



ANNUAL REPORT - 2020

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
120/7, VIDYA MAWATHA, COLOMBO 07
TEL: 011-2675176 FAX: 011-2675136
E-MAIL: admin@nrc.gov.lk WEB: www.nrc.gov.lk

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Vision

“Enable Sri Lanka to achieve science and knowledge based developed country status”

Mission

“To promote, fund and facilitate and monitor fundamental and applied research and enhance human resource of Sri Lanka to achieve science and technology based developed country status”

OBJECTIVES

According to the Act No.11 of 2016 of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, objectives of the National Research Council shall be;

- ❖ To assist the Government to facilitate research relating to science and technology in order to build a vibrant scientific and technological community in the country;
- ❖ To promote and facilitate research relating to science and technology in higher educational institutions and public sector research institutes and other governmental institutes so as to develop a research base that will contribute to national needs; and
- ❖ To solicit the co-operation of the private sector in the enhancement of research relating to science and technology.

FUNCTIONS

- ❖ To provide grants for the conduct of research relating to science and technology for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the Council;
- ❖ To facilitate, coordinate, supervise and monitor research relating to science and technology in respect of grants provided to higher educational institutions, public sector research institutes and other governmental institutions so as to ensure the efficient utilization of government investments in research;
- ❖ To import, plant, machinery and equipment required for the purpose of the Council and to receive equipment, funds and any other assistance from recognized local or foreign sources for the efficient conduct of the Council;
- ❖ To collect, print and publish reports, periodicals and papers on research relating to science and technology and related subjects;
- ❖ To award scholarships and fellowships for scientific study or scientific work at science and technology institutions local or foreign;
- ❖ To develop a national system to recognize and grant awards for research and innovations relating to science and technology; and
- ❖ To conduct lectures, seminars and workshops on research relating to science and technology and related subjects.

COUNCIL (FROM 2020-01-01 TO 2020-12-31)

Chairman

1. Prof. S. H. Dodampahala (Assigned duties on 2020.01.20)

Other Members

2. Prof. N. L. V. V. Karunaratne
3. Prof. K. P. S. C. Jayaratne
4. Prof. R. T. Seresinhe
5. Prof. M. D. A. L. Ranasinghe
6. Prof. O. Amarasinghe
7. Dr. A. D. P. De S. Arunatileka
8. Dr. B. C. S. Perera
9. Dr. M. N. Gamage
10. Dr. A. Pasqual

Representative from the State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research & Innovation

11. Mrs. Nandanie Samarawickrama

Treasury Representative

12. Mr. W. Wimalasena

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer:	M. C. Rajapakse
Assistant Director (Scientific Affairs):	P. K. A. S. R. Nonis
Assistant Director (Admin & Finance):	R. D. S. Dissanayake
Scientific/Research Officer:	K. N. K. Dissanayaka
Scientific/Research Officer:	S. S. Katugampala
Scientific/Research Officer:	M. S. Perera
Scientific/Research Officer:	B. M. N. C. Karunarathna
Administrative Officer:	A. K. D. M. Perera
Accounts Officer:	A. E. K. Dayarathne
Procurement Officer:	W. D. T. D. Wickrama
Management Assistant:	S. H. S. Priyankara
Management Assistant:	M. D. T. Madhushani
Management Assistant:	M. S. Sewwandi
Management Assistant:	M. A. K. L. Perera
Management Assistant:	K. A. D. M. Kumarasinghe
Management Assistant:	N. E. Atthanayaka
Management Assistant:	W. G. P. Priyadarshana
Management Assistant:	W. S. D. Perera
Driver:	K. K. T. Sandaruwan
Driver:	S. S. Jayasinghe

As at 31.12.2020

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to submit the Annual Report of the National Research Council (NRC) of Sri Lanka for the year 2020 for tabling in Parliament.

NRC marched towards success despite obstacles faced by the COVID pandemic and global economic crisis, in the year 2020. We joined hands stepping into new initiatives with local and international researchers, entrepreneurs and many other stakeholders during this year. We have untired journey to bring our scientists to the highest esteem.

COVID-19 pandemic made a significant influence on almost all sectors including research. At the same time, it was an opportunity to invent a number of innovations starting from novel sanitization techniques to the vaccines against COVID. The NRC gave its recommendations to the relevant authorities at the beginning of the spread of COVID-19 in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, we funded a special Rapid Response Grant scheme to support short term research and innovations which aimed to combat COVID-19. We came up with innovations such as 'Swaraksha' a mobile app which can be used to identify the movement of patients within the community. Apart from that the NRC has conducted following programs during the year 2020 as usual; Investigator Driven Research Grant Program, Public-Private Partnership Program, Target Oriented Multi-Disciplinary Research Grant Program, Outreach and the Public Awareness Program.

While appreciating the contribution of members of the Council and my staff, I wish to express my gratitude to the State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research & Innovation for their support and encouragement granted to NRC during this challenging year, 2020.

Professor Hemantha Dodampahala
Chairman

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

I take this opportunity to provide a message to the NRC Annual Report 2020. It has been a year with unprecedented challenges to the organization due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The virus thought us many things, one is that there are no borders between the countries, and we all belong to one planet. Research and Development related to Science and Technology was in the forefront finding solutions to spread COVID-19 virus and vaccine production.

The NRC which started as a project under the purview of the Presidential Secretariat grew itself slowly and steadily into its present status. Today, it's a prime agency funding R & D in S & T in Sri Lanka, facilitating many research programs, it's an organization that emphasizes on quality research, recognize scientists for their research excellence, and assess the impact of research outcomes to connect it to the National Development Agenda.

A new Chairman Prof. Hemantha Dodampahala, was appointed in January 2020, and six other Council Members and the two ex-officio members were appointed in March 2020. And subsequently the other Council members were appointed towards to latter part of the year.

In March 2020 the country went on a lock-down, but all functions that could be done on a virtual platform continued; the Council Meetings, Progress Review Meetings, Selection panels etc. With the new concept of Work-From-Home (WFH) being introduce by the government, the staff carried out most of the functions via on-line, and the financial matter were carried out to a limited extend.

The NRC primary objectives as give in the Act No. 11 of 2016, being(i) to assist the government to facilitate research relating to science and technology to build a vibrant national scientific and technological community in the country, (ii) to promote and facilitate research relating to science and technology in the higher educational institutions and public sector research institutes and other government institutes, so as to develop a research base that will contribute to national needs; and (iii) to solicit co-operation of the private sector in the enhancement of research relating to science and technology.

The NRC's main function is to provide grants to researchers in Scientific Research and Development (R & D) Organizations and the Higher Education Institutes to conduct research, to develop a national system to recognize and confer awards to scientists and facilitate, coordinate the efficient utilization of government investment in research.

To achieve these important objectives, the NRC conducted the following programs during the year 2020; Investigator Driven Research Grant Program, Private-Public Partnership Program, Target Oriented Multi-Disciplinary Research Grant Program, Presidential Awards for Scientific Research, Outreach Program and the Public Awareness Program.

To address the urgent needs of scientists to conduct R & D on COVID-19, the 'Rapid Response Research Grants' scheme was introduced in 2020. Maximum amount per grant was LKR 500,000/-, new guidelines were developed, in align with the directions given by the Ministry of Finance, with flexibility in utilizing the funds. A total of 35 proposals were received and 9 grants were awarded.

The Investigator Driven Research Grants (ID) of Program; started in 1999, a program that has been in operation for the last 21 years. It is a competitive grant scheme, which facilitates scientists to conduct innovative research and create new knowledge. These applications are called annually, and it's an open call, where the applicants could apply from any field science. During 2020, 133 applications were received from which 37 were selected for funding, and 15 were awarded, offering 13 postgraduate fellowships and 2 post-doctoral fellowships. There were over 100 on-going grants in operation during the year. The final progress review of 46 grants were completed, with 59 international publications, 18 PhD and 20 MPhil postgraduate students completing their degrees and research findings disseminated through 41 international conferences and 125 local conferences.

The Impact Assessment is now an integral part of the NRC evaluation process, after R. Mahindapala report (2018) selecting 8 grants out of 50 completed grants (awarded between 2005 and 2011) that could have high impact from its research outcomes. Of these, the impact assessment study on a research conducted on congenital hypothyroidism (CH) was concluded. This research led to a National Policy in 2016 and with very high returns on investment. During 2019, a total of 159,559 newborns underwent screening, and 126 babies were confirmed as having the deficiency. The benefit-to-cost ratio was 3.60 with total cost of the program being LKR 98 Mn with total benefit of LKR 356.5 Mn during the 2019. The conclusion, being that the CH screening program proved its effectiveness in both timely detecting at-risk babies as well as being appropriately effective in economic impact to society.

The Private-Public Partnership (PPP) program started in 2012 facilitate partnerships between scientists in public R & D institutions and universities, and the private sector. These projects clearly identify the research areas to be addressed and their commercial potential. One project on digital platform for annotation in mobile tablets completed its activities during the year. Six applications were received during the year and of them 4 were short-listed for presentation. A total of 7 PPP projects were in operation during the year. Three grants; on rubber-polyethylene roofing sheets, self-cleaning sifter for tea industry, non-marking tires, were completed, and the final decisions and outcomes to be concluded.

The PPP program had a major milestone during the year, where the NRC entered into a Memo of Understanding with the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, in order develop scientific research and technology cooperation directly between the scientific community and industries, enterprises and R & D of market opportunities.

In 2013, the Target Oriented Multi-disciplinary (TO) Research Program was initiated to find long-term solutions through R & D intervention for critical national issues. This year one grant was awarded, on polyherbal nutraceutical drug for diabetes. Progress review meetings were held during the year to evaluate and monitor the nine ongoing projects. One of the five projects funded in 2014, the CKDu grant titled 'A comprehensive study on Chronic Kidney Disease of unknown etiology' completed its R & D activities and evaluations were done, however the conclusive decisions are yet to be arrived by the Council, after the review meeting and expert panel discussions. The outcome of this grant will be important in finding solutions to the people who are affected by the CKDu disease. The success of these 05 projects will indicate the effectiveness of the TO granting scheme. The other four ongoing grants of 2014 have resulted in many outputs during the year and some of them have already been implemented with its

stakeholder.

The President's Award for Scientific Research (PASR) scheme was formulated mainly to extend due recognition to scientists who succeeded in reaching the international standard in their research. This program also has been in operation since 1999, and has contributed immensely to improve the quality of research in Sri Lanka, with number of publications increase exponentially. The PASR is an annual event in the NRC calendar, generally held during the month of November, to coincide with the World Science Day; however, the function was not held during the current year due to the COVID 19 health restrictions and will be held in 2021. Data compilation for the selection of 100 publication were completed, with 317 scientists to be conferred with the awards.

A new awarding scheme was initiated to felicitate individual who deserve a special recognition for their outstanding contribution, leadership and accomplishments in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation, over a decade. The award will be titled 'Lifetime Awards for Excellence in Science, Technology and Innovation'. This lifetime award will be bestowed by the state to Sri Lankans, who have demonstrated their success in their field of expertise in R &D, and whose contributions are worthy of recognition. The program will be implemented from 2021 onwards.

The Outreach Program, is the program that links NRC to the society. The Ministry of Research & Technology organized "INNO-TECH", exhibition on emerging technologies in Homagama in March 2020. The NRC displayed the highlights of the grants, especially the grants with new technologies, on robotics, drone technology, water purification, housing & construction etc. A large number of visitors, especially school children were attracted to the NRC exhibition stall, due to the interest shown by young for emerging technologies. However, the event could not proceed as planned, due to the COVID-19 breakout in March 2020.

During the budget call for 2021, the NRC was assigned a task under 'Public Sector Reforms' to operate various research institutions in the country as institutions affiliated to the NRC, in order to manage the resources spent on research maximizing productivity. The project will be discussed and implemented in next year.

Also, there was a special project taken up for discussion during the year on 'National Referral Laboratory for Early Detection of Cancer' and the proposal was submitted to the Treasury for funding. This project has been proposed as a collaborative program with the University of Colombo.

