ආයතනයේ නම : මුදල්, ක්‍රමසම්පාදන සහ ආර්ථික සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍යාංශය සහ අමාත්‍යාංශය යටතේ ඇති දෙපාර්තමේන්තු දහතුනක්.*

පාර්ලිමේන්තු ප්‍රකාශනමාලා අංක : 492

පාර්ලිමේන්තුවේ රජයේ ගිණුම් පිළිබඳ කාරක සභාව විසින් සභාගත කරන ලද වාර්තා සම්බන්ධයෙන් ස්ථාවර නියෝග අංක 119(4) යටතේ ගරු මුදල්, ක්‍රමසම්පාදන සහ ආර්ථික සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍යවරයාගේ නිරීක්ෂණ සහ ගනු ලබන පියවර පාර්ලිමේන්තුව වෙත ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම

நிறுவனத்தின் பெயர் : நிதி, திட்டமிடல் மற்றும் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி அமைச்சு மற்றும் அவ் அமைச்சின் கீழ் உள்ள ஏழு திணைக்களங்கள்

பாராளுமன்ற வெளியீட்டுத் தொடர் இலக்கம் : 492

பாராளுமன்ற பொது கணக்கு குழுவால் பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்ட அறிக்கை தொடர்பாக கௌரவ நிதி திட்டமிடல் மற்றும் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி அமைச்சர் அவர்களால் நிலையியல் கட்டளை இலக்கம் 119(4)-இன் கீழ் எடுக்கப்பட்ட அவதானிப்புகள் மற்றும் நடவடிக்கைகள் சமர்ப்பிப்பு

Name of the Institution : Ministry of Finance and Thirteen Departments under the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

Parliamentary Series : 492

Submission of the observations and measures taken by Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Standing Order No. 119(4) regarding the report tabled by the Committee on Public Accounts of Parliament, to the Parliament

මුදල්, ක්‍රමසම්පාදන සහ ආර්ථික සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍යාංශය
நிதி, திட்டமிடல் மற்றும் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி அமைச்சு
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

මහලේකම් කාර්යාලය, කොළඹ 01, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.
செயலகம், கொழும்பு 01. இலங்கை.
The Secretariat, Colombo 01. Sri Lanka.

කාර්යාලය / அலுவலகம் / Office: 011 - 2484500, 011 - 2484600, 011 - 2484700
ෆැක්ස් / தொலைநகல் / Fax: 011 - 2449823
වෙබ් අඩවිය / இணையத்தளம் / Website: www.treasury.gov.lk

මගේ අංකය / எனது இல. / My No.: MF06/10//PS/492
ඔබේ අංකය / உமது இல. / Your No.:
දිනය / திகதி / Date: 19.06.2026

Through Hon. Leader of the House of Parliament
Hon. Speaker of Parliament
The Parliament of Sri Lanka
Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte

Submission of observations and actions taken by the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance, regarding the report presented to Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) concerning Ministries, Departments, Provincial Councils, and Local Authorities.

Parliamentary Series No. 492 Report of the Committee on Public Accounts

Following the investigation of the affairs of Ministries and Departments by the Committee on Public Accounts as per the revised Standing Order No. 119(4) of the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance is required to submit to Parliament his observations and the measures taken regarding the observations, recommendations, and orders contained in the report presented to Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts (COPA).

Accordingly, the report compiled by the Committee on Public Accounts based on the evaluation of financial compliance and operational performance of government institutions, provincial councils, and local authorities for the financial year 2023 via the online information management system, which were investigated by the Committee on Public Accounts during the first session of the Tenth Parliament, is contained in Parliamentary Series No. 492. I hereby submit my observations and the measures being taken in this regard, in my capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development.

The attention of the Honorable Parliament is hereby drawn to the fact that this report includes the measures and observations taken by the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development, along with thirteen departments functioning under the Ministry, with regard to the recommendations pertaining to the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development and the departments functioning under the Ministry, contained in the report compiled by the Committee on Public Accounts.

Sgd.
Anura Kumara Dissanayake
Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

* . මුදල්, ක්‍රමසම්පාදන සහ ආර්ථික සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍යාංශය සහ අමාත්‍යාංශය යටතේ ඇති දෙපාර්තමේන්තු දහතුනක්.

நிதி, திட்டமிடல் மற்றும் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி அமைச்சு மற்றும் அவ் அமைச்சின் கீழ் உள்ள ஏழு திணைக்களங்கள்

Ministry of Finance and Thirteen Departments under the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

අංකය இல்லை No.	දෙපාර්තමේන්තුවේ නම / துறையின் பெயர் / Name of Department
01	මුදල්, ක්‍රමසම්පාදන සහ ආර්ථික සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍යාංශය/ **நிதி, திட்டமிடல் மற்றும் பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி அமைச்சு** / Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development
02.	රාජ්‍ය මූල්‍ය ප්‍රතිපත්ති දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **அரசிறைக் கொள்கைத் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Fiscal Policy
03.	ජාතික අයවැය දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **தேசிய வரவுசெலவுத் திட்டத் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of National Budget
04.	කළමනාකරණ සේවා දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **முகாமைத்துவ சேவைகள் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Management Services
05.	නීති කටයුතු දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **சட்ட அலுவல்கள் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Legal Affairs
06.	කළමනාකරණ විගණන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **முகாமைத்துவ கணக்காய்வுத் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Management Audit
07.	රාජ්‍ය ව්‍යාපාර දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **அரச தொழில் முயற்சிகள் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Public Enterprises
08.	ජාතික ක්‍රමසම්පාදන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **தேசிய திட்டமிடல் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of National Planning
09.	දේශීය ආදායම් දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **உள்நாட்டு இறைவரித் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Inland Revenue
10.	ශ්‍රී ලංකා රේගු දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/**இலங்கை சுங்கம்**/ Sri Lanka Customs
11.	ශ්‍රී ලංකා සුරාබදු දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **இலங்கை மதுவரித் திணைக்களம்**/ Excise Department of Sri Lanka
12.	තක්සේරු දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **அரசாங்க மதிப்பீட்டுத் திணைக்களம்**/ Government Valuation Department
13.	ආනයන හා අපනයන පාලන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **இறக்குமதி மற்றும் ஏற்றுமதிக் கட்டுப்பாட்டுத் திணைக்களம்**/ Import and Export Control Department
14.	ජනලේඛණ හා සංඛ්‍යා ලේඛණ දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව/ **சனத்தொகை மதிப்பீடு மற்றும் புள்ளிவிபரத் திணைக்களம்**/ Department of Census and Statistics

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Parliamentary Series No : 492

Name of the Institution : Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Submission of the observations and measures taken by Hon.Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Standing Order No. 119(4) regarding the reports tabled by the Committee on Public Accounts of Parliament, to the Parliament.

