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ஆண்டறிக்கை

Annual Report

2021

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இலங்கை சட்ட உதவி ஆணைக்குழு
The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

Message of the Chairman

The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka, having completed forty-two years since the beginning of dispensation of justice to the people of Sri Lanka is further engaged in expanding its course moving closer to the public. Empowering a community marginalized in diverse aspects is truly an achievement of enduring social development goals through which the empowerment of the people of Sri Lanka in the face of justice becomes a priority in protection of human rights, fundamental rights as well as maintaining a democratic society.



We are at a new juncture to empower the common masses who have been confined in academic, social and economic strength as well as to provide them an easier access to law by bringing the law closer to them whereas even amidst the Covid pandemic situation prevailed in the year 2021 we have been able to play a major role and make a fresh move.

Legal assistance for the public is continued, in collaboration with 84 regional centers across the island by expediting and expanding legal aid to the communities of Sri Lanka who have been deprived of the shelter of justice through the mission based on our sole vision, i.e., “to facilitate all Sri Lankans with an easy access to equity, enabling them to achieve justice.”

We have implemented various projects during this year as well, making it a part of our mission to educate the entire society for the provision of legal knowledge and protection that is necessary for people who are affected by various crimes, violence against women and children as well as social and economic deception. It is viewed as a victorious step in our mission to provide relief to people who pray for justice at a moment when they are aggrieved in the face of challenges were carrying out judicial proceedings had become an exclusive challenge itself.

The challenges encountered while leading a pluralistic society towards justice cannot be underestimated. Armed with a human resource strong enough to withstand the challenges that are being posed, we have succeeded this year as well in duly maintaining the legal approach for the establishment of social justice to marginalized communities.

The Ministry of Justice is gratefully remembered for the wide support and auspices extended to all affairs of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka this year, similar to previous years. It was immensely beneficial to the progression of the field of legal aid. I am happy to note that the support from all parties including the staff in improving the service progress of the institution despite being confined to home for a considerable period due to the pandemic situation is highly commendable.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Sahabandu', on a light-colored background.

PC Rohan Sahabandu
Chairman/Administration
Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

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Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka incorporated by the

Legal Aid Act No 27 of 1978

The most provable feature of the Legal Aid Act No 27 of 1978 was to prepare a policy framework of legal aid facilitation to be launched within the country through a formal mechanism for the implementation of legal aid programme.

The establishment and setting up the operation of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the above objectives is the principal function of this Act.

Vision:-

To facilitate an easy access to equity that would enable administration of justice to all Sri Lankans.

Mission:-

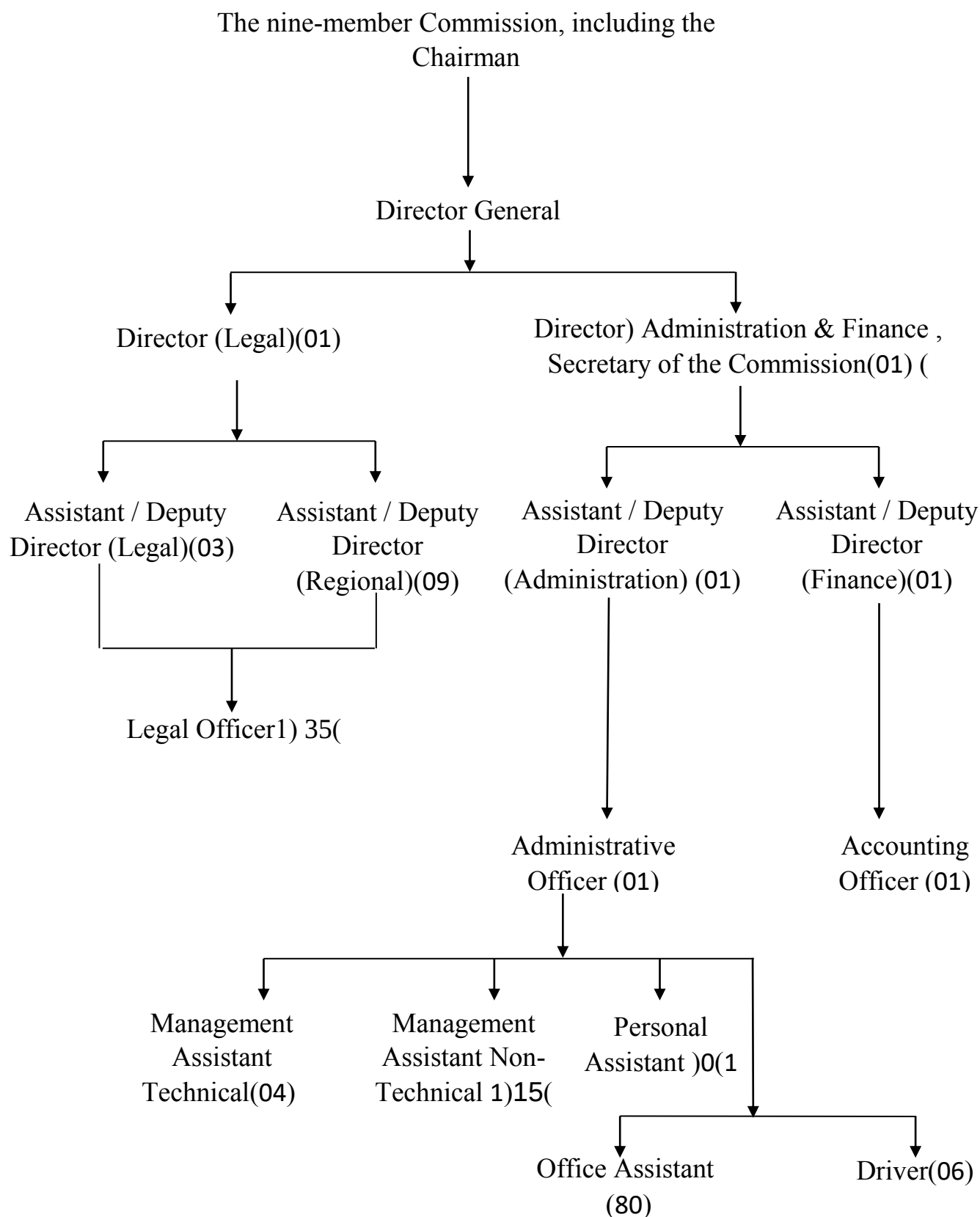
Providing legal aid for the impoverished communities in Sri Lanka who are unable to obtain justice due to poverty, providing free legal assistance to low income people, educating the entire society about the law, engaging in counselling services to the government during legislation of new laws and legal reforms, etc. in order to lead the public towards an easy access to justice.

Objectives of the Legal Aid Act No. 27 of 1978

Sections 3 and 4 of the Act No. 27 of 1978.

1. Providing legal advice to any person of any economic level who deserves assistance.
2. Providing services of attorneys for legal proceedings in the lower income tax tribunal.
3. Establishment of regional offices up to a certain amount that the Commission considers necessary to enable as many persons as possible to obtain legal aid.
4. To decide for which matters or types of cases that legal aid can be provided and determine such matters or types of cases.
5. Determining the outline procedures to follow in relation to the payment of fees and expenses by persons assisted, by taking into account the funds available at the time of which the cases have been resolved or settled and taking all relevant recommendations into consideration.
6. To take necessary action to expand the legal aid scheme through inquiry of the community-based professional, social and other groups that are involved in some aspect of providing government institutions and legal aid.
7. Promote, establish, finance and supervise research related to legal aid.
8. With the intention of raising awareness,
 - i. Educating the members of the legal profession regarding the need for a legal aid scheme and their responsibilities, duties and role in the maintenance and participation thereof.
 - ii. Commencement and implementation of educational programs for the people with special needs regarding their rights, powers, privileges and role, and entire community in general under the prevalent laws of Sri Lanka.
9. Employing the staff required for the establishment, development, implementation of research-based programmes, problem solving centers and/or projects regarding a special division or divisions on legal aid provision.
10. Obtaining suggestions from the public for new programs and projects and encouraging them in that respect.
11. To cooperate with educational institutions and boards regarding the education and training of those who provide legal aid.
12. To provide information to the public on the ability to obtain legal aid.
13. Submission of information to legal reforms agencies in Sri Lanka and abroad and the government.

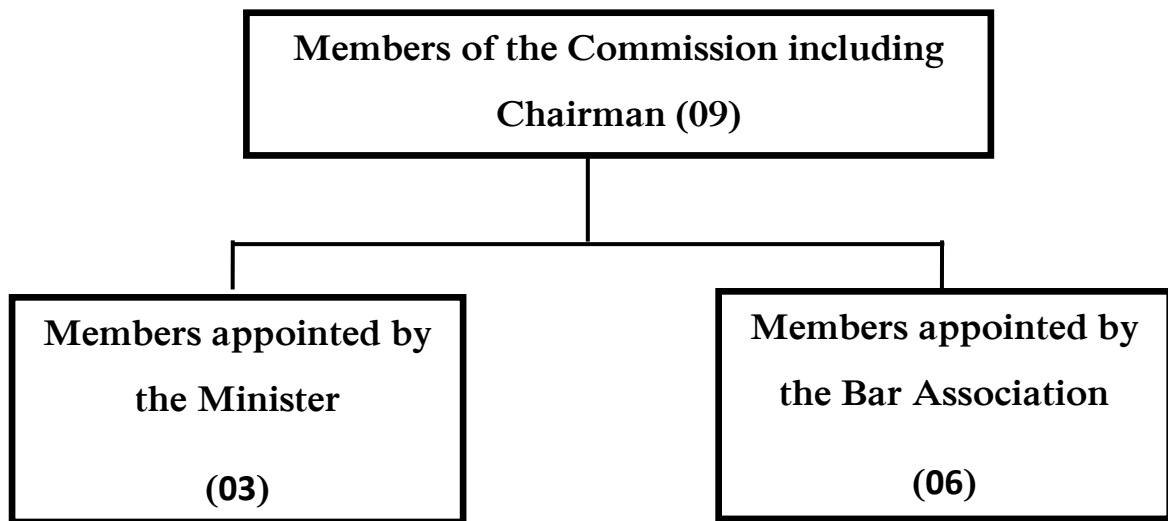
Organization plan approved by the Department of Management Services for the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka



Staff of the Legal Aid Commission as at 31.12.2021

Employee Category Level	Designation	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre
Senior Level	Director General	01	01
	Counsel	-	01
	Director (Legal)	01	-
	Director (Administration & Finance)	01	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Legal)	03	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Regional)	09	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Administration)	01	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Finance)	01	-
	Chief Accountant	-	01
	Secretary of the Commission	-	01
	Legal Officers	135	123
Tertiary Level	Accounting Officer	01	-
	Assistant Accountant	-	01
	Administrative Officer	01	-
Secondary Level	Management Assistant (Technical)	04	03
	Management Assistant (Non-Technical)	114	97
	Personal Assistant	01	-
Primary Level	Driver	06	02
	Office Assistant	80	52
Total		360	284

Composition of the Members of the Legal Aid Commission of



Members of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka in year 2021



PC, Mr. Rohan Sahabandu
(Chairman)



PC, Mr. Manohara De Silva



PC, Mr. Uditha Igalahewa



PC, Mr. Puvidaran



Mr. J.M. Gunathilake
Senior Attorney-at-Law



Mr. Priyantha Gamage
Attorney-at-Law



Mr. Binara Gunasekara
Attorney-at-Law
(Administration)



Ms. Hiranya Perera
Attorney-at-Law-
(Assistant Secretary - Legal,
Ministry of Justice)



Sanjaya Gamage
Attorney-at-Law

The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka consists of three members appointed by the Minister of Justice and six members nominated by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and each of them will be appointed for a period of three years. A member may be re-appointed as a member after the expiration of three years' service period. Also, the work of the Commission is monitored by the Legal Aid Advisory Board, which is headed by the Chief Justice. The Advisory Board consists of 30 members constituted by 09 members of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka, three members nominated by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka, 06 members to represent the Courts nominated by the Chief Justice, and 12 members nominated by the Minister of Justice to be involved in community, neighborhood, professional, social and other groups, which have a connection to the government, provincial bodies, educational institutions and legal aid sections.

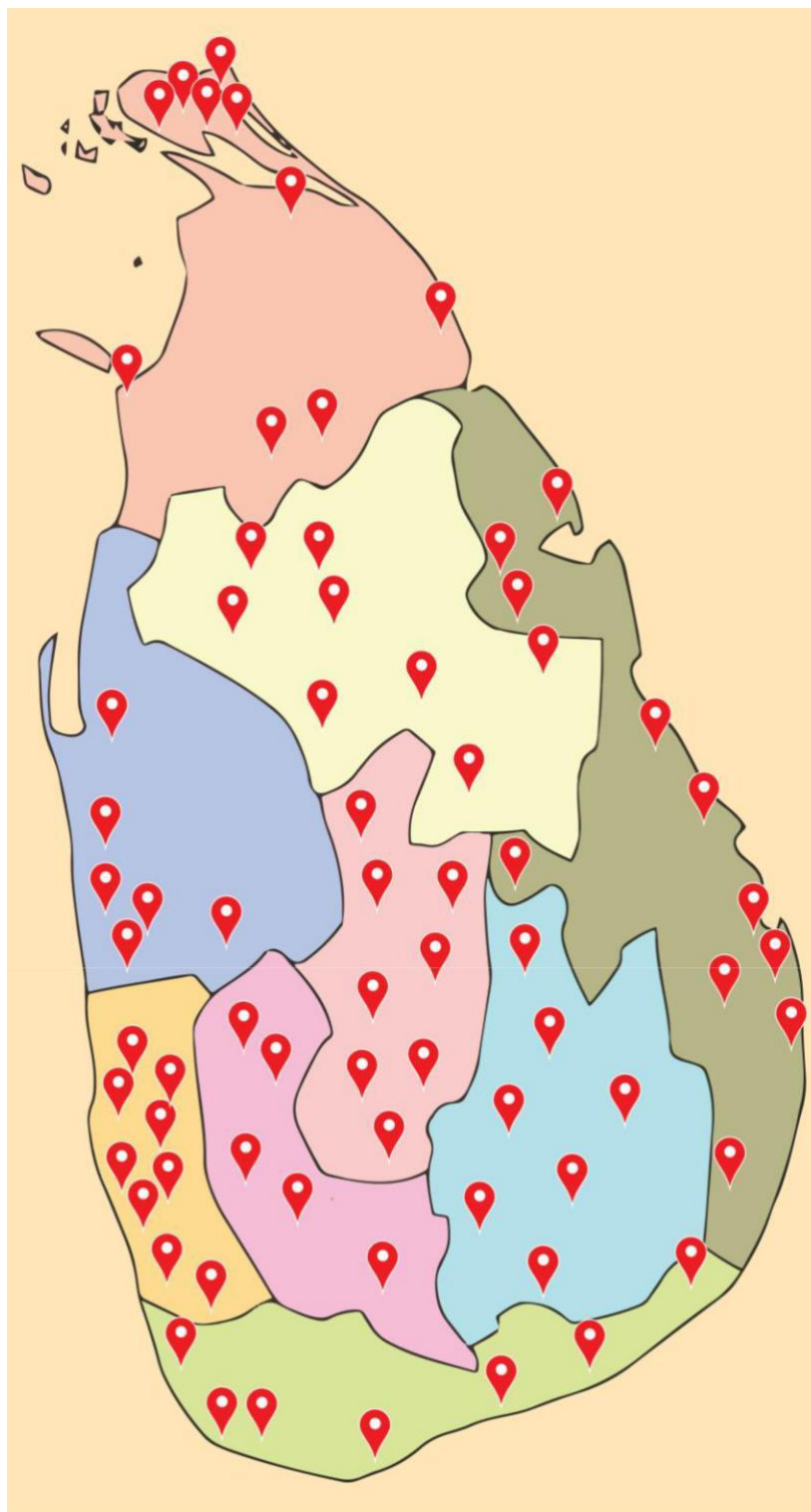
Establishment of Legal Aid Centers

Sri Lanka's Legal Aid Commission completes its 43rd year by 2021. During the past 43 years, the work was carried out by a network of 84 Regional Offices centered upon Colombo but without being limited to Colombo to achieve the desired objectives of the Commission. During this entire period (1978-2021) the commencement of the regional offices is as follows.

