

ආයතනයේ නම : කෘෂිකර්ම, පශු සම්පත්, ඉඩම් හා වාරිමාර්ග අමාත්‍යාංශය

පාර්ලිමේන්තුවේ රජයේ ගිණුම් පිළිබඳ කාරක සභාව විසින් සභාගත කරන ලද වාර්තා සම්බන්ධයෙන් ස්ථාවර නියෝග අංක 119(4) යටතේ ගරු ආයතන භාර අමාත්‍යවරයාගේ නිරීක්ෂණ හා ගනු ලබන පියවර පාර්ලිමේන්තුව වෙත ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම

பாராளுமன்ற வெளியீட்டுத் தொடர் இலக்கம்: 79
நிறுவனத்தின் பெயர்: கமத்தொழில், கால்நடை வளங்கள், காணி மற்றும் நீர்ப்பாசன
அமைச்சு

பாராளுமன்றத்தின் அரசு கணக்குக் குழுவினால் முன்வைக்கப்பட்ட அறிக்கை தொடர்பாக நிலையியற் கட்டளை இலக்கம் 119(4) இன் கீழ் நிறுவனங்களிற்குப் பெறுப்பான கௌரவ அமைச்சரின் அவதானிப்புக்களும் மற்றும் அது தொடர்பாக எடுக்கப்படும் நடவடிக்கைகளும் பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பித்தல்

Parliamentary Series No: 79

Name of the institution: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation

**Submission of observations of the Hon. Minister in charge of the institutions and
Steps taken with regard to the reports tabled by the Committee on Public
Accounts in terms of Standing Order No. 119(4)**

Parliamentary Series : No. 79

Name of Institution : Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation

Evaluation of Financial compliance and Operational Performance of State Institutions, Provincial councils and Local Authorities by the Online Management Information System (MIS) – Financial Year 2022

Ministry of Agriculture
Part One : 80.00

Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued by the Committee

Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks/ implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation

Every audit query raised by the Auditor General has not been replied within one month.

Action is taken to reply audit queries in every possible instance without delay. All officers have been informed again in this regard.

Non submission of replies to internal audit queries within one month.

Action is taken to reply audit queries in every possible instance without delay. All officers have been informed again in this regard.

Letters to establish the ownership in respect of every vehicle not being in the possession .

Documents to establish the ownership of 38 vehicles out of 52 vehicles to be used by Agriculture Division has been in the possession of the Ministry. The ownership of another 14 vehicles is remaining in the name of other institutions, and it has been agreed to transfer the ownership of 04 of those vehicles to this Ministry while action is being taken either to take over or hand over the remaining vehicles at the consent of those Institutions.


D.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Daily running charts and monthly summary reports for pool vehicles had not been submitted to the Auditor General .	Daily running chart and monthly summary reports in respect of pool vehicles has been submitted monthly to the Auditor General.
State emblem had not been painted on every vehicle.	State emblem has been stucked to every vehicle and action will be taken to paint the State emblem on all vehicles in the future.
Updated Log Books had not been maintained for every vehicle.	Log Books in rspect of everyvehicle have been updated.
Dormant accounts in the year under review or remaining from previous years had not been settled.	Not applicable to Agriculture Division. non settled non operated bank accounts not available.
Following the utilization of provisions allocated for a vote in terms of F.R..94 (I), commitment had been incurred in excess of the balance provision limit.	Action has been made to remain within the limis of provisions available. However certain commitments had been incurred under F.R.94 (2) and it is expected to manage commitments within the limits of provisions in the future.
Provisions had been transferred to other institutions outside the prescribed periodof time.	Provisions have been allocated depending on performance plans of other institutions.

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Loan balances remained in arrears over a period of one year.	Action is being taken to recover loan balances in arrears remaining over a period of one year.
No action had been taken on lapsed deposits of the General Deposit Account in terms of F.R.571.	Not applicable to Agriculture Division.
Ad-hoc Sub Imprest issued in terms of F.R.371 had not been settled within a month following completion of the undertaking.	Instructions have been issued to conduct proper inspection and early recovery of Ad-hoc Sub Imprest issued in terms of F.R. 371.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Part Two : 76.00

Proper human resources plan had not been formulated in terms of provisions in the Public Administration Circular No.02/2018 dated 24th January 2018

In terms of Provisions of the Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24.01.2018, a proper human resources plan has been prepared for the year 2024.

Training opportunity not less than at least 12 hours per year had not been ensured to over 50% of the staff through the Human Resources Plan that has been formulated.

The reason for limitation of providing training opportunities up to a level below 50%, out of the planned training opportunities in 2022 is the requirement to follow guidelines issued by the Presidential Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Public Administrations, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government through the following letters and Circulars by limiting the attendance of official in duties and individual's assembling in public places

I. Public Admin. Circular No 10/2022 dated 25.05.2022 issued to limit the calling of staffs of the state institutions towards minimizing expenditure in consideration of shortage of resources.

II. Public Administration Circular No. 15/2022 and 15.06.2022 and Public Administration Circular No. 15/2022(I) dated 03.08.2022 issued for providing opportunity to public officers to remain one day at home to engage in agricultural and cultivation activities.

III. Public Administration Circular No 16/2022 dated 07. 06.2022 issued to limit the calling of officers for work in state institutions.

IV Public Administration Circular No 16/2022 (I) dated 26.06.2022 issued to limit the calling of officers for work in state institutions.