Number	**Shortcomings identified by the Committee as mentioned in the report**	**Measures taken by the Institute to rectify such shortcomings / Present status**
01	Documents confirming the ownership of vehicles are not in possession.	It is stated that the vehicle registration documents are in the possession of this Ministry for the 100 vehicles owned by the Transport Division of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. Furthermore, action is currently being taken to formally transfer vehicles to this Ministry through the Comptroller General's Office, which are currently registered under the names of various other institutions such as the former Ministry of Economic Development but have been handed over to this Ministry due to various reasons.
02	State Emblem had not been painted on all the vehicles.	The State Emblem has been permanently affixed to the top left-hand corner of the front windscreen on all vehicles, except for those acquired under operational lease systems for assignment to officers. In addition, necessary actions are being taken to paint the State Emblem on all vehicles owned by the Ministry.

The information on the observations and measures taken by Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) for Parliamentary Series No.492 are submitted as above.

K.K.D.C. Ranaweera

Senior Assistant Secretary

Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Parliamentary Series : **492**

Department of the Name : **Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development**

Submission of the observations and measures taken by Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to Parliament under Standing Order No. 119(4) regarding the reports tabled by the Committee on Public Accounts of Parliament, to the parliament

Number	**Recommendations made by the Committee as mentioned in the report**	**Measures/Present status taken by the Institute for Recommendations**
01	Surcharges due in terms of F.R.119 had not been recovered.	This surcharge has been fully recovered in installments from the monthly salary by the month of June 2025, in accordance with F.R. 119.

I kindly submit the above information regarding the actions taken and observations made in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4), pertaining to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, for Parliamentary Series No. 492.

Sgd
Chief Accountant
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Parliamentary Series Number : 492

Name of the Institution : Department of Fiscal Policy

Submission of the observations and actions taken by the Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Standing Order No. 119(4) in respect to the Reports tabled by the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts, to the Parliament.

No.	**Shortcomings identified by the Report**	**Actions taken by the Institution to rectify the Shortcomings/ Current Status**
01	There were no Performance Agreements encompassing the entire staff	There were no performance agreements in place for the relevant year. However, as per Paragraph 03 of Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018(1) dated 30.11.2023, it has been informed that it is no longer necessary to sign Annual Performance Agreements.
02	Less than 50% of the planned training sessions were provided.	For the preceding two years, the country's economy was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. It was necessary to curtail Government spending and the allocations made were limited. Due to the restrictions in calling officers into government offices as the result of the limited supply of fuel, and the constant disruptions in the operation of public transport services, and the restrictions imposed on the expenditure on staff trainings as per Section 06(d) of the Budget Circular No. 01/2023, it was not possible to direct officers for training programmes as expected. In the future, it has been planned to provide training beyond the minimum number of training hours required for each officer.

The observations and actions taken by the Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development with regard to the reports presented by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) of Parliamentary Series No. 492, are kindly submitted as above.

Director General
Department of Fiscal Policy

Parliamentary Series No. : 492

Name of the Department : Department of National Budget

Submission of details on the steps taken and observations made in relation to the reports tabled in Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of Standing Order No. 119(4).

No.	Weaknesses identified by the committee in the report	Measures taken by the institution to overcome weaknesses/ current status
	The number of training opportunities provided was less than 50% of the planned training opportunities.	Due to the economic crisis prevailed in the country during the period under review and the provisions of the National Budget Circular No. 01/2023 restricting government expenditure to prioritize essential services, it has been decided to direct the officers only for essential training programmes under the training programmes planned this year. However, in recognition of the need to modernize the public service, efforts are being made to direct more officials to training programs on fiscal and budgeting.

The details of the steps taken and observations made with regard to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) of the Department of National Budget for Parliamentary Series No. 492 are submitted as above.

Jude Nilukshan
Director General
Department of National Budget.

Name of the Department : Department of Management Services

Parliamentary Series : 492

Submission of Details on Measures taken and Observations made regarding the Reports furnished by Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order 119(4)

No.	Shortcomings in the Report identified by the Committee	Measures taken by the Institute to rectify shortcomings / Current State
1	Appropriate measures had not been taken in terms of Financial Regulations regarding government vehicle accidents	The other party involved in the accident caused to the vehicle No. KR-1816 on 23.12.2024 has settled the repair costs amounting to Rs. 10,000.00 with the Department on 27.03.2025. Measures have been taken to act in terms of Financial Regulations regarding other vehicle accidents.

Submitted above are the details of measures taken and observations made regarding the reports furnished by Committee on Public Accounts for Parliamentary Series 492 under Standing Order 119(4) pertaining to the Department of Management Services.

M.K.Sithara Jayasena

Additional Director General

For Director General

Department of Management Services

M. K. Sithara Jayasena
Additional Director General
Department of Management Services
General Treasury
Colombo 01

Form (No. 01)

Parliamentary Debates Series Number - 492

Name of the department - Department of Legal Affairs

Number	Deficiencies identified by the committee mentioned in the report	Steps taken/current status received by the institution to correct deficiencies
01	The targets required to achieve the identified Sustainable Development Goals had not been determined. Indicators had not been established to measure the progress of implementing the identified Sustainable Development Goals. The Citizen/Service Beneficiary Charter had not been properly prepared or implemented in accordance with Circular No. 05/2008 dated 06.02.2008, as amended by Circular No. 05/2018(1) dated 24.01.2018. No methodology had been developed to monitor or evaluate the implementation of the Citizen/Service Beneficiary Charter of the institution.	Considering the nature of the functions performed by the Department of Legal Affairs, the Department does not have a direct mandate to implement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, in the course of legal drafting, review, and the amendment of existing legislation, due consideration is given to ensuring that such laws are aligned, as far as possible, with the principles and objectives underpinning the global SDG framework. Similarly, in the preparation of Cabinet Memoranda through the Ministry of Finance, necessary observations and inputs are provided, taking into account the relevance and implications of the applicable SDGs. Further, with regard to proposals submitted by other Ministries for legal amendments or the introduction of new legislation, appropriate steps are taken to incorporate considerations relating to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals where relevant. The Department is primarily engaged in the drafting and review of legislation, regulations, and financial instruments, including matters related to public financial management and the budgetary process. In addition, it facilitates the preparation of financial agreements and coordinates with the Legal Draftsman's Department and the Attorney General's Department on litigation and legal matters pertaining to the Ministry of Finance and its affiliated institutions. Given the technical and advisory nature of its functions, and the absence of direct interaction with the general public, it is observed that, in practice, the preparation and implementation of a Citizen/Service Beneficiary Charter may not be applicable to the Department.

I kindly submit the above information on the steps taken and observations made in relation to the reports of the Public Accounts Committee, issued under Standing Order No. 119(4), concerning the Department of Legal Affairs, for inclusion in Parliamentary Publication Series No. 492.

Additional Director General
Department of Legal Affairs

Annexure 01

Name of the Institution : Department of Management Audit

Parliamentary Series No : 492

Submission of information on actions taken and observations regarding reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4).

No	Deficiencies identified by the Committee mentioned in the report	Action taken by the institution to correct deficiencies / Current status
492	Although goods should be surveyed in accordance with Financial Regulation (F.R.) 756 (6) within the time frame specified in paragraph 11.1 of Part I of the Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 dated 2020.08.28, the relevant reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General by the due date.	**Action:** The relevant subject officers have been informed. **Current Status:** The Board of Survey reports for the years 2024 and 2025 have been submitted on time.
492	Ad-hoc sub-imprests issued under F.R. 371 had not been settled within one month of the completion of the task.	**Action:** All staff officers have been informed in this regard. **Current Status:** Control instructions have been given and action should be taken accordingly, to settle the ad-hoc imprest as soon as the task is completed.

