand by any normal road user. But the proposal deals with the capital city’s most essential problem and it is expected that could give an effective solution.

It is expected that this cost effective proposal might be appreciated as the initial step for a framework of incident management for a congested Colombo urban area, using available resources and institutional setups.