

ආයතනයේ නම : වන සංරක්ෂණ දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව

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

නிறுவනத்தின் பெயர் : வனப் பாதுகாப்புத் திணைக்களம்

பாராளுமன்றத்தின் அரசாங்கக் கணக்குகள் பற்றிய குழுவினால்  
சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்ட அறிக்கை தொடர்பில் நிலையியற் கட்டளை 119(4)  
இன் கீழ் கௌரவ அமைச்சரின் அவதானிப்புகளையும் எடுத்த  
நடவடிக்கைகளையும் பாராளுமன்றத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பித்தல்.

**Name of the institution: Department of Forest Conservation**

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)

| Weaknesses pointed out by the financial and progress review report submitted for the financial year 2021.                                                                                                                                                                   | Actions taken for that / Present status                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <b>Section 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1. Non maintenance of an updated list of fixed assets.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | ➤ Fixed assets of the Department have been included to the CIGAS Programme. As per the instructions given by the Ministry of Finance the list of fixed assets has been maintained by the CIGAS Programme.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2. Non maintenance of the updated list of losses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ➤ There are large number of branches / sub offices under the Department of Forest Conservation. The relevant Officers are instructed to inform the head office if any losses/damages occur under F.R.102 immediately. Accordingly the list of losses /damages maintained at the Head offices is updated.                                                                                                   |
| 3. Each and every Audit Query produced by the Auditor General were not answered with in one month.                                                                                                                                                                          | ➤ Most of the audit queries were related to Regional offices, Divisional Forest offices and various Divisions. Hence, it takes some time to collect those information. As a result, it is impossible to answer audit queries practically within the period of one month. It is expected to answer the audit queries within a minimum time period.                                                          |
| 4. Details regarding the purchased assets and disposed items in 2018 have not been produced to the Comptroller General's office as per the paragraph 07 of the Assets Management circular Number 01/2017 dated 26.06.2017                                                   | ➤ Details Regarding purchased assets and disposed items in Financial year 2023 were produced to the Comptroller General's office and this process will be continued.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 5. A suitable person has not been appointed to coordinate the implementation of provisions of the Assets Management Circular Number 01/2017 dated 26.06.2017 as per the paragraph 13 of the circular and .it has not been informed to the Comptroller General's office too. | ➤ An officer has been appointed to register and provide information to the relevant information system. This has ben informed to the Comptroller General's office.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 6. Relevant reports have not been submitted to the Auditor General by the given date after completing the Board of Surveys as per the F.R.756(6) within the time frame given in the paragraph 11.1 of the State Accounts Circular                                           | ➤ Due to Economic, Social and political conflicts prevailed in the country during year 2022,office work was not implemented properly and the attendance of the officers was not usual. Due to Fuel crisis, officers were unable to carryout Board of surveys in regional offices by due date. As a result , it was unable to complete board of surveys by due date. However , the relevant report has been |

submitted to the Auditor General on 31.03.2022. Actions have been taken to complete Board of Surveys without any delay and submit relevant reports by due dates in the future.

7. Recommendation regarding excess/deficits revealed at the annual Board of Surveys & Other Recommendations have not been implemented with in given period of time.

➤ Although it was unable to implement these recommendations within given period of time, recommendation regarding excess/deficits revealed at the annual Board of Surveys and other recommendations have been implemented later. These recommendations will be implemented with in given period of time in the future.

8. State Logo Has not been Painted on the fleet of vehicles.

➤ Actions have been taken to paint State logo on the fleet of vehicles that belong to the Department.

9. A condemned Vehicle has not been disposed with in a period of less than 08 months.

➤ Action were taken to complete disposal work with in a minimum period of time. It is expected to dispose condemned vehicles within a period of less than 08 months in the future.

10. Log books have not been updated and maintained for each vehicle.

➤ Log Books of the fleet of Vehicles that belong to the Department Will be Updated and maintained since 2024.

11. Actions have not been taken regarding vehicle accidents occurred to the State vehicles as per the F.R.103,104,109 & 110.

➤ Action are being taken regarding all vehicle accidents as per the. Provisions.of the F.R.

12. Tests Regarding Fuel Consumption of vehicles have not been carried out as per the paragraph 3.1 of the pub.Ad. circular Number 2016/30 dated 29.12.2016

➤ Action have been taken to check fuel consumption of the fleet of vehicles that belong to the Department since year 2023.