Six newspaper articles were published to make the public aware of valuable research findings, of NRC grants. The NRC also submitted 42 reports to the various ministries and stakeholders, in order to keep these organizations updated on R & D activities conducted, through our granting schemes.

I wish to thank the Council members for their instinct support given to us in all our effort to take NRC to greater heights and all officials of the Treasury and line-ministry for the corporation extended to us during this year.

The NRC has an approved Cadre of 21, and 02 new staff members were appointed to the permanent cadre during the year, and one staff member resigned from the NRC, to join the private sector. The staff participated in the annual familiarization tour in February, and visited to TRI- Rathnapura, Sabaragamuwa University to observe research conducted and to understand R & D activities that take place in the field and laboratories, on the first day. The next day, Uwa-wellassa University and Pelwatte Dairy Industries were visited. Due to the COVID-19 situation in the country the staff could not participate in training programs. I wish to thank the staff for their continuous support given throughout this difficult year, in order to keep all function of the organization happening and complete the activities as per Action Plan.

The NRC was allocated Rs. 75.2 million capital budget and Rs. 28.6 million recurrent budget and received Rs. 75.2 million and Rs. 26.5 million respectively during the year 2020. The Audit Report, released by the Auditor General's Department for 2019 Financial Year was awarded a qualified opinion, which is ranked as No. 2 opinion.

The Annual Report 2020 reflects the outcomes it has achieved throughout the year, and look forward for the year ahead to serve our research community.

Manisha C. Rajapakse
Chief Executive Officer

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS IN THE PRECEDING 3 YEARS

Programs (Strategies)	Indicator	Physical Progress			Financial Progress Rs. Mn		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
General administration of NRC					22.80	23.65	26.50
Development Assistance for below Programs					161.27	88.23	75.20
Target Oriented Multi-Disciplinary Research Program (Program started in 2014)	No. of Programs	1 Program commenced	0 Program commenced	1 Program commenced			
Private Public Partnership Program (Program started in 2013)	No. of Programs	3 Programs commenced.	1 Program commenced.	0 Programs			
Investigator Driven Grants Program (Program started in 1999)	No. of research grants awarded	24 Investigator Driven Grants were awarded 04 Special grants were awarded for Eco-friendly Weed Control (EWC)	28 Investigator Driven Grants were awarded	19 Investigator Driven Grants were awarded	-	-	-

	No. of PhD/MPhil fellowships awarded.	23 PhD /M Phil fellowships were awarded	20 PhD /M Phil fellowships were awarded	22 PhD /M Phil fellowships were awarded			
President's Awards for Scientific Publication Program (PASP). (Program started in 2001)	Functions held and No. of Scientists awarded	PASP function was held for year 2016 publications and 338scientists were awarded	PASP function was held for year 2017 Publications and 100 publications were awarded	PASP function was not held due to COVID pandemic. But identified the top 100 journal publications and awardees.	-	-	-
Other Programs: Outreach/ Public Awareness Program	Activities completed	8 Outreach programs were conducted. 18 Newspaper articles were published on research conducted by the NRC.	4 Outreach programs were conducted. 21 Newspaper articles were published on research conducted by the NRC.	3 Outreach programs were conducted, including 1 outreach grant. 12 Newspaper articles were published on research conducted by the NRC.	-	-	-
Total					184.07	111.88	101.70

Target Oriented Multi-Disciplinary Research Grants

Isolated research is only rarely able to advance the understanding of, or solve complex problems. A multidisciplinary approach involves drawing appropriately from multiple disciplines to redefine problems outside of normal boundaries and reach solutions based on a new understanding of difficult issues.

This program was started in 2013, aligned with the Ministry of Technology & Research, and proposed the Ten Thrust Areas on which R & D intervention are immediately needed.

Pre-proposals were invited from groups of researchers in public scientific research and development organizations and universities. The Target-Oriented Multi-Disciplinary research projects were aimed at solving nationally relevant issues targeting economic development, social welfare, and environmental sustainability of the country.

These grants will aim to address major gaps in knowledge in policy/strategy or product development, as well as solve issues that hinder or pose a challenge to the nation. The direction for converting research findings into policy, strategy, product/process creation, and adoption should be explicitly defined.

Proposals were invited from several priority areas associated with the National Research and Development Policy Report (Ten Thrust Areas) of the Ministry of Science Technology & Research. The value of a grant would be up to Rs. 50 million, over a 5-year period. As the NRC would invest a substantial sum of public money on these projects, funding would be on a highly competitive basis. NRC will select most appropriate and capable researchers with the ability to work together as a team on projects that the NRC consider likely to have a tangible outcome in five years. These multi-centered projects will have the advantage of its team members working concurrently on different aspects of the research.

Operation aspects of the grant will be identical to the Investigator Driven Grant. However, in addition to the Principal Investigator, a Deputy Principal Investigator will be appointed. Once the grant is awarded, these projects will be regularly and rigorously scrutinized, monitored, and evaluated to ensure the achievement of stated outcomes.

Investigator Driven Research Grants Program

The R&D activities in Sri Lanka are mainly conducted by public institutes and universities, and are funded from various sources such as government institutional funds, competitive grants and research contracts. The NRC Research Grants program was initiated for scientists to conduct research with minimum bureaucracy.

NRC Research Grants program provides competitive grants to public institutes for R & D activities. This program has been streamlined over years of its implementation and now is more or less perfected. The grants are advertised annually, evaluations are based on scientific aspects, relevance to national development, and the findings are published in international journals.

The applications undergo a strict evaluation process. For the proposals selected, the Council will decide on an appropriate allocation of funds that will be channeled from the Treasury, directly to the Principal Investigator, who will be solely responsible for project implementation. Funds are considered for equipment, consumables, etc. A bank account is opened for each project and the NRC monitors all transactions. This allows a considerable flexibility to scientists to utilize the funds with minimum red tape. The Council and the NRC Secretariat monitor and evaluate the process.

It should be mentioned here that the present grants are diversified in nature. Other than funding research on pure science and on food, water, environment, and energy, the NRC has lately been funding research on national surveillance, irrigations systems, wildlife and ecotourism, speech translations, construction and architecture, railway traffic, sports and many other areas.

A simple but comprehensive single set of applications are available for all programs. The number of applications NRC receives has increased over the years, which is a positive sign. Challenges for this program are to assure the momentum that NRC has already achieved.

The Council introduced many new regulations and guidelines to monitor and evaluate the progress of these grants, in order to derive the best outputs from them.

President's Awards for Scientific Research

The program of President's Awards for Research was started in year 2001, to honor scientists reaching international standards, to increase national scientific production. The national statistics of publication output from 1991 to date reveals what could perhaps be the beginning of an upward trend.

From year 2019 onward, the awards will be given for the publication (the piece of research) rather than to the individual scientist. Awards will be given for international patents related to science in addition to publications. As the NRC also wishes to encourage research that is conceptualized and performed mainly in Sri Lanka,

consideration has been given to the level of contribution made by Sri Lankan Scientists to the piece of research and the publication in instances where there is international collaboration.

To avoid bias towards any particular scientific discipline, the scoring system used to rank the publications was source normalized (based on weighted citations); it was made transparent – i.e. available and freely accessible in the public domain. These criteria were fulfilled by the SCImago Journal Rank (SJR), a database of journal citation metrics maintained by Scopus and owned by Elsevier BV, thus the scheme is based on SCImago Journal Ranking (SJR) extracted from the **Scopus** database. During the year 2020, 100 publications were identified for awards, for being published in indexed journals in the year 2018. The award ceremony function was postponed to the year 2021, considering the emergence of COVID pandemic.

Public Private Partnership Program

Advances in R&D in Science and Technology (S&T) will pave the way to development of value-added products and services that are competitive in the global market, and which will form an essential pillar of Sri Lanka's envisaged economic development. To accomplish this goal, research performed in Sri Lanka needs to be demand-driven by addressing the needs of key industries of the country, which are expected to drive the economy forward.

The Public R&D Private Industry-Partnership (PPP) program is to build on local strength by networking key players in R&D activities and industries to contribute towards the economic development of the country. Promoting R&D in S&T should lead to economic development by way of increasing exports, diversifying exports, and promoting import substitutes. All innovative research leading to the development of new or better products, processes, services, value addition and solving technical problems with commercial potential will be considered for this program. Meaningful partnerships between the different sectors will enable us to share our research expertise, cost, services and facilities more effectively to develop solutions for industry R&D needs. The partnerships will also improve efficiency of public R&D activities and reduce the time horizon. The Private sector participation is encouraged by providing tax concessions in relation to R&D expenditure undertaken by an enterprise with public sector partnership. The NRC will interface between government - local institute - ministries - University - R&D Institutes - corporate sector - SME sectors, in providing research-based solutions to national needs.

Rapid Response Grants Program

Need of research occurs at a rate faster than we predict. It may be a pandemic or a plant disease or an emergency situation called by the government where prompt Research & Development interventions are sought. General grant programs of NRC are arranged for research projects that span for more than one year. Thus, there was a gap of short-term research program at NRC, to support the aforementioned R&D interventions. To fill this gap, the NRC introduced a short-term grant program called "Rapid Response Grants" where the time limit would be 06 months and the maximum funds granted would be Rs.500,000/-.

Under these Rapid Response Grants, the first set of grants were awarded to R&D interventions that aimed to combat COVID-19 global pandemic.

Other Programs

Outreach Programs: With the direction of the line Ministry, outreach programs are conducted to highlight the output of research grants to the public. Further to that, NRC participates to a number of exhibitions at a year, with grantees who voluntarily take part in educational stalls.

Public Awareness Program: Grantees are encouraged to publish their research in peer-reviewed journals. At the same time, NRC facilitates scientists to publish their findings in newspapers to make the public aware of the research performed by scientists. Even press releases are arranged to publicize some scientific findings which are of timely importance.

Outreach Grants: NRC initiated Outreach grants as a new step to familiarize the services of NRC, from the year 2020. From these grants a public institute gets the benefit of serving the public more efficiently, using the knowledge or databases created from an inhouse field research.

Lifetime Awards for Science, Technology & Innovation: This program was initiated in 2020 to recognize and felicitate individuals who deserve a special recognition for their outstanding contribution, leadership and accomplishments in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation, over a decade. This lifetime award will be bestowed by the state to Sri Lankans, who have demonstrated their success in their field of expertise in R &D, and whose contributions are worthy of recognition.

HIGHLIGHTS - 2020

TARGET ORIENTED MULTI DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GRANTS

In October 2019, NRC advertised for new grant applications for year 2020.

	2014	2016	2018	2020
Number of applications received	60	50	25	49
Number of applications short listed for detailed proposals	21	13	06	08
Number of detailed proposals received	21	11	05	07
Number of applications short listed for presentation	11	06	03	05
Number of grants awarded	05	03	01	01

Nine Target Oriented Multi-Disciplinary Grants, which were awarded in 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020 were in operation during the year 2020 and Prof. R. B. Mapa, Project Monitoring Consultant of National Research Council, monitored the progress. A project on A comprehensive study on chronic kidney disease of uncertain etiology in Sri Lanka was concluded and is currently being evaluated.

Ongoing Target Oriented grants:

Comprehensive research proposal on an operational model to control dengue in Sri Lanka using multiple vector control intervention, new product development and community engagement

(PI: Prof. Menaka Hapugoda and Deputy PI: Prof. Nilmini Gunawardene, University of Kelaniya)

This project aims at controlling dengue vector agents chemically and biologically, reducing natural breeding habitats, minimizing biting incidences using insecticide treated window curtains and net covers using nanotechnology, and improving community participation in dengue control.



Improving dairy industry to achieve self-sufficiency in milk

(PI: Mr. K. Mahipala and Deputy PI: Dr. Thusith Samarakoone, University of Peradeniya)

Objective of this project is to increase milk yields in all agro-climatic areas by improving nutritional management, using better ration formulas, improving reproduction efficiency, synchronization protocol to achieve maximum conception rate, introducing an economical field kit for early pregnancy detection at day 18-20, identifying most common causes of mastitis, and treating with suitable antibiotics to reduce the incidence and spreading and improving animal welfare.



