

Presenting the observation and actions taken by the Honourable Minister to the Parliament under Standing Order No. 119 (4) regarding the reports tabled by the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts.

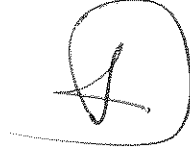
Parliamentary Series No. 290

Name of the Institute: - State Ministry of Container Warehouse Facilities, Container Yards, Port Supply Facilities and Boats and Shipping Industry Development

	Weaknesses identified by the committee	Actions taken to prevent weaknesses/current status
01	The recommendations regarding surpluses, deficiencies and other recommendations revealed in the annual Board of Survey were not implemented within the stipulated period.	The facts and recommendations revealed in the Board of Survey could not be implemented within the stipulated time due to the shortage of human resources in the State Ministry and most of them were implemented after the stipulated time.
02	Letters confirming the ownership of all vehicles are not in possession. State emblems were not painted on all vehicles. A condemned vehicles had not been disposed during a period less than 8 months after condemning such vehicle. Combustion tests of the vehicles owned by the institution had not been made in terms of the provisions mentioned in Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administrative Circular No. 2016/30 dated 29.12.2016. Provisions have been allocated for other institutes outside the due time.	It was not possible to carry out a fuel combustion test due to the shortage of human resources and actions were being taking to conduct the relevant combustion tests after the audit recommendations, however, the State Ministry was closed during the time when the related investigations were being carried out.

03	There were outstanding loan balances dating back more than a year.	The outstanding balances were settled and the remaining loan balances were transferred to the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Aviation.
04	According to the Right for Information Act, no specific officer was appointed to provide information in this institution. No record was maintained detailing the provision/non-provision of information requested by the public. There was no records of complaints regarding non-provision of requested information and records explaining the action taken in that regard.	Due to the shortage of human resources, a specific information officer was not appointed and the particular duties were covered by the Acting Director (Planning). Prescribed registers were maintained and there were no records on public requests for information from the State Ministry as the State Ministry was assigned tasks that did not deal with the public.
05	A website had not been created and maintained to provide the necessary information about the institution to the public. Opportunities were not given for general public to post complains or complements in the website maintained by the institution.	After pointing out this by the audit, the website creation work was being carried out in the initial phase and with the transfer of the functions of the State Ministry to the Cabinet Ministry, the work was abandoned because there was no need of creating a website.
06	The Citizen / Client Charter was not properly prepared and implemented. A system had not been prepared by the institute to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the citizen/client charter of the institution.	There has been a delay in preparing a citizen/client charter due to the lack of human resources.
07	A human resource plan was not properly prepared as per the provisions of the Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated January 24, 2018. A training opportunity of at least 12 hours per year for more than 50 percent of the staff had not been ensured by the HR	The training opportunities provided from the planned training opportunities were limited due to the shortage of human resources arisen owing to mobility restrictions laid down due to Covid Pandemic.

	plan so prepared. The number of training opportunities provided was less than 50% of the planned training opportunities.	
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