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இலங்கை மனித உரிமைகள் ஆணைக்குழு  
**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA**

කාර්ය සාධන වාර්තාව  
செயலாற்றுகை அறிக்கை  
Performance Report

**02 වන කාර්තුව 2019**  
**02 ஆம் காலாண்டு 2019**  
**02<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2019**

## **Performance Report – 02<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

### **April to June, 2019**

#### **Introduction**

The Commission was established in 1996 by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka Act No.21 of 1996. The Act sets out the legal basis and operational principles of the Human Rights Commission. Although reference to the HRCSL has been made in the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, it is not formally established by the Constitution. The Chairperson and Members of the Commission are appointed under the provisions set out in the Constitution.

The Act recognizes the jurisdiction in the Commission in terms of fundamental rights and human rights. Fundamental rights are certain civil and political rights as well as economic, social and cultural rights guaranteed in Chapter III of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. Human rights are defined in the International Law.

The statutory functions of the Commission are:

- to inquire into, and investigate, complaints regarding procedures and violations or imminent violations of fundamental rights, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- to advise and assist the government in formulating legislation and administrative directives and procedures, in furtherance of the promotion and protection of fundamental rights;
- to make proposals to the Government regarding measures to ensure that national laws and administrative practices are in accordance with international human rights norms and standards.
- to advise the Government regarding subscribing or acceding to treaties and other international human rights instruments.
- to promote awareness of, and provide education in relation to human rights. (Section 10 of the Act No. 21 of 1996)

The Commission carried out its functions with a staff consisting of 148 members. The Commission consists of four Divisions of Inquiries and Investigations, Education & Special Programmes, Research & Monitoring and Administration & Finance as well as 10 Regional Offices. (Ampara, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kalmunai, Kandy, Matara, Trincomalee and Vavuniya) Every Division functions under a Director while each Regional Office functions under a Regional Co-ordinating Officer. All

Divisions as well Regional Offices are supervised by the Chairperson and/or a Commissioner/ Commissioners.

During the period under review a host of activities was launched by the Commission which are analyzed in the Report.

During the Quarter under review, the Commission had to engage with various matters arising out of Easter Sunday attacks including ethnic violence unleashed targeting the Muslim Community on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May and thereafter. The Commission hastened to respond by appealing to the general public to refrain from retaliating violence, addressing various government entities on the necessity to do away with the practice of discriminatory treatment against the members of the Muslim Community, holding and facilitating Island-wide community dialogues and conducting inquiries into the complaints lodged with the Commission. Further, the Commission also initiated action to make use of media to draw public attention to the necessity of respecting equal citizenship of all concerned and engaging in amicable settlement of disputes.

### **Head Office – summary of Complaints**

|                                                                                                                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of Complaints received in the Head Office                                                                                    | 926 |
| Number of Complaints falling within the purview of the Human Right Commission of Sri Lanka                                          | 389 |
| Number of complaints outside the purview of the Commission and referred to other institutions for necessary action (cannot proceed) | 337 |
| Complaints pending for further details                                                                                              | 200 |

### **Complaints, inquiries of which are concluded by the Head Office**

| <b>Classification of concluded Complaints</b>                                                                 | <b>No of concluded complaints</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Number of complaints for which recommendations have been issued                                               | 15                                |
| Number of settlements                                                                                         | 06                                |
| No of complaints disposed of otherwise ( withdrawals, lack of interest, Non-violation of fundamental rights ) | 459                               |

