

පාර්ලිමේන්තු ප්‍රකාශන මාලා අංකය: 290

ආයතනයේ නම: එතු නිවාස හා ප්‍රජා යටිතල පහසුකම් රාජ්‍ය අමාත්‍යාංශය

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

பாராளுமன்ற வெளியீட்டுத் தொடர் இலக்கம்: 290

நிறுவனத்தின் பெயர்: தோட்ட வீடமைப்பு மற்றும் சமுதாய உட்கட்டமைப்பு
வசதிகள் இராஜாங்க அமைச்சு

பாராளுமன்றத்தின் அரசு கணக்கு குழுவினால் முன்வைக்கப்பட்ட அறிக்கை தொடர்பாக நிலையியற் கட்டளை-இலக்கம்-119(4) இன் கீழ் கௌரவ அமைச்சரின் அவதானிப்புக்களும் அது தொடர்பாக எடுக்கப்படும் நடவடிக்கைகளும் பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பித்தல்

Parliamentary Series No : 290

Name of the Institution: **State Ministry of Estate Housing and Community Infrastructure**

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)

Parliamentary Series No. 290

Name of the Institution: State Ministry of Estate Housing and Community Infrastructure

Part I

S/No	Shortcomings identified by the committee/ directives given by the committee.	Action taken by the the Institution to rectify the shortcomings /current status
01	Answers had not been sent to all the audit queries of the Auditor General within one month after receiving such audit queries.	Most of the audit queries submitted by the Auditor General have been answered within a period of less than a month, and some of the audit queries could not be answered within a month due to practical problems. Also, due to the Corona pandemic situation in the year 2021, the arrival of the staff was limited, and it was also a reason for the delay in providing answers. I would like to inform you that we are working to provide answers to the audit queries within a period of less than a month.
02	A suitable liaison officer appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the Circular and the details of the nominated officer were not sent to the Comptroller General's Office in terms of Paragraph 13 of the Asset Management Circular No. 1/2017 dated 26.06.2017.	According to the Asset Management Circular No. 1/2017 dated 26.06.2017, Mrs. V. Arulraja, Senior Assistant Secretary of the Ministry has been appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the Circular and arrangements have been made to inform the Comptroller General on that regard.
03	The relevant reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General by the due date after conducting Board of Survey in accordance with F.R. 756 (6) within the time frame mentioned in paragraph 11.1 of Part 1 of Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 dated 28.08.2020.	A Board of Survey committee was appointed to conduct board of survey work relevant to 31.12.2021 and the relevant work was done, but due to some practical issues arisen, the preparation of the board of survey report was delayed. As a result, it has not been possible to submit the report to the Auditor General on the scheduled date. However, I kindly inform you that as of now, actions are being taken as per the instructions of the Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020.

A.C.M. Nafeel
Secretary

Ministry of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development
No: 45, St. Michael's Road,
Colombo 03.

04	Recommendations regarding the excesses and deficits that were disclosed through the board of survey and other relating recommendations were not carried out within the prescribed periods.	I accept that it was not possible to implement the relevant recommendations within the prescribed period of time due to various practical difficulties that occurred during the relevant period, and I hereby inform that the recommendations will be implemented within the prescribed period of time in the future.
05	The emblem of the state had not been painted on all pool vehicles.	Actions are being taking to paint the emblem of the state on all pool vehicles.
06	Expenditure had been spent exceeding the allocation limit. Liabilities exceeding the provisions that remained at the end of the year had been taken on in terms of F.R. 94 (1).	When marking the Committee on Public Accounts evaluation sheet, the answer confirming that the liabilities have been made exceeding the allocation limit has been selected due to an error in the selection of answers under the allocation utilization, but no payments have been made in excess of the allocation limit in the relevant year.
07	Action had not been taken as per F.R. 571 in relation to overdue deposits in the General Deposit Account.	When releasing retention money related to the development projects, the work on the said projects should be fully completed. However, some projects were not able to complete within such given period. Also, in relation to some projects, submission of requests for release of retention money is delayed. Due to such practical reasons, it was observed that it has not been possible to proceed according to F.R.571. But I would like to inform you that all the deposits that can be released have been dealt with according to F.R. 571. I would like to inform you that only an amount of Rs.5,405,513.87 has been retained in the public deposit account as of 31/12/2023 as the deposit money related to the payments of the final stages of the projects that have not been completed. I kindly inform you that according to the Cabinet decision No. AMA/22/1996/618/045 dated 03 January 2023, the remaining parts of the projects that have not been completed so far will be completed this year and after the completion of those parts, the remaining deposits will also be released.
08	The ad hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 had not been settled within one month from the completion of the task.	The officials have been informed to settle the given imprest advances within one month and I inform you that all the imprest advances obtain at present will be settled within one month after the completion of the work.

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09	Ad hoc sub imprests have been issued exceeding the limit approved as per F.R. 371.	I kindly inform you that Ad hoc sub imprests are issued in relation to the limit of F.R. 371 and no Ad hoc sub imprests will be issued beyond the limit.
10	The staff had been recruited exceeding the approved limits.	Graduate trainees recruited in the year 2019 as phase II and III have been appointed to the posts of grade III in the Development Officers' Service with effect from 01.01.2021. In relation to these appointments, according to the Circular No. CS/DOS/Policy/01/01/(iii) and dated 26.03.2021 of the Secretary of the Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government, it has been informed to obtain the approval of the Director General of Management Services to create new posts as per the Section 06 i of the Circular to the staff unexpectedly attached outside the approved staff. When attaching Graduate Trainees as Development Officers in Public Service, it was approved to attach officers beyond the approved staff limit of the workplaces. For this ministry, 19 posts were approved at that time; however, 175 development officers were attached. However, considering the service requirement of this ministry, the total number of development officer service has been approved as 65, including the 19 posts that were approved based on service requirement. Accordingly, I would like to mention that there is no staff exceeding the approved limit at the time. (A copy of the letter No: DMS/CM/18 dated 29.03.2023 which approved the staff by the Director General of Management Services and a copy of the staff of this division as at 31.12.2023 is attached herewith).


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Part II

S / No	Shortcomings identified by the committee/ directives given by the committee.	Action taken by the the Institution to rectify the shortcomings /current status
01	There were no records maintained to document complaints received about not furnishing information required and to provide explanations on action taken with regard to such complaints.	Currently, a register is maintained to record the appeals filed against information requests. Also, all information request appeals received so far have been completed.
02	Out of the training opportunities planned, the extent of training opportunities granted was less than 50%.	Training programmes could not be held as expected due to the Corona pandemic situation in the country since March 2020. Reasons for this include calling the staff only for essential services due to the travel restrictions imposed within the country and restrictions on gatherings for health reasons. According to the instructions given in the Budget Circular No. 01/2023, only the training opportunities that the officers should participate as per the service minute, recruitment procedures and circular regulations should be provided, so I would like to mention that the compilation of other courses has been temporarily stopped.


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