

පාර්ලිමේන්තු ප්‍රකාශන මාලා අංක : 95

ආයතනයේ නම :- අධ්‍යාපන, උසස් අධ්‍යාපන සහ වෘත්තීය අධ්‍යාපන අමාත්‍යාංශය
පාර්ලිමේන්තුවේ රජයේ ගිණුම් පිළිබඳ කාරක සභාව විසින් සභාගත කරන ලද වාර්තා
සම්බන්ධයෙන් ස්ථාවර නියෝග අංක 119 (4) යටතේ ගරු අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය අධ්‍යාපන, උසස් අධ්‍යාපන
සහ වෘත්තීය අධ්‍යාපන අමාත්‍යාංශයෙන් නිරික්ෂණ හා ගනු ලබන පියවර පාර්ලිමේන්තුව වෙත
ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම.

පාරාගුමණ බෙඩිටුත් තොටර් ඩිලක්කම; 95

නිරුවනත්තින් පෙයට: කළුවි, ඉයර් කළුවි මත්‍රුම තොழිර් කළුවි අමෙස්ස
පාරාගුමණ තොටර් පාක තොටර් පාක සෙයුරු කුමුවිනාල් සපෙක්‍ර
සමර්පිකක්පට් අරික්කෙකක් තොටර් පාක නිලෙයියර් කට්ටලෙ ඩිලක්කම 119 (4) මින්
ක්‍රීඩ් කෙරුව පිරතමර්, කළුවි, ඉයර් කළුවි මත්‍රුම තොழිර් කළුවි අමෙස්සරින්
අවතානිප්‍රුක්කක් මත්‍රුම ගැඹුක්පට් නැවඩිකෙකක් පාරාගුමණ තොටර් පාක
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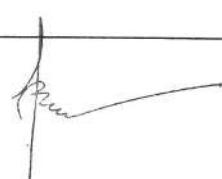
Parliamentary Series No 95

Name of the institution :- Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education
Submission of observations 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)


Nalaka Kaluwewa
Secretary
Ministry of Education, Higher Education and
Vocational Education

Name of the institution - Education , Higher Education and Vocational Education Ministry
 (Ministry of Education)

| Serial number | Parliamentary Publication Series No. 95 The shortcomings identified by the committee mentioned in the report | Current status of the steps taken by the institution to correct deficiencies |
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| 01 | <p><u>Issues regarding the implementation of the National Education Management Information System</u></p> <p>The order given at the Public Accounts Committee held on 12.02.2016 to prepare a systematic computer software containing information on school students and teachers has not been properly implemented so far.</p> <p>It was revealed that the data in the National Education Management Information System was not updated correctly and that it was not possible to obtain accurate information about actual staff.</p> | <p>NEMIS - THRM) data, which contained information on all teachers, is currently being updated. The Sri Lanka Air Force is also currently An Education Management Information System (EMIS) is being developed. That is being prepared. The Teacher Staff Module of the Education Management Information System will enable steps to be taken to maintain an updated database related to teachers , which will enable staff information to be obtained more efficiently than the current system.</p> |
| 02 | <p><u>The attendance rate of A/L students in government schools remained at a minimum.</u></p> <p>Although an order was given at the Public Accounts Committee meeting held on 08.08.2019 to conduct research in this regard and find solutions for it and to submit a report including plans for it, no progress has been seen in that situation so far.</p> | <p>Research and Development Department of the Research and Planning Division under the National Institute of Education (NIE) has conducted programmes in 2016 based on the recommendations of the study on Absenteeism among Grade 13 students in schools across Sri Lanka.</p> <p>According to the Ministry of Education Circular No. 2006/45 dated 06.12.2006, it is has been stated that each and every school student applying for the G.C.E. Advanced Level (A/L) examination must have attended school for at least 80% of the total school days when submitting the application form for the examination.</p> <p>To update the subject knowledge of Advanced Level teachers, subject units that many students fail to answer correctly in the G.C.E. Advanced Level examination have been identified and subsequently, capacity development programmes have been conducted for Advanced Level teachers, with resource contributions from university lecturers, to provide students with accurate knowledge of these subject units. Additionally, teacher capacity development programmes have also been conducted to impart practical knowledge related to Advanced Level subject content.</p> |



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| | | <p>Since practical examinations in the G.C.E. Advanced Level examination are conducted only for certain subjects, the level of subject-related experience and practical knowledge among students is minimal. Therefore, it is appropriate to revise the national assessment procedures to better evaluate practical subject knowledge.</p> <p>According to the new educational reforms scheduled to be implemented in 2026, the national-level student assessment system shall be changed. Knowledge acquired through enquiry-based and activity-based learning processes are evaluated through continuous assessment and practical activities. Accordingly, students shall be engaged in school education with a focus on practically understanding subject content rather than merely covering the syllabus through private external institutions.</p> |
| 03 | <p><u>Providing Tabs computers for students and teachers</u></p> <p>Providing tablet computers for Advanced Level students and teachers in 2019 3.4 billion, 96919 tablet computers and 2639 charging racks were purchased, and 93027 of those computers were given to students from grades 6 to 11 for no apparent reason. The remaining 3892 tablet computers were given, and no specific educational system or planned program (module) was prepared to operate these computers. Currently, most of the distributed tablet computers are inactive or idle, and some tablet computers are missing. It has passed.</p> | <p>2024 and 2025, Rs. 120 million has been allocated annually under the expenditure head 126-2-3-22-1302 for the maintenance of computers and devices. Accordingly, the funds will be used for the maintenance of computers and tablets in computer laboratories in schools. Of the allocated funds, Rs. 25 million has been sent to the Provincial Department of Education. The remaining amount of Rs. 95 million will be used to purchase the devices required for maintenance by the Ministry of Education and to bear the expenses for maintenance workshops conducted directly by the Ministry. Accordingly, the maintenance of the tablets has been carried out as per the requests received through the schools and provincial zonal education departments and the devices required for maintenance have also been purchased. Provisions of Rs. 30 million have been allocated in the year 2024 and a provision of Rs. 150 million in the year 2025 under the expenditure head 126-2-3-2-1402 for the settlement of internet bills of schools. Under this, a maximum amount of Rs. 5000 will be provided to schools and the schools should submit the amount of monthly internet fees related to these schools to the Ministry of Education. Thereafter, the necessary provisions for this will be provided to the schools through the Provincial Education Department.</p> <p>To educate the Directors of Education and Deputy/Assistant Directors in charge of subjects in all provinces and regions to carry out regulatory tasks regarding the effective use of tablet computers . A data sheet has been sent to schools on 2023.10.11 to monitor the progress of the tablet machines . (Annexure 01) Furthermore, schools have been informed about how to deal with problems in relation to these machines and necessary instructions and recommendations have been given.</p> |

