2023

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வருடாந்த செயற்றிறன் அறிக்கை
Annual Performance Report

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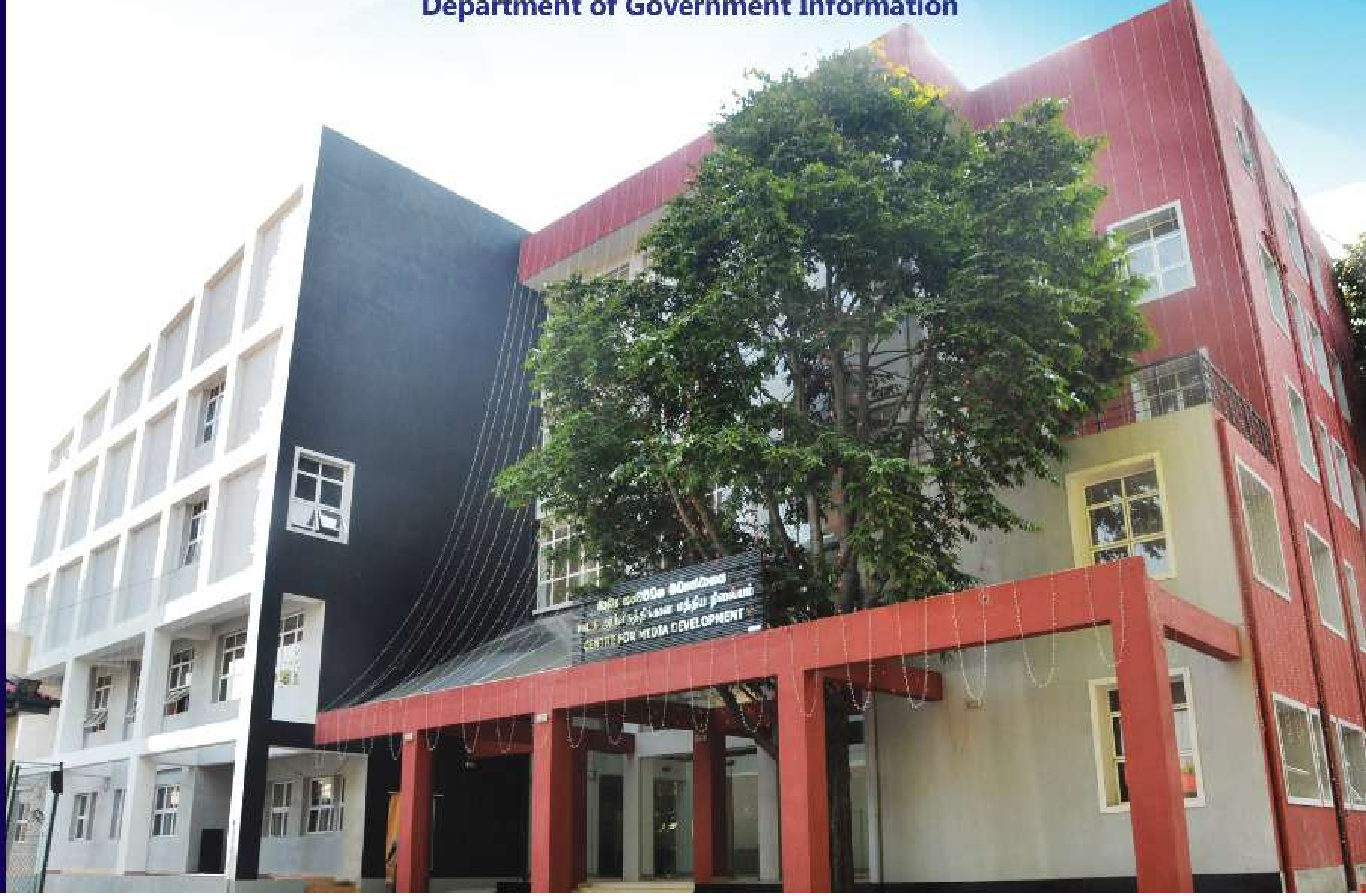
அரசாங்க தகவல் திணைக்களம்
Department of Government Information



Annual Performance report 2023

Department of Government Information

No.163,
Kirulapone Avenue,
Polhengoda,
Colombo 05

Annual Performance Report for the year 2023

Department of Government Information

Expenditure Head No.: 210

This report has been prepared according to the format introduced by Department of Public Finance

Content

Chapter 01

Institutional Profile/ Executive Summary

Institutional Profile / Executive Summary

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1.0 Department of Government Information

1.1. INTRODUCTION

An institution by the name of "War Information Centre" was put into operation during the period of Second World War in the British colonial era, with the intention of making the public aware of the war information.

At the end of the war, on 31st July 1948, the "War Information Centre" was re-established at Galle Face Secretariat Complex as the "Department of Government Information" upon guidance and recommendations of Soulbury Commission in order to create public awareness about Government Development Activities. At the beginning, the department consisted of three divisions, namely

1. News Providing Division
2. Government Books Division
3. Government Film Unit.

The Department was set up under three main sections with the key objective of making the public aware of the Government's National Development Role. The Institutional Structure of the department is

01. Monitoring the government's development news and publicity activities
02. Bringing the official publications of the government to the public (Printing and distribution)
03. Production and exhibition of documentaries by the Government Film Unit to raise public awareness at the village level on the development role played by the government.

Certain divisions of the department located in the Gall Face Secretariat complex were shifted from time to time to buildings such as Irrigation Department Building-Jawatta, Velona Building- Polwatta, Transworth House-Fort, and Atapattu Building-Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha. In the 90s, the Department of Government Information which was maintained in two floors in a private building in Kollupitiya, had been shifted to Polhengoda premises where the Government Film Unit being operated. Since then, the departmental administration worked to set up all the divisions of the Department in one location.

As a consequent, strengthening the institution's infrastructure, new five-storied Media Development Center was opened on 30.03.2012. This was a reward for the staff to deliver an efficient service.

The position of Head of the Establishment, which was known as the Information Officer at the beginning, has now been upgraded to the post of Director General of Government Information. Mr.P.Nadeshan had been the first Information Officer in 1948. The designation of the Head of Establishment has been promoted from Information Officer to the post of Director of Information, and then to the Director General of Information.

Mr. H.A.J Hulugalla, an experienced journalist and a newspaper editor, had been appointed as the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Government Information. In addition to that, Mr.p.n. Maddegod, Mr.L.R. Gunetileke, Mr.S.P. Wettasinghe and Mr.P.B. Wijesinghe had served as Assistant News Officers.

Making a turning point in the Sri Lankan Mass Media, the magazine “Desathiya” was published on February 4, 1978 by the Department. “Desathiya” is a concept of Senior Minister Sarath Amunugama, then secretary to the Ministry of State. As a print media, “Desathiya” has been passing through crucial milestones over the ages nourishing the public knowledge continuously.

There can be found a number of writer generations, those who have been nurtured by “Desathiya” magazine, the path to knowledge of the universe for the Sri Lankan people. There are also many generations of readers. “Desathiya” is the only news magazine launched by the Sri Lankan public sector, representing all the classes from the policy maker to farmer and labourer. In particular, this magazine took on the main responsibility of popularizing government policies and development programs. Moreover, it has succeeded in creating an intellectual revolution in the minds of the people. The magazine has been successful in presenting information on social, economic, cultural, artistic, and international and many other fields in a very simple language, increasing the readers’ interest.

In addition, a weekly newspaper called "Thorathuru" and an English newspaper called "Alliance" were also published at the time.

The approved of the Department of Government Information has been 220 and in additional 40 officers who had come from National media Center and, 70 who had received the appointment of Development in the year 2022 are serving at the Department. Accordingly, there are overall 330 staff in the Department as at 31.12.2023.

The Department of Government information is unique among the government institutions since it is the institution that contacts directly with media organizations, which delivers news to the public. A news release issued by the department is a government announcement and must be extremely accurate.

While doing so, the department also had to comply with the decisions taken by the government from time to time. The government had censored the news in 1979, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1987, 1995 and 2000 due to the unrest situations in the country. In such cases, it is the responsibility of the Director General of Government Information to censor the news as the competent public authority.

In 1993, for the first time, news broadcasts were allowed on television channels and this is considered as a turning point in media history. Simultaneously, the Department took another step to make information accessible to the public and established the National Information Center on 18 May 1995. The center was established at the "Transworks House" in Fort, Colombo and the "Press Club" was established there in to promote camaraderie among journalists.

The department was suddenly shifted from Transworks House to two stories in a private building in Kollupitiya.

Since, the objective of the government was to incorporate the public to the development process of the government, the government's film division, publication bureau has performed a very wide mission to fulfill the responsibility assigned to the department of government information more successfully in informing the people about the government's agricultural innovation, strengthening democracy, people's mission of universal franchise etc.

The Department of Government Information which carried out the government's publicity campaign not only locally but also internationally form the inception, has regularly distributed handbills, magazines and publications targeting the foreign embassies in Sri Lanka. During this period, special information about Sri Lanka was delivered to foreign countries through publications aimed at embassies such as "Week Happening in the Island" and

“Introduction to Ceylon”. Later on, a quarterly magazine called "Sri Lanka Today" was published to spread information about Sri Lanka abroad.