Developing a polyvalent anti- venom for snake bite in Sri Lanka

(PI: Prof. I. B. Gawarammana and Deputy PI: Dr. A. Dangolla, University of Peradeniya)

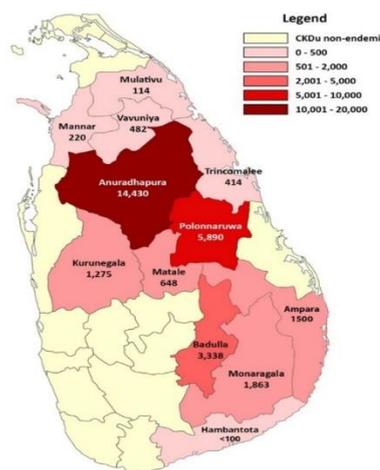
The objectives include collection and analysis of venom of medically important snakes of Sri Lanka by developing a state of art serpentarium; develop a polyvalent anti-venom for snakebite in Sri Lanka, and establishment of a horse facility to produce anti-venom in Sri Lanka.



A comprehensive study on chronic kidney disease of uncertain etiology in Sri Lanka

(PI: Prof. R. L. R. Chandrajith and Deputy PI: Prof. J. G. S. Ranasinghe, University of Peradeniya)

The major objective is to address various aspects of CKDu of which, the knowledge is lacking at present. Blood and urine samples from CKDu patients are analyzed to identify factors for disease progression and mortality. Comprehensive Geo-environmental study conducted in affected areas as Girandurukotte and Wilgamuwa where water samples from wells, lakes, and paddy fields were analyzed for heavy metals using ICPMS, GIS Mapping to reconstruct the pollution history of the Mahaweli areas, and conducting public awareness programs.



Ensuring food security through developing climate smart crop varieties and cultivation techniques in Sri Lanka

(PI: Dr. W.M.W. Weerakoon and Deputy PI: Dr. D. M. J. B. Senanayake, Field Crop Research and Development Institute, Mahailluppallama)

The aim is to develop high yielding, pest and disease tolerant/resistant varieties of Chili, Maize, Mungbean and Rice, tolerant to high temperature and water stress; To propose climate smart agricultural practices; Identify and map the most drought prone areas on severity and time using soil moisture indices.



Development of eco-friendly farming technologies to minimize inorganic fertilizer usage while maintaining adequate productivity and improving soil fertility

(PI: Prof. Saman Dharmakeerthi, Dr. W. S. Dandeniya, University of Peradeniya)

The major objective is to develop eco- and farmer-friendly technologies to increase use efficiency of chemical fertilizers in rice cultivation of Sri Lanka and thereby to reduce the chemical fertilizer usage in the country. It is also intended to investigate the effectiveness of such technologies to improve plant health and to reduce the usage of other agrochemicals in the rice fields. The developed technologies will be introduced to growers through possible partnership with private sector investors.



Development of a Model Treatment Facility for Remediation of Total Dissolved Solids and Fluoride in Groundwater – A Sustainable Solution for Dry Zone Drinking Water Problems

(PI: Prof. Rohan Weerasooriya, Dr. S. K. Weragoda, National Institute of Fundamental Studies)

This project aims to provide a sustainable solution to resolve the water quality problems in the dry zone. It is proposed to fabricate a mobile treatment facility with appropriate technology to regulate excess fluoride and total dissolved solids employing electro-coagulation and nano membrane filtration. The proposed water treatment module/s will initially be restricted to a small village. The clean water will be distributed under the control of NWSDB to village consumers in the vicinity of water source for their routine consumption. This will provide the essential first step for a leaf frog solution to thirst community.



Development of advanced materials- based filters for water purification

(PI: Prof. Rohini de Silva, Prof. Nalin de Silva, University of Colombo)

The ultimate aim is to provide the rural community with a low cost and effective point of use water filter, which requires no electricity for the water purification process. This sustainable water purification system will be produced by a local manufacturer. The designed multiple systems will remove bacteria, organic pollutants, turbidity, heavy metals and other contaminated inorganic substances.



Comprehensive solution for the medium and small-scale open dumps for mitigating pollution and value addition

(PI: Prof. Meththika Vithanage, Dr. (Mrs.) B. C. L. Athapattu, University of Sri Jayewardenepura)

The aim is to convert organic municipal solid waste into a carbonized material - A sustainable comprehensive solution for management of medium and small-scale open dumps.



Development of a novel polyherbal composition as drug lead for diabetes mellitus and dyslipidaemia from the selected medicinal plants in Sri Lanka

(PI Dr. J. M. S. J. Manike, Deputy PI Dr. K. G. A. P. Attanayake)

This grant was awarded at the end of December 2020, to realize following objectives;

- Standardize a polyherbal composition containing freeze dried powder of leaves of *Murraya koenigii*, cloves of *Allium sativum*, seeds of *Piper nigrum* and fruits of *Garcinia quaesita* using standard analytical methods
- Determine stability, shelf life and pharmacokinetic properties of the polyherbal composition
- Determine the proximate nutrient composition of the polyherbal mixture
- Determine the antihyperglycaemic effect of the polyherbal composition in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Determine adverse/toxic effects of the polyherbal composition in above study subjects
- Investigate the effect of the polyherbal composition on oxidative stress markers and inflammatory markers, hyperlipidaemia in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Identify antidiabetic secondary metabolites of the polyherbal composition using bioassay guided principle
- Develop structure activity relationships using synthetic modifications to the identified compounds
- Investigate advanced cellular antidiabetic mechanisms of the isolated compounds in high fat streptozotocin induced type 2 diabetic rats
- Investigate the protective effects of the polyherbal mixture against diabetes mellitus in obese Wistar rat model
- Seek possibilities for the commercialization of the polyherbal composition.

INVESTIGATOR DRIVEN RESEARCH GRANTS

The year 2020 started with applications in hand for NRC Investigator Driven Research Grants Programme. From paper advertisement, which was circulated to all universities, faculties, and all the government R&D institutes, researchers were invited to apply.

Application calling closed on 11th November 2019 and 133 applications were received. During the first quarter, the annual progress reports of the ongoing grants were sent for evaluations.

The applications (2019) were sent to evaluators who were experts in the subject field. The Council, through panel discussions, further screened the applications and selected applications with high scientific merit and national relevance.

ACTIVITY	2018	2019	2020
No. of Applications selected for funding after evaluation	24 + 4	37	38
No of Grants Funded	24 + 4	32	15
Total value of grants awarded through treasury funding	Rs. 120.93 Mn	Rs. 148.01 Mn	Rs. 47.49 Mn

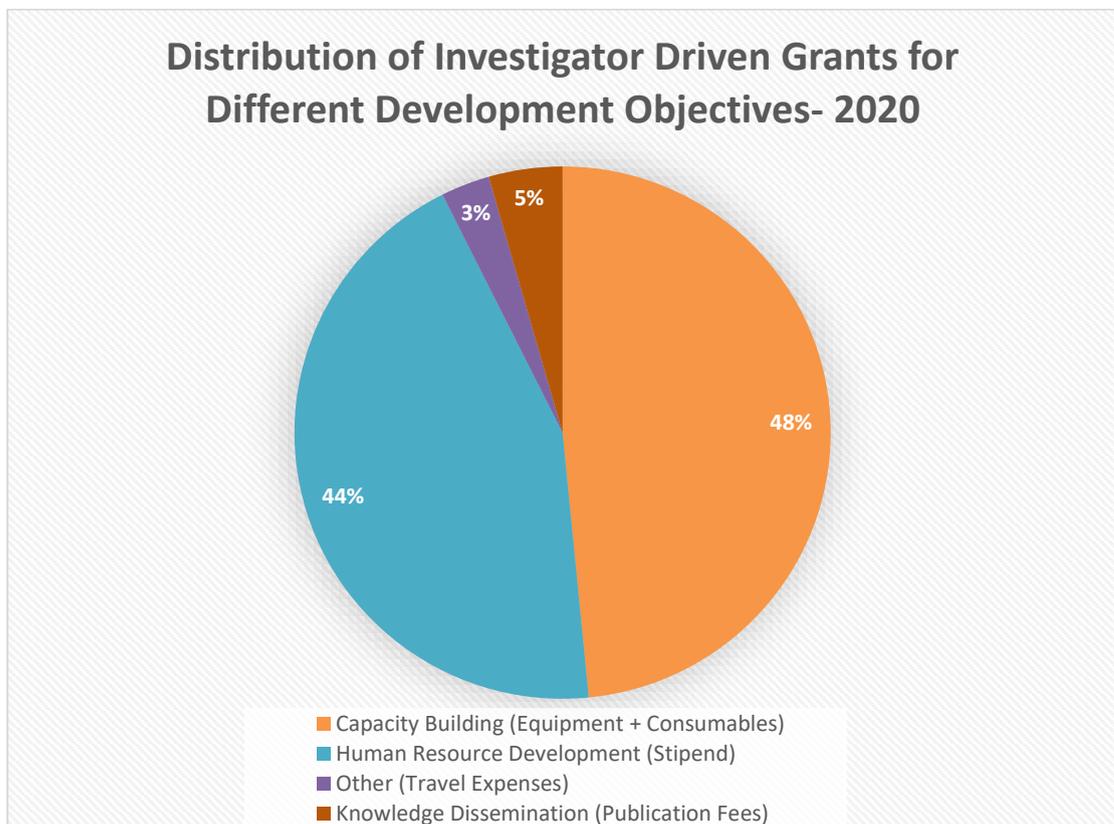
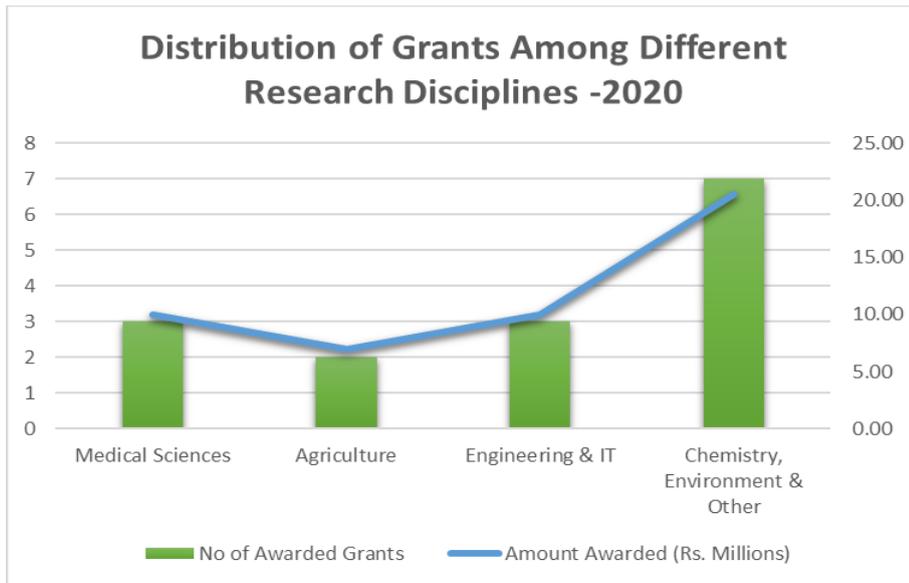
Only 28.6% (38/133) of the applicants were selected. Out of that, 37 applications were forwarded to the treasury for funding, during the year 2020. One application was pending for clarifications, at the end of year 2020.

During the year, 15 research grants were funded from the applications of 2020, and the grant activities were commenced. By end of the year, evaluations were completed for 38 grants.