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| | | <p>Provincial Education Directors have been informed in a letter dated 2024.01.23 to prepare a methodology for regular monitoring of schools included in the tablet distribution project through the Provincial Education Department. Furthermore, a monitoring sheet has been prepared by this branch for use in this regard. These regulatory tasks are also discussed during progress review meetings for provincial and zonal IT staff officers. In future projects, instead of providing only tablets, a SMART BOARD, tablets/laptops, Iota and AI kits, etc. will be provided to help students gain practical experience in innovative technology. It is proposed to provide at least one school per district and expand it in the future. Project proposals in this regard have already been submitted to the Ministry of Finance. Programmes to provide smart boards and computer-related devices are being implemented under the project to digitize the education system. Several such projects are being implemented under foreign aid projects and under the Ministry of Digital Economy.</p> |
| 0 4 | <p><u>National Education Formulating a policy.</u></p> <p>Renovations, opening from 2020 to 2022 Although the Ministry of Universities and Distance Education has been requested to submit information regarding the composition of the total recurrent and capital expenditure of Rs. 5,219,297,390 incurred by the State Ministry of Universities and Distance Education, the Ministry of Education has not yet provided any information for that purpose. The National Education Committee inquired about the current status of the policy formulation process .</p> | <p><u>Current status of the process of formulating a National Education Policy</u></p> <p>The new National Education Policy Framework, prepared with the participation of an expert committee, received Cabinet approval on 30.10.2023, and includes 31 transformative changes. The Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education has agreed to implement the measure. Accordingly, a roadmap has been prepared to implement the transformational changes under three areas, namely early childhood education, general education, vocational education and higher education. Several rounds of discussions/workshops have been held with scholars and officials in the field of education on several occasions for preparation and other tasks, and through this, documents containing observations, activities, outputs, etc. have been prepared in detail, creating the basic background necessary for future work. In order to establish an educational system in Sri Lanka that is in line with the current government policy statements and is suitable for the modern global world, the currently prepared National Education Policy Framework is being developed in a more effective and efficient manner, and a National Education Policy that is suitable for modern Sri Lanka is being implemented.</p> |

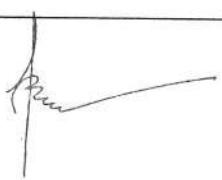


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| 05 | <p><u>Unauthorized use of school lands by outside parties</u></p> <p>According to a sample audit conducted by the Government Audit Office, a large amount of land belonging to 09 national schools and 22 other schools is being illegally occupied by outside parties.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security Services College - Although we have a file, there have been no reports of unauthorized residents in it so far. • Sri Sumangala Balika Maha Vidyalaya - After the removal of the encroachers by the fiscal orders implemented on 2019.07.22, the clear possession of the land was handed over to the Principal on 2019.08.28. • Sri Rahula Central College, Katugastota - M.J. Mendis has filed a request with the Honorable Supreme Court against the court decision given by the Court of Appeal regarding M.J. Mendis, who is currently residing illegally, and a final decision has not been received for that court case. • Gampola Zahira College - It was decided in the discussion held under the chairmanship of the Additional Secretary (Development) of the Ministry of Lands to obtain a survey prepared by the Pimbura to accurately identify the land plots occupied by Gampola Zahira College and accordingly, the Principal has been informed to get the said survey work done by including it in the annual survey program next year or by paying the relevant survey fees from the provisions of the School Development Society. Also, after the completion of the work, a field investigation will be conducted and a decision will be taken regarding the encroachers. • Thawalama Vidyaraja National School, Galle - This land has not yet been formally transferred to the Ministry of Education and the Principal has been informed that consent cannot be given to regularize the area of land currently being used by the person residing illegally. • Christchurch Boys' College, Galle - The Divisional Secretary has intervened and resolved this issue and the Principal informed that there is no problem of unauthorized occupants at present. • Christchurch Girls' College, Galle - A field investigation was conducted on 10.01.2023 regarding the land issues at this school and as per its recommendations, further steps have been taken to acquire the land in question without delaying it to the government. • Bandarawela Visakha Balika Central College - Although there were several constructions by unauthorized residents on the border of the land proposed to be acquired a few years ago, all those issues have now been resolved. The acquisition of this land has been completed and further steps are being taken to hand it over to the Ministry of Education. |
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- **Kegalle Central College** - Surveys need to be carried out to identify unauthorized occupants. The officers who were forcibly residing in the school's official quarters were evicted in 2020 .
- **Gampola/ St. Mary's College, Nawalapitiya** - An encroachment by the name of Mohan Rasaiya was still occupying the school grounds. The Secretary of the Presidential Task Force for One Nation, One Law had instructed the Secretary of Education on 01.01.2022 not to remove him.
- **Co/Pinwatta Upananda College** - It has been decided to remove the persons who are forcibly occupying the land and buildings of Ko/Pingwatta Upananda College and connect them to S. D. S. Jayasinghe College, Dehiwala in the Piliyandala Educational Zone and use them for future educational activities. The decision has been forwarded to the Attorney General for notification to the Supreme Court.
- The Western Provincial Education Secretary has been informed to take necessary steps to carry out the necessary survey work to clear the boundaries between the Cathedral (Boys) College and St. James's Church. No trespassers have been reported .
- **Bandarawela Central College** - An intruder was residing on the land acquired for the playground of this school and 20 perches have been provided to evict the occupant from the land. During a telephone conversation with the school's principal, Mrs. Visakha Rajapaksa, on 16.10.2024 , it was informed that the intruder had completely vacated the land acquired by the school.
- **Kahagolla Central College** - B/ Kahagolla Central College land consists of 03 plots. Kahagolla College land - 03 acres 02 plots 01 , Welibissa or Welibissa Pathana land - 01 acres 02 plots 11, Bingethenna / Diyakiri La Ulpatha land - 03 acres 02 plots 27 , Welibassa or Welibissa Pathana land was donated to the school when there were unauthorized occupants and that plot is not used by the school and that plot is not required for the use of the school, Bingethenna / Diyakiri La Ulpatha land is plot number 1510. There is a school playground and two teachers' houses in this plot. Legal action is being taken in conjunction with the Attorney General's Department regarding the removal of unauthorized occupants from this land .
- **D.S. Senanayake Central College** - There were three intruders previously and all of them have now left.

