



Annual Performance Report 2025

Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources



Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources
Maligawatta, Colombo -10

Performance report 2025

Vote No: 290

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Chapter 01. Institutional Profile

1.1. Introduction

The main responsibilities of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, which is coming under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries, are to implement the Fisheries (Foreign Fishing Vessels) Act No. 59 of 1979, the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996 and the regulations made thereunder, and also manage and regulate the fisheries industry by introducing amendments and new regulations to be made in compliance with current trends and international maritime laws and conventions.

Similarly, introducing new technology for the development of the fisheries industry, improving the infrastructure needed to minimize post-harvest losses, improving the standard and quality of fish products for export and local consumption, and empowerment of fishermen and fisherwomen for upgrading socio-economic status of fisher households are also included in the tasks of top priority.

1.2. Vision, mission and purpose of the organization

Vision

Making optimal contribution to the national economy by strengthening socio-economic status of the fisher community while maintaining the sustainability in fisheries and aquatic resources.

Mission

Management of fisheries and aquatic resources by adopting new technological methods in accordance with the national and international maritime laws and conventions to make an effective contribution towards the Sri Lankan economy through sustainable development in the fisheries industry.

1.2.1. Objectives

- Management, regularization, conservation and sustainable development in fishing activities in compliance with local and international maritime laws and conventions.
- Encouraging local and foreign investment in the fisheries sector.
- Introduction of new technology for exploiting fishery resources in local and international waters.
- Improving socio-economic status of the fisher community.
- Ensuring the quality and hygiene of exporting fish products in keeping with the international standards.
- Minimizing post-harvest losses and improving the quality of local fish products.

- Ensuring that fishing operations are conducted in accordance with international statutes and regional conventions
- Implementation of port services in accordance with the Implementation of Port State Measures Regulations
- Monitoring the fishing operations and ensuring the safety of fishing vessels at High Seas
- To provide optimum service to the fishermen and the other clients via online platform using information technology
- Enabling to obtain data on the fisheries sector quickly and accurately via online using information technology.

1.3. Main Functions

- Formulation, imposition, updating and implementation of Fisheries Operations Regulations.
- Formulation, imposition, updating and implementation of Fisheries Management Regulations.
- Formulation, imposition, updating and implementation of Aquaculture Management Regulations.
- Registration of fishing vessels and issuance of fishing operations licences.
- Issue of permits for the export of live fish.
- Issue of fish landing permits for foreign fishing vessels.
- Improving awareness on fisheries management among the fisher families.
- Coordination of institutional credit facilities for obtaining capital goods.
- Registration, regulation and supervision of boat building companies.
- Registration, regulation and supervision of fisheries input suppliers.
- Providing guidance to bring the fisheries cooperative societies to an efficient level.
- Coordination and monitoring of regional fisheries organizations established under the National Fisheries Federation.
- Collection of data related to the fisheries industry.
- Repatriation of fishermen and fishing boats taken into custody by foreign countries.
- Bringing the fishermen and fishing boats stranded at sea back to Sri Lanka.
- Quality inspection of export fish.
- Registration of fish processing establishments and issue of health certificates for fish export.

- Upgrading the standard of local fish sale outlets.
- Installation of VMS devices on multiday fishing boats engaged in High Seas fishing operations.
- Providing radio communication facilities between the fishing vessels and land.
- Obtaining reports on fishing boats which are involved in border crossings
- Providing daily weather reports and weather advisories on a daily basis.
- Making aware of fishing boats based on the information given by VMS.
- Making the respective institutions aware of illegal foreign fishing vessels and fishermen.
- Taking action to provide licenses and call signs for communication purposes of fishing boats.
- Substantiation of information for insurance in case of accidents encountered by fishermen and fishing crafts.
- Taking action to save fishing boats adrift in international maritime boundaries.
- Conducting training programmes for the vocational education of the members of fisher families.
- Fisheries social security through the implementation of fishermen's insurance and pension schemes.
- Implementation of lagoon development programmes and infrastructure development in fishery villages.
- Implementation of alternative income generating programmes for fisher women.

1.4. Organization Structure

The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, which is coming under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries, is governed by a Director General. An Additional Director General has also been appointed to carry out these functions in a more effective and efficient manner. The activities of the Head Office are divided into 09 divisions considering the ease of planning, implementation and monitoring of the functions of the department.

That is,

1. Management Division
2. Development Division
3. Quality Control Division
4. Fisheries Operations Division
5. Investigation and Training Division
6. Information and Technology Division
7. Administration Division
8. Accounts Division
9. Internal Audit Division

These divisions are headed by 07 Directors, the Chief Accountant or and the Chief Internal Auditor.

There are 15 District Fisheries Offices covering the coastal districts of the Island and the activities of each district are carried out under the direction of the Deputy / Assistant Director of Fisheries of the District.

There are 149 Fisheries Inspector's Divisions in the districts covering the coastal areas. A Fisheries Inspector's Office has been established in each of these Fisheries Inspector's Divisions. Fisheries Inspector, Fisheries Social Development Assistant, Fisheries Resources Management Assistant, Development Officer and Fisheries Officer carry out all fisheries activities in these Fisheries Inspection Divisions.

Also, 18 Regional Monitoring, Controlling and Surveillance Centers have been set up in the vicinity of fisheries harbours and radio officers are deployed day and night duties at these centers. These regional MCS Centers have maintained a 24-hour radio communication contact between the fishing vessels engaged in the high seas fishing operations and the land. It also provides weather forecasts and weather advisories for vessels on a daily basis, and apart from that it provides the messages of boat owners and receives fishermen's messages. Further, all necessary arrangements will be made for distress alerts received from fishing vessels from that time until the completion of the work. All

these activities are coordinated by the Monitoring, Controlling and Surveillance Centre at the Head Office, Colombo.

In addition to the above, harbour offices have been set up at 25 fishery harbours located in 07 districts. Fisheries Inspectors and development officers carry out activities such as inspection of vessels departing the fishery harbours day and night, registration of and permitting the departure, obtaining log entries pertaining to the trip of boats arriving at the harbour, checking fish harvest accordingly, preparation of reports for the fish ready for export and providing them for the buyers, taking statements in case illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has occurred, delivering the log entries and statements taken to the Head Office via Fax or E-mail and preparation of alternative monitoring reports etc.

Monitoring all multi-day fishing vessels departing for fishing in international waters by means of satellite based technology is an integral part of the international laws and regulations. Although only the vessels having licences to operate in the international waters have been monitored since 2015, by a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), according to the above international rules and the requirement of fish export, there was a need to cover all multi-day vessels by VMS. Necessity has also emerged as a cost-effective method of detecting other non-fishing illegal activities (e.g. illegal immigration and drug trafficking) carried out by using multi-day fishing vessels.

Accordingly, a complete vessel monitoring system consisting of 4200 VMS units to fulfill the above requirement was established in the Department as a grant from the Australian Government.

The new VMS system is accessible throughout all the port offices and centrally managed by the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) located at the Head Office premises on a 24x7 basis. The facilities available at this centre can be used for identifying vessels at risk of illegal activities such as illegal fishing, human trafficking, drug trafficking and illegal border crossing. This system can also be used to provide facilities for fishing vessels in emergency situations. The Fisheries Monitoring Center has also been modernized with all modern technology and thus it can be considered as one of the most advanced Monitoring Centers in Asia today.

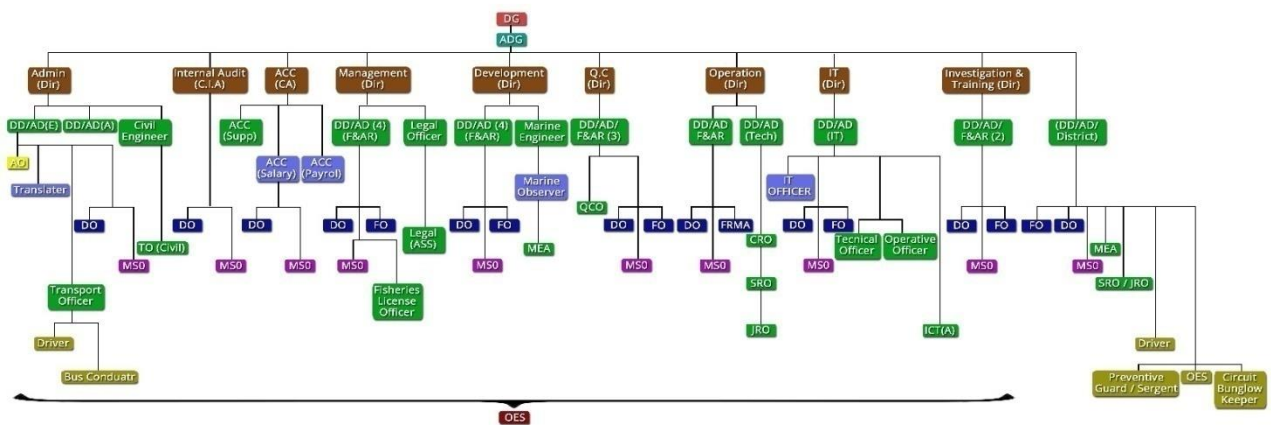
Further, a sub-office has been established at the Bandaranaike International Airport, which works in coordination with the Vessel Monitoring Unit, the Operations Division and the High Seas Units established at the fishery harbours. This office issues Catch Certificates for every fish stock in the export of fishery products, especially in the export to countries belonging to the European Union, and carries out the necessary inspections in the import of fish for the re-export of fishery products. A Quality Control Unit has been set up at the International Airport to facilitate prompt and delay-

free issuance of necessary certificates for exports by air on a daily basis and it is open throughout 24 hrs (24x7).

After verifying the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) route with the position information of each multi-day vessel arriving at land, along with the log page relevant to the said vessel and only if the same is tallied with the data of the Vessel Monitoring System, the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources will issue a verification report, certifying that the fish stock can be exported and that the vessel has legally caught the fish without engaging in any illegal fishing activities.

After the verification report is referred to the Quality Control Unit at the Katunayake Airport, the officials there will issue the Catch Certificate required for the export of fish related to the said trip of the vessel. The verification process of fish information is executed by the officers who are working on a roaster basis throughout 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24x7) at 21 Harbour Operations Offices, Vessel Monitoring Unit at Colombo Head Office, High Seas Fisheries Unit as well as Quality Control Unit at Katunayake Bandaranaike Airport. Due to this process, any fish stock brought to the Island by multi-day fishing vessels will have the opportunity to be certified as having been legally caught with reports and licences, and to direct them for export.

1.5 Organization Chart of the Department



Chapter 02- Progress and the Future Outlook

2.1 Progress of the Department in 2025

Development Division

Prime responsibility of the Fisheries Development Division is to increase fish production through development and regulation of the fisheries sector by means of efficient and introducing new environmentally friendly technological methods in order to achieve a greater contribution towards the National Economy of Sri Lanka and to take necessary steps to upgrade socio economic status of the fisher folks.

Main function of the Fisheries Development Division

- Registration, regulation and supervision of fishing boat building yards.
- Granting approvals for boat designs.
- Registration, regulation and supervision of fishing gear suppliers.
- Introduction and promotion of new technological methods to the fisheries industry.
- Granting recommendations to the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) pertaining to the construction projects in coastal areas so as not to cause obstruction to the fisheries industry.
- Development of infrastructure facilities in fisheries sector.
- Implementation of alternative income generating projects
- Implementation of fisheries subsidy schemes.
- Implementation of fisheries loan schemes.
- Ensuring social security of fishermen through the implementation of fisheries pension schemes.
- Dealing with fishermen's compensation.
- Implementation of the Diyawara Kekulu children's saving programme
- Taking necessary action to streamline the development and conservation of lagoon eco system.
- Implementation of lagoon development programmes
- Formulation and implementation of the annual action plan of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.
- Reviewing progress by coordinating all the district offices.
- Resolving special fisheries disputes

Ensuring the safety of fishermen

Activity	Progress up to 31.12.2025
Total number of fishing vessels insured	25,832
Total number of fishermen insured	12,842
Issue of seaworthiness certificates	32,990
Registration of fishing yards	48
Registration of fishing gear and equipment suppliers	17
Registration of fish bait suppliers	04
Registration of boat engine suppliers	12
Compensation for natural disasters	02
Opening the Diyawara Kekulu Children's Savings Accounts	818
Total number of Fisheries Identity Cards	1973
Total number of boat skipper licences issued	1044

The programme of reviving the fisheries industry by minimizing the impact on the fisheries sector caused by the economic crisis

Under the program of **Reviving the fisheries industry by minimizing the impact on the fisheries sector caused by the economic crisis**, an amount of Rs. 1,926,056,968.01 has been distributed among the OFRP, IMUL, I DAY, MTRB vessel owners in 15 fishing districts for the months of October, November, December 2024, and January, February and March 2025.

Improving the security at landing sites

67 beacon lights have been purchased for the project of installing beacon lights and electric lights aiming at developing infrastructure facilities in landing sites.

Furthermore, purchase of 22 additional beacon lights and electric lights has been completed, and 16 beacon light posts have also been constructed so far.

Minimizing the impact of natural disasters on the coastal fisheries industry (Infrastructure Development /2090-1-1-13-2506)

Two canals in the Puttalam district have been cleaned under the Canal/Estuary Cleaning and Development Project aiming at facilitating the passage of artisanal fishing vessels operating in the fisheries districts.

New Fishermen's Retirement and Social Security Benefit Scheme

Agricultural and Agrarian Insurance Board, the Ministry of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources, the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Sri Lanka Aquaculture Development Authority have launched a new Fishermen's Retirement and Social Security Benefit Scheme by recruiting 22 fishermen in conjunction with the World Fisheries Day.

The departmental officers have been made aware of these by conducting 05 awareness programmes covering all fisheries districts.

The program of providing 500 prefabricated housing units for the low-income fisher families in the Northern and Eastern provinces under the assistance of the Chinese Government

500 prefabricated housing units valued at Rs.750 million have been donated to the Government of Sri Lanka under the assistance of the Republic of China and these prefabricated housing units are to be distributed among the low-income fishermen engaged in active fisheries industry in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and Kalmunai. Under this programme, identifying the beneficiaries in all districts in compliance with the selection criteria has been finalized. Activities related to purchasing raw material needed for the construction of the base of prefabricated house and construction of the base are underway by now.



Batticaloa District



Kilinochchi district

Programme of providing rice subsidy for low-income fishing families in the Northern and Eastern provinces under the aid of the Chinese government -2024-2025

1,630 mt of rice worth of Rs.555.4 million donated by the government of the Republic of China has been distributed among the low income fisher families in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and Kalmunai.

Program to provide 75,000 fishing nets for the low-income fisher families in the Northern and Eastern provinces under the aid of the Chinese Government 2024-2025

No.of beneficiaries	No.of fishing nets provided
11,428	68,568

Lagoon Development

Lagoon Development Committees

Awareness programmes for fisher community on the lagoon development

Fisheries District	No.of programmes
Chilaw	4
Negombo	4
Puttalam	1
Galle	3
Kalmune	2

Fixation of lagoon demarcation posts

Fisheries District	No.of posts fixed	Cost
Puttalam	740	Rs. 1,133,870.00
Chilaw	141	Rs 176,250.00
Total Cost		Rs .1,310,120.00

Investigation and Training Division

Building better relationship between fisher community, fisheries officer and the other stakeholders.

The main objective of the Investigation Division is to implement the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996 and the regulations made thereunder to ensure the sustainable existence of the fishery resources in Sri Lanka without illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities. The Division also aims to sustainably develop the fisheries industry to contribute effectively towards the national economy of Sri Lanka through resources management in accordance with the international marine laws and conventions using new technology.

The role of the Training Division is to educate and train the fisher community, fisheries officers who regulate the fisheries industry and the other stakeholders related to the fisheries industry in order to protect the fishery resources for the future generations.

Role of the Investigation and Training Division

Investigation Division

- Formulation of annual raiding/ inspection plans
- Supervision of investigations into violation of laws identified through VMS.
- Giving approval to the District Assistant Directors for raiding of illegal fishing activities and supervision of district level inspection, raids and investigations
- Mediation activities, convening of the panel of experts for charging monetary penalties and the supervising the implementation of the method of charging monetary penalties.
- To inspect/raid fishing boatyards, fishing gear supplies and establishments supplying baits.
- Inspection and raiding of fish processing and supplying establishments.
- To inspect Radio Communication Centres and High Seas Fisheries Units.
- To serve summons to the officers to announce special investigations.
- Coordinating with the Attorney General in respect of all the raids.
- Providing information, reports sought for investigations conducted by the State Intelligence Bureaus and other institutions.

Training Unit

- Formulation of the department's annual training and awareness program plan.
- Organizing awareness programs for fishermen and stakeholders at the national and regional levels.
- To prepare courses for boat skippers and supervise skipper training programmes conducted at district levels.
- Coordination of first aid training programs for fishing boat skippers/fishermen.
- Developing the vocational education of members of fisher families, conducting alternative income generation programs and skill development programs for fisher women.
- Providing training to the students directed from universities and technical colleges for technical/internship training in the fisheries sector.
- Organizing local training and capacity development programs for all officers.
- Feedback and analysis on training programs and awareness programs
- Designing and preparing awareness-related pamphlets, booklets and videos and specifications and scripts.