Year	Regional centers established during the period	Total number of regional centers
1978	1	1
1994	3	4
1996	1	5
2003	5	10
2005	2	12
2006	19	31
2007	9	40
2008	6	46
2009	8	54
2010	6	60
2011	7	67
2012	7	74
2013	2	76
2014	0	76
2015	0	76
2016	2	78
2017	4	82
2018	1	83
2019	1	84
2020	-	84
2021	-	84

Expansion of Centers of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

(Map & Regional Centers)



1	Head Office	43	Kuliyapitiya
2	Akkareipattu	44	Kurunegala
3	Ampara	45	Mahiyanganaya
4	Anuradhapura	46	Mahawa
5	Attanagalla	47	Mannar
6	Awissawella	48	Marawila
7	Baddegama	49	Matale
8	Badulla	50	Matara
9	Balangoda	51	Matugama
10	Balapaitiya	52	Mawanella
11	Bandarawela	53	Minuwangoda
12	Battaramulla	54	Monaragala
13	Borella	55	Mulathiwu
14	Batticaloa	56	Mallakkam
15	Chawakachcheri	57	Muttoor
16	Chillaw	58	Nawalapitiya
17	Dambulla	59	Negambo
18	Deyiyandara	60	Nikaweratiya
19	Deniyaya	61	Nugegoda
20	Dehiaththakandiya	62	Nuwaraeliya
21	Ambilipitiya	63	Panadura
22	Galgamuwa	64	Puttalam
23	Gampaha	65	Poogoda
24	Galagedara	66	Point Pedro
25	Mount Lavinia	67	Polgahawela
26	Galle	68	Polonnaruwa
27	Hambanthota	69	Pottuwil
28	Hatton	70	Ratnapura
29	Higurakgoda	71	Thambuththegama
30	Homagama	72	Tangalle
31	Horana	73	Tissamaharama
32	Jaffna	74	Trincomalee
33	Kadawatha	75	Siyambalanduwa
34	Kaduwela	76	Walachchenei
35	Kalmunei	77	Vavuniya
36	Kalutara	78	Walasmulla
37	Kandy	79	Warakapola
38	Kantale	80	Wariyapola
39	Kebithigollewa	81	Welimada
40	Kegalle	82	Wellawaya
41	Kekirawa	83	Wattala
42	Kilinochchi	84	Hettipola

Opening of Regional Offices of the Legal Aid Commission, **Staff and Courts covered.**

The courts that are covered by the Regional Offices established to provide the service of the commission on a regional basis are as follows.

No.	Office	Commencement	No. of employees				Courts covered
			Legal Officers	Management Assistants	Office Assistants	Drivers	
01	Colombo	1978	05	08	05	02	Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Colombo District, Magistrate's Court, High Courts, Civil Appellate Courts, Labour Tribunal. Workmen's Compensation Commission. Fort Magistrate's court Maligakanda Magistrate's Court Loan Relief Board.
02	Kandy	1994	03	02	-	-	Kandy District, Magistrate's Court, High Courts, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Gampola District, Magistrate's Court. Teldeniya District, Magistrate's Court. Walapane District, Magistrate's Court
03	Anuradhapura	1994	03	02	01	-	Anuradhapura District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Medawachchiya Magistrate's Court Kahatagasdigiliya Magistrate's Court
04	Galle	1994	02	01	01	-	Galle District, Magistrate's Court - High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
05	Kurunegala	1996	04	02	01	-	Kurunegala District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. - Wellawa Magistrate's Court Pilessa Magistrate's Court. Rambadagalla Magistrate's Court
06	Hambantota	2003	02	01	01	-	District Court, Magistrates Court, - High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Angunakola Pelasssa Magistrate's Court

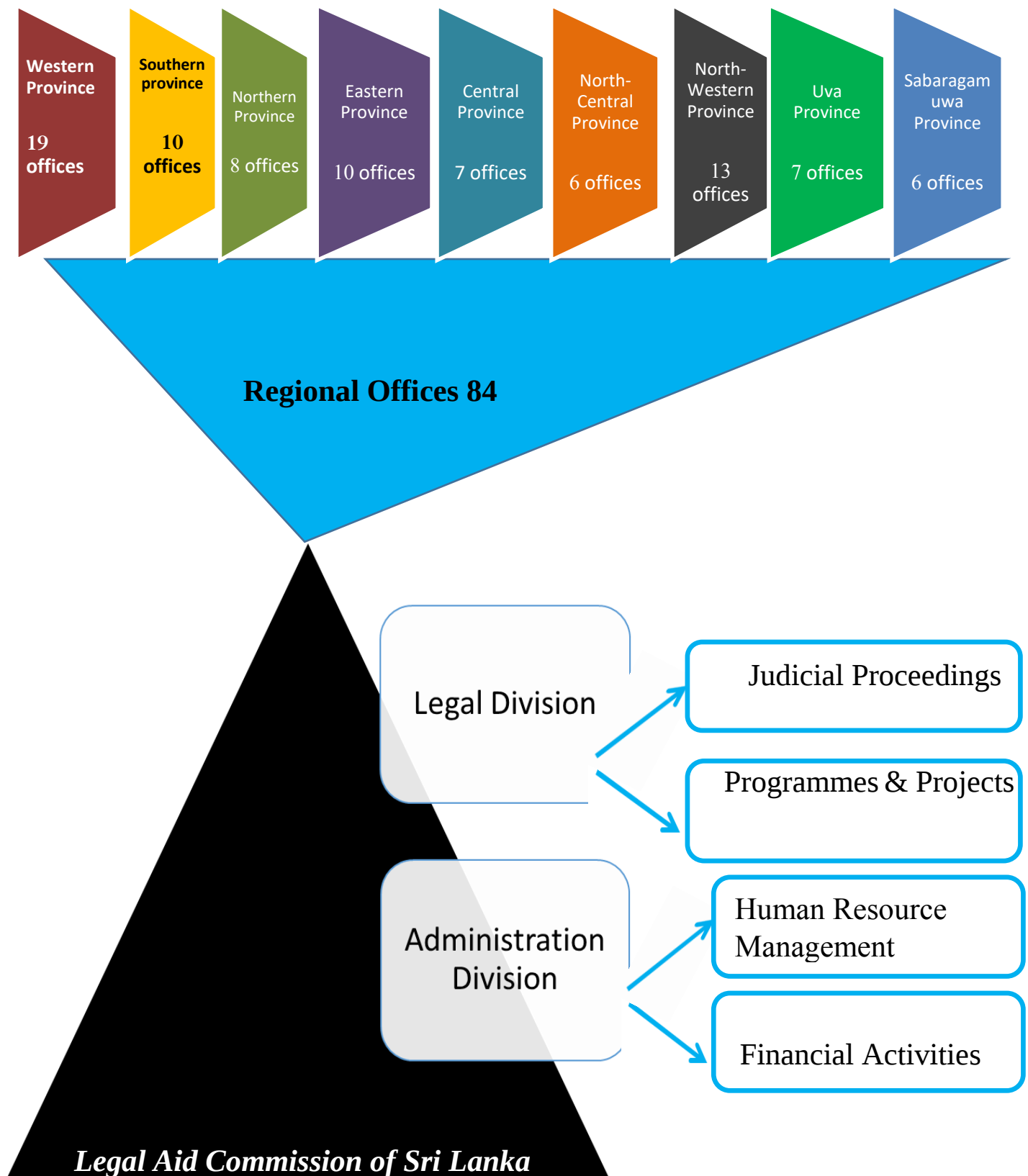
07	Monaragala	2003	01	01	01	-	Moneragala District, Magistrate's Court, High Court Civil Appellate Court. Bibile Magistrate's Court
08	Ampara	2003	01	01	-	-	Ampara District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
09	Nuwara Eliya	2003	01	01	-	-	Nuwara Eliya District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal Walapane District, Magistrate's Court
10	Kegalle	2003	02	01	-	-	Kegalle District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal
11	Balapitiya	2003	02	01	01	-	Balapitiya District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Elpitiya District, Magistrate's Court.
12	Matara	2005	02	01	01	-	Matara District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
13	Vavuniya	2005	03	01	01	-	Vavuniya District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
14	Akkaraipattu	2005	01	01	01	-	Akkaraipattu District, Magistrate's Court The Quazi Court.
15	Trincomalee	2005	02	01	01	-	Trincomalee District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court.
16	Batticaloa	2005	02	01	01	-	Batticaloa District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court. Eravur Magistrate's Court Kaluwanchikudi Magistrate's Court
17	Chilaw	2005	02	01	01	-	Chilaw District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
18	Kalmunai	2005	01	01	01	-	Kalmunai District, Magistrate's Court High Court. Sammanthurei Magistrate's Court The Quazi Court.

19	Ratnapura	2006	02	01	01	-	Ratnapura District, Magistrate's Court High Court and Civil Appellate Court. Pelmadulla District, Magistrate's Court, Labour Tribunal. Kalawana Magistrate's Court. Kahawatta Magistrate's Court
20	Awissawella	2006	02	01	-	-	Awissawella District Court, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Ruwanwella District, Magistrate Court.
21	Bandarawela	2006	01	01	01	-	Bandarawela District, Magistrate's Court, Labour Tribunal.
22	Gampaha	2006	02	01	01	-	Gampaha District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal.
23	Jaffna	2006	02	01	-	-	Jaffna District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal. Kayts District, Magistrate's Court.
24	Kalutara	2006	02	01	01	-	Kalutara, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal
25	Matale	2006	01	01	01	-	Matale District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Labor Tribunal. Naula Magistrate's Court
26	Polonnaruwa	2006	02	01	01	-	Polonnaruwa District, Magistrate's Court. High Court
27	Panadura	2006	02	01	01	-	Panadura District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court. Kesbawa District, Magistrate's Court.
28	Mahiyanganaya	2006	01	01	01	-	Mahiyangana District, Magistrate's Court.
29	Kuliyapitiya	2006	02	02	01	-	Kuliyapitiya District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Labor Tribunal. Narammala Magistrate's Court
30	Mahawa	2006	01	01	01	-	Mahawa District, Magistrate's Court
31	Negombo	2006	01	01	-	-	Negombo District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal. Kanuwana Magistrate's Court.
32	Horana	2007	01	01	01	-	Horana District, Magistrate's Court.
33	Mathugama	2007	01	01	-	-	Mathugama District, Magistrate's Court.
34	Marawila	2007	01	01	-	-	Marawila District, Magistrate's Court.

35	Mawanella	2007	01	01	-	-	Mawanella District, Magistrate's Court. Aranayaka Magistrate's Court.
36	Warakapola	2007	01	01	-	-	Warakapola District, Magistrate's Court.
37	Battaramulla	2007	02	01	-	-	Battaramulla Children's Magistrate's Court
38	Dambulla	2007	01	01	-	-	Dambulla District, Magistrate's Court. Kimbissa Magistrate's Court.
39	Attanagalla	2007	01	02	01	-	Attanagalla District, Magistrate's Court.
40	Morawaka/ Deniyaya	2007	01	01	-	-	Deniyaya District, Magistrate's Court.
41	Welimada	2008	01	01	-	-	Welimada District, Magistrate's Court.
42	Nugegoda	2008	01	01	-	-	Nugegoda District, Magistrate's Court.
43	Tissamaharama	2008	01	01	01	-	Tissamaharama District, Magistrate's Court
44	Thambuththegama	2008	01	01	01	-	Thambuththegama Magistrate's Court.
45	Mt. Lavinia	2008	02	01	-	-	Mount Lavinia District, Magistrate's Court, Civil Appellate Court. Moratuwa District, Magistrate's Court
46	Kantale	2008	01	01	-	-	Kantale District, Magistrate's Court.
47	Baddegama	2009	01	01	-	-	Baddegama Magistrate's Court.
48	Badulla	2009	01	01	-	-	Badulla District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal.
49	Embilipitiya	2009	02	01	01	-	Embilipitiya District, Magistrate's Court High Court.
50	Hatton	2009	01	01	01	-	Hatton District, Magistrate's Court, Labor Tribunal.
51	Hingurakgoda	2009	01	01	-	-	Hingurakgoda District, Magistrate's Court. Bakamuna Magistrate's Court.
52	Nawalapitiya	2009	01	01	-	-	Nawalapitiya District, Magistrate's Court
53	Wellawaya	2009	01	01	01	-	Wellawaya District, Magistrate's Court.
54	Kaduwela	2010	01	01	01	-	Kaduwela District, Magistrate's Court.
55	Mannar	2010	02	01	01	-	Mannar District, Magistrate's Court.
56	Muttur	2010	02	01	-	-	Muttur District, Magistrate's Court.
57	Mullaitivu	2010	03	01	01	-	Mullaitivu District, Magistrate's Court.
58	Tangalle	2010	01	01	-	-	Tangalle District, Magistrate's Court. High Court.

59	Valachchenai	2010	01	01	-	-	Valachchenai District, Magistrate's Court.
60	Walasmulla	2010	01	01	01	-	Walasmulla District, Magistrate's Court.
61	Wariyapola	2011	01	01	01	-	Wariyapola District, Magistrate's Court,
62	Point Pedro	2011	01	01	01	-	Point Pedro District, Magistrate's Court,
63	Pottuvil	2011	02	01	-	-	Pottuvil District, Magistrate's Court,
64	Kadawatha	2011	01	01	01	-	Kadawatha Magistrate's Court
65	Kekirawa	2011	01	01	-	-	Kekirawa District, Magistrate's Court
66	Kilinochchi	2011	03	01	01	-	Kilinochchi District, Magistrate's Court
67	Chavakacheri	2011	01	01	-	-	Chavakacheri District, Magistrate's Court.
68	Balangoda	2011	01	01	-	-	Balangoda District, Magistrate's Court.
69	Pugoda	2012	01	01	-	-	Pugoda District, Magistrate's Court,
70	Polgahawela	2012	01	01	-	-	Polgahawela Magistrate's Court
71	Kebithigollewa	2012	01	01	-	-	Kebithigollewa District, Magistrate's Court Padaviya Magistrate's Court
72	Galgamuwa	2012	01	01	-	-	Galgamuwa Magistrate's Court,
73	Homagama	2012	01	01	01	-	Homagama District, Magistrate's Court
74	Deiyandara	2012	01	01	-	-	Deiyandara Magistrate's Court.
75	Minuwangoda	2013	01	01	-	-	Minuwangoda District, Magistrate's Court.
76	Nikaweratiya	2013	01	01	-	-	Nikaweratiya District, Magistrate's Court.
77	Mallakam	2016	01	01	-	-	Mallakkam District, Magistrate's Court
78	Puttalam	2016	01	01	-	-	Puttalam District, Magistrate's Court High Court Kalpitiya Magistrate's Court Anamaduwa Magistrate's Court
79	Siyambalanduwa	2017	01	01	01	-	Siyambalanduwa Magistrate's Court
80	Dehiaththakandiya	2017	01	01	01	-	Dehiaththakandiya Magistrate's Court
81	Borella	2017	01	01	01	-	Labour Tribunal, Borella Labour Tribunal, Battaramulla Debt Conciliation Board
82	Galagedara	2017	01	01	01	-	Galagedara Magistrate's Court
83	Wattala	2018	01	01	01	-	Magistrate's Court, Wattala Labour Tribunal, Wattala
84	Hettipola	2019	01	01	01	-	Hettipola Magistrate's Court

Organizational Composition of the Legal Aid Commission



Legal Division

1.1 Judicial Proceedings

1.2 Projects and Programmes

1.1 Judicial Proceedings

Role

Mainly the role of the Legal Division is twofold.

