A Study on the Effectiveness of Using Google Translate in Legal Translation: With Special Reference to Selected Legal Documents of the Registrar General's Department

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ABSTRACT

Legal translation, as a specific genre in the field of translation, is the translation of documents related to the regulations of legal relationships. In legal writing, the specialized terminology and the text style are considered more challenging At present, the usage of machine aided translation tools for translating has gradually increased. Among such tools, Google Translate application is considered much reliable for an instant translation output. The main aim of this study was to identify the effectiveness of Google Translate method to translate the specialized terminology in the legal documents. In this study, as primary data, birth, marriage and death registration forms and certificates and two acts and one ordinance taken from Registrar General's Department were refereed and as secondary data, previous research papers, e-books, and website sources were used. In this qualitative research, the selected data were entered into the selected categories of the Google Translation: voice, typing and camera and the output were then compared with the human translation. As a conclusion, it was investigated that the Google Translation output is more effective when translating terminology from English to Sinhala than vice versa. When translating the legal terminology from English to Sinhala, both typing and camera options were found more effective. Since the camera option does not support in Sinhala- English language pair, compared to the typing and voice option, typing option is found more effective. Further, it was observed that in some instances the output of Google Translation is totally unacceptable.

Abbreviations

ST – Source Text	GT – Google Translate
TT – Target Text	HT – Human Translation
SL – Source Language	VO – Voice Option
TL – Target Language	TO – Typing Option
MT – Machine Translation	CO – Camera Option

INTRODUCTION

Translation is the process of transferring text from one language to another while preserving the content and sense of the original text culturally, technically or linguistically depending on the requirement of the perceptions and practices of the target audience. Translation has now become more interactive within the cross-cultural connections, trade, economy and educational sections to share new knowledge throughout the world. From the first known significant translation of the Hebrew Bible, the process of translation has significantly passed different eras providing a valuable service to bridge the gap between language and culture. However, in most cases translation remains 'invisible'. With the English translation of Bible by William Tyndale, and the German Translation of the Bible by Martin Luther in 16th century, translation becomes more prominent. At the beginning of the 19th century, the translators changed their approach of being a slave of the source text revering faithfulness and in the 21st century, translation has become an academic discipline and spread all over the world. With the invention and the widespread of the internet, translations are carried by using latest technology, as a machine aided translation.

With the help of the computer science, the process of translation is utilized by adhering to the Machine Translation (MT) process, which can be defined as the process of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to automatically translate content from SL (Source language) to TL (Target language) without any human input. With the development of the AI technology, the system of machine aided translation has spread throughout the world rapidly. Bilinguals or specially monolinguals, who are eager to communicate with another language, but cannot afford the cost of a human translator, within a short timeframe simply shift to the machine translation technique provided by a simple software application.

Although there are several MT tools in usage like: Deep L, Linguee, Baidu Translate, Youdao, Microsoft Translate, iTranslate, Trip Lingo, none of them has succeeded as the

Google Translation. Google Translation is a complementary translation service developed by Google Company in April, 2006 as a Statistical Machine Translation process to translate various texts, words, phrases or web pages. Despite the mistakes made by this machine translation tool, it has now been popular all over the world. Rather than directly translating languages, it converts text to English before converting to the target language. It searches millions of papers for patterns to help in deciding which words to use and how to arrange them according to the target language. Its accuracy has been measured to differ substantially among languages, which has been questioned and ridiculed on multiple occasions. In November 2016, Google Translation (GT) switched to a Google Neural Machine Translation (GNMT) engine giving access to the thousands of the people at the online platform, GT provides various features: Written Words Translation, Website Translation, Document Translation, Speech Translation, Mobile app Translation, Image Translation and Hand Written Translation. After introducing as a mobile app for android and IOS, the usage of this MT tool has increased rapidly with minor errors comparing to the early versions.

The process of translation is engaged with various steps, to provide more accurate, reliable translation. SL text has been comprehended, formulated and recreated and replace into the TL as the normal procedure of the translation done by a human. Either literary or non- literary, human can easily adjust to the process of translation rather the translations done by AI because of his brain power. Humans are able to overcome the linguistic challenges by applying their experiences rather the AI which is operated by the binary code system. Yet no any MT system has been adopted to consider the whole context, while accomplishing a translation. MT can be used in unedited form or in post-edited form by human translator.

In general, the documents which are maintained or exercised in the professional duty, are called as legal documents. Legal documents have very specific characteristics. Accuracy and the precision which are required in any legal background are highly essential. Neither ambiguity nor metaphors can happen in the legal document. Because of the high percentage of valuable but strict information lay upon the legal documents, they are in an unclear, very long sentence structural pattern. The language of the legal document should be neutral and objective.

Legal documents are in various types: transcripts from court and witness, confidentially agreements, formal complaints, legal statements, legal disclaimers, license, wills and

trusts, court orders and consent agreements etc. Also, the acts, circulars, ordinances, constitution, memorandum belong to the legal documents.

Legal language refers to the language related to law and legal process and it is considered as a type of register, that is, a variety of language appropriate to different occasions and situations of use, and in this case, a variety of language appropriate to the legal situations of use. Considered as a sub language, and a restricted register, it owns specialized grammar, a limited subject matter with special lexical, semantic and syntactical variations. Thus, legal language or the terminology is a complex collection of linguistic habits that cannot be easily changed or misinterpreted.

Legal translation is the transformation of legal documents and materials from one language to another preserving the source document. Legal translation requires the understanding about the legal background. Thus, some argue that to do a legal translation, he/she must be a lawyer or any other profession related to the legal field. However, the legal translators must have a proper understanding about the legal context, relevant terminology and understanding about the legal implications of what are being translated. Unlike the literary translation, legal translator cannot add, omit or change the structure, terms or the information provided in the ST.