V. Public Administration Circular No 16/2022 (II) dated 24.07.2022 issued to limit the calling of officers for work in state institutions

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

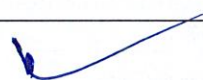
Secretary

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

	VI. Public Administration Secretary's Circular No PUB/ADM/SEC/07 dated 27.06.2022 issued to limit the calling of officers for work in state institutions. VII. National Budget Circular No. 03/2022 dated 26.04.2022
Performance bond covering the entire staff had not been drafted and entered.	Performance Bond by covering entire staff had been drafted and entered into for 2022.
Senior officer of the institution not being nominated to formulate HRD plan & to implement capacity building/skill development programmes	A senior officer has been nominated for the institution to formulate human resources development plans and implement capacity building programmes,
Extent of training opportunities granted out of the planned training opportunities remained less than 50%.	Due to above reasons training opportunities provided out of planned training opportunities for 2022 remained less than 50%. However at present over 80% of the planned training opportunities for 2023 have been provided while training of officers for 2024 already commenced.
Audit opinion on account of the institution remained either at a level of Qualified/disclaimed / unfavorable.	According to the financial statement for 2022, the audit opinion was qualified opinion and no opinion at a level disclaimed or unfavorable expressed.
Recommendations made in the Auditor General's report had not been implemented.	Recommendations made in the Auditor General's report had been implemented.



L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.



D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Ministry of Plantation Industries
Part One : 97.00

Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued by the Committee

Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks/ implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation

Register of Risk had not been maintained up dated basis

Register of Risk has been maintained up dated basis.

Loan balances in arrears remaining over a period of one year had been available.

01. Dues recoverable from offices on transfers

Mr.H.D.K. Godvin (Karyala karya Sahayaka) – Rs..36,116.00

In terms of Public Finance Circular 01/2024, action will be taken to write off during the year 2024.

02.Dues recoverable from officers who had been interdicted

Mr. W.A. L G. Wijesinghe - Rs.. 255,997.00

Advices were sought by the letter dated 11.09.2020 from the Hon.Attorney General not to file a case but to know whether the Ministry could effect the transfer of the property in the name of the person who obtain the land following the auctioning and the methodology to be followed on the money if received at the auction in excess of the dues recoverable to the government. The Attorney General's Department replied on 07.01.2021 that it is necessary to file a case at the District Court and obtain authority under Section 628 of the Civil Procedure Code to auction the land and effect the subsequent transfer. Accordingly a request was made again on 12.02.2021 to the Attorney General's Department to make necessary arrangements to this effect. Subsequently reminders were sent on 13.10.2021, 28.09.2022, 08.12.2022. Again the Attorney General's Department by a letter 10.2022 without date had requested certain information. Those information were forwarded to the Attorney General's Department on 30.01.2023. A reminder was sent again on 12.04.2023 following which a pre legal discussion was held on 17.04.2023. Documents requested at the discussion with

L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

the Attorney General Department were submitted on 20.04.2023. Information were requested again by the Attorney General's Department on 21.06.2023 which were submitted on 20.09.2023.

At present this file has been passed onto 4-5 Attorneies-at-Law and in response to a telephone call, the Attorney has informed on 23.07.2024 that she want time to study the file.

It was informed Once I contacted Mr.Upananda Vidana Pathirana who is holding the Attorney Power on behalf of the government and requested him to sign the Transfer Deed, but he refused the request. Accordingly action has to be filed. If Attorney General Department's urgent mediation is not forth coming, services of a private Lawyer has to be sought (Even following the methodology included in the Cabinet Memorandum) to effect this property auction.

Mr.E.L.Lionel (Karyala Karya Sahayaka) Rs.30,760.00

Action will be taken to delete the balance in 2024 in terms of Public Finance Clircular 01/2024.

Mr.Nishantha Wijekoon (Karyala Karya Sahayaka) Rs.111,754.00

A request dated 23.06.2017 was made to the Hon.Attorney General to initiate legal action against this officer by forfeitting his property upon the reason of defaulting the payment. Accordingly the Attorney General's Department had taken action to file Proxies. However at the inspection of the case file, it was observed that the High Court Judge has turned down the request. Accordingly this was submitted in writing to the Attorney General Department on 18.12.2023. Subsequently we were informed on 14.02.2024 to submit a copy of the order and it was submitted to the Attorney General's Department on 04.03.2024. Sugsequently by letter dated 01.07.2024 we were asked to submit the mediation settlement reached with the Respondent which was obtained from the court and submit to the Attorney General's Department on 22.07.2024.

The case was called on 10.03.2023 at which it has been advised to appeal for taking steps to issue notice to the Respondent. However, Attorney General's Department has neither taken action to this effect and it is required to inspect the step that has been taken subsequent to the letter dated 22.07.2024.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

03. The amount recoverable from officers who vacated the post

Mr.M.M.S.Dissanayake (Karyala Karya Sahayake) Rs.128,002.00

Due to non-settlement of the loan balance by this officer monthly on regular basis, the Head of the Institution in which the Guarantor is serving has been informed to make recovery from the latter and credit the same to this office in terms of Section 4.5, Chapter XXIV of the Establishment Code.

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Department of Agriculture
First Part: 84.00

Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued by the Committee	Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks/ implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation
The Register of Risk had not been updated	Please be kind enough to inform that a Register of Risk is being maintained by the Internal Audit Division.
All audit queries submitted by the Auditor General have not been replied within one month	All audit queries applicable to the year 2022 raised by the Auditor General have been replied. Although early action was taken to reply audit queries, in many instances, over a period of one month had been required to submit replies to audit queries. It is observed that it takes time to obtain replies from the respective Director Unit due to complexity of the prevailing structure of the Department. Forwarding of Audit queries to the respective Director Unit and obtaining replies to Engineering Account Branch is done through supervising officers of Director Unit, Deputy Director Unit and other relevant sub units. In view of the complexity of functions, it takes some time to practically implement recommendations made through audit queries. If replies are obtained with suitable recommendations of supervising officers through above divisions, more successful replies could be forwarded. Accordingly over period of one month is required to successfully reply audit queries. However the Director General of Agriculture by his letter No. කෘෂි/මු/8/6/6.8.ක.ස. dated 30.07.2024 has instructed all Directors to take early action to reply audit queries.



L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.