## **Summary of Complaints – Regional Offices**

| <b>Summary</b>                                                   | <b>Ampara</b> | <b>Anuradhapura</b> | <b>Badulla</b> | <b>Batticaloa</b> | <b>Jaffna</b> | <b>Kalmunai</b> | <b>Kandy</b> | <b>Matara</b> | <b>Trincomalee</b> | <b>Vavuniya</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Number of complaints received                                    | 25            | 111                 | 64             | 180               | 73            | 1040            | 158          | 149           | 60                 | 50              |
| Number of complaints within the mandate                          | 17            | 77                  | 55             | 160               | 73            | 1040            | 136          | 127           | 57                 | 49              |
| Number of complaints outside the mandate                         | 08            | 34                  | 09             | 20                | -             | -               | 20           | 22            | 03                 | 01              |
| Number referred to other institutions                            | -             | -                   | -              | 80                | -             | -               | -            | -             | 01                 | -               |
| Number of complaints settled                                     | 05            | 58                  | 05             | 11                | 55            | 13              | 122          | -             | -                  | 17              |
| Number of complaints referred to Head Office for recommendations | 01            | 08                  | 08             | -                 | 16            | 01              | 02           | 04            | -                  | 01              |
| Number of complainants who approached Regional Offices           | 104           | 154                 | 108            | 260               | 453           | 140             | 144          | 346           | 146                | 174             |
| Complaints completed                                             | 25            | 121                 | 31             | 45                | 40            | 45              | 293          | 137           | 48                 | 50              |

## **Suo Moto Operations**

The number of Suo Motu operations carried out by the Inquiries & Investigations Division as per Clause 14 of the Human Rights Commission Act is 09 and relevant inquiries have been initiated.

|    | <b>Nature of the incident</b>                           | <b>Number</b> |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 01 | Custodial death                                         | 01            |
| 02 | Deaths due to ill-health                                | 01            |
| 03 | Denial of access to public institutions based on attire | 05            |
| 04 | Cancellation of Housing Schemes                         | 01            |
| 05 | Transfers                                               | 01            |

Summary of the Suo Motu inquiry proceedings pertaining to the above mentioned inquiries is appended.

- Under HRC/Suo/Motu/09/19 – An investigation has been initiated with regard to the denial of access by the members of the School Development Society to a group of teachers of Puwakpitiya Tamil Maha Vidyalaya who arrived at the school attired in Hijaba on or around 07.05.2019 and subsequent transfer of relevant teachers. (as per information released in electronic media)
- Under HRC/Suo/Motu/10/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the death of Ajith Prasanna, resident in Mugunuwatawana, Kohmbawatta, Marawila caused by shooting by a group of police officers of Marawila Police Station (as reported in Lankadeepa Newspaper of 10.05.2019)

- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/11/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the closure of the Family Health Clinic at Atulugama, Bandaragama , protesting the arrival of certain Muslim women in Burka on or around 09.05.2019 (as reported in Ada News paper of 10.05.2019)
- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/12/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the suspension of construction activities of proposed “ Samata Sevana Uda Gammanaya for the Sinhalese Community in Kokilai in Mulativu District due to the influence by Parliamentarians ( 16.05.2019 and 22.05.2019)
- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/13/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the difficulties caused to the students of Mayurapada Madhya Maha Vidyalaya , as reported in the media, when they were denied access to the Vidyalaya due to the reason that they were carrying normal school bags instead of transparent school bags on or around 22.05.2019.
- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/14/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the transfer of a Muslim teacher , as reported in Lankadeepa Newspaper of 23.05.2019, due to the protest by Parents and Students of Malpeththa Maha Vidyalaya, Ambalantota .
- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/15/19 - An investigation has been initiated as per information received by the Commission that a Notice Board at the entrance to the Maternity Clinic under the control of Mahabade Pradeshiya Sabha, Wattala displays among others a notice to refrain from attiring in black when attending the clinic.
- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/16/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the denial of access to Sylvester Vidyalaya in Kandy by its Security Staff to a group of parents who were due to attend a Parents’ Meeting since they were attired in Abayas on 01.06.2019.
- Under HRC/Suo./Motu/17/19 - An investigation has been initiated into the responsibilities of government entities with regard to the death due to malnutrition of Malith Deshapriya Rajapaksa, an infant of 11 months, of Nadigamwila Grama Niladhari Division in Tissamaharamaya, on 14.05.2019. (Lankadeepa News paper – 19.06.2019)