With the vision of assisting the public to secure their rights by registration, the Registrar General Department was established in the first day of January 1864 with the governance of MR. W.J. Mac Cathy. The mission of registration of legal documents pertaining to movable and immovable properties and registration of titles in Sri Lanka and registration of marriages, births and deaths, the primary domestic events of the populace and the preservation of such documents and the issue of certified copies there from at request and thereby assisting the populace to protect their rights. Through the registration of Marriage, Birth and Death under civil registration system has not been started by this department in 1867, the civil registration system was centralized to Divisional Secretariat level to give a fast service to the public for their convenient in 1992. In 2020, the department has been taken under the Ministry of Defense. At present, through 07 zonal offices and 45 land registries, governing by the head office, Registrar General Department facilitate to obtain all kind of Birth, Marriage, and Death registration, Title Registration and Land Registration. In here the translated copies of the Birth, Marriage and Death certificates will be provided as for the public need by seven professional translators.

The legal terminology, which is specific to the legal subculture, is a prominent part of the legal translation. With the development of the information technology, though most of the terms could be translated by using MT, it is doubtful that the original meaning has been provided. Therefore, the present study is conducted with the aim of investigating the effectiveness of Google Translation, to translate the legal terminology. The main objective of this study was to realize how the Google Translation affects the specialized terminology in legal documents with the sub objectives of identifying the factors related to the Machine Translation process, legal documents, terminology and translation Though the impact of GT for the field of translation has been discussed broadly in literature, the research related to the GT with reference to Sinhala- English could not be found adequately. Those existing research basically focused on the accuracy of both literary and non -literary texts altogether. Therefore, the present study focuses on the effectiveness of GT (by using the mobile app version) for the terminology of legal documents comparing Sinhala and English texts. The specialized terminology is translated by using the functions available in GT app which is Typing, Camera, and Voice Typing and they will be compared with the actual translation which is t already used. The present study has been limited to the terminology related to the selected legal documents of the Registrar General Department, Battaramulla and Google Translate was the selected machine translation system.

LITERATURE RIVIEW

Translating is decoding a written piece of discourse from the source language according to our private language but considering the private language of the original writer and the original context as much as possible, and then coding that piece again according to our corrected-to-an extreme vision of the target language and context. (Pinheiro, 2014). According to Goudec as per cited in Sorina, general translation refers to the translation of documents and materials that do not belong to any specific type or domain area, do not belong to any particular type, do not entail a specific translation process or the use of equipment beyond an ordinary computer and word processor (Sorina, 2016).

Providing an overview of the history of translation, Datta G. Sawant Sengaon considers the 16th century as a turning point in translation, not just in Bible translation. The great age of French classicism is the seventeenth century. Between 1625 and 1660, the translation of French classics rose dramatically in France, The translator was equated to an artist in the seventeenth century, having a moral obligation to both the original author's work and the receiver. Furthermore, when new theories and volumes on the

translation process were developed, the study of translation became more methodical. The nineteenth century saw Romanticism flourish, with several theories and translations in the field of literature, particularly poetry translation. During the eighteenth century, bizarre beliefs emerged in the realm of translation. In the twentieth century, religious and political forces with many societies and organizations viewed translation as a social action, and studies on translation became an academic discipline, resulting in the development of translation research products such as Machine Translation and Computer Assisted Translation (CAT) tools (Sengaon, 2013).

As cited in Shehab, Chalabi 2001 states that, Machine Translation (MT) is a process that utilizes computer software to translate text from one natural language to another and Trujillo states that, MT is the area of information technology and applied linguistics dealing with the translation of human languages. He adds that MT has grown up as a result of globalization and expanding of trade. It has been applied to increase and improve the speed of translation, and to reduce translation's cost (Shehab, 2013).

According to Vauquois (1998), as cited by Lin, MT is aimed at enabling a computer to transfer natural language utterances, or to process a natural language in terms of lexical, syntactic and semantic dimensions. For both of texts or speeches from one language in the original texts to another language for the receivers, and even for both of explicit and implicit meanings, the MT productions can be found working in an effective way (Lin, 2009).

Linguist Eugine Nida states three important facts about MT as: MT is possible for certain restricted types of documents dealing with limited subject matter treated in a relatively simple manner (2) with present technical developments in the "hardware" (i.e. the computer machines) presently or soon to be available, machine translation of a "rough and ready" type and for semantically limited texts is practically attainable at an economically feasible price (3) important theoretical considerations in machine Translation throw considerable light on problems of traditional translation, and are proving highly stimulating to various developments in linguistic theory (Nida, 1964).

"…a good translator be constantly sweeping back and forth from one aspect of the procedure to another, but he will also inevitably analyze in the direction of what he knows must do in the re -structuring". "You cannot transfer a message from Language A to Language B in the form of a series of individual cores. In other words, the transfer

is not at the extreme level of the individual kernels, but where they are connected to form meaningful lines" (Nida, 1964:104).

Arnold, 2013 as per cited in Hijaz, summarizes the limitations of computers in the field of MT, namely the inability of computers to: Perform vaguely specified tasks. 2. Learn things 3. Perform common-sense reasoning. 4. Deal with some problems where there are a large number of potential solutions (Hijaz, 2013).