D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

There are instances where internal audit queries have not been replies within one month.	There are instances where it was not possible to submit complete replies to internal audit queries within a period of month. In such instances every effort will be taken either to submit temporary replies if it was not possible to obtain replies within a month. Complete answers have been received to internal audit queries issued applicable to 2022. It is observed that it takes time in forwarding relevant reports to respective units and sending replies to the Internal Audit Division with recommendations of supervising officers of above Divisions in view of complexity of structure of the Department. In view of the complexity of functions, it takes some time to practically implement recommendations made through Audit Queries. If replies are obtained with suitable recommendations of supervising officers through above divisions, more successful replies could be forwarded. Accordingly over period of one month is required to successfully reply audit queries.
Letters to establish ownership of every vehicle not being in the possession.	Documents are available to establish ownership of vehicles used by 05 Sub Units of the Department of Agriculture and it is necessary to obtain duplicates of registration documents in respect of few vehicles belonged to other Units. The relevant sub units have already been informed to take early action in this regard. Action has been taken to enter information of registration documents forwarded to Head Office in the vehicle data system. Accordingly identification of information are as follows:

Se/No	Sub Unit	Number of Vehicles of which duplications of registration documents shall be obtained to establish ownership
01	Administration Division	Registration documents of all vehicles are available
02	Finance Division	
03	Progress Monitoring & Evaluation Division	
04	Social Economic and Planning Centre	
05	Natural Resources Management Centre	
06	Engineering Division	02
07	National Agriculture Information & Communication Centre	05
08	Paddy research & Development Centre	11
09	Field Crop Research & Development Institution	18
10	Fruit Research & Development Institution	11
11	Horticulture Crop Research & Dev. Institution	04
12	Seed Certification & Plant Conservation Centre	04
13	Extension & Training Centre	46
14	Seeds & planting Material Development Centre	48

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Emblem of the State had not been painted on all vehicles.

Painting of Emblem of the State on all pool vehicles belonged to 07 sub units of the Dept. of Agriculture has been completed while other sub units have been informed in writing to complete the task.

Se/ No	Sub Unit	Painting of the State Emblem
01	Administration Division	State emblem had been painted on all Vehicles.
02	Finance Division	
03	Fruit Research & Development Institution	
04	Horticulture Crop Research & Dev. Institution	
05	Natural Resources Management Centre	
06	Field Crop Research & Development Centre	
07	Social Economic & Planning Centre	State Emblem has been painted on all vehicles.
08	Seed Certification & Plant Conservation Centre	State Emblem has to be painted on 17 vehicles

Reminder dated 25.07.2024 has been sent on the painting of State Emblem on pool vehicles belonged to the following Sub Units.

- i. Seed & Planting Material Development Centre
- ii. Extension & Training Centre
- iii. Engineering Division
- iv. Seed Certification Plant Conservation Centre
- v. National Agriculture Information & Communication Centre
- vi. Finance Division
- vii. Paddy Research & Development Centre

L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Vehicles not disposed of in less than 08 months after condemnation.

Information on DOA owned condemned vehicles suitable for disposal are reported in Gen.47 form to the Condemned Vehicle Asset Management Branch after subjecting the same to the Board of Survey of the respective year.

Accordingly, in terms of F.R.756 (6) of Chapter 11.1 of the Public Finance Circular No.01/2020, Annual Board of Survey activities complete only on 15 March of the respective year. Vehicles identified for disposal are listed and classified after that date. Subsequently, it was decided whether those vehicles are owned by the Dept. of Agriculture and possesses registration documents. List of vehicles suitable for disposals are available only after that.

Subsequently, Committees have to be appointed to identify and value the respective vehicles under classification of 03 groups based on Guideline applicable to the removal of condemned state vehicles from use under F.R.770 (4) (a), Paragraph 13.2 of Public Finance Circular No.01/2020.

There are 250 Divisions established island wide under the Department of Agriculture. Valuation Boards have to take time to value the respective vehicles depending on the number of vehicles available. Subsequently, the list of vehicles identified for disposal has to be submitted to the Chief Counting Officer to get the approval for disposal. Soon after the receipt of the said approval, the respective vehicles are classified under 03 groups referred to in the above paragraph. After that the list of vehicles with other documents relating to the procurement process on the recommendation of the Technical Evaluation Committee, submitted to the Procurement Committee of the Dept. of Agriculture or the Divisional Procurement Committee.


L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Following the receipt of the Procurement Committee approval, a press notice to invite bids is to be published. After about 01 month, bids are open and listed based on quoted value. Those lists are submitted again to the Procurement Committee with TEC recommendations. Immediately after receiving approval of the Procurement Committee, first, second and third buyers are informed to remove vehicles depending on the order of removal to finalize the disposal.

Accordingly, the disposal process is a time consuming procedure which will be completed at the end of the respective year. In certain unavoidable circumstances the disposal may be delayed by about further one month.

L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.



D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Loan balances in arrears remaining over a period of one year.

Action is being taken with frequent attention to Sections 4 and 6, chapter XXIV of the Establishment Code on loan balances recoverable from Advance Accounts of Public Officers, from officers who were died, from officers who were retired, from officers retired without pension, from officers interdicted, from officers who vacated the post, from officers transferred by various divisions under centralization and from officers gone abroad having vacated the post.

Accordingly action was taken to recover loan balances of 34 officers which amounted to Rs.1, 679,658.58 as at 31.07.2024 out of loan balances of Rs. 4,139,802.23 obtained by 80 officers which had been remaining over a period of one year as at 31.12.2022

Following measures have been taken to recover remaining loan balance of Rs. 2,460,143.65 obtain by 46 officers.

	Category	Number of officers	Action taken and present situation
1	Loan balances recoverable from officers who were died (11)	02	Although death gratuity has been paid to heirs, provisions have not been released so far. After the release of provisions, recoverable could be made.
		02	Recovery in instalments is in progress.
		02	Reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024.
		01	The file has been forwarded to the Dept. of Pension.
		04	Files are being prepared for submission to the Dept. of Pensions.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

	2	Loan balances recoverable from officers retired (05)	01	The file has been forwarded to the Dept. of Pension
			03	Now attending to the file for submission to the Dept. of Pension.
			01	F.R. inquiry is being carried out
	3	Loan balances recoverable from officers without pension (02)	02	Due to insufficiency of the period of service, they are not entitled to a gratuity. Efforts are being made to recover loan balances. However, due to failure of the Debtor to repay the loan, reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024.
	4	Loan balances recoverable from officers who were interdicted - (01)	01	As it is not possible to make recovery, reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024.