The Government Publications Bureau has also been operating under a broad objective of printing and distributing the official publications of the Government, laws and regulations, for purchasing purposes of the public. Mr. R.V.H. Vantwest has served as the founding officer here. The Government Film Division that initiated by Mr. Julio Petroni, has played a significant role in educating the public on the post-independence national development of the country through documentaries. Government Film Unit, which has created a number of distinguished documentary film directors since then, has won awards in the documentary and semi-documentary categories at numerous foreign film festivals, including the Paris International Film Festival.

The Department of Government Information, which is moving towards the maximum that can be reached under the departmental structure created with independence in 1948, has been organized in recent years to suit the modern world and is functioning in a number of sections by 2023. The Department of Government Information comprising of Government Film Unit, Photography Division, Development Division, “Desathiya” Magazine Division, New Media Unit (www.news.lk), Government Publications Bureau, Media Accreditation Unit, Publicity Division and Research and Investigation Division, Foreign News Division, school Media Club Promotion Development Unit, has now become an active institution in the publishing and publicity sectors.

It can also be observed that the Department of Government Information committed to carrying out this role successfully, subject to change from time to time, through existing mechanisms.

❖ Heads of the Department of Government Information

The following officers have held the posts of Information Officer, Director of Information and Director General of Information in the Government Information Department since 1948.1948 – Mr. P. Nadeshan

1949 – Mr. D.I.H.A.J. Hulugalla

1950 – Mr.T.T.R.Vivien Horine

1952 - Mr. D.I.H.A.J. Hulugalla

1955 – Mr.Nadeshan Pararajasingam

1956 – Mr. G.Lionel Perera

1957 - Mr.G.W.A.M.Perera

1958 – Mr. James Perera

1959 – Mr. T.M. Jayarathnam

1960 – Mr. Thilak Eranga Gunarathna

1961 – Mr.W.L.Fernando

1962 – S.B. Senanayake

1966 – Mr. D. Aluviyare

1967 – P.N. Meddegoda

1968 – Dr.S.L.B.Amunugama

1972 – Mr. P.H.Pramawardhana

1974 – Mr. W.R.P.Thilakarathna

1977 – Mr. S. Anura Gunasekara

1983 – Mrs. Manel Abeyrathne

1990 – Mr.K.S.Wimalasena

1991 – Mr. K.R.L.Wijewardhana

1992 – Dr.Sunanda Maddumabandara

1994– Mr. Ariya Rubasinghe

2003 – Mr. K.A.B. J,P, Jayasekara

2004 – Mr. W.M. Piyasena

2005 – Mrs. Kanthi Wijethunaga

Mr. S.D.Piyadasa

2006- V.P.K. Anusha Palpita

❖ Director Generals of Information

01.02.2009 to 06.05.2010	-	Mr. V.P.K Anusha Pelpita
07.05.2010 to 08.01.2015	-	Prof. Ariyarathne Ethugala
13.01.2015 to 07.05.2015 (Acting)	-	Mr. K.W.T.N.Amarathunga
08.05.2015 to 02.06.2017	-	Dr, Darshani Gunathilake
06.06.2016 to 29.09.2017	-	Dr. Ranga Kalansuriya
13.10.2017 to 26.10.2018	-	Attorney at Law Mr. Sudarshana Gunawardhana
27.10.2018 to 07.04.2021	-	K.M.G.S. Nakaja Kaluwewa
19.04.2021 to 08.09.2022 19	-	Mohan Samaranayaka
Up to now since 08.09. 2022	-	Dinith Chinthaka Karunarathne

1.2. Vision, Mission and Objectives of the Institution

❖ Vision

"Maintain an independent and responsible media culture."

❖ Mission

"By taking steps to establish mutual communication media environment in Sri Lanka, to uplift media culture and to determine the rights of the general public for accurate information and vision of the government.''

❖ Objectives

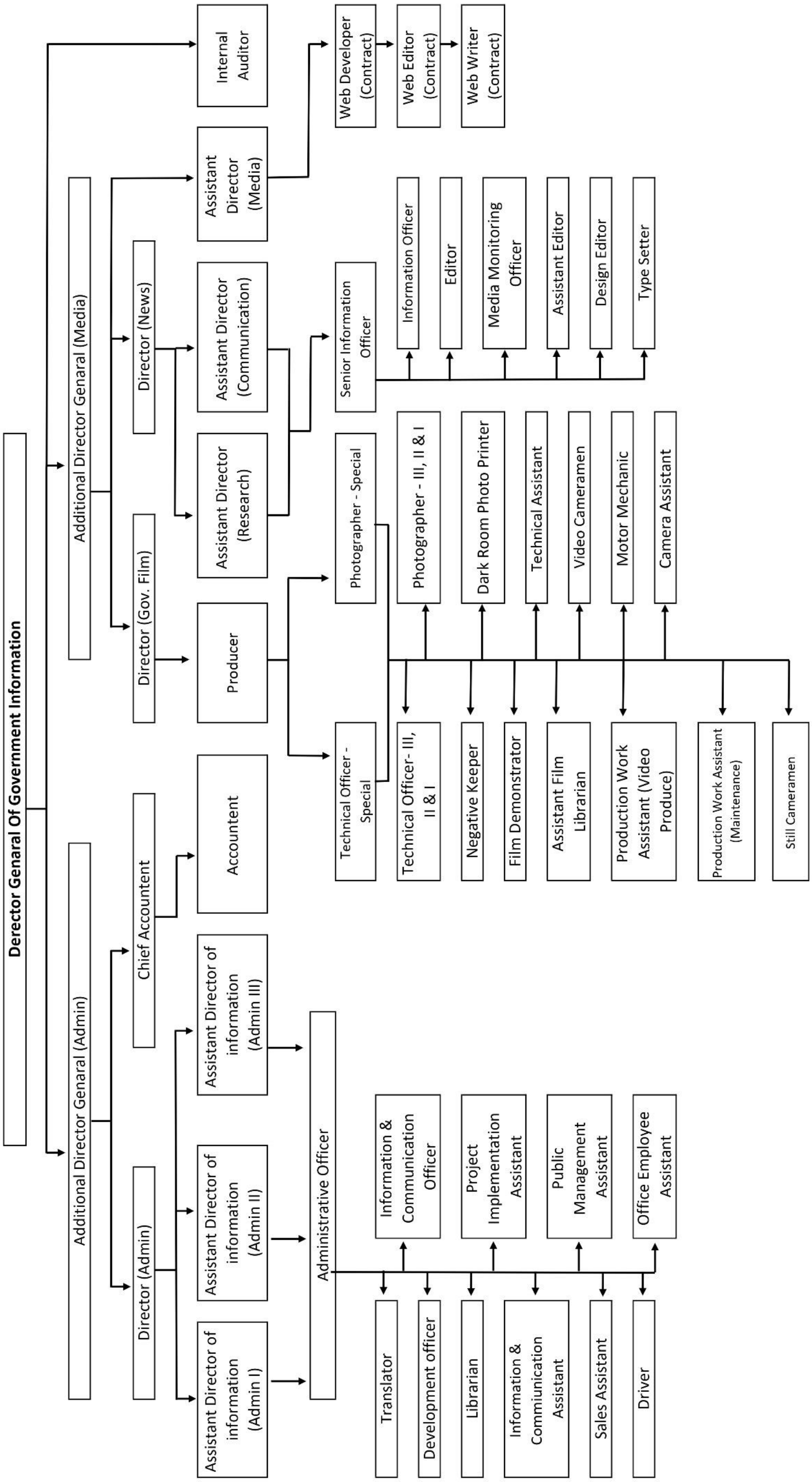
- Making aware the general public on the development process of the government and nationally significant activities.
- Development of an advanced media culture
- Produce display and preserve government news and documentaries composed of development projects and other special projects.
- Development of physical and human Resources required for the media sector
- Providing facilities and training required for the media sector and journalists and getting leadership for the welfare activities as and when required.

1.3 Main Functions of the Department

The role of the department is to contribute by the communication with the participation of public and private media organizations to achieve a high level of development and sustainable goals.

- To Issue relevant information of the Ministries to the media.
- To make aware the people about the development process of the government.
- To make aware nationally important events and emergencies.
- To educate the public through films and videos about the development progress of the government.
- To produce the news and documentary video films on government development information, historical information and other information of current importance.
- To produce Experimental documentary films
- To provide local information to foreign countries and foreign information to the people of Sri Lanka through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- To Maintain the government social media units and News.lk website in three languages
- Up-to-date maintenance of Desathiya Magazine, Government Memorandum and Reference Journal
- To run Actively the Government Publication Bureau. (Including 07 District Publication Windows)
- To coordinate the local and foreign journalists for national missions and diplomatic events
- To organize the media tours to promote regional development efforts and ministries' new programs to the public.
- To act as Chief Media Coordinator at nationally important events
- To issue the identity cards for professional local and foreign journalists.
- To Maintain close coordination with media units of line ministries.
- To print the books related to current and nationally important events (linking up with ADB and UNDB and obtaining necessary financial facilities)
- To Gather media coverage of the President's domestic and foreign official events in the form of audio-visual reports
- To analyze the daily newspaper reports and presenting them to the President.