Google Translate is a free online MT service that enables users to translate sentences, documents, and even websites instantly. It functions when a user types or pastes the material in the SL and Google Translate detects the ST and translates it into English as a default language. However, Google Translate has its drawbacks just as any other MT. Though it helps the reader to comprehend the content of ST, it does not usually produce accurate results. The accuracy depends on the language pair being used. For example, the accuracy of Google Translate increases substantially when translating a text from English into a European Language. Results of analyses were reported in 2010, showing that French into English translation is very accurate (Shen, 2010).

 "Technical translation refers to the process of translating those texts belonging to what are called specialized languages and is usually classified along with other varieties such as legal translation, scientific translation or the translation of medical texts" (Cea & Rego 2004, 289). "Unlike pure science, law remains a national phenomenon. Each national law constitutes an independent legal system with its own terminological apparatus, underlying conceptual structure, rules of classification, and sources of law, methodological approaches and socio-economic principles" (Sarcevic 1997: 13).

Sorina categorized the legal documents as, private legal documents, domestic legislation, and international legal instruments. Private legal documents are those that are drafted and used by lawyers in their daily practice on behalf of their clients. Domestic legislation has two types of situations, first type is found in bilingual and multilingual jurisdictions and the other, where two or more languages are the official legal languages. Legal instruments in international or supranational bodies are the documents referred by the United Nations and the European Union.

 "Each legal system or family has its own characteristics and a vocabulary used to express concepts, its rules are arranged into categories, it has techniques for expressing rules and interpreting them, it is linked to a view of the social order itself which determines the way in which the law is applied and shapes the very function of law in that society" (Cao, 2010).

"Choosing the right words to each term when translating is key, not only to preserve the specific register/style, but also to maintain and support the communicative function that the translated text is supposed to fulfill in the target context"(Sorina, 2016). "When translating, it is the jargon that is less of a problem for translators, often documented in specialized dictionaries, glossaries, or science and technology textbooks, and can also be standardized." (Gomez, 2013)

Although many scholars seem to believe that translating specialized terminological units is basically a straightforward, almost automatic process, which requires nothing more than matching the terms in the source text with their dictionary equivalent in the target language, any translator with some practical experience in specialized contexts knows this is far from the truth. Multilingual dictionaries and terminological databases do not cover every possible field of knowledge and activity (Sorina, 2016). Newmark estimated that terminology represents at most 5-10% of the total content of technical texts (Newmark, 1988).

In his thesis, 'Assessment of Google's Translation of Legal Texts', Basel Abd-AlKareem Hijazi by using six different contracts regulating different matters and fourteen articles extracted based on certain criteria, came to a conclusion that "The evaluation conducted on the legal discourse and more specifically contracts shows that Google Translate is not successful in producing outputs which are fully comprehensible to the target reader nor does it render the accurate legal sense exhibited in the inputs. From a feasibility test perspective, Google Translate does not perform well in translating legal discourse specifically contracts, regardless of the type of contracts under assessment. Because of the peculiarity and importance of precision the legal discourse has, people who are aiming at translating legal texts are cornered in an ultimate alternative which is 'professional human translation'"(Hijaz, 2013) . Mohammad Al Shehab has done a research on "The Translatability of English Legal Sentences into Arabic by Using Google Translation" on functional equivalence levels: near-equivalence, partial equivalence and non-equivalence of Šarčević, comparing six English Legal Articles with a test. He came to a conclusion that, "Google translation shares a lot of features with any of MT. In general, the evaluation of GT is not fixed; it frequently enhances its systems by adding new languages and concepts. The analysis of Google translation shows that translation for English legal sentences into Arabic is good with the level of partial equivalent. It poses a number of problems in translating the archaic English terms, in dealing with passive voice, and, as previously mentioned, in translating the modal shall. Although GT

performance is never likely to reach the level of professionals, it can provide a quick translation for English-Arabic languages" (Shehab, 2013).

Since no research was found based on the legal terminology in English to Sinhala and Sinhala to English, comparing the out-put of Voice, Typing and Camera translation of the Google Translation mobile app this research was aimed to fill this gap.

METHODOLOGY

This qualitative research focuses on identifying the effectiveness of using Google Translate to translate the terminology in the legal documents acquired from the Registrar General's Department, Battaramulla. The selected data were extracted from the legal documents through the stratified sampling technique, and they were analyzed by using content analyzing method. The selected terminologies were compared with the actual human translations. For that purpose, the Birth, Death and Marriage registration forms and certificates and two Acts: Registration of Deaths (Temporary Provisions) Act, and Kandyan Marriages and Divorce Act and the Adoption of Children Ordinance were referred. The Google Translate mobile app was referred to get the machine translation output. The selected data were entered into the three selected functions of the Google Translation mobile app: Typing, Voice, and Camera within the time period of 10th November to 10th December 2021. The machine translated out-put were then compared with the actual human translation. As for understanding the effectiveness of Google Translate output, comparing both translations with the human translation the results were categorized as: acceptable (without changings of the meaning and the pattern), less acceptable (with minor changes of the meaning and the patterns), and not acceptable (with major changings of the meaning and the pattern). Finally, by using content analyzing method the selected data were categorized to identify the final result of this research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1) Birth Registration and Birth certificates

Birth registration is the process of recording a child's birth. It is a permanent and official record of a child's existence, and provides legal recognition of that child's identity. At a minimum, it establishes a legal record of where the child was born and who his or her

parents are. Birth registration is required for a child to get a birth certificate – his or her first legal proof of identity (Selim, 2019).

Since the GT does not support with the Camera Option in the selected language pairs: Sinhala to English, in here it was discussed by using the output of Typing Option (TO) and Voice Option (VO).