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

5	Loan balances recoverable from officers who vacated the post- (21)	03	- Recovery of loan balances is in progress. - Action has been filed for recovery.
		01	
		02	On the Attorney General's advice, the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture has recommended the deletion. Accordingly, the relevant reports are being prepared for deletion in terms of Public finance Circular 1/2024.
		09	Attorney General's advice received for deletion. Accordingly reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024.
6	Loan balances recoverable from officers gone abroad with Pay (03)	03	Submitted for Attorney General's advice
		03	Efforts were made to make recovery. However due to Debtor's failure to make settlement, reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024.
6	Loan balances recoverable from officers gone abroad with Pay (03)	02	Efforts were made to make recovery. However due to Debtor's failure to make settlement, reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024
		01	Action is being taken to recover loan balances from security deposits of the officer.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Rajamalwatta, Sri Lanka


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Rajamalwatta, Sri Lanka

	7	Loan balances recoverable from officers transferred under centralization (03)	01	• Efforts were made to make recovery. However due to Debtor's failure to make settlement, reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024
			01	• As the debtor died during Tsunami disaster, reports are being prepared to submit for deletion in terms of the Public Finance Circular 1/2024
			01	• Action is being taken to recover loan balance from security deposits of the officer. Assistance of the Election Commission is expecting to confirm his residency.
			<u>46</u>	
Adhoc sub Imprest have been issued by exceeding limit under F.R.371	Ad-hoc sub imprest have not been issued by the Dept. of Agriculture by exceeding the limit under F.R.371 However in response to the question whether Ad-hoc Sub Imprest have been issued by exceeding limit under F.R.371 in the entering data to the Online Information System, reply 'No' given due to inadvertent delay. That should be corrected as 'Yes'			
Recruitment of staff by exceeding approved limit	Staff have not been recruited to the Dept. of Agriculture by exceeding approved limit. However, due to attachment of trainee graduates recruited in 2020 by the Ministry of Public Administration to this Department, excess recruitment appeared. Approval of the Dept. of Management Services has been sought to get approval for those excess officers. However approval not received so far.			

L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Part Two : 80.00

Out of the planned training opportunities, extent of training granted remained less than 50%.	Organizing of training programmes for officers involved in administrative activities of the Dept. of Agriculture and co-ordination of training programmes conducted by other institutions are done by Admin. 04 Branch. Arrangements had been made to conduct 20 training programmes under annual training plan of the year 2022. 24 training programmes included /not included in the training estimate have been organized and co-ordinated.
Audit opinion on accounts of the institution was on either at the level of Qualified/disclaimd / unfavourable	Audit opinion submitted by Auditor General applicable to the financial year 2022 is a Qualified Opinion
Declaration of Assets and Liabilities of all officers had not been submitted.	The Dept. of Agriculture consists of a large number of staff officers and about 260 sub units. Among these staff officers only Assets and Liability Declarations of all Directors and Staff Officers of the Administration Division are obtained by Admin 03 Branch since 2022 while the declaration of Assets and Liabilities have to be submitted to the respective Director. Further all Directors have been informed to submit Assets and Liability Declarations received by them to Admin 03 Branch.
No action has been taken to transfer officers who completed maximum period of service.	Approved cadre of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service consists of 1183 officers. However only 384 officers are in service while 799 posts remain vacant. Due to availability of specilized officers for certain subject areas and personal requests of officers who submitted requests on medical reasons, officers have to serve the same place of work over 05 years. In the implementation of annual transfers all officers serving the same place over 5 years are taken into consideration. According to Transfer Board Committee decisions of 2021, 2022 & 2023, information on officers whose transfer are to be made only at the time of new recruitments due to shortage of officers have already been forwarded to the Administration Division for Recruitment and Transfers.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Revised Transfer procedure for officers in the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service has been forwarded to the Public Service Commission for approval and future action will be taken after receiving the approval.

Transfer procedure was not available for the post of Agriculture Instructor (Special Grade) of the Sri Lanka Technological service. Therefore new transfer procedure has been formulated and submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval on 19.06.2023. Future action will be taken after the receipt of the approval.

Although there are 25 approved posts for Research Assistant (Special Grade) of the Sri Lanka technological Service, only 05 officers are serving at present. Therefore no action has been taken to appoint Annual Transfer Committees as per Section 250 (II), Chapter XVII of the Procedural Rules.

Transfers have been implemented for officers of the Technological Service and officers in the Technology Service Assistant Category. However due to the following reasons, it was not possible to practically implement transfers in respect of officers who have completed the maximum period of service.

- Availability of vacancies
- Therefore duties have to be performed continuously at the maximum capacity in each place of work by engaging limited number of officers available.
- Inability of providing replacements for extremely difficult and difficult work stations and officer serving such places of work having expressed consent to serve in the same difficult work stations.
- Non submission of requests for transfers in extremely difficult and difficult places of work and receiving excess number of requests for transfers to serve in preferred work stations with benefits.
- Responsibility and service requirements in each place of work being taken into consideration.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

- Giving considerations to recommendations of the Director/Chief of Unit.
- Cancellation of annual transfer proposals of 2022 due to protest campaigns launched by trade unions of Agriculture Instructors.
- Annual Transfer of 2023 have to be implemented based on 2022 and 2023. Therefore a large number of officers who completed 05 year period of service have applied for transfers. However as it is not practical to transfer all officers who qualified to apply for transfers, priority was given to officers with the maximum period of service in the same work place and to officers who applied for transfers on medical grounds.
- Based on the Interim Injunction Order issued by the Court of Appeal after hearing the Case filed by the Agriculture Instructors' Trade Union under Appeal Court Application No.CA/WRIT/471/2022 on Annual Transfer 2022/2023, annual transfer of those years were suspended. Although hearing of the case ended on 02.02.2024, legal advice from the Attorney General's Department having not received so far, it has not been possible to implement respective annual transfers.
- Delay caused in receiving Court Order on annual transfer 2022/2023 and due to the receipt of PSC approval for annual transfer procedure on 22.01.2024, it was not possible to implement annual transfers for 2024.
- Applications for annual transfer 2025 have now been called and action is being pursued to implement the annual transfer within the prescribed time frame.

