

Submission of observations of the Hon. Minister in charge of the institutions and steps taken with regard to the reports tabled by the Committee on Public Enterprises in terms of Standing Order No. 120(4)

Committee directive / Recommendation		Measures taken to implement the recommendations / directives
01. Vision and Mission		The existing Vision and Mission approved by the Sri Jayawardanepura General Hospital Board are as follows. <u>Vision,</u> “To be the best healthcare provider in Sri Lanka.” <u>Mission,</u> “Provide affordable, comprehensive, high quality, safe healthcare and develop competency in par with international standards in an ethical, friendly and compassionate atmosphere with the use of state of the art technology by a competent work force”
02. Corporate Plan		Corporate Plan prepared for the time being will be reviewed under the board approval in line with the political and policy changes and, submitted together with the action plan prepared accordingly.
03. Action Plan		A preliminary investigation is being carried out under No. MH/FS/PI/15/2025/A-175/341 to matter no. 3.1 and 3.2 and under No. MH/FS/PI/08/2025/A-164/319 to matter no. 3.3 and 3.4 Installation of the solar panels is currently in progress and, the system is scheduled to be completed and handed over by March 2026.
3.1	Improving and expanding of the electricity supply	
3.2	Connecting the equipment to the main system which were brought to protect the electrical system	Although Rs. 3,851,205.00+VAT to purchase 33 batteries for the UPS system and, Rs. 2,093,584.00+VAT to replace the Rectifier had been recommended by the Technical Evaluation Committee Report dated 12.08.2024, necessary steps to obtain a new Technical Report are being taken because above 01 year had been passed since prices were obtained,

		prices had been obtained just from one bidder and, this UPS system had been inoperative for a long time.								
3.3	Fixing a white iron door for the heart operation theatre.	Tender relevant to this had been awarded on 19.06.2025 and, the white iron door is being prepared.								
3.4	Reinstallation of the fire protection and detection system	Since priority had been given to carry on the other essential project using the capital grant of Rs. 500 million received by the hospital in year 2025, funds for the fire protection system were unable to allocate in this year. Therefore, it is intended to complete the fire protection system in year 2026 and include in the 2026 budget.								
6.	Tabling of the Annual Reports	Annual Report of year 2023 has already been prepared and submitted to the Parliament on 20.08.2025 Annual Report of year 2024 has also been prepared and sent for printing and, will be submitted to the Parliament once it is printed.								
7.	Failure to submit answers to the audit queries	11 Audit queries to be answered by 15.05.2025 were answered and, sent to the government audit division. Special attention on this matter will be drawn and necessary instructions to prevent from such delays have been given to the officers.								
8.	Board Meetings	Frequency of participation by the Director General of Health Services to the board meetings of Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital Board in years 2022, 2023 and 2024 is submitted below.								
I. To ascertain whether Director General of Health Services had been attended the board meetings in year 2022 and, submit those information to the Auditor General.		<table><tr><td>Year</td><td>Participation of the Director General of Health Services</td></tr><tr><td>2022</td><td>Had not been attended</td></tr><tr><td>2023</td><td>03</td></tr><tr><td>2024</td><td>07</td></tr></table>	Year	Participation of the Director General of Health Services	2022	Had not been attended	2023	03	2024	07
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II. Organizing board meetings in a manner enabling all board member to participate in the decision-making process.

Board meetings were held on Thursday of the last week of every month as existed in early times (as a tradition). The Committee on Public Enterprises questioned the Director General of Health at its meeting held on 15.05.2025 about his minimum participation for the board meetings and he stated that he is too busy on the date schedule for the board meeting (Thursday of the last week of every month) and difficult to participate, but participate whenever possible. Accordingly, the Committee on Public Enterprises instructed to fix a date convenience to the Director General of Health enabling him to participate the board meetings, on the consent of board members too.

Board meetings were scheduled on the Thursday of the last week of every month as existed from early times (as a tradition).

Accordingly, date for the 494th board meeting of May and, 495th board meeting of June were fixed after inquiring all board members via e-mails and on their consent. Accordingly, the board meetings had been held at 4.00 pm. at the consent of all board members.