1.1 Conducting legal counselling.

1.3 Providing free legal assistance for cases of those with low income and/or incapacity.

1.1.1 Legal Counselling

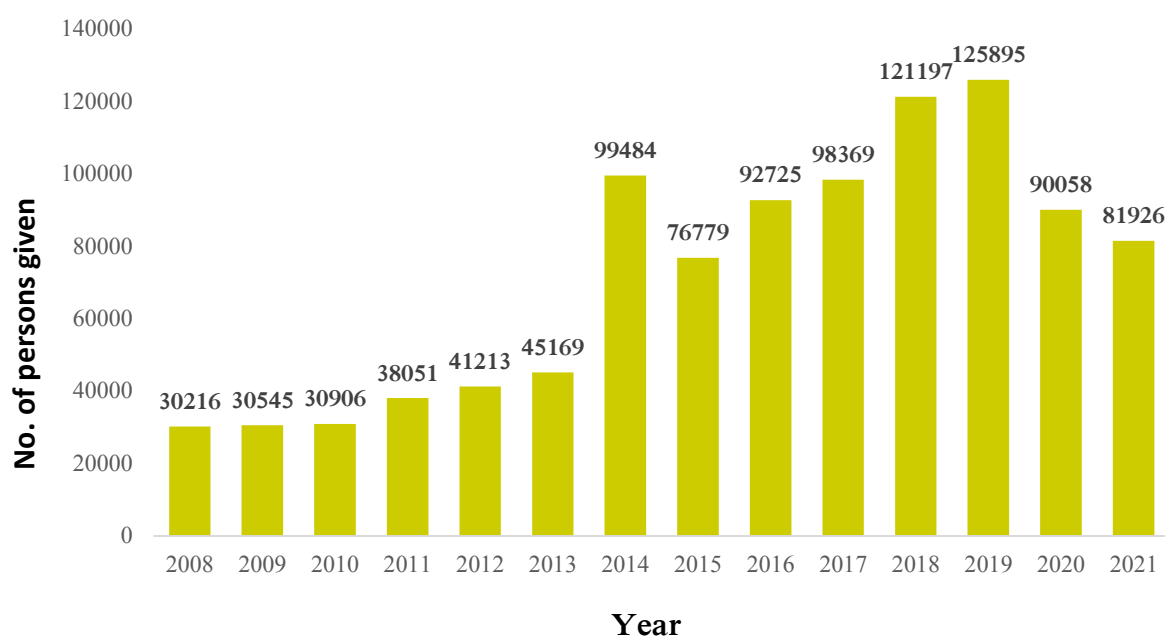
Legal counselling is done in several ways. Clients who seek this do not necessarily need to come to our offices in person, but still, they can turn to the counselling activities.

1. Issues encountered by clients who come in person to the locally established Legal Aid offices will be discussed and clarified and, where necessary, advice will be given on further action as well.
2. Similarly, when various villages or settlements are visited to conduct legal clinics, the legal counselling work is opportunely carried out to the public who reach us.
3. Further, the legal issues of Sinhala readers are answered through Lankadeepa newspaper under the column, “Neethi Sarana”, whereas, those of English readers are answered through Daily News newspaper once every two weeks.
4. Legal issues referred through mail by clients will also be replied by the post.
5. Clients who connect through the Legal Aid Commission Hot Line are responded via telephone.

In providing this service, the Legal Aid Commission will not consider the income or the citizenship of the clients. Our legal officers will carry out the necessary legal counselling work regardless of the rank of any person who comes to our office or mobile clinic or anyone who contacts us through phone or postal mail. Hence, this is not an exclusive privilege to be obtained by just one group of individuals based on the economic disparity. This is a service that anyone can obtain.

Legal counselling by the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka from 2008 to 2021 as a number

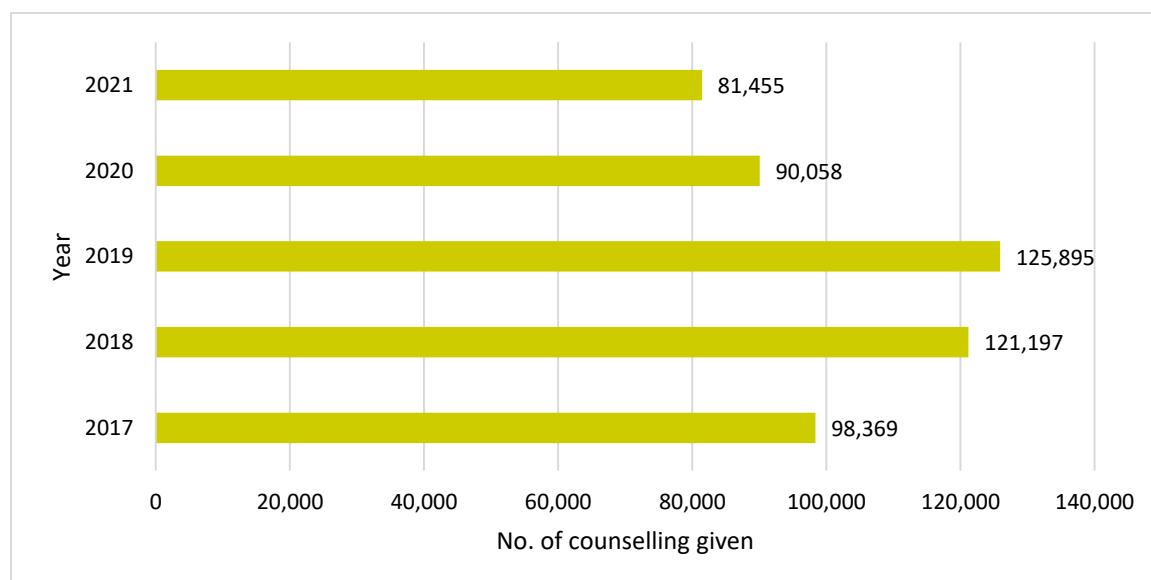
No.	Year	No. of persons given legal counselling
01	2008	30216
02	2009	30545
03	2010	30906
04	2011	38051
05	2012	41213
06	2013	45169
07	2014	99484
08	2015	76779
09	2016	92725
10	2017	98369
11	2018	121197
12	2019	125895
13	2020	90058
14	2021	81926



The number of consultations of 90058 in the year 2020 has come down to 81455 by the year 2021. As the country was faced with Covid 19 pandemic situation, general affairs were hindered on many occasions and it is evident when attention is focused on the miscarriage of progress of the number of counseling to a certain extent that, this condition has gravely affected the Legal Aid Commission as well in providing their service.

Relative Progress of 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021

No.	Year	Number	Percentage
01	2017	98,369	19%
02	2018	121,197	23%
03	2019	125,895	24%
04	2020	90,058	17%
05	2021	81,926	16%
Total		516,974	100.0%



Number of Clients Referred for Legal Counselling in 2021

No.	Centre	Number of clients referred for legal counselling for the first time (January-December 2021)	No. of repeat counseling)January-December 2021(	Total
01	Anuradhapura	470	1248	1718
02	Ampara	300	853	1153
03	Avissawella	461	875	1336
04	Attanagalla	291	481	772
05	Akkareipattu	224	24	248
06	Bandarawela	177	1315	1492
07	Battaramulla	250	541	791

08	Baddegama	186	786	972
09	Badulla	1416	65	1481
10	Balapitiya	705	605	1310
11	Batticaloa	631	19	650
12	Balangoda	216	29	245
13	Colombo	823	324	1147
14	Chilaw	567	1162	1729
15	Chavakachcheri	76	106	182
16	Dambulla	217	441	658
17	Deniyaya	206	574	780
18	Deyyandara	377	94	471
19	Embilipitiya	340	2294	2634
20	Gampaha	97	10	107
21	Galle	429	707	1136
22	Galgamuwa	126	570	696
23	Horana	641	1676	2317
24	Hatton	92	1293	1385
25	Hingurakgoda	229	888	1117
26	Hambantota	412	932	1344
27	Homagama	210	658	868
28	Jaffna	238	263	501
29	Kandy	599	6	605
30	Kurunegala	513		513
31	Kegalle	255	87	342
32	Kuliyapitiya	596	2484	3080
33	Kantale	149	1071	1220
34	Kaduwela	327	107	434
35	Kalmunei	241	16	257
36	Kalutara	825	403	1228
37	Kekirawa	290	604	894
38	Kadawatha	190	1023	1213
39	Kebithigollewa	19	161	180
40	Kilinochchi	244	1297	1541
41	Matale	238	292	530
42	Mahiyanganaya	269	941	1210
43	Matugama	244	1627	1871
44	Mahawa	113	581	694
45	Marawila	175	1450	1625
46	Mawanella	236	852	1088
47	Mallakam	283	1136	1419
48	Mt. Lavinia	218	229	447
49	Mannar	192	208	400
50	Monaragala	589	1364	1953
51	Muttur	121	0	121
52	Mullaitivu	181	67	248
53	Matara	444	1613	2057

54	Minuwangoda	125	570	695
55	Nikaweratiya	190	1154	1344
56	Nuwara Eliya	173	408	581
57	Negombo	371	993	1364
58	Nugegoda	116	684	800
59	Nawalapitiya	194	1292	1486
60	Polonnaruwa	176	640	816
61	Panadura	760	2147	2907
62	Pottuwil	109	630	739
63	Point Pedro	91	674	765
64	Polgahawela	94	522	616
65	Pugoda	129	262	391
66	Puttalam	214	1065	1279
67	Rathnapura	374	759	1133
68	Tissamaharama	219	466	685
69	Thambuttegama	189	439	628
70	Tangalle	169	355	524
71	Trincomalee	248	50	298
72	Vavuniya	244	96	340
73	Valaichchenai	523	187	710
74	Warakapola	98	538	636
75	Welimada	331	968	1299
76	Walasmulla	298	1293	1591
77	Wariyapola	154	320	474
78	Wellawaya	103	1082	1185
79	Dehiaththakandiya	189	828	1017
80	Siyambalanduwa	167	547	714
81	Borella	164	693	857
82	Galagedara	133	296	429
83	Wattala	174	386	560
84	Hettipola	92	561	653
Total		24569	57357	81926

The number of clients who underwent legal counselling for the first time in 2021 by gender

No.	Center	No. of Females	No. of Males	First Counselling
01	Anuradhapura	389	81	470
02	Ampara	233	67	300
03	Avissawella	388	73	461
04	Attanagalla	227	64	291
05	Akkareipattu	205	19	224
06	Bandarawela	149	28	177
07	Battaramulla	125	125	250

08	Baddegama	148	38	186
09	Badulla	1341	75	1416
10	Balapitiya	655	50	705
11	Batticaloa	582	49	631
12	Balangoda	166	50	216
13	Colombo	516	307	823
14	Chilaw	337	230	567
15	Chavakachcheri	65	11	76
16	Dambulla	186	31	217
17	Deniyaya	183	23	206
18	Deyyandara	350	27	377
19	Embilipitiya	307	33	340
20	Gampaha	68	29	97
21	Galle	292	137	429
22	Galgamuwa	93	33	126
23	Horana	539	102	641
24	Hatton	81	11	92
25	Hingurakgoda	176	53	229
26	Hambantota	221	191	412
27	Homagama	159	51	210
28	Jaffna	193	45	238
29	Kandy	439	160	599
30	Kurunegala	313	200	513
31	Kegalle	194	61	255
32	Kuliyapitiya	415	181	596
33	Kantale	126	23	149
34	Kaduwell	158	169	327
35	Kalmunei	217	24	241
36	Kalutara	532	293	825
37	Kekirawa	240	50	290
38	Kadawatha	170	20	190
39	Kebithigollewa	4	15	19
40	Kilinochchi	221	21	244
41	Matale	196	42	238
42	Mahiyanganaya	212	57	269
43	Matugama	206	38	244
44	Mahawa	91	22	113
45	Marawila	163	12	175
46	Mawanella	193	43	236
47	Mallakam	257	26	283
48	Mt. Lavinia	164	54	218
49	Mannar	156	36	192
50	Monaragala	478	111	589
51	Muttur	112	9	121
52	Mullaitivu	171	10	181
53	Matara	335	109	444

54	Minuwangoda	102	23	125
55	Nikaweratiya	135	55	190
56	Nuwara Eliya	129	44	173
57	Negombo	262	109	371
58	Nugegoda	94	22	116
59	Nawalapitiya	145	49	194
60	Polonnaruwa	126	50	176
61	Panadura	549	211	760
62	Pottuwil	100	9	109
63	Point Pedro	82	9	91
64	Polgahawela	86	8	94
65	Pugoda	111	18	129
66	Puttalam	143	71	214
67	Rathnapura	257	117	374
68	Tissamaharama	160	59	219
69	Thambuttegama	169	20	189
70	Tangalle	149	20	169
71	Trincomalee	198	50	248
72	Vavuniya	234	10	244
73	Valaichchenai	468	55	523
74	Warakapola	80	18	98
75	Welimada	220	111	331
76	Walasmulla	180	118	298
77	Wariyapola	119	35	154
78	Wellawaya	94	9	103
79	Dehiaththakandiya	153	36	189
80	Siyambalanduwa	145	22	167
81	Borella	50	114	164
82	Galagedara	129	4	133
83	Wattala	123	51	174
84	Hettipola	79	13	92
Total		19208	5359	24569

Public Grievance Handling

We have been instrumental in implementation of the public grievance management programme carried out by the Presidential Secretariat in this regard. In addition, public grievances have been referred through the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Justice, Attorney General's Department and the Chairman of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka as well, whereas, counselling work has been conducted regarding 546 cases of the public as a whole.

No.	Description	No. of cases
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01	The Chairman of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka	239
02	Prime Minister's Office	08
03	Presidential Secretariat	99
04	Ministry of Justice	192
05	Attorney General's Department	05
06	Human Rights Commission	01
07	Bar Association	01
08	Judicial Services Commission	01
Total		546

1.1.2 Judicial Activities

Providing legal assistance for judicial activities of individuals is the most vital part of the Legal Division. It is first examined whether legal aid can be provided for a person at a time when a case needs to proceed in a Court for a legal matter of a person. Through legal counselling, an access to the said purpose can be obtained. In carrying on legal aid cases, we first find out whether it is justifiable to provide free legal assistance for this client, and for this, his economic situation will be determined. Accordingly, initially, a report of Grama Niladhari on the monthly income of a person will be summoned.

In this respect,

1. The fact whether the relevant person is a low-income person according to the report on his monthly income which is obtained by the Grama Niladhari and counter-signed by the Divisional Secretary, will be firstly checked. In such case, if he is proven to be a low-income earner as per these reports, he will be provided with free legal assistance in terms of legal aid policies for court proceedings of such persons.
2. Is it possible to get the support of any attorney for the case of a person who earns a sufficient income? Will a lawyer be a party to a case? Would a party of one case influence the attorneys and prevent a lawyer representing the other party? At such juncture, the Legal Aid Commission pays constant attention to cooperate with the judiciary as necessary in assisting the administration of justice. In such case as this, the Legal Aid Commission acts in order to offer legal representation irrespective of the income of the party.

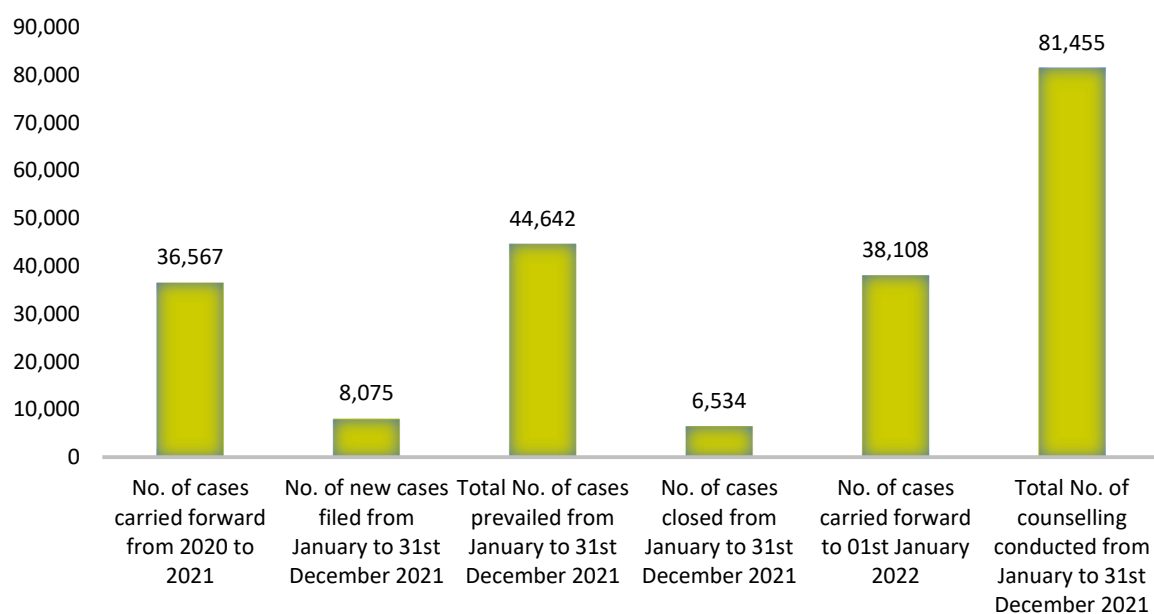
3. Similarly, even if a person has been in remand for more than one year but will not be able to obtain legal assistance, legal assistance of the Legal Aid Commission will be provided on behalf of such persons.
4. For the rights of the child, in cases involving children,
5. Action will be taken to grant legal assistance free of charge irrespective of the income of the applicant, for a litigation proceeded under the Maintenance Act and Elders' Rights Act.
6. Samurdhi Beneficiaries
7. The Commission also provides free legal aid to war heroes

Proper functioning of both the civil and criminal divisions must be maintained for the said purpose. The assistance of an advisory committee comprised of retired Supreme Court judges has been provided to the Legal Division to cater to this purpose. The entire functioning of the legal division in the year 2021 was carried out under the complete supervision of the former Judges of the Supreme Court, Justice Hector Yapa and Justice Chandra Ekanayake.