I respectfully submit the above information regarding the actions taken and observations made in relation to the reports submitted by the Public Accounts Committee to the Department of Management Audit in relation to Parliamentary series No. 492 under Standing Order No. 119(4).

Director General

Department of Management Audit

Parliamentary Series No. : **492**

Name of the Department : **Department of Public Enterprises**

Submission of the observations of Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and actions taken to Parliament with regard to the reports tabled in Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of the Standing Order No. 119 (4).

No.	Recommendations given by the Committee as mentioned in the Report	Actions taken by the Institute regarding the recommendations/ Present Status
93.00	In term of the State Account Circular No. 171/2004 dated 11.05.2004, the first, the second and the third level passwords of the Government Payroll Software Package had not been changed in every three months.	Action was taken to change the passwords relating to the software package during the year 2024 and 2025 and a register has been introduced from 2026 onwards for accurate recording of the passwords changes in every three months.
	In terms of the paragraph 13 of the Assets Management Circular No. 1/2017 dated 26.06.2017, action had not been taken to appoint a suitable liaison officer to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the said circular and communicating the same to the Comptroller General's Office.	The Assistant Director, Ms.Y.L.Wijesooriya was appointed as the Assets and Cost Management Officer by the letter no. PED/AC/04/08 dated 21.05.2024 in order to implement the provisions of the Circular No. 1/2017 and forwarded it.
	The state emblem has not been painted in all pooled vehicles.	Currently, 09 vehicles are being used for the official duties of the Department. Of the said vehicles, 03 vehicles have been obtained and used under operating lease and one vehicle is owned by the Ministry of Finance. Accordingly, action has already been taken to properly display the state emblem on the vehicles owned by the Department.
	Consequent to the utilization of provisions allocated for a vote in accordance with FR 94(1), commitments had been incurred exceeding the limits of the provisions that remained at the end of the year.	The officers have been informed regarding not to incur commitments exceeding the provisions in the future, such shortcomings had not been happened during 2025.

	The ad – hoc sub imprests issued had not been settled within one month from the completion of the task as per F.R 371.	The officers have been instructed to settle the ad-hoc sub imprests issued within one month from the completion of the task as per F.R 371 and action is being taken accordingly.
92.00	A methodology had not been formulated to monitor or evaluate the implementation of the Citizens/ Clients Charter by the institution.	A Citizens/ Clients Charter has been developed by the Department and it is being monitored and evaluated on quarterly and annually based on the annual action plan.
	A senior officer of the institution had not been nominated for preparation of the Human Resource Development Plans and to implement capacity and skill development programmes.	The Additional Director General, Mrs. Daneesha Jayadeva, being a senior official in this Department has already been appointed to develop the Human Resource Development Plan and to implement capacity and skill development programmes.

The observations of the Department of Public Enterprises and actions taken with regard to the Parliamentary Series No. 492 under the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of the Standing Order No. 119 (4) are furnished as above, please.

Sgd./ B.A.T.Rodrigo
Director General

Form (No. 01)

Parliamentary Publication Serial No – 492

Name of Institution - National Planning Department

Shortcomings identified by the Committee/directives given by the Committee	**Action taken by the Committee to rectify the shortcoming/ implement the recommendations/ current status**
It was noted that internal audit queries were not answered within a month.	1. The Action has been taken to submit the answers to internal queries on time.
Proper action had not been taken in accordance with financial Regulations (F.R) regarding government vehicles.	1. It is acknowledged that there has been a delay in completing the investigations conducted under F.R. 104 in relation to the vehicle accidents involving vehicles bearing registration numbers WP KP- 5871 and WP KQ - 6923, which are assigned to this Department. 2. It is kindly informed that, at present, investigations under F.R. 104 pertaining to vehicle accidents are being carried out in a systematic manner within the stipulated time frames, and the relevant reports are being duly submitted.

Director General
Department of National Planning

Parliamentary Series No. : **492**

Department : **Inland Revenue Department**

Submission of observations and actions taken by the Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on the reports of the Committee on Public Accounts tabled in Parliament under Standing Order 119 (4).

Part I : 77.00

No.	**The shortcomings in the report which were identified by the Committee**	**Steps taken by the institute to rectify the shortcomings/ present status**
01.	Fixed Assets Module of the CIGAS Programme was not maintained up to date basis, in terms of Para 8.1 and 8.2 of the guidelines No 05/2022 dated 13.12.2022 issued by the Department of State Accounts.	In terms of the Para. 8.1 and 8.2 of the guidelines No. 05/2022 dated 13.12.2022 issued by the Department of State Accounts, non-financial assets of the department are entered into the CIGAS programme and updated when payments for new purchases are made.
02.	Register of Losses had not been updated & maintained.	Register of Losses is updated and maintained.
03.	Register of Risk was not maintained up to date basis.	Register of Risk is maintained on an up to date basis.
04.	Answers had not been sent to all the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month after receiving such audit queries	Efforts are made to reply audit queries of the Auditor General on time. However, sometimes delays may occur in responding audit queries due to following reasons; • Priority given to achieve high revenue targets with a limited staff, in the last months of the 06-month period. • In addition, a significant amount of time is spent on other incentive related targets (tax registration etc.) • Spending time participating in periodic staff training sessions.

		• Significant time is required to gather responses from various units and summarize them in order to respond to audit queries. Eg:- appeal, default tax, additional assessments • As a large number of audit queries are received by the same unit, it is difficult to ensure timely responses to each query
05.	No actions had been taken for the recommendations on excesses and shortages & other recommendations revealed by the Board of surveys.	Board of Survey for the year ended as at 31.12.2024 has been concluded and reported the Department of Public Finance. It has been planned to conclude the Board of Survey for the year ended as at 31.12.2025 by 30th of June of the current year, in compliance with the F.R.756(6) as amended by the P.A. Circular No. 01/2020 dated 28.08.2020.
06.	The emblem of the state had not been painted on all pool vehicles.	Since the vehicles are used for emergency investigative purposes, the state emblems have not been painted, as this could cause problems.
07.	Condemned vehicles had not been disposed of within a period of less than 8 months after condemning.	All the vehicles that have received committee recommendation for disposal of condemned vehicles have been referred for disposal.
08.	Actions had not been taken on accidents occurred to motor vehicles owned by the government as per the Financial Regulations.	Investigations are being carried out in line with the Financial Regulations regarding accidents involving government vehicles.
09.	The balances in arrears exceeding 1 year had not been settled.	Action is being taken to recover outstanding loan balances with immediate effect.
10.	Action had not been taken as per F.R.571 in relation to dormant accounts.	All dormant deposits in the General Deposit Account as at 31.12.2023 have now been settled.