Investigation and Training Division–progress up to 31.12.2025

Investigation Unit

Ser.No.	Role of the Unit	Performance Indicator	Expected Progress	Progress
1	Supervision of investigations and legal proceedings against district level raids and illegal fishing activities.	Updated data report maintained on legal matters at district level	Specific targets cannot be given.	713
2	Referral of requests from all district offices for the imposition of administrative penalties according to the relevant procedure.	Number of cases subject to administrative fines		35
3	.Conducting investigations into the suspected incidents detected by the Vessel Monitoring System	Number of investigations into the suspected incidents identified by the Vessel Monitoring System		889

4	Carrying out special raids.	Percentage of implementing the number planned raids	3	2
5	Inspections and investigations related to the fishing vessels, fishing gear, products and establishments supplying fishing baits.	1.Number of inspections	14	08
		2.Number of prosecutions	Specific targets cannot be given.	0

Training Unit

Ser.No.	Role of the Unit	Performance Indicator	Expected Target	Progress
1	Conducting awareness programmes on fisheries law and legal fishing inputs for relevant stake holders	Number of awareness programmes for stakeholders	4	13
2	Organizing training and capacity development programmes for the officers of the Department.	Number of relevant programmes made for the officers	44	35
3	Organization of fisherman awareness programmes at district level.	Number of fisherman awareness programmes conducted at district level.	58	113
4	Directing the officers of the Department to the training programs/post-graduate/diploma courses held at external institutions.	Number of training programmes conducted in coordination with the external institutions.	21	14
5	Acting as an external supervisor for imparting industrial sector training to the students of universities/technical colleges.	Number of surveys on the provision of industrial training for the students of universities/technical colleges.	Specific targets cannot be given.	0



Figure 4: Special raids into the unauthorized possession of lobsters during the closed period on lobster fishing



Figure 5: Raising awareness among relevant stakeholders about fisheries law and legal fishing practices



Figure 6: Programs held for trainee naval officers at Shiksha Naval Base, Poonawa Medawachchiya,

Information Technology Division

Objective

The main objective of this division is to implement and maintain an online application for the management of fishery resources. The main areas of focus include maintaining the department's network, implementing the online application system, handling relevant hardware, conducting extensive data analysis and reporting, and training in information technology. Similarly, the multi-day vessel monitoring system, which is in operation 24*7, will also be implemented through the division.

Principle Activities

- Implementation of departmental online application among the clients of the Department.
- Maintenance and content management of the official website of the Department.
- Officers' training on departmental online application and basic information technology.
- Introduction and implementation of dynamic reporting system.
- Maintenance of hardware system for the Department.
- Implementation of staff-based monitoring system.
- Maintenance of departmental computer hardware and software.
- Implementation of Inquiry Management System to resolve technical issues in a timely Manner.
- Turning the server system into a cloud server.
- Implementation of online disaster management system to enter disasters faced by fisher community owing to cyclone "Ditwah".
- Supervising the departmental systems and software development through IT Consultation.
- Commenced online OT system for the payment overtime allowances to the officers
- Supervising the departmental systems and software development through IT Consultation.
- Started a system for KPI (Key Performance Indicator) and a leave management system as pilot project.
- Implementation of Online Payment Portal.
- Monitoring of Document Management System (DMS), supporting and training in that behalf.
- Introduction and implementation of dynamic reporting system.
- Enhance the use of R language for data analysis.
- Implementation of staff-based monitoring system
- Maintenance of departmental computer hardware and software.
- Introducing open operating system and application.
- Training of 20 officers on R statistics.
- Introduction of the new vessel monitoring system and completion of its installation on about 4150 multi-day vessels. Making arrangements for the constant monitoring of it through the Head Office and fisheries offices.

Implementation of Departmental services through network software



Figure: MSDFAR

The departmental online application is developed to transform more than 34 manual processes of the Department into a digital process.

It includes registration of fishermen, registration of boats, collection of scientific data, etc. and many other processes. This application is operating within Cloud server system and be accessed using <http://msdfar.com>. Officer online accesses pertaining to the application have already been installed on more than 700 smart devices and have undergone several version updates. 62000 fishermen, 99 vessels (including old data), more than 31,000 boats, 7300 skippers have already been registered and more than 7000 operations licences have been issued during the year under review itself. Total number of licences issued has surpassed 15000. For the year 2024, more than 266,800 online departures were made through the online departure system. This process has been continued from the year 2021. The MSDFAR system won the gold medal as the best online application in the year 2022 from the competition of selecting public institutions that use online application and secured the second place at the competition of selecting the Public Service Best Innovating Product/Project in 2024.

Maintenance and content management of the official website of the Department

www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk



Figure: Official Website

The Information Technology Division is responsible for the maintenance and management of contents of the official website of the Department. The departmental website is updated daily and includes details of departmental proceedings. Each division and each district office of the Department has its own web page where the activities for which the section is responsible are included. Contact details of officers are available on the website and are updated regularly. Officers can access all the systems of the department through the website access. The departmental website also won the Gold Medal for Best Sinhala Website and the Merit Award for Best Government Website in the Best Web Competition in 2020.

Implementation of Inquiry Management System to resolve technical issues in a timely manner

The Inquiry Management System is implemented to resolve the issues, received by the Information Technology Division from the Head Office and district offices, in a timely manner. The issues received daily are resolved by this system promptly. Percentage of resolving the issues received by the Information Technology Division stands at about 99%.

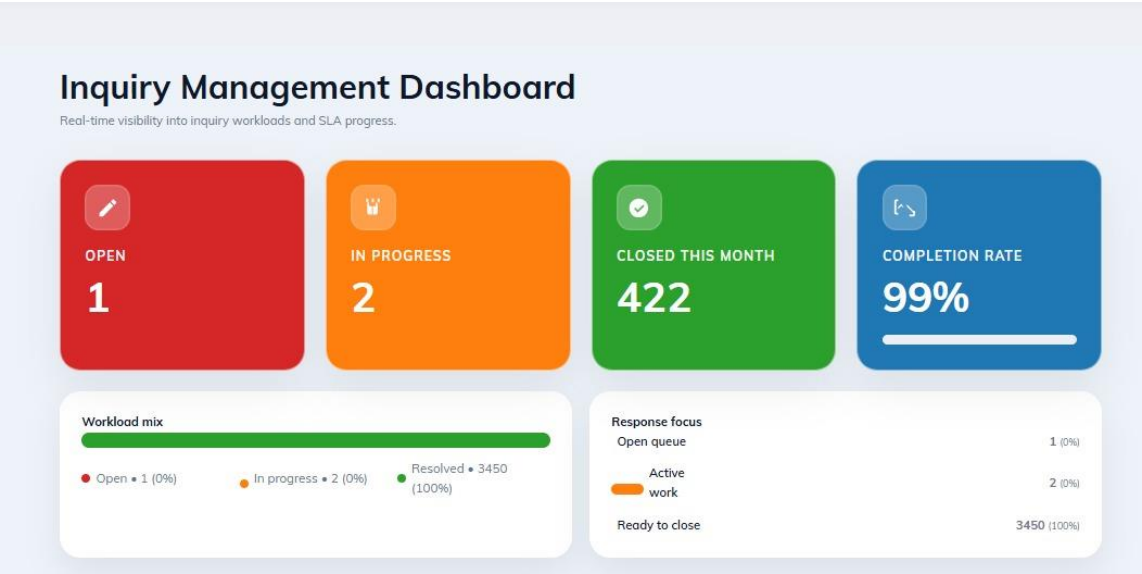


Figure: Inquiry Management System

Description of issues referred is given below.

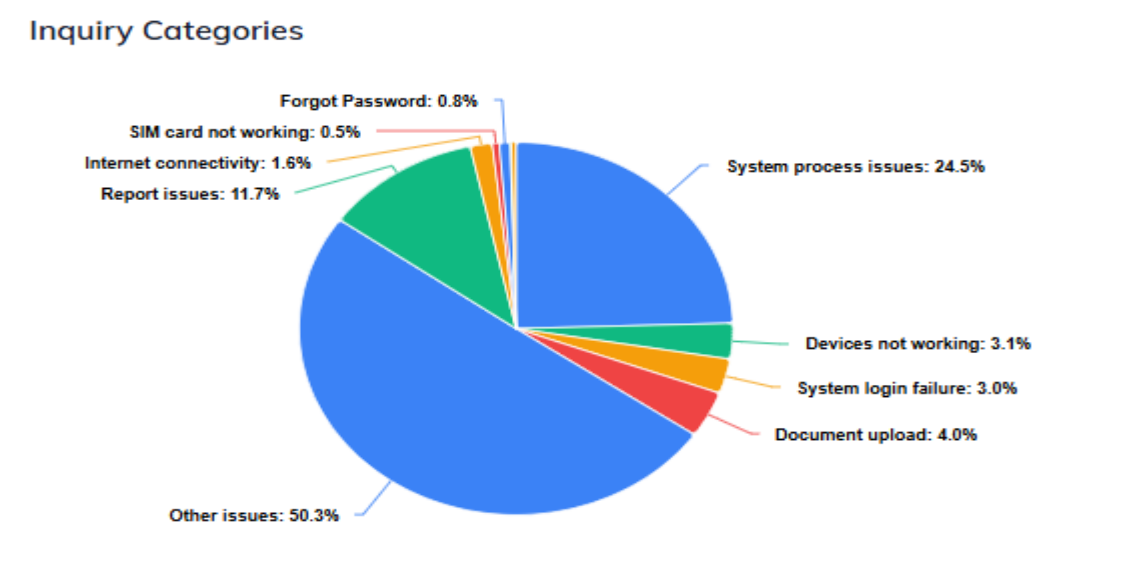


Figure: Inquiry Management System Categories

Officer Training on departmental online application.

The way as to how the online application is implemented in 15 fisheries districts is monitored separately, and the officers of our division are committed to it. In 2025, our IT officers visited the respective districts to conduct training on fisheries registration covering all 15 districts. Although the training on online systems was planned for district fisheries officers at the Head Office, only officers in 6 districts were provided with the training due to lack of infrastructure facilities. In 2026, the training is scheduled to be given to the fisheries officers in the remaining districts and the officers in the Head Office.



Implementation of an online disaster management system to enter damages that caused to the fisher community due to Cyclone “Ditwah”.

The Fisheries Disaster Management System was established by the Information Technology Division of the Department to make the government aware of the fishing vessels, boat yards, fishing gear, community centers, and equipment and buildings related to the employment of the fisher community damaged due to the Cyclone Ditwah. Through this system, data and information related to their district is entered by officers of all fisheries districts.

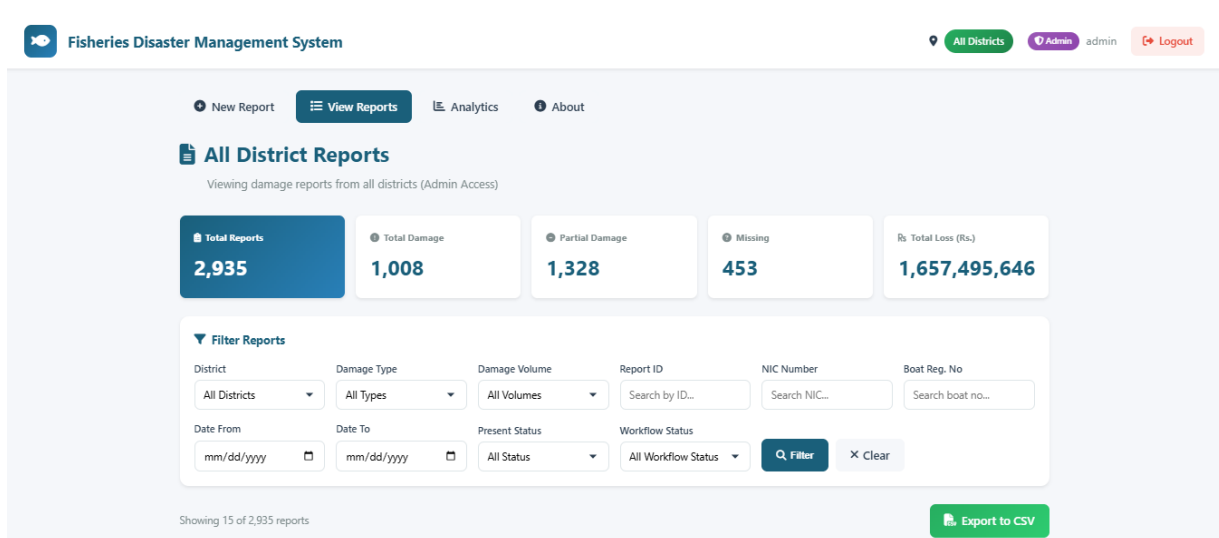


Figure: Disaster Management System

Commencement of Online Over Time Management System

The officers of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources are employed at the Head Office as well as in 15 Fisheries District Offices and Port Offices throughout Sri Lanka. To ensure that all these officers receive overtime within the relevant months, a system has been introduced by the Information Technology Department in collaboration with the Financial Division for overtime payment. Through this system, it was possible to accurately calculate the officers' overtime hours and provide the overtime allowance to the officers appropriately.

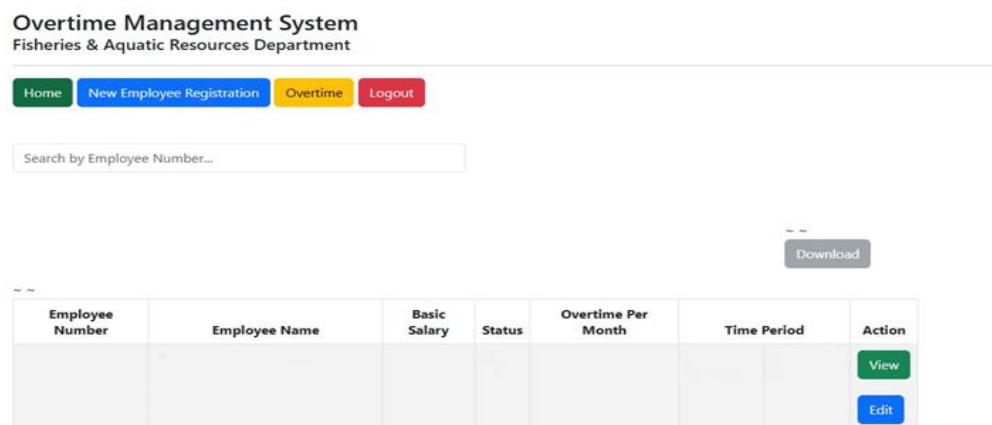


Figure: Online Overtime Management System

KPI (Key Performance Indicator) System

A KPI (Key Performance Indicator) system has been established as a pilot project to gauge the progress of the officers in the Information Technology Division in order to achieve the targets related to their duties. Accordingly, each officer was given an online login to achieve his/her own targets according to a time frame and directed to work accordingly. Due to the shortage of officers, the officers can also get feedback on the performance of the duties within the relevant time frame through this system.

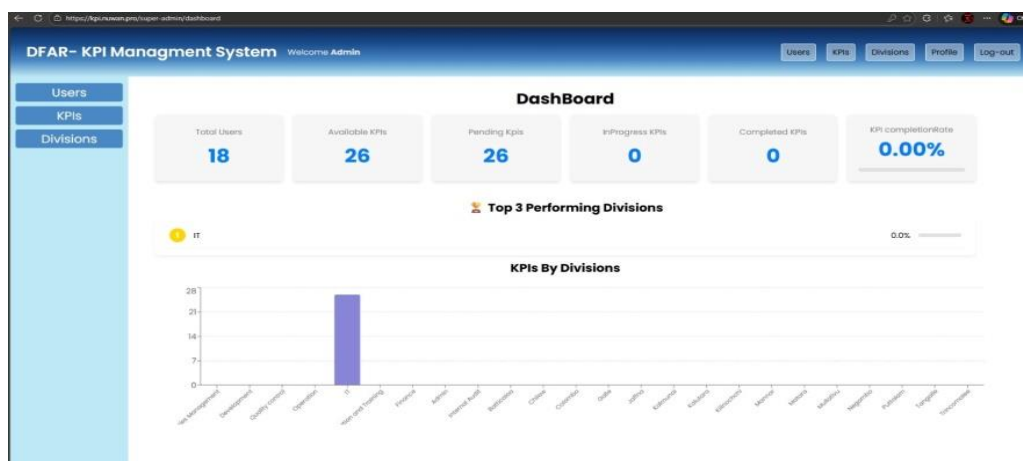


Figure: KPI (Key Performance Indicator) System

Leave Management System:

Since several systems are operated by the Information Technology Division throughout 24 hours and are accessed by various users from district and harbour Offices, it was found difficult for a limited number of officers to carry out this task. Also, in order to minimize the inconvenience caused to the employees due to the applying for leave by officers, a system for online leave management has been installed in the Information Technology Division as a pilot project. This is an online system prepared according to the General 125 format by which officers are applying for leave according to the Establishments Code.