- **Gamini Central College - Bentota** - Although there are no unauthorized occupants on this land, a road through the school playground is being used illegally to access the houses adjacent to the playground, and the Regional Coordination Committee has decided and informed us that this road cannot be provided legally.
- **Mahinda College - Galle** - A survey was conducted by the Survey Department on 20.02.2024 to identify the encroachers . Although the report states that the encroachers were not specifically mentioned, it was informed by telephone from the Galle Provincial Council that eight more encroachers were still present .
- **Karandeniya Central College** - The encroachment has now been regularized and the school land has been cleared.
- **Dagedara Jayawardena College - Galle** - 38(a) Interim Order has been issued. The Galle Divisional Secretary has informed in a letter dated 2020.07.15 that it has been confirmed that two original occupants of this land are residing illegally. It has further been informed that a request has been made to return the said occupied land plots. Apart from that, another original occupant has requested a plot of land to build a house. The Divisional Secretary was taking steps to remove these unauthorized occupants.
- **Kithulampitiya Ananda Maha Vidyalaya - Galle** The Southern Provincial Education Secretary has informed in a letter dated 2018.08.08 that the school needs the remaining land plots, except for the 31 plots required for the Information and Communication Center, from the land acquired for the school on 2019.08.07, which are occupied by other parties.
- **Minneriya National School** - A request letter has been sent to the Hingurakgoda Divisional Secretary on 2022.03.23 to formally hand over the entire land plot named “ Hingurakgoda ” . (Since an unauthorized person had built a fence boundary) It has been informed that the land is suitable for transfer to the Department of Education as the encroachers do not have formal documents for the land they have claimed rights to .
- **K/UB Wanninayake Central College** - Steps have been taken to take legal action under the Repossession of Possession Act to evict the unauthorized occupants residing in the school premises. However, the unauthorized occupants have not yet left.

- **S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike College , Kundasale -** Unauthorized cultivation has been taking place on the school land and at present, the school's fence boundaries have been properly set and the unauthorized cultivation activities have been stopped.
- **Maha/ Sri Swarnajothi National School -** Kiribathkumbura Sri Swarnajothi National School has been informed that a resident of a house adjacent to teak and mahogany trees on the grounds has changed the school's fence boundaries to include his land and an unauthorized wall has been constructed on the land belonging to the school. A report on the current situation has been requested from the Pilimatalawa Divisional Secretary.
- **Akurana Azhar National School -** A person near the school boundary is illegally using about 10 feet of school land to enter his house, and a report in this regard has been requested from the Central Provincial Education Secretary.
- **Maha/ Galagedara Central College -** Information has been sought from the Galagedara Divisional Secretary by letter dated 29.12.2017 regarding the construction of a road through the school land to drain the sand from the stream flowing along the boundary of the college, connecting to a portion of the land belonging to this college.
- **Anuruddha Kumara National School - Nawalapitiya** It has been informed that the local surveyor has reported that the land comprising 03 plots in the school plot No. 326 is currently occupied by the Sri Veluwanaramaya Temple.
- **R/ Kamarangapitiya Sri Gnanananda College -** Due to an incorrect survey during the acquisition of land, two plots of land belonging to private parties have also been acquired for the school land. Since the Divisional Secretary has the powers under the Government Land Acquisition Act to remove the persons occupying sections C and D of the standard plan of school estate No. 4668 without permission, the Pelmadulla Divisional Secretary has been informed on 2017.02.16 to take steps to remove the relevant unauthorized occupants.
- **Maha/Madina National School -** The Director of Education of the Central Province has been informed by letter dated 2021.02.22 to report the status of the case L 67/04 pending in the Kandy District Court regarding the said school land in order to survey and settle the land of this school.



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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village/Al-Mubarak Central College - An unauthorized occupant is constructing a building (house) on a portion of land in the school's planned playground. In this regard, the Principal of the school , the Biyagama Pradeshiya Sabha and the Ministry of Education have from time to time contacted the Biyagama OIC. The unauthorized person and the unauthorized construction have been informed and requested to be removed from the school grounds. However, as per the current situation, the unauthorized construction has not been removed from the school grounds. • Bandaranaike Central College , Veyangoda The issues related to illegal settlers have been resolved so far. |
| 06 | <p><u>Compensation for the abolition of the position of an official working at the UNESCO Permanent Representation Office in Paris, France .</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Education had made payments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the remuneration of an officer who was appointed to the post of Office Assistant at the Permanent Representative Office of UNESCO in Paris, France , and was later promoted to the post of Coordination Officer, with the approval of the Cabinet dated 04.10.2006, and the position of that officer had been abolished without one month's prior notice, and therefore compensation had to be paid to the relevant officer.</p> | <p>Annex 01</p> |
| 07 | <p><u>Resolving disciplinary issues</u> <u>How to be a teacher</u></p> <p>The existence of a large number of unresolved disciplinary issues and the long-standing unresolved disciplinary issues related to child abuse.</p> | <p>That an appropriate mechanism should be developed to resolve and finalize disciplinary issues in institutions related to this ministry without delay.</p> <p>I The Disciplinary and Investigation Division of the Ministry of Education was under the Additional Secretary (Administration) until 2023.09.04. As a major step taken to prevent the delay in urgent file processing in the Disciplinary and Investigation Divisions due to the heavy workload due to the existence of numerous branches under the Additional Secretary (Administration),</p> |

a new post was created with the name of Additional Secretary (Disciplinary and Investigation) with effect from 2023.09.04 and the Disciplinary and Investigation Division was placed under the said Additional Secretary.

ii. In the past, due to various reasons, 05 subject officers of the Disciplinary Division had to be released from the service of the branch without a successor and the position of Assistant Secretary (Disciplinary) remained vacant for a considerable period, which resulted in a significant disruption in the duties of the branch. At present, the vacancies are being filled and the delayed duties are being completed expeditiously.

iii. The authorities have been informed of the need for additional staff as the existing staff is not sufficient to manage the heavy workload assigned to the Disciplinary and Investigation Division. Accordingly, in the future, the necessary staff officers and other officers will be adequately assigned to the Disciplinary and Investigation Branches.

iv. According to the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2131/60 dated 13.07.2019 issued by the Public Service Commission under the delegation of powers, the necessary steps have already been taken to transfer the disciplinary powers of the teachers of the Sri Lanka Teachers Service serving in the national schools in the respective provinces to the respective Provincial Directors of Education, and accordingly, the powers of teacher disciplinary control have been delegated to 05 Provincial Directors of Education. Other Provincial Directors of Education have been informed to submit requests to obtain disciplinary control powers. Accordingly, the amount of preliminary investigations to be carried out by this Ministry will be reduced to some extent.