11.	The revenue collected had not been directly credited to the revenue or not been remitted to the Revenue account within a period less than one month having maintained them in the deposit account.	This is not a fault of the Inland Revenue Department. As informed by the relevant financial institution, the revenue collected could not be credited to the revenue account in a period less than one month, due to the following reasons: • The online tax payment made on 18.04.2024 was not accounted for on the relevant date due to a computer system error. • The relevant tax payments were corrected on 04.07.2024 and subsequently credited to the Inland Revenue Department on 22.07.2024. In addition, the relevant financial institution has informed that a technical committee has been appointed under the supervision of the Chief Information Officer to rectify the computer error that occurred. It has further been stated that the issue has been investigated, and the process of updating the system has been initiated. The technical committee is also reviewing the internal reconciliation process to regularly identify and prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the future, as well as to verify the accuracy of computer records used for account reconciliations.

I hereby kindly submit the observations of the Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the steps taken in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) for Parliamentary Series No. 492.

Commissioner General
Department of Inland Revenue

Rukdevi P.H. Fernando
Commissioner General of Inland Revenue
Inland Revenue Department
Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha
Colombo 02.

Parliamentary Series No. : **492**

Department : **Inland Revenue Department**

Submission of observations and actions taken by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on the reports of the Committee on Public Accounts tabled in Parliament under Standing Order 119 (4).

Part II: 76.00

No.	**The shortcomings in the report which were identified by the Committee**	**Steps taken by the institute to rectify the shortcomings/ present status**
01.	Performance agreements covering the entire staff had not been drafted or entered.	Although Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24.01.2018 stipulated that this task should be performed, in Circular No. 02/2018(1) dated 30.11.2023, it has been stated that the preparation of such performance agreements is not required.
02	The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a qualified opinion/disclaimed opinion/ an unfavorable opinion.	Following actions have been taken with regard to facts 1.6.1.1, 1.6.1.2, 1.6.1.3, 1.6.2.1 and 1.6.2.2 in the "Auditor General's Summary Report - 2023" relating to the audit opinion on the accounts of the Institute."
03.	Recommendations indicated in the Auditor General's Report had not been implemented.	**1.6.1.1** (a) The tax revenue collected by the Department and remitted to the Treasury is credited to a control account. After classifying the credited revenue according to the relevant revenue code numbers, Value Added Tax is credited to revenue code 1002.01.00, and taxes levied on goods and services are credited to respective control accounts. All other tax revenue, although identified under the respective revenue codes, is credited to the Other Revenue Control Account under revenue code 1004.02.99. At the end of the year, funds are transferred through a transfer slip in order bring the balance of the said control account to zero. According to the observations identified, the discrepancy between the revenue credited by the Department to the other Revenue Control Account and the revenue in the Other Revenue Control Account under revenue classification is indicated on the basis of the following factors. • There are discrepancies between the income collected and remitted to the Treasury by the Bank and the income as per the income classification reports submitted by this Department. This is due to the fact

		that it takes between 03 and 04 weeks to issue debit and credit notes and dishonoured cheque notices to correct the omissions made by the Bank. • Thereafter, it takes around 03 weeks to sort, scan and forward the relevant documents to the respective final officer, and additional time is required for the officers to complete the relevant work items. • It is difficult to rectify the discrepancies within a period of one month, and it is hereby informed that the above variations will accordingly occur. Furthermore, according to the RAMIS and LEGACY systems, if there are any errors or discrepancies in the documents provided by the bank, the process of rectification varies depending on the time required for correction. Due to these reasons, the preparation of income classification reports is delayed resulting in delays in making the relevant accounting entries. • Further, the difference you have pointed out is also attributable to difficulties in classifying income due to the above matters. Accordingly, the discrepancy between the revenue amounting to Rs. 179,505,650.18, was adjusted to the revenue code under 1004.02.99 to make the other Revenue Control Account under 1004.02.99. to zero (c) According to the Suspense Accounts Report dated 31.03.2024, an unsettled contingent balance of Rs. 5,211,312,210.00 was there in RAMIS under TIN No. 100886553 as at 31.12.2023. However, according to the report dated 30.04.2024, the said balance was Rs. 5,067,111,782.24. Although it has been observed that the above balance remained unsettled for more than 08 years, it is hereby informed that a new amount of Rs. 4,055,449,032.80 was added to this balance in the year 2023. Arrangements are being made to settle the outstanding balance accordingly. **1.6.1.2** It was identified in January 2024 that there were discrepancies when comparing the system-generated reports for the months of September, October, November, and December 2023 in respect of Capital Gains Tax. Accordingly, revised Income Classification Reports (A 75) were prepared separately for the respective months and forwarded to the relevant units.

		1.6.1.3 (c) Rs.1,068,469,869/= is the unclassified balance of the Value Added Tax Control Account and since the year-end balance of that control account should be zero, the difference has been transferred to other tax account (1004.02.99). **1.6.2 Non-financial assets** **1.6.2.1** The ownership documents, copies of building plans, building details lists, and design documents requested by the Valuation Department in relation to the valuation of lands in Kurunegala are currently being prepared, as the Department does not have them. Accordingly, it has not been possible to obtain the valuation reports so far. **1.6.2.2** . A committee has been appointed with the intervention of the Ministry of Finance to decide future measures with regard to the proposed vehicle park and a report has been called from the National Building Research Institute (NBRI) on the construction work already carried out at the vehicle park. Upon receipt of the said report, a decision is to be taken regarding the signing of a contract for the implementation of future measures in this regard."
04	All public officers had not submitted their declarations of assets and liabilities.	Except one officer who was unwell, all other officers had submitted their declarations of Assets and Liabilities for the year 2025 and the said officer had also submitted his Declaration of Assets and Liabilities on 14.07.2025.
05.	The necessary action had not been taken to recover the loss caused to the Government by the officers as per Financial Regulation 156 (1).	No incidents exceeding threshold for action under Section 156(1) were reported during the investigations conducted within the relevant period.
06.	Surcharges ordered to pay as per FR 119 had not been recovered.	No incidents reported exceeding the respective limit for the recovery of surcharge.

I hereby kindly submit the observations of the Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the steps taken in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) for Parliamentary Series No. 492.

Commissioner General
Department of Inland Revenue

Rukdevi P.H. Fernando
Commissioner General of Inland Revenue
Inland Revenue Department
Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha
Colombo 02.

Form (No. 01)

Parliamentary Series No. 492

Sri Lanka Customs Department

	Deficiencies Identified by the Committee Mentioned in the Report	Steps Taken/ Current Status by the Institution to Rectify the Deficiencies
Part One: 65.00		
1	The Fixed Assets Module of the SIGTAS program had not been kept up to date in accordance with Paragraphs 8.1 and 8.2 of the Department of State Accounts Guideline No. 2022/05 dated 13.12.2022.	Necessary arrangements have been made to maintain all assets of the institution on an up-to-date basis through the Fixed Assets Module of the SIGTAS program. Work is still in progress with regard to several land and building assets, while the remaining fixed assets have been identified and accounted.
2	The Annual Action Plan had not been prepared.	The 2023 Action Plan of Sri Lanka Customs has been prepared in accordance with Paragraph 03 of Public Finance Circular 02/2020 and submitted to the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies for approval on 16.01.2023. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies has informed Sri Lanka Customs by letter dated 08.02.2023 that the said Action Plan has been approved. (Annexure 1 and Annexure 11)
3	Replies had not been provided within one month for every audit inquiry submitted by the Auditor General.	Arrangements have been made to submit answers within a month
4	Instances were reported where replies had not been provided within one month for internal audit inquiries.	Arrangements have been made to submit answers within a month
5	Information regarding assets purchased and disposals made during the year 2018 had not been submitted to the Office of the Comptroller General in accordance with Paragraph 7 of the Asset	Asset acquisitions and disposals have been carried out as required, and necessary steps are being taken to report in accordance with the relevant circulars.