Department Government Information
Organizational Structure - 2023



1.5. Divisions/Units of the Department

28. Administration Branch
29. Accounts Branch
30. Government Film Unit
31. Production Unit
32. Editing Unit
33. Live Studio Unit
34. Audio and Auditorium Unit
35. Video camera and lighting unit
36. Digital Conservation and Laboratory Unit
37. Film Archive Unit
38. Photography Unit
39. Publicity Unit
40. Social Media Unit
41. Desathiya and Publication Unit
42. District Media Unit
43. Media ID Unit
44. Digital and Information Technology Unit
45. Government Publication Bureau, District Publications Sales outlets
46. Media Investigation and Journalism Research Unit
47. Foreign News Unit
48. School Media Club Promotion Development Unit
49. Library
50. Transport Unit
51. Cleaning, Security and Maintenance Unit
52. Translation Unit
53. Internal Audit
54. Stores

1.6. Institutions under the Department

- District publication sales outlet
- District Media Unit

1.7. Details on foreign funded projects

- There are no foreign funded projects in the Department.

Chapter 02

Progress and Future Vision

❖ Progress and Future Vision

The vision of the Department of Government Information is to become the leader in government official news communication in keeping with the new technological priorities in communication, always collaborating with new technology.

The Department of Government Information is moving forward in the digital space where all tasks are being digitized and modernized, with the advent of digital technology that transcends traditional tasks.

As the news source, the Department of Government Information develops a network connecting all the media outlets and implements the government mechanism of providing government current and development information to all print and electronic media.

Further, it is also a significant achievement for the Department of Government Information this year having been able to enhance the digital platform for communicating information to the public, facing the enormous challenge of being a reliable information provided to the public in today's digital space.

It is special that the websites and social media networks available under the department are networks that communicate information quickly.

❖ Distinct Opportunities of Digitalization

It is essential to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information received by the public through social media as misinformation is often circulated on the social media network. Accordingly, the Department communicates reliable information directly to the public through www.dgi.gov.lk, the "Department of Government Information" YouTube Channel and Face Book Page and the www.newslk website and Twitter (X).

Facilitating the media		
	Program	**Implementation**
01	using the cloud storage to provide information	The Department of Government Information, which serves as the source of information to the media, has stepped forward beyond the traditional way and delivers and releases videos, audios, photographs, and news efficiently to all media at once.
02	Prompt release of all media coverage done by the department to the media	Release of all videos, audio recordings, photographs etc. related to the programs implemented by the government to the media with an announcement. Prior to the introduction of this methodology, there was no formal methodology for this and it has enabled all activities to be well-coordinated among all media institutions.
03	Setting up a proper email system	Exchange information using nearly 200 email systems for all media in the country i.e. print, electronic, web media, new media, foreign media
04	Issuing media identity card for all journalists	It has been able to create a database to replace the file-based media identity card issuance system.

Providing information directly to the public		
	Maintaining the "Department of Government Information" YouTube channel	Department of Government Information You Tube The channel, which was inactive at the time of January 2019, had only 12 viewers and by the end of that year was able to add more than 1000 viewers. Action has been taken to prepare videos under different themes such as INFO News, INFO Highlights, ඇතුළාන්තය (Inside), INFO News Parliament Highlights, Provincial Highlights, Taller, Documentary, Short Video Reel. All these are the unique achievements of the department. A large number of local and foreign people joined this YouTube channel at the moment and the channel was highly appreciated by the people.
	Maintaining the "Department of Government Information" Face Book page	At present, the department's Facebook page has a large number of followers. After focusing on preparing the content through a formal methodology, the number of Facebook likes, people reached, engages could be brought to a higher-level day by day. Here, videos, creative posts and photos related to current and development news are updated with a brief description. It has now been able to maintain a number of over one lakh "reached" per week
	web Site www.news.lk	This is the official news website of the Government, which is updated 24 hours a day in all three languages Face book page, YouTube channel and twitter pages are operated under this website. In addition, the live broadcast of special media briefings including the Cabinet press briefing, was commenced this year and, is receiving a high response from the public.

	Desathiya magazine	Efforts were made to release Desathiya magazine, which has a 44-year history of condensing current and development as well as foreign information to the people, on the scheduled dates. Even though the work of the department was disrupted for several months, having performed their duties from home, the staff had managed to publish twelve (12) "Desathiya" magazines during the year 2023. Having handed over the distribution of magazines to the Lake house, steps have been taken to distribute the magazines to the readers through a formal distribution network covering the whole of Sri Lanka
Implementation of Media Archive System.		
	Setting up a Digital Archive system	The department has also launched a project to convert films, videos, and photographs of historical significance to digital technology. About 467 old films have been converted to digital technology and are being preserved by now. In addition, the installation of the digital archive system was a major task accomplished in this year. It was able to archive specific videos and photos on a daily basis during this year.

- **systematically expanding the facilities for delivering information to the media**

  It is a timely requirement for media organizations to be equipped with the true information for reliable reporting for a good social existence. In order to communicate the government's development and current information to the media in a formal way, the government news department has started the formal method of providing videos, photos, press releases to the media organizations using cloud technology.

- **Special Achievements,**

11. Launching a web site and creation of an app for the Desathiya Magazine issued by the Department as a future step.
12. Passing the followers limit 196,000 for the Facebook page “Department of Government Information”
13. Preparation of 7,926 information reports in district level.
14. Commencement of registration of school media clubs which are actively implemented, by the Department of Government Information in collaboration with the Ministry of Mass Media for promotion of quality media culture, high standard media literacy and school media literacy under the instructions of UNESCO in district level.
15. Six (06) media expert discourse programs have been conducted in affiliation with the six Sri Lankan ambassadors in foreign countries on the national service performed jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Government Information, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to promote the image of Sri Lanka.

16. The Foreign Media Relations Division has provided the contribution for the cultural communication of foreign countries by maintaining a close relationship with foreign embassies in this country.

❖ Negotiation with professional public relations and media programs in professional level with the foreign media Institutions and organizations.

Future Targets

(viii) To expand access to acquire efficient and accurate information to all citizens of the country.

(ix) To disseminate the information about the development programs implemented by the government among the people.

(x) To equip the departmental officers with knowledge and experience

(xi) To create the media literacy.

(xii) To take action for expanding the media education at the school level.

(xiii) To improve the satisfaction of public officials using media analysis reports.

(xiv) To improve satisfaction of the required utilizers of the archived media materials

Dinith Chintaka Karunaratne

Director General of Government Information/ Accounting Officer

Chapter 03

Overall Financial Performance for the Year ended 31st December 2023

Overall Financial Performance for the Year ended 31st December 2023

3.1 Statement of Financial Performance

ACA-F

Statement of Financial Performance for the period ended on 31st December 2023

Budget 2022		Note	Actual 2023 Rs.	Re-Adjusted 2022 Rs.	
-	**Revenue Receipts**				
-	Income Tax	1	-	-	ACA-1
-	Taxes on Domestic Good & Services	2	-	-	
-	Taxes on International trade	3	-	-	
-	Non-Tax Revenue & Others	4	-	-	
-	**Total Revenue Receipts (A)**		-	-	
-	**Non-Revenue Receipts**				
-	Non-Revenue Receipts		311,417,000	314,704,000	ACA-3
-	Deposits		4,909,612	46,988,583	ACA-4
-	Advance Accounts		16,318,794	12,869,688	ACA-5
-	Other major Ledger Account Receipts		-	-	
-	**Total Non-Revenue Receipts (B)**		**332,645,406**	**374,562,270**	
-	**Net Revenue Receipts and non-revenue receipts C = (A) + (B)**		**332,645,406**	**374,562,270**	
	Remittances to Treasury (D)		4,061	24,215	
	Net revenue receipts and non-revenue receipt E= (C) – (D)		**332,641,345**	**374,538,055**	
	Less: Expenditure				
-	**Recurrent Expenditure**		-	-	

188,195,000	Wages, Salaries & Other Employment Benefits	5	186,883,460	174,632,967	
124,805,000	Other Goods and Services	6	110,2001008	94,910,133	ACA-2(ii)
2,000,000	Subsidies, Grants and Transfers	7	1,054,041	1,230,942	
-	Interest Payments	8	-	-	
	Other Recurrent Expenditure	9	-	-	
315,000,000	**Total Recurrent Expenditure(F)**		**298,137,509**	**270,774,042**	
	Capital Expenditure				
48,300,000	Rehabilitation & Improvement Capital Assets	10	13,681,599	7,875,266	
30,900,000	Acquisition of Capital Assets	11	19,624,114	16,091,062	
-	Capital Transfers	12	-	-	ACA-2(ii)
-	Acquisition of Financial Assets	13	-	-	
1,800,000	Capacity Building	14	596,150	1,006,500	
-	Other Capital Expenditure	15	-	-	
81,000,000	**Total Capital Expenditure (G)**		**33,901,863**	**24,972,828**	
-	Deposit Payments		12,452,926	47,339,975	ACA-4
-	Advance Payments		14,878,378	14,032,526	ACA-5
-	Other main Ledger Account Payment		-	-	
-	Main Ledger Expenditure (H)		**27,331,304**	**61,372,501**	
-	**Total Expenditure I = (F+G+H)**		**359,370,676**	**357,119,372**	
-	Balance as at 31.12.2023 J=(E-I)		**(27,331,304)**	**17,418,683**	ACA-7
	Balance as per Impress reconciliation Statement		(26,729,331)	17,418,683	ACA-3
			-	-	
	Imprest Balance as at 31st December		**(26,729,331)**	**17,418,683**	

