

பார்லிமென்තු பூகா஑ன லா஑ா ஂகய - 290

ஂயனனயே நல - ஓவீ அலாநாஂ஑ய

பார்லிமென்துவே ரசயே ஑ீஂஂ பீ஑ீ஑஑ கார்க ஑லாவ வீ஑ீன் ஑லா஑ன கார்க ஑஑ லார்கா ஑மீ஑ன்஑யென் ஑ீலாவர நியே஑ ஂக 119 (4) ய஑னே ஑ர் ஂயனன ஂர் அலாநாவரயா஑ே நிரீ஑்஑ ஂ ஑ஂ ஑஑ன பீயலர் பார்லிமென்துவ லெ஑ ஓ஑ீரீ஑ன் கிரீ஑.

பாரா஑்ரமன்ற அமர்வு இலக்கம் - 290

நிறுவனத்தின் பெயர் - காணீஅமைச்சு

பொதுக் கணக்குகளுக்கான பாரா஑்ரமன்றத்தின் குழுவீனால் பாரா஑்ரமன்றத்தில் ஑மர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்ட அறீக்கைகள் ஑ா஑ர்பில் நிலையீயற் கட்டளை இல. 119 (4) இன் கீழ் நிறுவனத்துக்குப் பொறுப்பு வகீக்கும் கௌரவ அமைச்சரீனால் மேற்கௌள்ளப்பட்ட அவதானங்கள் மற்றும் நடவடிக்கைகள் ஆகீயவற்றை஑ ஑மர்ப்பித்தல்.

Parliament Session Number – 290

Name of the Institute - Ministry of Lands

Submission of the observations and steps taken by the Hon. Minister in charge of the institute under the standing order No 119(4) related to the reports tabled into the parliament by the Committee of Public Accounts (COPA) to the parliament.

Submission of the observations on the report tabled in parliament by the Committee On Public Accounts (COPA) in terms of Standing Order No 119(4) and actions taken thereon.

Parliamentary Series/Session Number – 290

Name of the Institute – Ministry of Lands

	Weaknesses and Deficiencies Identified by the Committee	Actions taken to rectify/current situation
01	Replies has not been provided for the internal audit query within a period of one month .	Orders has been given at the Audit and Management Committee meeting of the Ministry in relation to the audit queries which were exceeded more than one month for provide replies by making discussions.
02	Recommendations on surplus, and deficiencies revealed at annual board of survey and other recommendations also had not been implemented within due period.	Recommendations has been implemented by this time
03	Due actions in terms of FR 103,104,109 and 110 had not been taken in relation to the accidents occurred to the government vehicles.	Awareness has been given for the officers and drivers by identifying methodologies to be followed practically for avoiding mistakes occurred relating to vehicle accidents . A special training programme for targeting drivers had been conducted in the years 2021 and 2023 relating to that and the transport officer has been participated for the on line training programme on transport management which was conducted by Skills Development Fund LTD. Un completed 14 FR investigations has been remained relevant to vehicle accidents as at the year 2021 and 11 out of that has been completed by this time. Conducting FR investigations was delayed due to the practical conditions during the COVID 19 pandemic situation. The deficiencies existed in relation to the vehicle accidents which were attached to the vehicles of the Minister's staff (such as delays in obtaining police reports) are being rectified and future actions are being taken for the remaining accidents. Further,

		I inform that mostly deployed the drivers of the Combined Service for the Minister's staff at present.
04	Fuel combustion test of the vehicles had not been done in terms of the provisions of Public Administration Circular No.2016/30 dated 29.12.2016.	Even though a committee has been appointed in the year 2021 for fuel combustion test , disturbances were arisen to carry on duties due to the COVID 19 pandemic prevailed during the period of 2020 and 2021 . Therefore ,obstacles has been prevailed to carry out the duties continuously. Further, due to the fuel crisis prevailed after that, actions taken to manage the public expenses by minimizing the use of vehicles of the Ministry and as issuance of fuel has been carried out on the National fuel quota license implemented in the year 2013, practical and productivity problems in testing fuel has been arisen. Nevertheless, actions has been taken to carry out fuel combustion test in the year 2024 as suitably.
05	Citizen/Clients Charter had not been prepared properly	Citizen/Clients Charter has been prepared properly as at 29.12.2021 and published in the official web-site of the Ministry. Action has not been taken to display the Citizen Charter physically, which was prepared relating to the Land Ministry , as the problem arisen whether the place to be displayed the Citizen Charter as two other Departments are functioning in the Mihikatha Medura building and the provisions allocated and after that the scope of the Ministry has changed as Tourism and Lands . Necessary actions are being carried out to display the Citizen Charter physically by this time.
06	A methodology has not been prepared by the Institution for supervision and evaluation on the Citizen/Clients Charter of the Institution .	Responsibility of supervision and evaluation has been assigned to all Divisional Heads (Staff Officers)by this time.
07	Preparation of performance agreements and entered into agreement had not been done including all staff.	Performance agreements has been prepared and entered into agreement relating to the year 2022 and 2023 for all staff.

