ආයතනයේ නම : සංචාරක අමාත්‍යාංශය

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

நிறுவனத்தின் பெயர்: **சுற்றுலாதுறை அமைச்சு**

பாராளுமன்றத்தின் அரசகணக்குக் குழுவினால் முன்வைக்கப்பட்ட அறிக்கை தொடர்பாக நிலையியற் கட்டளை இலக்கம் 119(4) இன் கீழ் கௌரவ அமைச்சரின் அவதானிப்புக்களும் மற்றும் அது தொடர்பாக எடுக்கப்படும் நடவடிக்கைகளும் பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பித்தல்.

Name of the institution: Ministry of Tourism

Submission of observation of Hon. Minister and steps taken with regard to the reports tabled by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of standing Order No.119(4)

Parliament Serial No: 79

First Part : 88

Name of the Institution: **Ministry of Tourism**

S/NO	Recommendations for the shortcomings identified	Action taken to rectify/ current status
1	Fixed Assets Module of the CIGAS Programme was not maintained up to date basis, in terms of Para 8.1 and 8.2 of the guidelines No 05/2022 dated 13.12.2022 issued by the Department of State Accounts.	At present, all fixed assets have been entered into the CIGAS system and the process of updating all relevant information is currently in progress.
2	Copies of internal audit reports were not submitted to the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134(3).	All copies of Audit Queries are submitted for the year.
3	The required number of Audit and Management Committee meetings had not been held per year.	Four AMC Meetings were held during the year
4	The relevant reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General by the due date after conducting Board of Survey in accordance with F.R. 756 (6) within the time frame mentioned in paragraph 11.1 of Part 1 of Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 dated 28.08.2020.	Board of survey is conducted for all sections and the relevant reports are submitted to the Auditor General's Department on the due date.
5	No actions had been taken for the recommendations on excesses and shortages & other recommendations revealed by the Board of surveys.	The Board of Survey's recommendations regarding excesses and shortages have been reviewed, and necessary actions have been implemented.
6	Actions had not been taken on accidents occurred to motor vehicles owned by the government as per the Financial Regulations.	The vehicle bearing CAU-4004 was involved in an accident on 24.11.2019 and was repaired by its representative company Dimo and had to pay an amount of Rs.22.1 million as of 14.11.2023. The relevant insurance company, NITF, had informed that it was unable to pay this entire amount and had agreed to pay only Rs. 9.3 million, and since it was unable to pay Rs.11.5 million out of the total amount of Rs. 22.1 million, it was not possible to release this vehicle from Dimo. Although the General Treasury was requested to provide the outstanding amount to the Ministry in this regard, as the best decision to be taken in the absence of it, the Secretary to the Ministry inquired about the payment of this amount of Rs.11.5 million by the Sri Lanka Convention Bureau, an institution under this Ministry, considering the transport needs of that institution. Accordingly, the Sri Lanka Convention Bureau paid this outstanding amount of Rs.11.5 million and due to that, its chairman was given approval to use this vehicle for a period of 05 years only. The ownership of the CAU 4004 vehicle belongs to the Ministry of Tourism and its ownership has not been transferred to any other institution. In order to special requirement to the Ministry, which has the ownership, has taken it back and provided another alternative vehicle in its place.

7	Bank reconciliation statements had not been prepared, certified and submitted for audit on the due date.	The relevant bank reconciliation statements for each month are prepared and submitted for audit before the 15th day of the subsequent month.
8	Consequent to the utilization of provisions allocated for a vote as per FR 94(1), liabilities were exceeding the provisions that remained at the end of the year.	Payments for services and supplies for month of December are due in January and actions will be made to settle the relevant liabilities through proper management of limited allocation
9	The ad hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 had not been settled within one month from the completion of the task.	All ad hoc sub-imprest are properly settled once the related activities have been completed and also instruction has been given top all officers in this regard.