In general the term 'උපත සිදුවූ ආයතනයේ නැවතී සිටි අය' has the meaning as it is provided in VO- 'Those who stayed at the institution where the birth took place', and TO- 'Those who stayed at the institution where the birth took place', while the actual HT is far more different than all above, "Occupier". Since the birth certificate as a special kind of legal document, rather depending on long confusing sentences for certain term, using a simple single term is more effective. Though these terms from Google Translator have preserved the meaning regarding the changes of pattern of the output of both VO and TO, they can be considered as less acceptable translations.

'උපන්ගෙයි පදිංචිකරු' has HT output as 'The resident', the VO follows as 'Hometown resident' and the TO refer as, 'Resident of the home': which is more acceptable than the VO output. The term 'ගෘහ බලපතුය' has been translated in VO as 'Home Permit', and TO as 'Home license'. Regarding the pattern of the selected words, the actual HT 'House License' will be more effective.

- ST- උපන් ස්ථානය පිළිබඳ විස්තර
  VO- Details of place of birth

     TO- Details of place of birth, and the actual HT is 'Particulars of place of birth'. Though in general, both VO and TO output is considered acceptable, as a document for the legal purpose, the word 'Particulars' would be more suitable. In general 'නිවුන් දරුවන්' has the meaning of 'Twins'. As a machine translated output, which was inserted by a common person, VO out-put provides, 'Twins', and TO out-put also provides the same, while the HT is referred to as 'Multiple Births'. In here considering the meaning both GT outputs are acceptable.

Google Translator as a human aided machine translation tool has no capacity or ability to fulfill all the necessities of the natural language. Also it has no ability to identify the language patterns and sound difficulties relates to the original language especially in Sinhala language. Therefore, the term 'මළ උපතක්' which includes differences of sound,

the output of VO has become 'a flower birth' which is more familiar concept to the inputs of the database. Though it is not acceptable, 'A still birth': the out-put in TO which is similar to the HT is considered acceptable.

In general the output of the MT is more likely to be word for word translation. Though the word for word translation does not fit well in aforementioned situations, it became acceptable in some occasions. Both birth certificates and birth registration forms sometimes carry out similar terminological phrases which are specific to them. The language of the legal documents is considered to be formal, precise and accurate. However, as the lowest level of the hierarchy, the general legal document relates to each person, sometimes the certificate of birth carries out some terms that are not considered as formal. As an example: 'Concealment' has the formal meaning of 'සැඟවීම' and come into use in both VO and TO as 'Concealment of the nation' for the term 'ජාතිය වසන් කිරීම' while the actual term refers as the most general term, 'Change the race'. But when it comes to 'සටහන වෙනස් කිරීමට' and 'ලියාපදිංචිය සඳහා ඉදිරිපත් කරයි' despite the general term provided by both outputs of the GT: 'To change the note' and 'Submit for registration', the actual translation has become formal as 'To update the register' and 'Forward for registration' respectively. However, as the legal documents though the both terms of GT are linguistically correct, they are less acceptable than the HT. The same can be applied for 'Must be completed' in both VO and TO for the term 'Should be perfected' which has the meaning of 'සම්පූර්ණ කළ යුතු ය'.

The term 'මෙයින් ඉල්ලා සිටිමි' in the original document, VO has translated it as 'I request this' and the result of the TO is also the same, while the actual translation becomes 'Do hereby apply'. Actual translation is 'Delete inapplicable words' for the term 'අනවශ්‍ය වචන කපා හරින්න' and has been translated in both GT types as 'Cut out unnecessary words'. Regarding the language pattern of the legal documents, it is considered as not-acceptable in this context.

2) Notice of Marriage, Marriage License, and Marriage Certificate

According to D. Bruce Hanes, Esq., Montgomery County Register of Wills, Clerk of Orphans' Court. As cited in Jamie Mackey and Kristi Kellogg "A marriage license is a legal document obtained by a couple prior to marriage. Once the license is signed (during or after your ceremony) and returned by an officiator to the county, a marriage certificate is issued". (Mackey J, Kristi K. 2021). Merriam Webster dictionary defines: **marriage certificate is** a document which certifies that a marriage has taken place, which

contains information (as time and place) about the ceremony, and which is signed by the parties, witnesses, and officiate (Merriam- Webster, n.d.). In Sri Lanka, registration of marriages includes: general marriage, marriage by a Christian minister, process for foreign nationalities, Kandyan marriages and Muslim marriages. In a notice of marriage, 'විවාහ දැන්වීම' has the general meaning of Marriage notice as resulted as in the VO and TO while the original term occurs as 'Notice of marriage' and the both GT output are slightly acceptable.

- ST: අත්සන සඳහා සාක්ෂි
  VO: Evidence for signature
  TO: Evidence for signature
  HT: Attesting witnesses
- ST: පහත අත්සන් කරන
  VO: Signed below
  TO: Signed below
  HT: Undersigned

According to the pattern of the terminology of legal documents the results of the GT for both, are considered less acceptable. The same applies for 'Signed in front of me' to the term 'මා ඉදිරියේ අත්සන් කරන ලදි', which is used in the legal document as a specialized terminology 'Signed before me'. 'In witness whereof' is the actual translation for the term 'මිට සාක්ෂි වශයෙන්' where both GT output results as, 'As evidence of this' is less acceptable according to the pattern and language of the legal documents.

