Parliament Session No.-492

Name of the institution – Ministry of Lands, Land commissioner General's Department, Land Title Settlement Department ,Servey Department of Sri Lanka, , Department of Land Use Policy Planning

Submission of the observations and steps Taken by the Hon. Minister in charge of the institute under the standing order No'119(4) related to the reports tabled into the parliament by the committee of Public Accounts (COPA) to the parliament.

Presenting observations and actions taken regarding the report submitted to Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of Standing Order No. 119(4).(2023)

Parliamentary Session No. - 492

Name of the Institution - Land Section

First Part: 83.00

Serial No.	Weaknesses and shortcomings identified by the Committee	Corrective actions taken / Current status
1	Responses were not provided within a month for each audit query submitted by the Auditor General.	All officers have been informed to respond promptly to all audit inquiries.
2	Instances were reported where responses to internal audit inquiries were not provided within a month.	All officers have been informed to respond promptly.
3	The State emblem had not been painted on all vehicles.	By the end of 2025, the State emblem and the name of the Ministry had been affixed to the pool vehicles of the ministry. Arrangements have been made to display temporary State emblems on vehicles assigned to officers, in accordance with Public Administration Circular No. 26/92.
4	A condemned vehicle had not been disposed of within a period of less than 8 months.	There are currently no condemned vehicles in the possession of the Ministry, and arrangements have been made to dispose of economically unviable vehicles, and an auction was held by the Agriculture Division on 24.03.2026.
5	Log books had not been maintained up to date for all vehicles.	Vehicle log books are being maintained up to date.
6	Proper action had not been taken in accordance with F.R. regarding accidents involving government vehicles.	At present, action is taken in accordance with F.R. for all accidents involving government vehicles.
7	Provisions had been allocated to other institutions outside the specified period.	Instructions have been issued to prevent such situations. Measures have been taken to ensure that such situations do not occur at present.

Second Part: 82.00

1	The Citizens'/Clients' Charter had not been properly prepared and implemented in accordance with Circular No. 05/2008 dated 06.02.2008 of the Ministry of Public Administration and Management, as amended by Circular No. 05/2018(1) dated 24.01.2018.	Arrangements have been made to prepare and make the Citizens'/Clients' Charter available for public display.
2	A mechanism had not been devised to monitor or evaluate the implementation of the Citizens'/Clients' Charter of the institution.	The responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the Citizens'/Clients' Charter has been assigned to the respective heads of divisions, and arrangements are being made to establish further appropriate mechanisms.
3	The number of training opportunities provided from the planned training programmes was at a level below 50%.	At present, the Annual Human Resource Development Plan has been prepared and, accordingly, officers are being directed to training opportunities. Physical and financial progress is being maintained at a level exceeding 50%.
4	Recoveries had not been made in accordance with F.R. 156(1) in respect of losses caused to the Government by officers.	Recoveries have been made in respect of losses caused to the Government by officers, and in respect of the remaining recoverable losses, the relevant officers have been informed and the matters have been referred to the Attorney General.

Submission of observations and steps taken with regard to the report presented to the Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of Standing Order No. 119(4) - 2023

Parliamentary Series Number: 492

Name of the Institution: Land Commissioner General's Department

No.	Shortcomings identified by the Committee	Current status of the action taken to rectify the shortcomings
1.	Answers had not been sent to all the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month after receiving such audit queries.	In instances where the information necessary to respond to certain audit queries must be obtained from Inter Provincial offices or other external institutions, additional time is required. Consequently, the period needed to provide comprehensive responses may exceed one month. In such cases, formal written requests have been submitted to the Auditor General seeking extensions of time to furnish the required information. Furthermore, instructions have been issued to the relevant divisions and officers to expedite the preparation and submission of responses to the Auditor General's audit queries.
2.	Failure to provide answers to internal audit queries within a month	All divisions of the Department have been instructed to submit their responses to audit queries within the stipulated time frame.
3.	Condemned vehicles had not been disposed of within a period of less than 8 months after condemning.	The vehicle, TATA Lorry 40-8230 was disposed of on 06.09.2024.
4.	Log books on all vehicles were not maintained on up to date basis.	Logbooks are updated and maintained for each vehicle.
5.	Consequent to the utilization of provisions allocated for a vote as per FR 94(1), liabilities were exceeding the provisions that remained at the end of the year.	Those situations have been rectified, and currently no liabilities have been incurred in excess of the remaining appropriation limit.
6.	The balances in arrears exceeding 1 year had not been settled.	(a) The death gratuities of the deceased officers, namely Mr. W.M.A.P. Dissanayake, Mr. Priyanjana Silva, and Mr. V.G.S. MihiraBandara, have been forwarded to the Department of Pensions for processing. The documents required for processing the Widow's and Orphans' Pension relating to the spouse of Mr. M.G. Kudabanda have also been submitted to the Department of Pensions. Accordingly, the outstanding loan balances shall be recovered upon finalization of the aforementioned