We have worked for cases in all courts including each Magistrate's Court, District Court, High Court, Provincial Court of Appeal, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court in the island, and for maintaining the proceedings in tribunals including the Labor Tribunal, Workmen's Compensation Tribunal, Debt Conciliation Board, Quazi Board, Chambers, Administrative Tribunal and Human Rights Commission. Further, although our attorneys do not appear for the legal matters in the Mediation Board, Labor Commissioner's Department, Quazi Court and other bodies with authority, the Legal Division has provided necessary guidance to them to make the necessary referrals properly.

Progress of Legal Division of Legal Aid Commission in 2021

No. of cases carried forward from 2020 to 2021	36,567
No. of new cases filed from January to 31 st December 2021	8075
Total No. of cases prevailed from January to 31 st December 2021	44,642
No. of cases closed from January to 31 st December 2021	6,543
No. of cases carried forward to 01 st January 2022	38,099
Total No. of counselling conducted from January to 31 st December 2021	81,926
The service done from January to 31 st December 2021 as a whole	44,642+81,926 = <u>126,568</u>



Service rendered by the Legal Aid Commission at provincial level in the year 2021

Province	Cases as at 01.01.2021	Cases filed from 202101.01. to 31.12.2021	Total	Cases concluded from 202101.01. to 31.12.2021	Cases laid by from 202101.01. to 31.12.2021	No. of cases carried forward to 31.12.2021	Counselling from 202101.01. to 31.12.2021	Total service provided
Western province	9648	1708	11356	1139	271	9946	20105	31461
Uva Province	2639	683	3322	539	185	2598	9334	12656
Southern Province	4312	1008	5320	393	325	4602	10870	16190
Northern Province	3452	596	4048	330	55	3663	5396	9444
Sabaragamuwa Province	2643	671	3314	282	213	2819	6078	9392
North Western Province	4165	905	5070	611	263	4196	12703	17773
Central Province	2727	612	3339	225	103	3011	5674	9013
Eastern Province	3860	1234	5094	666	562	3866	6413	11507
North Central Province	3121	658	3779	225	156	3398	5353	9132
Total	36567	8075	44642	4410	2133	38099	81926	126568

Total service provided = Total No. of cases + Total counselling rendered

126,568 = 44,642 + 81,926

1.1.3 Networking of Judicial Proceedings - (Google Sheet)

The Legal Aid Commission has strongly felt the need of an effective measure for the Legal Division to do the necessary monitoring in order to maintain an efficient and formal legal aid mechanism. It has been decided that coordination and methodical maintenance of monitoring affairs through networking of judicial proceedings in regional centers is a more effective and appropriate measure and initiated and maintained the Google Sheet system this year.

As a first step, a database of the entire case register at every center was prepared and started maintaining the said database. This is expected to be developed in a more advanced way in the future.

Cases heard between 01st January 2021 and 31st December 2021

No.	Centre	Year of Commencement	Staff of Employees			Cases prevailed as at 01.01.2021	Cases filed (Jan-Dec 2021)	Total	Cases concluded (Jan-Dec 2021)	Cases laid by	Cases carried forward (31.12.2021)	Total Counselling
			Legal Officer	Management Assistant	Office Assistant							
01	Anuradhapura	1994	2	2	1	1348	255	1603	128	6	1469	1718
02	Ampara	2003	1	1	-	250	118	368	33	20	315	1153
03	Avissawella	2006	2	1	-	530	114	644	31	33	580	1336
04	Attanagalla	2007	1	2	1	894	123	1017	31	19	967	772
05	Akkareipattu	2006	1	1	1	569	129	698	58	79	561	248
06	Bandarawela	2006	1	1	1	296	107	403	26	60	317	1492
07	Battaramulla	2007	2	1	-	563	62	625	62		563	791
08	Baddegama	2009	1	1	-	410	84	494	61	17	416	972
09	Badulla	2009	1	1	-	407	122	529	171	22	336	1481
10	Balapitiya	2005	2	1	1	836	84	920	34		886	1310
11	Batticaloa	2006	2	1	1	191	74	265	64		201	650
12	Balangoda	2011	1	1	-	186	98	284	30	39	215	245
13	Colombo	1978	9	12	5	1568	130	1698	46		1652	1147
14	Chilaw	2005	2	1	1	837	96	933	64	19	850	1729
15	Chavakachcheri	2011	1	1	-	231	32	263	53	4	206	182
16	Dambulla	2007	1	1	1	192	96	288	15	46	227	658
17	Deniyaya	2007	1	1	-	169	81	250	37	37	176	780
18	Deyyandara	2012	1	1	-	139	58	197	20	17	160	471
19	Embilipitiya	2009	2	1	1	430	213	643	56	109	478	2634
20	Gampaha	2006	2	1	1	290	73	363	27	14	322	107

21	Galle	1994	2	1	1	499	102	601	24	49	528	1136
22	Galgamuwa	2012	1	1	1	118	57	175	32	18	125	696
23	Horana	2007	2	1	1	618	155	773	65		708	2317
24	Hatton	2009	1	1	1	202	46	248	36		212	1385
25	Hingurakgoda	2009	1	1	1	703	92	795	22	9	764	1117
26	Hambantota	2003	1	1	1	1003	101	1104	36		1068	1341
27	Homagama	2012	1	1	1	345	72	417	98	11	308	868
28	Jaffna	2006	2	1	1	274	83	357	117	8	232	501
29	Kandy	1994	3	2	-	783	122	905	2		903	605
30	Kurunegala	1996	3	2	1	1158	116	1274	116		1158	513
31	Kegalle	2003	3	1	-	636	84	720	21	4	695	342
32	Kuliyapitiya	2006	2	1	1	292	187	479	86	25	368	3080
33	Kantale	2008	1	1	-	292	51	343	4	15	324	1220
34	Kaduwela	2010	1	1	-	373	72	445	54	66	325	434
35	Kalmunei	2006	1	1	1	1042	220	1262	196	399	667	257
36	Kalutara	2006	2	1	1	1212	107	1319	70		1249	1228
37	Kekirawa	2011	1	1	1	324	96	420	18	31	371	894
38	Kadawatha	2011	1	1	1	239	89	328	10	20	298	1213
39	Kebithigollewa	2012	1	1	-	420	40	460	0	12	448	180
40	Kilinochchi	2011	2	1	1	502	66	568	22		546	1541
41	Matale	2006	1	1	1	531	132	663	84	16	563	530
42	Mahiyanganaya	2006	1	1	1	533	81	614	27	24	563	1210
43	Matugama	2007	2	1	-	131	78	209	24	34	151	1871
44	Mahawa	2006	1	1	-	193	67	260	38	15	207	694
45	Marawila	2007	1	1	-	380	60	440	29		411	1625
46	Mawanella	2007	1	1	-	430	67	497	85	12	400	1088
47	Mallakam	2015	1	1	1	541	122	663	22	28	613	1419
48	Mt. Lavinia	2008	2	1	-	586	97	683	102	11	570	447
49	Mannar	2010	2	1	1	387	66	453	16		437	400
50	Monaragala	2003	2	1	1	477	151	628	96	19	513	1953
51	Muttur	2010	1	1	-	442	64	506	5		501	121
52	Mullaitivu	2010	2	1	1	444	90	534	40	2	492	248
53	Matara	2006	2	1	1	542	179	721	88	7	626	2057
54	Minuwangoda	2013	1	1	-	505	63	568	15		553	695
55	Nikaweratiya	2013	1	1	1	289	44	333	95	9	229	1344
56	Nuwara Eliya	2003	1	1	-	488	68	556	56		500	581
57	Negombo	2006	1	1	1	329	125	454	79	24	351	1364
58	Nugegoda	2008	1	1	1	487	66	553	75	13	465	800
59	Nawalapitiya	2009	1	1	-	476	127	603	23	28	552	1486
60	Polonnaruwa	2006	1	1	1	183	88	271	45	24	202	816
61	Panadura	2006	3	1	1	582	99	681	213	17	451	2907
62	Pottuwil	2011	2	1	-	253	98	351	146		205	739
63	Point Pedro	2011	1	1	1	558	55	613	39		574	765
64	Polgahawela	2012	1	1	-	207	54	261	32	33	196	616
65	Pugoda	2012	1	1	-	166	48	214	72		142	391
66	Puttalam	2016	1	1	1	414	101	515	47	61	407	1279
67	Rathnapura	2006	2	2	-	665	169	834	61	37	736	1133
68	Tissamaharama	2008	1	1	1	232	139	371	40	80	251	685
69	Thambuttegama	2008	1	1	1	143	87	230	12	74	144	628
70	Tangalle	2010	1	1	-	174	75	249	29	39	181	524
71	Trincomalee	2006	2	1	1	361	83	444	43		401	298

72	Vavuniya	2005	2	1	1	515	82	597	21	13	563	340
73	Valaichchenai	2010	1	1	-	250	346	596	93	49	454	710
74	Warakapola	2007	1	1	-	296	40	336	29	12	295	696
75	Welimada	2008	1	1	1	456	73	529	123	5	401	1299
76	Walasmulla	2010	1	1	1	308	105	413	24	79	310	1591
77	Wariyapola	2011	1	1	-	195	65	260	45	72	143	474
78	Wellawaya	2009	1	1	1	308	91	399	65		334	1185
79	Dehiaththakandi ya	2017	1	1	-	210	51	261	24		237	1017
80	Siyambalanduw a	2017	1	1	1	162	58	220	31	55	134	714
81	Borella	2017	1	1	1	140	93	233	58		175	857
82	Galagedara	2017	1	2	1	55	21	76	9	13	54	429
83	Wattala	2018	1	1	1	90	42	132	7	9	116	560
84	Hettipola	2019	1	1	1	82	58	140	27	11	102	653
Total			122	101	52	36567	8075	44642	4410	2133	38099	81926

Classification of new cases filed in the year 2021

No.	Center	Divorce	Maintainance	Land	Partition	Money	High Court cases	Appeal Court cases	Accidents	Bail	Other	Child Rights	Labour	Criminal	Supreme Court cases	Victim of crimes	Special	Guardianship	Domestic Violence	Total
01	Anuradhapura	92	114	4		7		3	14	2		1	11				7			225
02	Ampara	16	64	1		2	1		2				29	2					1	118
03	Avissawella	16	75	1		8		1			2		4			4		1	2	114
04	Attanagalla	31	63	2		10			10		4							1	2	123
05	Akkareipattu	12	110			2					2						3			129
06	Bandarawela	20	60			4			7		4		3			6	2		1	107
07	Battaramulla											62								62
08	Baddegama	26	39			1			3		1					10	1		3	84
09	Badulla	20	82	1		2	2	4	1	1	1		1	4		1	1	1		122
10	Balapitiya	8	50	1	2	4	5		2		8				1		1	1	1	84
11	Batticaloa	6	51	6		2					5		3				1			74
12	Balangoda	29	62	2		2											2	1		98
13	Colombo	23	32	6		1	3	9	9	7	8		5		27					130
14	Chilaw	7	25			1							62					1		96
15	Chavakachcheri	5	20	1		2					3								1	32
16	Dambulla	11	83			1													1	96
17	Deniyaya	17	57						3							2			2	81
18	Deyyandara		30							18						10				58
19	Embilipitiya	29	166	1		2			7		1			2		1	3		1	213
20	Gampaha	23	17	1		1	6	2	6		3		12			2				73
21	Galle	14	69			1	1	2	1	1	6	1	3	1					2	102
22	Galgamuwa		41			1			2		8			3					2	57
23	Horana	31	72			1	1	1	10	20	7			2		1	4		5	155
24	Hatton	16	23	2					1							4				46
25	Hingurakgoda	23	36	1		5				13	1			12					1	92
26	Hambantota	22	41				1							37						101
27	Homagama	22	23			2	1	5		1	2		14			1	1			72
28	Jaffna	15	35			1	11	1			5		12	3						83
29	Kandy	24	69	1		7	6			2	4		9							122

01	Anuradhapura	83	17			5		4	14				8			3			134
02	Ampara	12	34			2			2				1	1		1			53
03	Avissawella	11	41			6				1		3			1	1			64
04	Attanagalla	8	23						6		3				8	2			50
05	Akkareipattu	5	118	1		4			6		2						1		137
06	Bandarawela	5	70	1		2				3		4			1				86
07	Battaramulla										62								62
08	Baddegama	24	32			3			9		2				6			2	78
09	Badulla	16	151	1		1	8	2	3	1	1		8			1			193
10	Balapitiya	1	31			2													34
11	Batticaloa	15	35	1		5			1		3		4						64
12	Balangoda	17	49	1		2													69
13	Colombo	7	1	4				2	13	8	7			1	3				46
14	Chilaw	5	30			1						44			1		1	1	83
15	Chavakachcheri	23	19	1		5			3		4							2	57
16	Dambulla	11	49													1			61
17	Deniyaya	13	56						1		1							3	74
18	Deyyandara		17								10					8		2	37
19	Embilipitiya	26	113	3		4	1		11						2	5			165
20	Gampaha	8	21			1	1		2		1		3		3	1			41
21	Galle	12	54								2		3			1		1	73
22	Galgamuwa		39			1			1		8				1				50
23	Horana	32	1			1			3	26						2			65
24	Hatton	10	15						1						10				36
25	Hingurakgoda	10	11			1				3	2			2				2	31
26	Hambantota	4		1			3		2		6			17		3			36
27	Homagama	23	36	5		3	1	7		1	4		16	1		11	1		109
28	Jaffna	12	81	7			7	1			3		11	2			1		125
29	Kandy		2																2
30	Kurunegala	56		7		6		2	9	1	17		6			6	5	1	116
31	Kegalle	6	11			8													25
32	Kuliyapitiya	28	55	3		2			4	1	6		9			3			11
33	Kantale	1	15			2							1						19
34	Kaduwela	10	69	4		3			7		5		3			16	1	1	120
35	Kalmunei	7	560	11		5							6			4	1	1	595
36	Kalutara	9	43	3		4				1	5		4			1			70
37	Kekirawa	7	40	1														1	49
38	Kadawatha		28								2								30
39	Kebithigollewa		12																12
40	Kilinochchi	1	12			3							5					1	22
41	Matale	23	48			5					3		15					6	100
42	Mahiyanganaya	13	31			1									4	2			51
43	Matugama	10	42	1		1			2					1	1				58
44	Mahawa	10	38			2			1		1				1				53
45	Marawila	3	22			22							2						29
46	Mawanella	27	38	2		10					2		18						97
47	Mallakam	9	33	4							3						1		50
48	Mt. Lavinia	13	30	11	1	13		4	2	2	6		21	7		1	2		113
49	Mannar	7	5	1		1							2						16
50	Monaragala	36	55	2		7	1		3	4	2			1		4			115

51	Muttur		5																5	
52	Mullaitivu	10	26			4										1		1	42	
53	Matara	16	39	1		16		1	10		2		2			7	1		95	
54	Minuwangoda	4	2		1	1			2		4			1					15	
55	Nikaweratiya	21	42	1		7			7		3	1		7		11	3	1	104	
56	Nuwara Eliya	6	16										1	33					56	
57	Negombo	32	32	4		13				2	6		9			1	1		103	
58	Nugegoda	21	11	1		15				3	8		7	2		16	1	1	88	
59	Nawalapitiya	17	23	1		5					3		1				1		51	
60	Polonnaruwa	10	31	3		9			14		1			1					69	
61	Panadura	53	71	1		13	8		15	3	9	11	29	1		5	4	1	230	
62	Pottuwil	2	142	1		1													146	
63	Point Pedro	10	21	1		2					2						2	1	39	
64	Polgahawela		41						2		16							6	65	
65	Pugoda	9	43	3		5			1							5	6		72	
66	Puttalam	16	82	1		1			2		2			2				2	108	
67	Rathnapura	31	50				3	1	3							6	1	1	98	
68	Tissamaharama	27	90			1											2		120	
69	Thambuttegama		85						1										86	
70	Tangalle	6	56			3			3										68	
71	Trincomalee	1	37			1							4						43	
72	Vavuniya	6	24			4													34	
73	Valaichchenai	3	135			4													142	
74	Warakapola	13	18	1		2				1	5						1		41	
75	Welimada	37	69			6					4			9				3	128	
76	Walasmulla	10	78			12					2							1	103	
77	Wariyapola	13	23	3		6			8		59			3			1	1	117	
78	Wellawaya	23	34						6								2		65	
79	Dehiaththakandiya	6	13								2					3			24	
80	Siyambalanduwa		61						5			2				11			86	
81	Borella										4		54						58	
82	Galagedara		18													4			22	
83	Wattala		16																16	
84	Hettipola		36									2							38	
Total		1072	3803	98	2	255	33	24	185	57	247	78	262	133	4	151	68	13	58	6543