13. Bank Reconciliation Statements have not been prepared by due date and have not been submitted for audit purposes after certification.

➤ Due to an issue occurred regarding the updating of CIGAS programme a delay was occurred during first Quarter of the year. Later on these statements were submitted on due day. It was instructed to the Regional Officers to prepare Bank Reconciliation Statements by due dates and submit via e.mail for Audit purposes since year 2024.

14. Balances that have to be adjusted as revealed by bank reconciliation statements have not been cleared within one month as per the Financial Regulations.

➤ Balances that have to be adjusted as revealed by bank reconciliation statements were adjusted later on although it was unable to do it on time. Instructions were given to the officers to adjust these balances on time since the financial year 2023.

15. Expenditures have been made exceeding the allocation limits.

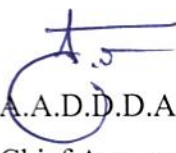
➤ Expenditures have not been made exceeding the allocation limits. When it was needed allocations were transferred as required according to the provisions of the Financial Regulations.

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| deficit loan balances more than one                                                                          | ➤ Always actions were taken to recover those deficit loan balances of the Advance B account from guarantors/ pension or death gratuity. Otherwise, actions were taken to recover them through legal actions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 17. Actions were not taken regarding expired deposits in the General Deposit Account as per the F.R. 571.    | ➤ Most of the identified, unclaimed general deposits that exceed 02 years in the General Deposit Account have been credited to the State income in the year 2023. Unclaimed guarantees for land requests have been credited to the State Account after completing 10 years from the date of deposit. Further, unclaimed deposits for project funds too have been credited to the State Account after 02 years after completing the job. Instructions were given to the officers to prepare lists of all expired deposits biannually from year 2024. |
| 18. Interim imprests issued as per F.R. 371 have not been cleared within one month after completing the job. | ➤ All the Interim imprests have been cleared in the financial year 2021 although it took a somewhat longer period. Actions have been taken to clear all interim imprests within one month after completing the job.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 19. Actions have not been taken to submit annual performance report to the parliament on time                | ➤ It was unable to collect relevant information Required for the preparation of annual Performance report 2021 due to the economic ,social and political crisis prevailed in the country from the April 2022 and malfunctioning of government offices. When the draft was submitted to the ministry it was amended and after amendments wee made it was submitted to the ministry on 15.03.2023 to be presented to the parliament .The Parliamentary Sectoral Oversight committee discussed this on 23.05.2023                                      |
| 20. Have made recruitments exceeding the approved cadre.                                                     | ➤ Have not made recruitments exceeding the approved cader.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## Section 2

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| 1. Non maintenance of registers recording complaints that made regarding non supply of requested information and the actions taken regarding them. | ➤ Action are being taken to maintain registers that record complaints regarding non supply of information requested and the actions taken regarding them from the Financial year 2024 ,according to the Rights to information ACT. |
| 2. Non availability of a web site that provide information to the General Public.                                                                  | ➤ A web site has been developed by the Department to provide Information to the General Public .Action are beaing taken to update this web site using the available funds and allocation.                                          |

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| opportunity was not given to the general public to make complaints or through the web site.                     | ➤ Actions will be taken to facilitate general public to make complaints or compliments after updating the web site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 4. Only less than 50% of the planned training opportunities were given to the staff.                            | ➤ Although actions were taken to implement prepared action plan in year 2021, covid-19 pandemic started to spread again over the country and blocked the training pathway. Online training programs were completed. In 2024, training programs were prepared covering 12 hours training to each and every employee. Those plans were altered slightly depending on the allocation received for training. |
| 5. The auditor's opinion regarding the accounts of the institute is not satisfactory or unfavorable.            | ➤ Actions are being taken to bring the auditor's opinion regarding the Accounts of the Department to a favorable level in year 2024.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6. Recommendations given in the Auditor General's Report were not implemented.                                  | ➤ Actions were taken to implement recommendations given in the Auditor General's Report from year 2023.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 7. Damages caused to the Government by the officers were not recovered as per the F. R. 156(1).                 | ➤ Actions are being taken to recover losses/ damages caused to the government by the officers from the year 2024 as per the provisions of the F. R.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8. Actions have not been taken to given transfers to the officers who have completed maximum period of service. | ➤ Transfers of All Island Services and Combined Services are handled by the Ministry of Public Administration. Actions have been taken to Transfers Departmental officers under the annual transfers.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

  
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