(1)

පාර්ලිමේන්තු ප්‍රකාශන මාලා අංක-492
ආයතනයේ නම- **කෘෂිකර්ම අංශය**

පාර්ලිමේන්තුවේ රජයේ ගිණුම් පිළිබඳ කාරක සභාව විසින් සභාගත කරන ලද වාර්තා සම්බන්දයෙන් ස්ථාවර නියෝග අංක 119(4) යටතේ ගරු අමාත්‍යවරයාගේ නිරීක්ෂණ හා ගනු ලබන පියවර පාර්ලිමේන්තුව වෙත ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම

பாராளுமன்ற அமர்வு இல : 492
நிறுவனத்தின் பெயர் - **விவசாயப் பிரிவு**

பாராளுமன்றத்தின் அரச கணக்குகள் பற்றிய குழுவினால் சபையில் முன்வைக்கப்பட்ட நிலையியற் கட்டளை 119(4) தொடர்பில் கண்காணிப்பு மற்றும் எடுக்கப்படும் நடவடிக்கைகளை பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பித்தல்)..2023(

Parliamentary Session No. - 492
Name of the Institution - Agriculture Section

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(

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: Agriculture Section

Part 1 : 80.00

No.	Shortcomings identified by the Committee	Current status of the action taken to rectify the shortcomings
1.	Register of Losses was not maintained up to date basis.	The Register of Losses is currently being maintained in accordance with Financial Regulation 110, and steps are being taken to rectify past errors. (Annexure 1)
2.	Answers had not been sent to all the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month after receiving such audit queries.	The delay in submitting responses to audit queries was due to prolonged delays in obtaining required information from the respective divisions and institutions. However, a remedial action plan has now been implemented to streamline this process and eliminate such lapses moving forward. (Annexure 2)
3.	There had been instances where internal audit queries had not been answered within a period of one month.	All officers have been strictly instructed to provide timely responses to all audit queries without delay. (Annexure 2)
4.	The Board of Survey had not been conducted in accordance with Financial Regulation 756(6) within the timeframe stipulated in Paragraph 11.1 of Section I of Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 dated 28.08.2020, and the relevant reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General within the prescribed period.	In compliance with Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 and Financial Regulation 756(6), the Board of Survey Report as at 31.03.2026 has been duly submitted to the Auditor General. (Annexure 3)
5.	Documents to confirm ownership of all vehicles were not in possession.	Vehicles for which ownership confirmation documents were unavailable have been identified, and approval has been obtained from the Secretary to transfer the ownership of such vehicles to this Ministry. Accordingly, action is currently being taken to obtain concurrence from the ministries presently holding the registered ownership to facilitate the transfer of these vehicles to this Ministry.
6.	The Daily Running Charts and Monthly Summary Reports for the pool vehicles had not been submitted to the Auditor General.	Action has been taken to submit the Daily Running Charts and Monthly Summary Reports for the pool vehicles to the Auditor General.
7.	Condemned vehicles had not	The committee appointed to identify vehicles for disposal determined that there were no vehicles available for disposal

	been disposed of within a period of less than 8 months after condemning.	during the year 2023. Of the 12 vehicles identified for disposal in 2024 under the Agriculture Division (07 vehicles) and the Livestock Division (05 vehicles), for which open bids had been invited, only 06 vehicles were purchased by the respective bidders in 2025. Accordingly, action has been taken to proceed with the sale and transfer of only those 06 vehicles. Out of the 22 vehicles identified for disposal through open competitive bidding in the year 2025 in accordance with Asset Management Circular No. 05/2024 and Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 (Agriculture Division – 12 vehicles and Livestock Division – 10 vehicles), procurement decisions in respect of only 16 vehicles have been received by the Transport Division. Of these, the respective bidders have, to date, settled the bid values with the Ministry for only 05 vehicles in order to complete the purchase process. Committees for the year 2026 have been appointed and are currently functioning to identify further vehicles due for disposal.
8.	The inactive bank balances brought forward from preceding periods, as well as those that remained dormant during the year under review, had not been settled.	The inactive bank accounts carried forward from preceding periods, as well as those remaining dormant during the year under review, have been settled.
9.	Allocations had been transferred to other institutions outside the stipulated timeframe.	Instructions have been issued to ensure that budgetary allocations are released systematically within the stipulated timeframe, based on the relevant estimates, without further delay.
10.	The balances in arrears exceeding 1 year had not been settled.	The details of loan balances outstanding under Advances to Public Officers – Account "B", which had remained unrecovered for more than one year as at 22.05.2026, are as follows: W.G.S.K.Weedagama 128,440.00 W.D.N. Fernando 208,300.00 M.A.A.S. Munasinghe 174,600.00 **Total 511,340.00** ➢ The relevant debtor and the guarantor have been notified in writing to settle the outstanding loan balance of W.G.S.K. Weedagama, who has vacated his post. No response has been received for the said correspondence. The matter has been referred to the Legal Division, which is currently taking further action to recover the outstanding loan amount.

		➢ The relevant debtor has been notified in writing to settle the outstanding loan balance of W.D.N. Fernando, who has vacated his post. No response has been received for the said correspondence. An asset verification report regarding this debtor was requested from the Divisional Secretary, who has subsequently certified that the debtor does not possess any movable or immovable property. The matter has been referred to the Legal Division for legal proceedings, and that division is currently taking further action. ➢ The relevant debtor and guarantors have been notified in writing to settle the outstanding loan balance of M.A.A.S. Munasinghe, who has vacated his post. No response has been received for the said correspondence. The matter has been referred to the Legal Division for legal proceedings, and that division is currently taking further action.
11.	The ad hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 had not been settled within one month from the completion of the task.	Action has been taken to settle the ad-hoc sub-imprests issued as per F.R. 371 within one month of completion.

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: Department of Agriculture

Part 1 : 83.0

No.	Shortcomings identified by the Committee	Current status of the action taken to rectify the shortcomings
01.	Out of the training opportunities planned, the extent of training opportunities granted, was less than 50%.	The training opportunities provided during the year 2023 exceeded 61 per cent of the planned training opportunities. 1. However, in accordance with National Budget Circular No. 03/2022 dated 26.04.2022 and National Budget Circulars No. 01/2023 dated 27.01.2023 and No. 02/2023 dated 02.02.2023 issued for the control of public expenditure, officers were permitted to be nominated only for training opportunities conducted by local state institutions. As a result, restrictions imposed on participation in seminars, workshops, and collective external training programmes adversely affected the achievement of the targeted level of local training opportunities. 2. Furthermore, over 85% of the training opportunities planned for the year 2025 have been provided to the officers, and the training programs for the year 2026 have already commenced.
02.	The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a qualified opinion / disclaimed opinion / an unfavorable opinion.	Instructions have been issued to the relevant officers to strengthen all internal controls of the Ministry in order to work towards achieving a clear opinion in the year 2026.
03.	The recommendations of the Auditor General's report had not been implemented.	Necessary action is currently being undertaken in line with the recommendations of the Auditor General's Report.