Accordingly, dates for the board meetings will be fixed ensuring maximum participation of the board members through asking them, on which date of the last week of every month they are able to participate.

Also, board meetings are organized to be held at 4.00 pm. on the relevant day of every month and, in the event of the time needed to be changed on the special notice of the Chairman or a board member, arrangements will be made for same upon obtaining consent of the board members.

III. Keeping accurate records of participation of the board members in board meetings.

A register of signatures is available to confirm the attendance of every board member, including Chairman who attend the board meetings and, signatures are obtained from all board members who attend on date of the board meeting is held.

In some cases, when board meeting are held via Zoom technology, participation is noted down in the attendance register to confirm the participation and, recorded in opposite of the respective board member's name which is relevant to the signature. Signatures are also obtained to the register of signatures containing the cheque numbers when paying the sitting allowance for the participation of the board meetings which is maintained by the Accounts Division.

IV. When signing the minutes of board meetings, the Board of Directors shall ensure that the meeting minutes contain accurate and truthful information and verify that the matters discussed at the relevant board meeting are included in the minutes, before signing them.	Board members have already been made aware of the recommendations issued by the Committee on Public Enterprises at its meeting held on 15.05.2025.
10. Recruitment for positions without approval of the Department of Management Services.	A preliminary investigation being carried out under No. MH/FS/PI/22/2025/A-168/323 regarding this entire process.
I. To conduct a formal investigation into this entire process, take disciplinary action against all responsible officers and, submit a report to the Committee and, the Auditor General on the disciplinary action taken.	
II. In appointing officers who possess responsible knowledge and experience and, preliminary investigation boards, formal disciplinary investigation boards and investigation boards to conduct investigations under the Financial Regulation 104 (1) and, considering the punishment given to the responsible officers according to the investigation reports and, the offense committed as well.	Similarly, the relevant departments have been informed to appoint responsible officers who possess knowledge and experience when appointing future preliminary investigation boards, formal disciplinary investigation boards and investigation boards to conduct investigations under the Financial Regulation 104 (1) and, to consider the punishment given to the responsible officers according to the investigation reports and, the offenses committed as well.
III. To submit a report to the Committee and the Auditor General stating that who prepared the Cabinet Memorandum in this regard, matters discussed by the board members about the facts contained in this Cabinet Memorandum and, who	As preliminary investigation into the entire process is presently in progress in accordance with the recommendations given, this matter will also be considered and, I will reply on this matter by end of the investigation.

prepared this document considering the contradictions on the matters contained herein and, the inconsistent matters and, truth and falsehood of the matters contained and, find out the truth and falsehood of the document.	
11. Post of Laundry Supervisor	As per the board decision No. 493:07.9 taken at the board meeting held on 29.04.2025, since the hospital no longer requires the post of Laundry Supervisor, it was decided to terminate his services with immediate effect and, pay salary arrears as per the court's instructions and, action has been taken as per the board decision. (Annexure No. 01)
13. Irregularities in allowance payments and recruitment procedures	
I. Conducting a formal investigation into the irregularities in the financial management of Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital Board, administrative weaknesses and, all circumstances that do not contribute to the improvement of the hospital.	A preliminary investigation is carried out under No. MH/FS/PI/30/2025/A-166/321 for this purpose.
II. To ascertain whether recruitment procedures for all relevant posts in Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital Board are available, prepare recruitment procedures for the posts to which don't have, submit them to the Department of Management Services and obtain approval.	Recruitment procedures for all relevant posts have been prepared and sent to the Department of Management Services on 13.09.2025 together with recommendations of the Ministry of Health.
III. To Investigate all illegal payments and correct them.	A preliminary investigation is presently in progress in accordance with the recommendations issued.

