

Name of the Institution: Ministry of Transport

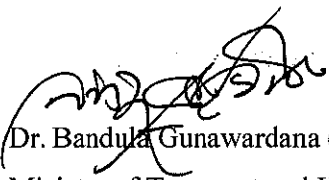
Part One : 93:00		
S.N.	Shortcomings pointed out by the Committee	Actions taken and actions expected to be taken by the institution
1	Documents to confirm ownership of all vehicles were not in possession.	The registration certificates of all vehicles registered in the name of the Ministry of Transport are in the custody of the Transport Division. The Transport Division has photocopies of registration certificates pertaining to vehicles attached to this Ministry from other agencies. Also, the activities of taking over vehicles from other institutions are being carried out.
2	The emblem of the state had not been painted on all pool vehicles.	Every vehicle under this ministry has a sign displaying the state emblem and the name of the ministry in all three languages. Also, action is being taken to display the state emblem on the vehicles on which the state emblem has not been displayed.
3	Condemned vehicles had not been disposed of within a period of less than 8 months after condemning.	Before disposing of the condemned vehicles, the possibility of providing them for the use of educational or other institutions is looked into and accordingly, the necessary arrangements have been made by now to provide the vehicle bearing No. 14 Sri 0551 for the educational activities of the students studying for the engineering degree of the University of Jaffna. For the said purpose, the registration of the vehicle has been canceled and the vehicle is to be taken by University of Jaffna.
4	Loan balances in arrears for over 1 year had not been settled	There are 3 outstanding loan balances due from the retired and dismissed officers who served at this Ministry. Mr. A. W. A. U. J. Alahakoon - Rs.198,138/= Mr. H.M. Bandara - Rs. 87,600/=

		Mrs. P.W.M.P.Podimanike - Rs. 121,945/= ● Mr. A. W. A. U. J. Alahakoon has appealed to the Public Service Commission on 21.07.2020 against the dismissal order. The appeal has been dismissed by the Public Service Commission on 03.08.2021 and against that decision the appellant has appealed to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Pending the decision of the same, the personal file has been sent to the Public Service Commission and on 09.03.2022 and it has been forwarded to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. The Administrative Appeals Tribunal has not yet issued a decision. Debt recovery is on hold pending a decision from the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. ● The Attorney General was informed on 14.12.2018 for the purpose of recovering the outstanding loan balance from Mr. H.M. Bandara, and a case has been filed on 14.10.2021 under case number DMR 3212/2021. The summoning related to that case was due on 27.06.2023 and the accused, Mr. H.M.Bandara was informed to appear in court. But on that day, Mr. H.M. Bandara did not appear in the court and it was verbally stated on the day of the trial that the Attorney General's Department would inform in writing the instructions related to the subsequent court proceedings. ● Mrs. P.W.M.P.Podimanike Mrs. P.W.M.P.Podimanike appealed against the dismissal to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, and the said appeal was dismissed by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on 14.06.2023 due to Ms. P.W.M.P.Podimanike's failure to appear before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on 03 consecutive occasions. Also the grace period given by the Ministry to pay the
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		loan balance ended on 30.06.2023. Accordingly, on 10.08.2023, the matter has been referred to the Attorney General's Department for recovery of the outstanding loan balance. Meanwhile, on 10.10.2023, Mrs. P.W.M.P.Podimanike requested approval to pay in Rs.1000/= instalments but the Ministry did not give approval for the same. Accordingly, the Attorney General's Department will pursue actions related to the recovery of the loan balance.
5	Ad hoc sub imprests had been issued exceeding the limit approved as per F.R. 371	Ad hoc sub imprests are issued within the limit approved as per F.R. 371
6	The staff had been recruited/attached exceeding the approved limits	In the years 2021 and 2022, according to the policies of the then government, about 50,000 graduates were recruited for public service. Out of the graduates thus recruited, as per the request of the Ministry, about 55 Development Officers were assigned to this Ministry. Through the National Council for Road Safety under the Ministry, development officers were recruited to be assigned to the district secretariats, and therefore this has caused the staff limit to exceed. However, the number of Development Officers who are in service is in compliance with the number of staff approved by the Department of Management Services for the Ministry of Transport and Highways. Accordingly, the staff is currently maintained within the approved limit.

Part Two : 63.00		
7	Shortcomings pointed out by the Committee	Actions taken and actions expected to be taken by the institution
8	Citizen/ client charter had not been prepared or applied properly.	Citizen/ client charter has been prepared as per P.A.C. 05/2018
9	A methodology had not been formulated to monitor and evaluate the application of citizen/ client charter by the institution.	An evaluation of the said kind is to be implemented as per the Citizen/client Charter which has been prepared.
10	A human resource plan properly prepared in keeping with the provisions of public administration Circular No. 02/2018 dated 24 th January 2018 was not available.	Also, as of now, the human resource development plan has been prepared for the year 2022-2025 as per P.A.C. 02/2018.
11	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.	During the period from 2020 to 2022, the COVID epidemic spread in the world and in Sri Lanka, and in the year 2021, the very precarious varieties including that of Delta spread severely and rapidly. Accordingly, due to the rapid spread of the Covid epidemic, officials' attendance to offices had been restricted due to the need for maintenance of distance and ensuring personal safety, and office work was conducted through the online system. Therefore, as per the health guidelines, it was not possible to conduct training programs in the year 2020 and 2021.
12	Performance agreements covering the entire staff had not been drafted or entered.	Signing of performance agreements covering the whole staff. Some officers had been late in giving their performance agreements due to the restriction of attendance to offices in

		the year 2021 owing to the Covid pandemic. However, as of now, all officers are giving their performance agreements properly.
13	A senior officer of the institution had not been named for the preparation of human resource development plans and to implement capacity and skill development programmes.	Under the appointment of a senior officer to implement skill development programs, the said responsibilities had been assigned to the Senior Assistant Secretary (Administration) through the duty list of the year 2021.
14	The audit opinion about the accounts of the institution had been a disclaimed opinion or an unfavorable opinion.	I wish to inform that action will be taken to collectively act towards overcoming the deficiencies in order to improve the audit opinion on the accounts of the Ministry to a favorable opinion.


Dr. Bandula Gunawardana (P.M.)
Minister of Transport and Highways

2024.04.14