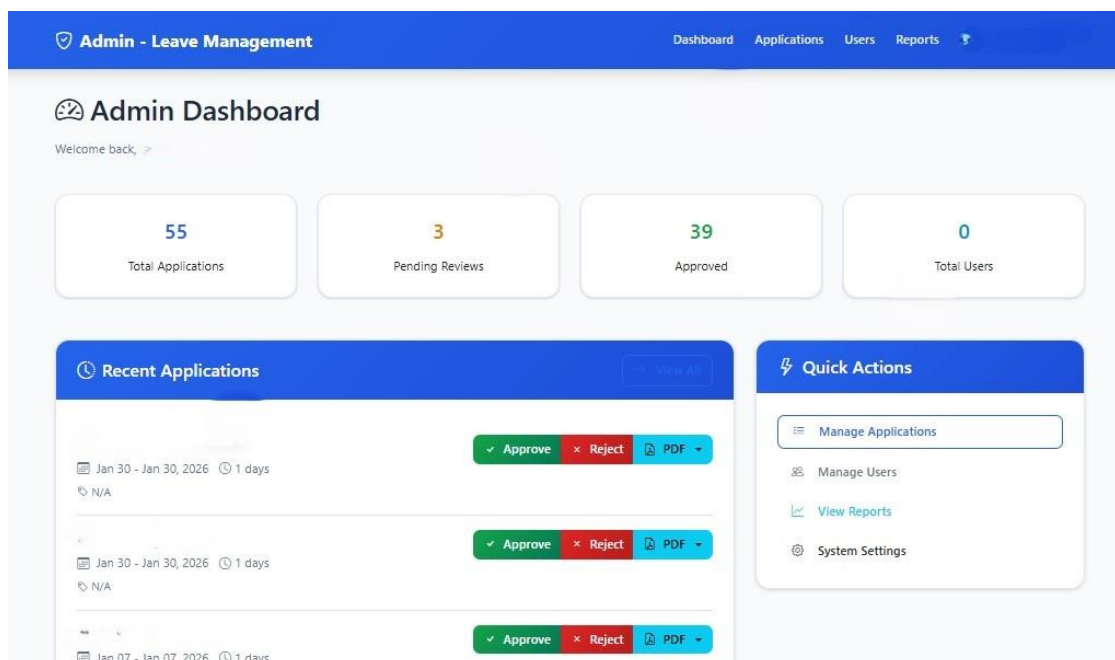
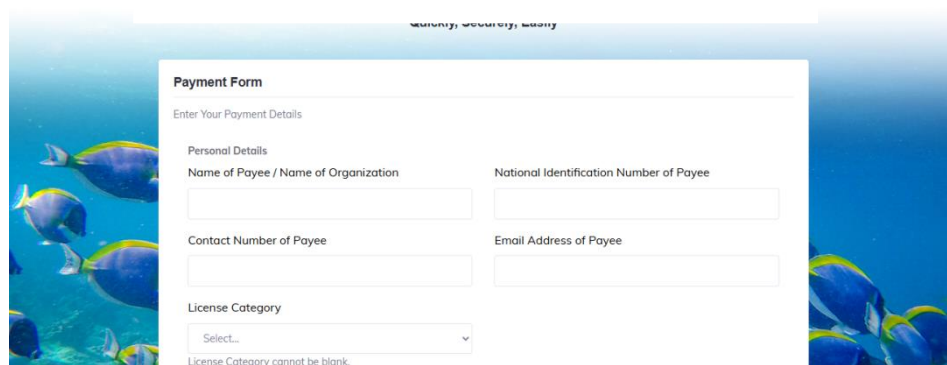


Figure: Leave Management System

Online Payment Portal

Payments have to be made to various stakeholders associated with the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources on different occasions. Since vessel owners as well as various private institutions are required to associate with the department as regards payments in this way, the Information Technology Division has established an Online Payment Portal to make payments quickly by managing the time. This system enables the payment of various licence fees, registration fees and other payments easily and safely via online.

Figure: Online Payment Portal

The image shows a screenshot of a web-based payment form titled "Payment Form". The form is set against a background of blue water with several yellow-striped snappers swimming. The form itself is a white rectangular box with a thin border. At the top of the form, it says "Payment Form" in bold, followed by "Enter Your Payment Details" in a smaller font. Below this, there is a section labeled "Personal Details". It contains four input fields: "Name of Payee / Name of Organization", "National Identification Number of Payee", "Contact Number of Payee", and "Email Address of Payee". Below these fields is a "License Category" dropdown menu with "Select..." as the current selection. At the bottom of the form, there is a small error message that reads "License Category cannot be blank." The form is centered on the page, and the background image is visible on both sides of the form box.

Fish Aggregation Device (FAD)



Fish aggregation devices are man-made floating objects designed to attract one or more target fish species. They are used as buoys or linking to the seabed. Although this method is still new to the Sri Lankan fisher community, it is a very efficient fishing method in Western countries and countries such as Indonesia, where fish is caught by means of purse seine nets or handlines.

As a quota system is set to be introduced in the future for managing fish aggregation, this is important for Sri Lanka to be a part of it. This system could be a major solution to the current problems associated with purse seine nets. After introducing management areas associated with fish aggregation devices and making them legalized, environmentally friendly hand line fishing could be promoted. Therefore, it is a timely and important policy decision to adopt an internationally accepted fish aggregation management system in Sri Lanka, taking the Maldives as a model, for the future.

Under the program of fixing fish aggregation devices, 05 aggregation devices were established in the areas of Negombo, Trincomalee, Dehiwala and Koggala, exceeding a cost of Rs. 25 million. The aggregation device set up in Koggala area has drifted away from the location it was first set up, while the other devices are operating successfully.

Management Division

Sustainable Management of Fisheries And Aquatic Resources

Fisheries management is a multi-faceted approach aimed at the sustainable use and conservation of fisheries and marine resources. It is governed by a robust regulatory framework and policies formulated in accordance with the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 2 of 1996, and licensing, regulation, enforcement and monitoring activities of it is undertaken by the Management Division of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. Community participation is encouraged through community-based management initiatives, ensuring local involvement in decision-making processes. Overall, fisheries management in Sri Lanka strives to balance socio-economic needs with environmental conservation for the benefit of present and future generations. The Management Division of this Department is responsible for carrying out the above activities and the details of the main functions of the Division are given below.

Objective

The main objective of the Division is to manage fishery resources through the regulation of fishing gear and operations, and achieve sustainable development in fisheries sector of Sri Lanka through the conservation and management of fishery resources in seas, lagoons and reservoirs with community participation.

Functions

- Formulation and implementation of fisheries regulations
- Registration of fishing vessels
- Transfer of fishing vessels (multiday boats)
- Mortgaging and redeeming fishing vessels
- Cancellation of fishing boat registration
- Issue of licences to the fishing operations at High Seas
- Issue of licences to the fishing operations at local waters
- Issue of licences to the foreign vessels for fish landing
- Issue of import, export and re-export permits for ornamental fish
- Issue of permits for catching, possession, transportation and export of beche-de-mer and lobsters
- Issue of permits for transportation and export of chanks, sea shells and shark fins, murex Chicories Ramous and sea weeds

- Issue of permits for catching, possession, transportation and export of lobsters
- Issuance of permits for export of corals grown on artificial substrates
- Issue of vessel skipper licences.
- Registration of Madel (Beach seine) harbours and owners, and issuance of permits for coastal areas and settling disputes
- Registration for the import of fish and fishery products and issue of management permits
- Registration for the export of fish and fishery products and issue of management permits
- Registration for the re-export of fish and fishery products and issue of management permits
- Allotment, approval and issuance of new vessel registration numbers
- Handling all project activities related to the financial management under foreign aid
- To prepare, maintain and report to the relevant agencies the list of vessels operating in international waters.
- Allowing local fishermen to engage in the fishing occupation in foreign countries
- Granting approval for sale and transfer of locally manufactured vessels to foreign countries
- Identifying and announcing special fisheries management areas, preparing related regulations and implementing management provisions.
- Introduction and implementation of management methods based on the results of stock survey studies on target fish species
- Implementation of the National Action Plan to prevent illegal fishing
- Monitor shark management activities and implement the National Action Plan
- Issuance of fishing licenses for recreational fishing activity
- Granting approval through ASYCUDA system for customs clearance of export fish and fishery products

The sustainable management and regularization of marine and aquatic resources is a primary task of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, and towards this end, measures are being taken to issue management licenses for fishing vessels and fishing operations and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing operations. Pertaining to the year 2025, licences have been granted up to 31.08.2025 for various fishing operations as follows.

Progress of each activity as at 31.12.2025

Ser.No	Activity	Expected Target	Progress as at 31.12.2025
1	Registration of fishing vessels (New)	2000	2895
2	Issue of High Seas fishing operations licenses	1020	1443
3	Issue of skipper licences	500	169
4	Issue of licenses for the import of ornamental fish	25	49
5	Issue of licences for the export of ornamental fish	30	42
6	Issue of licences for the re-export of ornamental fish	15	15
7	Issue of licenses for the export of spiny lobster	80	56
8	Keeping in possession, transport of spiny lobster	10	19
9	Issue of licences for transport and keeping Chanks in possession	80	58
10	Issue of permits for the export of Chanks	40	24
11	Issue of licences for taking, collecting, keeping in possession and transport of beche de-mer	200	185
12	Issue of licences for the import, export and re-export of beche de-mer	150	134
13	Issue of permits for collecting transporting of seashells and manufacture of fancy goods	20	35
14	Registration for import of fish and fishery products	200	168
15	Registration for export of fish and fishery products	150	208
16	Registration for re-export of fish and fishery products	13	15
17	Allotment, approval and issue of registration numbers for new vessels	IMUL-100	66
		OFRP-1000	1704
		MTRB-250	191
		NTRB-500	1256
18	Issue of permits for the export of murex(Operculum of <i>Chicoreusramosus</i>)	15	11
19	Issue of permits for keeping in possession, sale, exhibition and transport of murex (Operculum of <i>Chicoreusramosus</i>).	15	15
20	Issue of permits for keeping in possession, sale, exhibition and transport of murex flesh (Operculum of <i>Chicoreusramosus</i>).	30	22
21	Export permits of <i>Chicoreusramosus</i> flesh	15	15
22	Issue of permits for the transport, keeping in possession and exhibition of dead sea shells.	20	32
23	Issue of permits for the transport and export of sea weeds	8	20
24	Issue of log books	1,000	1400

National Fishing Vessel Census

The National Fishing Vessel Census planned on the need of reporting the information on fishing vessels accurately is carried out covering all the Sri Lankan Fishing Vessels under several phases. Accordingly as its first phase, the census of OFRP and MTRB with outboard engine was carried out throughout the Island-wide as from 4th August. Having completed the census of all OFRP and MTRB vessels with outboard engine at over 900 landing sites around the Island, its report has also been presented.

District	MTRB	OFRP	Total
Batticaloa	16	2364	2380
Chilaw	72	1 860	1 932
Colombo	1	601	602
Galle	360	903	1 263
Jaffna	1 141	6 412	7 553
Kalmunai	199	1 152	1 351
Kalutara	2	757	759
Kilinochchi	186	1 248	1 434
Mannar	756	3 074	3 830
Matara	444	1 112	1 556
Mullaitive	1	2 152	2 153
Negombo	18	2 039	2 057
Puttalam	329	3 679	4 008
Tangalle	253	1 147	1 400
Trincomalee	184	4 459	4 643
Total	3 962	32 959	36 921





Training on fishing equipment and gear



Three training programmes on fishing inputs and fishing gear were conducted at the Training Centre Kalawewa parallel to the fishing vessel census.

Operations Division

Providing communication facilities for the exchange of radio call signs between land and vessels.

The activities of providing communication facilities for the exchange of radio call signs between land and vessels are coordinated by the Central Operations Unit in Colombo through regional radio centers. Action has been taken to keep connection between the land and fishing vessels throughout 24 hours a day by improving communication facilities. This provides daily weather reports and early warning of inclement weather conditions to the fishing vessels and facilities are made to have essential communication between boat owners and their vessels at Sea. Necessary coordinating activities are being carried out with the Sri Lanka Navy, Coast Guard Department and the Regional Maritime Rescue Coordination Center. 18 regional radio centers are working with the Head Office Colombo for these tasks.

Regional Radio Centres are proposed to be established at the recently established fishery harbours of Milady, Dikowita, Vellamankaraya, Kalametiya and Kapparatota. Currently, the surveillance operations are being carried out in normalcy using the old radios available in the Department of Fisheries, and the need for new radios for the above fishery harbours has become dire.

Taking action to provide licences and call signs for the fishing vessels for communication purposes.

In order to comply with international rules and regulations, the provision of international call signs to fishing vessels engaged in fishing activities at the High Seas is carried out by the Telecommunication Regulatory Commission on the recommendation of the Department of Fisheries subject to the approval of the Ministry of Defence. Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Division is intervening to expedite the use of radio communication devices in fishing vessels by receiving applications from fishing vessel owners and working in collaboration with the Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.

Number of Applications

Number of applications given for the licences of radio 551 communication devices.

Substantiation of information required to claim insurance compensation in case of accidents caused to fishing vessels and fishermen.

When dealing with accidents caused to the fishing vessels and fishermen and claiming insurance compensation by them, all the communications made by the fishing vessels to the insurance agencies at the time are certified and produced by using records obtained from the regional offices and the head office.

As the Department does not possess salvage boats to rescue fishing boats and crews in distress, bring them to the land and providing them with immediate treatment, assistance of the Navy and the Coast Guard Department is sought in that behalf.

Number of Accidents

Number of technical failures and accidents reported at the High Seas	233
Deaths and disappearances at the High Seas	19
Number of fishing vessels destroyed due to accidents	05

Release and repatriation of fishermen and vessels arrested in foreign countries.

Country	Number of fishermen arrested	Number of fishing vessels arrested	Number of fishermen freed	Number of fishing vessels released
India	12	05	06	-
Maldives	65	10	65	07
Seychelles	17	03	17	-
Myanmar	-	-	-	-
Madagascar	07	01	07	-

Assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Sri Lanka's High Commission in India, Maldives, and France as well as in London is obtained for this release.

Rescue of fishing vessels which are drifting away within the sea limits of the local, international and foreign countries

Number of fishermen and fishing vessels rescued

Number of fishermen rescued	Number of fishing vessels rescued	Number of abandoned fishing vessels
1248	228	05

Measures were taken to rescue fishing boats that drifted away to the sea limits of nearby countries due to engine failures, fishing boats that were involved in accidents at sea and fishermen who fell sick at sea, by Sri Lanka Navy/Coast Guard vessels, merchant ships and fishing vessels and then rescued fishermen were immediately taken to the hospital for medical treatment.

Provision of communication facilities for small / one-day fishing vessels.

The Department entered into an agreement with the Dialog Institute and the Department of Meteorology with the aim of providing early weather advisories to the small fishing vessels and fishermen engaged in coastal fishing and preventing loss of lives. Accordingly, about 120,000 fishermen and their family members have registered in this information service by this time in the year 2025 and they are enjoying the benefits of this.

Awareness of fisher community

Although it is an essential requirement to make the fisher folks/ fishers and boat owners aware of the ways and means and instructions to be followed in distress at sea, how to obtain emergency assistance by contacting the land, the measures to be adopted to protect lives in stormy condition which occurs due to weather hazards and how to obtain radio licences, the same could not be carried out in a proper manner as a result of the economic crisis of the country.

Further, boat accidents have been on the increase owing to the rise in the use of drugs among crew members on board resulting more deaths and boat destruction. Similarly, use of fishing boats for organized illegal migration has also increased. Technical failure in a large number of fishing boats at sea have increased and especially, as these hazards have occurred near the maritime boundaries of the other countries such occurrences have to be communicated to the rescue operations centers of the said countries through the diplomatic mediation. Therefore, awareness campaigns should be conducted for boat owners to encourage them to check the boats before their departure to ensure that they are fit enough to engage in fishing operations at sea.

Number of departures given for fishing vessels that departed from each harbour

Harbour		No.of departures			Harbour	No.of departures
1	Kalpitiya	489		14	Tangalle	1816
2	Negombo	5809		15	Hambantota	1240
3	Dikowita	1215		16	Kirinda	572
4	Beruwela	6188		17	Valaichchenai	18179
5	Mabalangoda	1260		18	Trincomalee	2981
6	Hikkaduwa	995		19	Point Pedro	287
7	Galle	7343		20	Mylady	244
8	Mirissa	3372		21	Wellamankaraya	1096
9	Devinuwara	4692		22	Kapparatota	646
10	Kottegoda	1335		23	Gandara	2996
11	Nilwella	2767		24	Kalametiya	543
12	Kudawella	6015		25	Chilaw	341
13	Sainthamaruthu	1557				

Entering and managing reports and vessel photographs into the database

Entering and managing log reports and vessel photographs into the database

.1	Number of log copies received by the unit related to operations at the High Seas	5436
2.	Number of verification reports issued in relation to the operations	5436
3.	Number of log copies inserted into the log database	32656
4	Number of reports entered into the Vessel Photographic Data base maintained for IOTC requirements	143

According to the Implementation of Port State Measures 2015, licenses are issued and vessel inspections are carried out for foreign fishing vessels coming to obtain port facilities in Sri Lanka, fish landing or transshipment. According to the Resolution 16/11 of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the inspection reports of at least 5% of the foreign fishing vessels entering the ports of Sri Lanka shall be submitted to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Services

Services	Number of licences issued	Number of inspections
Transshipment of fish	11	07
Maintenance and supply services	02	01
Exchanging services of Security officers and foreign fishermen	14	01
Exchange of security officers and foreign fishermen	08	01
Total	35	15

According to the Resolution 11/04 of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, scientific fishing vessel observers shall be deployed on board the vessels at least 5% of the fishing vessels engaged in the High Seas fishing operations and information be submitted to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Thus, in the year 2024, the number of observers deployed for vessels over 24 meters in length and the number of operations performed by those vessels are shown in the table below

Table 21: Fishing Vessels

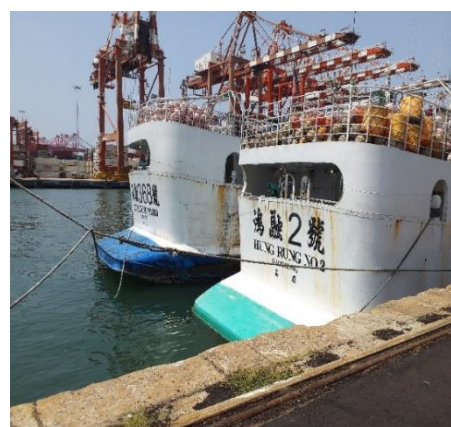
Total No.of fishing vessels> 24m	Number of active vessels	Total number of fishing operations	Number of scientific fishing vessel observations
05	04	07	01

Providing timely reports to the international organizations such as Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), World Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), European Union (EU) and representing Sri Lanka at annual meetings.