Classification of cases brought forward as at 31.12.2021

No.	Center	Divorce	Maintainance	Land	Partition	Money	High Court cases	Appeal Court cases	Accidents	Bail	Other	Child Rights	Labour	Criminal	Supreme Court cases	Victim of crimes	Special	Guardianship	Domestic Violence	Total
01	Anuradhapur a	293	961	20		26		4	101	2	23	7	19				13			1469
02	Ampara	72	163	12		14	1	1	10				35	1			1		5	315
03	Avissawella	99	350	20		44	1	6			7		10	3		33	2	1	4	580

04	Attanagalla	179	661	32		33			48		7					2		2	3	967
05	Akkareipattu	27	482	7		29					2						10	2	2	561
06	Bandarawela	59	185	8	5	9			25		8		7			8	2		1	317
07	Battaramulla											563								563
08	Baddegama	72	285	2	1	15			15							22	3		1	416
09	Badulla	52	230	8		4	19	5	10				6	1				1		336
10	Balapitiya	141	393	15	12	90	25		36	1	112		2		2	34	6	12	5	886
11	Batticaloa	45	89	38		20					5		2				2			201
12	Balangoda	83	98	10		13					5						3	3		215
13	Colombo	303	504	113		23	4	74	173	8	254	27	22	15	73	57			2	1652
14	Chilaw	27	481	3		2	3		4		4		292	4		27	2		1	850
15	Chavakachcheri	21	150	10		9			6		7								3	206
16	Dambulla	62	144	1		13								5				1	1	227
17	Deniyaya	60	102	1					6					5					2	176
18	Deyyandara		90						3		36					27			4	160
19	Embilipitiya	82	322	5		9				41	1	3	10	2		1	1		1	478
20	Gampaha	110	74	21	1	17	9	8	46		17		12			4	2		1	322
21	Galle	64	303			11	1	2	30	3	54	1	39	1		10			9	528
22	Galgamuwa		111			2			1		2			4		3			2	125
23	Horana	103	438	4		10		10	40	2	62						5		34	708
24	Hatton	61	114	2					8							27				212
25	Hingurakgodda	126	363	6		42				90	6			118					13	764
26	Hambantota	183	577	1			28		47		74			151			7			1068
27	Homagama	66	99	7	1	15	2	1		1	9		31			68	3	1	4	308
28	Jaffna	52	94	11		26	6	4			18		15	3					3	232
29	Kandy	181	414	57		124			17	1	56	7	37	1		5	1	1	1	903
30	Kurunegala	252	595	21	3	77	14	25	67	5	19		41			16	16	3	4	1158
31	Kegalle	110	301	31	13	76	22	6		5	67		27			29	1	5	2	695
32	Kuliyaipitiya	77	154	20	2	21			53		1		16	1		13	3	2	5	368

3 3	Kantale	50	196	3		13					2	1		50				1	8	324
3 4	Kaduwela	90	57	18	2	89			22		4		21	2		17	3			325
3 5	Kalmunei	11	620	11	6 2 0						9						27			667
3 6	Kalutara	169	626	7		49	49		36	2	25		15 3			11 6	17			1249
3 7	Kekirawa	133	143	6		5			27		4	2		40		2	6		3	371
3 8	Kadawatha		274						7		3	1		3				1	9	298
3 9	Kebithigollewa	134	220	9	4 5						37								3	448
4 0	Kilinochchi	70	340	6		36					26			39					29	546
4 1	Matale	97	380	12		27					11		31						5	563
4 2	Mahiyanganaya	99	414	5		29					1						13	1	1	563
4 3	Matugama	46	84	5		13												2	1	151
4 4	Mahawa	64	108	6	3	11			7					2		5	1			207
4 5	Marawila	57	305	4					14		1			30						411
4 6	Mawanella	138	229	3		15								12			1		2	400
4 7	Mallakam	87	429	31	1	31		3	2	1	18					4		5	1	613
4 8	Mt. Lavinia	116	229	31		43		9	25		2		77	16		15	2	1	4	570
4 9	Mannar	24	191	31		18			8		21			13 0				3	11	437
5 0	Monaragala	188	274	7		11	2		18	3	4			1			5			513
5 1	Muttur	22	383	4		30					52					7	2	1		501
5 2	Mullaitivu	63	356	15		27					6						8		17	492
5 3	Matara	138	159	27	1	43		3	75	1	13		41			10 9	9	5	2	626
5 4	Minuwangoda	86	199	24	4	83			12	2	34	4		28		73			4	553
5 5	Nikaweratiya	39	166	1		13			2			1				5		2		229
5 6	Nuwara Eliya	30	409	4		7								47			3			500
5 7	Negombo	140	97	19		46	1	1	8	1	5		20			8	1	2	2	351
5 8	Nugegoda	83	235	8		53					5		1	7		58	3		12	465
5 9	Nawalapitiya	72	398	7		10			1	5	48	2	5						4	552
6 0	Polonnaruwa	28	134	3		6		1	27		2								1	202
6	Panadura	63	200	13	1	4	22		35	2	15	1	24	1		43	8		19	451

1																				
6 2	Pottuwil	2	196	1		2										4			205	
6 3	Point Pedro	93	361	18	2	45			6		32						3	14	574	
6 4	Polgahawela		127	1					6		49	2						11	196	
6 5	Pugoda	41	84	5		9			1						1	1			142	
6 6	Puttalam	136	194	18		28	4		4	1	5			15			1		407	
6 7	Rathnapura	177	349	33		19	28	5	37	1	6		16			22	17	1 3	736	
6 8	Tissamaharama	89	95	1		1			10		2			26			20		251	
6 9	Thambuttegama		144																144	
7 0	Tangalle	45	106	1		2	8		14					4			1		181	
7 1	Trincomalee	67	175	24		80					4		49					2	401	
7 2	Vavuniya	59	489	4		5			4								2		563	
7 3	Valaichchena i	1	450			3													454	
7 4	Warakapola	48	152	6		43			1	5	37						3		295	
7 5	Welimada	83	209	2		26			6		33	5		15		11	5		401	
7 6	Walasmulla	97	158			33			13		4			5					310	
7 7	Wariyapola	32	66	4		3			13		7			7		5	5	1	143	
7 8	Wellawaya	51	238	12		1			28								4		334	
7 9	Dehiaththakandiy a	22	147			6					2			3		39			237	
8 0	Siyambalanduwa		86						4		2					39		1	134	
8 1	Borella										39		13 6						175	
8 2	Galagedara		50													4			54	
8 3	Wattala		73						6		4		26	3				2	116	
8 4	Hettipola		84						1	1	5					11			102	
එකතුව		6442	2121 5	925	97	1792	249	168	1267	144	1437	624	1223	796	75	998	245	79	323	38099 9

Classification of cases heard in the year 2021 by Court

No.	Center	Supreme Court	Appeal Court	Civil Appellate Court	High Court	District Court	Magistrate's Court	Labour Tribunal	Other	Total
01	Anuradhapura			4	2	483	961	19		1469
02	Ampara		1		1	109	169	35		315
03	Avissawella			6	1	175	388	10		580
04	Attanagalla					244	723			967
05	Akkareipattu					78	483			561
06	Bandarawela					111	199	7		317
07	Battaramulla						563			563
08	Baddegama					108	308			416
09	Badulla			5	20	75	230	6		336
10	Balapitiya				25	281	468	2	110	886
11	Batticaloa					105	94	2		201
12	Balangoda					117	98			215
13	Colombo	94	74	7	4	812	580	23	58	1652
14	Chilaw				3	38	517	292		850
15	Chavakachcheri					56	150			206
16	Dambulla					77	150			227
17	Deniyaya					67	109			176
18	Deyyandara						160			160
19	Embilipitiya				1	141	326	10		478
20	Gampaha			8	9	201	79	12	13	322
21	Galle			2	4	107	324	39	52	528
22	Galgamuwa						125			125
23	Horana			10		162	536			708
24	Hatton					71	141			212
25	Hingurakgoda					176	588			764
26	Hambantota				28	238	802			1068
27	Homagama			1	3	93	171	31	9	308
28	Jaffna			4	6	107	100	15		232
29	Kandy			7	18	362	423	37	56	903
30	Kurunegala		25		39	439	614	41		1158
31	Kegalle			6	32	231	399	27		695
32	Kuliyapitiya				2	178	172	16		368
33	Kantale					73	251			324

34	Kaduwela					204	100	21		325
35	Kalmunei					38	629			667
36	Kalutara			39	10	278	742	153	27	1249
37	Kekirawa					177	190		4	371
38	Kadawatha						298			298
39	Kebithigollewa					188	260			448
40	Kilinochchi					112	434			546
41	Matale					136	385	31	11	563
42	Mahiyanganaya					137	426			563
43	Matugama					67	84			151
44	Mahawa					91	116			207
45	Marawila					75	336			411
46	Mawanella					157	243			400
47	Mallakam			3	1	173	436			613
48	Mt. Lavinia		9			193	289	77	2	570
49	Mannar					105	332			437
50	Monaragala				5	232	276			513
51	Muttur					34	467			501
52	Mullaitivu					91	401			492
53	Matara			7	7	299	272	41		626
54	Minuwangoda					204	349			553
55	Nikaweratiya					55	174			229
56	Nuwara Eliya				1	87	410	2		500
57	Negombo			1	2	216	107	20	5	351
58	Nugegoda					152	312	1		465
59	Nawalapitiya					146	353	5	48	552
60	Polonnaruwa			1	1	65	135			202
61	Panadura				24	140	254	24	9	451
62	Pottuwil					9	196			205
63	Point Pedro					184	390			574
64	Polgahawela						196			196
65	Pugoda					56	86			142
66	Puttalam				4	192	211			407
67	Rathnapura			5	28	298	389	16		736
68	Tissamaharama					122	129			251
69	Thambuttegama						144			144
70	Tangalle				8	63	110			181
71	Trincomalee					177	175	49		401
72	Vavuniya					74	489			563
73	Valaichchenai					4	450			454
74	Warakapola					113	182			295
75	Welimada					171	230			401

76	Walasmulla					134	176			310
77	Wariyapola					58	85			143
78	Wellawaya					96	238			334
79	Dehiaththakandiya					29	208			237
80	Siyambalanduwa						134			134
81	Borella							140	35	175
82	Galagedara						54			54
83	Wattala						90	26		116
84	Hettipola						102			102
එකතුව		94	109	116	289	11147	24675	1230	439	38099

Classification of the cases heard in 2021 by the legal assistance provided

No.	Center	Attorneys-at-Law of the Legal Aid Commission	Attorneys-at-Law of the Board under Legal Aid Commission	Total
01	Anuradhapura	965	504	1469
02	Ampara	271	44	315
03	Avissawella	490	90	580
04	Attanagalla	686	281	967
05	Akkareipattu	561	0	561
06	Bandarawela	253	64	317
07	Battaramulla	563	0	563
08	Baddegama	368	48	416
09	Badulla	298	38	336
10	Balapitiya	717	169	886
11	Batticaloa	199	2	201
12	Balangoda	128	87	215
13	Colombo	937	715	1652
14	Chilaw	842	8	850
15	Chavakachcheri	206	0	206
16	Dambulla	189	38	227
17	Deniyaya	175	1	176
18	Deyyandara	160	0	160
19	Embilipitiya	443	35	478
20	Gampaha	166	156	322
21	Galle	520	8	528
22	Galgamuwa	124	1	125
23	Horana	605	103	708
24	Hatton	210	2	212

25	Hingurakgoda	706	58	764
26	Hambantota	629	439	1068
27	Homagama	173	135	308
28	Jaffna	201	31	232
29	Kandy	319	584	903
30	Kurunegala	656	502	1158
31	Kegalle	470	225	695
32	Kuliyapitiya	326	42	368
33	Kantale	302	22	324
34	Kaduwela	87	238	325
35	Kalmunei	637	30	667
36	Kalutara	1066	183	1249
37	Kekirawa	369	2	371
38	Kadawatha	285	13	298
39	Kebithigollewa	448	0	448
40	Kilinochchi	546	0	546
41	Matale	398	165	563
42	Mahiyanganaya	560	3	563
43	Matugama	145	6	151
44	Mahawa	180	27	207
45	Marawila	403	8	411
46	Mawanella	361	39	400
47	Mallakam	613	0	613
48	Mt. Lavinia	332	238	570
49	Mannar	437	0	437
50	Monaragala	398	115	513
51	Muttur	501	0	501
52	Mullaitivu	490	2	492
53	Matara	489	137	626
54	Minuwangoda	397	156	553
55	Nikaweratiya	217	12	229
56	Nuwara Eliya	414	86	500
57	Negombo	298	53	351
58	Nugegoda	354	111	465
59	Nawalapitiya	435	117	552
60	Polonnaruwa	196	6	202
61	Panadura	276	175	451
62	Pottuwil	205	0	205
63	Point Pedro	574	0	574
64	Polgahawela	174	22	196
65	Pugoda	93	49	142
66	Puttalam	407	0	407

67	Rathnapura	388	348	736
68	Tissamaharama	251	0	251
69	Thambuttegama	48	96	144
70	Tangalle	132	49	181
71	Trincomalee	401	0	401
72	Vavuniya	563	0	563
73	Valaichchenai	454	0	454
74	Warakapola	46	249	295
75	Welimada	221	180	401
76	Walasmulla	302	8	310
77	Wariyapola	116	27	143
78	Wellawaya	315	19	334
79	Dehiathakandiya	231	6	237
80	Siyambaladuwa	134	0	134
81	Borella	153	22	175
82	Galagedara	47	7	54
83	Wattala	90	26	116
84	Hettipola	102	0	102
එකතුව		30637	7462	38099

1.2 Programmes & Projects

During the period of 26 years since 1978 until 2004, the main focus of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka has been the concept of granting legal aid to maintain litigation. But since around 2004, the Commission has taken a number of steps to experiment with new methods of granting legal aid, hoping there is a possibility to grant the public an access to legal justice by instilling legal literacy into the public, going beyond this level.

Objective

Focusing on the parties involved in issues and helping to find solutions is an extremely significant task, whereas similarly, counselling on minimizing issues and maintaining living standards is a necessary part of it as well. If you act carefully and safely, the adverse consequences caused by many actions can be prevented. In order to function practically and intelligently in the course of everyday life, everybody should be enlightened of the feeling of the subtle knowledge required to act with knowledge and broad understanding. Comprehending this matter carefully, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka continues to initiate programmes and projects under the supervision of the Legal Division, in order to safeguard the security, protection and the rights of the people. Under this, planning, implementation and organization of legal knowledge and education programs are carried out.

1. In dispute resolution, a mediation without issues is more advantageous.
2. As it is a vain effort to apologise for an act committed on ignorance of law, for the purpose of protecting yourself from the consequences of any wrongdoing occurred or

committed, "ignorance of law is not an excuse". Therefore, the socialization of legal knowledge is a matter with timely importance.

3. Further, contributing to the qualitative development, and increasing social inclusion for sustainable development by developing the lawfulness of society,
4. Examining the timely requirements and proposals that need to be made when imposing new laws
5. Advancement of personal legal literacy

—are key objectives that are focused on, during the formulation and implementation of programmes and projects.

These programs are organized in collaboration with the Legal Division of the Legal Aid Commission, the staff of the local Legal Aid offices, various government institutions and NGOs, and the community participation. The programs were implemented with the cooperation of the government funds and various aid and assistance. We were able to implement some programs without any financial costs.

Ex. :- Media programs

1.2.1 Various programmes

- A. Mass media programmes
- B. Social participation programs for awareness creation
- C. Developmental legal aid programmes
 - Units for prison detainees, indigenous people, overseas labor force.
 - Law education programs
 - Dialogues and discourse among scholars and various communities
 - Preparation of leaflets, posters and publications to socialize the knowledge on law.
 - Conducting research and survey required to obtain the views and suggestions necessary for the new legislation.

A. Massmedia Programmes

23 television programmes and 07 radio programmes have been conducted from January to December 31st in the year 2021.