### **Special Monitoring Activities**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Dispute compelling Intervention</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 04.04.2019  | A special discussion on Private School Monitoring System concerning the Complaint No. HRC/2811/18 was held with the Ministry of Education and National Education Commission.                                                                                                                       |
| 04.04.2019  | A discussion was held with the Ministry of National Harmony, Dialogue and Official Languages on Mail Delivery Problem in the plantation sector with Commission’s intervention under Ref. No. HRC/2342/18/Suo/Motu/R & M. The Ministry of Estate Infra Structure was represented at the discussion. |
| 27.04.2019  | Due to new trends following Easter Sunday attacks, instant interventions were made in collaboration with relevant authorities in the following places with the objective of examining the conditions of refugees and asylum                                                                        |

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | seekers living in relevant areas in order to improve their human rights. Visits were made to Negombo Police Head Quarters; Negombo Ahamediya Mosque; Detainees at Negombo Police and Civil Organizations in Negombo. Further, aftermath of the attack was discussed with the Rev. Father of St. Sebastian Church, Katuwapitiya.                                                                                          |
| 30.04.2019 | A special discussion took place in the Head Office of Human Rights Commission to create co-ordination among the relevant state entities, United Nations Agencies and NGOs in order to act as a Group with regard to the public protests against refugees building up in the country following Easter Sunday attacks on 21 <sup>st</sup> April.                                                                           |
| 02.05.2019 | All Regional Co-ordinating Officers of the Commission were summoned to Colombo and they were made aware, under aegis of the Chairperson and the Board of Commissioners, of the situation in the country following the Easter Sunday Attacks and the relevant task of the Commission and written instructions with regard to their intervention too were issued.                                                          |
| 04.05.2019 | A Group visited Pakistani Refugees and Asylum seekers at Pasyala Detention Centre, inquired into the condition of their human rights prevalent therein and the NGOs in charge of the Centre and the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees were made aware of sectors to be improved. Further, a discussion was held with HQI, Nittambuwa with regard to the steps taken for the security of detainees. |
| 07.05.2019 | Following the Easter Sunday attack and subsequent violence unleashed targeting the Muslim Community, detention conditions of the detainees in Mirihana Detention Camp were examined and Officers in charge of the Centre and the Department of Immigration and Emigration were made aware of the sectors requiring improvements.                                                                                         |
| 08.05.2019 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 04.06.2019 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 24.06.2019 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

### Summary of visits to Detention Centers

| Centre                            | Head Office | Regional Offices |              |           |            |           |           |            |           |             |           |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
|                                   |             | Ampara           | Anuradhapura | Badulla   | Batticaloa | Jaffna    | Kalmunai  | Kandy      | Matara    | Trincomalee | Vavuniya  |
| Police Stations                   | 137         | 29               | 62           | 61        | 31         | 44        | 13        | 122        | 64        | 15          | 42        |
| Prisons                           | 08          | 03               | 01           | 01        | 16         | 01        | -         | 05         | -         | -           | 02        |
| Child Care/Child Homes            | 01          | 03               | -            | -         | 01         | -         | 03        | -          | 5         | -           | -         |
| Foreign Migrant Detention Centres | 01          | -                | -            | -         | -          | -         | -         | -          | -         | -           | -         |
| Gazetted Detention Centres        | 02          | -                | 21           | -         | -          | -         | -         | -          | -         | -           | -         |
| Rehabilitation Centres            | -           | -                | -            | -         | -          | -         | -         | -          | -         | -           | 01        |
| Elders Homes                      | -           | 03               | 03           | -         | -          | -         | -         | -          | -         | 01          | -         |
| CID/TID                           | 04          | -                | -            | -         | -          | -         | 02        | -          | -         | -           | 01        |
| Special                           | 10          | -                | -            | -         | -          | -         | -         | -          | -         | -           | 02        |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>163</b>  | <b>38</b>        | <b>87</b>    | <b>62</b> | <b>48</b>  | <b>45</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>127</b> | <b>69</b> | <b>16</b>   | <b>48</b> |

- Investigation teams were directed to visit aggrieved parties, detainees taken into custody and areas of violence following the terrorist attack on the 21<sup>st</sup>.of April and violence unleashed thereafter.