The term 'පදිංචි ලිපිනය' has the translated meaning of 'Residence' in both types of GT, where the actual translation refers as 'Dwelling Place' and both outputs are acceptable according to the measuring criteria. However, when it comes to the 'Resided in the division' in VO and 'Time of residence in the division' in TO for the 'කොට්ඨාසයේ පදිංචි ව සිටි කාලය' and where the actual translation is as 'Length of residence in division', though the TO output is considered acceptable, the VO output considered as not acceptable. Both outputs in the GT: VO and TO for 'නීතිමය බාධාවක්' as 'A legal hurdle' and 'A legal hurdle' respectively to the actual human translation 'lawful hindrance' and for the term 'Lawful hindrance' and 'නෑකමේ වරදක්' as 'Kinship fault' and 'Kinship error' for 'Impediment of kindred' are considered as not acceptable. Further the term 'අඩු වයස් ඇත්තකු', has been translated in all GT output of as 'A young person' while the HT is as 'A Minor'.

Though the meaning has been preserved, as a matter of the pattern and the sense of the legal document, both GT results for the selected terms are less acceptable. Same can be

applied for 'If the point is so' for the term'කාරණය එසේ නම්': 'If the case may be'. Though the meaning has been preserved, the both GT output for 'විවාහයට බැඳෙන්නට අදහස් කරන බව මෙයින් දැනුම් දෙමි' : 'I hereby inform you that I intend to get married' is not acceptable according to the pattern of the legal terminology, where the actual translation occurs as 'Hereby give the notice that a marriage is intended to be held'. Same applies for 'Purpose of procuring any marriage' which has the meaning of 'යම් විවාහයක් කර ගන්නා අදහසින්' and where the GT appears as 'With the intention of having a marriage'. Three different translated outputs appear for the term 'පුද්ගලික ව හඳුනන' as 'Personally known' (VO), 'Identify personally' (TO) and 'Personally acquainted' (HT), yet the both GT outputs are less acceptable according to the changes of pattern. Because the literal meaning of the term, 'විවාහයේ ආකාරය' has been preserved, but the pattern has been changed by both GT output, as 'How to get married' for the actual translation 'the manner of the marriage', GT cannot be considered as acceptable. Same applies for the term 'Seriously' has given for the term 'ගම්භීරතා පූර්වක ව' at the period of time these data were collected, and the actual translation refers to it as 'Solemnly'. However, the term 'Signed in front of me' in both GT output for the term 'මා ඉදිරියේ අත්සන් කරන ලදි', where actual translation is referred as 'Signed before me' is less acceptable according to the change of pattern of word order and the legal terminology.

Some terms which we consider unacceptable in using in a standard legal document, are used as it is in these general legal documents. As an example, the general term 'well aware', where both GT outputs occur as acceptable for the term 'හොඳට ම දැනගෙන' also has the HT meaning as 'Well Knowing'. And all three translation outputs, VO, TO, HT 'Knowingly and willingly' are same and acceptable for the term 'දැනගෙන ම කැමැත්තෙන් ම'.

3) Death Registration and Death Certificate

A death certificate is an official document issued by the government, which declares cause of death, location of death, time of death and some other personal information about the deceased. (Science Care, 2016)

The certification of death and the form of registration of death also include several specialized terminologies. 'මරණයේ ස්වභාවය' has the general meaning of 'The nature of death' which equals to the GT outputs and more acceptable than the HT 'Type of Death'. The general term for 'තහවුරු' is 'confirm', but when it comes to the legal language it has become 'establish'. Following 'මරණයට හේතුව තහවුරු ය' has been translated by using the both GT types as 'The cause of death was confirmed' where the actual HT appears as

'The cause of death has been established' and the GT results were acceptable, since the meaning and the pattern were preserved. However, the both translations of VO and TO 'Inform as to who' for 'දැනුම් දෙන්නේ කවරකු වශයෙන් ද' is not acceptable according to the meaning and the changes of pattern which requires the meaning of 'Capacity of giving information'. When it comes to the both machine translated outputs appeared as 'estimated age' and 'Sudden death' for 'අනුමාන වයස' and 'හදිසි මරණය' respectively, though the term 'sudden death' and all of other outputs can be considered as acceptable as the actual human translation, 'estimated age' is less acceptable, where 'Probable age' is the specialized term in that regard.

4) **Registration of Deaths (Temporary Provisions Act)**

An Act is a decree or law that is approved by the respective legislature i.e. State Legislative Assembly or Parliament. **Acts** are provisions that enacted by the government or legislative body for the people to understand the meaning of specific circumstances, how they are expected to react or behave in that particular situation, and why it is so important to follow such act.

The Registration of Deaths Act (Temporary Provisions Act) consists more general words than other Acts. Unlike the Birth, Marriage and Death registration forms and certificates, those Acts are originally drafted in English language. Therefore, all those selected types: Voice, Type and Camera options could be applied when translating English terms into Sinhala. 'ජන කැළඹීම්' is the word that has been used for 'Civil commotion' in the original. The VO output, 'සිවිල් කලබල' TO term 'සිවිල් කලබල' and CO 'සිවිල් කලබල' all are acceptable. Same applies for the term 'Directly Attributable', results as 'සෘජුවම ආරෝපණය කළ හැකිය'. Though, 'සිවිල් කෝලාහල' is the term used for 'civil disturbances', the all three outputs of the GT 'සිවිල් කැළඹීම්' are also acceptable.

When it comes to the term, 'In the course of', the general translation refers to as 'හේතුව තුළ' like in the VO output and also acceptable as the HT, 'හේතුකොටගෙන'. However, the CO and TO output 'පාඨමාලාවේ දී' is not acceptable in this context. And in the term, 'ළඟ ම නෑයෙක්' in all three translation output for the term, 'a next of kin' and 'ඇත්තෙන් ම විශ්වාස කරනවා' for the term 'verily believe' are all acceptable. The actual translations for those terms lie upon as 'ළඟ ම ඥාතියකු' and 'තරයේ ම විශ්වාස කරනවා' respectively. 'Substantially' has the meaning of almost entirely, in essence and as in effect. Therefore the output of VO, TO and CO: 'සැලකිය යුතු ලෙස විය යුතුය' can be considered as less acceptable as the HT, 'සාරානුකූල විය යුතු ය'. *Mutatis Mutandis* is a Latin derived legal term borrowed by

English for legal purpose. When translating these Latin terms the output of Google Translator refers to as follows.