IV. To conduct a formal investigation into all processes relevant to the appointment, salary payments and, proper attachment of employees of this institution.	V. To take a proper and correct decision on the posts recruited without approval of the Department of Management Services.	Salaries are converted and paid to those officers who were recruited with the approval of the Department of Management Services in accordance with the Management Services Circular No. 07/2025. In addition to that, overtime allowances are paid based on the salary scales described in the Circular No. 07/2025 aforesaid. Letters requesting the rates applicable to Sri Jayawardanapura General Hospital for the additional duty allowances of Medical, Nursing, Supplementary and Para Medical staff had been sent to the Department of Management Services through Secretary to the Ministry of Health and, steps to pay the additional duty allowances of Medical, Nursing, Supplementary and Para Medical Staff are being taken in accordance with the Letter No. DMS/1758/Jaya.Hos/2023 Vol.I dated 19.07.2025 sent to the Secretary to the Ministry of Health by the Director General of Management Services.
VI. To investigate and recover the allowances (if any) paid to employees of Sri Jayawardenapura General Hospital Board that are not legally entitled to them.	My letter even No. SJ/EB/PF/11096/2021 dated 02.07.2025 has been sent to the Director of Colombo North Teaching Hospital, Ragama informing to recover the illegal payment of Rs. 2,058,228/- which had been paid to the former officer who held the position of Deputy Director General, from his salary with immediate effect. Accordingly, instructions have been given to the Director of Colombo North Teaching Hospital to take immediate steps to recover this amount which has been paid without proper approval. (Annexure No. 02)	Salaries are converted and paid to those officers whom were recruited with the approval of the Department of Management Services in accordance with the Management Services Circular 07/2025. In addition to that, overtime allowances are paid based on the salary scales described in the Circular No. 07/2025 aforesaid. Letters requesting the rates applicable to Sri Jayawardanapura General Hospital for the additional duty allowances of Medical, Nursing, Supplementary and Para Medical staff had been sent to the Department of Management Services through Secretary to the Ministry of Health. Accordingly, steps to pay the additional duty allowances of Medical, Nursing, Supplementary and Para Medical Staff are being taken in accordance with the Letter No.

DMS/1758/Jaya.Hos/2023 Vol.I dated 19.07.2025 sent to the Secretary to the Ministry of Health by the Director General of Management Services.	
VIII. To investigate on the cases of non-collection of dues from employees and take steps to recover them.	Necessary steps to recover the dues from employees have been taken. Accordingly, Chairman of Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital has been instructed to submit the progress of the relevant charges, on quarterly basis. (Annexure No. 03)
16. Future management model of the hospital	According to the cabinet decision on the recommendations contained in the review report on government-owned non-commercial institutions, "It has been confirmed that the management structure of Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital is unsuccessful, and that a thorough study should be made on the capacity, status of services, management and future plans of both the Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital and Vijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital and that both these hospitals should be brought into a position to provide quality services under one administrative mechanism or under a suitable business model that can efficiently utilize the existing resources" the Ministry of Health has appointed an committee of experts consists of 06 officers to carry out the relevant work in this regard. According to the decision of said committee and prior to issue the final report, calculation of the cost of the services provided by Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital and Vijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital and preparing a report has been assigned to a Professor of the Department of Economic Studies of the University of Colombo who is member of the Committee aforesaid. Further action in this regard is due to be taken upon receipt of the reports aforesaid
19. Development of an Electronic Document Management System for the Boards of Directors	
I. Submission of the formal disciplinary investigation report to the Committee.	Had been referred by Annexure 04

II. To investigate about the formal disciplinary investigation committee and, reconsider whether the punishment given is adequate and take appropriate action.	Observations and recommendations issued by the Health Services Committee of the Public Service Commission to reconsider on taking appropriate measures after reconsidering on the adequacy of the punishment given upon ascertaining about the formal disciplinary investigating committee is submitted by Annexure 05.
III. To take necessary steps to appoint responsible officers who possess knowledge and experience when appointing preliminary investigation boards, formal disciplinary investigation boards and investigation boards to conduct investigations under the Financial Regulation 104 (1) and, steps will be taken in future to punish the responsible officers according to the investigating reports, considering the offense committed.	Responsible officers who possess knowledge and experience have been appointed when appointing the preliminary investigation boards, formal disciplinary investigation boards and investigation boards to conduct investigations under the Financial Regulation 104 (1) and, steps will be taken in future to punish the responsible officers according to the investigating reports, considering the offense committed.
20. Expiring of 80% out of the surgical materials purchased for the Neurosurgery Unit spending Rs. 4.12 million without being used. According to the report containing recommendations submitted by the Chief Accounting Officer, despite it had been stated that all officers including management of the hospital involved the matter aforesaid are collectively responsible, the investigation report issued according to the F.R. 104 (1) states that the officers are not directly responsible on the loss occurred to the government so that the contradiction arisen through above must be ascertained and corrected.	A preliminary investigation is carried out under No. MH/FS/PI/07/2025/A-322/632 to investigate the discrepancies in reports No. FIB/06/2018 and dated 2018.05.19 and No. ETR/Inq.SJP/012024 and dated 2025.03.... relating to the investigations conducted by the Internal Audit Division of the Ministry of Health.