### **Recommendations issued to State Institutions**

| <b>No</b> | <b>No of Complaint</b>     | <b>Respondent</b>                                                                        | <b>Nature of complaint</b> | <b>Date of issue of recommendation</b> | <b>FR violated</b> | <b>Implementation/ non-implementation of recommendation<br/>✓/ x</b> |
|-----------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01        | HRC/BD/217/14              | 1.Mirihana Police Station<br>2.Kandeketiya Police Station                                | Arrest/ detention          | 04.04.2019                             | 13(1)(2)           | x                                                                    |
| 02        | HRC/1936/16<br>HRC/2018/16 | Talangama Police Station                                                                 | Arrest/ detention          | 04.04.2019                             | 13(1)(2)           | x                                                                    |
| 03        | HRC/81/18                  | Royal College, Colombo                                                                   | Non-admission to School    | 08.02.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 04        | HRC/K/385/15               | Sri Lanka Army                                                                           | Denial of benefits         | 21.05.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 05        | HRC/K/661/16               | Kingswood College, Kandy                                                                 | Non-admission to School    | 23.05.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 06        | HRC/1317/15                | 1.IGP<br>2.Giriulla Police Station                                                       | Harassment                 | 23.05.2019                             | 14(1) ( e)         | x                                                                    |
| 07        | HRC/K/728/16               | Kingswood College, Kandy                                                                 | Non-admission to School    | 23.05.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 08        | HRC/AM/05/14               | 1.Welegapola Police Station<br>2.Mahanagapura Police Station<br>3.Borella Police Station | Arrest/ Detention          | 23.05.2019                             | 13(1) (2)          | ✓                                                                    |
| 09        | HRC/K/64/18/A              | Provincial Dept. of Education Kurunegala                                                 | Non-admission to School    | 04.06.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 10        | HRC/K/667/16               | Kingswood College, Kandy                                                                 | Non-admission to School    | 04.06.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 11        | HRC/302/18                 | Royal College, Colombo                                                                   | Non-admission to School    | 04.06.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 12        | HRC/3875/17                | Anula College Nugegoda                                                                   | Non-admission to School    | 04.06.2019                             | 12(1)              | x                                                                    |
| 13        | HRC/AP/459/17              | Provincial P.S.C.                                                                        | Inaction                   | 04.06.2019                             |                    | x                                                                    |
| 14        | HRC/K/483/16               | Kingswood College, Kandy                                                                 | Non-admission to School    | 04.06.2019                             |                    | x                                                                    |
| 15        | HRC/AP/288/14              | 1.Anuradhapura Police Station<br>2.Galenbidunuwa Police Station                          | Torture                    | 04.06.2019                             |                    | x                                                                    |

## Awareness Programmes

### Lecturing support

| Description of the Programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mr .Calistus Arunakumara ,Investigation Officer extended his contribution towards the Workshop on Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law conducted for the benefit of Army Officers by the 1 <sup>st</sup> .Artillery,Panagoda, Homagama on 01.04.2019                                 |
| Mr .Calistus Arunakumara ,Investigation Officer extended his contribution towards the lecture on Fundamental Human Rights and Rights to Personal Security conducted by the 14 <sup>th</sup> .Regiment of Engineering Services of the Sri Lanka Army for the benefit of army officers on 18.04.2019. |
| A lecture on Minority Rights was conducted by the Sri Lanka Army-Humanitarian and Human Rights Directorate for the benefit of Army Officers at Sri Lanka Army Training Institution, Kukuleganga on 13.06.2019 and the Director-Education and Special Programmes extended the contribution.          |
| An awareness Programme on Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and its Scope was held on 29.06.2019 for the benefit of the volunteers of National Peace Council and contribution was extended by Director, Education and Special Programmes.                                                        |

### Series of Special Lectures

| Date       | Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 08.05.2019 | A special lecture titled “ Let us eradicate inveterate ideologies and tolerate others’ views in order to ensure harmony among the communities” was delivered by Mr. Gzali Hussain, Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka for the benefit of HRCSL staff. |