Although it was possible for the Department to implement annual transfers of the Technological Service as scheduled in keeping with transfer time table subject to the applicable laws, regulations and provisions, annual transfers of Agriculture Instructors have not been implemented since 2021 upto now due to reasons beyond control of the administration of the Department which being the reason for availability of officers with period of service exceeding 05 years

Annual transfers of officers serving under the combined services are implemented by the Director


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

General of Combined Service. Accordingly the list of names of officers with period of service over 05 years in the same work place is being forwarded annually to the Director General, Combined Services.

Annual Internal Transfer Procedure of the Department in respect of Development Officers and Management Service Officers has been approved by the Secretary, Public Service Commission by his letter No.PSC/EST/07/04/13/01/2022 dated 01.04.2024 effective from 27.03.2024. Accordingly arrangements are being made to invite application for internal transfers from officers having a period of service of over 05 years in the same place of work.

The annual transfer procedure for departmental posts(Farm Clerk, Agri Monitoring Officer, Programme Assistant, Agriculture Extension Officer, Seed Technician, Hostal Keeper) has been approved by the letter No.PSC/EST/07/04/03/01/2022 dated 22.01.2024 effective from 18.01.2024. Accordingly applications have been invited from officers with a period of service over 05 years in the same place of work for internal transfers.

Further annual transfers 2024 were implemented for departmental primary non technical, primary technical and semi technical (PL- 01/PL-02 and PL 03). However in the exigency of the services in the Divisional Agencies, availability of vacancies of the above posts and issues relating to adjustments of replacements, it was not possible to grant transfers to all employees who completed over 05 year period of service in the same place of work.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Department of Animal Production and Health**Part One : 84.00**

Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued	Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks/ implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation
All audit queries submitted by the Auditor General has not been replied within one month	Delays are involved at the time of obtaining information from divisional offices for drafting replies. In such instances interim reply is submitted by obtaining additional time to reply. Further obtaining reports through e mail and data through Google Sheets have been introduced in order to minimize delays of this nature.
Instances had been reported where internal audit queries being not replied within one month period.	In many instances internal audit queries have been replied within the given period of time. However, there are certain cases where information have to be called from Divisional Offices such as Livestock Investigation Centre, delays are caused. In such instances interim reply is submitted by obtaining additional time to reply. Further obtaining reports through e mail and data through Google Sheets have been introduced in order to minimize delays of this nature.
Audit and Management Committee meetings had not been held as scheduled during the year under review.	Audit Committee meetings applicable to the first quarter of 2023 was held on 31.03.2023 while the second and third quarter meetings were held on 03.10.2023. Due to non-availability of permanent officer to hold the the post of Chief Internal Auditor, it was not possible to conduct the respective meetings as scheduled.
Emblem of the State had not been painted on all vehicles.	Emblem of the State is now being displayed on all vehicles of the department.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Condemned vehicles not being disposed of within a period less than 8 months after condemning	Please be kind enough to inform that action is being pursued in terms of Public Administration Circular 02/2015 in respect of vehicles awaiting disposal applicable to 2023.
Availability of Loan balances in arrears remaining over a period of one year.	i. Mrs. D.S.P. Amarasena – As this officer is not reporting for work due to illness, action is being taken to retire her on medical grounds. ii. Mr. D.M.S.B. Dissanayeka – This officer has vacated the post in December 2023. Therefore action is being pursued to recover loan balances. As these officers have a period of service exceeding 10 years, loans were issued to them without guarantors.
Revenue collected had neither been credited to income nor had they been credited to revenue account within a period less than one month after retaining the same in Deposit Account.	Money directly deposited by clients had been retained in the Deposit Account. After identifying they have been brought to revenue.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Part Two : 71.00

No methodology had been formulated by the institution to monitor or evaluate the implementation of the Citizens/ Clients Charter.	Citizens/ Clients Charter of the institution has now been formulated and action taken to publish in the website. It is due to be displayed. A committee has been appointed which is represented by Directors of all divisions for supervision.
Audit opinion on accounts of the institution had been qualified/ disclaimed /unfavourable.	According to the financial statement of 2022, the audit opinion was a qualified opinion and not disclaimed or unfavorable.
Declaration of Assets & Liabilities had not been submitted by all officers.	By 30.06.2023 the number of officers of this institution from whom Declaration of Assets and Liabilities should be obtained had been 149 of whom 102 officers have submitted the same. Officers who have not submitted Declaration of Assets and Liabilities have been informed to submit.
Action had not been taken to formally transfer officers who had completed the maximum period of service.	Information of officers who have completed 06 year period of service have been referred to Transfer Boards. Accordingly, action has been taken to grant annual transfer to all officers other than officers who did not submitted requests for transfers in the exigency of services. However due to the following reasons it has been difficult to transfer all officers of the department who have completed 06 year period of service. • Non availability of suitable replacement for implementing transfers (Due to this department being technical institution) • Non availability of Internal Transfer procedure for the post of Laboratory Assistant belonged to primary non technical category and Drivers of the department then (At present the annual transfer procedure has been submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries to the Public Service Commission for approval.)



L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwalta Avenue,
Battaramulla.



D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwalta Road
Battaramulla.

	• Non availability of officers for transferring to the respective places of work in the adjustment of transfers with regard to annual transfers. • Under the transfer procedure, those who applied are subject to obtaining transfers to the nearest place of work. However, in such situations, the transfer depends on the approved cadre of the nearest place of work.
--	--



L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.