		death gratuities and the Widow's and Orphans' Pension. (b) With regard to the outstanding loan balances recoverable from interdicted officers, Mr. D. Pushpakumara, who has an outstanding balance of Rs. 99,180.44, and Mr. A.S. Liyanarachchi, who has an outstanding balance of Rs. 44,979.56, have been formally notified to settle their respective dues. (c) The current outstanding loan balance recoverable from officers who have vacated their posts amounts to Rs. 154,354.00. A final notice was issued on 1 April 2026, requesting settlement of the outstanding arrears. Furthermore, the relevant file has been referred to the Legal Division for onward submission to the Attorney General's Department to initiate legal action.
7.	Action had not been taken as per F.R.571 in relation to dormant accounts.	There are no dormant accounts.
8.	The ad hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 had not been settled within one month from the completion of the task.	This situation has been addressed. The relevant officials have been informed.
9.	The staff had been recruited/attached exceeding the approved limits	Staff recruitment has been carried out only within the approved limit.
10.	The staff details of the institution had not been sent to the Department of Management Services in line with the Management Services Circular No.04/2017 dated 20.09.2017	Staff details are updated and submitted to the Department of Management Services within one month following the end of each quarter.
11.	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	The Citizen / Client Charter has been duly prepared and displayed for public viewing.
12.	A methodology had not been formulated to monitor and	The Citizen / Client Charter has been displayed and it has been proposed to appoint a committee in the future to

	evaluate the application of citizen/ client charter by the institution.	monitor and evaluate its implementation.
13.	Out of the training opportunities planned, the extent of training opportunities granted, was less than 50%.	Due to limited availability of funds and the resulting constraints in conducting training programs in accordance with cost-control circulars, only a limited number of training sessions have been conducted. However, arrangements have been made to provide training opportunities to more than 50% of staff commencing from 2026, and steps are being taken to prepare the Human Resources Plan.
14.	The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a qualified opinion/disclaimed opinion/ an unfavorable opinion.	Qualified opinion

Submitting the observations and actions taken in relation to the report presented to the parliament by the Committee On Public Accounts in terms of Standing Order No.119(4) (2023)

Parliament Session Number: 492

Name of the institute: Land Title Settlement Department

Serial No.	Weaknesses /deficiencies identified by the committee	Actions taken to rectify / current situation
01	Replies had not been forwarded to the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month.	Action is taken to provide replies within one month wheneverpossible . Instructions have been given to the relevant Regional offices and relevant sectors to submit replies immediately.
02	There were instances that replies had not been provided for the internal audit queries within one month.	Even though there are instances of such delays in providing replies by calling replies from regional offices, instructions have been given to the relevant Regional offices and relevant sectors to submit replies immediately
03	Letters of confirming the ownership of all the vehicles are not in possession.	Out of 40 vehicles belonging to the Department, only 39 vehicles have letters of confirming the ownership. Other vehicle has been donated to the department belonging to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The documents required for transferring of only one vehicle bearing No.65-0748 have been handed over to the department.
04	A vehicle which was condemned had not been disposed at a period of less than 8 months.	The vehicle bearing No.53-0049 has been auctioned by calling bids on 11/10/2024
05	Non maintaining of log books in an updated manner for every vehicle.	Log books for allvehicles have been updated.
06	In terms of FR 94(1) from the provisions provided for an Object Code , commitment had been incurred so as to exceedthe provisions limit remained at the end of the year, after utilized.	Commitment has not been incurred to exceed the provisions in theyears 2024 , 2025.
07	Existence of outstanding loan balances from the period more than one year.	All outstanding loan balances more than one year which were remained as at 31.12.2023 have been settled by