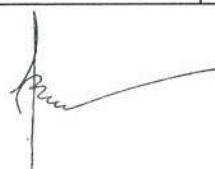
v. The necessary initial steps have been taken to prepare a computer database system to streamline the work of the Disciplinary and Investigation Division by computerizing all the information contained in the subject files. Accordingly, the Data Management Division of the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education and the Technology Division of the Sri Lanka Air Force have joined forces and initiated the creation of the relevant database system.

vi. The delay in the processing of files that require further action based on court decisions is due to reasons beyond our control. Since most of these cases are cases involving child abuse or criminal acts, it takes a significant amount of time to complete the relevant proceedings after the final court decisions are issued. Therefore, the processing of the disciplinary file is also delayed by a similar amount of time until the final decision of the case is received.

In order to expedite the collection of certified copies of the final case report (notes) required for disciplinary proceedings by the relevant court, officials of the Ministry or the relevant Zonal Education Offices are sent to the court and necessary steps are sometimes taken to collect those documents. Without calling for court reports from time to time, the current status of the case is periodically inquired from the relevant OIC until the case is concluded , and when it is reported that the case verdict has been given, steps are also taken to obtain a certified copy of the said case verdict from the court.

vii. The disciplinary authority of all officers conducting investigations by the Ministry of Education is not the Secretary for Education , and in cases where the Public Service Commission or the Director General of Joint Services is the disciplinary authority, the initial investigation reports and other relevant documents have to be forwarded to the relevant disciplinary authority and action taken in accordance with the orders of the disciplinary authority. Also, since disciplinary orders are issued by the relevant disciplinary authority, the Secretary cannot influence the proceedings of such disciplinary files.

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| 08 | <p><u>Sri Lanka for 64 national schools Grade 01 officers of the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service have not been appointed as principals.</u></p> <p>Sri Lanka for 64 national schools The failure to appoint female officers of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service as principals.</p> | <p>Grade I officers of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service have not been appointed as principals for 64 national schools .</p> <p>' 5 ' of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service Regulations published in the Gazette No. 1928/28 and dated 21.08.2015, Grade I officers of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service are appointed by the Public Service Commission for the post of Principal of National Schools on the recommendations of an Interview Board consisting of 03 members appointed by the Public Service Commission. (This recommendation is made according to a marking scheme approved by the Public Service Commission.)</p> <p>Accordingly, applications are to be called in the future and officers are to be appointed in accordance with the service constitution to fill the principal posts of 47 national schools where a Grade I officer of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service is required to hold the post of principal as of 31.10.2025.</p> <p>Furthermore, with the approval of the Public Service Commission Ministry of Education Circular No.: - 32/2022 and dated 2022.09.07, as stated under 2.3 of the Transfer Procedure, transfers made in relation to the post of Principal appointed on the recommendations of an Interview Board will be made only among the officers permanently appointed to that post,</p> |



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| | | <p>and transfers will not be made in accordance with the transfer procedure for vacancies arising in those posts due to retirement of the officers permanently appointed to the said posts or for other reasons, and those vacancies will be filled in accordance with the Service Constitution. I will.</p> |
| 09 | <p><u>Special Education Service</u></p> <p>Special education 207 teachers who had obtained teaching qualifications in the field were employed in that field. Ordinary, not used in teaching activities It was revealed at the committee meeting that a sample audit conducted by the National Audit Office identified that the funds had been used in teaching activities.</p> | <p>The Ministry of Education Circular No. 42/2012 and the Education Secretary's Order Letter ED/9/18/8/2/6 have issued that teachers who have received teaching appointments for the subject of Special Education and are currently teaching other subjects should be engaged in teaching students with special needs. This has been confirmed in the Ministry of Education Circular 37/2020, Chapters 12.0 to 12.4. Accordingly, teachers who are not engaged in such service should be informed and their salary increments should be suspended.</p> <p>Assistant Directors of Education and Principals have informed the relevant education officers to look into the matter of teachers who are not engaged in the special education service and engage them in teaching the relevant subject. The work of employing teachers in national schools should be done by this Ministry and the work of employing teachers in provincial schools should be done by the Zonal Education Offices and the Provincial Education Department.</p> |
| 10 | <p><u>Sports schools not functioning properly</u></p> <p>It was revealed at the committee meeting that the activities of the sports schools, which were established in 1989 with the aim of producing national and international level sportsmen and women with sports talents, were not fully operational and that no steps had been taken to admit sports students for the years 2022 and 2023.</p> | <p>For the operational sports schools, students who were submitted for examination by each school as per the circular have been recruited in the years 2024 and 2025. According to the budget proposals related to the development of sports schools in 05 provinces, an amount of 200 million has been provided to the following schools through the District Secretaries for the development of physical facilities identified in each sports school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaffna Central College • Hanwella Rajasinghe College • Anuradhapura Central College • Akurambada Weera Keppetipola College • Walala Central College • Anamaduwa Central College <p>The Sports Scholarship Scheme will provide Rs. 10,000 per student per month from the second quarter of 2025 and arrangements have been made to send the scheme to the Zonal Education Office of the Sports School in the second quarter with the aim of reaching the school promptly.</p> |



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| 11 | <p><u>Cadetting and the Scouts Movement.</u></p> | <p>The committee also stated that steps should be taken to expand the Cadet and Young Talented Pathway in consultation with the Ministry of Defense and the Scout Association.</p> <p>1. Student soldier Programs have been held to educate principals about introducing children to the right path and there are plans to do so in the future .</p> <p>Programs are being carried out at the national level under the initiative of the Scout Association to expand the path of young talent .</p> |
| 12 | <p><u>The Sports Council's activities have been inactive.</u></p> <p>Due to the fact that the Sports Council, which was established with the aim of regulating the development of sports at the school level and registering school sports associations, is currently inactive, the financial affairs of school sports associations are not properly controlled and supervised.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circular 05/2020 was revised and Circular 03/2021 was presented to update the School Sports Council and School Sports Associations. Accordingly, all school sports elections will be held in the year 2024, new officers will be appointed, and capacity development training workshops will be held for the newly appointed officers. • Each school sports association holds annual general meetings and conducts an annual financial audit. • School sports associations organize and participate in local and foreign competitions annually as directed. |
| 13 | <p><u>Ministry's existing procedures for regulating school students' participation in international competitions</u></p> | <p>Approvals are given for sports competitions held in international and foreign countries based on invitations received directly from national associations, school sports associations, the Ministry of Sports, and schools. Approvals are given for trips to recognized international competitions and the above-mentioned institutions to provide children with foreign experience.</p> |
| 14 | <p><u>Establishment of 03 Information Technology Centers under Korean EXIM Bank Loan</u></p> <p>The Committee inquired about the current status of this project .</p> | <p>AMAP/ 18/1142/835 /005 and No. Homagama as the main center with the approval of AMAP/ 19/3468/219/016 Located in North Pitipana Grama Niladhari Division , Divisional Secretariat Division No. 484 Approval has been given to use the Mahenawaththa land. Also, respectively Southern Province Information Technology Office through CM/ 21/1324/308 /113 and AMAP/ 21/1655/308/113-1 Center Southern Provincial Council Under The Eastern Provincial Centre will be built on the grounds of the Panagamuwa Amarasinghe School in Galle,</p> |

an operational school , in the Trincomalee District of the Eastern Province. The Cabinet also approved the use of land lot number 1 in preliminary plan number 528 on the Port Road. Approval has been granted.