ST: *Mutatis mutandis,* VO, Co, TO: Mutatis mutandis, HT: අවශ්‍ය වෙනස් කිරීම් සහිත ව
Though these terms are coded in English because of the origin of those terms when they are translated directly from English to Sinhala all the outputs from the selected categories cannot be considered acceptable for the legal translation in to Sinhala.

Less legally bound term, 'Habitually resident' has been translated by using VO, CO and TO as 'පුරුද්දක් ලෙස පදිංචි', 'පුරුද්දට පදිංචිය', and 'පුරුද්දට පදිංචිය' and 'පුරුද්දක් වශයෙන් වාසය කළ ප්‍රදේශය'respectively. 'To the best of knowledge' has been translated by HT as 'උපරිම දැනීමේ ප්‍රමාණයට' and the translation outputs in all VO, CO and TO 'ඔහුගේ දැනුමේ හැටියට' is less acceptable, because the meaning of the original has not been preserved as it is. Likewise, 'කාර්යාලයේ භාරකාරත්වය සඳහා' for 'For custody in the office' is less acceptable as the HT 'කාර්යාලයේ තබාගැනීම සඳහා'. The term 'Endorsed' originally has the meaning of 'පිටසන් කරන ලද්', therefore the GT outputs 'අනුමත කළා' is not acceptable. But in the 'සත්‍යාපනය මත' for the term 'Upon verification' is more acceptable than the HT 'සනාථ කර ගැනීම මත' as in the legal context. 'විවිධ ප්‍රතිපාදන, for the term 'Miscellaneous Provisions' is not acceptable, as HT 'විවිධ විධිවිධාන' where the term 'provisions' already has a given terminological value as 'විධිවිධාන' in the legal context. 'Forthwith furnish' is another specific terminology used in legal context with the meaning of 'වහා ම දැනුම් දිය යුතු ය .' However, the output of GT refers to as follows.

ST: Forthwith furnish, VO, CO, TO: ශගහභාණ්ඩ සමග ඉදිරියට, HT: වහා ම දැනුම් දිය යුතු ය
Considering the change of the meaning, any of these outputs cannot be accepted in legal translation.'Exercise' has the general meaning of 'ව්‍යායාම කරන්න' as in the output of VO, CO, and TO: where the legal bound meaning of this term refers as '. කරන්න'. Hence the translations of GT cannot be acceptable in this context.

5) **Kandyan Marriage and Divorce Act**

Kandyan Law does not apply to all Sinhalese who are now resident in the Kandyan provinces; however, Kandyan Law applies to Kandyan Sinhalese who now do not reside in the Kandyan provinces in central Sri Lanka. Kandyan Law that remains applicable to Kandyan Sinhalese in present day Sri Lanka relates to marriage, divorce, and interstate succession.

The short title of an Act is a very specific area. By using GT method and its selected options, 'Application of Act' has been translated as 'පනතෙහි යෙදීම', instead of the actual translation 'පනත අදාළ වීම' and is considered as less acceptable as the HT according to the meaning of the selected words. 'Legitimization of illegitimate children' also has been translated as 'අවජාතක දරුවන් නීත්‍යනුකූල කිරීම' in all three types: VO, CO and TO. Than the previous, it is more acceptable since there has only synonymic difference as the original 'අවජාතක දරුවන් සුජාත කරවීම' and according to the legal genre the HT output is short and precise and more acceptable. Foregoing is also applicable in the following and in that situation the output of and TO is somewhat more acceptable than the actual translation. 'Lawful age of marriage' or 'විවාහය පිළිබඳ නීත්‍යනුකූල වයස' as 'විවාහ වීමේ නීත්‍යනුකූල වයස' in VO, is more acceptable than 'නීත්‍යනුකූල විවාහ වයස' in TO and CO. The term 'Competent' has the meaning of නිසි or සුදුසු and GT has acquired it accurately as: Competent authority - සුදුසු බලධරයා, Competent Court- නිසි උසාවිය. The translation of 'තීරණය ලියවිල්ලකින් දැනුම් දෙන්න' is somewhat acceptable with changes of formality. The VO output for the term 'should communicate the decision in writing' which is used as 'ලියවිල්ලකින් දැන්විය යුතු ය', and the CO 'තීරණය ලිබිත ව දැනුම්දීම' and TO 'තීරණය ලිබිත ව සන්නිවේදනය කරන්න' is not acceptable. Unlike the above it can be stated that 'නීත්‍යනුකූල ව විසුරුවා හරින ලද හෝ අවලංගු බව ප්‍රකාශ කරන ලද' the translation of VO, TO, and CO is more acceptable than the HT 'නීත්‍යනුකූලව අවලංගු හෝ නීත්‍යනුකූල නොවන බව ප්‍රකාශ කිරීම' for 'Lawfully dissolved or declare void'. However the followings are totally unacceptable as a machine translation output in legal translation.