	Deficiencies Identified by the Committee Mentioned in the Report	Steps Taken/ Current Status by the Institution to Rectify the Deficiencies
	Management Circular No. 01/2017 dated 26.06.2017.	
6	Stock surveys had not been conducted within the time frame specified in Paragraph 11.1 of Part 1 of the Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 dated 28.08.2020, as per F.R. 756(6), and the relevant reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General by the stipulated date.	Steps are being taken to submit the stock survey reports for the year ending 31.12.2024 to the Auditor General.
7	Recommendations regarding surpluses and shortages revealed by the annual stock survey, as well as other recommendations, had not been implemented within the stipulated time periods.	Section heads have been instructed to enter surplus quantities identified during the annual stock survey into the relevant stock registers and to report reasons for the shortages.
8	Daily mileage logs and monthly summary reports for pool vehicles had not been submitted to the Auditor General.	Although daily running sheets were not submitted within the stipulated time period previously, they are being submitted on a monthly basis from January 2026.
9	The government emblem had not been painted on all vehicles.	Steps will be taken in the future to paint the national emblem on vehicles.
10	A vehicle that had become condemned had not been disposed of within a period of less than 8 months.	Arrangements have been made to dispose of condemned vehicles.
11	Proper action had not been taken in accordance with Financial Regulations regarding government vehicle accidents.	Work relating to the relevant files is in progress.
12	Balances identified in bank reconciliation statements that required reconciliation had not been cleared within one month in terms of Financial Regulations.	Prompt action will be taken regarding balances that need to be reconciled, and I am currently taking necessary measures to do so within one month.
13	Liabilities had been made in excess of the provision limit remaining at the end of the year after utilizing the provision	In the year 2025, operations have not exceeded the allocation limit as per F.R. 94(1). I further wish to inform that there have been instances

	Deficiencies Identified by the Committee Mentioned in the Report	Steps Taken/ Current Status by the Institution to Rectify the Deficiencies
	allocated for an expenditure head, in terms of F.R. 94(1).	where action was taken in accordance with F.R. 94(2).
14	Outstanding debit balances that had been carried forward for more than one year existed.	I wish to inform that the necessary recoveries are still being carried out.
15	Ad hoc Imprests issued under F.R. 371 had not been cleared within one month of the completion of the relevant duties.	Steps have been taken to make the relevant responsible officers aware of this matter.
16	Ad hoc Imprests had been issued in excess of the limit stipulated in F.R. 371.	At present, no Ad hoc imprests advances exceeding the limit have been issued, and all actions have been carried out subject to the applicable limits.
17	Steps had not been initiated to properly submit the Annual Performance Report to Parliament.	The English copy of the Annual Performance Report for the year 2022 was forwarded to the Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies by letter dated 07.07.2023. Printed copies and CDs of the 2022 Annual Performance Report of Sri Lanka Customs in all three languages were handed over to the Office of the Leader of the House of Parliament on 08.09.2023. Furthermore, the English copy of the Annual Performance Report for the year 2023 was forwarded to the Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies by letter dated 04.06.2024. Printed copies and CDs of the 2023 Annual Performance Report prepared in all three languages were handed over to the Office of the Leader of the House of Parliament on 21.08.2024.
18	Written duty lists had not been given to all members of the staff.	Steps have been taken to assign written duty lists to all members of the staff.

	Deficiencies Identified by the Committee Mentioned in the Report	Steps Taken/ Current Status by the Institution to Rectify the Deficiencies
19	Required action had not been taken regarding foreign aid received by the institution, in accordance with the provisions of State Accounts Circular No. 30/94 dated 20.04.1994.	Measures have been taken to make the necessary corrections and accounting activities have been carried out accordingly.
Part Two: 59.00		
1	Targets to be achieved in order to accomplish the identified sustainable goals had not been determined.	Targets to be achieved for identified Sustainable Development Goals and indicators to measure the progress of their implementation have been included in the 2024 Performance Report and the draft 2025 Performance Report.
2	Indicators had not been specified to measure the progress of implementing the identified Sustainable Development Goals.	
3	A mechanism had not been established to monitor or evaluate the implementation of the Citizen's / Service Recipient's Charter in accordance with the Ministry of Public Administration and Management Circular No. 05/2008 dated 06.02.2008, as amended by Circular No. 05/2018(1) dated 24.01.2018.	The Citizen/Client Charter relevant to Sri Lanka Customs has been drafted in accordance with the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 05/2008(II) dated 01.09.2025, and steps are being taken to publish the Citizen/Client Charter as mentioned in Presidential Secretariat Circular No. PS/SB/Circular/2/2025 dated 18.02.2025.
4	A mechanism had not been established to monitor or evaluate the implementation of the institution's Citizen/Client Charter	
5	Performance agreements had not been prepared and entered into, covering all staff members.	Performance agreements have been prepared and entered into with the entire staff, and performance-based allowances and annual salary increments are also paid accordingly.
6	The audit opinion on the institution's accounts was at a qualified / disclaimer / adverse level.	Attention has been drawn to the matters affecting the audit opinion highlighted by the audit, and necessary corrections are being made on a structural basis.
7	The recommendations in the Auditor General's report had not been implemented.	The recommendations of the Auditor General's Report have been implemented.

	Deficiencies Identified by the Committee Mentioned in the Report	Steps Taken/ Current Status by the Institution to Rectify the Deficiencies
8	The recommendations / directives of the Committee on Public Accounts had not been implemented.	The recommendations/directions of the Committee on Government Accounts have been implemented.
9	All officers had not submitted declarations of assets and liabilities.	All relevant officers have been informed to submit statements of assets and liabilities

I kindly submit the above information regarding the actions taken and observations made in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4), pertaining to the Sri Lanka Custom Department, for Parliamentary Series No. 492.

Sgd
Director Genaral
Sri Lanka Custom Department

Name of the Department : Sri Lanka Excise Department

Parliamentary Series Number : 492

Submission of particulars on the steps taken and observations made regarding the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4).