Amendment to the Feasibility Study Report signed on 05 November 2019 Feasibility Study Report for Loan Agreement Amendment Education to the Department of Foreign Resources The Ministry has provided the feasibility study report on 15-12-2022 . The Department of Foreign Resources has sent a letter of intent to the Korean EXIM Bank in January 2023. Not forwarded .

Amendment of the loan agreement related to the National ICT Hub project Since it was a work carried out by the Korean EXIM Bank , the Sri Lankan government loan The amendment of this loan agreement has been delayed due to the counter -party process . Since the transaction was made by the Korean EXIM Bank, we have been in touch with you from time to time regarding this matter. Only the reminder was sent.

The relevant amended loan agreement was signed on 18.09.2024 . Thereafter, the consultations The procurement process was initiated. However, the November 2024 The project will be revised to align with the government's new policies after the presidential election. This project is also being reviewed under the review of large-scale projects to The work was started. Accordingly, on January 3 , 2025 During a discussion held on , the Prime Minister of the Government of Sri Lanka and the Minister of Education , Higher Education Minister of Education , Higher Education and Vocational Education To review this project as notified by the Secretary of Education Decided.

Procurement activities related to the project and the Project Management Unit during the review period The work initiated in relation to the establishment of the project was ~~temporarily suspended~~. The project was subsequently continued as per the committee report submitted by the relevant project review committee. The Secretary of Education , Higher Education and Vocational Education has been given approval. Meanwhile, based on that, procurement for hiring a consulting firm as per the loan agreement Education , Higher Education and Vocational Training to resume the process The Ministry of Education has planned. Accordingly, the procurement process was restarted from July 2025. As an initial phase, the procurement of consultancy services is scheduled to be completed within the first 6 months.



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| 15 | <p><u>The irregularity that occurred at the electrical equipment store in Pattala</u></p> <p>Current status of the investigation into the Rs. 12.9 million irregularities at the Pattala Gedera electrical equipment warehouse</p> | <p>i. The investigation report of the preliminary investigation conducted in this regard has been provided , and all the recommendations to be implemented by the Disciplinary Division, out of the investigation recommendations mentioned therein, have been implemented.</p> <p>ii. The Chief Financial Officer has been informed to conduct the M.R.104 loss and damage investigation, one of the recommendations of the investigation. The Chief Financial Officer has informed the Audit and Management Committee meeting held on 01.04.2024 that it is difficult to conduct the M.R.104 investigation due to the lack of certain documents required for the investigation and that a disciplinary committee should be appointed in this regard and decisions should be taken through that committee.</p> |
| 16 | <p><u>The existence of a large amount of outstanding loan balances of officials</u></p> <p>the reconciliation statement , the balance due from transferred, transferred, deceased, retired , suspended, and discharged officers at the end of the year under review was Rs. 198,883,895, of which the balance over 05 years was Rs. 75,155,836, and no action had been taken to settle or recover the said arrears.</p> | <p>Annex 02</p> |
| 17 | <p><u>Issues related to the programme to develop the national school system to 1000</u></p> <p>Although approximately Rs. 2285 million has been spent on this program, only 22 schools have been converted into national schools so far.</p> | <p>A committee has been appointed and an investigation is underway.</p> <p>(Annex 03)</p> |
| 18 | <p>Education received foreign aid in the form of grants . the situation was at a very low level</p> | <p>The construction of the buildings of the Saraswati Central College, Pussellawa, under the assistance of the Government of India, was completed in the year 2019. The procurement activities related to the provisions of Rs. 6,658,405/- for the purchase of computer equipment and furniture for this school had not been completed by the audit date of 20 March 2023. Accordingly, even after more than 04 years since the completion of the construction activities in 2019 , the management had failed to complete the purchase of equipment related to this project. The activities of providing agricultural equipment ,</p> |

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| | | <p>electronics , kitchen utensils, furniture and information technology equipment have been completed. The relevant documents for the procurement activities related to the provision of science lab equipment have been forwarded to the High Commission of India for approval.</p> |
| 19 | <p>Issues related to the 4 services of Teacher Service, Teacher Advisory Service, Teacher Education Service , Educational Administration Service, and Pirivena Education</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each service and the existence of salary disparities between ranks. 2. When there are staff vacancies 3. Providing teacher promotions have been delayed. | <p><u>Pirivena Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request has been made to the Director General of the Department of Management Services to create Executive Service Category posts for Parivenacharyas and 33 Executive Service Category posts have been made under the Director General of the Department of Management Services No. DMS/CM/ 08/ Piriven And approval has been granted by letter dated 2024.02.21. • A recruitment procedure for those posts has been prepared and forwarded to the Director General of Institutions by my letter No. ED/ST/BUD/ 03/01/46 dated 2024.08.06, with the recommendations of the Director General of Institutions. Accordingly, the recruitment procedure is being prepared to include the relevant recommendations and send it to the Secretary of the Public Service Commission. • Director General of Management Services No. DMS/SM 14/ Vol.II and 7591 posts of Parivenacharya have been approved by the letter dated 30.03.2023. Accordingly, the relevant recruitment procedure is being prepared. Although requests have been made to the Director of Management Services to create teacher advisor posts, approval has not been given yet. • The former Minister of Education has been instructed to put the file aside due to the ongoing economic crisis. |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was informed during the discussions that although the posts of lecturers in Pirivena training institutes have been forwarded for approval by the Department of Management Services, necessary steps will be taken to approve the posts related to the Pirivena division one by one. Accordingly, the lecturer posts have not been approved by the Department of Management Services so far. Once the posts are approved, the recruitment procedure will be prepared. • The promotion procedure for the posts of Assistant Directors, which have been established as personal to the post holder, has been prepared and the approval of the Public Service Commission has been obtained. |

Appointment letters have been drafted to incorporate those Assistant Directors into the relevant grade and submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval.