		KH-5694 is currently being carried out by the Ministry of Tourism and Lands.
5.	Action had not been taken in terms of F.R. 103, 104, 109 and 110 with regard to every vehicle accident.	Action has been taken regarding all other accident files involving the department's vehicles except for the NA 9290 file, in accordance with F.R. 103, 104, 109, and 110 as of 31.12.2023. Concerning the NA 9290 vehicle, a committee has been appointed in accordance with the Director General of the Combined Services' directives regarding the disciplinary action against the driver, and the necessary investigation is presently underway.
6.	Fuel consumption of vehicles belonging to the Department had not been tested in terms of the provisions of Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of 29.12.2016.	Due to the policy decisions taken for managing public expenditure in the current situation of the country, the provision allocated for fuel is limited and fuel was released on quota basis for vehicles in the past. Therefore, it was observed that conducting the fuel test through the given method is problematic. As a result, advice has been sought from the Director General of Establishments from my letter No. LCGD/AD/15/81 and dated 20.04.2023 regarding the possibility of conducting the fuel consumption test in a more convenient and cost-effective method that suits the current situation and it will be proceeded according to the instructions given by him.
7.	Balances that are revealed by the findings of Bank Reconciliation Statements and should be adjusted had not been adjusted within a period of one month as per Financial Regulations.	All balances that should have been adjusted have been settled.
8.	Liabilities exceeding the provisions that remained at the end of the year had been taken on in terms of F.R 94 (1)	Debts have not been incurred in excess of the remaining provision after utilization of the provision of the respective year.
9.	Action had not been taken as per F.R.571 in relation to dormant accounts.	As per Cabinet Decision No. AMA/21/0613/322/006 dated 05/04/2021, approval has been granted to be retained unpaid to the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau for the construction of the fourth floor of Mihikata Madura. As

		the construction work of this floor is going on, the deposits are being settled in installments.
10.	The ad hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 had not been settled within one month from the completion of the task.	This weakness could be kept to a very minimal level at present by informing the officials in writing. I would like to inform you that by carrying out follow-up activities, measures will be taken in future to settle the ad hoc sub imprests immediately after completion of the task.
11.	The imprest Reconciliation statement in which the approved imprest account balance is quarterly compared with the treasury books had not been submitted to the Treasury Operations Department before the due date.	Measures have been taken to duly submit the quarterly compared imprest Reconciliation statement to the Treasury Operations Department.
12.	The revenue collected had not been directly credited to the revenue or not been remitted to the Revenue account within a period less than one month having maintained them in the deposit account.	All revenues are credited to the relevant revenue head within the month of collection without any retention in the deposit account.
13.	All members of the staff had not been assigned duties in writing.	Measures have been taken to assign duties in writing to the staff for the year 2024.
14.	Citizen/ client charter had not been prepared or applied properly.	This department which consists the head office and 06 inter-provincial offices and 02 assistant land commissioner offices, plays a special role in state land management. In order to perform the duties of the department, various recommendations and information have to be obtained from other government institutions and departments. In such cases, the letters referring to the same task have to be sent again due to the information not being correctly completed and it takes more time than expected, and also it is not possible to specify the exact time spent. In this background, despite the display of the citizen/client charter of this department, two clients who come for the same work cannot fulfill that requirement within the same period. Therefore, since it is not possible to

