

රජයේ ප්‍රවෘත්ති දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව

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

அரசாங்க தகவல் திணைக்களம்

பாராளுமன்றத்தின் அரசு கணக்குக் குழுவினால் முன்வைக்கப்பட்ட
அறிக்கை தொடர்பாக நிலையியற் கட்டளை இலக்கம் 119 (4) இன் கீழ்
கௌரவ அமைச்சரின் அவதானிப்புக்களையும் மற்றும் அது தொடர்பாக
எடுக்கப்படும் நடவடிக்கைகளையும் பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பித்தல்.

Department of Government Information

Submission of Observations of Hon Minister And Steps Taken With Regard
To The Reports Tabled By The Committee On Public Accounts In Terms of
Standing Order No-119(4)

Submission of observation with regard to the reports tabled by the Committee on Public Account in terms of Standing Order No.119 AND the steps taken in that regard.

Parliamentary Series No: 183

Name of the Organization: Department of Government Information

Deficiencies identified in the Financial and Performance Evaluation for the year 2019	Actions taken by the organization to rectify the deficiencies and the current status
1. The register of damages has not been updated	Updated up to 31.12.2022
2. Answers were not submitted for every audit query of the Auditor General	Audit queries could not be answered within a month due to the emergency situation arising out of the Covid pandemic. Arrangements have now been made to provide replies to the audit query on the due dates.
3. After 2018.08.01, copies of Internal Audit Reports had not been submitted to the Department of Management Audit in terms of subsection 40(4) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.	Since there is no internal auditor in the department, no Internal Auditor Reports have been issued.
4. Copies of internal audit reports were not submitted to the Auditor General as per F.R134(2)	Since there is no internal auditor in the department, no Internal Auditor Reports have been issued.
5. Reports of the Board of Survey carried out in accordance with the public Finance Circular No. 5/2016 dated 31.03.2016, were not submitted to the Auditor General on the due date.	The final report of the board of survey related to 31.12.2020 has been forwarded to the Auditor General on 25.02.2022.
6. The recommendations on excesses, shortages and other recommendations from the annual board of survey were not implemented within the prescribed periods.	The board of survey related to the year 2022 are currently underway.

7.	According to section 3.1 of provisions in the Public Administration Circular No. 2016/30 dated 29.12.2016, fuel consumption testing were done on the vehicles owned by the institution.	The fuel consumption tests for the year 2020, 2021 were not done due to the issues that arose at that time. In relation to the year 2023, fuel consumption testing are scheduled to be accomplished in the future.
8.	Settlements, which were revealed by Bank Reconciliation Statements, in respect of balances which should have been adjusted were not made in accordance with the Financial Regulations.	Settled.
9.	After utilization of the provision made for a subject of expenditure in terms of Finance Regulation 94 (1), the remaining provision had been committed beyond the approved limits.	Due to the emergency situation caused by the outbreak of Covid pandemic, the department had to enter into obligations beyond the provisions under certain expenditure subjects in fulfilling its role. In subsequent years arrangements have been made to meet the liabilities without exceeding the provisions except for unavoidable reasons. I would like to inform you that measures will be taken to avoid such occurrence in the future.
10.	Outstanding loan balances persisted for more than a year	<p>Debt balances to be recovered from officers who left the service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Loan balance due</p> <p>Mr. O.C.L.De Silva Property Rs. 123,475.00</p> <p>Mr. M. Ariyaratne Distress Rs. 56,265.00</p> <p>The details and copies of documents in relation to the recovery of the property loan balance amounting Rs 123475.00 of Mr. O.C.L.De Silva who left the service in 1997 and Distress Loan balance amounting Rs.56,265.00 of Mr. M. Ariyaratna who left the service in 2001, have been forwarded to the Attorney General's Department by now. Further actions will be taken after receiving the Attorney General's instruction.</p>
11.	In respect of overdue deposits in the General Deposit Account, actions as per Financial Regulations 571 have not been taken.	The overdue deposit is the retention amount related to the New Media Building construction contract. The retention money has not been released as action is being taken for the recovery of losses in this regard.
12.	Ad hoc interim imprest issued under Financial Regulation 371 were not settled within one month of completion.	Some of the tasks assigned to the department, such as documentary film production, take some time due to their nature. There will be delays in the settlement of the advance obtained till the completion of those works. Usually the balance is settled immediately after the work-related expenses are completed. In the case of works such as documentary film production, it also takes extra time to finish the editing and release the final product and hence there is some a delay in submitting bills and advance payment vouchers.

	Furthermore, efforts are being made to prevent such situations by constantly checking the advance documents and informing the respective officials to settle the unpaid advances.
13. The performance report to be submitted to the Parliament for the year under review was not submitted on the due date	The performance reports for the years 2020 and 2021 have been submitted to the Auditor General. Performance Report 2022 is presently being prepared.
14. The organization had not identified sustainability goals in terms of its scope	A committee has been appointed to identify sustainability goals and necessary works are being done.
15. Performance targets were not set to measure achievement of the identified sustainability goals.	Necessary works are being done according to above 14.
16. Specific parties involved in achieving the organization's sustainability goals were not identified.	Necessary works are being done according to above 14.
17. The details of the two representatives to be appointed for the coordination of sustainable development activities to be accomplished in accordance with the provisions of circular No. MSDW/08/65 dated 27.04.2018, were not reported to the ministry.	Necessary works are being done according to above 14.
18. The Citizen/ Client Charter was not properly prepared and implemented	Not yet prepared.
19. The organization had not developed a system to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Citizen/Client Charter.	Not yet prepared.
20. There was no properly prepared human resource plan in accordance with the Public Administration provisions.	Not yet prepared.
21. A minimum training of at least 12 hours per year per employee was not stipulated by the prepared HR plan.	Not yet prepared.
22. Performance Agreements covering the entire staff were not prepared and contracted	The signing of the agreement has not been done so far.

23. There was no senior officer nominated in the organization to prepare human resource development plans and implement capacity and skill development programs.	No official has been nominated so far.
24. The number of training opportunities provided was less than 50% of the planned training opportunities	Providing training opportunities to the maximum possible capacity due to the need to cut costs for controlling the cost.
25. The shortcomings / faults pointed out by the Auditor General in sections had not been rectified	Due to the prevailing situation in the country, it was not possible to correct some of the deficiencies pointed out by the Auditor General. These shortcomings/faults will be corrected in the future.
26. According to the budget circular, at least three output indicators were not identified and documented	Three output indicators were not identified for 2020 according to the Budget Circular.
27. 03 main indicators were not identified regarding the role played by the organization.	This could not be recorded due to a mistake. For the year 2020, more than 3 key performance indicators (18 specific indicators) were identified in relation to the role played by the institution.
28. Achievement of the first identified performance indicator was below 50% Achievement of the second identified performance indicator was below 50% Achievement of the third identified performance indicator was below 50%	Most of the identified performance indicators were reached to the 50%-100% level. Allocation restrictions and Covid-19 effects have affected the decline in other indicators.

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