- A Cabinet Memorandum was sent to take a policy decision to adopt the same Widows and Orphans Pension System instead of collecting an additional 6% of the Piriven Teachers' salary for the Contributory Pension. Accordingly, it has been notified by the Cabinet Decision dated 10.09.2024 that it is recommended to the Cabinet to include Piriven Teachers in the proposed Contributory Pension System to be implemented in the future.
- Approval has been sought from the Treasury to open a Pirivena Development Fund Collection Account. Accordingly, the account has been opened with the approval of the Treasury to collect donations and grants received from donors. In order to prepare the legal provisions required to spend money from that account in the future, the necessary amendments are being made to include the Pirivena Development Fund in the Pirivena Act
- To provide non-academic staff to Pirivenas, interviews have been conducted for trainees trained under the Multi-Function Department, 395 staff assistants have been recruited, and steps have been taken to identify and assign them to Pirivenas in need.

Teacher Advisory Service

- Those who agreed to be absorbed into the Teacher Advisory Service have now completed the absorption.

According to the Teacher Advisory Service Constitution No. 2182/36 and dated 2020.07.01, the number of approved posts in the Teacher Advisory Service is 4471, and the officers of the Teacher Advisory Service who wish to be absorbed were given the opportunity to express their preference for absorption for a period of one year up to 2021.12.31, and the officers who expressed their preference accordingly were absorbed into the Teacher Advisory Service with effect from 2022.01.02 and the absorption process has been completed.

Also, requests were made to obtain approval from the Public Service Commission to recruit new vacancies in the Teacher Advisory Service based on the provisions of the Service Constitution, and arrangements were made to amend the provisions related to the examination relevant to recruitment. Accordingly, approval for the said amendments has been received from the Public Service Commission on 29.07.2025 and steps are being taken to amend the Teacher Consultant Service Constitution by publishing those amendments in the Government Gazette and to take the necessary steps to carry out new recruitment activities accordingly.

- The main problem faced here is the existence of salary disparities between different services.

As per Public Administration Circular 10/2025, the final salary increment of the Teacher Advisory Service has been set at a significantly lower value compared to the same values of the Teaching Service and Principal Service, steps are being taken to correct the discrepancy by reporting this to the Director General of Institutions.

Teacher service

There are approximately 32,000 identified vacancies in the teaching service.

By 31.05.2025, the number of teacher vacancies in all national and provincial schools has increased to more than 32,000 and the information regarding this is as follows.

| Provincial schools/National schools | Number of vacancies |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| National schools | 4484 |
| Western | 4630 |
| South | 2513 |
| Central | 6318 |
| Northwest | 2990 |
| Uva | 2780 |
| North Central | 1568 |
| East | 6613 |
| Sabaragamuwa | 3994 |
| North | 3271 |
| Collection | 36178 |

a) 2317 dated 2023.01.27 was issued regarding the recruitment of graduates in the Sri Lanka Teachers Service for the Sinhala, Tamil and English medium teacher vacancies in the island and provincial schools. However, due to the cases filed in the Supreme Court against that Gazette, the examination scheduled to be held on 2023.03.25 has been temporarily suspended by an interim order. Therefore, it has not been possible to recruit for those vacancies so far, and this has also hindered the recruitment of other graduate teachers. Accordingly, a number of teacher vacancies that were expected to be recruited through the said Gazette notification will have to be put on hold, and in addition, requests have been submitted to the Public Service Recruitment Review Committee established under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister's Secretary to fill the remaining vacancies, and necessary further steps are being taken to fill those vacancies.

b) Further, Gazette Notification No. 2389 dated 2024.06.14 was issued regarding the recruitment of teaching assistants for the existing teaching vacancies in Tamil medium schools associated with the Divine Estates and accordingly, the recruitment will be held on 2024.08.12. Due to the filing of a case under Court of Appeal Case No. CA (Writ) 519/2024 for the scheduled recruitment competitive examination, the Honorable Court has imposed an interim injunction to hold the relevant competitive examination on 09.08.2024. Therefore, further steps are to be taken regarding the recruitment after the conclusion of the said case.

Educational Administrative Service

Regarding the postings and transfers of officers belonging to the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service dated 14.12.2022 ~~In accordance with the provisions of Rules 244 to 287 of Chapter XVIII , Part 1 of the Public Service Commission Procedural Rules published in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2310/29 , with the approval of the Public Service Commission and dated 04.10.2021~~ Transfers will be made to officers of the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service in accordance with the provisions relating to the delegation of powers of the Public Service Commission published in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2248/10 (Annexes 01 and 02).

Also , the Public Service Commission has approved the annual transfer procedure (Grades I, II, III) of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service, and accordingly, the procedure is implemented from the year 2022. A copy of the transfer procedure issued by the Ministry of Education Circular

No.: 32/2022 and dated 2022.09.07 is attached herewith as Annexure 03 .

In the 396 national schools across the island, the appointments of principals are made by the Educational Service Establishments Branch and are classified as National Schools where Grade I officers of the Sri Lanka Civil Service are to hold the post of Principal, National Schools where Grade II/III officers of the Sri Lanka Civil Service are to hold the post of Principal and National Schools where Grade I officers of the Sri Lanka Principals Service are to hold the post of Principal. Applications are invited from suitable officers for the national schools where vacancies exist under these categories annually, interviews are held and suitable officers are appointed to the post of Principal as per the approval of the Education Services Committee of the Public Service Commission. Also The appointment letter states that the officers so appointed must hold the position of principal of the school for a minimum period of 03 years.

Further, with the approval of the Public Service Commission and as stated in the Ministry of Education Circular No.: 32/2022 and under 2.3 of the Transfer Procedure issued on 2022.09.07, transfers made in relation to the post of Principal appointed on the recommendations of an interview board will be made only among officers permanently appointed to that post, and transfers will not be made in accordance with the transfer procedure for vacancies arising in those posts due to retirement of officers permanently appointed to the said posts or for other reasons, and those vacancies will be filled in accordance with the Service Minute.

Accordingly, I would like to further inform you that it is possible to grant transfers to principals who have served in the same place of work for more than 06 years according to the annual transfer procedure.

