**2.1.1.3.** **Socio economic biological and fisheries aspects of beach seine fishery**

This study was carried out with the aim of identifying the present performance of beach seine fishery in the North Western region and North Eastern region of Sri Lanka. *Rastrelliger kanagurta* and *Sardinella gibbosa* were the main contributors in both North West and North East coasts. The present study showed that the estimated mean value of operation time of manual operation 1.98 hours ( ± 0.44) and 2.18 hours (± 0.75) has relatively lower than the value of winch operators 4.04 hours (± 2.35) and 3.78 hours (± 0.62) in northwestern region and northeastern region respectively. The estimated mean value of operation length of manual operation 1.15 km ( ± 0.16) and 1.27 km (± 0.50) has relatively lower than the length of winch operators 2.57 km (± 1.92) and 2.73 km (± 0.53) in northwestern region and northeastern region respectively. The results of this study showed that mean catch per haul per square meter of manual operators were 1310 kg haul-1 km-2(± 1226) and 616 kg haul-1 km-2( ± 1086) relatively higher than winch operators 368 kg haul-1 km-2( ± 385) and 556 kg haul-1 km-2( ± 547) in northwestern region and northeastern region respectively. As the introduction of a winch for hauling the beach seine net, gear operation time has increased while gear operation area also has been significantly extended more from shore, whereas there was no significant increase of estimated average catches.