		provide a specific time frame related to each work step, and a conflict situation arises by displaying the citizen/client charter, steps have been taken to inform the Auditor General in this regard by letter No. LCGD/AD15/50 and dated 27.11.2023.
15.	A methodology had not been formulated to monitor and evaluate the application of citizen/ client charter by the institution	This department which consists the head office and 06 inter-provincial offices and 02 assistant land commissioner offices, plays a special role in state land management. In order to perform the duties of the department, various recommendations and information have to be obtained from other government institutions and departments. In such cases, the letters referring to the same task have to be sent again due to the information not being correctly completed and it takes more time than expected, and also it is not possible to specify the exact time spent. In this background, despite the display of the citizen/client charter of this department, two clients who come for the same work cannot fulfill that requirement within the same period. Therefore, since it is not possible to provide a specific time frame related to each work step, and a conflict situation arises by displaying the citizen/client charter, steps have been taken to inform the Auditor General in this regard by letter No. LCGD/AD15/50 and dated 27.11.2023.
16.	A human resource plan drafted in keeping with the provisions of public administration Circular No 02/2018 dated 24th January 2018 was not available.	The human resource plan has been prepared and completed in accordance with the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24.01.2018 by December 31, 2023.
17.	The human resource development plan that had been prepared did not ensure at least a minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for more than 50% of the member of the staff.	In the public expenditure management policy, an expenditure estimate of 5 million was allocated for training programs in the year 2023, but only a very limited amount of allocation was granted to the department. Therefore, directing officers for training programs was problematic.
18.	A senior officer of the institution had not been named for the preparation of human	Measures have been taken to appoint a senior officer by the letter no. LCGD/AD/7/01-03 (2021) dated 15.03.2021 to

	resource development plans and to implement capacity and skill development programs.	prepare human resource development plans and to implement capacity and skill development programs.
19.	Out of the training opportunities planned, the extent of training opportunities granted, was less than 50%.	The provisions allocated for training programs in the public expenditure management policy was very limited. Therefore, the provision granted had to be allocated only for the training courses required to complete the seniority as per the service minutes. As a result, the amount of training opportunities available for the entire staff of the department was limited.
20.	The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a disclaimed opinion or an unfavorable opinion.	It is pointed out that the audit opinion related to the year 2021 is a qualified opinion.
21.	The necessary action had not been taken to recover the loss caused to the Government by the officers as per Financial Regulation 156 (1)	All losses have been recovered as per the Financial Regulation 156 (1).

Submission of the observations and steps taken by the Hon. Minister in charge of the institute under the standing order No 119(4) related to the reports tabled into the parliament by the Committee of Public Accounts (COPA) to the parliament.

Parliament Session No : - 290

Name of the Institute : - Land Title Settlement Department

	Defects identified by the committee	Actions taken by the institute to correct the defects
01	Answers to the audit queries of the Auditor General and for internal audit queries had not been submitted within a period of one month.	Actions have been taken to immediately prepare and submit answers for the delayed audit queries by calling and discussing with the relevant divisional heads.
02	copies of internal audit reports to Management Audit Department had not been submitted since after 01.08.2018 as per sub section 40(4) of National Audit Act No 19 of 2018	The former chief internal auditor has been transferred on 07.10.2020 and the current chief internal auditor has report for the duty on 12.10.2021. But since a permanent staff has been provided by the mid of December actions were taken to prepare the relevant Risk List and audit plan during that period. Currently the copies of internal audit queries are being sent to the Management Audit Department.
03	The copies of internal audit reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General as per F.R. 134(3)	Since there was no Chief internal auditor during the relevant time period audit query reports were not issued.
04	The copies of internal audit reports had not been submitted to the Auditor General as per F.R. 134(2)	Since there was no Chief internal auditor during the relevant time period audit query reports were not issued
05	Minimum two meetings of the Audit and Management Committee had not been conducted.	First meeting for the year 2021 was conducted on 27.07.2021 and the final meeting was conducted on 15.12.2021
06	The information about purchases of assets and disposals in year 2018 as per Chapter 7 of Asset Management Circular No.1/2017 dated 26.06.2017, had not been forwarded to the Comptroller General	Actions are being taken by now as per the above circular.
07	The documents to prove the ownership of all the vehicles were not in possession.	The vehicle bearing No.65-0745 is a vehicle owned by United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Actions are being taken by now to