The Cabinet Memorandum No. ED/SER/23/70 dated 2023.07.07 was submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers to provide 12 salary increments to the officers of the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service until the salary discrepancy is resolved. It has been informed that it is appropriate to consider the proposal mentioned in the memorandum when the salary structure of the entire public service is revised in the future after conducting a comprehensive study and formal review of all the salary discrepancies that have arisen due to the adverse economic situation prevailing in the country, as stated in the Cabinet decision mentioned in the letter of the Secretary to the Cabinet No. CM/23/ 1297/ 607/104 dated 2023.08.01. the Cabinet Memorandum No. ED/SER/23/108 dated 12.10.2023 with the heading "Removal of salary

anomalies of officers who joined the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service on the basis of limited and service experience and merit" was submitted to the Cabinet and for that purpose, the Cabinet Secretary has forwarded the following Memorandum No. CM/23/1882/607/002 with the heading "Removal of salary anomalies in the Teacher Advisory Service". – II and dated 2023.11.28. It is hereby informed that the Cabinet has approved the recommendation made by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Establishments Affairs to direct the Secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government to take necessary steps to submit to the Cabinet, through his Minister, appropriate proposals for resolving the salary anomalies and other issues arising out of the salary revision made effective from 2022.01.01, for consideration by the Cabinet decision mentioned in the letter.

of the salary discrepancy issue and detailed reports on how the salary discrepancy had arisen were submitted on 2024.06.24 and 2025.04.07 . The Director General of Establishments has informed through letters dated 2022.01.05, No. EST-5/07/CBN/0001(i) and dated 2025.08.03 that through the issuance of Public Administration Circular No. 03/2016 (IV) dated 2022.01.05, salary discrepancies have been created among the officers of the services to which that circular applies as well as among other services in the education sector, and that these problems should be resolved after a comprehensive study of all the salary discrepancies/inconsistencies that have occurred through Public Administration Circular 03/2016 (IV) dated 2022.01.05, and that work is already being done on that problem .

The total number of vacancies for Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service Grade III on the basis of service experience and merit is 67 , out of which 60 officers have been recruited on 2024.07.01 and 4 officers on 2025.03.03 The remaining 3 vacancies are scheduled to be filled in the future. Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service The total number of vacancies on an open basis in Grade III is 113 and the number of officers who accepted appointments on 2025.07.01 is 88, so 25 more graduates are scheduled to be recruited in the future by being called for interview based on the marks of the written test.

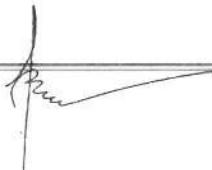
Furthermore, the total number of vacancies on a limited basis in Grade III of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service is 442 , out of which 405 officers have been appointed on 2025.09.01 and further steps are being taken to recruit for the remaining 37 vacancies in the future .

Teacher Educator Service

I observe that due to the limited recruitments in the Teacher Educator Service and the salary adjustments that have taken place from time to time in the teaching service, there are salary discrepancies among the officers who are promoted to the Sri Lanka Teacher Educator Service and a policy decision should be taken in this regard.

Out of the officers for whom applications were invited on 2020.02.07, 591 officers were recruited to the Sri Lanka Teacher Educator Service on a limited basis on 2025.06.02, and 384 were recruited on an open basis, a written examination was conducted, preliminary interviews were conducted based on the results, and the recommendations were forwarded to the Education Service Committee of the Public Service Commission. After the approval of the said commission, structured and practical tests are scheduled to be conducted. Officers are scheduled to be recruited in the future after the completion of those tasks. Accordingly, staff vacancies have been minimized by now.

The promotion of grades in the Teacher Educator Service is now being carried out systematically without delay. The necessary officers for the Teacher Professional Development Centers have already been placed among those officers, and the Education Service Committee of the Public Service Commission has been consulted regarding the appointment of Teacher Center Managers. The Chief Commissioner has already called for vacancies to publish the gazette notification for the interview for the appointment of Deans, Vice-Deans and Principals of Teachers' Colleges.

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පුරාණ කුලේන්දුකුමාර මිය - අනිරේක ලේකම් (පත්‍රිපත්ති ප්‍රාග්ධන පාඨ ප්‍රාග්ධන පාඨ)

ಡೇವಿಕಾ ಲಿಯನಗೆ ತಿಯ - ಇನಿರೆತ ಇಂತಹಿ (ಅಂದಿನು)

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කේ.ඩී.ඩේ. ප්‍රියංගිකා මිය - ප්‍රධානුපත්‍ර දෙපාර්තමේන්තු (ප්‍රධානුපත්‍ර දෙපාර්තමේන්තු)

“පාසල් පද්ධතියේ දැනට ක්‍රියාත්මක වන පාසල් අතුරින් කෝරාගත් පාසල් ජාතික පාසල් ලෙස වැඩිදියුණු කිරීම තුළින් ජාතික පාසල් සංඛ්‍යාව 1000ක් දක්වා ඉහළ නැංවීම” පිළිබඳ විමර්ශන කිරීමේ ක්‍රම්ව

2025.07.23 දින පාර්ලිමේන්තුවේ පැවති රාජ්‍ය හිඹුම් කාරක සභා (COPA) කම්ටු රස්වීමේ දී ඉහත ව්‍යාපෘතියට අදාළව සැලසුම් සකස් කිරීම, පාසල් තෝරා ගැනීම, එම පාසල්වලට මුදල් වැය කිරීම සම්බන්ධයෙන් විමර්ශනයක් කර එහි වාර්තාවක් මාස 3ක් ඇතුළත රාජ්‍ය හිඹුම් කාරක සභා (COPA) කම්ටුවට ඉදිරිපත් කරන ලෙස දන්වන ලදී.

02. ඒ අනුව, ඉහත විමර්ශන කාර්යය සඳහා පිහිටුවන ලද පහත සඳහන් කමිටුවේ සාමාජිකයෙකු වශයෙන් ඔබ පත් කර ඇති බව කාරුණිකව දැන්වමි

1. සහාපති - ඒ.උ.ං.ංස්.ංස්. එදිරිපුරිය මයා - අනිරේක ලේකම (ආයතන)
2. සාමාජික - පුජාතා කුලේන්දුකුමාර මිය - අනිරේක ලේකම (ප්‍රතිපත්ති, සැලපුම හා කාර්යසාධන සමාලෝචන)
3. සාමාජික - දේවිකා ලියනගේ මිය - අනිරේක ලේකම (ප්‍රසම්පාදන)
4. සාමාජික - ඒ.ංස්.ඩී. අප්‍රත්ගේ මිය - ප්‍රධාන මූල්‍ය නිලධාරී ।
5. සාමාජික - කේ.ඒ.ංස්. ප්‍රියානිකා මිය - අධ්‍යාපන අධ්‍යක්ෂ (ප්‍රතිපත්ති හා සැලපුම)

03. මෙම විමර්ශනය සිදු කර 2025.10.03 දිනට පෙර වාර්තාවක් මා වෙත යොමු කරන ලෙස වැඩිදුටත් නොවමි

04. තවද, මෙම කාර්යය සාර්ථකව ඉටු කිරීම සඳහා ඔබ විසින් දක්වනු ලබන සහයෝගය යා සක්‍රීය දායකත්වය බෙහෙවින් ඇගය කුත්ති

0/C නාලක කුරුඹුව
ලේකම්



உதவ யோத்து
எனது இலை
My Ref } ED/3/37/01/122/COPA

نیو ڈیکٹ ریجیٹ
2. مکانی ڈیکٹ
Your Ref. }.

