

Parliament of Sri Lanka

Submission of observations of Hon. Minister and steps taken with regard to the reports tabled by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of Standing Order No. 119(4).

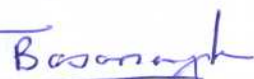
The actions taken with regard to the report presented to the House by the Committee on Public Accounts in terms of the Standing Order No.119 (4) and presentation of the observations of the Secretary General of Parliament

Parliament Series No: 183

Name of the Institution: Parliament of Sri Lanka

Deficiencies identified /directives given by the committee		Actions taken by the institution/implementation of directives/current status
01.	Answers were not sent to all the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month after receiving such audit queries.	Even though, It has been instructed to reply the audit queries within the specified period, the attempt has been failed owing to certain practical difficulties and action has been taken to inform in writing to the Audit Superintendent to extend the period by a justifiable duration.
02.	Boards of survey were not conducted and the relevant reports were not submitted to the Auditor General by the due date in terms of Public Finance Circular No. 05/2016 of 31.03.2016.	Due to the nature of the duties attended to, and the large number of units coming under the 9 Departments situated comparatively in a widely spread area, the practical difficulties have affected the timely submission of the final report and it has been possible to mitigate the delay at a greater scale in the year 2022.
03.	The excesses, deficiencies and other recommendations that were disclosed from the annual board of survey had not been done during the time period of the Circular.	The reply given under the above 2 is directly connected with observation No 03. However the instructions have been given to complete this task within the stipulated period of time.
04.	Fuel consumption of vehicles belonging to the Special Spending Unit had not been re-tested in terms of the provisions of paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of 29.12.2016.	Due to the situation of Covid -19 existed in the years 2021- and 2022 the practical difficulties sprang up as a result, even though it had been unable to obtain the report of the Fuel Consumption Test for the aforesaid period, in the year

		2023 a committee has been appointed in order that the task is completed without any delay.
05.	The balances in arrears exceeding 1 year had not been settled	One of the three interdicted officers has started paying in installments. And out of the retired officers, recovery would be possible in February, 2023 while the payment of the gratuity of the other 03 has not yet been made.
06.	The annual performance report had not been prepared within 150 days from the expiration of the financial year, as per the public finance circular number 402 of 12.09.2002 and it has not been presented to Parliament with a copy to the Auditor general.	Even though, up to the year 2021 performance reports have been tabled, action is being taken to finalize the report for the year 2022 to be tabled by the due date.
07.	A human resources plan drafted keeping with the provisions of public administration circular number 02/2018 dated 2018.01.24 was not available.	An office especially for the purpose of Human Resources Development has been established on 07.01.2020, and for the capacity development needed for the Parliamentary Practice, a plan of the Human Resources Development has already been prepared.
08.	The human resource development plan that had been prepared did not provide for at least a minimum of twelve hours' extra training for one year per employee.	An adequate training period has been allocated in order to cater to the needs of training of almost all the employees.
09.	Performance agreements covering the entire staff had not been drafted or entered. The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a qualified opinion.	Job description covering the entire staff has been prepared. On the annual basis, evaluation of performance is also conducted. It has been instructed to prepare performance agreements. And in process of the auditing of accounts for the 2020 a qualified opinion has been declared.


Secretary General of Parliament