2 Statement of Financial Position

ACA-P

Statement of Financial Position As at 31st December 2023

		තතය	
	සටහන	**2023 (රු.)**	**2022 (රු.)**
Non-Financial Assets			
Property. Plant & Equipment	ACA-6	1.942.927.346	1,834,026,037
Financial Assets			
Advance Accounts	ACA-5/5(a)	36,840,254	38,280,670
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA-3	-	-
Total Assets		**1,979,767,600**	**1,872,306,707**
NET Assets / Equity			
Net Assets for the Treasury		36,572,142	30,469,244
Property, Plant & Equipment Reserve		1,942,927,346	1,834,026,037
Rent and Work Advance Reserve	ACA-5(b)	-	-
Current Liabilities			
Deposits Accounts	ACA-4	268,112	7,811,426
Impress Balance	ACA-3	-	-
Total Liabilities		**1,979,767,600**	**1,872306,707**

Detail Accounting Statements in above format No. ACA 1 to ACA 7 presented in pages from 07 to 49 and Notes to accounts presented in pages from 50 to 65 have been integral parts of these Financial Statements. The Financial Statements have been prepared in compliance to the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles whereas most appropriate accounting policies are used as disclosed in the Notes to the Financial Statements and hereby certify that figures in these Financial Statements, notes to accounts and other relevant accounts were reconciled with the Treasury Books of Accounts and found to in agreement.

It is hereby certified that there is an effective internal control system for financial control in the reporting entity and that periodic reviews are conducted to monitor the effectiveness of the internal administration for financial control and accordingly make changes as necessary for the effective implementation of those systems.

....	....	....
Chief Accounting Officer V.P.K. Anusha Pelpita Secretary Ministry of Information and Mass Media Date: 28.02.2024	Accounting Officer Dinith Chintaka Karunaratne Director General of Government Information Date: 27.02.2024	Chief Accountant K.A.D.D.A Kumarapeli Chief Accountant Date: 27.02.2024
V.P.K. Anusha Palpita Secretary Ministry of Mass Media 163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapona Mawatha, Polhengoda, Colombo-05.	Dinith Chintaka Karunaratne Director General of Government Information Department of Government Information Colombo 05.	K.A.D.D.A. Kumarapeli Chief Accountant Department of Government Information

3.3 Statement of Cash Flow

ACA-C

Statement of Cash Flow for the Period ended 31st December 2023 31

	Actual	
	2023 Rs.	**2022 Rs.**
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		-
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses Profit	-	-
Profit	-	-
Non-Revenue Receipts	-	-
Revenue collected for other Heads	25,702,000	20,720,059
Imprest Receipts	311,417,000	314,704,000
Advance Recoveries	13,975,050	11,365,073
Deposit Receipts	4,909,612	46,988,583
Total Cash flow generated from Operations (a)	**356,003,662**	**393,777,714**
Less: Cash disbursed for		
Personal Emoluments & Operational Expenses	291,904,206	273,192,850
Subsidies &Transfer Payments	1,054,041	1,230,942
Expenditure for other Expenditure Heads	3,975,161	43,293,749
Imprest Settlement to Treasury	4,061	24,215
Advance Payments	13,829,160	12,910,426
Deposit Payments	12,452,926	47,339,975
Total Cash disbursed for Operations (b)	**323,219,556**	**377,992,157**
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities (C)=(a)-(b)	**32,784,106**	**15,785,557**

Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Interest	-	-
Devidends	-	-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets	-	-
Recoveries from lending	-	-
Total Cash generated from Investment Activities (d)	**-**	**-**
Less - Cash disbursed for:		
Capital Expenditure	32,784,106	15,785,557
Total Cash Flow disbursed for Investment Activities (e)	**32,784,106**	**15,785,557**
NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES (f)=(d)-(e)	**(32,784,106)**	**(15,785,557)**
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING & INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES (g)=(c) + (f)	**(0)**	**-**
Cash Flows from financial Activities		
Local Borrowings	-	-
Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Grants Received	-	-
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (h)	**-**	**-**
Less - Cash disbursed for:		
Repayment of Local Borrowings	-	-
Repayment of Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Total Cash disbursed for Financing Activities (i)	**-**	**-**
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES (I)=(h)-(i)	**-**	**-**
Net Movement in Cash (k) = (f)+(j)	**-**	**-**
Opening Cash Balance as at 01st January	**-**	**-**
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December	**-**	**-**

3.4 Notes to the Financial Statements

Basis of Reporting

(1) Reporting Period

The reporting period for these financial statements is from January 1 to December 31, 2023.

(2) Basis of Measurement

Financial statements are prepared on historical costs and the historical costs of some assets are upgraded to revaluated value. Account preparation is done on an enhanced cash basis when not otherwise stated.

Financial statements are presented in Sri Lanka Rupees to the nearest rupee.

(3) Revenue Identification

Transferable and non-transferable revenues are recognized as revenue in the period in which the cash is received, regardless of the period in which they are due

(4) Identifying and measuring property, plant and equipment

Reliable measurable assets that are guaranteed to bring future economic benefits to the organization are identified as property, plant and equipment. Property, plant, and equipment are recognized for the cost and re-estimated value is used at instances where the cost model is not applicable.

(5) Property, Plant and Equipment Reserve

This reserve account is the correspondent account of property, plant and equipment.

(6) This reserve account is the correspondent account of property, plant and equipment.

Local currency notes and coins in hand as at 31 December 2023 consist of cash and cash equivalents.

In case of transactions specific to a particular reporting entity, amendments may be made to the forms as required. Further, the disclosure required for that particular transaction may be included under "Reporting Basis". Only the accounting policies relevant to its reporting entity should be disclosed under the reporting basis.

3.5 Performance of Revenue Collection

Rs. ,000

Revenue Code	Description of Revenue Code	Revenue Estimate		Collected Revenue	
		Initial Estimate	Final Estimate	Amount (Rs.)	As a % of Final Revenue Estimate
20.06.02.01	Vehicle	-	-	-	-
20.06.02.02	Other	0	-	39.87	0
20.02.01.01	Government Buildings and House Rental	-	-	-	-
20.02.01.99	Revenue received from Government assets - Rent – Other Rents	-	-	-	-
20.02.02.99	Interest - Other	1,000	1,000	1521.30	152.13
20.03.01.00	Sales and Fees– Departmental Sales	1,200	2,000	5,666.55	566.66
20.03.02.99	Sales and Fees– Administrative Fees and Payments miscellaneous	20	20	19.00	95.00
20.03.03.02	Sales and Fees–- - Fines and confiscation - Other	-	-	-	-
20.03.99.00	Sales and Fees – other receipts	500	500	7,947.15	1589.43
20.05.99.00	Refractive assignment, National Lottery Board and other assignments	-	-	-	-

3.6 Performance of the Utilization Allocations

Type of Allocation	Provisions allocated		Actual Expenses	Allocation Utilization as a % of Final Allocation
	Initial Provision	Final Provision		
Recurrent	Rs.394,000,000.00	Rs.394,000,000.00	රු.298,137,509.00	75.67
Capital	Rs.221,000,000.00	Rs.221,000,000.00	Rs.33,901,863.00	15.34

3.7 Grant of allocations to this Department as an agent of the other Ministries/ Departments in terms of F.R. 208

Serial No.	Ministry/Department from which allocation received	Purpose of the Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Allocation Utilization as a % of Final Allocation
01.	Ministry of Mass Media	To pay the assessment tax	-	560,844.00	560,844.00	100
		To pay 3% of the electricity bill to maintain the Ministry Tax Division in the Department Building	-	226,500.00	211,441.25	93
02.	Department of Government Printing	To pay 25% of the electricity bill to maintain their printing division in the department building	-	1,812,000.00	1,762,010.35	97
03.	Department of Pensions	Recovery of retirement gratuity.	-	1,275,865.63	1,275,865.63	100
04.	Department of Multi-Purpose Development Task Force	Payment for Multipurpose Development Assistants who have taken up appointments in the grade of Office Staff Service	-	165,000.00	165,000.00	100
			-	**4,404,209.63**	**3,975,161.23**	**98.97**

3.8 Performance in reporting non-financial assets

Assets Code	Code Description	Balance as per board of survey report as 31.12.2023	Balance as per Financial Position Report as at 31.12.2023	Yet to be accounted	Reporting Progress as a%
9151	Building and Structures	-	**300,848,000.00**	-	-
9152	Machinery	-	**407,168,018.18**	-	-
9153	Land	-	**1,227,750,000.00**	-	-
9154	intangible assets	-	**2,328,660.00**	-	-
9155	Biological Assets	-	-	-	-
9160	Work in progress	-	**4,832,667.72**	-	-
9180	Lease Assets	-	-	-	-

Audit Report

Head 210 – Department of Government Information

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1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

Head 210- The audit of the financial statements of the Department of Government Information for the year ended 31 December 2023 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023 and the statement of financial performance and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018. The summery report containing my comments and observations on the financial statements of the Department was issued to the Accounting Officer on 14 May 2024 in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018. The Annual Detailed Management Audit Report relevant to the Department was issued to the Accounting Officer on 13 May 2024 in terms of Section 11(2) of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018. This report will be tabled in Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to be read in conjunction with Section 10 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Department as at 31 December 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

My opinion is qualified based on the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). My responsibilities for the financial statements are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities Section. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

1.3 Responsibilities of the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer for the Financial Statements.

The Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and provisions in Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 and for the determination of the internal control that is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. 2

As per Section 16(1) of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018, the Department is required to maintain proper books and records of all its income, expenditure, assets and liabilities to enable the preparation of annual and periodic financial statements.