### Thematic Sub Committee Meetings

| Date       | Thematic Sub Committee                                       |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31.05.2019 | Meeting of the Sub Committee on the Rights of LGBTIQ persons |
| 31.05.2019 | Meeting of the Sub Committee on Persons with Disabilities    |
| 31.05.2019 | Meeting of the Sub Committee on Rights of Plantation Labour  |

### Internal Meetings

| Meeting           | April | May | June |
|-------------------|-------|-----|------|
| HRC Staff Meeting | 22    | 22  | 17   |
| Board’s Meeting   | 08    | 13  | 10   |

### Programmes

- I. Workshops for building Ethnic Harmony, Peace and Co-existence based on Easter Sunday Attack were held in collaboration with Regional Offices and Head Office for the benefit of Religious leaders, Civil Society Activists and Community Human Rights Activists at Anuradhapura and Ampara on 07.06.2019 and 20.06.2019 respectively.

## II. Maskeliya Mobile Service

A Mobile Service was conducted at Maskeliya area on 11<sup>th</sup>. and 12<sup>th</sup>. of May for the purpose of identifying the Human Right problems encountered by the Plantation workers. The Mobile Service on the 11<sup>th</sup>. was conducted at Lakam Tamil Maha Vidyalaya and the Mobile Service on the 12<sup>th</sup>. was at Gawarawila Tamil Maha Vidyalaya, Upkot. A large gathering was present on these occasions where a number of problems including the difficulties encountered in obtaining Birth Certificates and National Identity Cards were submitted.

## III. International Day for supporting Torture Victims

A programme was conducted in Sinhala and Tamil Medium by the Human Rights Commission in commemorating International Day for supporting Torture Victims for the benefit of 500 police trainees freshly recruited in the Police Training School at Kalutara.

Lectures were on topics: Human Right Basics and Values, Eradication of Torture: Human Right Perspective: and Medical Opinion on Torture. A drama by the trainees and a presentation on Eradication of Torture in a dramatic form by Forum Theatre Dancing Group were the highlights.

### Meetings/Other Programmes

| Date        | Title                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09.05.2019  | Discussion on holding Information Exchange Sessions for Police Officers, Tri- Force Officers and Higher State Officers was held with Mr. Nagaratnam Wijayakanthan, Project Co-ordinator of National Peace Council. |
| 06.06.20-19 | Participation at Review Meeting and Meeting on Future Plans of United Nations Population Fund Projects.                                                                                                            |

### Human Right Publications

School children, University students, Army officers, Police Officers, staffs of Government institutions and Members of NGOs call over at the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to collect Human Right Publications, Hand bills and posters etc. printed by the Human Rights Commission and the Commission make use of such occasions to hold awareness discussions with them.

## REGIONAL OFFICES

### Lecture Support

| Regional Office | Target groups |                 |                        |                |                       |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
|                 | Army Officers | Police Officers | Civil Security Members | State Officers | Students/Youth groups |
| Anuradhapura    | 1             | 1               | 2                      | 2              | -                     |
| Badulla         | -             | 1               | -                      | -              | -                     |
| Jaffna          | -             | -               | -                      | 3              | 3                     |
| Vavuniya        | 3             | -               | -                      | -              | -                     |

## Awareness and Training Programmes

| Regional Office | Target Groups   |                |                       |                                                                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                 | Police Officers | State Officers | Students/Youth Groups | General Public(Civil Organizations, Religious leaders and other |
| Kalmunai        | 1               | 2              | -                     | 2                                                               |
| Jaffna          | -               | 1              | -                     | -                                                               |
| Ampara          | -               | 1              | 1                     | 1                                                               |
| Anuradhapura    | -               | -              | -                     | 1                                                               |

## Meetings/Other Programmes

| Regional Office | Title                                                                                                        |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Matara          | Participation at the Meeting of Religious leaders organized by Sarvodaya and held on 03.05.2019              |
| Jaffna          | A discussion on problems arisen in schools due to terrorist attacks and solution therefor held on 02.04.2019 |
|                 | Participation at the discussion on Disabilities caused by war, natural calamities and accidents              |

## International Day Commemoration

Regional Offices at Matara, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Ampara, Anuradhapura, Badulla and Batticaloa held awareness workshops for Police Officers parallel to the International Day for supporting Torture Victims.