- The reports to be provided annually for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission are provided subject to the prescribed dates.
- According to the Resolution 10/11 of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the relevant technical officers participated in the annual meeting under the funds granted to the developing member countries to participate in the committee meetings and sessions.
- Accordingly, Sri Lanka has shown the following progress on compliance since 2010.

Progress on conformity

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
5%	18%	47%	51%	60%	74%	77%	82%	87%	90%	86%	76%	83%	73.8%	71.2%



Carrying out inspection of foreign vessels

Installation of 4200 Vessel Monitoring System Devices (VMS) on multi-day fishing vessels.

82 VMS devices are being installed in the last phase by now

Furthermore, VMS has the ability to provide cost-effective and efficient service to boat owners. Here, the antenna mounted on the vessel operates with a very low power requirement (2W) and is capable of using its backup power for up to 3 days in the absence of the main power supply. The system's equipment is capable of programming over-the-air, allowing FMC crews to perform operations that are easy and smooth. The boat creates automatic alerts when the same is near controlled access areas like EEZ of other states.

The VMS system is accessible through all concerned harbour offices and which is centrally managed by the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) located at the Head Office premises of DFAR. Currently, FMC monitors vessels throughout 24x7. One of the main duties of the FMC is to detect suspicious behavior such as entering the foreign countries, damaging VMS etc. FMC daily detects vessels with no or low signal (known as silent vessels) and takes necessary action to cancel vessel departure until their vessel re-enters into the relevant system.

Information on all suspicious vessels, including the vessels with VMS devices deactivated for a long period, will be forwarded to the Investigation Division for investigation. Continuous surveys were conducted to develop a model to identify vessels which are prone to be used for illegal activities such as human trafficking, drug trafficking and border crossing. FMC intends to introduce pattern recognition to identify vessels that may be used for illegal activities. FMC has been modernized with cutting edge technology under Australia – Sri Lanka VMS project, and accordingly, the Sri Lanka FMC has been recognized as a state of art monitoring centre in Asia.

Quality Control Division

Sri Lanka has prioritized strict quality control measures for its fishery exports to meet international standards and ensure the safety of consumers. This process, governed by provisions under the Fish and Fishery Products Export Regulations, includes the adoption of certification, inspection, hygiene and hygienic practices. Discovery systems and laboratory tests further enhance quality assurance and improve the skills of industrial workers through capacity building. By meeting market access requirements and maintaining product integrity, Sri Lanka aims to maintain its reputation as a reliable source of high-quality seafood in the global market. The Quality Control Division of the Department bears the responsibility for carrying out the above activities and at the same time it functions as the authorized institute on the export of Sri Lanka's fish and fishery products.

The following regulations which are in force under the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act mainly pertaining to the export of fishery products are being implemented by this Division.

- Fishery Products (Export) Regulations, 1998
- Fish Processing Regulations No. 01 of 2003
- Fish Catch Data Collection Regulations 2014
- Aquaculture (Monitoring of Residues) Regulations, 2002

The Quality Control Sub Office was established at Katunayake Bandaranaike International Airport in 2014. This office operates continuously around-the-clock (as 24X7) as a service provider to exporters of fish and fishery products.

Apart from that, our attention has been focused on providing hygienic fish and fishery products to the local consumers and thus necessary steps have been taken to implement the preliminary initiatives required for that purpose.

Furthermore, recruitments to the approved number of vacant positions were made to formalize the duties of the Quality Control Division in a systematic manner. Accordingly, eight new officers were recruited for the post of Quality Control Officer who performs a technical function in this division. Steps have also been taken to increase the capacity of the Quality Control Division.

Main Goals, Objectives, Activities and Progress of the Division

Goal

This division, established under the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources to meet the requirements set by the European Commission on fishery products exported to the European market, has been operating since 04.01.1999. Currently Sri Lanka is conforming to the obligations required to fulfill the legitimate requirements of all those countries to which fish is being exported by Sri Lanka at present.

Objective

The main objective of the Division is to ensure the high standard of quality and safety of fish and fishery products exported to the international market from Sri Lanka for human consumption under the implementation of the Fish Products (Export) Regulations in force under the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No.02 of 1996.

Activities

To achieve the above objectives, the following activities are being undertaken by the Quality Control Division.

- Granting approval for fish processing establishments and issuing licences for the same.
- Granting authority for fish processing establishments to process fish for export.
- Analyzing HACCP systems and giving approval for them.
- Regular inspection of fish processing establishments and providing guidance and taking necessary action to correct shortcomings.
- Inspecting fish landing sites and taking necessary measures to ensure the quality and hygiene of fishery products.

- Inspection of fishing vessels supplying fish for export and taking necessary measures to ensure the quality and hygiene of fishery products.
- Inspection of the transport of fish from landing sites to the processing establishments and taking necessary measures to ensure the quality and hygiene of fish products.
- Issuance of health certificates for each stock of fish/ fishery products for export.
- Approving laboratories that issue test reports confirming the hygiene of export fishery products.
- Launching the official sample testing program for testing the samples taken from the relevant locations in the approved testing laboratories.
- Taking appropriate action in cases where fish processing establishment, boats and fish landing sites do not comply with the relevant conditions containing in the regulation.
- Taking appropriate action regarding complaints received from importing countries about the unhygienic conditions of exported fish products.
- Organization and implementation of awareness programs on the quality and health safety of fish and fishery products as well as the handling of fish for the crews of the fishing vessels supplying fish for export.
- Implementation of the Aquaculture Residue Monitoring Program to control antibiotics and chemicals used in aquaculture products (fish, shrimp) and organizing awareness programs under that program.
- Issuance of catch certificates to ensure legality of fish products.
- Issuance of health certificates under the online system for European countries by Quality Control Sub-offices at Katunayake Airport operating throughout 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Taking legal action for cases of non-compliance to the regulations and conducting investigations into notifications made by importing countries.

Fish processing establishments approved by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

Number of fish processing establishments suitable to export to the countries belonging to the European Commission and approved for the export to the countries of European Commission has increased from 50 to 55 (as at 31.08.2025).

Number of fish processing establishments approved for export only to countries not belonging to the European Commission is 23 and the number of establishments approved for fish packaging is 21. Out of which, 38 establishments export to the Republic of China, 17 establishments to the Saudi Arabia and 18 establishments export to Russia respectively.

Inspection and monitoring of activities and implementation of official sampling program

This includes the inspection of fish processing establishments, shrimp farms, testing laboratories, fishery harbours, the vessels which are supplying raw materials for export and the implementation of the official sampling program to verify the hygiene of fishery products.

Microbiological tests: For water, ice and fish as well as

Chemical Tests: Histamine Level/ Heavy metals /residue of Fish are examined

Implementation of the National Aquaculture Chemical Residue Monitoring Program

Under this, inspection, sampling and analysis and legal measures related to the implementation of the Aquaculture Residue Monitoring Regulation published in 2002 will be taken. This program is implemented by taking water samples from shrimp hatcheries.

The parameters of the samples tested

- Antibiotics
- Pollutants (Heavy metals carbamates, Pyrethroids)
- Pesticide residues
- Pigments (Malachite Green, Leucomalachite, Brilliant Green, Crystal Violet)

Conducting awareness programs

Under this, programs to make the relevant stakeholders aware of the protection of the quality and hygiene of fish and fishery products are mainly carried out.

Progress of the Quality Control Division as at 31.08.2025

Activities carried out by the Quality Control Division	Annual targets	Progress as at 31.08	Percentage
Ensuring hygiene and quality of the fishery products in the local market			
01. Conductingharbour inspection.	10	2	50%
02.Inspection of fish auction centers and public fish markets	4	1	25%
03.Awarenessprogrammes (fishers/traders(	10	7	70%
Ensuring hygiene and quality of the export fishery products			
01. Obtaining official samples - Establishments	300	177	59%
02.Awareness programs (Quality Control Officers / relevant Field Officers)	10	8	80%

03. Inspection of hygiene and sanitation at fishery harbours		10	8	80%
04. Inspection of hygiene and sanitation at fishery harbours.		20	9	45%
05. Inspection of hygiene, sanitary conditions and better handling of fishing vessels.		85	55	65%
06. Inspection fish processing establishments for exports	Number of inspections of establishments expected to be conducted	120	68	57%
	Number of inspections of packaging and lobster collecting centers expected to be conducted	15	5	33%
07. Inspection of laboratories.		5	2	40%
08. Inspection of hatcheries, freshwater aquaculture farms and brackish water, marine aquaculture farms.		40	16	40%
09. Laboratory testing of aquaculture chemical residues		Determined annually in accordance with the plan recommended by the European Commission and the United Kingdom.(66)	66	-
10. Organoleptic examination during landing/processing		70	16	%21.5
11. Implementation of statistical data programs established by Regional fisheries management organizations.		As appropriate	4	-
12. Taking legal action for cases where the research results are not up to standard according to the official sampling program for export fish products.		As appropriate If the standard values of the parameters of the results are exceeded,	03	-
13. Notification by importing countries about the unfitness of fish products.		As appropriate, as per the frequency of notifications about unfitness by the	12	-

		respective countries		
14.Approval of Fish processing establishments for export.	Approval of new fish processing establishments	63	65	-
	Updating the registration of fish processing establishments.		02	-
15.Issue of fish catch certificates.		17,000	19,200	11%3
16.Issue of health certificates for exports (for European countries)		18,000	13,938	77.4%
17.Issue of health certificates for exports (for non-European countries)		10,000	11,762	117.6%
18.Inspection of fish stock being imported for re-export.) BIA)		As appropriate, on the requests and granting approvals for importation of fish for re-export.	1	-
19.Inquiries made through the notifications made by the importing countries or from the Sri Lankan embassies established abroad in order to maintain the necessary coordination with the European Commission and the competent authorities of other countries.		As appropriate, on the requests to be made or as the case may be	35	-

Regulation of canned fish industry

Canned fish industry that is becoming popular in Sri Lanka at present can be considered as a value-added product, and which is a product that can be prepared conveniently and be preserved for extending period by using tuna, sardine and mackerel fish species which are rich in protein and continuously increasing in demand. The canned fish market in Sri Lanka was completely dependent on the import market and was currently taking necessary steps to turn this into a local industry. At present, around 22 local businessmen who contribute to the production of canned fish have been identified and the preliminary work to improve the hygiene and quality of those products has been started with the intervention of Quality Control Division. Accordingly, it is expected to retain foreign reserves spent on the import of canned fish in the country.

Further work is underway to regulate this industry and the relevant canned fish processing establishments are being registered with our department under the Fish Processing Establishments Regulations No. 1 of 2003, which has been initiated and further steps are being taken by the Quality Control Division of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. Currently, 12 establishments are operational under the Fish Processing Establishments Regulations No. 01 of 2003.



Figure01 and 02: Inspecting local fish processing establishments which are making contribution towards the canned fish production.

Conducting awareness programs on poisonous fish species for the officers of the Quality Control Division of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in collaboration with NARA.

Awareness programs on poisonous fish species in the processing of fish and fishery products were conducted in line with the requirements of the European Commission, which are important for the export of Sri Lankan fish and fishery products. The awareness of the officers regarding the regulation of quality and hygiene of fishery products was increased by it.



Figure 03 and 04: Conducting awareness programs on poisonous fish species for the officers of the Quality Control Division

Encouraging the landing of high-quality, hygienic fish enabling the fish harvest taken by the IDAY small fishing vessels to be targeted to the export market.

The coastal fisheries industry in Sri Lanka is an important part of the country's economy, culture and food security, providing livelihoods to a significant portion of the population and contributing to national fish production.

The fish harvest exploited by these small-scale fishing vessels contributes significantly to the country's overall fish production, and a significant portion of that harvest is of exportable species. Although the coastal fisheries industry harvests a wide range of species with export demand, the poor handling conditions during harvesting and landing have resulted in the deterioration of the quality of the fish products, making it impossible to use the harvest as an export raw material. Accordingly, although there is a huge demand for the fish catch in the export market, exporters are facing the challenge of meeting the supply demand. It is therefore important to follow the correct processing methods to minimize post-harvest losses and provide high-quality fish products to the export market. For this purpose, programs were carried out in the fisheries districts of Chilaw, Kalutara and Negombo to provide the necessary equipment and facilities to the fishermen and to encourage them to bring the fish harvest exploited by small boats safely to land. Fish exporters and fishermen participated in this and information on the need for quality fish harvests was also exchanged.



Figure 04 and 05: Photograph showing as to how the meeting for the fisheries district Chilaw is being held on 25.06.2025.



Figure 06 and 07: Photograph showing as to how the meeting for the fisheries district Kalutara is being held on 25.06.2025.



Figure 08 and 09: Photograph showing as to how the meeting for the fisheries district Negombo is being held on 09.07.2025.

Fish Products Export, Import and Re-export Management Regulation (Standard Operating Procedure for Re-export (SOP).

Sri Lankan fish exporters are currently in a situation where the capacity of approved fish processing establishments in Sri Lanka and the demand of foreign applicants cannot be met. So, in order to maintain the sustainable continuation of the Sri Lankan fish and fish products export industry, a shortage of high-quality raw materials suitable for export was identified and due to this, some processing establishments were identified as being at risk of collapse. And, in accordance with the requests made by exporters for a long time, the relevant parties have decided to facilitate the import of tuna, sail fish and shrimp, which are essential for the sustainable continuation of fish exports, and to process them locally and re-export them. Accordingly, necessary steps were taken to formulate the operational procedures with the consent of the relevant stakeholders.

Accordingly, two Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) with formal procedures and conditions were established for the import of shrimp, tuna, sail fish and prawns into Sri Lanka and necessary steps were taken to add value through licensed processing establishments and subsequently re-export them. All the monitoring activities here are being carried out by the Quality Control Division. The aim is to address the decline in seafood exports by positioning Sri Lanka as a leading seafood processing center, especially by designing facilities for export and import purposes. Its strategic location, advanced processing facilities, The initiative aims at achieving a greater market share for Sri Lankan products in the global seafood trade, utilizing strong safety and management protocols and a skilled workforce

2.1.Special Achievements

01.A fishing vessel census covering all districts and fishery harbours was conducted in August 2025 to collect information on active vessels, inactive vessels as well as unusable vessels of which registrations are due to be cancelled, for the purpose of minimizing the problems encountered in managing the fisheries industry due to the lack of accurate data on vessel efforts and non updating of data.



02.An international conference was held in Colombo from 20-22 of December on the formulation of the National Plan for the Management of artisanal fisheries industry in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Bay of Bengal Programme-Inter Governmental Organization (BOBP-IGO).Parallel to the said conference, Sri Lanka, having made the National Plan for the management of artisanal fisheries industry has become the first country in South Asia, that commenced the formulation of the national plan for the management of artisanal fisheries industry



3. Successfully conducting the exhibition Aqua Planet -2025



4. Releasing and repatriation of fishermen along with their fishing vessels, arrested in foreign countries

Number of fishermen arrested	Number of fishermen released	Number of fishing vessels arrested	Number of fishing vessels released
93	83	18	10

5. Rescue of fishing vessels which went adrift in local waters, High Seas and waters of foreign countries

Number of rescued fishermen	Number of fishers of which release was coordinated	Fishing vessels wrecked by ships in collisions	Number of abandoned fishing vessels
1248	228	05	05

6. Verification of information on fishing vessels carrying out multiday fishing operations at High Seas

1	Number of log copies received by the unit relevant to the multiday fishing operations at High Seas	5436
2	Number of verification reports issued regarding the multiday fishing operations	5436

7. Collection of fishing logbooks relevant to operations carried out by multi-day boats

.1	Number of fishing log sheets received by Harbour Operations Offices	37,015
2.	Number of log sheets entered into the log data base	32,656

8. Progress on providing services through information technology.

1	Providing fishing trips for vessels via online method	74519
2	Number of vessel photographic records entered into the data base maintained for IOTC requirements	143
3	Registration of AIS devices legally	223

Achievements in Digitalization

1. Implementation of the departmental services through online application



The departmental online application is developed to transform more than 34 manual processes of the Department into a digital process.

It includes registration of fishermen, registration of boats, collection of scientific data, etc. and many other processes. This application is operating within a cloud server system and be accessed using <http://msdfar.com>. Officer online accesses pertaining to the application have already been installed on more than 700 smart devices and have undergone several version updates. 62,000 fishermen, 99 vessels (including old data), more than 31,000 boats, 7300 skippers have already been registered and more than 7000 operations licences have been issued during the year under review itself. The total number of licences issued has surpassed 15000. For the year 2024, more than 266,800 online departures were made through the online departure system. This process has been continued from the year 2021. The MSDFAR system won the gold medal as the best online application in the year 2022 from the competition of selecting public institutions that use online application and secured the second place at the competition of selecting the Public Service Best Innovating Product/Project in 2024.