Funded Research Grants 2020

App. No.	Principal Investigator & Institution	Title
20-007	Dr. N. C. S. Ruklani Post-Doctoral Fellow University of Peradeniya	Investigation of the potential use of bryophytes as climate change indicators
20-010	Prof. W.A.I.P. Karunaratne Department of Zoology University of Peradeniya	Shift in species composition and diversity of bee pollinators and natural enemies while enhancing crop yield in a highly dynamic agro-natural landscape
20-014	Dr. C. H. Manoratne Materials Technology Section Industrial Technology Institute	A stable composite based on titanium dioxide and clay as an effective photocatalyst for wastewater treatment

20-039	Dr. S. A. Senevirathne Department of Physical Sciences Rajarata University of Sri Lanka	Tunable biodegradable polymers and polymeric nanocomposites from locally available renewable sources
20-066	Dr. D. M. A. B. Dissanayake Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Faculty of Medicine University of Kelaniya	An attempt to in vitro differentiation of human round spermatids into mature spermatozoa (spermiation)
20-074	Dr. (Mrs) J. A. A. C. Wijesinghe Department of Biosystems Engineering Wayamba University of Sri Lanka	Characterization of a composite flour from Kithul (Caryota urens) and arrowroot (Marantha arundinacea) flour with different modifications to widening its applications in food industry.
20-078	Dr. A. Muruganathan Department of Pathology Faculty of Medicine University of Jaffna	Clinico-epidemiology, coagulation profile and the phylogenetic positioning of Saw-scaled viper in Northern Sri Lanka.
20-080	Dr. H. M. Y. C. Mallikarachchi Department of Civil Engineering University of Moratuwa	Simulation of self-deployable structures made of ultra-thin shells
20-083	Prof. R. S. Rajakaruna Department of Zoology University of Peradeniya	Canine tick borne infections: reservoirs, tick vectors and zoonotic disease risk of rickettsial infections
20-085	Dr. S. A. Weerasooriya Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management University of Peradeniya	Household Food Waste Behaviors and Implications for Food Security and Environmental Sustainability in Sri Lanka.
20-086	Dr. J. A. T. C. Ariyasena Department of Chemistry University of Peradeniya	Determination of Descriptor Values for Selected Volatile Constituents in Cinnamon, in order to Determine their Distribution Levels in Environmental Compartments
20-108	Dr. R. A. M. P. Ranaweera Department of Mechanical Engineering University of Moratuwa	Development of a cooling system to reduce the temperature generation in conventional spice grinding machines through experimental investigation of the temperature distribution inside the grinding chamber of conventional spice grinding machines
20-117	Dr. S. S. R. M. D. H. R. Wijesekara Department of Natural Resources Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka	Microplastics Bound Transport and Differential Bioavailability of Pharmaceuticals, Personal Care Products (PPCPs) and Toxic Trace Elements in Water
20-123	Dr. M. A. B. Ranatunga Plant Breeding Division Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka	Conservation and Utilization of Old Seedling Teas: A Viable Option for Adaptation to Climate Change
20-124	Dr. N. K. Jayasooriya Post-Doctoral Fellow University of Moratuwa	Determination of Optimum Characteristics of Feeder Service for a Public Transit Route



PRESIDENT’S AWARDS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic public gatherings were not entertained by the government. Therefore, the award ceremony of President’s Awards for Scientific Research was postponed to the year 2021, by the decision of the Council, following public health & safety guidelines.

But from the documentary work, the top 100 papers published in journals (in year 2018) with the highest SCImago Journal Ranking (SJR), in which 20% or more of the authors of the publication are Sri Lankan scientists with a Sri Lankan institutional affiliation were identified and listed for the next year’s function. The scientists represented an array of different disciplines including medicine, engineering and agriculture.

PRIVATE PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

The PPP Program is continued during the period.

Activities	2018	2019	2020
No of Expression of Interest (EOI) received for PPP	15	7	6
No of EOI’s Selected to submit detail proposals	7	5	4
No. of Partnerships with Private Sector	3	1	2 (Final Decisions Pending)
Total Funds required	Rs. 20.26 Mn	Rs. 42.23 Mn	Rs. 47.70 Mn
Funds Provide buy the Private Sector (Approx. 50%)	Rs. 10.13 Mn	Rs. 21.90 Mn	Rs. 23.85 Mn (To be provided)

Ongoing Private Public Partnerships...

Grant No.	Research Partner	Project Title
PPP 16-03	Dr. R. M. Dharmadasa Industrial Technology Institute	Extraction and formulation of plant protection products from endemic plants for healthy growth of crops free from sucking insects (mealybugs, aphids, whiteflies and thrips) causing yellowing, wilting and leaf-curl
PPP 17-01	Prof. N. K. B. Adikaram National Institute of Fundamental Studies	Study of some postharvest diseases and disorders that adversely affect the export potential of mango var. TomEJC and their management
PPP 17-03	Dr. Kutila Gunasekara University of Moratuwa	Cross platform for Annotations in Mobile Tablets
PPP 18-01	Dr. J. C. P. H. Gamage University of Moratuwa	Development of an economical insulation system for externally strengthened FRP/Concrete composites using locally available materials
PPP 18-02	Prof. Rohan Munasinghe University of Moratuwa	Development of commercial prototypes of multipurpose drones – CeyGull and CeyBell
PPP 18-07	Dr. Gobithas Dharmarajah Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology	A composition and method of seepage control using fibrous material
PPP 19-04	Prof. Nilwala Kottegoda University of Sri Jayewardenepura	Waste Coconut Coir Based Multi-purpose Nano-water Filters

PPP Projects Completed in the year 2020...

PPP 14-08: A substitute to conventional roofing sheet using natural rubber and polyethylene

(Dr. Shantha Walpalage, University of Moratuwa)



This project introduced an eco-friendly solution to wastage of used natural rubber and polyethylene by directing them to production of novel roofing sheet material. The optimum ratio for the blend of rubber and polyethylene was found out for best physical characteristics of the roofing sheet. This will be an alternative to conventional roofing sheets and the samples of different kind of sheet materials produced by the research group are depicted here.

PPP 16-05: Nanomaterials for improved electrical conductivity of natural rubber compound for non-marking solid tires

(Dr. N. M. S. Sirimuthu, University of Sri Jayewardenepura)



The main objective of the project was to make an electrically conductive non-black natural rubber compound for solid tires by incorporating nanomaterials.

The research team have been able to make an anti-static natural rubber compound for solid tires by incorporating carbon-based nanomaterials along with an alkali metal salt.

A patent is being drafted for the new product.

PPP 16-07: Development of Self-Cleaning Sifter with multiple mesh frames for grading long leafy & wiry type tea

(Mr. G. L. C. Galahitiyawa, Mr. C. Munasinghe, Tea Research Institute)



Out of 710 tea factories in Sri Lanka, 450 produce special orthodox tea grades of long leafy & wiry type particles (70% of annual tea production) which needs to be sorted by a lengthy process.

Currently in factories, four numbers of 'Michie' sifters having different size meshes are used in completing the sorting process.

In this project one single machine incorporated with all the meshes is designed and developed, since manual cleaning of clogging particles on the mesh is avoided with the use of the Self-Cleaning mechanism.

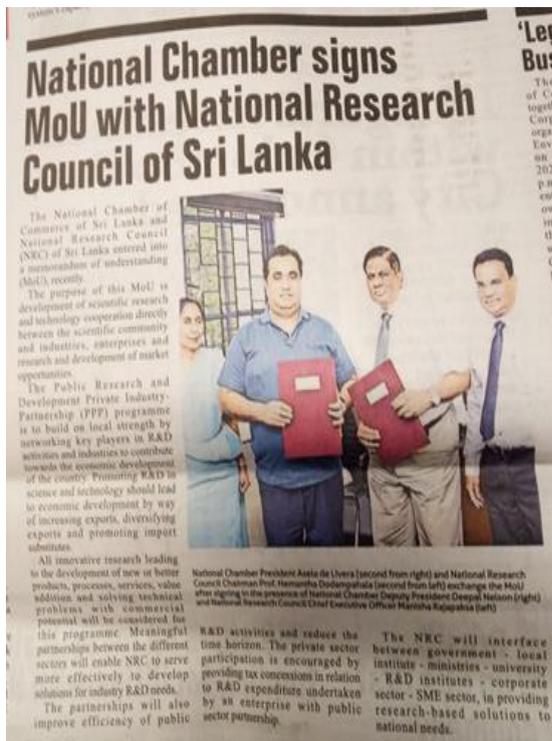
Labor requirement is low, thus production cost is minimized, while improving quality of tea leaves.

New Initiatives of PPP Program



The National Research Council (NRC) and the entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka (NCCSL) on 10th December 2020 to develop scientific research and technology cooperation directly between the scientific community and the industries/enterprises and to develop market opportunities.

National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka was established in 1948 with the vision to be the leading source of service and assistance to businesses countrywide, for promotion of domestic and foreign trade with special emphasis on the development of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.

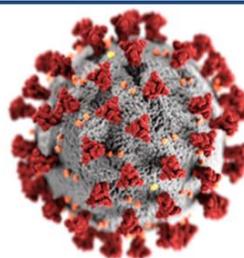


Under this collaborative program NRC plans to access a higher number of entrepreneurs to provide the following services;

- For entrepreneurs who have an innovative idea which could lead to development of a new product or service, NRC can assist on assessing the technical and economic viability, financing, implementation and results utilization of that innovative idea.
- Moreover, NRC can assist them in selecting suitable research partners (if required), by maintaining confidentiality of the innovation idea.
- NRC will bear 50% of the project cost up to maximum of LKR 40 million based on the feasibility of the proposed project (subjected to conditions). Ultimately, the entrepreneur will achieve his/her aim of producing an innovative new product, an improved product or a service or a value-added commercialized product through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) project.

RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS PROGRAMME

**First set of grants were awarded as
Special Research Grants to explore
Scientific Interventions to combat COVID-19**



Research proposals were invited from individuals affiliated to public universities and government R&D (Research and Development) institutes, for Research and Development activities leading to clinical research, and any products, protocols or other innovations preventing the infection and spreading of COVID-19. All-time solutions capable of being implemented in any such COVID-19 like pandemics that may emerge in future years were said to have an added advantage.

Proposed projects were limited to a time span of 6 months, with the promise to deliver the expected outputs within the period. Total budget for a single project varied from Rs.200,000/- to Rs.500,000/-. Extension of the time period and provision extra funds were considered based on timely achievement of expected output(s) of the initial proposal. In this program the NRC considered partial funding for any on-going research too, due to urgent need of outputs.

Due to COVID related movement restrictions, all the selection process (from application calling to informing of the results to the applicants) was done virtually via online methods. For the first phase, 35 applications were received and nine projects were funded in the year 2020, under this program. The list of funded projects is mentioned below;

Grant No.	Grantee & Institute	Title
CVD 20-03	Dr. Priyamali Jayasekara Kotalawala Defence University	Knowledge Attitude and Practices among healthcare workers on treating suspected/ PCR positive COVID-19 patients in Sri Lanka
CVD 20-05	Prof. Chandana Jayaratne University of Colombo	Development of a mobile mobile-based contact tracing and tracking mobile application (App) SWARAKSHA to mitigate COVID-19 and similar pandemics
CVD 20-07	Dr. Gaya Wijyaratne University of Ruhuna	COVID-19 surveillance in the Southern Province of Sri Lanka
CVD 20-08	Dr. N. P. Weerasinghe University of Ruhuna	Seroprevalence of COVID-19 in a subset of community in Sri Lanka and the possible exposure to risk factors
CVD 20-09	Dr. R. M. N. A. Wijewardane National Institute of Post-harvest Management	Development and quality evaluation of the immune booster food formulation as a nutrient supplement for the people affected COVID- 19
CVD 20-12	Prof. F. Noordeen University of Peradeniya	Development of a cost-effective and rapid molecular diagnostic protocol for the detection of COVID-19
CVD 20-13	Dr. K. Arulanandem Eastern University of SL	Innovative Photosensitive-Electromagnetic Device to find a suitable energy field, with appropriate parameters that are able to kill or deactivate viruses and improve the immune systems.
CVD 20-24	Dr. Sisira Pathirana IBMBB - University of Colombo	Proof of principle for development of an antigen detection rapid diagnostic test for the diagnosis of SARS-COV-2 infections
CVD 20-34	Prof. Mandika Wijyaratne University of Colombo	A wearable hand sanitizer pocket

OTHER PROGRAMMES

Outreach Programme 2020

1. INNOTECH Exhibition

National Research Council (NRC) participated for the for the INNOTECH exhibition on 11th to 13th March 2020 at Pitipana Homagama.