21. Renovation of 50 ward rooms including 04 paying ward rooms as special rooms (Family rooms) of Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital.	Has submitted by Annexure 06																					
1. Submission of all reports relevant to the tender and, the Technical Evaluation on the purchasing of Televisions.																						
II. Fixing and using of all televisions and, conducting the site inspection on that and, submission of a report to the Committee and, the Auditor General within one week.	04 Nos. LG UHD 43” Televisions 04 Nos. of LG UHD 43” televisions had been received by the hospital and, following matters were observed at the site inspection carried out on 26.08.2025, on that matter. <table><tr><th>Place</th><th>Qty.</th><th>Present Status</th></tr><tr><td>Ward No. 04</td><td>02</td><td>Fixed and in use.</td></tr><tr><td>Ward No. 05</td><td>02</td><td>01 has been fixed and in use. Construction works of 508 rooms is in progress and, these televisions will be fixed and used once the construction works are completed.</td></tr></table> 25 Nos. Singer UHD 43” Televisions 25 Nos. of Singer UHD 43” televisions had been received by the hospital and, 10 out of above had been returned to the Supplier on 24.05.2025, on a board decision (Annexure No. 07). Following matters on the remaining 15 Nos. of televisions were observed at the site inspection carried out on 26.08.2025. <table><tr><th>Place</th><th>Qty.</th><th>Present status</th></tr><tr><td>Ward No. 03</td><td>09</td><td>Fixed and in use</td></tr><tr><td>Ward No. 04</td><td>04</td><td>Fixed and in use</td></tr><tr><td>Ward No. 05</td><td>02</td><td>Fixed and in use</td></tr></table>	Place	Qty.	Present Status	Ward No. 04	02	Fixed and in use.	Ward No. 05	02	01 has been fixed and in use. Construction works of 508 rooms is in progress and, these televisions will be fixed and used once the construction works are completed.	Place	Qty.	Present status	Ward No. 03	09	Fixed and in use	Ward No. 04	04	Fixed and in use	Ward No. 05	02	Fixed and in use
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	Steps have been taken to deduct the amount of Rs. 1,054,439.98 which is the value of the 10 televisions returned to the supplier, from the amount due to said institution. (Annexure No. 08)
22. Recruitments had been made in year 2024 for Sri Jayawardanapura General Hospital within election period against the recruitment procedure. To conduct a formal investigation into this entire process, take disciplinary action against all responsible officers and, submit a report to the Committee and the Auditor General within 01 month, on the disciplinary action taken.	A preliminary investigation being carried out under No. MH/FS/PI/22/2025/A-168/323 regarding this entire process.
24. Issues regarding Local Purchase of Meropenem Drug	
I. To conduct a clinical evaluation and purchase these drugs.	An investigation committee consists of 03 members has presently been appointed to investigate this entire process. 1. Dr. Dhammika Alahapperuma – Deputy Director (Acting) 2. Mr. Lalith Balasooriya – Chief Accountant (Acting) 3. Mrs. Ruwanthika Gunwardhana – (Secretary to the Board of Directors and Legal Officer) It is expected that disciplinary action will be taken upon receipt of the investigation report aforesaid by the Board of Directors.
II. To conduct a formal investigation into these activities and, take necessary action to correct such situations with without delay.	