02.Maintenance and content management of the official website of the Department

www.fisheriesdept.gov.lk

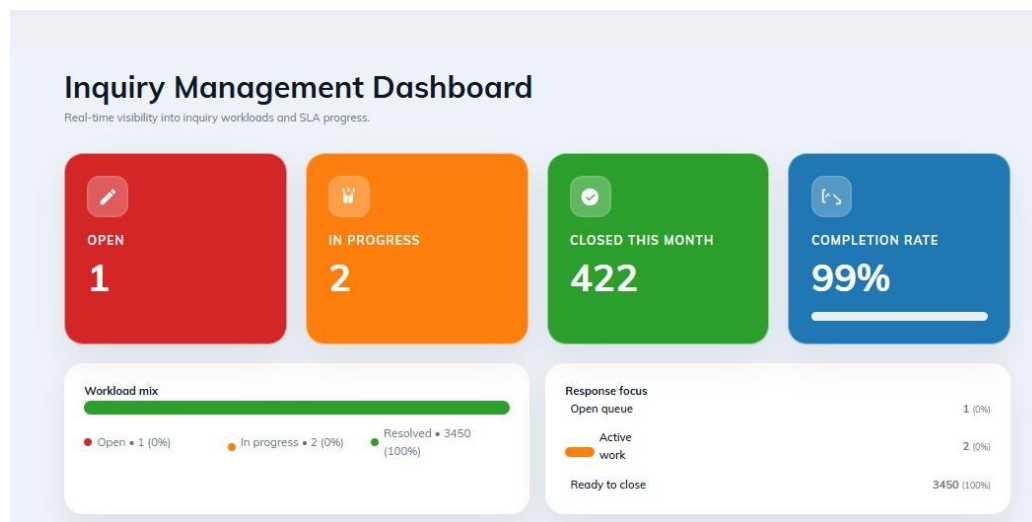


Figure: Official Website

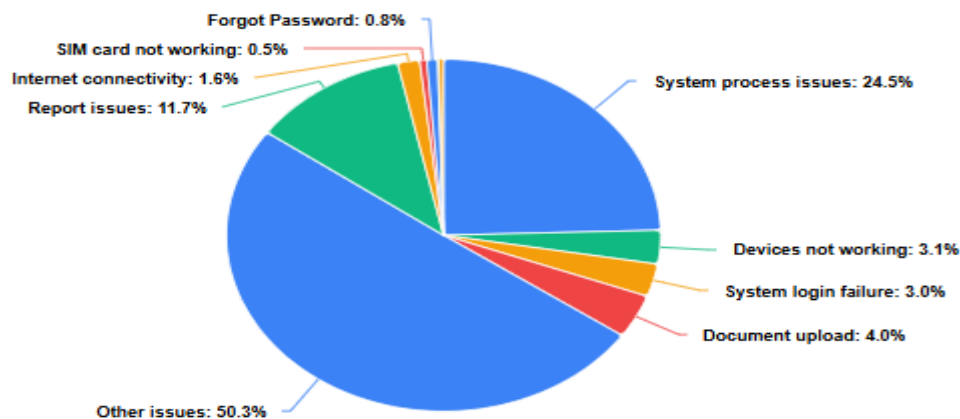
The Information Technology Division is responsible for the maintenance and management of contents of the departmental official website. The departmental website is updated daily and includes details of departmental proceedings. Each division and each district office of the Department has its own web page where the activities for which the section is responsible are included. Contact details of officers are available on the website and are updated regularly. Officers can access all the systems of the Department through the website access. The departmental website also has won the Gold Medal for the Best Sinhala Website and the Merit Award for the Best Government Website in the Best Web Competition in 2020.

03.Implementation of Inquiry Management System to resolve technical issues in a timely manner

The Inquiry Management System is implemented to resolve the issues, received by the Information Technology Division from the Head Office and district offices, in a timely manner. The issues received daily are resolved by this system promptly. Percentage of resolving the issues received by the Information Technology Division stands at about 99%.

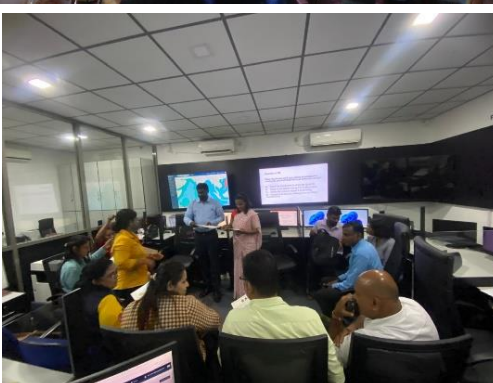


Inquiry Categories



4. Officer Training on Departmental Online Application.

The way as to how the online application is implemented in 15 fisheries districts is monitored separately, and the officers of our division are committed to it. In 2025, our IT officers visited the respective districts to conduct training on fisheries registration covering all 15 districts. Although the training on online systems was planned for district fisheries officers at the Head Office, only officers in 6 districts were provided with the training due to lack of infrastructure facilities. In 2026, the training is scheduled to be given to the fisheries officers in the remaining districts and the officers in the Head Office.



5. Implementation of an online disaster management system to enter damages that caused to the fisher community due to Cyclone “Ditwah”.

The Fisheries Disaster Management System was established by the Information Technology Division of the Department to make the government aware of the fishing vessels, boat yards, fishing gear, community centers, and equipment and buildings related to the employment of the fisher community damaged due to the Cyclone Ditwah. Through this system, data and information related to their district is entered by officers of all fisheries districts.

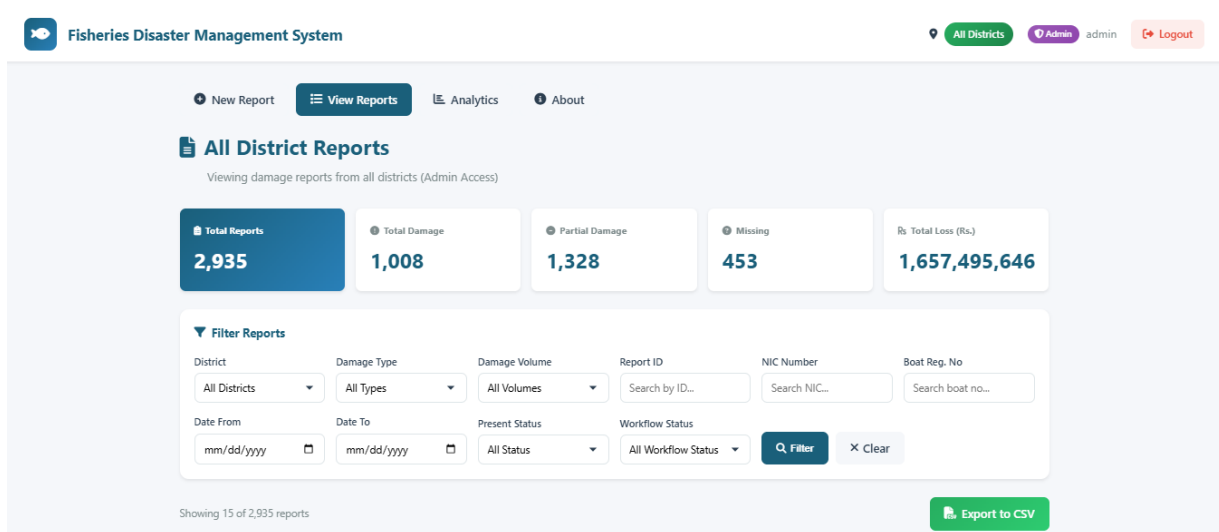


Figure: Disaster Management System

6. Commencement of Online Over Time Management System

The officers of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources are employed at the Head Office as well as in 15 Fisheries District Offices and Port Offices throughout Sri Lanka. To ensure that all these officers receive overtime within the relevant months, a system has been introduced by the Information Technology Department in collaboration with the Financial Division for overtime payment. Through this system, it was possible to accurately calculate the officers' overtime hours and provide the overtime allowance to the officers appropriately.

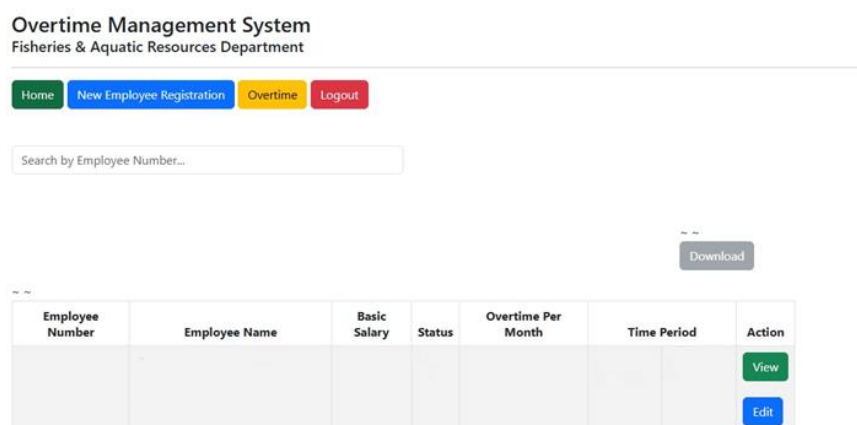
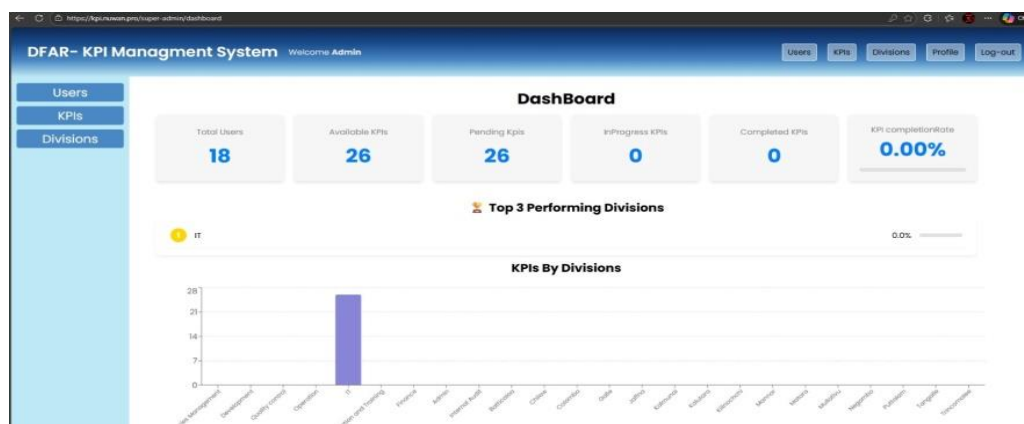


Figure: Online Overtime Management System

7.KPI (Key Performance Indicator) System

A KPI (Key Performance Indicator) system has been established as a pilot project to gauge the progress of the officers in the Information Technology Division in order to achieve the targets related to their duties. Accordingly, each officer was given an online login to achieve his/her own targets according to a time frame and directed to work accordingly. Due to the shortage of officers, the officers can also get feedback on the performance of the duties within the relevant time frame through this system.



8. Leave Management System:

Since several systems are operated by the Information Technology Division throughout 24 hours and are accessed by various users from district and harbour Offices, it was found difficult for a limited number of officers to carry out this task. Also, in order to minimize the inconvenience caused to the employees due to the applying for leave by officers, a system for online leave management has been installed in the Information Technology Division as a pilot project. This is an online system prepared according to the General 125 format by which officers are applying for leave according to the Establishments Code.

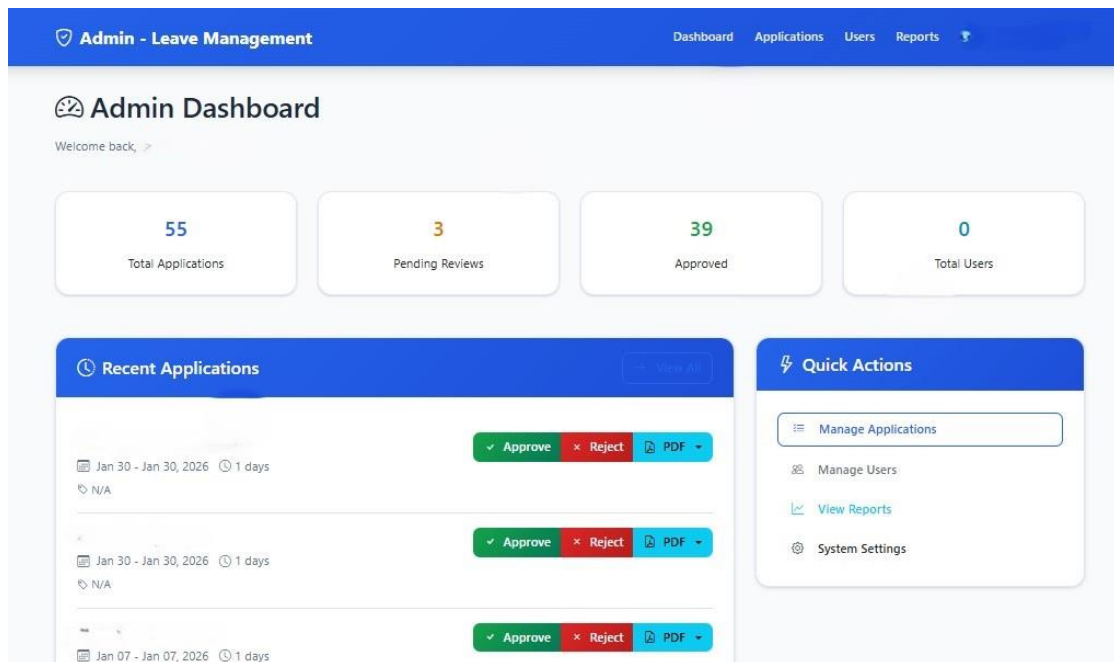


Figure: Leave Management System

9. Online Payment Portal

Payments have to be made to various stakeholders associated with the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources on different occasions. Since vessel owners as well as various private institutions are required to associate with the department as regards payments in this way, the Information Technology Division has established an Online Payment Portal to make payments quickly by managing the time. This system enables the payment of various licence fees, registration fees and other payments easily and safely via online.

The screenshot shows the 'Online Payment Portal' with a 'Payment Form'. The form is titled 'Payment Form' and includes the instruction 'Enter Your Payment Details'. It contains several input fields: 'Name of Payee / Name of Organization', 'National Identification Number of Payee', 'Contact Number of Payee', and 'Email Address of Payee'. There is also a 'License Category' dropdown menu with a 'Select...' option. A note at the bottom states 'License Category cannot be blank.' The background of the form features an underwater scene with fish.

Figure: Online Payment Portal

2.2. Challenges

Information Technology Division.

1. Dearth of officers to perform monitoring duties for the Vessel Monitoring Unit
2. Dearth of officers in the Information Technology Division to update the MSDFAR system that issues licences online within 24*7 throughout the Island,
3. Scarcity of financial provisions to be made with the institution regarding cyber security

Development Division

1. Issues arising in identifying lands, verifying ownership and acquisition of private lands in implementing development projects on landing sites
2. Impacts on the coastal ecosystem due to frequent natural disasters and weather changes
3. In insuring the fishermen, some fishermen's lack of interest in obtaining life insurance policies.

Management Division

1. Although there is a high demand for the export of marine species with high commercial value, the demand for the same cannot be adequately fulfilled. Also, it has been an issue because of the depletion of these resources and due to the fact that no any study about the fish stocks in the sea around Sri Lanka for management of harvesting resources has not been conducted.
2. Although multi-day vessel regulation has been implemented in the management of fishing efforts, the use of small vessels by low-income fishermen affects their livelihoods, and thus, so restricting these vessels is a problem even though there is a high use of small vessels in the coastal fishing industry.
3. The management and decrease in income of those involved in the industry due to the rapid depletion of fish and aquatic resources in coastal sea areas have also become a problem.
4. Scientific research reports and recommendations are mandatory for the preparation of regulations for the management of fishery resources, but it has not been possible to prepare and amend the necessary regulations at the due time because of the inadequate annual allocation of funds to the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency for this purpose and the lack of required studies in this regard.

Operations Division

1. Dearth of officers to promptly enter the information in the log data sheets into the log data system. [This is done through the district offices, harbour offices and units affiliated to the operations division of the head office.] However, it is appropriate to assign fisheries officers to enter the data.
2. Obtaining fish catch data from fishermen using the E-log software.
3. Directing fishermen to report the Landing Declaration Form correctly.

Quality Control Division

1. Lack of domestic raw materials suitable for export.
2. Lack of necessary facilities in the laboratories to test fish stocks exported to European Union countries in accordance with the approved parameters of the European Union.

Investigation and Training Division

1. In most cases, prosecutions revealed during investigations are based solely on electronic evidence (contemporaneous evidence).
2. Even though many awareness programs were conducted, illegal activities cannot be completely curbed.