Kandy Regional Office conducted a programme on 10.04.2019 parallel to the International Women's Day at Kandy Vyshakhya Hall.

Following the Easter Sunday attack on the 21<sup>st</sup>. of April, Regional Offices conducted a number of Training Programmes and Discussion targeting State Officers, Religious Leaders, Civil Organizations, youth Community and Community Groups with a view to create Social Reconciliation, Co-existence and an environment free of confrontations. These programmes are:

| Regional Office | Programme/Discussions |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Kalmunai        | 4                     |
| Kandy           | 1                     |
| Jaffna          | 3                     |
| Ampara          | 1                     |
| Trincomalee     | 5                     |
| Vavuniya        | 3                     |
| Anuradhapura    | 1                     |
| Matara          | 2                     |
| Batticaloa      | 4                     |

## **Implementation of Apprentice Training Programmes for Graduates / Undergraduates**

Here, apprentices are recruited for 3 month Training Programmes. Notices pertaining to these recruitments are uploaded in the Web. Page of the Commission and degree awarding institutions are made aware of this by calling for applications by post. Apprentices selected through interviews conducted by the Head Office and Regional Offices are accordingly recruited.

Accordingly, 13 persons have been attached to the Head Office while 11 are posted to Regional Offices for apprentice training.

### **Participation at Meetings/ Discussions and Programmes.**

| Date       | Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Participant                                      |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 27.05.2019 | An Institutional Network Meeting being conducted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in order to ensure safety of refugees in Sri Lanka was held to discuss developments pertaining to refugees and asylum seekers subsequent to the Easter Sunday Attack and steps to be taken for their safety | Director- Research and Monitoring ( A/to duties) |
| 06.06.2019 | Progress Review Meeting on Projects implemented by the United Nations Population Fund was held in Colombo.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Director- Research and Monitoring ( A/to duties) |

### **Special Fact Finding Missions / Field Inspections conducted by Research and Monitoring Division**

| Date       | Dispute compelling intervention                                                                                             |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20.04.2019 | A fact finding mission was carried out on the attack unleashed on Anuradhapura Methodist Church on Palm Sunday of 14 April. |

### **Updating of Web Page of Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka**

| Date       | Updating                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01.04.2019 | Launching of Human Rights Commission Report on Women's Day Commemoration-2019                                                                                                                                                 |
| 03.04.2019 | Publication of HRCV's recommendation to the effect that prevention of Muslim teachers from wearing Abhaya is a violation of their fundamental rights                                                                          |
| 06.04.2019 | United Nations Sub Committee on Prevention of Torture calls over at the Commission.                                                                                                                                           |
| 26.04.2019 | Heinous incidents on 21 <sup>st</sup> .April, 2019 and beyond.                                                                                                                                                                |
| 26.04.2019 | An appeal to the brethren.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 06.05.2019 | Ensuring safety in School Premises – Circular No. 25/2019 – Ministry of Education                                                                                                                                             |
| 09.05.2019 | Guidelines to implementation of Emergency Regulations – His Excellency                                                                                                                                                        |
| 10.05.2019 | Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka conducts a Mobile Service in Maskeliya                                                                                                                                                   |
| 13.05.2019 | Elucidation of legal position related to face covers- Ministry of Education                                                                                                                                                   |
| 17.05.2019 | Guidance with regard to the form of action to be followed by Heads of all electronic media in propagating the current position with sensitiveness following the incidents which took place on the 21 <sup>st</sup> .of April. |