D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Department of Rubber Development**Part One : 86.00**

Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued by the Committee	Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks / implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation
All audit queries raised by the Auditor General had not been replied within a period of one month	Cannot be agreed with the statement, 'All audit queries had not been replied within amonth' because all audit queries except 05 have been replied within a period less than one month. Responsible officers have been made aware and action is being taken to reply audit queries within a period of one month.
Recommendations on excesses and shortages and other recommendations revealed by the Annual Board of Survey had not been implemented within a prescribed period of time.	As Board of Surveys have to be conducted covering many institutions and offices, it takes time due to the difficulty of engaging staffs. However, all activities relating to Board of Surveys have been completed before 30.06. 2022. Responsible officers have been made aware on the necessity of fulfilling the task within a prescribed period of time.
Documents to establish the ownership of all vehicles not being in the possession.	Cannot be agreed with the statement, 'Documents to establish the ownership of all vehicles had not been in the possession because documents (Registration Books) to confirm the ownership of vehicles belonged to this department are in the possession of the administration Division.
Consequent to the utilization of provisions allocated for a vote as per F.R. 94(1), liabilities were exceeding the provisions that remained at the end of the year.	Action has been taken to advise the relevant officers not to incur liabilities in excess of the limit of provisions as per F.R. 94(1).


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Action had not been taken to table annual performance report in Parliament under the prescribed procedure.

At the time of collecting information for preparation of the performance report for the year 2022 the Auditor General's report has been applied from Audit Superintendent of the Government Audit Division by the letter No. RDD/04/04/Performance Report/2022/1 dated 17.05.2023 informing the necessity of submitting the report in Parliament on due date.

However, the relevant Auditor General's report applicable to the year 2023 had been received on 30.05.2024. Accordingly, it was not possible to submit the Performance Report 2023 in Parliament before 31.05.2024. Therefore action will be taken to inform the government Audit Superintendent to make arrangements to send us the Auditor General's Report 2024 by 31.03.2025.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Part Two: 99.00

Out of the training opportunities planned, the extent of training opportunities granted was less than 50%.

The reason for the training opportunity granted to remain less than 50% out of the training opportunities planned is the Health Ministry regulations being laid down to limit the assembly of people in view of the Corona Pandemic during the first 06 months of 2022. Therefore, it was not possible to conduct training programmes that have been planned.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Department of Export Agriculture
Part One : 90.00

Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued by the Committee	Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks / implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation
Pass wards applicable to state pay roll soft system had not been changed once in three months in terms of Public Finance Circular No 171/2004 dated 11.05 2004.	Action has been taken to duly change the Password applicable pay roll software which being the software for preparation of the salary of the department once in three months in terms of Public Finance Circular 171/2004.
All audit queries submitted by the Auditor General has not been replied within a month.	19 audit queries applicable to 2022 have been received, of which 08 have been replied within 03 months. Before drafting replies to audit queries, information is called from various institutions of the department. Accordingly, forwarding of replies gets delayed in certain instances. However, action will be taken to submit replies within a period of one month.
Daily running charts and monthly summaries in respect of pool vehicles had not been submitted to Auditor General.	All monthly running charts and summary reports applicable to the financial year 2022 have been sent to the Internal Audit Branch by which the same have been submitted to the Auditor General on 11.10.2022, 08.02.2023, 03.05.2023, 19.07.2023 & 27.12.2023.
Emblem of the State had not been painted on all vehicles.	State Emblem has been painted on all vehicles by now.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Condemned vehicles had not been disposed of within a period of less than 08 months after condemning.	In view of the Covid Pandemic Situation prevailed in the country disposal of condemned vehicles couldn't be finalized. At present Sale Price Valuation Committee has been appointed to initiate valuation of the disposal process.
Bank reconciliation statements had not been prepared, confirmed and submitted for audit on the due date.	After correctly identifying bank receipts they should be realized. Due to delay in sending them from Asst.District Directors' Offices, it has not been possible to submit bank reconciliation reports on the due date. Under the export agri crop development project, beneficiaries are directly crediting money to this bank account through Asst.District Directors office. Diposit receipts credited in this manner are sent to Head office through Asst.Directors Offices. Subsequently receipts are issued for them through Shroff. Therefore in sending deposit receipts to Head Office and in the process of identification of the same and bringing into revenue, delay is caused in the preperation of bank reconciliation statements. Instructions have been issued to the respective offices to correct this situation in the future.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Part Two : 83.00

Proper human resources plan had not been prepared in terms of provisions of the Public Administration Circular No.02/2018 dated 24.01.2018.	During the period of Corona Pandemic police curfew had been imposed and in terms of the Circular No.PS/CSA/Circular 17/2020 dated 26.03.2020 issued by the Presidential Secretariat all public officers had to perform duties at home except staff officers and their assistants who were required to report for duty. Therefore human resources development plan for 2022 couldn't be prepared as per provisions of the Public Administration Circular 02/2018. At present that plan has been prepared and the training activities are in progress.
The human resources development plan that had been prepared did not ensure at least a minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for more than 50% of the member of the staff.	According to the Home Affairs Ministry Circular No. 10/2020, conducting of training programmes and meetings involving the participation of public officers and the general public had to be suspended. Further strict restriction imposed under Public Administration Circulars 07/2022, 08/2022, 09/2022, 10/2022, 13/2022, 15/2022, 16/2022, it was not possible to conduct planned training programmes. However human resources development plan 2023 has been properly prepared and is being implemented.
Performance Agreement covering the entire staff had not been drafted and entered into.	During the period of Corona Pandemic police curfew had been imposed and in terms of the Circular No.PS/CSA/Circular 17/2020 dated 26.03.2020 issued by the Presidential Secretariat, all public officers had to perform duties at home except staff officers and their assistants who were required to report for duty. Therefore human resources development plan for 2022 couldn't be prepared as per provisions of the Public Administration Circular 02/2018.
Out of the planned training opportunities, the extent of training granted was less than 50%.	According to the Home Affairs Ministry Circular No. 10/2020 conducting of training programmes and meetings involving the participation of public officers and the general public had to be suspended. Further strict restriction imposed under Public Administration Circulars 07/2022, 08/2022, 09/2022, 10/2022, 13/2022, 15/2022, 16/2022, it was not possible to conduct planned training programmes. However human resources development plan 2023 has been properly prepared and is being implemented

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

The audit ipenion about the accounts of the institution was at the level of qualified/disclaimed and unfavourable..