<table>
<tr><th>Number</th><th>Deficiencies identified by the Committee</th><th>Measures taken by the Institution to address the deficiencies / Present Status</th></tr>
<tr><td>Part One

82.00</td><td>In terms of State Account Circular No. 171/2004 of 11.05.2004 the first, the second and the third passwords of the software system was not changed every three months</td><td>Instructions and guidelines have been issued to ensure the rotation of duties of all officers engaged in salary-related functions every three years, and the updating of passwords every six months, with effect from 01.05.2026. Continuous monitoring of these activities has been assigned to the accountant (Payments).</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Answers had not been sent to all the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month after receiving such audit queries.</td><td>All audit inquiries received during the year 2025 were responded to within one month. For audit queries requiring special attention and detailed responses, requests for additional time were duly submitted. (Annexure 01)</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>There had been instances where internal audit queries had not been answered within a period of 1 month.</td><td>All internal audit queries received during the year 2025 have been responded to within one month.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Internal audit programme had not been prepared at the beginning of the year after consulting the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134(2)</td><td>At the end of each year, the Audit Management Committee has taken steps to prepare an annual internal audit plan based on the recommendations and concurrence of the Auditor General's representative. The details are as follows:
<table>
<tr><th>Year</th><th>Approved Date of the internal audit plan</th></tr>
<tr><td>2024</td><td>18 December 2023</td></tr>
<tr><td>2025</td><td>25 November 2025</td></tr>
<tr><td>2026</td><td>02 January 2026</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>The emblem of the state had not been painted on all pool vehicles</td><td>In accordance with the relevant circular, the Deputy Commissioner of Excise (Logistics) has been assigned the responsibility of affixing the National Emblem on reserve vehicles of the Sri Lanka Excise Department, excluding motor vehicles utilized for raids and operational activities.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Bank reconciliation statements had not been prepared, certified and submitted for audit on the due date.</td><td>Bank reconciliation statements for each relevant month are submitted for audit on or before the 10th day of the following month.</td></tr>
</table>

	The balances in arrears exceeding 1 year had not been settled. The revenue collected had not been directly credited to the revenue or not been remitted to the Revenue account within a period less than one month having maintained them in the deposit account. The revenue that was collected had not been reimbursed in terms of respective provisions.	The progress, as at 30 April 2026, on outstanding loan balances that have remained overdue for more than one year is presented in Annexure 02. This matter has been resolved, as the Bank of Ceylon has taken steps to credit all collections to Account No. 7041629 maintained at the Taprobane Branch. Action has been taken to process applications for, and grant, export tax concessions in accordance with Circular No. 03/2024 dated 31 May 2024 of the Sri Lanka Excise Department.
Part 2 70.00	Citizen/ client charter had not been prepared or applied properly as per the circular number 05/2008 of Ministry of Public Administration and Management dated 06.02.2008 as amended by circular No. 05/2018(1) dated 24.01.2018. A methodology had not been formulated to monitor and evaluate the application of citizen/ client charter by the institution. The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a qualified opinion/disclaimed opinion/ an unfavorable opinion. Recommendations indicated in the Auditor General's Report had not been implemented. The directives/ recommendations issued by the Committee on Public Accounts had not been implemented.	It has been reported that all relevant activities required for the implementation of the Citizen/Client Charter have been completed. (Annexure 03) It has been implemented recommendations of the Auditor General's Report and recommendations/Orders of the Government Committee on Public Accounts.

I kindly submit the above information regarding the actions taken and observations made in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4), pertaining to the Sri Lanka Excise Department, for Parliamentary Series No. 492.

R. R. Bulathsinhala
Chief Finance Officer
Excise Department of Sri Lanka
No. 353, Kotte Road, Rajagiriya.

R.R. Bulathsinhala
Chief Financial Officer
For Commissioner General of Excise

Name of the Department : **State Valuation Department**
Parliament Publications Serial No. : **492**

Steps and Observations taken according to the Report issued by the Select Committee for Accounts under the Standing Order No. 119(4).

No.	**Deficiencies identified by the Select Committee and identified in the report**	**Steps and Observations taken by the Institution to address the deficiencies.**
	Part One: 89.00	
01	Non-submission of information on disposal of property to the Office of the Comptroller General.	Information on the purchase and disposal of assets from the year 2018 to the year 2022 has been sent to the Office of the Comptroller General on 05.01.2023. Subsequently, the information was sent to the Office of the Comptroller General on an annual basis and the information on the purchase and possession of assets up to 31.12.2025 was sent to the Office of the Comptroller General on 02.02.2026.
02	An annual survey of goods was carried out and the report was not sent to the Auditor General on the due date.	The Annual Survey Reports for the year 2023 could not be submitted to the Auditor General on the due date and action has been taken to submit them later. At present, the activities related to the Annual Survey of goods are carried out properly in accordance with the financial regulations.
03	Expenditure incurred beyond the allocation limit.	In the year 2023, after the establishment of the Western North Valuation Office at the Gampaha District Secretariat, the District Secretariat had submitted vouchers for total value without any classification of electricity, water, security, sanitation, maintenance and air conditioning expenses. Since the vouchers were presented as total value without any classification, Those expenses were recorded under the vote of '1409 - other expenses', and from the year 2024 onwards the expenditures were presented by the District Secretariat with a proper classification will be reported under the each vote accurately.

04	The income collected should have been directly credited to the income or not credited to the income account within a period of less than one month from the date of retaining it in the deposit account.	All daily charges, which are deposited to the new collection account opened as per the instructions of the Department of Treasury Operations, will be credited directly to the revenue account as per the automatic remittance procedure to the Treasury on the same day. In addition, the advance received for the assessment valuation will be retained in the deposit account and credited to the income after the assessment valuation is completed. Charges for assessments completed up to 31.12.2025 have been credited to the Imprest Account.
05	All of the Staff are assigned the duties not in writing.	At present, all the staff members have been assigned the duties in writing.
	Part Two: 88.00	
06	No system has been developed to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Citizen/Service Recipient Charter.	A system has been prepared to oversee the implementation of the Citizen/Service Recipient Charter.
07	Not all officers have submitted declarations of assets and liabilities	Even if all officers have not made declarations of assets and liabilities on the due date, since then, steps have been taken to obtain declarations of assets and liabilities from all theofficers for the past years. From 2025, action has been taken to submit declarations of assets and liabilities to the Anti-Corruption Commission in accordance with the Act No. 09 of 2023.
08	Action has not been taken to transfer the officers who have completed the maximum period of stipulated service.	Action has been taken to transfer all the officers who have been issued the annual transfer orders of the Director General of Combined Services. Officers of Sri Lanka Valuation Service have been transferred as per the terms of annual transfers.

The information on the observations and measures taken by the Chief Valuer, Department of Government Valuation in relation to the reports submitted by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) for Parliamentary Series No.492 are submitted as above.

A.S.W.K.Nanayakkara
Chief Valuer
Department of Government Valuation

A.S.W.K. Nanayak...
Government Chief Valu...
Department of Government Valuat...
No. 748, Maradana Road,
Colombo 10.