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17.05.2019 | Public notice issued with regard to the harassments/discrimination based on women's attires.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 24.05.2019 | Issuance of a letter to the Judicial Services Commission with regard to the denial of access to women based on their apparels.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 24.05.2019 | Issuance of a letter to Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce and Industries with regard to the denial of access to women based on their apparels.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 24.05.2019 | Issuance of a letter to the Department of Immigration and Emigration with regard to the denial of access to women based on their apparels.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 24.05.2019 | Issuance of letters to the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry of Health with regard to the denial of access to women based on their apparels.                                                                                                                                          |
| 24.05.2019 | Issuance of letters to all Provincial Governors/Provincial Secretaries/Secretaries to the Provincial Ministries of Health/ District Secretaries with regard to the denial of access to women based on their apparels.                                                                                  |
| 25.05.2019 | Issuance of a letter to Acting Inspector General of Police with regard to recent incidents of racial violence which took place in Chilaw and Minuwangoda areas.                                                                                                                                        |
| 25.05.2019 | Issuance of a letter to University Grant Commission with regard to maintaining the worth of diversity and non-discrimination in higher education institutions.                                                                                                                                         |
| 01.06.2019 | Issuance of a letter to the Bar Association with regard to refusal by members of certain regional bar associations to appear for members of Muslim community who were taken into custody following the situation created after violent attacks due to the incident on the 21 <sup>st</sup> . of April. |
| 04.06.2019 | Issuance of a letter to the Ministry of Public Administration with regard to Public Administration Circular No.13/2019 of 29.05.2019 titled" Ensuring security in office premises of Government".                                                                                                      |
| 13.06.2019 | Issuance of a letter to Commissioners of Local Government with regard to dealing with enterprise activities without discrimination by local government institutions.                                                                                                                                   |
| 22.06.2019 | Criteria referred to printed media by Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

### **Creation of awareness among the external parties with regard to News/Specific Recommendations/Exclusive Interventions of Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka**

This information is shared with Printed Media, Electronic Media, Websites, Civil Organizations, Members of the Thematic Sub Committees of the Commission, Diplomatic Missions in Sri Lanka, International Human Right Organizations, Communication Network of the Asian Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and Asian Pacific Region Fora of National Human Rights Institutions. This course of action is taken after every updating.

This information is also disseminated among the Regional Offices after every updating with instructions to display them in their notice boards for information of the public.

All press reports relevant to human right violations published through electronic and printed media of the Head Office and Regional Offices are monitored followed by calling for reports from relevant respondent parties and follow up action taken on progress.

## **Media Conferences held by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka**

A special discussion with the Chief Editors of all printed media institutions was held in HRC Head Office on 23.05.2019 with regard to the current position in the country after the Easter Sunday attack on 21<sup>st</sup>.April and activities to be carried out and interventions to be made to protect and improve human right in the country.

## **Discussions conducted by the Commission with Civil Organizations**

A meeting was held in HRC Head Office on 08.05.2019 to create awareness among the Civil Organizations with regard to current human rights status in the country and HRC's current activities following the Easter Sunday Attack on 21<sup>st</sup>.April.

## **Mass Media Reports on the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka**

1. The recommendation made concerning the complaint lodged by the Assistant teachers in Sri Shanmugam Hindu Ladies College against preventing them from attiring in abhaya was given publicity in the new papers of Daily News, The Island, Ceylon Today and Daily Fit in their issues of 04,05,06 and 12 of April,2019.
2. It was published in Resa newspaper of 16.05.2019 that the Commission has directed its attention to harassments caused to Muslim women within state institutions.
3. The Media Notice issued to electronic media by the Commission was carried by the newspapers, The Morning and Sunday Observer in their issues of 17.5.2019 and 19.05.2019.
4. Discussions on ethnic and religious disturbances arisen in the country along with Easter Sunday attacks, held with Dr. Deepika Udagama, Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka was given publicity by Resa Newspaper in its issue of 28.05.2019.
5. Media Notice issued by the Commission on deprivation of Rights to Access to Muslim women based on their attire.
6. Newspapers, Samabima and Anidda gave publicity in their issues of 03.06.2019 to the manner in which the Commission had acted following the Easter Sunday Attack.
7. Interview held with Dr.Deepika Udagama, Chairperson of the Commission was given publicity in the Daily Mirror in its issue of 18.06.2019.