20. Newspaper report published on the allergic of a drug vaccine.	Eight (08) complaints were discussed at the Complaints Management Committee held on 22.05.2025. Steps had been taken to call for observation reports from the officers concerned with the complaints and, 4 relevant reply letters have been received by 2025.06.15 and, the recommendations relevant to that will be issued at the forthcoming committee meeting. I further inform you that steps will be taken to expedite the investigation on these complaints, in terms of the recommendations issued by the Committee.
I. To expedite the works of the Complaints Investigation Committee, inform them in writing that the relevant investigation has been initiated forthwith upon receipt of the public complaints, the date on which the investigation will be completed and a decision supposed to be delivered.	Necessary records have already been maintained and, board approval together with the assistance of a Management Assistant to work on that have also been obtained. I further inform you that steps will be taken to implement the recommendations issued in a manner that will safeguard the reputation of the hospital.
II. To carry on the necessary activities to manage the public complaints in a manner that does not harm the reputation of the hospital, making constant supervision and to keeping records thereof.	Report prepared by the Hospital Complaints Management Committee regarding the complaint made by Mr. A.D. Gamini Thilakasiri has been referred to the board meeting held on 07.08.2025 and, the Board of Directors has been decided that he cannot be refunded. The relevant committee report has been referred by Annexure No. 09.
III. Taking steps to correct the media reports that are detrimental to the reputation of the hospital.	31 complaints have been received by the Complaints Management Committee from 07.11.2024 to date. 04 complaints out of that were received very recently and, those complaints will also be referred to the Committee and, steps will be taken to obtain the Committee's recommendations as soon as possible.
26. Professional Fees and Hospital Revenue To prepare a specific and formal system for all these payments and, inform the Committee and the Auditor General about those systems within 02 months.	Board of Directors had been made aware of the recovery of 0.15% on the professional charges as the hospital service charges at its meeting held on 29.04.2024 and after a lengthy discussion on that matter, the Board of Directors had been decided to maintain the same figure according to the board decision No. 49.:05.2 Board decision bearing No. 493:05.2 is a decision taken by the existing Board of Directors at its meeting held on 29.04.2025.

27. Engaging in the private service within the hospital and charging of professional fees for that. Arranging a specific and formal method for all these payments and, making aware of the Committee and the Auditor General on the methods aforesaid, within 02 months.	Although the relevant service fee is charged as a management expense through professional fees, other expenses incurred for this are charged from the patient and, a profit margin of 30% is charged by the hospital for that (Annexure No. 11). Board of Directors has taken a decision that responsibility of the patients relevant to the external specialists should be under supervision of the specialists in the hospital and, necessary measures are being taken accordingly. (Annexure No. 12)
29. Exemption of the patient's hospital bills from payments Submission of the report on exemption of the patients' hospital bills from payments promptly, upon finalizing of the investigation carried out on that matter by the ministry.	A preliminary investigation is being conducted under No. MH/FS/PI/22/2024/A-46/84
30. Collection of monies due from those patients who left the hospital without paying their hospital bills. To investigate on this matter and take immediate action to collect the relevant charges and, make aware of the Committee and the Auditor General with regard to that.	Balances receivable from the hospital staff which exists in the Covid balance had been recovered from their July salary (Annexure No. 13) Rs. 674,134.60 receivable from the hospital employees exist in the debtor balances amounting to Rs. 05 million under the outstanding debtors stays within the Covid balance of 23 million had already been recovered from their salary and, removed from the system (Annexure No. 14). Retired officers (who must pay) have been made aware of by letters and, the free medical treatments offered them have been stopped until the monies aforesaid are paid. 86 Bedhead tickets to determine on the measures to be taken in respect of other balances had been requested from the medical reports division and, 29 bedhead tickets out of that have presently been received and, prepared a report after inspecting them. Further action will be taken once the remaining bedhead files are received and inspected.

31. Free Treatment Policy

To take immediate action to arrange a specific policy and method to provide these services and, making aware of the Committee and the Auditor General with regard to that.

It has been decided to work on this matter complying with the government policies.

Note - All the annexes mentioned herein have been forwarded to the Secretary of the Committee on Public Enterprises and the Auditor General along with the reply sent to inform progress in implementing the Directives /recommendations made at the Committee on Public Enterprises held on 15.05.2025.

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Dr. Nalinda Jayatissa

Minister of Health and Mass Media.

Dr. Nalinda Jayatissa (M.P)
Minister of Health & Mass Media

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