- ST: Full or the half-blood
  VO: සම්පූර්ණ හෝ අර්ධ රුධිරය
  CO: සම්පූර්ණ හෝ අර්ධ රුධිරය
  TO: සම්පූර්ණ හෝ අර්ධ ලේ
  HT: මව්පිය දෙපාර්ශ්වයෙන් ම හෝ එක් පාර්ශ්වයෙන්

In general, , those word to word translated terms are acceptable as a GT output but yet not slightly acceptable in the legal context. As a plus point to the GT 'නීතිමය නොහැකියාව' and 'නියම කළ වටිනාකම' can be accepted for the terms 'Legal incapacity' and 'Prescribed value' respectively.

Again, 'පසෙකින් තැබීම' (VO), 'පසෙකට දැමීම' (CO), 'වෙන් කිරීම' (TO) for 'Setting aside': where the actual HT is 'අවලංගු කොට' is less acceptable and, 'පළමු ක්ෂණික ව යොමු කළ යුතු ය' (VO), 'පළමු ක්ෂණික ව ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම' in TO and 'First instant be forwarded' in CO: 'පළමුකොට ඉදිරිපත් කළ යුතු ය' (HT) and 'රැකියාව හෝ ඇමතීම', 'රැකියාව හෝ ඇමතීම' in VO, TO,

and CO that describes 'Occupation or **Calling**' which has the meaning of 'රැක්ෂාව හෝ වෘත්තිය', is not acceptable.

'Subscribe the declaration' has the meaning of 'ප්‍රකාශය අත්සන් කිරීම': however, the results of VO, CO and TO were 'ප්‍රකාශය දායක වන්න', 'ප්‍රකාශය දායක වන්න' and 'ප්‍රකාශය දායක කිරීම' respectively and all those cannot be considered as acceptable. 'Subscribe' has the meaning of අත්සන් කිරීම not දායක කිරීම. 'අනාචාරයේ හැසිරීම' and 'වෘහිචාරය' are the given meanings for 'Adultery' and 'incest'. Yet 'කාමමිථ්‍යාචාරය' and 'අනියම් සබඳතා' as in the GT respectively can be considered acceptable. However, though the term 'දරුණු කෲරත්වය' in VO and CO can be considered as less acceptable as the HT meaning 'අති කෲරතාව' for 'Gross cruelty', and the TO output 'දළ කෲරත්වය' is not acceptable. Considering the meaning behind the term, 'විවාහය විසුරුවා හැරීම', the given meaning of all three aspects in GT, is less acceptable for 'dissolution of the marriage' since 'අවලංගු කිරීම' is the given legal meaning for dissolution. While, 'දිවිගලවාගත් දරුවන්' is the result of GT for 'Surviving children' and it is also considered less acceptable as the HT, 'ජීවත් ව සිටින දරුවන්'.

6)   Adoption of Children Ordinance

Adoption of Children is an Ordinance to provide for the adoption of children. For the registration as custodians of persons having the care, custody or control of children of whom they are not the natural parents, and for matters connected with the matters aforesaid.

In general 'natural parents' has the meaning of 'ස්වභාවික දෙමාපියන්' as in all the output of GT. However, the actual meaning of it is 'සැබෑ දෙමාපියන්' and it cannot be considered as acceptable. 'Direct descendant' has been translated as 'සෘජු පරම්පරාව', 'සෘජු ව පැවත එන' and 'සෘජු පරම්පරාව' in VO, CO and TO respectively. Considering the meaning and the pattern, camera translation output is more acceptable than the other two, as the HT: 'සෘජු ව ම පැවත එන'. 'Deserted or neglected' is another specific term related to this ordinance. In here all the GT outputs are similar as 'පාළු හෝ නොසලකා හරින ලද්' and cannot be considered acceptable, since the original meaning has been changed.

The results of 'නිසි අධිකරණයක නියෝගයක්' for 'Decree of a competent court' are acceptable as the HT. the term 'subject' in legal context has several meanings: විෂයය, වැසියා, යටත් ව likewise. The correct wording should be used according to the situation. However, as a machine translation system which has no rational brain, the output in all three methods came as the common word-to- word translation 'බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය විෂයය' for 'British subject' where

the correct term is 'බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය වැසියා'. 'Solemnization' in legal context has the fixed meaning of 'විවාහ වාරිතු සිදු කිරීම'. Therefore, the 'උත්කර්ෂවත් කිරීම' translated output in GT considered not acceptable. 'නීත්‍යනුකූල විවාහය' for 'Lawful wedlock' in all three methods are also acceptable as the HT 'නීත්‍යනුකූල විවාහ බන්ධනය'. In this ordinance several Latin terms derived into English has been employed.

- ST: *Fideicommissum*, VO, CO, TO: Fidei commissum, HT: පීදු කොමිසම
- ST: *Ab intestate* VO: - , CO, TO: Ab intestate, HT: අන්තිම කැමති පතුයක් නොමැති ව
- ST: *Inter vivos or mortis causa*, VO: - , CO, TO: Inter vivos හෝ mortis causa, HT: ජීවත් ව සිටියදී හෝ මරණයත් සමග

Considering the meaning and the pattern, any of those Latin terms have not been translated accurately by GT. 'මූලික සාක්ෂිය' in VO and CO and 'ප්‍රාථමික සාක්ෂි' in TO are the translation outputs for 'Prima facie evidence'. As the HT 'බැලූ බැල්මට පෙනෙන සාක්ෂි', considering the changes of meanings they cannot be considered as acceptable.

The output of 'අතුරු නියෝගය' in all translation options, for 'Interim order' is acceptable as original translation 'අතුරු ආඥාව'. 'ප්‍රතිරෝධය හෝ බාධා කිරීම 'for 'resists or obstructs' is less acceptable as the HT 'විරෝධය පෑම හෝ බාධා කිරීම'. However, 'Consanguinity හෝ ඥාතිත්වය' in VO, 'සංසර්ගය හෝ බැදීම' in CO and 'සංසර්ගය හෝ හිතවත්කම' in TO are totally not acceptable for 'Consanguinity or affinity' which has the meaning of 'ලේ නෑකම හෝ හිතවත්කම'.