FORM (No. 01)

Name of the Institution: Imports and Exports Control Department

Parliamentary Series No: 492

Submission of Information on the Actions Taken and Observations Made in Relation to the Reports Submitted by the Public Accounts Committee under Standing Order No. 119(4)

Number	Shortcomings identified by the Committee	Action taken by the Institution to rectify the same/current status
1.	Responses to the audit queries submitted by the Auditor General had not been provided within one month.	The relevant officials have been instructed to respond to every audit query submitted by the Auditor General within a specific time frame.
2.	There were cases reported in which internal audit queries had not been answered within one month.	Relevant officials have been instructed to ensure that all internal audit inquiries are responded to within the stipulated time frame.
3.	Failure to submit information on assets purchased and disposals in the year 2018 to the Office of the Comptroller General, in accordance with Paragraph 7 of Asset Management Circular No. 01/2017 dated 26. 06. 2017.	No vehicle purchases or disposals have been carried out in accordance with Paragraph 7 of the said circular.
4.	The recommendations regarding surpluses, shortages, and other findings revealed in the annual stock verification had not been implemented within the stipulated time frame.	Instructions have been issued to the relevant officers to carry out annual stock verification activities within the prescribed timeline in accordance with Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020.
5.	Lack of documentation confirming ownership of all vehicles.	The Department currently holds the registration certificates for six government-owned vehicles in its possession.
6.	Existence of outstanding loan balances that have remained unpaid for more than one year.	Outstanding debts exist in respect of officers who have left the service and officers who have been suspended. One officer has settled a sum of Rs. 234,620.00 to date. Action has been taken to recover the balance loan amount of Rs. 235,557.00 from the guarantor. Further, steps have been taken to obtain advice and legal assistance from the Attorney General's Department regarding the

		recovery of other outstanding loan balances of Rs. 168,977.00, Rs. 238,000.00, and Rs. 335,753.00 from the relevant debtors, and action will be taken accordingly upon receipt of instructions from the Attorney General's Department.
7.	The ad hoc interim orders issued under FR 371 had not been settled within one month of completion of the work.	The Accounts Division has issued a letter to the staff officers instructing them to obtain interim approval and settle the relevant work within 10 days of completion.
8.	Necessary action had not been taken in accordance with the provisions of Public Accounts Circular No. 30/94 dated 20.04.1994 in respect of foreign aid received by the institution.	Provision has been made to account for computers and software acquired as foreign capital under the EXBS program, and they have now been duly accounted for.
9.	The audit opinion on the accounts of the institution was unqualified/adverse.	The audit opinion on the accounts for the year 2024 was not an unqualified or adverse opinion, but was a qualified opinion.
10.	The recommendations of the Auditor General's report had not been implemented.	The officers have been informed of the recommendations and instructed to take appropriate action accordingly.
11.	The recommendations/orders of the Committee on Public Accounts had not been implemented.	The officers have been informed of the recommendations/orders and instructed to act in accordance with the said orders.

It is kindly submitted that the above information on the actions taken and observations made in relation to the reports submitted by the Public Accounts Committee under Standing Order No. 119(4), concerning the Department of Import and Export Control, is submitted for inclusion in Parliamentary Series No. 492.

T.T. Upulmalee Premathilaka
Controller General of Imports and Exports
Department of Imports & Exports Control
Colombo 01.

T.T. Upulmalee Premathilaka
Controller General of Imports and Exports
Imports and Exports Control Department.

Name of Department : Department of Census and Statistics
Parliamentary Publication No. : 492

Submission of information on actions taken and observations regarding reports presented by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order 119(4).

Part I : 79.00

No.	Shortcomings Identified by the Committee	Actions taken by the Institution to rectify the Shortcoming / Current Status
1.	Risk register had not been maintained in an updated manner.	Actions have been taken to prepare the relevant risk register annually and include it in the internal audit plan file of the respective year.
2.	Responses had not been provided within one month for all audit queries raised by the Auditor General.	A total of 14 audit queries were issued by the Auditor General during the year 2023, and responses have been provided within the stipulated time period for all except a few Audit queries require obtaining information from various divisions and district statistics offices, which takes a considerable amount of time. Additionally, the frequent transfers of subject officers also affect the ability to submit responses to audit queries within the stipulated time.
3.	Instances were reported where responses to internal audit queries were not provided within one month.	A total of 18 internal audit queries were issued during the year 2023, and responses have been provided within the stipulated time period for all except a few queries. Audit queries require obtaining information from various divisions and district statistics offices, which takes a considerable amount of time. Additionally, the frequent transfers of subject officers also affect the ability to submit responses to audit queries within the stipulated time.
4.	Information on assets purchased and disposed of in 2018 had not been submitted to the Comptroller General as per Paragraph 7 of Asset Management Circular No. 01/2017 dated 26.06.2017.	From 2025, actions have been taken to submit this information quarterly to the Comptroller General's Office.

5.	Recommendations regarding surpluses and shortages identified in the annual board of survey, as well as other recommendations, had not been implemented within the stipulated timeframe.	For the year 2023 and the preceding years, a total of 619 discrepancies were identified through the annual board of survey. Committees were appointed to review these discrepancies, and based on their recommendations; necessary actions were completed for 604 discrepancies during the years 2024/2025. For the remaining 15 discrepancies that require further investigation, a committee has been appointed to obtain recommendations, and subsequent actions will be taken upon receipt of the committee report. Similarly, with regard to the discrepancies revealed by the board of survey for the year 2023/2024, committees were appointed and actions have been taken in accordance with their recommendations. The appointment of boards of inquiry and the decision-making process took a considerable amount of time, and only a few discrepancies remain pending for further action. The current progress relating to those shortages/ excesses is presented as Annex 01 and Annex 02.
6.	Government emblem had not been painted on all vehicles.	Procurement activities have been planned to paint the government emblem on all vehicles under the department.
7.	A vehicle had not been disposed of within 8 months after being condemned.	Out of the four vehicles scheduled for disposal, disposal activities for three vehicles have been completed and arrangements have been made to remove them from the CIGAS records. With regard to vehicle PC - 2421, the F.R. 104(4) report has been submitted to the Secretary of the Ministry of Finance. Further actions will be taken in accordance with the instructions received for that report.
8.	Outstanding loan balances older than one year existed.	i. The recovery of Rs. 59,140.00 due from M.S.M. Safras of the K.S. Service has been referred to the Attorney General for legal action, and no response has been received to date. ii. With regard to the recovery of Rs. 104,250.00 from M.G.D.K. Priyakelum of the K.S. Service, a letter has been sent to the Wattala Divisional Secretariat, in accordance with the letter No. PFD/RED/WO/42/2024 dated 2025-01-28 issued by the Director General of Public Finance, requesting a report on the debtor's assets from the Grama Niladhari of the area of residence. iii. In recovering the outstanding loan balance of Rs. 107,200.00 from T.N. Pitigala, a former ICT Assistant who has left the service, inquiries revealed (through the Hanwella Divisional Secretariat) that the officer is not