		take over the ownership.
08	The State emblem had not been painted in all the vehicles.	State emblem is painted in all the pool vehicles.
09	Not disposing of vehicles within a period of less than 8 months after condemning.	The Double Cab bearing No.53-0049 has been forwarded to the Ministry of Tourism and Land for conducting the disposal activities.
10	Not updating and maintaining vehicle logbooks	Log books have been updated by now.
11	Proper actions had not been taken regarding state vehicle accidents as per F.R.103, 104,109 and 110.	Proper actions as per F.R. were taken for vehicles bearing No.PC-2375, PF-7866
12	Fuel consumption testing of vehicles owned by the institute as per the provisions mentioned in Chapter 3.1 of Public Administration Circular No.2016/30 dated 29.12.2016, had not been done.	18 vehicles have been completed the fuel testing by now and the fuel testing of the remaining vehicles are being conducted by now.
13	The balances to be adjusted revealed by Bank Reconciliation Statements, had not been settled within a period of one month as per F.R.	Actions are taken to correct within a period of one month as per Financial Regulations.
14	There were outstanding loan balances remaining more than one year.	Loan balance of Rs.19, 546/- of deceased officer Mr.B.L.L.De Silva has been recovered as installments and the loan balance has been completely recovered in September 2022. Loan balance of Rs.197, 178/- of retired officer, Mr. H.K.C.Dias has been recovered from the Pensions Gratuity of April 2022. Suspended Officer Mr.U.G.Jayawardhena Rs. 93, 730/- he has been given mandatory leave from 30.12.2016 and have been suspended from duty from 22.03.2017 with immediate effect. The final report of the formal disciplinary inquiry and the charge sheet have been forwarded to Director General of Combined Services subject to take future actions as per the court decision that will be granted for the charge of bribery being examined in the courts against the officer. Necessary actions will be taken to recover the relevant balance after informed the suitable disciplinary actions by the disciplinary authority.

15	The imprest reconciliation statement which is reconciled quarterly with approved imprest account balances with Treasury books had not been forwarded to the Department of Treasury Operations on the due date.	Has been forwarded to the Department of Treasury Operations since year 2022.
16	Actions had not been taken to identify the changes revealed by the imprest reconciliation statement and rectify the same.	Actions has been taken to rectify from the year 2022.
17	Staff had been recruited beyond the approved limit.	The department has been functioned with vacancies since a while. When filling the questionnaire Evaluation Form Marks 2021, "No" has been filled mistakenly for Sub KPI Level 1 of 01 in part 01, 19. Although actually the answer for it should have been as "Yes". Therefore no recruitment of staff has been made beyond approved limit.
18	Specific officer had not been appointed to provide information in his institute as per Right to Information Act. A register was not maintained including the providing / None Providing of details regarding the Right to Information Act. Documentation of complaints forwarded regarding none providing of the requested information and Registers have not been maintained explaining the actions taken in this regard.	Information Officer has been appointed. Registers are being maintained.
19	Targets to be achieved in order to fulfill identified sustainable objectives had not been determined. Indicators to measure the progress of implementation of identified sustainable objectives were not defined..	As a target in relation to the objective " 1.4 confirming equal rights to access all the persons including specially the persons who suffering from poverty and the persons at risk to economic resources, basic services ,land ownership and controlling and other type of property ownerships, natural resources, suitable new technology and financial services including micro finance as at the year 2023 and as the indicator therein 1.4.2- Total

		adult population with legally reputed documents and secured land ownerships according to the gender type" also connected to the Department. In relation to the above objective, the target to be achieved during the period up to year 2023 by this Department is to grant a title certificate under the full responsibility of the government for declaring title to the actual heirs by confirming ownership of lands on the number of cadastral maps surveyed by the Survey Department.
20	Citizen/Client Charter had not been formulated and implemented.	Citizen/Client Charter has been prepared by this time.
21	A methodology had not been prepared by the Institution for the supervision and evaluation of implementation of the Citizen/Client Charter of the Institution	A methodology for supervision and evaluation has been prepared by this time.
22	A properly prepared human resource plan according to the provisions of Public Administration Circular No.02/2018 had not been prepared.	Human Resource Development Plan has been prepared.
23	A minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for 50% of the staff, has not been ensured by the human resource plan prepared.	The training plan also prepared and included in the aforesaid Human Resource Development Plan. Capacity building programmes is being carried out as planned for the field officers and office staff.
24	Performance Agreements including entire staff had not been prepared and not entered into agreement.	Even though it had not been prepared for the year 2021, has been prepared for 2023.
25	A senior officer had not been nominated in the Institution to prepare Human Resource Development Plans and to implement capacity and skill development Programmes.	It has been informed to the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government by nominating an officer.
26	The amount of training opportunities given out of planned training opportunities was less than 50 %.	Training opportunities are being provided on the provisions received according to the training plan prepared and the imprest released.
27	The audit opinion on the account of the Institution was at a disclaimer level or adverse level.	The audit opinion of the Institution is a qualified opinion and true and fair opinion has been received for the year 2022.
28	Declaration of assets and liabilities has not been submitted by all officers .	The officers who had not submitted Declaration of assets and liabilities have been made aware in writing.