Massmedia Programmes in 2021 - 30

No.	Programme	Number of programmes
01	TV Programmes	23
02	Radio Programmes	07

A.1. Television & Radio Programmes

Most of these programs are invitational programs. The Commission has not made any financial expenditure for this. During the period from January to December, 31st of 2021, TV programs have been conducted by Siyatha TV, Sirasa TV and TNL, and radio programs by Sri FM and Sri Lanka Radio Corporation.

No.	Mass Media Channel	No. of Programmes
01	Siyatha TV	23
02	Sirasa TV	
03	TNL	
04	Sri FM	07
05	Sri Lanka Radio Corporation	

The resource contribution for the above programs have been made by the officers employed in the Legal Aid Commission Head Office as well as those in various local offices. This has created a mechanism to educate the public on various legal topics and to respond to the issues of the public through TV and radio channels.

B. B. Social Participatory programs for raising awareness

The main objective is to focus on the empowerment of children, women and elderly people, who are generally considered vulnerable parties of society, and to safeguard their legal protection and security.

Further, government field officers, police officers and medical health officers have been identified as target groups in order to provide legal literacy to create a strong and efficient state mechanism.

In addition, as a welfare state, prison detainees, indigenous communities, migrant workers have been identified as distinct portions to be focused on.

B.1. School Programmes

The best age and group for socializing any kind of knowledge is the school children. It is quite easy to educate the adult society through the child, by motivating the curiosity, the thirst for knowledge and the interest within them to find new knowledge. Programmes were launched in several forms which were broadcast through this concept by the School Programme Division of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka.

Similarly, children's right to education, the right to love and care and giving the children the knowledge needed to protect themselves from crimes were covered during these programmes. The programmes were implemented in remote schools in different parts of the country.

The Special Unit for Children of the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission has focused on 24018 maintenance cases for children.

B.2. Programs for Women

These programs are centered around almost all rural women, semi-urban and urban women. The programs are focused on laws that protect women's rights as well as all forms of violence against her, and they are given legal protection when necessary.

A separate legal aid unit for women operates in the Legal Aid Commission. The unit provided legal advice to 19208 women in 2021.

Various programs have been implemented in several parts of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, whereas special emphasis has been placed on the conditions of law affecting the day-to-day life and the Laws, Maintenance, Domestic Violence, Divorce, Fundamental Rights, Labor Laws related to the protection of property. Programmes imparting legal knowledge, various discourses and guidance for access to legal assistance as well have been carried out.

Likewise, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka was able to represent the National Committee on Women this year.

B.3. Programs for Senior Citizens

Sri Lanka, one of the countries with a rapidly aging population amongst the developing countries in the world, is experiencing a very significant demographic change. Demographers predict that the adult population, which is about 1/10 of the country's overall population, will double by 2050. Even though the increase of life expectancy of a country or increase of the aging population is one of the characteristics of a developed country, on the other hand, lack of improvement in other welfare facilities in comparison to the growing elderly population is a challenge.

It is practically proven that, just as being very strong in manpower, proven results can be obtained by empowering them with experience and knowledge.

In Sri Lanka, where there was a 30-year war, the number of senior citizens has increased significantly, and the security and protection of senior citizens must be guaranteed for the enforcement of the social welfare concept and the administration of justice. The senior citizen community, which constitutes 11% of the total population, constitutes 20% of the electorate. In that context, the Parliament of Sri Lanka has enacted the Protection of the Rights of Elders Act No. 9 of 2000, and thereby establishing this value.

In such backdrop, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka has carried out the affairs its Senior Citizen's Law Division in collaboration with the National Elders Secretariat. The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka is in the process of helping the members of the Elders' Associations at the local level to obtain free solutions to their legal issues and to enforce the orders issued by the National Elders Secretariat regarding the claim of maintenance by elders, through the Magistrate's Court. Further, legal awareness programmes are also implemented for the members of the locally set up grassroots elders' societies.

B.4. Programs for Public Officers

In general, the programs offered on legal knowledge are focused on all government officials, while providing legal knowledge for officers engaged in other specific fields

as well. This is done as a task of the Legal Aid Commission for developing the professional capacity of public officers, forming an efficient state mechanism and creating a lawful, honest and contented public servant.

The project division of the Commission and the Regional Legal Aid Commission offices in collaboration with each other have conducted these programmes in various government, semi government, and provincial offices throughout the country. The areas covered in this respect are administrative law, human rights law, laws on lands, bribery and corruption law, labor law and family law. Arrangements have been made to conduct programs through lectures and transfer knowledge through training courses and tutorials.

As a whole, Grama Niladharis, Samurdhi officers, Agricultural Research and Production Assistants, Family Health Officers and field officers from Divisional Secretariats have been identified as targeted groups.

B.5. Programs for Police Officers

The police service is the statecraft who performs a major role in defending law and order. All officers who are engaged in the police service should have a good understanding and knowledge of the judiciary and legal field. Although an insight on the legal field is given at the recruitment of officers to the police service, the knowledge they gain on the legal changes made at different occasions and the new laws and regulations after the recruitment is rudimentary. The opportunity for gathering information is also rare.

Therefore, programs that provide an understanding on law should be carried out, in order to build professional skills of the police officers. An awareness and training programme on legal knowledge is being implemented jointly by the Legal Aid Commission and the Sri Lanka Police Department for the officers serving in various police stations island wide in this regard for a long while. Just as Criminal Law, the police officers will be given knowledge in civil and administrative fields as well.

B.6 Programs for Medical Officers

Medical officers are a group of public officers who have little opportunity to gain legal knowledge when compared to other government officials, although they have to deal with law at all times in their profession. Even though on certain occasions, medical officers have to cooperate in Court procedures, only a few doctors are able to have a formal training on how to cooperate in such actions. It is a morbid question that many medico-legal officers are confronted with.

Medico-legal officers face serious challenges during autopsy, when appearing before Courts to give evidence regarding the same, on occasions where they obtain expertise evidence required for Court proceedings and, in collecting, presenting and analyzing the production of cases.

Similarly, although Medical Health Officers often need to assist in judicial work in their professional field, they lack knowledge in the legal field as well. Therefore, educating medical practitioners on law means improving their professionalism as well

as an immense help in strengthening the process of administering social justice, welfare and equity.

Just as awareness programmes on the subject of law for medical practitioners are conducted, a special service has been done to the public through legal medical clinics. Officers from the centers of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka Island wide have joined hands with Medical Professionals in community health service on the prevention of non communicable diseases.

Coordination has been done with Medical Officers during the period from January to 30th December by means of Zoom technology due to Covid-19 pandemic situation.

B.7 Mobile Legal Clinics

The Mobile Legal Aid Clinic is one of the most important projects when the realization of goals and objectives of the establishment of the Legal Aid Commission. This will help to broaden the legal aid program among grassroot communities and identify problems, enabling the general public to have an easy access to justice. This program is implemented at a grassroot level through the local legal aid offices in the country. It is made easier to identify suitable persons to provide free legal assistance for low-income people.

1.2.2 Social Participation Programmes for Awareness 2021 – Programmes conducted this year and their distribution is as follows.

	Programme	No. of programmes
01	Conducting awareness programmes for Legal Officers in the Legal Aid Commission with the help of USAID	02
02	Conducting programmes for prison inmates through Zoom technology in order to proceed with the Judicial proceedings in collaboration with the UNDP	06
03	The Legal Aid Center in Baddegama organized 2 awareness programmes on law for children in the premises of Sanasa Society in Ampegama Baddegama and Saranankara Apprentice Training Centre in Sandarawala, Baddegama on 07.01.2021 and 16.02.2021	02
04	Awareness programme on law conducted for public officers by the Legal Aid Centre in Matara at Dikwella and Thihagoda Divisional Secretariat premises on 27.01.2021 and 24.02.2021.	02
05	Awareness programme on law for public officers conducted by the Legal Aid Centre in Nikaweratiya, in Dikwella and Thihagoda Divisional Secretariat premises on 27.01.2021 and 24.02.2021.	01
06	An awareness programme on Law for government officers was organized at Manape Girl's School on 24.02.2021 by the Legal Aid Commission Centre in Mallakam.	01

07	An awareness programme on Law was organized at Thalduwa Buddhist Centre on 18.02.2021 by the Legal Aid Commission Centre in Avissawella.	01
08	An awareness programme on Law for government officers was organized at the Multi-purpose Hall on 27.02.2021 by the Legal Aid Commission Centre in Mutur.	01
09	Legal Officers of the Legal Aid Commission centers in Horana and Kaduwela participated in 05 programmes on criminal justice process held through Zoom technology	05
10	Resource contribution for awareness programmes for Police Officers on Law held at Police College in Kalutara on 26.01.2021 and 12.02.2021 by the Legal Aid Commission centre on Panadura.	01
11	Resource contribution for an awareness programme on Law held on 06.02.2021 through the Legal Officer-in-Charge of the Legal Aid Commission center in Panadura.	01
12	The training workshop for apprentice lawyers for the year 2021 organized by the Legal Aid Commission in collaboration with the Law College was held through Zoom technology	01
13	Solutions for legal issues faced by the Public were provided by the Legal Aid Commission in collaboration with the Lion's Club of the Faculty of Law in the University of Colombo through Zoom technology	01
14	Raising awareness among Divisional Council (Pradeshiya Sabha) Members in Colombo District through Zoom technology	01
15	Legal awareness programs conducted with Assistant/Deputy Directors of Legal Aid Commission using Zoom technology	10
16	Discussion held with Transparency International via Zoom on providing legal relief to microfinance victims.	01
17	Participation of a Legal Officer at the Head Office in the talk show organized by the "Neethiya" Foundation	01
18	Series of legal awareness programs on law conducted through webinars for selected Senior Attorneys-at-Law of the Legal Aid Commission by International Commission of Jurists	02
19	Participation of a Legal Officer from the Head Office in the discussion of the Shelters for Women Victims National Program conducted by the Ministry of Women's Affairs.	01
20	Resource contribution made to the awareness program on law organized by Mithuru Piyasa for officers and doctors providing specialist services.	03

C. Developmental legal aid programs

C.1. Program for Prison Inmates

“Prisoners are human beings”. Since 2002, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka has focused on this concept. Accordingly, the key objective of this program is to provide legal aid to the detainees who have been without bail or are unable to satisfy the bail conditions for a long period of time in jail. Accordingly, the Prisons Department and the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka are conducting legal aid clinics for prison inmates throughout the country and collecting necessary information. After obtaining information, the inmates chosen for legal assistance will be given free attorneys’ assistance for their cases.

Accordingly, the UNDP and the Legal Aid Commission will work in collaboration with each other to carry out legal aid and bailing related to prisons in Sri Lanka through Zoom technology from March to September 30th due to Covid -19 pandemic situation prevailed in the year 2021. Accordingly, legal aid has been provided for 201 cases within the year.

C.2. Program for Indigenous People

Aboriginal communities who inherit a history of many years live in different parts of the world. Notable among them are the Red Indians of America, the Pygmies of Africa, the Aborigines of Australia, and the Veddas of Sri Lanka.

Representing the earliest part of Sri Lankan history, these people are in the early stages of all kinds of conditions such as education, economic, health, employment and habitat. It is imperative that they develop legal literacy and provide them with legal aid to improve their living conditions in line with the new world. Further, the protection of the indigenous community is also a part of fulfilling the responsibility of protecting the historical heritage of our country. The focus of the government should be on empowering the mechanism to facilitate easy and equal access to justice for the protection of indigenous peoples' heritage and the privileges granted to the public by the Constitution of Sri Lanka, and to make more flexible and effective legal reforms. The opportunity should be broadened for all communities to enjoy the rights of justice and equality. The main objective of this project is to draw the government’s attention on these issues and make legal reforms.

One of the main objectives of this project is to meet the indigenous people living in different parts of Sri Lanka and to identify the current challenges associated with their homeland, traditional customs, their lives, livelihoods, educational levels and habitats. Accordingly, creating a discourse on legal issues affecting the everyday life of indigenous people takes a predominant place among the objectives of this project.

Further, programmes were implemented in association with Dalukana Aboriginal Village under the mechanism to protect the rights and heritages of the indigenous people in Sri Lanka. There, legal clinics and problem-solving projects that were focused on all communities of the indigenous people; young, adolescent and elderly people— have been implemented.

C.3. Program for Migrant Workers

Special security and protection of job security, safety of lives of migrant workers who contribute to the economy of Sri Lanka by bringing foreign exchange to the country should be ensured. The number of Sri Lankan migrant workers is increasing day by day, and new legal provisions have been established to ensure their safety and protection so that it prevents illegal migration and thereby the protection and security of migrant workers is strengthened. Most of our migrant workers are Sri Lankan women and this is due to their poverty and low-income level. Most of them in the Middle East are unskilled workers, housemaids and semi-skilled workers. The Middle East region has an opportune market and demand for most of those who are temporarily moving abroad. The market for skilled and qualified foreign workers has expanded to East Asia and West Asia.

Many Sri Lankan migrant women work as housemaids in the Middle East region. Most of these housemaids are victims of human rights violations, such as loss of labor rights, abuse, physical and mental harassment at their workplace, due to lack of skills and efficiency. Likewise, some migrant women are embarrassed when they are faced with crimes and offenses abroad. Most people are ignorant about law enforcement in those countries.

This division provides services to migrant workers who are facing problems. After providing the consultancy service, they will be directed to the Consular Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment for judicial work when necessary. The unit works in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE), overseeing 17 praja mula bodies called “Gami Sansadaya” (Village Forum) at Divisional Secretariat level, to raise awareness of migrant workforce families and to collect their details.

C.4. Legal Education Programme

I. The formal legal education program

It is affiliated with the Sri Lanka Law College. The purpose is to train amateur lawyers who take oaths as lawyers a year. Between January and December this year, apprentice lawyers were trained in groups, and the Commission has obtained the external support of resource persons including senior veteran presidential attorneys.

II. The informal legal education program

It is a program in the form of a course to educate the public about the law. A Certificate will be awarded after holding an exam consequent to the four-month course of study for the people of different ages and fields. The legal education course was conducted for a group of 25 people this year.

C.5. Programmes focused on slum and shanty dwellers.

These programmes are conducted to raise awareness among the community which is required in order to seek compensation from the government by instituting court cases at the Honorable Court on behalf of the community who are unable to produce clear evidence on their rights on occasions where the houses and property of the urban community in Colombo are acquired by the government and a compensation is awarded on its behalf as a result of the project carried out by the Urban Development Authority.

C.6. Programmes launched under the Right to Information Act.

Pursuant to Section 23 (1) (a) of the Information Act No. 12 of 2016, all government institutions were required to appoint an Information Officer and an Appeals Officer within their institution within 03 months of the implementation of the Act. Accordingly, the following officers of the Legal Aid Commission were appointed as Information Officers and Appeals Officers.

Mrs. Thamarashi Wikramanayake, AAL - Appointed as the Information officer

Mrs. Kaushalya Hapuarachchi, AAL - Appointed as the Appeals Officer

1.2.3 An Analytical overview of program direction at the corporate level by Consolidated Fund in 2021

No.	Centre	Date	Location & Programme	No. of Participants	Expenditure
01	Nikaweratiya	06.02.2021	Divisional Secretariat Office, Nikaweratiya. Raising awareness among multi-purpose development officers	32	22,414.50
02	Baddegama	07.02.2021	Sanasa Society, Ampegama, Baddegama- Raising awareness among women	60	25,000.00
		16.02.2021	Sri Saranankara Centre, Raising awareness among students	60	25,000.00
03	Mutur	09.03.2021	Community hall, Palaththadichenei- Raising awareness among women	50	22,900.00
04	Jaffna	13.02.2021	Community hall, Kurunegala - Raising awareness among the public	30	26,578.24
05	Mallakam	24.02.2021	Manipe Ladies' College, Manipe- Raising awareness among children and teachers	65	30,000.00
06	Matara	02.02.2021	Raising awareness among government officers, Dikwella	165	37,422.00
		24.02.2021	Raising awareness among government officers, Thihagoda	146	26,881.00
07	Avissawella	18.02.2021	Awareness programme for Grade 9 students	65	15,125.00

1.2.4 Participation of the Legal Aid Commission for Guest Programs

The invitation extended to the Legal Aid Commission by various organizations and social organizations for the resource contribution to programs conducted by them is a great honor for us in the legal profession and at a corporate level. In addition to the judicial duties of the Legal Aid Commission, it is a tremendous service that they have made their contribution as lecturers at awareness programmes of various social organizations and institutions, as legal counselors at mobile clinics and workshop facilitators. Similarly, the honour given to the Legal Aid Commission by the institutions who made these invitations is gratefully acknowledged.