ଦିନାବ
ତଥାତି } 2025.09. ୧୩
Date }

ඒ.ඒ.එස්.එස්. එදිරිපුරය මයා - අතිරේක ලේකම (ආයතන)

ಡೇವಿಕಾ ಲಿಯನಗೆ ತೀಯ - ಅನ್ನಿರೆಕು ರೇಳುತ್ತಿರು (ಸ್ಟ್ರಿಪ್ಪ್ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಣೆ)

ඒ.ඒ.ඩී. දෙශ්‍රේගේ මිය - ප්‍රධාන මිත්‍ය මිත්‍ය ප්‍රධාන මිත්‍ය

කේ.ඩී.ඩේ. පිළුම්ගිකා මිය - ඇඩුවාපන ඇඩුව්ස් (ප්‍රධාන් විද්‍යාලය)

“පාසල් පද්ධතියේ දැනට ක්‍රියාත්මක වන පාසල් අතුරින් කෝරාගත් පාසල් ජාතික පාසල් ලෙස වැඩිදියුණු කිරීම තුළින් ජාතික පාසල් සංඛ්‍යාව 1000ක් දක්වා ඉහළ තැබුම්” පිළිබඳ විමර්ශන කිරීමේ ක්‍රමව

උක්ත කරුණ සම්බන්ධයෙන් මාගේ සමාංක හා 2025.08.27 දිනැති ලිපිය හා බැඳේ.

02. ඒ අනුව රාජු ශිල්ම කාරක සභාවේ උපදෙස් පරිදි උක්ත ලිපියේ සඳහන් ජාතික පාසල් ය. බුද්ධාව 1000ක් දක්වා ඉහළ නැංවීමේ වැඩසටහන පිළිබඳ සිදු කරන විමර්ශනයට අමතරව එවකට පැවත් අධ්‍යාපනයේවා රාජු අමාත්‍යාංශය විසින් ක්‍රියාත්මක කරන ලද, විගණකාධිපතිවරයා විසින් කරුණු විමසා ඇති මෙහි ඇමුණුම 01 හි සඳහන් ව්‍යාපානි 72ක සම්බන්ධයෙන් පුරණ විමර්ශනයක් සිදු කර මාස තුනක් ඇතුළත රාජු ශිල්ම කාරක සභාවට වාර්තා කරන ලෙස දන්වා ඇත.

03. මෙම විමර්ශනය කැඩිනාමින් පිදු කර මා වෙත යොමු කරන ලෙස කාරුණිකව දක්වමි. තවද, මෙම කාර්යය සාර්ථකව ඉටු කිරීම සඳහා ඔබ විසින් දක්වනු ලබන සහයෝගය හා ස්ක්‍රීය ආයකන්වය බෙහෙවින් අගය කරමි.

010

නාලක කුවාව
දේශම



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Memo

To : Chief Financial Officer
By : Deputy Secretary General
Date : 22/07/2025
My number : U /04/ FIN/58-(Sub)
Subject : Compensation for the abolition of the position of an official who have served at the UNESCO Permanent Representation Office in Paris, France.

Creation of the position of UNESCO Coordinator at the Permanent Representation of UNESCO in France.

01. In accordance with the decision taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 04th October 2006 in relation to the Cabinet Memorandum No. CM/ 06/1486/229/ 087 presented by the Minister of Education on 10-08-2006, approval has been received to the Sri Lankan Ambassador to France to create the post of Assistant to the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to UNESCO on a remuneration as stated in the Memorandum. (Annexure 1-A, 1-B)

Further , as per the observations of the Ministry of Finance and Planning dated 13/09/2006, it has been proposed that if it is necessary to create the said post, it is appropriate to refer the request to the General Treasury for approval. (Annexure 2)

However, it was observed that the UNESCO branch does not have any documents relevant to the further steps taken in this regard.

02. Further, having been considered the Cabinet Proposal No. 17/0946/742/016 dated 28-04-2017 presented by the Minister of Education on the subject of amending the salary and designation of the post of Staff Assistant in the Permanent Representative Office of Sri Lanka to UNESCO, Cabinet Approval has been granted by the Cabinet Decision dated 18-07-2017 to amend the said post as Coordinating Officer. (Annexure 3- A , 3 -B). It has also been instructed to obtain the recommendations of the National Salaries and Cadre Commission and determine the salary scale applicable to the said post. Accordingly, the National Salaries and Cadre Commission, by its letter dated 27/10/2017, has recommended the payment of a monthly salary of (Euro 2200) inclusive of all allowances for the post of Coordinator in the Permanent Representative Office in Sri Lanka. (Annexure - 4)

However, the Department of Management Services has informed by the letter dated 2016/04/27 that the post of Coordinator at the UNESCO Permanent Representation Office in France, impossible to be approved. (Annexure 5)

03. However, Ms. Dilum Gunawardena was appointed as the UNESCO Coordinator at the Permanent Representative Office of UNESCO in France in 2006. National Audit Office has made an enquiry on 07th of February 2020 on the appointment of this officer and the payment of salary in this regard. Secretary to the Ministry of Education has taken steps to terminate the service of the Coordinator Officer after the service on the date of 31.12.2021 , and this has also been notified to the Ambassador in Paris, France by the letter No. U/04/FIN/58 and dated 25.01.2022 . Once again, the National Audit Office has made an enquiry on 07th of September 2020. Thereafter, again, the National Audit Office has made another enquiry on 22nd of February 2022.

While this investigation had been underway, Ms. Dilum Gunawardena, who was serving as the Coordinator at the Sri Lankan Embassy in Paris, France, has informed to the Secretary of the Ministry of Education by the her Excellency, Ambassador , that legal actions are scheduled to be taken by her through her law firm on the suspension of her position on 05-05-2022 and subsequently seeking compensation for her thereof. The necessary documents have been handed over to the Legal Officer of the Ministry as per the instructions of the Secretary of the Ministry of Education to take actions lawfully in this regard. In the meantime, the Legal Officer of the Permanent Representative in Paris enquired and subsequently, has sent an uncertified note dated 2022-09-15.

04 . Following the submission of the Cabinet Memorandum by the Minister of Education, in respect of the case filed in the French Court by UNESCO Coordinating Officer Dilum Gunawardena by seeking compensation for the suspension of her position, the relevant compensation amount has been released to the Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to pay to Ms. Dilum Gunawardena through the French Embassy.

05. Accordingly, provisions have been released for the payment of compensation under the UNESCO Sri Lanka National Commission Expenditure Head 126-01-02-14-1508.

Professor Prabath Jayasinghe
Secretary General