		residing at the permanent address, as informed by her spouse to the Grama Niladhari. Accordingly, the Officer-in-Charge of the Hanwella Police Station was contacted on 2024-09-09 for further confirmation. After sending a reminder, it was informed on 2025-10-29 that the address does not fall within that police jurisdiction but belongs to the Avissawella Police area. A letter was then sent to the Avissawella Police Station, which later informed on 2026-03-17 that the address falls under the Kosgama Police jurisdiction. Accordingly, a letter was sent to the Kosgama Police Station on 2026-04-09, and no response has been received to date. iv. Reminder letters have been sent to P.D.B.M. Lankanath of the Office Employees' Service, requesting settlement of the outstanding loan balance. As no response has been received, action has been taken to refer the matter to the Attorney General. v. M.P.B. Wickramasinghe, Data Entry Operator/Coding Clerk, has been retired on medical grounds based on the recommendation of a medical board. Arrangements are being made to recover the amount of Rs. 192,880.00 due from the officer through the pension gratuity. vi. The amount recoverable from Driver U.K.K.H. Wijebandara has been included in Form PD 03 to facilitate recovery from the pension gratuity. vii. Disciplinary action has been initiated against Statistical Officer P.M.W.K. Rathnayake, with suspension effective from 2025-05-30. Preliminary investigations have been completed, and action is underway to issue the charge sheet. viii. Legal action has been instituted in the Colombo District Court under case No. DMR 2724/2020 to recover Rs. 95,140.00 from Statistical Officer M.B.R.J. Bandara.
9.	Actions had not been taken as per Financial Regulation 571.	Except for two retained deposits related to procurement, all other deposits have been settled in accordance with FR 571. Currently, no deposits older than two years remain in the general deposit account.
10.	Advances issued under FR 371 had not been settled within one month after completion of the task.	Even though it had been taken more than one month to settle an advance given an officer at present, all advances are being settled within one month.
11.	Recruitment had been made exceeding the approved cadre limits.	This issue exists only in relation to the Development Officers' Service. On various occasions, Development Officers were attached to the Department by the Ministry of Public Administration. Requests were made at those times to revise the approved cadre; however, it was advised to submit such revisions for approval collectively after the completion of the

		attachments, rather than making revisions periodically. However, the final number of approved Development Officers was lower than the number of Development Officers serving in the Department at that time. As a result, an excess of Development Officers was reported in the Department. Nevertheless, in accordance with Section 2.6 of Public Administration Circular No. 14/2022(iv) dated 07.06.2024, officers who have obtained local and foreign leave are considered as vacancies. Accordingly, it is reported that there is no excess of Development Officers in the Department.

Part II : 76.00

No.	Shortcomings Identified by the Report	Actions taken by the Institution to rectify the Shortcoming / Current Status
1 2	Targets required to achieve identified sustainable development goals had not been determined. Indicators had not been established to measure progress in implementing identified sustainable development goals.	The following targets and indicators under Sustainable Development Goal 17 were identified as directly relevant to the Department of Census and Statistics. **Targets** **Indicators** 17.18 17.18.2 17.18 17.18.3 17.19 17.19.2 (a) The actions currently taken by the department to achieve these indicators are; • Indicator 17.18.2 Action has been initiated to modernize the National Statistics Law in line with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Cabinet approval has been obtained for the drafting of the relevant Act. The proposal prepared by the Department has been forwarded for drafting. Required revisions to the draft Bill are currently being carried out in consultation with the Legal Draftsman. • Indicator 17.18.3 The Department of Census and Statistics established the Statistical Development and International Cooperation (SDIC) Unit under the Departmental Circular No. 01/2024 dated 22.01.2024 to be acted as the coordinating body for the preparation of the Sri Lanka Strategy for the Development of Statistics (SLSDS). 2025 progress; During 2025, significant progress was made toward finalizing the Sri Lanka Strategy for the Development of Statistics (SLSDS) and strengthening the institutional and technical foundations necessary for its implementation. The draft SLSDS document was finalized and forwarded to a professional designer for page setting in order to prepare the printable version. Following the completion of layout design, the document was carefully proofread and revised. The final version is now ready to be submitted to the Steering Committee for review and endorsement before forwarding it for the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers. The following tasks are currently being carried out in relation to the said strategy until its approval. (i) In support of improving statistical quality management, discussions were held with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) on the implementation of the United Nations National Quality Assurance Framework (UN NQAF). As the first step in implementing the framework, a series of six online workshops has been planned to be conducted by an UNSD expert on the UN NQAF.

		(ii) The National Indicator Framework was updated, and the development of a dedicated web portal to host the framework is currently in progress. (iii) A research collaboration was also established with the French Embassy, further broadening international engagement in statistical development initiatives. Under this initiative, further training was provided to departmental officers in research activities and data analysis. • Indicator 17.19.2 (a) The Population and Housing Census is conducted every ten years, and the 15th Population and Housing Census was held in 2024.
3	Performance agreements had not been prepared and signed covering the entire staff.	Performance agreements have not been prepared. In accordance with Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 (I), signing of annual performance agreements is not required from the year 2023 onwards.
4	Recommendations in the Auditor General's report had not been implemented.	Recommendations highlighted in Auditor General's reports are implemented whenever possible.
5	Asset and liability declarations of all officers had not been submitted.	As at the closing date for submission of asset and liability declarations for the year 2025 (subject to penalty), i.e., 2025-08-31, all officers had submitted their asset and liability declarations except the following two officers: • Mr. P. Subhanandan – Statistical Officer • Mr. H.A.Y.N. Hatangala – Statistical Officer In accordance with written instructions from the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, a further notice was sent by registered post on 2026-04-27 instructing the above-mentioned two officers to submit their asset and liability declarations for the previous year.
6	Recoveries had not been made from officers for losses to the government as per FR 156(1).	**Loss of Printing Paper at the 16/7 Premises** Among the officers charged in relation to the above matter, the following officers have agreed to make payments for the loss incurred to the Government under the specified installment plans, and payments are currently being made accordingly. Name / Position / Number of Installments: Mrs. U.V. Jayakodi / Additional Director General I / 24 Mr. M.L.K.P. Kumara / Statistician / 36 Mr. O.C.S.K. De Silva / Work Supervisor / 36

		Retired Director General P. M. P. Anura Kumara has been informed to settle the relevant amount in 12 installments, and Development Officer J. A. Dharmadasa has submitted a letter to the Ministry. Accordingly, actions will be taken as per the instructions of the Ministry to recover the amount due from him. The amount of Rs. 300,900.00 recoverable from D. M. Sumith Jayananda, a Junior Security Officer who served under Rakna Arakshaka Lanka Ltd., was paid by Rakna Arakshaka Lanka Ltd. on 07.01.2026.
7	Officers who had completed maximum service period had not been properly transferred.	The annual transfers of Statistical Officers for the year 2025 were delayed by approximately one and a half months due to the Population and Housing Census, and were implemented with effect from 17.02.2025. The transfers for the year 2026 were also arranged to be implemented from 03.03.2026 in accordance with the prescribed procedures. As the revision of the transfer procedure for Statistical Officers had been referred to the Public Service Commission, the annual transfers for 2025 could not be carried out. Subsequently, the Public Service Commission informed to proceed with the transfers for 2026 according to the existing procedure without making the proposed revisions. Accordingly, the transfers of Statistical Officers for the year 2026 were implemented with effect from 03.03.2026.

With reference to Parliamentary Series No. 492, I hereby kindly submit the information regarding the actions taken and observations made in relation to the reports presented by the Committee on Public Accounts under Standing Order No. 119(4) concerning the Department of Census and Statistics.

K M D S D. Karunaratne

K.M.D.S.D. Karunaratne
Director General,
Department of Census and Statistics

2026.05.05