Services provided by the Legal Aid Commission, i.e., resource contribution is based on the legal conditions related to, sexual harassment, fundamental rights, child abuse, women's rights, sexual violence, laws for the elderly people, human trafficking, labor laws, land laws and civil records, legal conditions on social issues required for everyday life, family law, women affected by war, Muslim women, women working abroad.

1.2.5 Participation of the Legal Aid Commission for Guest Programs

No.	Centre	Date	Location and Programme held	No. of participants	No. of guest programmes
01	Mathugama	20.02.2021 21.02.2021	Mandarin Hotel, Colombo- Raising awareness among legal officers	50	01
02	Polonnaruwa	29.10.2021 30.10.2021	Online awareness programme for legal officers conducted by ICG Institute	30	01
03	Kalutara	29.03.2021	N.I.H.S. Kalutara- Raising awareness among Public Health Physicians	20	03
		30.03.2021	N.I.H.S. Kalutara- Raising awareness among Public Health Physicians	20	
		08.04.2021	Unichela Garment, raising awareness among the employees	100	
04	Homagama	24.03.2021	Assembly hall at Court premises, Homagama- awareness on Evidence Law	50	01
05	Kegalle	12.10.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Kegalle- Raising awareness among police officers	30	01
06	Warakapola	10.11.2021	MAS Thulhiriya, raising awareness among the employees	300	01
07	Baddegama	05.02.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Baddegama- raising awareness among government officers	07	04
		13.03.2021 14.03.2021	Certis Hotel, Hikkaduwa- raising awareness among legal officers	23	
		05.11.2021	Adurathwila, Walpita- raising awareness among women	50	
		23.12.2021	Regional Committee, Galle- raising	25	

		1	awareness among government officers		
08	Hettipola	05.04.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Bingiriya- Raising awareness among Government Field Officers	125	01
09	Warakapola	10.11.2021	MAS, Thulhiriya - Raising awareness among employees	300	01
10	Mullaitivu	15.03.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Oddusudan- Regional Development Community Committee Meeting for raising awareness among children and women.	70	05
		22.03.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Maritimpattu- Regional Development Community Committee Meeting for raising awareness among children and women.	50	
		22.11.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Oddusudan- Regional Development Community Committee Meeting for raising awareness among children and women.	75	
		22.11.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Maritimpattu- Regional Development Community Committee Meeting for raising awareness among children and women.	80	
		13.12.2021	Divisional Secretariat, Oddusudan	50	
11	Mallakam	10.10.2021 10.10.2021	Raising awareness among Legal Officers- Jetwing Hotel, Jaffna	50	03
		30.10.2021 13.11.2021	Raising awareness among Legal Officers	50	
		22.11.2021 26.11.2021	Raising awareness among Legal Officers and Government parties	75	
12	Kalmunei	21.01.2021	Regional Committee Meeting- High Court, Kalmunei	50	03
		26.03.2021	Regional Committee Meeting- Divisional Secretariat, Karaithivu	50	
		31.03.2021	Regional Committee Meeting- Divisional Secretariat, Sainthamaruthu	50	
13	Matara	10.12.2021	Raising awareness among the public - Ruhunu Sewaya, Matara	රුහුණ සේවය	01
14	Avissawella	20.02.2021 21.02.2021	Raising awareness among Legal Officers	50	01
15	Horana	03.01.2021	Raising awareness among prison detainees, Kalutara Prison	50	06
		10.01.2021	Raising awareness among prison detainees, Kalutara Prison	75	
		07.02.2021	Raising awareness among prison detainees, Kalutara Prison	80	
		14.03.2021	Raising awareness among prison detainees, Kalutara Prison	70	
		17.12.2021	Raising awareness among prison detainees, Kalutara Prison	50	

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

2.1 Management Activities

2.2 Financial Activities

2.1 Management Activities

2.1.1 Infrastructure

2.1.1.1 Office Equipment

Several essential office equipment was purchased during the year 2021. Repairs and maintenance of computers, photocopy machines etc. in the Head Office and regional centers were carried out as usual.

Office equipment required for the opening of Theldeniya Center were purchased. In addition, new name boards were installed at regional centres.

No.	Centre	Description	Total Cost
01	Warakapola	Name Board	17,900.00
02	Jaffna	Furniture	48,082.50
03	Kegalle	Building	952,441.22
04	Puttalam	Furniture	47,538.00
05	Kegalle	Chairs	14,765.62
06	Kegalle	Name Board	7,700.00
07	Head Office	Furniture	21,577.50
08	Negombo	Partition	212,600.00
09	Mannar	Furniture	43,277.00
10	Kilinochchi	Furniture	34,200.00
11	Head Office	Office table	32,000.00
12	Negombo	Elec installation adv	75,000.00
13	Deniyaya	Name Board	6,500.00
14	Head Office	Plastic table	4,500.00
15	Attanagalla	Furniture	41,761.50
16	Head Office	Library books	6,460.00
17	In 4 centres	Fingerprint machines	228,705.80
18	Head Office	Printer	26,800.00
19	Balangoda	Tiling	200,000.00
20	Head Office	Law books	1,200.00
21	Head Office	S.T.C.	193,100.00
22	Theldeniya	Furniture	242,609.00
23	Nugegoda	Cupboard	192,000.00
24	Nugegoda	Wall cupboard	288,000.00
25	Mahiyanganaya	Curtains	38,850.00
26	Welimada	Furniture	34,537.50
27	Galgamuwa	Name Board	26,300.00
28	Legal	Nokia phones	14,780.00

2.1.1.2 Building Repairs

There are 84 Regional Centers out of which maintenance work in certain centers and offices and minor repairs were also carried out during the year 2021. Building repair works in Anuradhapura and Kabithigolleva centers were commenced and implemented at the same time.

2.1.2 Staff Training

Officers have been directed to local trainings in anticipation of the professional competence of the currently employed staff of the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission.

Description	No. of Officers
Assistant/Deputy Director	11
Training of Legal Officers	114
Total	125

2.1.3. New Recruitments.

Action was taken to fill the existing vacancies in the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka in the year 2021. Accordingly, the vacancies in the post of Assistant/Deputy Director (Administration) were filled in March.

Six Provincial Assistant/Deputy Directors were appointed for the Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, North-West, North-Central and North-Eastern Provinces whereby the long-standing requirement to maintain legal aid services more efficiently was fulfilled. Simultaneously, three new appointments were made for the position of Assistant/Deputy Director- Legal for the head office in Colombo. Accordingly, it is also exceptional that these appointments were done as an internal appointment.

Although necessary steps were taken to make recruitments in order to fill the vacancies of Legal Officer, Management Assistant and Office Employee, those activities could not be carried out due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic situation and the restrictions imposed by the government limiting new recruitments.

With the recruitment of Provincial Assistant/Deputy Directors, many of the functions that were centralized at the Colombo Head Office were also decentralized to relevant provinces during this year.

Taking the restructuring programs to a further level, mainly, the legal, administrative and financial divisions have started functioning separately. Further steps are being taken for the changes required to be made simultaneously.

2.1 Management Activities

2.1.1 Infrastructure

2.1.1.1 Office Equipment

Necessary arrangements have been made to provide new office equipment with the objective of improving infrastructure facilities at regional centers.

No.	Centre	Description	Date	Total Cost	Expenditure of the year 2021
01	Warakapola	Name Board	13.01.2021	17,900	17,900
02	Jaffna	Furniture	13.01.2021	48,082.50	48,082.50
03	Tissamaharama	Cupboard	21.01.2021	24,457.50	24,457.50
04	Puttalam	Furniture	26.01.2021	47,538.00	47,538.00
05	Kegalle	Chairs	27.01.2021	14,765.62	14,765.62
06	Kegalle	Name Board	26.01.2021	7,700.00	7,700.00
07	Head Office	Furniture	26.01.2021	21,577.50	21,577.50
08	Mannar	Furniture	12.02.2021	43,277.00	43,277.00
09	Kilinochchi	Furniture	12.02.2021	34,200.00	34,200.00
10	Head Office	Office Table	23.02.2021	34,200.00	34,200.00
11	Negombo	Making the Electric Circuit	24.02.2021	75,000.00	75,000.00
12	Deniyaya	Name Board	24.02.2021	6,500.00	6,500.00
13	Head Office	Plastic Table	25.03.2021	4,500.00	4,500.00
14	Attanagalla	Furniture	05.05.2021	41,761.50	41,761.50
15	Head Office	Library Books	01.04.2021	6,460.00	6,460.00
16	Regional Centres	4 Finger print machines	29.07.2021	228,705.80	228,705.80
17	Head Office	Photocopy machine	09.08.2021	26,800.00	26,800.00
18	Balangoda	For tiles	09.08.2021	200,000.00	200,000.00
19	Head Office	Law Books	12.08.2021	1,200.00	1,200.00
20	Head Office	Protection Cover	06.10.2021	23,990.00	23,990.00
21	Head Office	S T C	12.10.2021	193,100.00	193,100.00
22	Theldeniya	Furniture	19.11.2021	242,609.00	242,609.00
23	Nugegoda	Cupboard	24.12.2021	192,000.00	192,000.00
24	Nugegoda	Cupboard	31.12.2021	288,000.00	288,000.00
25	Mahiyanganaya	Curtains	31.12.2021	38,850.00	38,850.00
26	Welimada	Furniture	31.12.2021	34,537.50	34,537.50
27	Galigamuwa	Name Board	31.12.2021	26,300.00	26,300.00
28	Head Office	Nokia Telephones	31.12.2021	14,780.00	14,780.00

2.1.1.2 Building Renovation

2.1.1.2.1 Building Renovation Activities 2021

No.	Project	Date of Commencement	Total Cost (Rs.)	Provisions for the Year 2021	Expenditure of the year 2021
01	Kegalle	21. 01 .2021	952,441.22		952,441.22
02	Negombo	03.02.2021	212,600.00	2 million Rupees	212,600.00
03	Anuradhapura	21. 01 .2021	2,464,029.71		2,464,029.71
04	Kekirawa	31. 12 .2021	1,198,351.63		1,198,351.63
05	Kalutara	31. 12 .2021	351,346.96		351,346.96

2.2. Financial Activities

2.2.1. Financial Statement – 2021

2.2.1 (A) Statement of Financial Position as at 31st December 2021

Item	Note	As at 31.12.2021 (Rs.)	As at 31.12.2020 (Rs.)
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Fixed assets	2	53,962,959.38	59,651,888.56
Current assets			1,263,900.00
Shares			
Prepaid and Debtors	9	6,645,357.93	2,259,726.28
Fixed deposits	10	7,080,452.23	6,430,077.50
Bank balance	10	1,882,325.78	6,655,262.74
Total Assets		<u>69,571,095.32</u>	<u>76,260,855.08</u>
Rights and Liabilities represented			
Accumulated Fund	3	(68,282,549.84)	(61,518,527.07)
Settlement of expenses		51,655,282.62	59,234,783.38
Revenue reserve		5,086,415.52	
Non-Current Liabilities	5	78,881,740.62	70,671,141.63
Current Liabilities			
Accrued expenses	4		7,873,457.14
		2,220,206.40	
Overall shares and liabilities		<u>69,571,095.32</u>	<u>76,260,855.08</u>

2.2.2 Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka- Legal Aid Fund

2.2.2 (A) Cash Flow Statement for the year ended from 31st

December 2021

Item	2021 (Rs.)	2020 (Rs.)
Net income on expenditure	(15,754,041.55)	(21,323,099.18)
Adjustments	26,855.00	1,434,810.81
Depreciation	11,219,689.55	9,992,209.35
Gratuity Provision	9,101,816.49	15,275,416.19
Interest income	(3,454,679.51)	(12,153,242.37)
Cash flow from operations	<u>1,139,639.98</u>	<u>(6,773,905.20)</u>
Variation of Working capital		
Increase/decrease on current assets	(3,121,731.65)	(1,375,369.66)
Increasing accrued expenses	(5,653,249.81)	2,302,941.97
Payment of gratuity	(1,221,292.00)	(1,799,810.00)
Net cash flow from operations	<u>(9,996,273.46)</u>	<u>(872,237.69)</u>
Cash flow from investment activities		
Purchasing of furniture	(1,166,556.12)	(1,198,629.97)
Purchasing of office equipment	(252,695.88)	(3,250,204.54)
Purchasing of computers	(234,680.00)	(3,299,111.82)
Purchasing of books	(7,660.00)	(2,840.50)
Increases for buildings	(952,441.22)	(1,656,921.42)
Transfer of fixed deposits	(500,000.00)	(500,000.00)
Net cash flow from investment activities	<u>(3,114,033.22)</u>	<u>(9,907,708.25)</u>
Cash flow from financial activities		
Capital Allowances Receipts	7,163,728.84	8,000,000.00
The increase or decrease of cash equivalents in the year	(4,806,937.86)	(9,553,851.14)
Cash or cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	6,689,243.86	16,243,095.00
Cash or cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>1,882,306.00</u>	<u>6,689,243.86</u>

2.2.2 (B) Statement of Change in Equity as at 31st December 2021

Item	General Reserve	Capital	Accumulated Earnings	Total
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year			(61,518,527.00)	(61,518,527.00)
Adjustments in the Year			26,855.00	26,855.00
Capital Grants		7,163,728.84		
Recovery of fixed assets purchases		(7,115,361.44)		
Balance of capital fund		48,367.40		48,367.40
Accumulated adjustment of fixed asset purchases			8,913,061.60	8,913,062
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year				(15,754,041.55)
Profit/Loss brought forward 31.12.2021				(68,284,284)

2.2.2 (C) Statement of Change in Equity as at 31st December 2020

Item	General Reserve	Capital	Accumulated Earnings	Total
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year	12,827,777.66	82,392,805.60		95,220,583
Balance at the beginning			(84,592,889.70)	(84,592,890)
Adjustments in the Year				
Capital Grants		8,000,000.00		8,000,000.00
Recovery of fixed assets purchases	(12,827,777.66)	(90,392,805.60)		(103,220,583)
Balance of capital fund	-	-	(2,830,521.21)	(2,830,521)
Accumulated adjustment of fixed asset purchases			47,227,983.15	47,227,983
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year				(21,323,099)
Profit/Loss brought forward 31.12.2021				(61,518,527)

2.2.2 (D) Total Income Statement for the year ended from 31st

December 2021

Item	Notes	As at 31.12.2021 (Rs.)	As at 31.12.2020 (Rs.)
Government Imprest receipts, Case registration etc.	6	253,006,942.99	250,314,686.26
Administration Expenses	7	268,730,784.54	271,608,285.44
		(15,723,842)	(21,293,599)
Activity Excess or (Deficit)		30,200.00	29,500.00
Financial expenses	8		
Net surplus or deficit for the year		<u>(15,754,042)</u>	<u>(21,323,099)</u>

2.2.2 (E) Notes on the Financial Statement of the Year Ended on

31st December 2021

Item	2021 (Rs.)	2020 (Rs.)
2. Fixed Assets		
Cost		
Balance brought forward	126,990,187.23	111,453,479
Additions during the year	7,430,760.37	15,536,708.25
Exclusions during the year	9,650,083.00	0
Final Balance	<u>124,770,864.60</u>	<u>126,990,187.23</u>
Provision for depreciation		
Balance brought forward	67,338,298.67	57,693,345.85
Depreciation for the year	13,119,689.55	10,044,755.14
Exclusions during the year	9,650,083.00	399,802.32
Final Balance	<u>70,807,905.22</u>	<u>67,338,298.67</u>
	124,770,864.60	126,990,187.23
	70,807,905.22	67,338,298.67
Final balance of fixed assets	<u>53,962,959.38</u>	<u>59,651,888.56</u>
Accumulated depreciation		
Net assets value		

3. Accumulated Fund		
Balance brought forward	(61,518,527.07)	103,220,583.26
Equity and Capital		
Prior year adjustments	8,941,651.38	
Income retained		(103,220,583.26)
Receipt of capital funds during the year	(52,576,875.69)	
	48,367.40	(40,195,427.43)
Excess or deficiency during the year	(15,754,041.55)	(21,323,099.18)
	<u>(68,282,549.84)</u>	<u>(61,518,527.07)</u>

2.2.2 (F) Notes for the Financial Statement of the year ending on 31st December 2021.