Following tables provide the percentages of acceptability of each and every category acquired from the selected data throughout this research.

Table 1: Birth, Marriage, and Death Registration forms and Certificates

Sinhala to English

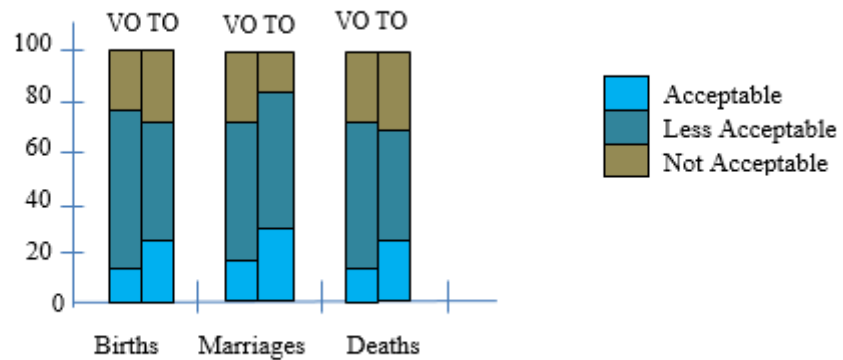|	Acceptable		Less Acceptable		Not Acceptable	
	VO	TO	VO	TO	VO	TO
Births	16.0	25.0	63.5	54.0	20.5	21.0
Marriages	21.8	33.7	48.2	51.5	30.0	14.8
Deaths	18.1	27.3	59.2	50.0	22.7	22.7

Figure 1: Sinhala to English

Table 2: Acts and Ordinances: English to Sinhala

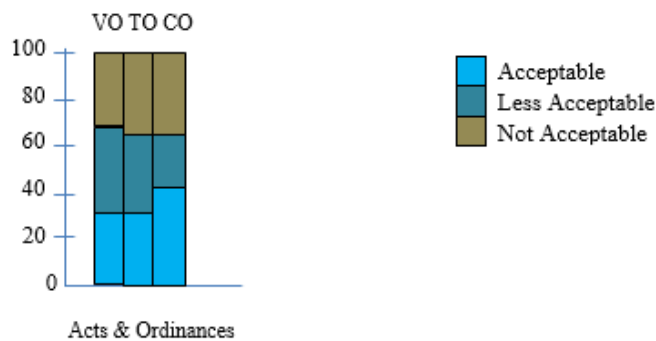|	Acceptable	Less Acceptable	Not Acceptable
VO	38.0	28.0	34.0
TO	39.5	24.3	36.2
CO	41.0	21.6	37.4

Figure 2: English to Sinhala

CONCLUSION

As a translation tool powered by artificial intelligence, Google Translate facilitates translations of various kinds of text into various different languages. In accordance with the evolution of the information technology, the Google Translate supports in various text additions. The selected test addition types Voice, Typing and Camera options facilitate the user to provide a proper translation output.

The effectiveness of using Google Translation method to translate legal terms and legal documents, have widely come to the discussion in this era. In this respect, to identify how effective is the Google Translation when translating legal terminology, Birth, Marriage, and Death registration forms, and certificates and Registration of deaths (Temporary Provisions Act), Kandyan Marriage and Divorce Act , Adoption of Children Ordinance were referred as the selected legal documents from the Registrar General's Department, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

In this regard it was investigated that, when it comes to Birth, Marriage, and Death registration forms, and certificates which are originally in Sinhala Language, only the options of Voice translation and Typing option were found supportives to the selected language pairs: Sinhala and English. Therefore, the comparison of the Google Translated output and the human translated output were only conducted by using the outputs of these two options. From the selected specialized terminologies in the Birth, Marriage, and Death registration forms, and certificates most the translated words are considered less acceptable according to the criteria.

Therefore, as a conclusion about the output of the terminology in the Birth, Marriage, and Death registration forms, and certificates it was investigated that, with the development of the technology, though some options are not available for the selected language type, the output can be considered acceptable with some changes. Hence, if the person has some knowledge related to the document, he or she can have a better translation output with the help of the Google Translation. However, it depends on the variability of the selected terms.

Unlike the Birth, Marriage, and Death registration forms, and certificates, the Acts and Ordinances are originally in English language. Therefore: the selected all methods: Voice, Camera and Typing options were available when translating such terms into English. After the investigation, it was found that, though it is considered as the Google Translation provide much correct output in the legal documents which were in English language, considering the level of formality of the selected terminologies, some cannot be considered as acceptable. Also, when it comes to the translations of Latin derived borrowed terms to the English translation, the output of the Google Translation cannot be considered acceptable.

Therefore as a conclusion, after such inquiry it was investigated that, when it comes to the effectiveness of Google Translation for translating selected specialized legal terminology, the Typing option is more effective than the Voice option in Sinhala to English translations and when it comes to English to Sinhala translation both Typing and Camera options are equally effective. Therefore: unlike the past decades, at present with the development of the technology, if the translator has some knowledge about the related field, he/she can manage the output of translation with the help of GT especially in English to Sinhala Translations.

Considering the outcome of this research, the researcher suggests that, with the help of experts in the legal field and the translators, the specialized terminology in the relevant field should be add to the Machine Translation system as a guide to the future researchers or for the interested people. Moreover, the future research are encouraged to conduct researches about Google Translation and Legal documents with special reference to Sinhala to English documents.

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