In terms of Sub-section 38(1)(c) of the National Audit Act, the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer shall ensure that an effective internal control system for the financial control exists in the Department and carry out periodic reviews to monitor the effectiveness of such systems and accordingly make any alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out.

1.4 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's summary report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate and its materiality depends on the influence on economic decisions taken by users on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Appropriate audit procedures were designed and performed to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement in financial statements whether due to fraud or errors in providing a basis for the expressed audit opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- An understanding of internal control relevant to the audit was obtained in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.

- Evaluate the structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements including disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accounting Officer regarding, among other matters significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

1.5 Report on Other Legal Requirements

I express the following matters in terms of Section 6 (1) (d) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

(a) The financial statements are consistent with the preceding year,

(b) The recommendations made by me on the financial statements of the preceding year had been implemented.

1.6 Comments on Financial Statements

1.6.1 Accounting deficiencies

(a) Property plant and equipment

The following observations are made.

	Audit Observations	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(i)	Property should be recognized as property, plant and equipment only if there is confirmation that future economic benefits related to the asset will be obtained and the asset can be measured reliably, and otherwise the revalued amount should be recognized as property, plant and equipment. The Color Laboratory Machine imported from France but without using it had been included in the property plant and equipment. The revalued amount of that asset is Rs.12 million as stated as on 31 December 2023, the value of the assets had been overstated by that amount.	The Debri Color Laboratory Machine, valued at 9,150,000 French Francs and 1,442,601 Euros, received under a loan from the French Government, was worth about 160 million rupees at the exchange rate of that time. The cost of the Department was assessed at a very low value of 7.5 per cent of the basic cost based on various factors by the committee appointed to assess the un identified cost of the Department assets.	The value of property, plant and equipment should be accurately identified and accounted.

(ii)	Although the revaluation of land and buildings should be done every 5 years according to the Asset Management Circular No. 04/2018 dated 31 December 2018, but the building value of Rs. 300,848,000 and the land value of Rs.1, 227,750,000 had included in the Financial Statement and these assets had not been assessed after the year 2017 and taken to the present value.	Although a request was made to the Government Department of Valuation on 19th June 2023 for the revaluation of the lands and buildings owned by this department, according to the instructions of the Public Accounts Department, it has been informed that the valuation reports for the second round of valuation requests will not be provided until the initial round valuation amount are being accounted.	Should be dealt with the Asset Management Circular.

(b) Comparison Statement of Imprest Account for Government Officers

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(i)	Although the balance of the loan amounting to Rs.179, 740 due from two officers who have left the service has exceeded 20 years, action had not been taken to recover it even by the audit date of 30th April 2024.	On 12 March 2024, recommendations were made to write off the loan amount of one officer. Accordingly, further work is being done. Horana Divisional Secretary was notified on 05th April 2024 to inform the officer through the GS to pay the loan amount and arrange to provide a report of his assets regarding the other officer who had not paid the loan amount.	Actions should be taken to recover the loan balance.

2. Financial review

2.1 Expenditure Management

The following observations are made.

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	100 percent in one expenditure head and 13 expenditure heads had savings ranging from 62 percent to 98 percent.	Fulfillment of needs from the vehicles of the department, cost control circulars, doing only essential maintenance work, officers taking leave without pay and getting transfers have affected for this.	Estimates should be prepared accurately.
(b)	After transfer the allocations of 04 expenditure heads to another expenditure head under F.R 66 had savings ranging from 17 percent to 83 percent.	These provisions are saved on the basis of officers taking leave without pay and transfer and following expenditure control circulars.	Estimates should be prepared accurately.

2.2 Non-Compliance with Laws, Rules and Regulations

Cases of non-compliance with the provisions of laws, rules and regulations observed during sample audits are analyzed below.

	Reference to Laws, Rules and Regulations	Amount Rs.	Non-Compliance	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	Public Administration Circular No. 22/99 (XXXIII) dated 07 November 2017 1.3.1	63,402	A fuel expenditure of Rs.63, 402 was incurred for 1358 KM for a period of 04 months to provide transportation facilities to an officer in the position of development officer who is not entitled to official reserve transport facilities between office and home.	The relevant approval has been given in writing by the Director General for required to be open the Director General's Office before 8.30 am and kept up to 6.00 pm. the transport facility had provided as per instructions.	Should be actas per Public Administration Circular.

(b)	F.R 371(5) paragraph amended by section I of 9 from Public Finance Circular 01/2020 dated 28th August 2020.	490,280	Although, the staff officer receiving the Sub-Impress was supposed to be settle the Sub-Impress within 10 days after the completion of those task, an aggregating amount Rs.490, 280 worth 09 advances had been settled with delay ranging from 20 days to 54 days.	Certain advance settlements have been delayed due to certain deficiencies in the settlement vouchers. Efforts are being made to bring this situation under control.	Should be Actas per the Public Finance Circular.
(c)	Public Finance Circular No. 02/2020 dated 28th August 2020.		Although the annual performance report should be prepared in three languages and submitted to Parliament under the prescribed provisions for tabling before the end of the financial year 150 days, the report for the year 2022 had not been submitted by 31st May 2024.	The translation of the 2022 performance report is in the final stages and will be submitted immediately after completion.	Should be Act as per the Public Finance Circular.

2.3 Deposit Balances

Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
Two cheques worth amounting Rs.2, 251,226 have to be paid to the Department of Government Factories for construction works without specific confirmation for payment had deposited in the General Deposit account from the year 2020 and they were removed from the General Deposit account by requisition papers on 31 December 2023and the cheques were written and kept in hand.	On the basis of the documents sent on the recommendation of the Engineer of the Department of Government Factories, expenditure was certified and cheques were written. But there were many problems related to this construction and various criticisms were made to the measurement reports submitted were re-examined without issuing cheques and due to discrepancies in the measurement sheets submitted by them, it was decided to withhold the cheques without payment until the approval related to the entire construction is obtained.	Payments should be verified and cheques should be written.

3. Operating Review

3.1 Planning

Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
According to the guidelines number 12 of the Public Finance Circular dated 28 August 2020, the implementation time frame and expected output/outcome, internal audit plan, etc., which should be included in the action plan, had not been presented.	The operational timeframe of the year 2023 had been prepared as quarterly. Certain tasks do not produce the desired output/results by an omission. Presented after the establishment of the Internal Audit Unit in mid-2023. In the year 2024, efforts have been taken to correct these facts	According to the circular the action plan should be prepared including all the facts.

3.2 Non-Performance of Functions

Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
The department had failed to accomplish 37 activities in the action plan.	It has been temporarily stopped due to the lack of instructions from the relevant officials, lack of sufficient qualified staff to deal with and implement the budget circulars issued for controlling expenses.	Considering the practical conditions, and prepared the action plan, and all the tasks included in it should be carried out.

3.3 Non-Achieving the Expected Level of Output

Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
A minimum of 50 percent physical progress had been achieved in 23 activities. One activity had 99 percent financial progress but, any physical progress had not been obtained.	Inadequate human resources and. had to worked according to the budget circulars issued by the Ministry of Monetary, Economic Stabilization and National Policy for expenditure control.	Considering the practical conditions, and prepared the action plan, and all the tasks included in it should be carried out.

3.4 Procurement

The following observations are made.