NRC has covered Neurotechnology tech zone with its different research outcomes related to neurotechnology and the other sciences like robotics, medicine, drone technology, engineering, waste management, and water.

More than 100,000 general public, school children and university students visited the NRC tech zone to improve their knowledge.



2. Press Release conducted on an Introduction of a mobile phone-based app 'SWARAKSHA' "ස්වරක්ෂා (ස්ව + ආරක්ෂා)" for mitigation of COVID-19 pandemic

Press Release conducted on 24th June 2020 at National Research Council

NRC started a special grants program called Rapid Response Grants in order to fund short term research projects which are of national and timely important. The first set of grants were awarded to R&D interventions to combat COVID-19 pandemic. From one of such grants given to a team of researchers headed by Prof. Chandana Jayaratne of the Astronomy and Space Science Unit, Department of Physics, University of Colombo has developed a mobile phone-based app named "SWARAKSHA" to mitigate COVID-19 pandemic. This is a 100% Sri Lankan developed app, and the general public can download it free. It provides real-time protection with information privacy.

Once the health authorities upload the data, the general public, with this app on, can go anywhere and engage in economic reviewing activities without much fear. When you approach to any one of the followings within 10 m distance an alarm in your phone will beep, the phone vibrates, and a notification will be given on the screen in different 5 colors indicating the risk level of persons you are approaching: Covid-19 active (RED)/ Recovered (YELLOW)/ Quarantined (BROWN)/Quarantine completed (GREEN), Came from abroad within last 14/28 days (Magenta). Moreover, on a dynamic map, you can see the risk level before you visit a place like a shopping mall. With this app, we could open up the tourism industry of the country, which generate 13% of our income. Geofencing security facility is available if needed to self-quarantine COVID suspects at their homes/in a hotel. If a person gets infected, the facility is available, if required, in the app to trace back his/her contacts up to last 14 days. The app also has QR code feature indicating his risk level and can be used to enter a public place as a security, in addition to the existing body temperature measuring method. The app can be used to mitigate any other pandemics that may pop-up in future and also to show

Dengue clusters.

Most of the countries those who controlled the mass spreading of COVID-19 patients successfully have used their own mobile phone-based apps as an integral part of the mitigatory programs. This is by far the most advanced app developed in the world with a large number of features to mitigate any pandemic while protecting the privacy of the individuals. The researchers had plans to give this app free to needy countries in the world through the World Health Organization (WHO).



3. NRC funded research Projects: Utilization of research outcomes for industrial application

National Research Council has started to identify research outcomes which has industrial applications, from the past completed research grants (funded by NRC). We had plans to direct relevant stakeholders and the relevant ministries to utilize the above outcomes. As an initial step NRC performance and Evaluation committee identified 11 research projects which has industrial applications and advised to conduct meetings with relevant stakeholders, to present promising outcomes.

Grant No	Research Title
11-178	Synthesis of value-added products from Sri Lankan dolomitic marbles
12-081	Bioactivity studies and activity guided separation of anti-inflammatory compounds from <i>Alpinia calcarata</i> rhizome and leaf
12-113	Molecular and biochemical characterization of Sri Lankan pomegranates and expression analysis of major hydrolyzable tannin genes under different environmental conditions and maturity stages to popularize cultivation in Sri Lanka
12-145	Unified Framework for Healthcare Application Integration: Clinic Management Solution for Public Sector Health Service Institutes
13-087	Development of natural adsorbents for heavy metal and textile dye contaminated waste water treatment
15-147	Assessment of efficacy of floating macrophytes <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> , <i>Salvinia molesta</i> and <i>Pistia stratiotes</i> in controlling nutrient content and heavy metal levels in sludge from common waste treatment plant (CWWTP) – Biyagama - Sri Lanka
15-154	Development of postharvest treatments and a storage strategy for enhancement of postharvest life of lime (<i>Citris aurantifolia</i> swingle)
15-020	Enhancement of Shelf life of Fish and Fishery Products by Gamma Irradiation
15-087	Identification of prevalence and pathogens of subclinical mastitis development of an enzyme assay system based on enzymes found in milk for early detection of mastitis.
15-155	Treatment of textile effluents using a combination of chemical and physiochemical process
15-139	Use of King Coconut husk to produce an organic potassium source for agricultural use

As an Initial step NRC conducted 03 research presentations (highlighted) from above selected grants in the year 2020 and informed the stakeholders' comments and views to the line ministry for their directions and further developments.

4. NRC Started Outreach Grants



As the first outreach grant, NRC funded “Design, development, deployment and maintenance of a patient registry for De Soysa Hospital for Women”. The output will be an Inhouse patient database software to address the following issues;

- Lack of systematic collection and collation of data on the service delivery at the unit – De Soysa Hospital for Women (DSHW Ward 3 and 15).
- Lack of infrastructure for continuous professional development by way of repeated and consistent clinical audits to be carried out in the unit.
- Lack of a role model for standards of care in the delivery of the obstetric services in the country.
- Poor quality surveillance methodology (maternal morbidity surveillance requires focus).

ATTACHED

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

ATTACHED

CONTACT INFORMATION

National Research Council

120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07.

Telephone General: 011-2675176

Fax: 011-2675136

Email: admin@nrc.gov.lk

Website: www.nrc.gov.lk



ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – 2020

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL



FEBRUARY 25, 2020

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

120/07, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07

Web: www.nrc.gov.lk E-mail: admindesk@nrc.gov.lk

Financial Statement Components

Financial Year - Ending December - 2020

-  Statement of Financial Position**
-  Statement of Financial Performance**
-  Cash Flow Statement**
-  Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity**
-  Notes to the Financial Statements**

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Notes	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents - NRC		22,152,635.55	21,874,088.90
Loan		267,224.29	179,000.34
Advance for T/T		1,307,271.37	1,236,502.55
NRC Staff Loan- Current Portion	1	571,806.00	-
TO Program	2	123,357,981.54	152,811,687.60
ID Grants	2	207,177,548.48	236,397,125.37
NRC PPP Program	2	26,978,447.09	30,989,133.89
EWC Grants	2	10,831,322.48	19,671,895.63
Outreach Grant	2	1,440,000.00	-
RR Grants	2	1,889,661.67	-
Asbestos Grants	2	400.00	592,248.64
Other financial assets	3	257,478.32	--
		396,231,776.79	463,751,682.92
Non-Current Assets			
NRC Staff Loan		1,936,933.32	1,779,794.71
Other Financial Assets	4	1,965,000.00	2,162,993.00
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	282,432,591.49	289,499,512.68
Intangible Assets		1,083,335.00	725,520.00
Total Non-Current Assets		287,417,859.80	294,167,820.39
Total Assets		683,649,636.60	757,919,503.31
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	6	7,735,579.88	9,040,131.37
Non-Current Liabilities			
Gratuity Provision		847,420.00	408,852.50
Total Liabilities		8,582,999.88	9,448,983.87
Net Assets		675,066,636.72	748,470,519.44
NET ASSETS/EQUITY			
Capital Contributed by;			
Capital Grant		616,550,916.58	693,442,477.16
Accumulated Surpluses/(deficits)		58,515,720.14	55,028,042.28
Minority interest		-	-
Total Net Assets/Equity		675,066,636.72	748,470,519.44

The Accounting policies are on the pages **06 to 11 and Notes on pages 12 to 21** from an integral part of these financial statements. The council is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these financial statements. These financial statements were approved by the council and signed on their behalf.

Prof. H.Dodampahala
Chairman/NRC

Member of the Council

Ms.M. C. Rajapakse
Chief executive Officer

Mr.R. D. S. Dissanayaka
Assistant Director (Finance & Admin)

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Notes	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
Revenue			
Recurrent Receipts – NRC Administration	9	28,565,000.00	23,764,870.00
Capital Grant		2,796,150.98	2,387,027.49
Recurrent Receipts – Research and Development	8	150,847,150.86	183,322,767.58
Other Receipts		1,910,373.56	2,833,432.39
Receipt for Asbestos		400.00	1,432,778.18
Transfer Proceeds - NRC		443,312.11	355,062.18
Total Revenue		184,562,387.51	214,095,937.82
Expenses			
Personal Emoluments		16,159,336.81	13,566,943.60
Research & Development	7	99,327,502.83	133,901,942.85
Supplies and Consumables	10	10,369,573.70	10,727,961.46
Depreciation Expense –NRC Grants	5	51,519,648.03	49,420,824.73
Depreciation – NRC Office Equipment's	5	2,796,150.98	2,387,027.49
Director Board Allowances		647,200.00	649,600.00
Finance Costs		3,750.00	13,350.00
Transfer Proceeds - NRC		443,312.11	355,062.18
Total Expenses		181,266,474.47	211,022,712.31
Share of Surplus of Associate's			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		3,295,913.04	3,073,225.51
Attributable to:			
Owners of Controlling Entity		3,295,913.04	3,073,225.51
Minority interest		-	-
		3,295,913.04	3,073,225.51

Notes from the pages 06 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Figures in brackets indicate deductions

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Notes	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Taxation		-	-
Receipt from Treasury (Recurrent)		28,565,000.00	23,764,870.00
Receipt from Treasury (Development Assistance)		75,200,000.00	93,000,000.00
Sales of Goods and Services		-	-
Receipts from Closed Grants		32,856,653.86	67,718,155.14
Other Receipts	11	2,078,640.82	6,153,332.52
Interest Received		72,793.56	-
Installments received		530,680.39	-
Other Receipts - Loan		744,750.00	-
Payments			
Cash Payment to Employees		(16,319,702.57)	(14,250,875.85)
Superannuation		-	-
Suppliers		-	-
Research Grants and Other Programs	12	(109,324,387.37)	(170,818,525.19)
Staff Loan		(1,260,000.00)	-
Other Payments		(11,917,773.09)	(11,322,645.64)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		1,226,655.60	(5,755,689.02)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of Plant and Equipment		(859,885.00)	(1,780,994.52)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		(859,885.00)	(1,780,994.52)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		366,770.60	(7,536,683.54)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period		22,053,089.24	29,410,772.44
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period		22,419,859.84	21,874,088.90

Notes from the pages 06 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Figures in brackets indicate deductions

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Notes	Accumulated Surplus or Deficit Restated Rs.	Capital Grant Restated Rs.	Total Net Assets/Equity Rs.
Balance as at 01/01/2020		55,028,042.28	693,442,477.16	748,470,519.44
<u>Adjustments to the 2019 Profit</u>				
Adjustment to Stipend- 2019	15	(131,500.00)	-	(131,500.00)
Reversal of Insurance attached to 2020		12,251.00	-	12,251.00
Correction of Asset Disposal & Depreciation		41,510.80	-	41,510.80
Cancellation of Prior year expenses	16	147,882.30	-	147,882.30
Reversal of Gratuity provision for Resigned employee		31,162.50	-	31,162.50
Adjustment of 2019 Courier payments		(5,211.00)	-	(5,211.00)
Reversal of 2018 Internal Audit fee over provision		6,545.00	-	6,545.00
Reversal of General Audit Fee-Over Provision		22,680.00	-	22,680.00
Increase of 2019 General Audit Fee Provisions		(21,426.00)	-	(21,426.00)
Stipend payment related to 2019		(93,000.00)	-	(93,000.00)
Correction of Capacity building in 2019		673,870.22	(673,870.22)	-
Adjusted Accumulated Surplus		55,712,807.10	692,768,606.94	748,481,414.04
Reversal of Asbestos Income for Fund transfers	17	(493,000.00)	-	(493,000.00)
Capital Grant Received During the year 2020		-	75,200,000.00	75,200,000.00
PPP Company - Grant Closed		-	2,668,923.60	2,668,923.60
Capital Grants identify as income for the year 2020	13	-	(83,607,810.73)	(83,607,810.73)
Depreciation in respect of Capital Assets & Loss on Disposal	14	-	(70,478,803.23)	(70,478,803.23)
		55,219,807.10	616,550,916.58	671,770,723.68
		55,219,807.10	616,550,916.58	671,770,723.68
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the period 2020		3,295,913.04	-	3,295,913.04
Balance as at 31/12/2020		58,515,720.14	616,550,916.58	675,066,636.72

Notes from the pages 06 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements. Figures in brackets indicate deductions.