		now. Outstanding loan balances more than one year at present are as follows. Retired - 502,091 Suspended - 30,271 Vacation of post -5,700 538,062 Action is being taken to settle these loan balances.
08	Action had not been taken in terms of FR571 in relation to the lapsed deposits in General Deposit Account	There are no laps deposits as at 31.12.2025
09	In terms of FR 371, ad-hoc imprest issued had not been settled within one month immediately after the completion of the purpose .	Even though certain delays occurred in settling of ad-hoc imprests provided for regional offices, instructions have been given so as to settle the advances immediately after the completion of the purpose and if any remaining amount , immediately deposit bank accounts.
10	In terms of Management Service Circular No.4 of 2017 dated 20.09.2017, cadre information had not been forwarded to the Department of Management Services within one month of the end of a quarter.	Action has been taken to forward the cadre information to the Department of Management Services by updating the information.
11	A register including information on providing/non providing of the information requested by general public has not been maintained.	Relevant registers for obtaining information are being maintained in the regional offices as well as in the head office.
12	A methodology to supervise or evaluation of implementation of the Citizen/Clients Charter of the institution, had not been prepared	Citizen/Clients Charter has been prepared and displayed. Further more, instructions have been given for Deputy./Assistant Commissioners to supervise the implementation of the Citizen/Clients Charter. Supervision of Regional Offices are carried out by chief internal auditor and by the head office.
13	Number of training opportunities which had been provided from planned training opportunities were at a level of less than 50%	Action has been taken to provide training opportunities according to the training plan.

14	The audit opinion on the accounts of the institution was at qualified/ adverse level	A qualified opinion was existed for the year 2023. A clear/unqualified opinion was existed for the year 2024
15	Assets and liabilities statements of all the officers had not been submitted.	All staff officers who are to be submittedAssets and liabilities statements, have been submitted by now.

Submission of observations and steps taken with regard to the report tabled to the Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of the Standing Order No. 119 (4) (2023) Survey Department of Sri Lanka	
Weaknesses and shortcomings identified by the committee.	**Measures taken to rectify / current status**
Part on: 86.00	
01. The passwords relevant to the Government Payroll Software had not been changed once every three months in terms of theState Accounts Circular No. 171/2004 dated 11.05.2024.	The passwords relevant to the GPS–PAYROLL software used at the Head Office of the Survey Department were changed twice during the year 2023, and since then, actionhas been taken to update continuously the said passwords once in every three months (quarterly) up to now.
02. The annual procurement plan had not been prepared	The Annual Procurement Plan was prepared in 2023 and approval was obtained from the Secretary to the Line Ministry
03. Every audit queryraised by the Auditor Generalhad not been answered within a month	Although such delays in providing answers to audit queries have not occurred, during the audits of divisional offices,certain delays have arisen in obtaining responses from the divisional offices through the Additional Surveyor General (Field), the Provincial Surveyor General, and the District Senior Superintendent of Surveys.
04. Cases of failure to answer to internal audit queries within a month were reported.	More than a month was not taken to answer for every internal audit query and since information had to be obtained from divisional offices to answertocertain audit queries, some delays have occurred in that regard.
05.A vehicle had not been disposed in less than 8 months of its condemnation.	Disposal boards have been appointed for all vehicles for which disposal requests have been received, and further action will be taken based on the reports received.
06.Log books for every vehicle had not been maintained on an updated basis	The log booksforeach vehiclehavebeen properly updated.
07. Proper action had not been taken regarding the government vehicle accidents in terms of the Financial Regulations.	Actions are being taken to comply with provisions of financial regulations and time limits, and to minimize delays as much as possible.
08. Outstanding loan balances persisting for more than a year were observed.	Out of theoutstanding loan balancesas at 31.12.2023, an amount of Rs. 1,994,196.62 has been recovered and action is being taken to recover the remaining balances

Submission of observations and actions taken on the report submitted to Parliament by the Public Accounts Committee in terms of Standing order No.119(4)

Parliament Order number:-492

Departmentname:- Land Use Policy Planning Department **-2023**

Serial number	**Weaknesses identified by the Committee /Committees**	**Corrective Actions Taken/Current Status**
01.	The annual procurement plan had not been prepared	The Procurement plan has been prepared and work is currently being carried out according to that procurement plan.
02.	Proper action had not been taken in accordance with the Office Regulations regarding government vehicle accidents.	Government Vehicle accidents are currently handled in accordance with the Office Regulations.
03.	The Number of training opportunities provided was less than 50% of the planned training opportunities	Due to the Limitation of the training opportunities planned by the institution, as per the Secretary's Treasury Circular No.1/2023 dated 27.01.2022, BD/CBP/01/05/2022, which informed the department to provide training opportunities only for mandatory training when providing local training opportunities under the expenditure for staff training. At present training activities are being carried out as per the training plan.