A qualified openion on accounts of the institution has been submitted for this year.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Department of Agrarian Development**Part One : 77.00****Drawbacks identified by the Committee / Orders issued by the Committee****Cause of actions taken to correct drawbacks / implement recommendations made by the Committee and current situation**

Fixed Assets Module of CIGAS Programme had not been maintained up to date basis as per Paragraphs 8.1 and 8.2 of the Guideline No. 2022/05 dated 13.12.2022 of the Public Finance Department.

Fixed Assets Module of CIGAS Programme is being maintained up to date basis as per Paragraph 8.1 and 8.2 of the Guideline No. 2022/05 dated 13.12.2022 issued by the Public Accounts Department. Accordingly, Fixed Assets Register is being maintained for both Head Office and all 25 districts.

Register of Risk had not been maintained updated basis.

Register of Risk has been prepared. However, there are certain practical issues relating to its updating. After addressing those issues, action will be taken to update the same.

All audit queries submitted by the Auditor General has not been replied within a month

The Department of Agrarian Development through 25 District Offices and 562 Agrarian Services Centres islandwide. District offices and Agrarian Services Centres are audited by the Audit Superintendent of the respective districts following which audit queries are submitted. In addition district offices and agrarian services centres are audited by government audit division of the Head Office following audit queries submitted. Accordingly the relevant clarifications have to be obtained from district offices and the respective Agrarian Services Centres to draft final reply.

Drafting of final replies after obtaining clarifications required for certain audit queries within the period of time given is practically impossible leading to delay of replying..

However a formal methodology has now been introduced to draft replies to audit queries for which submitting final replies get delayed and it is being implemented. Accordingly given below is the summary which include progress of submitting finalized replies to total number of audit queries received by the Department as at 30.10.2024.

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Total Audit queries received by the Department		Number of Audit queries for which replies submitted as at 30.10.2024	Number of Audit queries replies are to be submitted		
Year	Number of Audit queries		Audit queries on balances recoverable & payable	Other Audit Queries	Total
2019	129	124	5	0	5
2020	110	108	2	0	2
2021	118	117	0	1	1
2022	219	217	1	1	2
2023	54	54	0	0	0
2024	30	26	0	4	4
Total	660	646	8	6	14

Internal Audit queries had not been replied within a period of one month.

Commissioner General of Agrarian Development by his letter addressed to Deputy/Asst.Commissioners in charge of the respective district has informed them to submit cause of actions to be taken on matters included in the internal audit report to be issued under signature of Chief Internal Auditor within 14 days. Following the receipt of the internal audit report by Deputy/Asst.Commissioner in charge of the respective district the same is sent to Agrarian Development Officers in charge of the relevant Agrarian Services Centres to obtain clarifications on matter contained in the report.

L.P.S. Kumara

Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe

Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

	Replies drafted by Agrarian Development officers based on those reports are submitted to Deputy/Asst.Commissioners who are responsible in submitting the same with their signature to the Commissioner General of Agrarian Development, the process of which take time of over a period of one month. Attention in this regard will be paid at the Audit and Management Committee meetings and at the progress review meetings to find ways and means of addressing this situation.
Daily running charts and monthly summary report for pool vehicles had not been submitted to the Auditor General	Arrangements have been made to submit daily running charts and monthly summary reports to Audit Division before 15 of the coming month.
Emblem of the State had not been painted on all vehicles.	Stickers with State Emblem had been stucked on departmental vehicles. However with the passing of time those stiker became discoloured and erased. Therefore action has been taken to paint state emblem.
Condemned vehicles had not been disposed within a period of less than 08 months after condemning.	Disposal has been finalized on 13 vehicles . However as originals of registration documents in respect of 10 vehicles registered in the name of commissioner General of Agrarian Development are not available,disposal of them is not possible. Accordingly a complain had been lodged at the Cinnamon Garden police station for obtaining original of those documents. Accordingly action will be taken to submit a copy of the complain to the Dept. of Motor Traffic to obtain duplication of registration documents. Further it is expected to transfer 15 vehicles (of institutions currently liquidated) in the name of Commissioner General, Agrarian Development. In terms of the Asset Management Circular 03/2018 dated 10.10.2018, this transfer could be activated through the office of Controller General. At present police complaint in respect of those 15 vehicles has been submitted and future activities in this regard will be taken on the relevant instructions. Following the addressing of the above issues, action has been taken to dispose of vehicles 2024 by appointing special Board of Survey.

L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.



D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Action has not been taken in terms of F.R. on state vehicle accident

Action has been taken with regard to the following vehicles in terms of F.R. 103 ,104 ,109 & 110.

53-9816 – the case No. 2704/M heard in the District Court, Puttalam ended on 18.02.2021. According to the verdict given, the Respondent of the Case Sainool Abdeen Mohammad Siyad has paid a sum of Rs.149, 750.00, being the amount calculated by the Department as a loss to the District Office of Agrarian Development, Puttalam under Receipt No. A/24 716613 dated 16.02.2021.

PB-5280 – This being an accident unavailable, loss is considered as a loss caused to vehicle. Accordingly, action will be taken to delete the loss from Book under F.R. 109 following the receipt of the relevant documents from the Fertilizer Division with recommendations

250-2078 – In response to the letter dated 24.11.2015, the preliminary report on Losses under F.R.104 (3) and the final report on the loss under F.R. 104 (4) have been made available by the District Office of Agrarian Development, Anuradhapura.

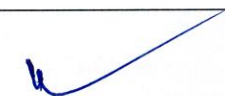
Accordingly, future action will be taken to delete the loss from Book under F.R. 109 following the receipt of the relevant documents from the Fertilizer Division with recommendations

53-9830- Deputy District Commissioner of Agrarian Development, (Kurunegala by his letter No. 7/1/2/32/1 dated 12.12.2013 has submitted a letter to the Attorney General' Department requesting that action be taken to file a compensation case. Accordingly, the case No.15/MD was filed at District Court, Kurunegala to claim compensation.