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	According to the Public Finance Circular No. 02/2020 dated 28 August 2020, all accounting officers shall prepare the annual procurement plan for the implementation of recurring and capital programs in the preceding year according to the subjects and tasks assigned to their institution before 10 December of the current year in the prescribed format with the approval of the Chief Accounting Officer and submitted to the Procurement Commission, Auditor General and Public Finance Department although, the procurement plan for the year 2023 had been submitted for audit on 14 July 2023.	The procurement plan for the year 2023 has been approved by the Secretary 0f Ministry on 04 January 2023. But due to a delay, it has been delayed in sending to the Procurement Commission and the Auditor General.	Should be acted as per the circular.
(b)	According to paragraph 4.2 of the Government Procurement Guidelines Code, the main procurement plan should be prepared by listing the expected procurement activities for a period of at least 03 years and the procurement plan for the year should be prepared in detail. But the procurement plan prepared by the department for the year 2023 only. As a result, the intended objectives had not been met from the procurement plan.	Agreed. It was advised to take corrective measures in the coming year.	The main procurement plan and the procurement plan for the year should be prepared in detail.
(c)	According to paragraph 2.3(a) I of the National Budget Circular No. 01/2021 dated 28 July 2021, a toilet system had been constructed at a cost of Rs.3,799,932 (without VAT) while the construction of new	Since there is no professional technical officer in this department to prepare the BOQ related to this toilet system, it was informed that the	Should be acted as per Government procurement guidelines.

buildings was temporarily suspended. There were not followed the proper procurement processes for the selection of the consulting firm and the contracting firm. Due to the deficiencies in the preparation of construction plans, specifications, quantity sheets and payment reports by the consulting firm, the service of the consulting firm was suspended and for the remaining parts to avail the consultancy service had been decided to obtain from another firm by paying sum of Rs. 2,084,081 (excluding VAT). also, deficiencies were observed in the contracting company and although, Rs. 1,649,401 had paid, the construction work had not been completed up to 30 April 2024.	services of the organization that provided consulting services for the renovation of the media development center building at that time were subject to the approval of the procurement committee. Various problems and criticisms were presented regarding these constructions and joint committee meetings were held under the Chairmanship of the Director General to resolve those problems and criticisms.	

3.5 Asset management

The following observations are made.

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	According to the agreement signed with the Debri Institute and the Department of News on 10th December 1999, with the aim of producing quality films, under the loan support French Franc 9,150,000 (Euro 1,442,601) equivalent to the Rs. 102.2 million received from the French government, and the set of laboratory machinery installed in the year 2003 remained in ideal till 30 April 2024 due to a lack of proper feasibility study. The use of a largescale building area in the department to establish this set of machinery this building has	The technology of this machine is outdated and is not expected to be used in the future. Informing this, it was referred to the Ministry of Finance for advice and the Comptroller General's Office has informed that a committee of not less than three including people with expertise will be appointed to carry out a full investigation and inform what alternative measures can be taken regarding the	The responsible officials should work to utilize the assets without leaving them idle.

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
	also turned out to be an underutilized asset. Further, 85 items of assets that are not being used for a long time remained idle in this laboratory building.	Debri laboratory machinery set.	
(b)	Although, the goods survey report conducted on 31 December 2021 indicated that an investigation should be carried out as the proposed action for 12 types of deficiencies, the department had failed to take proper action regarding these deficiencies from the year 2021 until now.	All the deficiencies and excesses identified in relation to the 2021 goods survey are being settled in parallel with the 2023 goods survey.	Deficiencies should be dealt with as per the financial regulations.

3.6 Losses and damages

The following observations are made.

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	In the year 2023, a loss of Rs. 223,300 was assessed in 04 vehicle accidents, and Rs. 93,500 of that amounts could not be recovered.	Due to the pending legal proceedings on the vehicle No,19-7483, the settlement of the related loss has also been delayed.	Actions should be taken to recover the loss from the responsible parties.
(b)	As of 31 December 2023, No of 73,167 unsold Desathiya magazines were stored in the department store and its sales value was Rs.4,099,620.	The remaining annual magazines are usually sold at government events and other government functions and are also given free to the public. Magazines listed as unsold are magazines that have been collected for about 12 years.	The remaining stocks should be removed considering the timeliness.

4. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
Although **3** sustainable development objectives have been identified, an attention had not been referred to appoint a committee to identify the risk of not being able to continuously obtain the resources and	A committee has been appointed to deal with the Sustainable Development Goals.	Actions needed to achieve the identified sustainable development goals should be implemented promptly.

capacities needed to achieve them, to prepare
a proper planning plan as the steps to be taken to reduce those risks, to inform the officials and to implement the necessary solutions and decisions etc.

5. Good Governance

5.1 Internal Audit

The following observations are made.

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	According to Management Audit Circular No. DMA/01-2019(1) dated 24 December 2021, before 15th December of each year, the internal audit plan for the coming year shall be prepared as a risk-based internal audit plan and its copies shall be submitted to the Management Audit Department and the Auditor General, However, the internal audit plan for the year 2023 was submitted for audit on 27 November 2023.	No Internal Audit Unit was established in the Government Information Department and after appointing an Internal Auditor from 03 April 2023, appropriate support officers were appointed and the Internal Audit Unit was established on 14 June 2023. Therefore, the audit plan for the last quarter was prepared and presented.	Management Audit Circular should be followed.
(b)	Although an internal auditor was appointed for the department on 03 April 2023, the progress of internal audit activities in the year 2023 remained at a minimum level of 14 percent.	Although the internal auditor was appointed from 03 April 2023, and supporting officers were appointed on 14 June 2023, it was not possible to issue internal audit reports during that period due to having to devote a lot of time to analyzing and investigating the department's organizational structure, organizational methods, internal control systems and processes.	Efforts should be made to increase the progress of internal audit activities.

6. Human Resource Management

Audit Observation	Comment of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
At the end of the year under review, there were 121 vacancies at senior level, tertiary level, secondary level and primary level and due to that situation, it had affected to maintain an effective service level.	As National Budget Circular No. 03/2022 has instructed to temporarily postpone recruitment under Public Expenditure Control, the recruitment of officers to the posts has been postponed until further notice.	Efforts should be made to maintain an effective service.

Chapter 04

Performance Indicators

Performance Indicators

4.1 Performance Indicators (Based on the Action Plan)

Specific Indicators	Actual output as a percentage (%) of the expected output		
	100%- 90%	89%-51%	50% - 10%
Production of Documentary Films, Short Video, Discussions, Short Video	96%	-	-
Media Coverage	-	59%	-
Live recording of Cabinet Press Briefing, Sign Language, Audio Video Preparations		-	38%
Production of Government video advertisements	-	-	20%
Transmission of Documentary Films through GFU YouTube web site and other web sites of the Department	96%	-	-
Relaunch of FGU YouTube channel and Facebook page	100%		
Covering of news/events by Photos	-	-	30%
Scan old photo negatives in Photo Library (Photo Archive)	98%	-	-
Storage of digital photo covers in photo library	-	82%	-
Save all photos to permanent backups in photo library	113%	-	-
Maintain quality inspection repair process for cleaning and converting film angles related to preservation of records and newsreels owned by Government Film Division under digital technology.	-	70%	-
Provide necessary illustrations and practical training for university student research theses, university students undergoing departmental training and school students visiting the field	-	58%	-
Publication of Desathiya magazine	100%		
Sales of Desathiya magazine	-	-	44%

Sale of Acts and Gazettes	104%	-	-
Development of Desathiya application software	-	80%	-
Uploading of news and press releases to www.dgi.gov.lk	100%	-	-
Organization of media tours regarding development programmes	-	55%	-
Issuance of official government press releases to the media	100%	-	-
Organizing international media conferences	-	60%	-
Preparation of weekly media analysis reports in Sinhala and English media	-	80%	-
Conducting lectures for school students and teachers monthly	-	83%	-
Distribution of 100 sets of books and wall newspapers to schools	100%	-	-
Organization of short story competition for school students	-	80%	-
Conducting a short film competition for school students	-	80%	-
Issuance of media ID cards to 500 school teachers	-	-	40%
Publication of 02 volumes of the National Media Dialogue book	95%	-	-
Publication of E-Newspaper for School Media Clubs	-	80%	-
Organization of 04 short term courses for police and armed forces officers	100%	-	-
Organizing news conferences to inform cabinet decisions	-	71.15%	-
Organization of news conferences on specific government programs and implementation of publicity for development projects	-	88%	-
Coordinating news conferences held at other institutions	100%	-	-
Release of official news releases to the media	99.5%	-	-
Organization of media monitoring visits regarding government development programmes	-	-	54.54%
Coordination of media coverage	94%	-	-
Other news releases	96.5%	-	-
Special programs including national events, workshops and media conferences	100%	-	-
Preparation of specialized reports	100%	-	-

Dissemination of news at district level	100%	-	-
Issuance of feature articles	-	86.4%	-
Preparation of telephone directories	100%	-	-
Screening of documentary films by district media units on special occasions	-	-	50%
Updating the register of regional journalists	100%	-	-
Publishing local news to Facebook page	100%	-	-
Conducting progress review meetings of media unit officers	-	-	20%
Updating the official government news website (Uploading news and current affairs)	101%	-	-
Updating the Twitter social media network	101%	-	-
Visual programs in YouTube & Twitter	101%	-	-
Updating the Facebook social media network	142.5%	-	-
Communication of official information to the public	99%	-	-
Conducting academic lectures on various subjects.	100%	-	-
Organizing a one-day workshop for journalists.	-	80%	-
Compilation of feature articles.	-	77%	-
Organization of training programs for officers of administration and accounts department.	167%	-	-
Uploading development news in trilingual to the web page of the department.	101%	-	-
Conducting press conferences on government special projects and development news.	-	88%	-
Issuance of press releases / announcements.	97%	-	-
Promotion of "Special Development" programs.	100%	-	-
Promoting the Development of Sri Lankan Identity and Nationhood (Journals)	-	-	35%

Chapter 05

Performance of the achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Performance of the achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