## **Discussions/Programmes held with the participation of the Chairperson and Commissioners**

|    | <b>Date</b> | <b>Description</b>                                                        |
|----|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01 | 01.04.2019  | Meeting with Deputy Director of Democracy, Human Rights and Labour Bureau |
| 02 | 04.04.2019  | Visit of United Nations Sub Committee on Prevention of Torture            |
| 03 | 10.04.2019  | European Union Consultant                                                 |
| 04 | 10.04.2019  | Luncheon Meeting with Australian High Commissioner, Australia House       |
| 05 | 12.04.2019  | United Nations Sub Committee on Prevention of Torture, Ministry of        |

|    |               |                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    |               | Foreign Affairs                                                                                                                                                        |
| 06 | 02.05.2019    | Regional Co-ordinators' Meeting, HRCSL                                                                                                                                 |
| 07 | 07.05.2019    | Ms.Elisa Moretti, European Union, HRCSL                                                                                                                                |
| 08 | 08.05.2019    | Business Today Programme, Eye Channel                                                                                                                                  |
| 09 | 08.05.2019    | Meeting with Civil Society Organizations, Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka                                                                                         |
| 10 | 13.05.2019    | 'Hathweni Peya' programme, Independent Television Network                                                                                                              |
| 11 | 14.05.2019    | SLBC programme, Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation                                                                                                                     |
| 12 | 15.05.2019    | 'Subharathi' Programme, SLBC                                                                                                                                           |
| 13 | 15.05.2019    | Embassy of the United States of America                                                                                                                                |
| 14 | 23.05.2019    | Meeting with Chief Editors, HRCSL                                                                                                                                      |
| 15 | 28.05.2019    | Sectoral Committee Meeting , Ministry of Defence, Battaramulla                                                                                                         |
| 16 | 06.06.2019    | Project Progress Review Consultation organized by United Nations Population Fund, Waters Edge, Colombo                                                                 |
| 17 | 08.06.2019    | Lecture by Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanism                                                                                                       |
| 18 | 08.06.2019    | Meeting with Assistant General Secretary, Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Board, HRCSL                                                                           |
| 19 | 10.06.2019    | United Nations Development Programme Experts, HRCSL                                                                                                                    |
| 20 | 11.06.2019    | Regional Office, Kandy                                                                                                                                                 |
| 21 | 17.06.2019    | Lecture on " Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and its efforts and challenges in protecting Human Rights" Bandaranayake International Diplomatic Training Institute |
| 22 | 19.06.2019    | Prof.Ivan Symonavick, Commissioner, International Commission against Death Penalty, HRCSL                                                                              |
| 23 | 20.06.2019    | Meeting with His Excellency the President on Vetting Process                                                                                                           |
| 24 | 23-28.06.2019 | Guest Programme on Women's Rights, Reconciliation and Memory Inspiration of German Federal Republic, Germany                                                           |

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

|                                                                                 |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Opening balance</b>                                                          | <b>2,515,560.95</b>  |
| Imprest from the General Treasury                                               |                      |
| Recurrent                                                                       | 51,910,000.00        |
| Capital                                                                         | 11,273,575.52        |
| Other income                                                                    | 49,576.64            |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                    | <b>65,748,713.11</b> |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                                                              |                      |
| Personal emolument                                                              | 28,421,070.08        |
| Travelling                                                                      | 477,832.50           |
| Supplies                                                                        | 1,816,378.25         |
| Maintenance expenses                                                            | 1,030,896.09         |
| Services                                                                        | 14,709,530.70        |
| Transfers                                                                       | 1,542,582.50         |
| Human Rights Programmes                                                         | (175,003.72)         |
| Rehabilitation and Improvements to capital assets                               | -                    |
| Acquisition of capital assets                                                   | 434,500.00           |
| Capacity Development                                                            | 66,122.61            |
| Catalytic support for building peace in Sri Lanka(UNDP)                         | 561,088.44           |
| Providing opportunity for returnees to the Island to enjoy their Rights (UNHCR) | 1,133,942.69         |
| Strengthening capacity of Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (SWISS)          | 1,569,193.56         |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                                                        | <b>51,588,133.70</b> |