29	Recoveries have not been done in terms of FR 156(1) for the losses occurred by officers to the government.	When filling the questionnaire Evaluation Form Marks 2021, "Yes " has been filled mistakenly for Sub KPI Level 1 of 2 in part 02,11 .Although actually the answer for it should have been as "Yes"of Sub KPI Level 2 of 2.1 Therefore such loss has not been occurred.
30	Action had not been taken to transfer out properly the officers who were completed maximum service period.	It is being implemented from the year 2023 according to the internal transfer methodology for Development Officer, Title Investigation Officer approved by Public Service Commission dated 02.05.2023.

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

Parliamentary Series No :290

Name of the Institution :Land Use Policy Planning Department

Shortcomings identified in the Financial and Performance evaluation	Action taken to rectify the shortcomings/ current status
01. Documents to confirm ownership of all vehicles were not in possession. Action had not been taken in terms of F.R. 103, 104, 109 and 110 with regard to every vehicle accident	The ownership of 02 vehicles bearing numbers PJ 6947 and PJ 6948 is with this department and these 02 vehicles have been purchased under finance lease and the absolute right belongs to the Bank of Ceylon until the installments are paid and after the payment is completed, it should be taken over in the name of this department. Also PK 7040 and PK7050 have been purchased through the treasury under the finance lease method. After the installments are paid, the ownership can be transferred in the name of this department. Accordingly, all the other vehicles (28) have been taken over and completed in the name of the Director General of the department. Due to the Covid pandemic that arose in 2020 and the subsequent economic crisis and fuel shortage, public sector leave was given, and officials were sent to work on a rotate basis due to disruptions in the movement of officials. Re. 103, 104, 109 There was some delay in the process of conducting and completing the investigations and I kindly inform you that the work has been completed by now.

Submission of observations and actions taken regarding the report submitted to Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts as per the Standing Order No. 119(4) Parliamentary Series No. 290

Name of the institution – Survey Department Of Sri Lanka

Shortcomings identified in the financial and performance appraisal for the financial year

Action taken to rectify such shortcomings/current situation

Part one : 79.00

01. In delegation of financial authority, authority has not been delegated so that every transaction was subject to scrutiny of at least two officers	As per the letter of delegation of financial authority, in every time it has been done in a way that it was subject to scrutiny of at least three persons. Although, the delegation of power and approval has been given with the same post in unavoidable cases, voucher approvals by the officer who delegates power has never taken place.
02. Each audit query submitted by the Auditor General was not replied within a month	Although replying for each audit query was not so delayed, when auditing of divisional offices and obtaining replies from them through superintendent of survey through provincial surveyor general through additional surveyor general (field), there will be some delays.
03. Responses for internal audit queries have not been submitted within a month.	Although more than one month period have not been taken to respond for each internal audit query, in submission of audit queries of divisional offices, since they should have to be done having sent them to the superintendent of surveys through the district senior superintendent of surveys through the provincial surveyor general and through the additional surveyor general (field) and obtaining of responses in the same order, there has been some delay.
04.. Ownership confirmation letters of all vehicle are not in possession	1. The number of vehicles owned by the department is 318 and it is kindly informed that the department currently has ownership confirmation letters for all the other vehicles other than one vehicle. Similarly, the engine number and chassis number of the vehicle bearing number 32-6741 have been erased and it is kindly informed that documents required to transfer the registered ownership to us having confirmed the number, have been referred to the Department of Motor Traffic.(Annexure 01)
05. The state emblem had not been painted on all the vehicles	1. It is kindly informed that necessary arrangements are being made to print the state emblem and the official name of the department in three languages in all the vehicles of this department. It is kindly informed that proper procurement activities are being carried out for that.
06. A vehicle had not been disposed in less than 8 months after condemnation.	Although a time period has been mentioned that a vehicle should be disposed within less than 08 months after condemnation, in taking action under several steps (appointing of inspection boards/assessment boards, obtaining approval from the ministry, cancellation of registration of vehicles, calling for bids, etc.) since it takes considerable time to obtain decisions of respective boards, it has not been possible to carry out the affairs within the prescribed periods. However, by now all the vehicles have been auctioned.
07. Work has not been assigned in writing to all in	By now, work has been assigned in writing to all in the staff.