5.1 Indicate the relavant identified Sustainable Development Goals

Goal / Objective	Targets (Global target)	The indicator for achievement	Current progress of achievement		
			0% - 49%	50% - 74%	75% - 100%
Ensuring healthy living and promoting well-being for all irrespective of the age (SDG 03)	Maintaining health and well-being	Discussion programs called DGI Talk have been produced with the participation of Public Health Service Inspectors and Director General of Health Services under the topics of "Choosing Right Food" and "Current Health Issues".	-	-	**80%**
Ensuring equitable and similar education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDG 04)	Providing apprenticeship training opportunities for university students.	Providing 15 apprenticeship training opportunities during the year	-	-	**86.6%**

	Providing training opportunities for officers of the department.	To provide training opportunities of at least 12 hours per officer	**40%**	-	-
Achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls (SDG 05)	Empowering female students in school media clubs to increase female participation in future media careers	Preparation of project proposal for empowerment of female students in school media clubs.	-	-	**80%**

5.2 A brief description of the accomplishments and challenges in the fulfillment of sustainable development targets

Accomplishment in fulfillment of sustainable development targets

1. Produced discussion programs called DGI Talk to educate the public on topics such as choosing the right food and current health issues.
2. Production of a documentary film to ,mark International Women's Day
3. Production of a documentary film by the name of "Let us shape entrepreneurs."
4. Production of a documentary film on the port city of Colombo by the name of "A city rising from the sea" and telecast on the television channels.
5. Publishing a journal to promote Sri Lankan ideology in the world.
6. Organizing a six (06) month course to improve media literacy and professional knowledge of teachers and children.
7. Organization of district media workshops and seminars to improve media literacy and professional knowledge of teachers and students in Sinhala and Tamil medium.
8. Preparation of project proposal for empowerment of female students in school media clubs.

❖ Challenges:

1. Inadequate allocation to implement programs required to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.
2. The implementation of projects have been hindered as to issuance of various circulars from time to time by the government in respect of limitation of allocations and expenditure.
3. Obtaining the contribution of private media organizations to achieve sustainable development goals
4. Adoption of new technologies to implement programs with the advancement of technology.
5. Creation of international level media professionals.
6. Creation of a quality media culture with the public as well as the private sector.

Chapter 06

Human Recourse Profile

Cadre Management

6.1 Cadre Management

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies	Excess
Senior	17	09	09	0
Tertiary	16	01	15	0
Secondary	244	157	86	0
Primary	53	42	14	0
Total	330	209	121	0

*Although not included in the approved staff as at 31.12.2023, 40 officers from the National Media Center and 70 officers appointed as Development Officers in 2022 are engaged in the services attached to the Government Information Department.

The officers who have not been included to the approved cadre

Officers came from National Media Centre \	40
Development officers appointed as Development Officers in 2022	70
Total	110

6.2 ** Briefly state how the shortage or excess in human resources has been affected to the performance of the institute.

The scarcity of human resources at tertiary level and secondary level has directly affected the performance of the department. There is difficulty in carrying out the daily duties, especially as to the vacancies of the staff in the technical field. The main reason for this has been the retirement of knowledgeable and skilled officers who have been serving in departmental positions. Considerable time will take to impart that training to new officers. There has been a shortage of officials for various levels of posts as to the obstructions in giving promotions for the vacancies in those positions.

6.3 Human Resourse Development

Name of the Program	No. of staff trained	Duration of the program	Total Investment		Nature of the Program (Abroad/Local)	Output/ Knowledge Gained*
			Local	Foreign		
Graphic Designing	01	20 weeks upto 03 hours or 06 hours per week after 01.03.2023	Rs.15,000.00		Local	
Certificate Course on Television Programme Production Techniques	02	06 Months .03.11.2023	Rs.49,650.00		Local	
Advance Certificate in Public Procurement and asset management	01	10 days from 2023.05.17 on every Wednesday	Rs.22,500.00		Local	
Answering for Audit queries	03	On 08^{th} ,15^{th} and 22nd of June 2023	Rs.45,000.00		Local	
Investigation Under Damages Losses and under F.R.104	04	July 27^{th}, 2023	Rs.20,000.00		Local	

Maintenance of Government vehicles	02	August 23rd, 2023	Rs.10,000.00		Local	
New Audit Act and solving Audit issues	01	September 18th, 2023	Rs.6,000.00		Local	
Disciplinary Procedure	02	September 22nd and 25th, 2023	Rs.19,000.00		Local	
Role and the responsibility of leave clerk	02	September 25th and 26th, 2023	Rs.19,000		Local	
Transport Management	02	30th October 2023	Rs.12,000.00		Local	
Maintenance of Personal files	02	07th and 08th November, 2023	Rs.19,000.00		Local	
Investigation on Damages and Losses under F.R. 104	02	28th November 2023	Rs.10,000.00		Local	

Salary Conversion	03	30th November and 14th December 2023	Rs.28,500.00		Local	
How to Prepare Procurement Plan	01	13th and 14th December 2023	Rs.9,500.00		Local	
Enhancement of Attitudes and Professional Knowledge of Office Assistants and Drivers	03	13th and 14th December 2023	Rs.28,500.00		Local	

6.4 Contribution of Training Programs for the performance of the Institution

newly appointed officers in the Public Service will be able to perform their duties correctly, methodically and efficiently by providing them a proper training through the external agencies with relevant to the divisions and duties assigned to them. It is also expected to motivate the officers through this program.

In addition, through these training courses, the officers get an opportunity to to get rid of the monotony of the duty environment, acquire new knowledge and improve their abilities.

The performance of the Department can also be increased due to these training courses.

CHAPTER 07

Compliance Report

Compliance Report

No	Applicable Requirement	Compliance Status (Complied/ Not Complied	Brief explanation for Non Compliance	Corrective actions proposed to avoid non-compliance in future
1	**The following Financial Statements /Accounts have been submitted on due date.**			
1.1	Annual financial statements	Comply with	-	-
1.2	Advance account of public officers	Comply with	-	-
1.3	Business and Manufacturing Advance Accounts (Commercial Advance Accounts)	Not Relevant	-	-
1.4	Stores Advance Accounts	Not Relevant	-	-
1.5	Special Advance Accounts	Not Relevant	-	-
1.6	Others	Not Relevant	-	-
2	**Maintenance of books and registers (FR445)**			
2.1	Updating and maintenance of fixed assets register in terms of Public Administration Circular 267/201 8	Not Comply with	It has been informed by St.Acc.Cir. 271/2019 (Financial Statements - 2019) that it is no longer necessary to maintain those documents.	
2.2	Updating and maintenance of personal emoluments register / Personal emoluments cards	Comply with	-	-
2.3	Updating and maintenance of register of Audit queries	Comply with	-	-

2.4	Updating and maintenance of register of internal audit reports.	Comply with	-	-
2.5	Preparing and submission of all monthly accounts summaries (CIGAS) to the Treasury on due date.	Comply with	-	-
2.6	Updating and maintenance of register for cheques and money orders	Comply with	-	-
2.7	Updating and maintenance of register of inventory.	Comply with	-	-
2.8	Updating and maintenance of register of stock.	Comply with	-	-
2.9	Updating and maintenance of register of losses.	Comply with	-	-
2.10	Updating and maintenance of register of liabilities.	Comply with	-	-
2.11	Updating and maintenance of Counterfoil Books (GA — N20)	Comply with	-	-
03	**Delegation of functions for financial control (FR 135)**			
3.1	Delegation of powers within the institution	Comply with	-	-
3.2	Making aware the institution of the delegation of powers	Comply with	-	-
3.3	Delegation of powers in such away that every transaction is approved through two or more officers	Comply with	-	-

3.4	Working under the control of accountants while using the government payroll software package, as per the State Accounts Circular 171/2004 dated 11.05.2014	Comply with	-	-
4	**Preparation of Annual Plans**			
4.1	Preparation of the annual action plan	Comply with	-	-
4.2	Preparation of the annual procurement plan	Comply with	-	-
4.3	Preparation of the annual internal audit plan	Comply with	-	-
4.4	Preparation of the annual estimate and submission to the National Budget Department (NBD) on due date	Comply with	-	-
4.5	Submission of the annual cashflow to the treasury Operation s Department on due time	Comply with	-	-
5	**Audit Quarries**			
5.1	Answering to all the audit quarries within the specified time fixed by the Auditor General	non-compliance	Delay in obtaining answers from the internal divisions/units	The relevant Divisions have been informed to submit their answers on the due date

				and provision of interim answers
6	**Internal Audit**			
6.1	Preparation of internal audit plan after the discussion with the Auditor General at the beginning of the year as per the F.R. 134(2) DMA/I-2019	Comply with	-	-
6.2	Providing answers to all internal audit reports within one month	Comply with		
6.3	Submission of copies of all internal audit reports to the Management Audit Department, in terms of sub-section 40(4) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018,	Comply with	-	-

6.4	Submission of copies of all internal audit reports to the Auditor General as per F.R. 134(3)	Comply with	-	-
7	**Audit and Management Committees**			
7.1	Conducting at least 04 Audit and management Committees during the relevant year as per DMA Circular 1-19	Comply with	It could not be held on due date as to the crisis in the country.	It will be conducted as due in future.
8	Assets Management			
8.1	Submission of all the details on purchasing and disposal of assets to the Office of the Comptroller General as per the paragraph 07 of the Assets management Circular No 01/2017	Comply with	-	-
8.2	Implementation of provisions of that Circular as per the paragraph 13 of the said circular	Comply with	-	-