Description	2021 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)
4. Accrued Expenditure		
Payable Salaries	(0.93)	(0.80)
Payable Employees' Provident Funds	38,682.59	3,012,482.20
Payable Employees' Trust Funds	5,748.11	10,962.47
Payable Audit Fees	313,000.00	500,000.00
Payable Other or Miscellaneous Expenditure	825,927.42	2,071,338.44
Temporary Salaries		1,014,309.59
Fees payable regarding programmes		21,265.71
Printing of Annual Reports		197,560
Payment of payable Cost of Living Allowances		-
Payable Honorary Allowances	1,014,309.59	
	(3,375.00)	1,019,950.00
Payable Insurance Claims		22,379.24
Fees payable to the Staff	22,704.24	3,210.29
	3,210.38	
	<u>2,220,206.40</u>	<u>7,873,457.14</u>

5. Gratuity		
	(61,518,527.07)	103,220,583.26
Balance carrying forward	2021	2020
Provisions during the year		
Gratuity payments during the year		
	70,671,141.63	57,195,535.44
	9,101,816.49	15,275,416.19
	891,217,.50)	1,799,810.00
	<u>(78,881,740.62)</u>	<u>(70,671,141.63)</u>

2.2.2 (G) Notes for the Financial Statement of the year ending on 31st December 2021.

Description	2021 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)
9. Pre-payments and Debtors		
	10.83	
Advances for the reconstruction of buildings	8.95	10.89
Imprest	5,080,011.40	578,683.10
Deposits	30,029.33	12,128.50
Debtors (For Floods)	287,000.00	285,500.00
Payments of debtors	-	-
	1,139,725.37	1,379,770.01
	-	3,633.49

Insurance payments	-	0.29
Payment of the rent for the stores rooms	108,572.05	400
Pre-payment of the balance of Programmes	<u>6,645,357.93</u>	<u>2,259,726.28</u>

	2021 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)
10. Cash and cash equivalent		
Cash Balance	1,882,325.78	6,655,262.74
	7,080,452.23	6,430,077.50
Fixed deposit	<u>8,962,778.01</u>	<u>13,085,340.24</u>

2.2.2 (H) Receipts for the Legal Aid Fund from the year 2016 to 2021 (Recurrent)

Description	2016 (Rs)	2017 (Rs)	2018 (Rs)	2019 (Rs)	2020 (Ts)	2021 (Rs)
Recurrent Fund	191,000,000	193,925,423	198,975,000	220,000,000	225,400,000	249,000,000
Other Grants	7,101,000	321,718	2,903,214	2,409,400	12,239,179.7	
Registration fees	444,200	549,200	510,600	596,400	468,000.00	359,750.00
Course fees of Apprentice Lawyers	974,000	1,163,000	878,000	798,000	100,000.00	
Presidential Fund	-	-	-	140,500	-	
Supplementary Legal Aid Course Fees	270,500	-	-	-	-	
Interest revenue	185,149	316,396	405,188	750,263	816,762.91	68,273.09
Miscellaneous revenue	-	-	-	-	37,393.10	3,491,346.90
Selling books	24,930	105,410	4,270	200	400.00	100.00
Library Revenue	175,803	274,172	298,655	304,033	164,139.00	87,473.00
Total	200,175,582	196,655,319	205,195,697	226,198,895	250,314,686	253,006,943

2.2.2 (I) Statement of Expenditure- From 2016 to 2021

Description	2016 (₹)	2017 (₹)	2018 (₹)	2019 (₹)	2020 (₹)	2021 (₹)
Salaries	149,738,011	172,802,472	168,489,215	200,700,727	214,670,169	235,052,875
Payment s for Board of Lawyers	5,846,335	7,106,874	8,359,574	6,661,616	3,704,941	2,856,775
Expenditure for						
Office	3,609,480	4,266,397	4,117,343	3,975,290	3,280,405	3,477,368
Telephone	1,311,921	1,278,647	1,470,149	1,528,048	1,086,187	1,092,823
Electricity and	1,825,020	1,769,178	1,567,468	1,676,938	1,644,956	1,842,822
Water	733,509	769,296	734,728	903,914	805,352	928,582
Stationery and	11,958,396	5,109,879	2,686,825	3,049,897	2,597,284	2,861,521
Printing	1,254,000	1,034,000	1,820,917	1,898,875	1,414,500	1,394,875-
Postal charges	632,955	631,544	679,018	685,793	359,552	320,342
Maintenance and repair	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent	16,131,178	9,756,142	6,284,911	8,267,711	471,339	163,214
Batta and Transport Expenses	147,434	197,215	278,001	369,517	197,478	488,965
Foreign Travelling Expenses	1,271,607	1,380,686	1,335,222	928,069	380,640	
Program	1,008,500	1,008,500	-	1,266,811	1,169,989	1,466,321
Expenditure	216,100	89,727	474,859	69,108	61,491	
Fuel for vehicles	-	34,500	117,645	95,979	129,411	23,820
Vehicle insurance and repair	204,890	274,287	216,412	201,572	336,526	351,189
Medical Insurance of the staff	279,444	168,119	93,267	69,000	54,000	
Lawyer Fees	-	24,663	-	-	-	242,357
Propaganda	15,501	9,538	59,665	40,100	9,538	
Expenditure	8,850	15,050	31,550	7,375	67,980	-
Employee Welfare Training	15,170	186,747	-	16,150	12,250	9,639
Expenditure for the staff	38,554	58,880	79,679	186,562	-	33,344
Professional Charges	489,794	718,357	2,283,232	2,966,203	2,256,015	
Assessment Account				332,147	262,855	2,398,897
Translation fees	143,244	200,468	-	47,516	12,495	
Account Meeting						30,200
Expenditure	350,000	-	-	-	-	
Library	52,500	55,570	73,411	50,761	29,500	
Expenditure						
Miscellaneous						
Expenditure						
Sanitary						
Expenditure						
Observation and opening of centers						
Annual Report						
Expenditure						
Bank Fees						
Provisions						
Gratuity	4,670,851	3,952,310	9,929,381	14,589,142	15,275,416	9,101,816
Depreciation	7,389,590	7,092,145	6,615,843	10,496,940	9,992,209	11,219,690
Audit Fees	100,000	125,000	200,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total	209,442,833	220,193,634	219,034,366	261,617,435	271,608,285	268,730,785

2.2.3 Recurrent Receipts and Expenditure for the Legal Aid Fund from 2016 to 2021

Description	2016 (Rs)	2017 (Rs)	2018 (Rs)	2019 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)
Receipts	200,175,582	196,655,319	204,472,427	220,000,000	225,400,000	249,000.000
Expenditure	209,442,833	220,193,634	219,034,366	261,617,435	271,637,785	248,409.279

2.2.4 Capital Fund from 2016 to 2021

Description	2016 (Rs)	2017 (Rs)	2018 (Rs)	2019 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)
Recurrent Receipts	25,000,000	11,500,000	18,092,806	13,000,000	8,000,000	7,163,728
Recurrent Expenditure	20,800,000	11,800,000	15,079,607	10,566,858	8,800,000	7,115.361

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

My No } JLO/B/LAC/FA/2021/37/F
2022

Your No }

Date } 27th May

The Chairman

Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements and Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31 December 2021 in terms of the Section 12 of the National Audit Act No: 19 of 2018

.....

The said report is submitted herewith.

Sgd./ W.P.C.Wickramarathna
Auditor General

Copies: (1) Secretary - Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization & National Policies
(2) Secretary - Ministry of Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms


ROHAN SAHABANDU
President's Counsel
Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka
No. 129, High Court Complex,
Holtedorp Street, Colombo 12, Sri Lanka.

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

My No } JLO/B/LAC/FA/2021/37/F

Your No }

Date } 27th May 2022

The Chairman,
Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements and Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31 December 2021 in terms of the Section 12 of the National Audit Act No: 19 of 2018

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31 December 2021 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended and the notes in relation with the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 and the provisions in the Finance Act No. 38 of 1971. My report in terms of the Article 154(6) of the Constitution will be tabled in the House of Parliament in due course.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in Basis for Qualified Opinion of this report, the financial statements prepared give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Commission as at 31 December 2021 and its financial performance and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards.

1.2 Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

- (a) (As a result of not reviewing of the effective lifetime of non-current assets annually in terms of Paragraph 65 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards 07, although the 02 motor vehicles and office equipment and furniture cost at Rs. 5,900,625 had been fully depreciated as at 31 December 2020 were further being used and actions had not been taken to revise the estimated error in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards No. 03 .
- (b) (As the depreciation of the year had been deducted from the expenditure instead of crediting the revaluation profit of Rs. 1,900,000 to the revaluation reserve account which had arisen from the revaluation of 04 vehicles, the profit for the year was overstated by that amount and the revaluation reserve was understated by that amount in the financial statements .
- (c) (Although the revaluation value of 02 motorcycles which had been fully depreciated amounting to Rs. 500,000 should be debited to the relevant asset account and credited to the revaluation reserve account, the profit and net value of assets in the year under review had been understated by that value because of the depreciation account was debited and the depreciation provision account was credited.
- (d) (Because of both the cost of 03 vehicles and the revaluation value was considered as the cost of vehicles, the balance of fixed assets had been overstated by Rs.5,700,000 .

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 Annual Report-2021 of the Commission

Other information means the information that is included in the 2020 Annual Report of the Authority which was obtained by me before the date of this Audit report, but is not included in the financial statements and my audit report regarding it. The management is responsible for this other information.

other information is not disclosed through my opinion on financial statements and, I do not express any assurance or opinion on that.

In relation to my audit of financial statements, it is my responsibility to read the other information identified above when available and, to consider whether other information in accordance with my knowledge obtained with the financial statements or in the audit or otherwise, is quantitatively inconsistent.

Based on the other information obtained by me and tasks performed by me before the date of this audit report, if it is concluded by me that it contains quantitative errors, those matters should be communicated to the governing parties for correction. I have nothing to report in this relation

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 Commission's 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 intend to liquidate the Commission or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Commission's financial reporting process.

As per Section 16 (1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Commission 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.

1.5. Auditor's Responsibility in Auditing 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 skepticism 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.
- Obtained 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 internal control.
- Evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Concluded 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 Commission'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 to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluated the 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 would inform the ruling parties about significant audit findings, key internal controlling weaknesses and other matters identified during my audit.

2. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

2.1. The 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 were required for the Audit, and as it is disclosed by my audit, proper accounting records have been kept by the authority, as per the requirements of Section 12 (a) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.1.2. The financial statements presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirements of Section 6 (i) (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 requirements of Section 6 (i) (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 were material nothing has come to my attention to make the following statements.

2.2.1. – that any member of the governing body of the authority has any direct or indirect interest in any contract entered into by the Authority which are out of the normal cause of business as per the requirements of Section 12 (d) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.2.2.- that the Authority has not compiled any applicable written law, general and special directions issued by the governing body of the authority , as per the requirements of Section 12(f) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018, except for following observations.

Reference to Laws/Direction**Observation**

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) Section 14 (3) of Finance Act No. 38 of 1971 | The Annual Reports for the year 2019 and 2020 had not been submitted to the Parliament by the end of April 2022 . |
| (b) Stamp Duty Act No. 43 of 1982 | Although a stamp duty of Rs. 25 should be charged for payments above Rs.25,000, stamp duties related to 11 vouchers for the payment of Rs.407,852 had not been collected. |
| (c) Section 9.12 of Public Enterprises Circular No. PED/12 | Initiating a private insurance scheme for the employees of the Commission in the year 2015 without obtaining an approval, a sum of Rs.1,466,321 had been paid to an insurance company as 50 per cent of the insurance contribution of 56 employees during the year under review. |
| (d) Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24 January 2018 | According to the provisions of the circular , a human resource development plan had not been prepared for the year 2021. |

2.2.3. That actions have been taken in a way that is not complied with the powers, duties and functions of the Authority , as per the requirements of Section 12(g) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018

- (a) The necessary steps have not been taken to execute the key powers such as to establish, administer, develop and cooperate in experimental programmes, law clinics and projects in respect of any aspect of the provision of legal aid and employing the necessary staff for the development and implementation of programmes and projects for that purpose as mentioned in Paragraph 4 (i) of the Legal Aid Commission Act No. 27 of 1987.
- (b) Even though the Cabinet had approved the Proposed National Policy on Legal Aid for Sri Lanka on 30 March 2016 with the view of making State Legal Aid Programme in a more formal empowerment in civil society, it had not been implemented.

2.2.4. That the resources of the Authority have not been procured and utilized sparingly, efficiently and effectively in a timely manner in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, as per the requirements of Section 12(h) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.3 Other Facts

- (a) Although an amount in between Rs.1.8 Million and Rs.8.7 Million had remained in idle in the current account maintained by the Commission at the Aluthkade Branch of the Bank of Ceylon for the entire 12 months from January to December 2021, actions had not been made to utilize the money effectively.
- (b) The activities and results of activities on monthly basis were not presented as per the priority to be included in the Action Plan in terms of Guideline No. 12 of Public Finance Circular No. 02/2020 dated 28 August 2020.
- (c) The number of cases brought forward for providing legal aid in 2020 was 36,567 and the total number of cases to be carried out with 8,075 newly filed cases in the year 2021 was 44,642. The legal assistance (legal aid) had been provided for the disposal of 6,543 cases in the year under review out of that and a number of 38,099 cases left as at 31 December 2021 . It had been 85 per cent of the total cases which were to be provided services.
- (d) There were 79 vacancies, including 27 in senior level, 02 in secondary level, 18 in tertiary level and 32 in primary level at the end of the year under review and these vacancies had directly affected the performing of the tasks of the Commission efficiently.

SGD./ W.P.C.Wickramarathna
Auditor General

Telephone Numbers of Regional Centers of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

1	Head Office	011-2433618		38	Kilinochchi	021-2285618
2	Akkaraipattu	067-2279462		39	Kuliyapitiya	037-2284611
3	Ampara	063-2223496		40	Kurunegala	037-2229641
4	Anuradhapura	025-2224465		41	Mt. Lavinia	011-2718708
5	Aththanagalla	033-2297020		42	Mahiyangana	055-2258332
6	Avissawella	036-2233857	43	Mahawa		037-2275075
7	Baddegama	091-2292051	44	Mannar		023-2222045
8	Badulla	055-2225759	45	Marawila		032-2254443
9	Balangoda	045-2289099	46	Matale		066-2224828
10	Balapitiya	091-2255753	47	Matara		041-2233815
11	Bandarawela	057-2224733	48	Matugama		034-2249262
12	Battaramulla	011-2877687	49	Mawanella		035-2247272
13	Batticaloa	065-2225399	50	Minuwangoda		011-2297790
14	Chavakachcheri	021-2270882	51	Monaragala		055-2276891
15	Chilaw	032-2222175	52	Mullaitivu		021-2290077
16	Dambulla	066-2284551	53	Mutur		026-2238777
17	Deiyandara	041-2268077	54	Nawalapitiya		054-2224227
18	Deniyaya	041-2271128	55	Negombo		031-3321476
19	Embilipitiya	047-2230299	56	Nikaweratiya		037-2260203
20	Galgamuwa	037-2253290	57	Nugegoda		011-2809068
21	Galle	091-2226124	58	Nuwara Eliya		052-2235260
22	Gampaha	033-2248804	59	Panadura		038-2244822
23	Hambantota	047-2221092	60	Pugoda		011-2405333
24	Hatton	051-2222390	61	Point Pedro		021-2260212
25	Hingurakgoda	027-2245521	62	Polgahawela		037-2243039
26	Homagama	011-2748813	63	Polonnaruwa		027-2226572
27	Horana	034-2265244	64	Pottuvil		063-2248485
28	Jaffna	021-2224545	65	Rathnapura		045-2226899
29	Kadawatha	011-2922440	66	Thabuththegama		025-2276259
30	Kaduwell	011-2548150	67	Tangalle		047-2240122
31	Kalmunei	067-2223710	68	Tissamaharama		047-2239611
32	Kalutara	034-2222017	69	Trincomalee		026-2226328
33	Kandy	081-2388978	70	Valaichchenai		065-2258349
34	Kantale	026-2234521	71	Vavuniya		024-2221863
35	Kebithigollewa	025-2298101	72	Walasmulla		047-2245566
36	Kegalle	035-2231790	73	Warakapola		037-2277075
37	Kekirawa	025-2263536	74	Wariyapola		037-268199
			75	Welimada		057-2244860

76	Wellawaya	055-2274466
77	Mallakam	021-2059170
78	Puttalam	032-2266636
79	Borella	011-2698003
80	Dehiaththakandiya	027-2250700
81	Siyambalanduwa	055-2279250
82	Galagedara	081-2061025
83	Wattala	011-2935907
84	Hettipola	037-2291915