2.3. Future Targets

Development Division

1. Minimizing the impact on the fisheries industry caused due to natural hazards or disruptions to the coastal fisheries industry (development of infrastructure facilities)
2. Implementation of pilot projects to introduce dry fish making machines for the production of hygienic and qualitative dried fish
3. Under the programme of distributing 500 prefabricated houses donated to the Government of Sri Lanka under the assistance of the People's Republic of China among the low-income fishermen engaged in the active fisheries industry in the Northern and Eastern provinces, building these prefabricated housing units on the lands of the identified beneficiaries
4. Demarcation of lagoon boundaries, gazetting of lagoon management areas, establishment of committees and preparation of plans for lagoon management and development.
5. Implementation of infrastructure development projects around landing sites.
E.g. Installation of beacon lights

Management Division

1. Updating the vessel register
2. To implement the census of multi-day vessels (IMUL), one-day vessels (IDAY) and non-mechanized vessels will be implemented as the fishing vessel census was conducted only for OFRP and MTRB vessels in 2025 under the first phase,.
3. Digitalization of licensing for management and export of fish and aquatic resources.
4. Preparation of an operational plan for fishing nets and preparation of a road map for the regulation of export of shark products and preparation of a vessel management plan.
5. Establishment of a coordinating unit and preparation of a management and development plan for the demarcated management areas.
6. Formulation of necessary regulations for the regulation of fishingvessellefforts.

➤ **Operations Division**

1. Implementation of a formal program to enter log book numbers into the MSDFAR system through all district offices, in coordination with the Information Technology Division. (To be prepared by the second quarter of 2026.)
2. Launching the E-log book program. (Provide relevant facilities to 10% of vessels within 2026.)
3. Preparing the Landing Declaration program. (Introduce this to all multi-day vessels that send fish for export by 2026.)

➤ **Investigation and Training Division**

1. Organizing an annual international fisheries trade fair.

Chapter 03- Overall Financial Performance for the Year ended 31st December 2025**3.1 Statement of Financial Performance****Statement of Financial Performance****For the period ended as at 31st December 2025**

Revised Budgetary Provisions 2025 Rs.		Note	Actual		
			2025	2024	
			Rs.	Rs.	
	Revenue Receipts			-	
-	Income Tax	1		-	}
152,230,000	Taxes on Domestic Goods & Services	2	178,114,630	173,842,450	
-	Taxes on International Trade	3		-	
-	Non-Tax Revenue & Others	4		-	
152,230,000	Total Revenue Receipts (A)		178,114,630	173,842,450	ACA-1
	Non-Revenue Receipts		-	-	
-	Treasury Imprests		2,982,118,000	660,489,423	ACA-3
-	Deposits		325,672,024	264,313,408	ACA-4
-	Advance Accounts			32,710,502	ACA-5
-	Other Main Ledger Accounts				
-	Receipts		5,751,016	-	
-	Total Non-Revenue Receipts (B)		3,346,251,542	954,556,085	

	Total Revenue Receipts & Non-Revenue Receipts				
-	C = (A)+(B)		3,524,366,172	1,128,398,535	
-	Treasury Remittances (D)		213,631,027	-	
-	Net Revenue Receipts & Non-Revenue Receipts E=(C)-(D)		3,310,735,145	1,128,398,535	
	Less: Expenditure				
-	Recurrent Expenditure				
	Wages, Salaries & Other				
952,000,000	Employment Benefits	5	717,203,243	624,233,273	} ACA-2(ii)
186,595,000	Other Goods & Services	6	152,740,944	161,744,364	
3,049,495,29					
6	Subsidies, Grants and Transfers	7	1,961,618,308	104,059,986	
-	Interest Payments	8	-	-	
1,401,040	Other Recurrent Expenditure	9	1,301,040	43,269	
4,189,491,33	Total Recurrent Expenditure				
6	(F)		2,832,863,535	890,080,892	
	Capital Expenditure				
	Rehabilitation & Improvement				
29,000,000	to Capital Assets	10	25,199,813	18,496,442.00	
105,702,032	Acquisition of Capital Assets	11	46,618,205	7,601,733.00	
6,000,000	Capital Transfers	12	4,435,888	3,176,392.00	ACA-2(ii)
-	Acquisition of Financial Assets	13	-	-	

3,215,000	Capacity Building	14	3,191,628	1,854,472.00	
109,000,000	Other Capital Expenditure	15	37,641,790	11,263,960.00	
252,917,032	Total Capital Expenditure (G)		117,087,323	42,392,998.00	
				173,107,132.0	
	Deposit Payments		401,278,535	0	ACA-4
	Advance Payments		30,866,421	33,325,953.00	ACA-5
	Other Main Ledger Payments		-	-	
				206,433,085.0	
	Main Ledger Expenditure (H)		432,144,956	0	
4,442,408,36	Total Expenditure			1,138,906,976.	
8	I= (F+G+H)		3,382,095,813	00	
	Balance as at 31 st December				
	J=(E-I)		(71,360,668)	(10,508,440)	
	Balance as per the Imprest				
	Adjustment Statement		(71,360,668)	-	ACA-7
	Imprest Balance as at 31 st				
	December		(71,360,668)		ACA-3

3.2 Statement of Financial Position**ACA-P****Statement of Financial Position****As at 31st December 2025**

	Note	Actual	
		2025 Rs.	2024 Rs.
Non-Financial Assets	- -		
Property, Plant & Equipment	ACA-6	2,268,325,532	2,217,108,554
Financial Assets			
Advance Accounts	ACA-5/5(A)	65,729,573	67,573,654
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA-3	-	-
Total Assets		2,334,055,105	2,224,108,002
Net Assets / Equity			
Net Assets to the Treasury		(181,133,641)	(255,487,108)
Property, Plant & Equipment			
Reserve		2,268,325,532	2,217,108,554
Rent and Work Advance			
Reserve	ACA-5(B)	-	591,037
Current Liabilities			
Deposits Accounts	ACA-4	246,863,214	322,469,725
Imprest Balance	ACA-3	-	-
Total Liabilities		2,334,055,105	2,284,682,208

පිටු අංක 07 සිට 37 දක්වා ඒ සිට 7 දක්වා වූ ආකෘති පත්‍රවලින් ඉදිරිපත් කෙරෙන ගිණුම් තොරතුරු සහ ඇමුණුම් පිටු අංක 38 සිට 55 දක්වා ඇතුළත් ගිණුම් සටහන් විස්තර ද මෙම අවසන් ගිණුමෙහිම අන්තර්ගත කොටස් වේ. මෙම මූල්‍ය ප්‍රකාශන පිළියෙල කිරීම රජයේ මුදල් රෙගුලාසි 150 හා 151 සහ 2025.12.17 දිනැති රාජ්‍ය ගිණුම් මාර්ගෝපදේශ අංක 02/2025 විධිවිධානන්ට අනුකූලව සිදුකර ඇත. ඉහත අවසන් ගිණුමෙහි සඳහන් සංඛ්‍යා, ඊට අදාළ ගිණුම් සටහන් හා අනෙකුත් ගිණුම් තොරතුරු භාණ්ඩාගාර ගිණුම් පොත් සමඟ සැසඳීම් කර ඇති බවටත් ඒවා එම සංඛ්‍යා සමඟ එකඟ වන බවටත් මෙයින් සහතික කරමු.

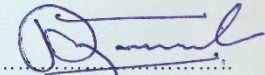
2018 අංක 19 දරන විගණන පනතේ 38 (1) (ඇ) වගන්තිය අනුව මූල්‍ය පාලනය සඳහා ඵලදායී අභ්‍යන්තර පාලන පද්ධතියක් වාර්තාකරණ ආයතනය තුළ පවතින බවත් මූල්‍ය පාලනය සඳහා අභ්‍යන්තර පාලන පද්ධතියේ සඵලකාරී අධීක්ෂණය කිරීමටත් ඒ අනුව එම පද්ධති ඵලදායී ලෙස ක්‍රියාත්මක කිරීමට අවශ්‍ය පරිදි වෙනස් කිරීම් සිදුකිරීමට වරින් වර සමාලෝචන සිදුකරන බවත් මෙයින් සහතික කරමු.


 ප්‍රධාන ගණන්දීමේ නිලධාරී
 නම :
 තනතුර :
 දිනය : 2026/02/27

ලේකම් (වැ.බ)
 සිව්, ජලජ හා සාගර සම්පත් අමාත්‍යාංශය
 02 වන මහල, නව මහලේකම් කාර්යාලය,
 මාලිගාවත්ත, කොළඹ 10


 ගණන්දීමේ නිලධාරී
 නම :
 තනතුර :
 දිනය : 2026/02/26

සිසිල්ල කහවත්ත
 අධ්‍යක්ෂ ජනරාල්
 සිව් හා ජලජ සම්පත් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව


 ප්‍රධාන මූල්‍ය නිලධාරී (ප්‍රධාන ගණකාධිකාරී/
 අධ්‍යක්ෂ (මුදල්)/ කොමසාරිස් (මුදල්)
 නම :
 දිනය : 2026/2/26

ආර්.ඩී.ආර්.එස්. රාජපක්ෂ
 ශ්‍රීධාග ගණකාධිකාරී
 සිව් හා ජලජ සම්පත් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව

3.3 Cash Flow Statement**ACA-C**

Cash Flow Statement
For the period ended 31st December 2025

	Actual	
	2025	2024
	Rs.	Rs.
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses	178,114,630	173,126,050
Profit	-	-
Non Revenue Receipts	5,751,016	-
Revenue Collected for the Other Heads	58,741,935	40,876,634
Imprest Received	2,982,118,000	841,595,400
Recoveries from Advance	30,182,487	24,925,557
Deposit Received	320,140,998	264,313,408
Total Cash generated from Operations (a)	3,575,049,066	1,344,837,048
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Personal Emoluments & Operating Payments	849,841,754	772,892,584
Subsidies & Transfer Payments	1,961,366,436	102,484,183
	53,959,956	
Expenditure on Other Heads	29,604,807	53,582,430
Imprest Settlement to Treasury	213,631,027	181,105,977
Advance Payments	30,754,268	25,246,697
Deposit Payments	401,278,535	173,107,132
Total Cash disbursed for Operations (b)	3,540,436,783	1,308,419,003
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		36,418,046
(C)=(A)-(B)		

Cash Flow from Investing Activities

Interest	-	-
Dividends	-	-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets	-	-
Recoveries from On Lending	-	-
Total Cash generated from Investment Activities (D)	-	-

Less - Cash disbursed for:

Purchase or Construction of Physical Assets & Acquisition of other Investment	34,612,283	36,418,046
Total Cash disbursed for Investment Activities (E)	34,612,283	36,418,046

**NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING
ACTIVITIES (F)=(D)-(E)**

$$(G)=(C)+(F)$$

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Local Borrowings	-	-
Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Grants Received	-	-
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (H)	-	-

Less - Cash disbursed for:

Repayment of Local Borrowings	-	-
Repayment of Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Total Cash disbursed for Financing Activities (I)	-	-

**NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING
ACTIVITIES (J)=(H)-(I)**

$$\text{Net Movement in Cash (K)} = (G) + (J)$$

Opening Cash Balance as at 01st January	-	-
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December	-	-

3.4 Notes to the Financial Statements

Reporting Basis

1) Purpose of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Government Financial Regulations 150 and 151 and Government Accounts Guidelines No. 02/2025 dated 17.12.2025.

2) Reporting period

The reporting period for these Financial Statements is from 01st January to 31st December 2025.

3) Basis of Measurement

The Financial Statements have been prepared on historical cost basis modified by the revaluation of certain assets and accounted on a modified cash basis, unless otherwise specified.

The figures of the Financial Statements are presented in Sri Lankan Rupees rounded to the nearest rupee.

4) Recognition of Revenue

Exchange and non-exchange of revenues are recognized on the cash receipts during the accounting period irrespective of taxable period.

5) Recognition and Measurement of Property, Plant and Equipment (PP&E)

An item of Property, Plant and Equipment is recognized when it is probable that future economic benefit associated with the assets will flow to the entity and once the cost of the assets can be reliably measured.

Property, plant and equipment are recognized at cost, and where the cost model is not applicable, the revalued amount is used.

6) Property, Plant and Equipment Reserve

This revaluation reserve account is the corresponding account of PP&E.

7) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash & cash equivalents are comprised of local currency notes and coins in hand as at 31st December 2025.

3.5 Performance of the Revenue Collection

Revenue Cord	Description of the Revenue Cord	Revenue Estimate		Revenue Collected	
		Initial Estimate (Rs.)	Revised Estimate (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	As a % of Final Revenue Estimate
10.03.07.06	License Fees relevant to the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources	163,612,500	152,230,000	178,114,630	117

3.6 Performance of Utilization of Allocation

Type of Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Utilization of allocation as a % of Final Allocation
	Initial Allocation	Final Allocation		
Recurrent	4,191,000,000	4,189,491,336	2,832,863,535	67.62
Capital	187,000,000	200,066,016	117,087,323	58.52

3.7 In terms of F.R.208, grant of allocations for expenditure to this Department as an agent of the other Ministries

Serial No.	From which Ministry / Department allocation was received	Purpose of the Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Utilization of allocation as a % of Final Allocation
			Initial Allocation	Final Allocation		
151-1-2-1-1501	Ministry of Fisheries	Carrying out administrative tasks including assessing the damage caused to the fisheries industry due to the fire on the Express Pearl Ship, identifying those who lost their livelihoods and paying compensation	1,573,762	1,573,762	527,297	33.51
151-2-3-64-2104	Ministry of Fisheries	Fixation of demarcation posts to demarcate boundaries Lagoon under	2,400,000	2,938,700	1,339,510	45.58

		the Lagoon Development and Conservation Programme- Puttalam Lagoon				
151-2-3-82-2509	Ministry of Fisheries	Assembling of prefabricated housing units granted by the People's Republic of China	50,000,000	50,000,000	19,700,310	39.40
151-2-3-56-2202-11	Ministry of Fisheries	Allocation of provisions for awareness programmes	247,350	247,350	244,951	99.03
253-1-2-4-1502-12	Department of Pensions	Settlement of loan balances of Advance “B” Account	846,501	846,501	846,501	100
020-1-17-1409	Election Commission	Reimbursement of Staff Payment in the Local Government Elections - 2025	2,965,464	6,969,376	6,946,236	99.67

3.8 Performance of the Reporting of Non-Financial Assets

Asset Code	Code Description	Balance as per the Board of Survey Report as at 31.12.2025 (Rs.)	Balance as per the Financial Position Report as at 31.12.2025(Rs.)	Yet to be accounted	Reporting progress as%
9151	Buildings & Structures	586,267,544.13	586,267,544.13	-	-
9152	Machineries	1,250,771,544.90	1,250,771,544.90	-	-
9153	Land	408,566,000.00	408,566,000.00	-	-
9154	Intangible Assets	22,720,443.02	22,720,443.02	-	-
9155	Biological Assets	-	-	-	-
9160	Work in progress	-	-	-	-
9180	Assets rent out	-	-	-	-

3.9. Auditor General's Report**

** When presented in Parliament, the final audit report issued by the Auditor General should be scanned and included herein.

The final audit report is shown at the end of this Annual Performance Report.

Chapter 04-Performance Indicators

4.1 Performance Indicators of the Institute (Based on the Action Plan)

Specific Indicators	Actual output as a Percentage (%) of the expected output		
	100% -90%	89% - 75%	74% - 50%
1. Grant of compensation for natural calamities			71%
2. Demarcation of lagoon boundaries			50%
3. Training of officers of the VMS division and the other sections linked to it	100%		
4. Obtaining reports under the following details at 7.00 am, 2:00 pm and 10:00 pm.			
1. Obtaining reports on fishing vessels approaching within 48 kilometers of the port limit	100%		
2. Obtaining reports on fishing vessels involved in border crossing	100%		
3. Obtaining reports on VMS disconnections on vessels	100%		
4. Obtaining reports on the disconnection of inner-battery of the vessels of which the battery is disconnected.	100%		
5. Obtaining reports on vessels that are inactive over a period of time	100%		
5. Identifying distressed vessels and providing information to the Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Unit	100%		

6. Bringing and management of information from vessels engaging in multiday fishing operations.	100%		
7. Verification of information of the fishing vessels engaged in fishing operations at High Seas	90%		
8. Inserting log reports into the database and managing of them	100%		
9. Investigation into information and taking legal action according to the law	90%		
10. Providing radio communication facilities between the fishing vessels and land	90%		
11. Taking action to provide license and call signs for communication purposes in fishing vessels.	100%		
12. Substantiation of information for insurance in accidents faced by fishermen and fishing crafts	90%		
13. Releasing fishermen along with fishing boats, arrested in foreign countries and repatriation of them	100%		
14. Taking action to rescue fishing boats adrift due to mechanical defects	90%		
15. Provision of daily weather reports and weather advisories on a daily basis.	100%		
16. Communication with vessels according to the information provided by the Vessel Monitoring System			
17. Coordinating the task of rescuing fishermen and fishing vessels in distress at sea	90%		
18. Submission of periodical reports to international organizations such as Indian			

Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), European Commission (EC) and representing Sri Lanka at the annual meetings of such organizations.			
19. Training of the DFAR Staff - Information Technology Foundation		80%	
20. Acting on the safety of the server system	90%		
21. Introducing “R” statistical language for analyzing DFAR data.	100%		
22. Commencement of registration through OFRP, MTRB and NTRB vessel system	100%		
23. Training officers for BLUE TRACKER system	100%		
24. Introducing an Alert Management System	100%		
25. Starting a consortium called Regional Fishing Monitoring Center.	100%		
26. Maintenance of the Vessel Monitoring System			20%
27. Inspection and Monitoring			
• Number of Inspections of export fish processing establishments			66%
• Official samplings-Institutions			27%
• Inspection of prawn farms			47%
• Inspection of fish stocks imported for the purpose of re-export			
28 Approvals and Certifications			
• Approving new fish processing establishments and updating registration of fish processing establishments.	100%		
• Issue of health certificates for import	93%		
• Issue of fish catch certificates	99%		

29. Aquaculture Residue Monitoring National Programme			
• Inspection of prawn breeding centres			} 37.5%
• Field inspection of aquaculture farms			
• Taking samples and analyzing			
30. Implementation of training and awareness programmes.			
• Fishermen	100%		
• Institutional officers/ Departmental field officers and University students	90%		
31. Investigations			
➤ Investigation and taking action in cases of non-compliance with the regulation.	Progress- 713 No targets can be given for this so that is difficult to indicate in percentage.)		
➤ Inspections and investigations into the firms supplying fishing vessels, fishing gear, fishery products and fishing baits			57%
32. Formulation of the methodology for imposing administrative fines in accordance with the relevant procedures, in response to requests from all district offices for imposing administrative fines, by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources..	Progress- 35 No targets can be given for this so that is difficult to indicate in percentage.)		
33. Investigation into the violation of laws identified by the Vessel Monitoring System	Progress- 889		

	No targets can be given for this so that is difficult to indicate in percentage.)		
34. Registration of fishing vessels	100%		
35. Issue of High Seas fishing operations licences	100%		
36. Issue of skipper licences	100%		
37. Issue of licences for the import of ornamental fish	100%		
38. Issue of licences for the export of ornamental fish	100%		
39. Issue of licences for the re-export of ornamental fish	100%		
40. Issue of permits for the export of lobsters			70%
41. Issue of permits for the possession and transport of lobsters	100%		
42. Issue of permits for possession, exhibition and transport of Chunks			63%
43. Issue of permits for the export of Chunks	100%		
44. Issue of permits for taking, collection, possession and transport of beche de-mer	92%		
45. Issue of permits for the import, export and re-export of beche-de-mer		89%	
46. Issue of permits for collection and transport of dead sea shells and production of fancy goods.	100%		
47. Registration of establishments for the import of fish and fishery products			64%
48. Registration of establishments for the import of fish and fishery products		87%	

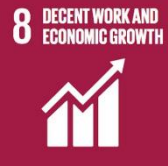
49. Registration of establishments for the re-export of fish and fishery products		77%	
50.Allotment,approval and issue of registration numbers for new vessels	100%		
51. Issue of permits for the export of Nakla (Operculum of <i>Chicoreusramosus</i>)			73%
52. Issue of permits for possession , sale, exhibition and transport of Nakla (Operculum of <i>Chicoreusramosus</i>)	100%		
53. Issue of permits for possession, sale, exhibition and transport of <i>Chicoreus Ramosus</i> flesh.			73%
54.Export permit for the export (<i>Chicoreusramosus</i>) flesh	100%		
55. Issue of permits for the transport, possession and exhibition of dead sea shells			65%
56. Issue of permits for the transport and export of sea weeds	100%		
57.Issue of log books	100%		
58.Number of audit programmes	100%		
59.Number of audit reports assigned and completed	100%		
60.Number of audit management meetings held once a quarter	100%		
61.Reconstruction and improvement to the building	98%		
62.Vehicle repairs and improvement	83%		
63.Contruction of buildings	100%		

Chapter 05. Performance of Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

05.1 Indicate the relevant sustainable development goals.

Goal/ Objective	Targets	Indicators of the achievement	Progress on achievements to date		
			0%-49%	50%-74%	75%-100%
 1.2 Reduction of the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in all forms of poverty at least by half, consistent with national definitions.	Taking steps to improve the income status of low-income fisher communities Increase in the income of foreign exchange due to the growth of fish product export Expansion of fish product industries	Increase in the number of boats registered for fishing operations Growth of fish and aquatic resources Generation of new employment opportunities			100% 100% 100%
 2.1. To eradicate hunger by 2030 and ensure that all people, especially children, in poverty and those in vulnerable situations, have access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.	Increasing the consumption of fish as a protein-rich food.	Number of awareness campaigns conducted to the public on the consumption of		54%	

2.C. To take necessary measures to ensure that food markets and their by-products, including food reserves, are functioning properly to prevent excessive food price volatility.	To halt the import of canned fish in order to promote the local canned fish industry.	protein-rich foods			
	Expansion of fish product industries	The volume of canned fish products which are required by the consumers and produced locally Enabling the consumers to buy at reasonable price			100% 100%

 8.1. To sustain per capita economic growth in line with national circumstances and, in particular, maintain a GDP growth rate at least 7% per annum at least by the developed countries. 8.2.To achieve a high level of economic output through diversification, technology upgrading, and innovation, and by focusing on sectors with high value added and high demand for labour. 8.3.To promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and creativity. Encouraging the establishment and development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises by providing access to financial services. 8.9.To design and implement policies on sustainable tourism industries that enhance local culture, production and employment opportunities by 2030,	Making a significant and continuous contribution towards the GDP from the fisheries sector To introduce cooling systems for multi-day fishing vessels To provide a professional value to the fishing occupation, for the local young fishing community Providing opportunities to promote all aspects related to the fisheries industry in conjunction with the World Fisheries Day. To provide opportunities to get live fishing experience with a view to increasing tourist attraction	Contribution to the Gross Domestic Product Number of fishing vessels installed with cooling systems Number of skipper licences issued Holding an international level exhibition (Aqua planet) Number of licences issued for recreational fishing activities		72% 50% 100% 100%	
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	Providing opportunities to import fish food not available in Sri Lanka and required for the tourism industry.	Providing frozen fish in sufficient quantities to meet the needs of special tourist hotels without any shortages			100%
 12.3. To minimize per capita food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce waste in production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses by 2030. 12.5. To reduce the generation of waste through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse of them by 2030.	Minimizing post-harvest and production chain waste. Minimizing losses in fish handling Formulation of necessary laws and regulations for minimizing the use of plastic in the fisheries industry and promoting recycling.	Introducing cooling systems to fishing vessels to minimize post-harvest losses. To draft a new regulations on fish handling Number of new regulations introduced		50% 50% 100%	

	14.2. To manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems sustainably, thereby building resilience to disasters and restoring oceans so as to be healthy and productive. 14.4. To effectively manage fishing and eliminate the excessive use of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) and destructive fishing practices, and implement science-based management plans to restore fish stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by the biological characteristics of fish.	Demarcation and mapping of lagoon boundaries to protect coastal ecosystems. Formulation of laws and regulations to regulate fishery resources.	Number of demarcated lagoons Number of new regulations introduced		50%	80%
	14.7. To sustainably manage fishery resources, culture and tourism around the water and enhance the economic benefits of small developing Island states and the least developed	Providing market access for marine fishery resources	Increase in the number of establishments registered for the export of fishery products			100%

countries by using the marine resources in a sustainable manner.	Increasing the avenues for export of fishery products	Increase in export income		54%	100%
	Formulation of a guidelines to maintain the small scale fisheries industry in sustainable manner	To commence the formulation of small scale fisheries industry plan with the participation of South Asian countries.			
14. A. To grow scientific knowledge, develop research capacities and exchange marine technology for the purpose of promoting oceanic health and enhancing the contribution of marine biodiversity, in particular to small developing Island States and the least developed countries, taking into account the procedures of the intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the guidelines for the transformation of marine technology.	Taking action to get data on fish stock in collaboration with National Aquatic Resource and Research and Development Agency with regard to marine resources in and around the Sri Lanka waters and formulating laws and regulations as per the said data	Progress on data		60%	

5.2. Achievements and challenges in accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals.

01. A fishing vessel census covering all districts and fishery harbours was conducted in August 2025 to collect information on active vessels, inactive vessels as well as unusable vessels of which registrations are due to be cancelled, for the purpose of minimizing the problems encountered in managing the fisheries industry due to the lack of accurate data on vessel efforts and non updating of data.



02. An international conference was held in Colombo from 20-22 of December on the formulation of the National Plan for the Management of artisanal fisheries industry in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Bay of Bengal Programme-Inter Governmental Organization (BOBP-IGO). Parallel to the said conference, Sri Lanka, having made the National Plan for the management of artisanal fisheries industry has become the first country in South Asia, that commenced the formulation of the national plan for the management of artisanal fisheries industry





1. Declining the interest in the fisheries industry due to increase in fuel and fishing effort prices and gear prices
2. Deflating the fish consumption relatively due to the fluctuation of prices of fish products.
3. Financial and technical barriers for gaining awareness of modern research related to fisheries and marine resources
4. Trends in illegal and destructive fishing
5. Weaknesses in the restoration of fishing activities for the fisher communities
6. Uncertainty among the fisher communities about the continued sustainability of fishing activities.
7. Overexploitation of resources.
8. Although the sustainable development goals are achieved within a year, the constant changes in internal and external shocks of economic, political, social, legal, technological and environmental factors are beyond control.
9. Shortage of essential staff and problem of providing resource personnel in district level raids and training and awareness programs due to the officers' going abroad.
10. Inability to conduct adequate number of district level raids and training and awareness programs due to high fuel costs for transport used for district level awareness programs.
11. Inability to conduct efficient and effective training and awareness programs due to lack of physical resources.

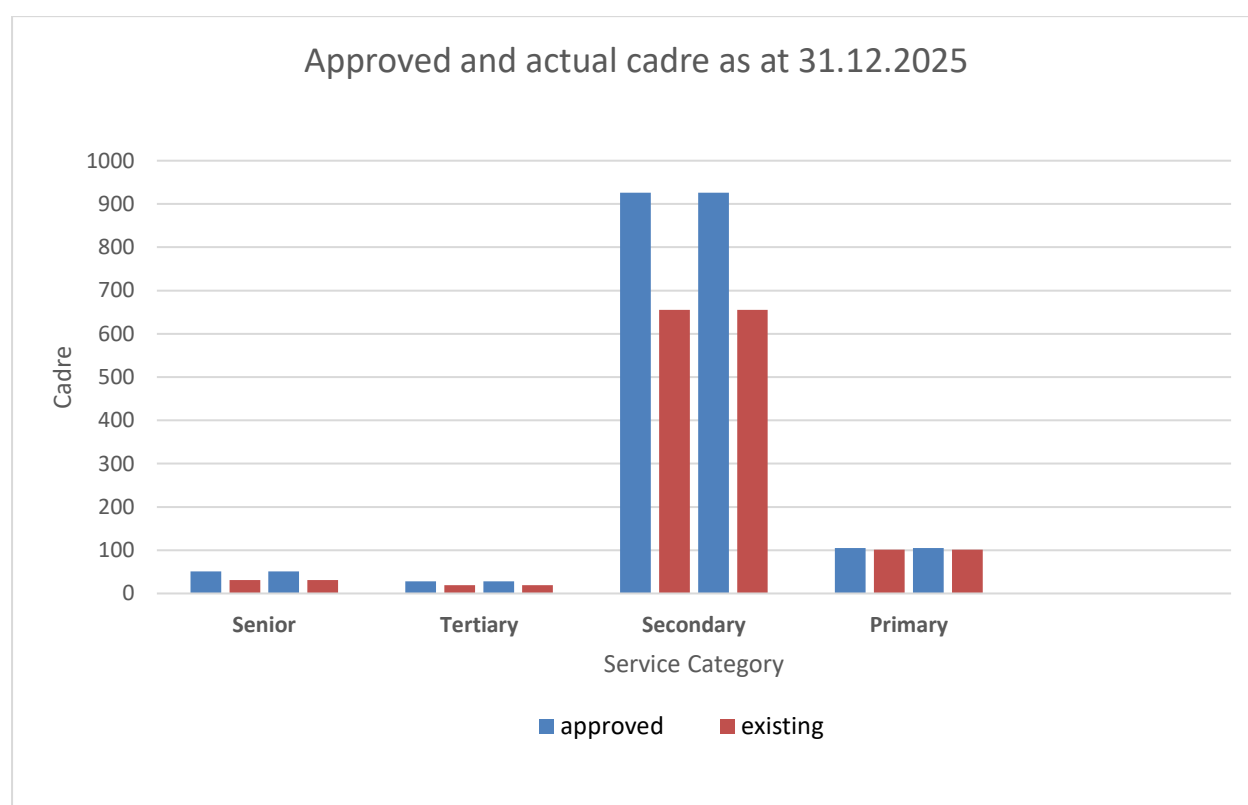
Targets

1. To take necessary steps to digitize the licensing system in order to streamline and expedite the issuance of licenses for fisheries management in the coming year
2. To improve the data collection method to obtain sufficient scientific data required for fisheries management
3. To provide a logbook for each multi-day fishing vessel, prepared in accordance with the fishing line operative in the said vessel to prevent illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing vessels

Chapter 06 – Human Resources Profile

6.1 Cadre Management

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies / (Excess) **
Senior	51	30	20
Tertiary	28	34	04
Secondary	926	682	244
Primary	105	98	07



Graph: Approved and Actual Cadre of the Department

Quarter	Cadre	Senior	Tertiary	Secondary	Primary	Total
First Quarter	Approved	51	28	926	105	1110
	Initial Status	31	19	655	101	806
	Transferred in	0	0	21	1	22
	Transferred out	2	0	16	1	19
	Vacation of post	0	0	1	0	1
	Retirements	0	1	1	0	2
	Release	0	0	3	1	4
	New appointments	0	7	0	0	7
	Actual	29	25	655	100	809
	Vacancies	22	03	271	5	301
Second Quarter	Approved	51	28	926	105	1110
	Initial Status	29	25	655	100	809
	Transferred in	1	0	3	0	4
	Transferred out	1	0	3	0	4
	Vacation of post	0	0	1	0	1
	Retirements	0	0	2	2	4
	Release	0	1	2	0	3
	Actual	30	25	684	99	838
	Vacancies	20	03	242	6	271
Third Quarter	Approved	51	28	926	105	1110
	Initial Status	30	25	684	99	838
	Transferred in	1	0	5	1	7
	Transferred out	1	0	7	0	8
	Vacation of posts	0	0	0	0	0
	Retirements	0	0	2	1	3
	Release	0	0	3	0	3
	Resignation	0	0	1	0	1

	Actual	30	25	675	99	829
	Vacancies	21	03	251	6	281
Fourth Quarter	Approved	51	28	926	105	1110
	Initial Status	30	25	675	99	829
	Transferred in	1	0	20	0	21
	Transferred out	1	0	10	1	12
	Vacation of posts	0	0	1	0	1
	Resignation	0	0	1	0	1
	Retirement	0	1	1	0	2
	Actual	30	24	682	98	834
	Vacancies	21	4	244	7	276

- The staff who has taken no pay leave in the Island/abroad as at 31.03.2025 in terms of the P.A.CircularNo.14/2022 has been considered as vacancies.
- Included in the staff on no pay leave in the Island/abroad, as at 30.06.2025 in terms of the P.A.CircularNo.14/2022

Table: Quarterly change in the cadre of the Department in 2025

6.2. The impact of the shortage of human resources or surplus of employees on the performance of the institution.

Recruitments are being made for vacant positions as per the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers received.

Ser.No	Category**	Designation	No. of positions approved for recruitment	Recruitment Progress
1	Senior Level	Assistant Director (Fisheries and Aquatic Resources)- Open	3	Recruitments have been done.
		Assistant Director (Fisheries and Aquatic Resources)- Limited	8	
2	Tertiary Level	Quality Control Officer	8	Recruitments have been done.

3	Secondary Level	Junior Radio Officer (Grade III)	27	03candidates were qualified at the written examination. One officer was qualified at the interview conducted for those candidates. Arrangements are being made to hold the competitive examination for re-recruitment again.
		Fisheries Officer(Grade III)-Open	115	Exam has been held
		Fisheries Officer(Grade III)-Limited	14	07 officers had passed the examination based on the results. Recruitments have been made after holding the interviews for them.
		Marine Engineering Assistant-Open	10	Interviews have been held for 10 candidates who were qualified according to the examination results. Of them, 02 candidates have been qualified. Arrangements are underway to recruit those candidates and action is being taken to re-conduct interviews to recruit for the remaining vacancies.

6.3 Human Resources Development

Training programmes for the departmental officers/external parties and university undergraduates

Name of the programme	No. of employees trained	No. of programmes	Duration of the programme	Participants	Total investment (Rs.)	Nature of the programme (local/foreign)	Output/knowledge obtained
Awareness programmes for the relevant parties (Sri Lanka Navy/ Department of Sri Lanka Coast Guard) about the Fisheries law in order to combat illegal	520	11	11 days	Officers of the Sri Lanka Navy/officers of the Sri Lanka Coast Guard/Officers of the Police Environmental Protection division	Rs.72,160.00	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers

activities committed by using fishing boats.							
Organization of training programmes, capacity development programmms, and post graduate degrees/diploma programmes for the officers.	1271	51	01/02/03/04/05/06 day/day s-01 year	Executive Officers/ Staff Grade Officers/Fisherie s Officers/ Quality Control Officers/Develop ment Officers/Manage ment Services Officers/Informa tion Technology Assistants/Office Employees/ and Drivers	Rs.3,013,377.92	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers

Fishermen's Awareness programmes

Name of the programme	Number of programmes	Number of fishermen trained	Total investment	Nature of the programme (local/foreign)	Output/knowledge obtained
Fisher Basic First Aid Training Program and Counseling Program	45	1811	Rs.2,277,238.00	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers
Joint program to educate fishermen and stakeholders on combating illegal, unreported and unregulated	28	300	Rs.1,264,564.00	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers

(IUU) fishing activities					
Awareness programme on prevention of drugs for fishermen	11	730	Rs.218,100.00	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the fishermen
Fishermen's awareness programme on Fishers' pension and Sayura Insurance Schemme	29	1510	Rs.586,100.00	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the fishermen
Programme conducted for the students of Anuradhapura University	1	26	Rs.14,310.00	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the fishermen

Information about the officials who participated in foreign scholarships, training programs, conferences, seminars, and official discussions in the year 2025

Name	Designation	Particulars of the foreign visit			
		Name of the programme participated	Country	Duration	Knowledge gained
Mr.S.J.Kahawatta	Director General	High Level Meeting on Policy Guidance for Mainstreaming Ecosystem	Maldives	February 18 - 23	The Director General has participated in these programs to represent Sri Lanka as the Head of Department.
		29th Session of the IOTC	France	April 07 - 17	
		3rd IORIS Committee	Philippine	May 21 - 23	
		Sri Lanka Expert for Korea International Cooperation Conference on Ocean and fisheries	Korea	October 21 - 24	
		International Conference of Fishing Communities (ICFC)	Korea	November 09 - 12	
		Global Training and Experience - Sharing Workshop on the United Nation Fish Stock Agreement	Japan	December 08 - 11	
Mrs.A.U.Pathirana	Director (Admin)	Capacity Building Program on Digital Governance for the Civil Servants of Sri Lanka	India	May 26 - June 06	Updating the knowledge on digitalization and its practical application

Mrs.M.G.Dilhani	Chief Accountant	Digitalization	India	April 22 - May 05	Updating the knowledge on digitalization and its practical application
Mrs.W.T.N.P.Jayasinghe	Accountant (Supplies)	Digitalization	India	April 22 - May 06	Updating the knowledge on digitalization and its practical application
Mrs.K.P.Hewapathirana	Director (Fisheries Operations)	2 nd Roundtable Discussion on Indian Ocean skipjack Tuna Management	Maldives	February 16- 18	Participated as the head of the division since the operations division is responsible for fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fisheries data analysis, monitoring, control and surveillance, management of activities related to fisheries harbour operations and legal and management tools related to information technology.
		29th Session of the IOTC	France	July 07 - 17	Participated as the head of the division since the operations division is responsible for fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fisheries data analysis, monitoring, control and surveillance, management of activities related to fisheries harbour

					operations and legal and management tools related to information technology.
		International Seminar on the Port State Measures Agreement		December 15 - 21	Participated as the head of the division since the operations division is responsible for fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fisheries data analysis, monitoring, control and surveillance, management of activities related to fisheries harbour operations and legal and management tools related to information technology.
Mr.M.M.Ariyaratna	Assistant Director (Fisheries Operations)	29th Session of the IOTC	France	July 07 - 17	Participated as a second-tier member since the activities of fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, and fisheries data analysis are

					carried out by the Operations Division.
Mr.N.P.D.Gunawardhana	Director (Information Technology)	21st Working Party on Data Collection	China	November 25 - 29	Knowledge and experience in fisheries data analysis
		Blue Justice Conference and User Gathering	Denmark	December 01 -05	Participated as a second-tier member since the activities of fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, and fisheries data analysis are carried out by the Operations Division.
Mr.K.V.U.Botheju	Information Technology Officer	3 rd IORS Steering Committee Policy Board and Working Group Meeting	Philippine	November 17 - 21	Knowledge and experience in fisheries data analysis
Mrs.T.N.S.K.Karunaratna	Assistant Director (Management)	37 th Session of the IOTC Meeting	Dubai	February 10- 11	Participated as a second-tier member upon the knowledge and experience in fisheries combating, law of the sea, fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, and fisheries data analysis.
		IOTC Data Reporting Workshop	Indonesia	May 26 - 30	Knowledge and experience in fisheries data analysis

		Workshop on the development of the National Plan of Action for small scale fisheries and preparation of national work plan	India	September 17 - 19	Participated as a second-tier member upon the knowledge and experience in combating of fishing activities , law of the sea, fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, and fisheries data analysis
		21st Working Party on Data Collection	China	November 25 - 29	Knowledge and experience in fisheries data analysis
Mrs.W.A.D.P.D.Wanigasundara	Legal Assistant	8th Edition of the FAO International Course on Fisheries Law	Korea	April 10 - 30	combating of fishing activities, Knowledge and experience in the law of the sea
Mrs.G.W.J.T.Weligamage	Legal Assistant	First Edition of the FAO International Course on Fisheries Law Enforcement	Korea	October 11 - 25	Knowledge and experience in the law of the sea
Mrs.H.L.N.Herath	Director(Quality Control)	8th Edition of the FAO International Course on Fisheries Law	Korea	April 10 - 30	combating of fishing activities, knowledge and experience in the law of the sea
		21st Working Party on Ecosystem and Bycatch (WPEB21)	France	September 09 - 13	Knowledge and experience in fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities

M.K.W.S.Kumara	Assistant Director (Quality Control)	2025 Seminar on Safety Governance of Agricultural - Livestock & Fishery Products for Asian Countries	Korea	June 09 - 12	Knowledge and experience in fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
		23rd Working Party on Bill Fish (WPB2) of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission	France	September 15- 18	Knowledge and experience in fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
Mrs.M.S.A.E.Corey	Quality Control Officer	Regional Workshop on Strengthening Sustainable Aquatic Food Value Chain for Enhanced Food Security and Nutrition	India	December 01 - 04	Knowledge and experience in fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
Mr.M.Marcus	Director (Development)	5th Meeting of parties to the Agreement of IUU Fishing	Ecuador	April 21 - 25	Participated in the programme of combating illegal fishing activities
		Regional Workshop on the WTO Agreement	India	May 15- 16	Knowledge and experience in laws related fisher socio economy, finance, fishing technology, fishing methods, cooperatives and information technology
		27th Working Party on Tropical Tunas	Seychelles	October 21 - 25	Knowledge and experience in laws related fisher socio economy, finance, fishing technology, fishing methods, cooperatives and information technology

		Global Training and Experience - Sharing Workshop on the United Nation Fish Stock Agreement	Japan	December 08 - 11	Knowledge and experience in laws related fisher socio economy, finance, fishing technology, fishing methods, cooperatives and information technology
Mrs.RM.Panchami	Assistant Director (Development)	First edition of the FAO International Course on Fisheries Law Enforcement	Korea	October 11 - 25	Combating of fishing activities, knowledge and experience in the law of the sea
Mr.R.S.A.R.Bandara	Deputy Director (Training)	8th Edition of the FAO International Course on Fisheries Law	Korea	April 10 - 30	Combating of fishing activities, knowledge and experience in the law of the sea
Mr.N.Sri Ranjan	Fisheries Officer	Green Aquaculture Technology for Indian Ocean Rim Countries	China	May 21 June 10	Knowledge and experience in fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
Mr.T.M.D.T.Peiris	Assistant Director	2nd Roundtable Discussion on Indian Ocean Skipjack Tuna Management	Maldives	February 16 - 18	Knowledge and experience in fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
		15th Meeting of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria	Tanzania	July 07 - 14	Knowledge and experience about technical methods in fisheries sector
		28th Scientific Committee of IOTC	China	November 29 – December 06	Knowledge and experience about technical methods in fisheries sector

Mr.W.A.M.Pathme ndra	Assistant Director	IOTC 15th Working Party on Neritic Tunas	Seychelles	July 07 - 17	Knowledge and experience about the fisheries sector pertaining to fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
Mr.K.A.D.C.J.Kah andawala	Assistant Director	16th IOTC Working Party on Methods	Seychelles	October 28 - 29	Knowledge and experience about the fisheries sector pertaining to fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
Mr.H.N.N.S.Wijeth unga	Fisheries Officer	Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MSC) for Combating IUU Fishing	Thailand	November 24 -26	Participated in the programme of combating illegal fishing activities
Mr.K.Akilan	Fisheries Officer	Workshop on the development of the National Plan of Action for small scale fisheries and preparation of national work plan	India	September 17 - 19	Knowledge and experience about the fisheries sector pertaining to fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities

Mr.H.A.M.Prasanga	Fisheries Officer	Green Aquaculture Technology for Indian Ocean Rim Countries	China	May 21 June 10	Knowledge and experience about the fisheries sector pertaining to fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities
Mr.K.K.D.N.Priyadarshana	Fisheries Officer	G16 Capacity Building Workshop	India	September 17 - 19	Knowledge and experience about the fisheries sector pertaining to fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, fish export and quality control activities

Details of training and awareness programs and financial allocations conducted under the training and awareness votes in the year 2025

Vote	Total expenditure
290-1-1-0-2401	Rs.3,085,537.92
290-1-1-0-2202	Rs.4,360,312.00

6.3.1. Contribution of the Training Division towards the performance of the organization.

- It is very important to direct public officials to the capacity development programs provided by the institution for the enhancement of their knowledge and attitudes related to their official services.
- Special attention has been focused in directing officers to the training and awareness programs under this.
- These programs are carried out by making the officers participate in the department and the other external institutions.
- These programs enable the officers to perform their official services successfully in a creative and practical manner according to the list of duties assigned to them in the official institutions. These programs also provide an opportunity to improve relationship with other institutions.
- Accordingly, these programs will pave the way for the capacity development of officers, obtaining active participation and support of officers for the development of the institution, and producing a group of officers equipped with knowledge and attitudes for the public service.

Capacity Development programmes conducted for officers





Awareness programmes held for fishermen



Chapter 07-Compliance Report

No	Applicable Requirement	Compliance Condition(Compliant /non-compliant)	Brief explanation for non-Compliance	Corrective action proposed to avoid non – compliance in future
1	The Following Financial Statements/ Accounts have been submitted on due date			
1.1	Annual financial statements	Compliant		
1.2	Advance to Public Officers Account	Compliant		
1.3	Trading and Manufacturing Advance Accounts (Commercial Advance Accounts)	X	Not applicable to the Department	
1.4	Store Advance Accounts	X		
1.5	Special Advance Accounts	Compliant		
1.6	Others	Compliant		
.2	Maintenance of books and registers (FR(445.			
2.1	Fixed assets register has been maintained and updated in terms of Public Administration Circular 267/2018	Compliant		
2.2	Personal emolument register/ personal emolument cards have been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.3	Register of Audit Queries has been maintained and update	Compliant		

2.4	Register of Internal Audit reports has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.5	All the monthly account summaries (CIGAS) are prepared and submitted to the Treasury on the due date	Compliant		
2.6	Register for cheques and money orders has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.7	Inventory register has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.8	Stock Register has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.9	Register of losses and damages has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.10	Register of liabilities has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.11	Register of Counterfoil Books (GAN 20) has been maintained and update	Compliant		
03	Delegation of function for Financial Control (FR 135)			
3.1	The financial authority has been delegated within the institute	Compliant		
3.2	The delegation of financial authority has been communicated within the institute	Compliant		
3.3	The authority has been delegated in such a manner so as to pass each transaction through two or more officers	Compliant		
3.4	The controls have been adhered to by the Accountants in terms of			

	State Account Circular 171/2004 dated 11.05.2014 in using the Government Payroll Software Package	Compliant		
4	Preparation of Annual Plans			
4.1	The Annual action plan has been prepared	Compliant		
4.2	The annual procurement plan has been prepared	Compliant		
4.3	The annual Internal Audit plan has been prepared	Compliant		
4.4	The annual estimate has been prepared and submitted to the National Budget Department (NBD) on the due date	Compliant		
4.5	The annual cash flow has been prepared and submitted to the Department of Treasury Operations on time	Compliant		
5	Audit Queries			
5.1	All the audit queries have been replied within the specified time by the Auditor General	Non-Compliant	Failure of the relevant divisions to respond at the scheduled time	Making aware of all the heads of divisions in writing to take action to respond at the scheduled time.

6	Internal Audit			
6.1	The internal audit plan has been prepared at the beginning of the year after consulting the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134 (2) DMA/ 1 - 2019	Compliant		
6.2	All the internal audit reports have been replied within one month	Compliant		
6.3	Copies of all the internal audit reports have been forwarded to the Department of Management Audit in terms of Sub-section 40(4) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018	Compliant		
6.4	All the copies of internal audit reports have been submitted to the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134(3)	Compliant		
7	Audit and Management Committee			
7.1	Minimum 04 meeting of the Audit and Management Committee has been held during the year as per the DMA Circular I-2019	Compliant		
8	Asset Management			
8.1	The information about purchase of assets and disposals was submitted to the comptroller General's Office in terms of paragraph 07 of the Asset Management Circular No. 01/ 2017	Compliant		

8.2	A suitable liaison officer was appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the circular and the details of the nominated officer was sent to the Comptroller General's office in terms of paragraph 13 of the aforesaid circular	Compliant		
8.3	The boards of survey was conducted and the relevant reports submitted to the Auditor General on due date in term of Public Finance Circular No.05/ 2016	Compliant		
8.4	The excesses and deficits that were disclosed through the board of survey and other relating recommendations, action was carried out during the period specified in the circular	Compliant		
8.5	The disposal of condemned articles had been carried out in term of FR 772	Compliant		
9	Vehicle Management			
9.1	The daily running charts and monthly summaries of the pool vehicles had been prepared and submitted to the Auditor General on due date	Compliant		
9.2	The condemned vehicles had been disposed of within a period of less than 6 months after condemning	Non-compliant	No such vehicles are available pertaining to	

			the year 2025	
9.3	The vehicle logbooks had been maintained and updated	Compliant		
9.4	The action has been taken in terms of F.R. 103, 104,109 and 110 with regard to every vehicle accident	Compliant		
9.5	Fuel consumption of vehicle has been re-tested in terms of the provisions of Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of 29.12.2016	Compliant		
9.6	The absolute ownership of the leased vehicle log books has been transferred after the lease term	Non-compliant		
10	Management of Bank Accounts			
10.1	The bank reconciliation statements had been prepared, got them certified and forwarded for audit	Compliant	No such vehicles are available pertaining to the year 2025	
10.2	Settled the dormant accounts that had existed in the year under review or since the previous year	Compliant		
10.3	Action had been taken in term of Financial Regulations regarding balance that had been disclosed through bank reconciliation statements and for which adjustments had to be made, and	Compliant		

	those balances been settled within one month			
11	Utilization of Provisions			
11.1	The provision allocated had been spent without exceeding the limit	Compliant		
11.2	The liabilities not exceeding the provision that remained at the end of the year after utilization as per the FR 94 (1)	Compliant		
12	Advance to Public Officers Account			
12.1	The limits had been complied with	Compliant		
12.2	Age analysis had been done on the loans in arrears	Compliant		
12.3	The loan balances in arrears for over one year had been settled	Not-compliant	Submitted to the Attorney General	To act according to the instructions of the Attorney General in the future
13	General Deposit Account			
13.1	The action had been taken as per F.R. 571 in relation to disposal of lapsed deposits	Compliant		
13.2	The control register for general deposits had been updated and maintained	Compliant		
14	Imprest Account			

14.1	The balance in the cash book at the end of the year under review remitted to TOD	Compliant		
14.2	The ad – hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 settled within one month from the completion of the task	Compliant		
14.3	The ad – hoc sub imprests issued not exceeding the limit approved as per F.R. 371	Compliant		
14.4	The balance of the imprest account had been reconciled with the Treasury books monthly	Compliant		
15	Revenue Account			
15.1	The refunds from the revenue collected had been made in accordance the relevant regulations	Non-Compliant	No requests for refunds.	
15.2	The revenue collection had been directly credited to the Deposit Account without credited to the deposit account	Compliant		
15.3	Returns of arrears of revenue have been forwarded to the Auditor General in terms of FR 176	Compliant		
16	Human Resources Management			
16.1	The staff had been maintained within the approved cadre	Compliant		
16.2	Duty lists have been issued to all members of the staff in writing.	Compliant		
16.3	All reports have been submitted to the Department of Management	Compliant		

	Services in terms of the Circular No. 04/2017 dated 20.09.2017.			
17	Provision of Information to the Public			
17.1	An information officer has been appointed and a proper register of information is maintained and updated in terms of the Right To Information Act and Regulations	Compliant		
17.2	Information about the institution has been provided through the website therein. General public have been facilitated to publish appreciations /to level allegations via this website or alternative measures	Compliant		
17.3	Bi-annual and annual reports have been submitted as per Sections 08 and 10 of the RIT Act	Compliant		
18	Implementing Citizen's Charter			
18.1	A Citizens Charter/ Citizens Client's Charter has been formulated and implemented by the institution in term of the circular number 05/2008 and 05/2018 (1) of the Ministry of Public Administration and Management	Compliant		
18.2	A methodology has been devised by the institution in order to monitor and assess the formulation and the implementation of Citizens Charter/ Citizens Client's Charter as per paragraph 2.3 of the Circular	Compliant		

19	Preparation of the Human Resources Plan			
19.1	A human resources plan has been prepared in terms of the format in Annexure 02 of public administration circular no. 02/2018 dated 24.01.2018	Compliant		
19.2	A minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for each member of the staff has been ensured in the aforesaid Human Resource Plan	Compliant		
19.3	Annual performance agreements have been signed for the entire staff based on the format in Annexure 01 of the aforesaid circular	Compliant		
19.4	A Senior officer was appointed and assigned the responsibility of preparing the Human Resources Development plan, organizing capacity building programs as per paragraph No. 6.5 of the aforesaid Circular	Compliant		
20	Reponses to Audit paras			
20.1	The shortcomings pointed out in the audit paragraphs issued by the Auditor General for the previous years have rectified	Compliant		