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

1. CORPORATE INFORMATION

1.1 GENERAL

National Research Council (“NRC”) which was formed as a special agency by a Presidential Directive under the article 33 of the constitution by the extra ordinary gazette notification No. 1514/28, was established as the National Research Council of Sri Lanka by Act, No. 11 of 2016, by the Parliament of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka by gazette notification on 29th July 2016.

The National Research Council is a public organization located at 120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07.

The financial statements are prepared for a common financial year, which ends on 31st December.

1.2 THE PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The functions of NRC set out in the Presidential Directive under the article 33 of the constitution by the extra ordinary gazette notification No. 1514/28, was reformed to the function of the National Research Council of Sri Lanka by Act, No. 11 of 2016, by the Parliament of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka by gazette on 29th July 2016.

The following main programs carried out during the year to fulfil the stated objectives.

Research Grants & PhD Program

- Funding for research in public R & D institutions and post graduate fellowships. The Program Combined to one Program during the Year as “Investigator Driven Research Grants Program”

Presidential Awards for Scientific Research

- Recognition to researchers and research institutions of Sri Lanka

The name of the program is changes during the year to “President’s Awards for Scientific Publication”.

Private Public Partnerships Program

- Funding for research needs of private sector/public in a combined approach

The private sector partnership program keeps the investment by the private sector and there are eight PPP projects ongoing during the year, thus the balances in these private partners’ accounts at 31st December 2020 is Rs. 24,439,822.81

Other Development Programs

- Other programs necessary to fulfill the objectives of NRC

Target Oriented Multi-Disciplinary Mega Projects Program

NRC council has revised its funding policy, and from 2014, the major thrust of funding will be for target-oriented research projects. Each year, pre-proposals will be invited from groups of researchers of public scientific R & D organizations and universities for possible funding of target-oriented multi-disciplinary research projects aimed at solving nationally-relevant issues aiming at economic development, social welfare and environmental sustenance of the country. The value of a grant would be up to Rs. 50 million, over a 5-year period. Proposals will be invited from several priority areas in keeping with the National Science and Technology Policy Report.

1.2 DATE FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR ISSUE

The Financial Statements of National Research Council, for the year ended 31st December 2020 were authorized for issue by the Chairman of NRC, CEO and the Accountant with the approval of Board of Council Members on 05/03/2020.

**NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 BASIS FOR PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards (SLPSAS) as issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka.

2.1.1 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The financial statements of the NRC have been prepared in accordance with the Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards (SLPSAS) as issued by the Institute of the Chartered accountants of Sri Lanka.

2.1.2 GOING CONCERN

The Council of NRC is satisfied that the NRC has recourse to continue in its activities for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, the Council is not aware of any material uncertainty.

2.1.3 BASIS OF MEASUREMENT

The financial statements of NRC have been prepared on the basis of historical costs and no adjustment has been made for inflationary factors affecting these accounts.

**2.1.4 FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION
CURRENCY**

The financial statements are presented in Sri Lankan Rupee, is the functional currency of NRC.

All financial information presented in Sri Lankan rupee has been given to the nearest cent, unless stated otherwise.

**2.4 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING
JUDGMENTS, ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS**

The financial statements are sensitive to assumptions and estimates made in measuring certain carrying amounts represented in the statements of financial position and amounts charges to the statement of financial performance. These could result in significant risk of causing material adjustments to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities which are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with SLPSAS, requires managements to make judgments, estimates, and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Judgments and estimates are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations that are believed to be reasonable under circumstances. Hence actual experience and results may differ from these judgments and estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed at an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised if the revision affects only that period and any future periods affected

**3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING
POLICIES**

The accounting policies set out below are consistent with those used in previous year.

Certain comparative information has been reclassified wherever necessary to conform to the current year's presentation.

3.1 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATON

All foreign exchange transactions have been converted in to functional currency at the rates of exchange prevailing at the date of the transactions.

**NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

3.2 ASSETS AND BASES OF THEIR VALUATION.

Assets classified as current assets on the balance sheet are cash and bank balances and those which are expected to be realized in cash during the normal operating cycle or within one year from the reporting date, whichever is shorter. Additionally, Festival advance and Royalty Receivable that had been identified as Non-Current Other Financial Asset during the Financial Year of 2019, were correctly classified as Other Current Financial Assets during the F/Y of 2020.

3.2.1 PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

3.2.1.1 INITIAL RECOGNITION

All Items of property plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation. They are initially recognized at cost. The cost of property plant and equipment includes the cost of purchase or construction together with any incidental expenses that are directly attributable to the acquisition or construction of assets and to bringing any assets to a working condition for its intended use, and cost of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located. Additionally, NRC is recognizing assets Purchasing date as the payment date to the relevant entity, irrespective of the date of purchase, due to the non-compliance of NRC guidelines could lead to rejecting/refusing of the payment even though, assets had been acquired on a prior date. software that is integral to the functionality of related equipment is capitalized as a part of that equipment. When parts of an item of property plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property plant and equipment.

Property plant and equipment purchased from NRC research grants are identified as part of property

plant and equipment of NRC temporarily until they transferred or disposed.

The accumulated depreciation is provided for, on the basis specified in 3.2.1.3 below

3.2.1.2. SUBSEQUENT EXPENDITURE

The cost of replacing part of an item of property, plant & equipment is recognized in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits are embodied within the part will flow to the NRC/NRC grants and its cost can be measured reliably. This includes major inspection and overhaul expenditure and accounted separately.

The cost to day to day servicing of property plant and equipment are recognized in profit and loss as incurred.

All other expenses include repairs or maintenance of property, plant and equipment in order to restore or maintain the future economic benefits expected from the originally assessed standard of performance, is recognized as an expense when incurred.

3.2.1.3 DEPRECIATION

The depreciation is recognized in profit and loss calculated on the cost of fixed assets in order to write off such cost over the estimated useful life provided. The depreciation is recognized in profit and loss on straight line basis over estimated useful lives of assets from the date on which they are available to use. Furthermore, NRC is recognized the date of purchased as the payment date for Grants equipment's due to it is practically difficult to identify the exact date of ready to use of that particular equipment and also, without fulfilling all the NRC guidelines it is not considered as an equipment and payment request could be rejected.

**NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

The estimated useful lives and annual rates of depreciation generally used by NRC for current and comparative periods are as follows:

Sundry assets	2 years	50.00%
Cutlery & Crockery	3 years	33.33%
Room linen	3 years	33.33%
Safety Equipment	3 years	33.33%
Library books	3 years	33.33%
Computers, Printers, & Accessories	5 years	20.00%
Calculators & Clocks	5 years	20.00 %
Power supply equipment	5 years	20.00 %
Brass-items	5 years	20.00 %
Motor vehicles	5 years	20.00 %
Air conditioners/Safes	05 years	20.00 %
Building	10 years	10.00 %
Expandable assets	10 years	10.00 %
Machinery & Tools	10 years	10.00 %
Office equipment	10 years	10.00 %
Refrigerators	10 years	10.00 %
CCTV System	5 years	20.00 %
Intangible Assets	4 years	25.00%
ADSL Internet	1 years	100.00%
Coaxial Cable	4 years	25.00%
MIDAS FEA Software	4 years	25.00%
Wi-Fi Access Point	4 years	25.00%

The estimated useful values of property plant and equipment purchased from research grants are depreciated until they are transferred or disposed based on following useful lives and percentages for current and comparative periods.

Lab equipment (Section 1)	10 years	10 %
Lab equipment (Section 2)	5 years	20%

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reassessed at the reporting date. Policy of calculating depreciation based on the purchasing/transfer/disposal date has been changed

and the new Depreciation policy from the Financial Year of 2019, is for all the fixed assets depreciation have been allocated for the whole month without considering purchasing date and disposal/transfer date.

3.2.1.2. DERECOGNITION

The carrying amount of the property plant and equipment's or any subsequent expenditure is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any Gains and losses arising of such derecognition of assets (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and carrying amount of the assets) are recognized in profit and losses (in the statements of financial performance) in the year the assets are derecognized and gains are not classified as revenue.

3.2.2. INTANGIBLE ASSETS AND AMORTIZATION

An intangible asset is recognized if it is probable that future economic benefits that are attributable to the assets will fall to the NRC and the cost of the asset can be measured reliably. These assets are stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is recognized in profit and loss on straight line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets from the date on which they are available to use.

3.2.3. INVENTORIES

Inventories are measured at historical cost basis.

3.2.4. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Trade and other receivables are stated at their estimated realizable amounts.

3.2.5. NRC GRANTS

NRC grants represent the total amount accumulated over the years of awarded research grants.

Expenditure incurred from NRC grants are recognized as an expense in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred, except to the extent that they are directly attributable to acquisition, construction or production of assets, in which case they are identified as part of property plant and equipment until they are transferred or disposed

The funds received for research grants are capitalized directly to accumulated funds and the expenditure incurred except to acquisition, construction or production of assets are recognized in the income statement in year in which the expenses are incurred.

The expenditure from NRC grants identify as expenses incurred are recognized as part of recurrent receipt in income in the income statement in the respective periods in which the expenses are recognized.

A new grant scheme was introduced in order to give rapid responses for the current Covid pandemic named RR Grants.

3.3 LIABILITIES

Liabilities classified as current liabilities on the balance sheet are those which fall due to payments on demand or within one year from the reporting date. Noncurrent liabilities are those balances fall due for payment later than one year from the reporting date.

All known liabilities as at the date of the Balance Sheet have been accounted for in preparing the financial statements. Additionally, provisions have

been made for Gratuity based on the upcoming financial year employee earnings [As per the SLPSAS No.61 (a)] in order to showcase true and Fairview status in the financial statements with effect from 2019 Financial statements.

3.3.1. EMPLOYEE PROVIDENT FUND AND EMPLOYEE TRUST FUND

Employees are eligible for Employees Provident fund contributions and Employees trust fund contributions in line with respective statues and regulations. These are recognized as an expense in the statement of financial performance as incurred.

EPF deductions from the gross emoluments are as follows and the rates have been increased from 12% & 8% respectively, compared to the previous Financial year as follows.

Employer	15%
Employee	10%

ETF deduction from the gross emoluments is as follows:

Employer	3%
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3.3.2. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Trade and other payables are stated at their cost.

3.4. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

For the purpose of presentation of the statement of financial performance (statement of income), the nature of expenses method is adopted.

3.4.1 REVENUE

Government Grants received during the year under review towards recurrent and capital expenditure of NRC administration have been recognized to income statement and accumulated funds respectively. The expenditure from NRC grants as expenses incurred identify, annual depreciation of equipment, and loss on transferring equipment to Research Centers are

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

recognized as part of recurrent receipt in income in the income statement in the respective periods in which the expenses are recognized.

Losses on disposal or transfer of items of property plant and equipment are determined by comparing the net sales or transfer proceeds with carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment and are recognized in statement of financial position as a loss and the impact to revenue is also identify as income to reflect the true nature of operations in the statement of financial position. The gains are adjusted vice versa.

For the F/Y of 2019, the expense amounted Rs. 673,870.22, that NRC had been incurred for Capacity Building had identified as an NRC consumable and it has been rectified in the current financial year by adding it as Research & Development expense.

Research & Development expense had been taken to the NRC recurrent income during the 2019 F/Y and it was reclassified as Recurrent Receipt R & D from the F/Y of 2020.

3.4.2. EXPENDITURE

All expenditure incurred NRC operations has been charged to income in arriving at the profit /loss of the year. Repairs and renewals are charges to profit and loss in the year in which the expenditure is incurred. Expenditure from NRC grants is also recognized as research and development expense in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred, except to the extent that they are directly attributable to acquisition, construction or production of assets, in which case they are identified as part of property plant and equipment.

Finance income and expenses comprises of gains and losses of translation of foreign currency and

relevant finance charges are recognized in profit and loss as it occurs.