Vijitha Herath
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

Parliament Serial No: 79

Second Part: 70

Name of the Institution: **Ministry of Tourism**

S/NO	Recommendations for the shortcomings identified	Action taken to rectify/ current status
1	The institution had failed to identify the sustainable development goals applicable to its scope.	***Addressed through multiple initiatives:*** • SLTDA's Sustainable Tourism Unit (STU) established in 2023 to lead SDG-related work. • The National Sustainable Tourism Certification (NSTC) Scheme 2018/2019 developed with UNDP and BIOFIN. • The National Tourism Policy (current government's manifesto) aligns with the SDGs and climate goals, identifying sustainable tourism as a strategic priority (https://www.npp.lk/up/policies/en/tourismpolicy.pdf). • SLTDA Design Guidelines for Tourist Accommodation Facilities (2024) integrate sustainability, eco-friendly building practices and accessibility requirements, supporting responsible development. • Sigiriya designated as Sri Lanka's first Sustainable Tourism Destination (2025) as a pilot for SDG-aligned destination management (https://www.sltda.gov.lk/storage/common_media/DestinationManagementPlan-Sigiriya-final.pdf).
2	The targets to be reached to achieve the identified sustainable goals had not been decided.	• NSTC Scheme includes certification criteria and target milestones (https://www.sltda.gov.lk/en/sustainable-tourism). • Sigiriya pilot project demonstrates SDG-aligned target (https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sigiriya-becomes-nations-first-sustainable-destination/108-310941). • Marine Tourism Roadmap (2025) sets sectoral sustainability goals. • SME Awareness & Mobile Programs 2024 conducted across all provinces to train 1,097 participants on sustainable tourism practices (e.g., Meemure, Nuwara Eliya, Passikudah, Jaffna,

		Chilaw, Kithulgala, Pinnawala, Ratnapura, Kegalle, Hikkaduwa, Kataragama, Ella, Haputale). Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism • Finalization and set targets of the NDCS and National Adaptation plan for the tourism sector coordinated with the National Climate secretariat.
3	The indicators to measure the progress of implementation of Sustainable Development Goals been had not been set.	Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority • NSTC uses Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) indicators covering social, economic, and environmental criteria. • SLTDA Sustainability Framework Report (2024) includes proposed monitoring indicators and institutional roles (https://www.sltda.gov.lk/storage/common_media/IDG-IPOP-Sustainability-Framework-Report-FINAL-14Mar2024.pdf). • Sigiriya pilot project tracks indicators like visitor capacity, waste management, and local economic benefits. • SME Awareness Programs contribute to data for monitoring SDG 8.9 (number of SMEs trained). • Design Guidelines support environmental and social indicators for accommodation development. 200 SMEs were certified for Sustainable Tourism during 2024-2025 (https://www.sltda.gov.lk/storage/common_media/SME-Sector-Certified-Businesess-List.pdf)
4	Citizen/ client charter had not been prepared or applied properly as per the circular number 05/2008 of Ministry of Public Administration and Management dated 06.02.2008 as amended by circular No. 05/2018(1) dated 24.01.2018	The Citizen/Client Charter has been prepared as per the Public Administration Circular number 05/2018(1). However, it should be amendment due to changes in the scope of the Ministry.
5	A methodology had not been formulated to monitor and evaluate the application of citizen/ client charter by the institution.	After amendment the Citizen/Client Charter action will be taken to develop an appropriate monitoring and evaluation framework under the guidance of the new Ministry.
6	A human resource plan drafted in keeping with the provisions of public administration Circular No 02/2018 dated 24th January 2018 was not available.	Human resource plan for year 2024 & 2025 has been prepared.

7	The human resource 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.	The Human Resource Development Plan was only partly implemented because COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis at that time.
8	Performance agreements covering the entire staff had not been drafted or entered.	According to the Public Administration Circular number 02/2018(1) it is no longer required to sign Annual Performance agreements
9	A senior officer of the institution had not been named for the preparation of human resource development plans and to implement capacity and skill development programmes.	Senior Assistant Secretary has been nominated for the preparation of human resource development plans and to implement capacity and skill development programs.
10	Out of the training opportunities planned, the extent of training opportunities granted, was less than 50%.	The Ministry because of, COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis at that time. Training opportunities have been provided.

Vijitha Herath
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism