Parliamentary Series No. 492

Audit Services Commission

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

Audit Services Commission

No. 415, Cotta Road, Rajagiriya

I. **Part 1 : 86.00**

Serial number	Shortcomings identified by the report	Actions taken by institution to certify the Shortcomings/ Current Status
01.	The risk register has not been kept up to date.	There was no separate expenditure head for this Commission for the financial year 2023. Therefore, the necessary provisions for the activities of the Commission were allocated under the expenditure head of the National Audit Office, and all accounting work was carried out by that office.
02.	Expenditures exceeding the allocation limit have been incurred.	
03.	Provisions have been allocated to other institutions outside the scheduled time.	
04.	The interim interim orders issued in terms of Section 371 of the Act were not settled within a week of completion.	Since this Commission was established in 2023 April and passwords were obtained in 2023 only for the purpose of registering to enter information into the online information management system to evaluate the operational compliance and operational performance of institutions subject to the oversight of the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament of Sri Lanka.
05.	The discrepancies that were revealed according to the cash reconciliation statement were not identified and steps were not taken to correct them.	
06.	All the money received as foreign grants had not been remitted to the official bank account of the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury.	
07.	Audit and Management Committee meetings were not held as scheduled during the year under review.	

II. Part 02 : 50.50

<table>
<tr><th>Serial number</th><th>Shortcomings identified by the report</th><th>Actions taken by institution to certify the Shortcomings/ Current Status</th></tr>
<tr><td>01.</td><td>Failure to prepare a properly prepared human resources plan in accordance with the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24th January 2018.</td><td rowspan="8">There was no separate expenditure head for this Commission for the financial year 2023. Therefore, the necessary provisions for the activities of the Commission were allocated under the expenditure head of the National Audit Office, and all accounting work was carried out by that office.

Since this Commission was established in 2023 April and passwords were obtained in 2023 only for the purpose of registering to enter information into the online information management system to evaluate the operational compliance and operational performance of institutions subject to the oversight of the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament of Sri Lanka.

D.K. Wijesinghe
Secretary
Audit Service Commission</td></tr>
<tr><td>02.</td><td>The prepared human resource development plan did not guarantee a minimum of 12 hours of training opportunities per year for more than 50% of the staff.</td></tr>
<tr><td>03.</td><td>Performance agreements were not prepared and signed for all staff.</td></tr>
<tr><td>04.</td><td>There is no senior officer designated within the institution to prepare human resource development plans and implement capacity and skill development programs.</td></tr>
<tr><td>05.</td><td>The institution has not identified sustainable goals according to its scope and has not determined the targets to be achieved to achieve the identified sustainable goals.</td></tr>
<tr><td>06.</td><td>Indicators have not been set to measure progress in implementing the identified sustainable development goals.</td></tr>
<tr><td>07.</td><td>The planned training opportunities are less than 50%.</td></tr>
<tr><td>08.</td><td>Failure to identify 03 performance indicators that can measure the progress of the institution in a manner that clearly demonstrates the role it has played, in accordance with paragraph 12.1 of the Public Finance Circular No. 02/2020 dated 28.08.2020.</td></tr>
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