Rental income is recognized on an accrual basis. Other income is recognized on an accrual basis. Capacity Building had been categorized as an NRC Consumable expense in the F/Y of 2019, and it has been rectified current F/Y as a R & D expense. Additionally, Gratuity expense that had been categorized as an NRC Consumable expense, reclassified as a Personnel Emolument during the F/Y of 2020.

3.5. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

All material post balance sheet events have been considered and where appropriate adjustments or disclosures have been made in the respective notes in the financial statements.

3.6 CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Cash flow statement has been prepared using the direct method. Furthermore, the NRC Staff loan that had been eliminated from the 2019 F/Y Cash Flow Statement, has been adjusted to the 2020 F/Y beginning Cash & Cash Equivalent balance and the difference of Rs. 179,000.34 between the opening cash & cash equivalent balance showcase the amount of staff loan adjustment during the 2020 Financial Year

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

Note: 1 NRC Staff Loan- Current & Long-Term Portion

Name of Employee	Outstanding Amount	Current Portion	Long-Term Portion
NRC Loan:A. E. K. Dayarathna	188,370.54	48,536.45	139,834.09
NRC Loan:A.K.D.M. Perera	223,460.52	47,033.97	176,426.55
NRC Loan:J.L.S.S.Jayasinghe	188,370.54	48,536.45	139,834.09
NRC Loan:K.K.T. Sandaruwan	188,370.54	48,536.45	139,834.09
NRC Loan:K.N.K. Dissanayake	223,460.52	47,033.97	176,426.55
NRC Loan:M.D.T.Madhushani	211,886.25	47,529.56	164,356.69
NRC Loan:M.S. Sewwandi	223,460.52	47,033.97	176,426.55
NRC Loan:R. D. S. Dissanayaka	188,370.54	48,536.45	139,834.09
NRC Loan:S. H. S. Priyankara	188,370.54	48,536.45	139,834.09
NRC Loan:S. S. Katugampala	188,370.54	48,536.45	139,834.09
NRC Loan:W.D.T.D.Wickrama	250,000.00	45,897.60	204,102.40
NRC Loan:W.G.P.Priyadarshana	246,248.27	46,058.24	200,190.03
Total	2,508,739.32	571,806.00	1,936,933.32

Note: 2 NRC ID Grants, To Program, PPP Program, EWC Grants, Asbestos Grants, OR Grants, and RR Grants.

ID Grants	Balance as at 31st December 2020	
	Bank	Cash
12-114	-	20,000.00
15-028	-	20,000.00
15-057	-	25,000.00
15-070	-	510.00
16-078	-	25,000.00
16-087	-	20,000.00
16-098	-	20,000.00
16-128	-	25,000.00
17-06	709,466.61	-
17-08	673,217.10	-
17-10	1,691,886.62	-
17-11	-	25,000.00
17-18	2,169,926.88	-
17-20	651,872.27	-
17-25	1,624,044.05	-
17-28	1,557,780.60	-
17-29	632,179.40	-
17-33	1,449,774.45	-
17-38	1,565,424.57	-
17-42	1,548,174.33	10,000.00
17-54	1,323,481.17	-
17-58	227,897.10	-
17-69	1,282,070.66	-
17-72	670,600.00	-

ID Grants	Balance as at 31st December 2019	
	Bank	Cash
12-114	-	20,000.00
15-028	-	20,000.00
15-036	281,373.54	-
15-057	-	25,000.00
15-069	47,547.39	-
15-070	-	510.00
15-113	-	4,999.00
15-145	1,797,950.41	-
15-153	826,468.31	-
	-	-
16-016	576,132.51	-
16-023	691,166.70	-
16-029	1,958,816.85	25,000.00
16-031	865,423.28	-
16-033	408,599.00	-
16-044	350,992.56	-
16-054	337,597.38	-
16-075	1,172,733.41	-
16-078	68,629.65	-
16-087	-	20,000.00
16-098	-	20,000.00
16-128	-	25,000.00
16-138	516,918.80	-
16-144	111,991.48	-

17-74	1,003,762.76	-
17-86	3,531,054.35	-
17-94	2,082,502.36	6,774.40
17-95	589,419.22	-
17-98	1,603,467.41	-
18-05	140,552.05	-
18-07	357,469.55	-
18-08	1,746,888.69	-
18-09	461,817.32	-
18-12	1,298,124.81	-
18-13	1,682,183.72	-
18-28	304,387.12	-
18-30	897,606.71	-
18-32	1,576,401.50	-
18-35	-	-
18-43	-	-
18-44	4,044,558.02	-
18-50	80,679.82	-
18-57	-	7,710.00
18-63	-	-
18-66	659,277.42	-
18-77	-	-
18-79	1,247,242.21	-
18-80	2,270,000.00	-
18-83	1,035,924.78	-
18-84	2,990,825.00	-
18-88	1,156,489.31	-
18-91	1,844,520.64	-
18-94	505,795.65	-
19-05	4,490,542.11	579.68
19-06	4,824,226.97	-
19-07	5,000,000.00	-
19-19	1,448,796.00	-
19-24	4,737,600.00	-
19-28	4,064,932.76	-
19-30	5,120,426.72	-
19-32	1,410,500.00	-
19-33	3,304,573.32	25,000.00
19-40	4,293,839.81	-
19-45	1,807,306.18	100,000.00
19-46	2,703,614.54	-
19-50	2,493,944.62	-
19-51	1,692,981.44	-
19-52	4,519,410.00	-
19-54	7,601,900.00	125,000.00
19-58	1,758,387.20	-
19-60	4,960,000.00	-
19-61	994,270.00	-
19-62	2,657,512.00	600.00
19-64	4,910,000.00	-
19-65	4,052,930.55	22,725.00

		-
17-06	1,040,316.61	-
17-07	599,740.64	-
17-08	1,087,586.95	-
17-10	2,077,501.38	-
17-11	364,537.78	-
17-17	820,941.81	-
17-18	2,831,166.88	-
17-19	941,250.00	-
17-20	1,078,725.84	-
17-25	2,838,297.15	25,000.00
17-27	752,596.61	-
17-28	2,146,391.00	25,000.00
17-29	1,069,008.40	-
17-33	3,413,380.35	-
17-37	1,361,037.04	-
17-38	1,590,424.57	-
17-42	1,798,285.21	-
17-54	2,713,075.19	-
17-55	263,921.56	-
17-58	527,452.35	-
17-60	650,000.00	-
17-65	900,000.00	-
17-66	1,202,601.36	-
17-69	1,282,070.66	-
17-72	4,633,387.16	-
17-74	2,694,033.81	-
17-86	4,123,054.35	-
17-94	2,357,980.36	6,774.40
17-95	946,004.42	1,266.00
17-98	1,779,205.81	-
18-05	1,087,678.40	-
18-07	763,239.15	95.00
18-08	2,983,913.44	-
18-09	934,654.22	-
18-12	2,927,774.21	-
18-13	2,932,723.80	-
18-28	638,887.12	-
18-30	3,711,336.00	-
18-32	2,312,089.00	-
18-35	497,955.00	-
18-43	605,100.00	-
18-44	4,780,500.14	-
18-50	1,429,809.64	-
18-57	3,997,405.99	7,710.00
18-63	734,925.82	-
18-66	786,086.75	-
18-77	488,175.00	-
18-79	2,255,637.05	25,000.00
18-80	2,470,000.00	-
18-83	3,536,329.90	-

PPP Program	Balance as at 31st December 2020	
	Bank	Cash
16-003	622,181.80	-
16-007	34,351.72	-
17-001	137,180.05	-
17-003	1,032,437.75	-
18-001	241,048.52	-
18-007	2,251,062.49	25,000.00
18-002	3,101,156.51	-
19-004	19,534,028.25	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
	26,953,447.09	25,000.00
Total		26,978,447.09

	Balance as at 31st December 2019	
	Bank	Cash
14-008	883,402.30	-
16-003	622,181.80	-
16-007	34,351.72	-
17-001	289,480.05	-
17-003	1,432,437.75	-
18-001	994,915.17	-
18-007	2,426,062.49	-
18-002	4,061,302.61	-
19-004	20,245,000.00	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
Total	30,989,133.89	-

Asbestos Program	Balance as at 31st December 2020	
	Bank	Cash
Total	400.00	-

Asbestos Program	Balance as at 31st December 2019	
	Bank	Cash
Total	592,248.64	-

EWC Program	Balance as at 31st December 2020	
	Bank	Cash
18-02	2,259,402.80	-
18-03	1,413,984.60	-
18-04	4,759,244.28	-
18-05	2,398,690.80	-
	10,831,322.48	-
Total		10,831,322.48

EWC Program	Balance as at 31st December 2019	
	Bank	Cash
18-02	4,603,625.00	-
18-03	3,920,621.98	-
18-04	6,011,725.00	25,000.00
18-05	5,110,163.65	760.00
	19,646,135.63	25,760.00
Total		19,671,895.63

RR Grant Program	Balance as at 31st December 2020	
	Bank	Cash
	1,847,661.67	42,000.00
Total		1,889,661.67

OR Grant Program	Balance as at 31st December 2020	
	Bank	Cash
Total	1,440,000.00	-

N-03 Other Current Financial Assets

	2020 Rs.
Festival Advance	10,000.00
Royalty Receivable	234,592.00
Insurance Advance	12,886.32
Total	257,478.32

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

N-04. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS	2020	2019
	Rs.	Rs.
Building Rental Deposit	1,950,000.00	1,950,000.00
Diets and Conferences Deposit	-	6,000.00
Telecommunication Deposit	15,000.00	15,000.00
Festival Advance	-	8,750.00
Royalty Receivable	-	183,243.00
Container Deposit (American Water)	-	-
Total	1,965,000.00	2,162,993.00

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

N-05. GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS

COST	BALANCE AS AT 31/12/2019 (LKR)	Correction 01.01.2020 Rs.	TRANSFERR ES /Adjustment (LKR)	Correction of Non-Dispose as Dispose (LKR)	Correction of Dispose as Non-Dispose (LKR)	ADDITIONS (LKR)	DISPOSALS (LKR)	BALANCE AS AT 31/12/2020 (LKR)
NRC Office Assets	18,517,390.03	-	143,700.00	-	2,099,883.49	2,365,436.34	2,701,560.82	20,424,849.04
Grants' Major Equipment	372,880,440.18	-	3,423.01	(933,884.04)	-	48,606,610.23	34,466,189.55	386,090,399.83
Grants' Minor Equipment	84,087,834.62	-	(143,700.00)	-	-	12,752,716.67	6,988,330.64	89,708,520.65
Total - Assets	475,485,664.83	-	3,423.01	(933,884.04)	2,099,883.49	63,724,763.24	44,156,081.01	496,223,769.52

Provision for Depreciation

PROVISION FOR DEPRECIATION	BALANCE AS AT 31/12/2019 (LKR)	Correction 01.01.2020 Rs.	TRANSFERR ES/ Adjustment (LKR)	Correction of Non-Dispose as Dispose (LKR)	Correction of Dispose as Non-Dispose (LKR)	ADDITIONS (LKR)	DISPOSALS (LKR)	BALANCE AS AT 31/12/2020 (LKR)
NRC Office Assets	6,504,693.94	19,353.02	143,700.00	-	2,028,642.69	2,796,150.98	2,258,248.71	9,234,291.92
Grants' Major Equipment	134,308,126.03	445.83	142.63	(923,649.69)	-	39,545,164.45	20,209,128.14	152,721,101.10
Grants' Minor Equipment	44,447,812.20	(445.83)	(143,700.00)	-	-	11,974,483.58	5,525,699.95	50,752,450.01
Total - Provision for Depreciation	185,260,632.16	19,353.02	-	(4.11)	(4.11)	54,315,799.02	27,993,076.80	212,707,843.03

NET BOOK VALUES	2020 (LKR)	2019 (LKR)
NRC Office Assets	11,190,557.12	12,012,696.09
Grants' Major Equipment	233,369,298.73	238,572,314.15
Grants' Minor Equipment	38,956,070.64	39,640,022.42
Total - Net Book Values	283,515,926.49	290,225,032.67
Less Intangible Assets	1,083,335.00	725,520.00
Total - Net Book Value Without Intangibles	282,432,591.49	289,499,512.67