	Appointment of a suitable Liaison Officer for coordination and inform the details of that officer to the Office of the Comptroller General as per the paragraph 13 of the said circular.			
8.3	Conducting the boards of survey and submission of the relevant reports to the Auditor General on due date in terms of Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020	non-compliance	Board of survey is in progress	
8.4	Excesses, deficiencies and other recommendations revealed in the annual commodity survey have been made within the period mentioned in the circular	non-compliance	Board of survey is in progress	
8.5	Disposal of condemned articles as per the FR	non-compliance	Board of survey is in progress	
9	Vehicle Management			
9.1	Preparation of daily running notes and monthly summary reports for reserve vehicles and submit them to the Auditor General on the due date	Comply with	-	-

9.2	Disposal of condemned vehicles within less than 6 months subsequent to condemned	Comply with	-	-
9.3	Maintenance and updating of vehicle log book	Comply with	-	-
9.4	Dealing with every vehicle accident as per the F.R. 103, 104, 109 and 110	Comply with	-	-
9.5	According to the provisions mentioned in paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 2016/30 dated 29.12.2016, re-inspection of fuel combustion in vehicles.	Comply with	Since Committee officials appointed for fuel combustion inspection. Have been transferred and they have gone aboard, the committee work could not be completed., The committee has been appointed again on 20/02/2020 and the investigation has been started.	It has been planned to conduct the investigation in 2024.

9.6	After the lease period, full ownership of the leased vehicle has been transferred to the log books	Comply with	-	-
10	**Management of Bank accounts**			
10.1	Submission of bank reconciliation statements to the audit on the due date after preparation and certification.	Comply with	-	-
10.2	Settlement of dormant bank accounts brought forward from the year under review or earlier years	non-compliance	-	-
10.3	In relation to the balances revealed in the bank reconciliation statements and which should have been adjusted, the balances have been settled within a period of one month in accordance with the financial regulations.	Comply with	-	-
11	**Utilization of provisions**			
11.1	Incurring of expenses in such away that the provisions made, do not exceed their limits	Comply with	-	-

11.2	As per F.R. 94(1), incurring liabilities so that the remaining provision limit is not exceeded at the end of the year after utilization of the provision made.	Comply with	Due to the need to carry out the government's essential publicity activities, some expenditure subjects had to incur debts beyond the remaining provisions. However, overall limit of the provisions has not been exceeded.	Acting to enter in to liabilities in such a way that the remaining provisions at the end of the year will not be exceeded.
12	**Advance Accounts of Government Officers**			
12.1	Compliance with the limitations	Comply with	-	-
12.2	Performance of a time analysis of outstanding loan balances	Comply with	-	-
12.3	The outstanding loan balances that have been in existence for more than a year have been settled	non-compliance	The advice of the Attorney General's Department has been sought regarding the recovery of the loan balance.	Settlement is going on

13	**General Deposit Account**			
13.1	Taking action in respect of overdue deposits as per the F.R. 571	Comply with	-	-
13.2	Updating and maintenance of control account for public deposits	Comply with	-	
14	**Impress Account**			
14.1	Remittance of cash book balance to Treasury Operations Department at the end of the year under review.	Comply with	-	-
14.2	Settlement of the adhoc sub-Imprest issued under F.R. 371 within one month of the completion of the work.	non-compliance	Even though prompt settlement of the balance, the final settlement delayed due to shortcomings in vouchers	inform the officials and submit the vouchers properly in the future.
14.3	Issuance of the adhoc sub-Imprest not exceeding the approved limit as per the F.R. 371	Comply with	-	-
14.4	Monthly reconciliation of the balance of the Imprest account with treasury books	Comply with	-	-
15	**Revenue account**			
15.1	Making repayments from the collected revenue in accordance with the regulations	Comply with	-	-

15.2	Crediting the accumulated revenue directly to the revenue instead of being credited to the deposit account	Comply with	-	-
15.3	Submission of outstanding revenue reports to the Auditor General as per F.R. 176.	Comply with	-	-
16	**Human Recourse Management**			
16.1	Maintenance of the staff within the approved cadre.	Comply with	-	-
16.2	Issuance of a duty list to all the staff in writing	Comply with	-	-
16.3	Submission of all the reports to the Management Services Department as per MSD Circular No. 04/2017 dated 20.09.2017	Comply with	-	-
17	**Providing information to the public**			
17.1	Appointment of an information officer as per the Information Act and Regulations maintenance of a register of disclosure of information	Comply with	-	-

17.2	Providing the information about the institution through the website and facilitation the public to express praises/accusations about the institution through the website or alternative channels	Comply with	-	-
17.3	Submission of reports twice a year or once a year as per the sections 08 and 10 of the Right to Information Act.	Comply with	-	-
18	**Implementation of citizen's charter**			
18.1	Compilation and implementation of a citizen'/client charter in accordance with Ministry of Public Administration and Management Circulars No. 05/2008 and 05/2018(1)	Comply with	-	-
18.2	Preparation of a methodology by the institution to monitor and evaluate the activities of compilation and implementation of the citizen/client charter as per the paragraph 2.3 of the said circular.	Comply with	-	-

19	**Formulation of Human Recourse Plan**			
19.1	Preparation of a Human Recourse Plan based on the format of the annexture 02 of the public Administration Circular no 02/2018 dated 24.01.2018	Comply with	-	-
19.2	Ensure providing training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for each member of staff in the above HR plan.	Comply with	-	-
19.3	Signing the annual performance agreements for all staff based on the format shown in Annexure 01 of the above circular.	non-compliance	-	Taking action to sign the agreements.
19.4	Assigning a senior officer, the responsibility of preparing the human resource development plan, development of capacity building programs and implementation off skill development programs as per the paragraph 6.5 of the said circular.	Comply with	-	-

20	**Responding to Audit Paragraphs**			
20.1	Correcting the deficiencies pointed out by the audit paragraphs issued by the Auditor General for previous years	non-compliance	-	Necessary steps are being taken to correct the relevant audit passages

❖ Conclusion

The key responsibility and role of this department is to make the public aware of government policies, current activities of national importance including the government development process and, the government's role on the betterment of the people. In addition, the main objectives of the department are to encourage and lead towards independent, responsible and standard media culture, adapting to the changing global technological trends by upgrading the IT process.

In order to achieve this role, the officers are provided with the knowledge, skills, and environment that they need to carry out the responsibilities assigned. The Department has directed it is staff for the functions such as compilation of policies which are used to establish good media culture, controlling office staff, maintain a good coordination with the ministries and other private and public institutions pertaining to official matters.

Much attention is drawn towards the basic objectives of the establishment of the department and all the divisions in the department focus on achievement of these objectives.

Having integrated all the activities to it is plan, the Department of Government Information has obtained the approval at the beginning of the year to achieve the main objective of dissemination of government development news to the public while attempting to fulfil other related objectives as well.

Thereafter, activities related to the implementation of these plans are carried out throughout the year and the basic achievements are as follows.

- Establishment of standardized media tradition
- Dissemination of news on government development programs to the public for the promotion of right to information
- Strengthening of media investigation process
- Ensuring the freedom of speech and expression by establishing good governance, reconciliation and sustainable development
- Initiation of research, development and planning applicable to the media

The key activities carried out by the Department to achieve the above objectives can be categorized as follows.

- Awareness programs related to the functions of other Ministries (Journalists, School Children, Media Secretaries and other parties
- Organizing the media briefings (in connection with the press briefing to declare Cabinet decisions and the role of other Ministries and Institutions)
- Issuance of News Releases
- Organizing Media Observation Tours
- Publishing articles and publications on Development Programs
- Preparation of daily investigation reports and making aware the relevant divisions as required
- Conducting research and reporting on contemporary important themes and new trends in the media field
- Production of documentaries and publicity
- Taking photographs covering the important occasions of national festivals and such photographs to be conserved

Steps have been taken to make the public aware properly through the production of documentaries, short videos, and advertisements on various programs that were implemented by the government to prepare the people to encounter the food and economic crisis that was emerging in the country. Advertisements, documentaries, and commercials were produced to inculcate the public on important national celebrations (e.g. - TV commercials on 76th National Independence Day celebrations, documentary One Step to the Century).

. At a time when Sri Lanka's economy was in crisis, the public were informed through documentaries on the foreign policy of Sri Lanka and the assistance received from neighboring and friendly countries. Short video programs were produced in parallel with the programs implemented by the government to revive the tourism industry which was in crisis. Short documentary programs have been produced and broadcast on the receipt of IMF loan relief and the strengthening of the Sri Lankan Rupee against the US Dollar. Ahead of the 75th Independence Day, 02 awareness programs for school students were held at the New Auditorium of the Head Office and at Mahinda Rajapaksa College, Homagama.

Thus, through various roles and objectives, the Government Information Department will be functioning for the coming year as well, providing good support in carrying out its daily duties more efficiently and fulfilling the government's policies and objectives.

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