Cooperative Insurance Company being the Second Respondent of the Case No. 15 / MD, District Court, Kurunegala has agreed to pay Rs. 51,750 and Commissioner General of Agrarian Development has agreed to withdraw from the Legal proceedings by obtaining the sum. Accordingly Court case is over

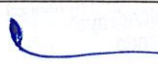
Action is being taken on other accident files.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Balances that are revealed by findings of Bank reconciliation Statements and should be adjusted had not been adjusted within a period of one month as per Financial Regulations.	Necessary action has been taken to settle balances that are revealed by findings of Bank Reconciliation Statements and should be adjusted in terms of the Financial Regulations.
Loan balances remained in arrears over a period of one year.	The relevant parties having loan balances in arrears have been informed in writing to settle the same. Accordingly action has been taken to recover a considerable amount of loan balances. Approval of the Ministry of Finance sought to write off the loan balances sources of which couldn't be identified or unrecoverable.
Action had not been taken in terms of F.R.571 on lapsed deposits in the General Deposit Account.	Action is being taken to settle lapsed deposits in the General Deposit Account on priority basis depending on the receipt of imprest from Treasury Operation Department.
Ad hoc Sub Imprest issued in terms of F.R.371 had not been settled within a month after completing the task.	A method has been formulated to settle Ad hoc Sub Imprest issued in terms of F.R.371 in keeping with the recommendations of Auditor General and instructions issued to officers concerned to settle the same within a month after completing the task.


L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

Part Two : 36.00

No opportunity had been granted for the people to lodge complains or not commendations through Website maintained by the Institution.	➤ At the time of creating a Website for this Department, it has been planned only to update general information ➤ Implementation of the audit matter pointed out at auditing is a time consuming and expenditure involved undertaking. Therefore facilities have been provided for the public to express their views on open Web page of the Website www.agrarian.lk through access published in the Website of the Department www.agrariandepat.lk ➤ In addition Public Complain Box has been kept at the main entrance of the Head office of the Department to make complains of the general public on abuses and corruptions.
Citizens/Clients Charter had not been properly formulated and implemented in terms of the Public Administration and Management Ministry Circular No.05/2008 dated 06.02.2008 amended by the Circular No.05/2018 (I) dated 24.01.2018.	Citizens/ Clients Charter has been properly formulated and exhibited.
Methodology had not been formulated to monitor or evaluate the implementation of Citizens/Clients Charter of the institute	Methodology is being formulated to monitor or evaluate the implementation of Citizens/Clients Charter of the institute


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.

Human Resources Plan had not been properly formulated in terms of provisions of the Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24 January 2018.	Human Resources Plan had been formulated
The Human Resources Dev. Plan that has been prepared did not ensure at least a minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for more than 50% of the member of the staff. Out of the planned training opportunities, extent of training granted remained less than 50%.	Investigation Division, Training Division and Discipline division are operating under the Commissioner of Human Resources Development. It is a Grade 1 post of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service. However, due to the no- availability of Class 1 Officer, duties were covered through a SLAS Grade III Officer during that period. During this period all the following establishment work in respect of about 13,620 members of the staff, i.e. ➤ Recruitment of staff ➤ Promotions ➤ Permanency ➤ Vacancy Management ➤ Maintaining of personal files of officers serving the Head Office. Giving priority conduct investigations islandwide followed by disciplinary inquiries related with them during that period. Delay is due to non-availability of trained and skilled staff in the field of investigation and discipline. Certain disciplinary inquiries were long process and some needed nearly 05 years upon which permanency and retirement of many officers got delayed.

L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

	Accordingly, although funds had been allocated for training, qualified officer was not available to be hand over the responsibility. Further retirement having got delayed due to the same reason action was taken to make maximum use of the existing staff in the Human Resources Development Division. Accordingly, in the absence of sufficient time and capacity, it was not possible conduct planned training programmes. However at present training activities are being properly handled by utilizing the provisions allocated to the training Division.
A senior officer had not been named to formulate human resources development plans and to implement capacity and skill development programmes	Training activities are handled by a separate division under direct supervision of the Additional Commissioner General.
Audit opinion of the instituion had been at the level of qualified/disclaim and unfavoural	It was observed that the opinion of the Auditor General was at the level of qualified disclaim or unfavorable. The reason for expressing such opinion by the Auditor General was identified. However, at present internal controlling systems have been established to minimize short comings referred to above
Recommendations included in the Auditor General's report had not been implemented	The internal controlling system has been established by fully adhering to recommendations of the Auditor General.
Losses caused to the state from officers had not been recovered in terms of F.R. 156(1)	The responsible officers have been instructed to make pre arrangements to calculate and recover losses caused to the state from officers in terms of F.R. 156(1)

L.P.S. Kumara
 Chief Finance Officer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
 No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
 Rajamalwatta Avenue,
 Battaramulla.

D.P. Wickramasinghe
 Secretary
 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
 Battaramulla.

No action had been taken to transfer officers who had completed the maximum period of service.

- I. In view of the Covid situation prevailed in 2020, it was not possible to implement annual transfers. However annual internal transfers implemented in 2021.
- II. Due to economic crisis which affected hit the country in 2022, transfers were not implemented in consideration of various difficulties faced by officers.
- III. Internal transfer procedure was formulated and implemented on 02.05.2023 for posts of Agrarian Development Officer, Development Officer, Management Assistant, Agriculture Research and Production Assistant (ARPA), Laborer and Watcher who has been serving for a long period in a district office, Agrarian Services Centre or ARPA Division attached to the Department.
- IV. Transfers were implemented in 2023 and all district offices were informed to call for applications from officers for annual internal transfers in 2024.
- V. This process is continuously implementing in 2024 as well.


L.P.S. Kumara
Chief Finance Officer
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
No. 80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya"
Rajamalwatta Avenue,
Battaramulla.


D.P. Wickramasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation
80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Road
Battaramulla.