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

N-06. Payables

	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
Payable to NRC Parties	192,434.40	76,801.20
Telecommunication Payable	63,222.92	21,192.63
Electricity Charges Payable	281,685.55	495,000.00
Water Charges Payable	8,850.00	15,000.00
Other Payables	611,089.51	1,069,554.61
Audit Fees Payable - General	428,400.00	356,454.00
Audit Fees Payable - Internal	403,920.00	511,445.00
Grants Payable	1,557,990.33	1,372,553.21
Grants Stipend Payable	4,187,987.17	5,122,130.72
Total	7,735,579.88	9,040,131.37

N-07. Research & Development

	2020 Rs.	2019 Rs.
ID Grantees' Consumable	21,584,393.82	42,304,125.67
ID Grantees' PhD Stipend	20,832,069.06	24,362,248.57
ID Grantees' Travelling	2,101,194.38	2,101,231.96
ID Grants Publication Cost	748,140.82	401,375.27
TO Program Consumable and Other Exp.	6,025,057.59	6,208,585.32
TO Grantees' PhD Stipend	13,167,942.74	21,136,453.81
TO Grantees' Travelling	1,037,627.37	886,310.25
TO Grantees' Pilot Plant	1,162,337.96	548,109.15
PPP Prog. Consumable	488,820.48	2,495,329.24
PPP Grantees' PhD Stipend	2,087,755.34	2,266,928.55
PPP Grantees' Travelling	4,926.69	8,772.00
PPP Grants Outsourcing	63,200.01	168,430.00
EWC Grantees' Consumable	473,672.97	333,807.37
EWC Grantees' PhD Stipend	2,122,500.00	1,851,500.00
EWC Grantees' Travelling	7,608.00	-
RR Grant Consumables	836,295.33	-
RR Grants Travelling	60,403.00	-
RR Grants Miscellaneous	18,820.00	-
Grants & Programs Administration	3,636,473.23	5,456,664.55
Transfer Proceeds	15,719,692.10	12,473,293.02
PASP Prog. Expenses	360,763.75	4,102,539.55
Asbestos Grant Expenses	39,248.64	900,529.54
Capacity Building	205,150.65	-
Other	6,543,408.90	5,895,709.03
	99,327,502.83	133,901,942.85
Depreciation of Major, Minor Equipment	51,519,648.03	49,420,824.73
N-(08)	150,847,150.86	183,322,767.58
N-(09) TREASURY RECURRENT RELEASE	28,565,000.00	23,764,870.00
Total Amount	179,412,150.86	207,087,637.58

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

N-10. Supplies, Consumables & Rent	2020	2019
	Rs.	Rs.
Travelling	256,534.42	120,403.82
Stationery and Office requisites	716,562.24	490,695.17
Fuel & Lubricants	92,601.48	264,601.27
Diets & Conference	257,425.06	432,207.56
Vehicles-Repairs & Maintenance	131,384.57	224,486.46
Building Maintenance	477,252.89	495,717.64
Audit fee	628,320.00	586,494.00
Postal	108,764.00	191,113.97
Electricity	515,582.37	602,182.16
Water	14,850.00	18,000.00
telecommunication	790,113.66	589,744.49
Licence and Insurance	79,458.38	150,954.55
Rents	4,769,205.50	4,371,420.00
Printing and advertising	315,399.00	561,299.75
PPE maintains	82,744.92	195,664.00
Amin. Expenses – Asbestos Grant	54,448.35	38,000.00
Sponsorship Expenses	608,214.66	-
Asset Dispose Expense	1,000.00	-
Capacity Building	-	673,870.22
Gratuity Expenses	-	408,852.50
Other	469,712.20	312,253.90
Total	10,369,573.70	10,727,961.46

N- 11. Other Receipt	2020
	Rs.
Asbestos	431,190.00
Penalty fee	2,000.00
Royalty	235,189.00
Supplier Registration	956,500.00
RM fee	122,000.00
Loan	208,730.00
Unidentified deposit	83,679.82
Disposable item income	15,352.00
Other Receipt	24,000.00
Total	2,078,640.82

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

N- 12. Research Grants & Other Programs	2019	2019
	Rs.	Rs.
ID Grants	57,361,635.00	132,408,066.40
PPP Grants	-	20,485,000.00
TO Grants	7,000,000.00	-
RR Grants	2,805,180.00	-
Asbestos Grants	-	3,524,738.18
Evaluation and project monitoring	4,109,788.48	4,987,309.30
PASP	1,663.75	4,102,539.55
Other Program	2,371,277.89	4,637,001.54
Capacity Building	205,150.65	673,870.22
Closed Grant	35,469,691.60	-
Total	109,324,387.37	170,818,525.19

N-13. Capital Grants identified as Income	2020	2019
	Rs.	Rs.
Total Research & Development Expenses	99,327,502.83	133,901,942.85
Less – Transfer Proceeds	15,719,962.10	12,473,293.02
Total	83,607,810.73	121,428,649.83

N-14. Depreciation on Capital Assets & Loss on Disposal	2020	2019
	Rs.	Rs.
Total Depreciation for the year 2020	54,315,799.02	51,807,852.22
Total Disposed/Transferred assets value	44,156,081.01	37,839,296.60
Less- Provision for Disposed assets	27,993,076.80	25,010,941.41
Total	70,478,803.23	64,636,207.41

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL -SRI LANKA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

N-15. Reversal of 2019 Stipend provisions	2020
	Rs.
Reversal of over provision in 2019, Vou No- 19/33-07	60,000.00
Reversal of over provision Vou. No-19/05-06	35,000.00
Reversal of over provision 17-33/025	40,000.00
Reversal of over provision 17-037/42	35,000.00
Stipend expenses paid for 2019	<u>(301,500.00)</u>
	<u>(131,500.00)</u>

N-16. Adjustments to the Prior Year Expenses	2020
	Rs.
Cancelled voucher accounted as payable	8,280.00
15-087 grant expense taken to payable in 2019	9,435.00
18-030/22, correction of duplication entry	50,000.00
EWC 18-005/09 taken as payable is no more payable	10,000.00
17-006/29, taken as a payable is no longer a payable	35,000.00
16-094 expense reimbursement taken to payable cancellation	4,000.00
Reversal of Duplicated payment 14-10/36	5,031.25
TO 14-010/315 Payment reversal	26,136.05
	<u>147,882.30</u>

N-17. Reversal of Asbestos Income for Fund Transfers	2020
	Rs.
Fund Transfer to PGIS	(150,000.00)
Fund Transfer to NIFS	(200,000.00)
Fund Transfer to Colombo University	<u>(143,000.00)</u>
	<u>(493,000.00)</u>

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

My No.: TEC/B/NRC/1/18/17

13 July 2021

Chairman
National Research Council

Report of the Auditor General on the financial statements and other legal and regulatory requirements of the National Research Council for the year ended 31 December 2020, in terms of Section 12 of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the National Research Council for the year ended 31 December 2020 comprising of statement of financial position, statement of financial performance for the year then ended, statement of change in equity, and statement of cash flow for the year then ended and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 comprising of notes to the financial statements and a summary of significant accounting policies was carried out under my direction under pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018 and Finance Act No. 38 of 1971. In terms of Article (154) (6) of the Constitution my report will be tabled in Parliament in due course.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31 December 2020 and its financial performance and cash flow for then ended in accordance with the Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

- (a.) According to the Financial Statements presented, Net Value of the property, plant and equipment was Rs. 283,515,926. However Asset Schedule or Asset Register had not been provided for auditing to verify this value.
Therefore, these assets could not be scrutinized satisfactorily.
- (b.) The Council had not introduced accounting policy for research and development expenditure as per Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 09 and details in relevant to expenditure amounted to Rs.72,822,765 incurred for research and developments during the year under review had not been revealed in the financial statements. Also, Expenditure Summary for the amounts incurred for each research had not been presented for auditing.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). My responsibilities, under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

1.3 Other information included in the Annual Report 2020 of the Council

The other information is defined as the information that are not included in my audit report but included in the Annual Report 2020 of the Council, due to be forwarded to me after the date of this Audit Report. The management is responsible for this other information.

My opinion on Financial Statement does not reveal the other information and I will not give any sort of guarantee or opinion regarding this information.

My responsibility in relevant to auditing financial statements stands reading the other information whenever they are available and while doing so, consider whether there are material mismatches in the financial statements according to my knowledge obtained by auditing or any other way.

If I conclude material misstatements when reading Annual Report 2020 of the Council, these matters should be communicated to governing parties for rectification. If further misstatement that are not rectified, these will be included in the report to be tabled in Parliament in due course by me, in accordance with Article 154 (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

1.4 Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Councils ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Councils financial reporting process.

As per Sub Section 16(1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Council is required to maintain proper books and records of all its income, expenditure, assets and liabilities, to enable annual and periodic financial statements to be prepared of the Council.

1.5 Auditor's responsibility for the Audit of Financial Statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

2. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

2.1 National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 includes specific provisions for following requirements.

2.1.1 I have obtained all the information and explanation that required for the audit and as far as appears from my examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Council as per the requirement of section 12 (a) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

2.1.2 Financial statements presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

- 2.1.3 The financial statements presented includes all the recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- 2.2 Based on the procedures performed and evidence obtained were limited to matters that are material nothing has come to my attention;
- 2.2.1 to state that any member of the Council has any direct or indirect interest in any contract entered into by the Council which are out of the normal cause of business as per the requirement of section 12 (d) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- 2.2.2 to state that the Council has not complied with any applicable written law, general and special directions issued by the governing board of the Council as per the requirement of section 12 (f) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018
- 2.2.3 to state that the Council has not performed according to its powers, functions and duties as per the requirement of section 12 (g) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018
- 2.2.4 to state that the resources of the Council had not been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws as per the requirement of section 12 (h) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018

3. Other matters

- (a) Even 04 projects that had been initiated in year 2014 as Target Oriented Multidisciplinary large projects (TO research) aiming at resolving national issues in relevant to economic development, social development and environmental sustainability of the country, at a total cost of Rs. 193,086,099 had to be completed within 05 years, one of these projects that cost a sum of Rs. 49,500,000 had not been completed even by 08 April 2021, the date of auditing and also final reports were not submitted and evaluations were not done for the other completed researches.
- (b) There was no sufficient coordination with the relevant institutions to be linked to utilize research outcomes for application of the country's needs and therefore a methodology required for effective utilization of research outputs was not developed.
- (c) Investigator driven (ID) researches had been conducted to enhance knowledge through addressing issues by researches on various research needs and development purposes of

the country, however, 227 researches that had been completed out of 384 researches conducted from year 2010 to 2018 were concluded by publishing in Scientific journals and getting opportunity to participate at conferences and further actions had not been taken to utilize these in the development drive of the country.

- (d) Even highly competent projects with national importance have been selected for above research programmes by calling applications, 15 researches among these researches that had been conducted from year 2011 to 2016 at a value of 47,328,845 were failed while another 7 researches were suspended and not completed, due to reasons like defects of evaluation panels, lack of proper coordination with the researcher in dissemination of information for evaluation and not achieving expected outcome and lack of reviewing.
- (e) Approximately Rs.50 Mn had been granted for one research under Target Oriented Multidisciplinary Research Programme and this total amount had been deposited in current account for 05 years. At the end of the year under review, this amount was Rs. 463,619,984. Also grants valued at Rs.180,464,683 received to incur expenses of 40 researches within the period from year 2017 to 2019 were idled in current accounts due to delay in starting researches for 03 months to 15 months, after depositing money in current accounts opened for each research.
- (f) In analyzing expenditure incurred for 9 projects under Target Oriented Multidisciplinary research grants as per the bank statements, it had been observed that the average expenditure of these projects was 11% and about 89% of the gross total cost of the project amounted to Rs. 439,640,083 had been saved during the first year.
- (g) Only 7-61% of the money granted for Investigator Driven Researches had been utilized even after completion of the research. Accordingly, at a sample testing revealed that out of Rs. 17,965,530 granted for 06 researches, a sum of Rs.12, 697,630 had not been utilized and saved in current accounts.

W.P.C. Wickramaratne
Auditor General