ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

2023

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DEPARTMENT OF EXPORT AGRICULTURE

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries

2023

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வருடாந்த செயலாற்றுகை அறிக்கை

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

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DEPARTMENT OF EXPORT AGRICULTURE

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விவசாய மற்றும் பெருந்தோட்டக் கைத்தொழில் அமைச்சு

Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries

Content

Chapter – 01

Institutional Profile / Summary of Implementation

1.1. Introduction

Even though Sri Lanka had secured a reputation for Spice since the ancient times, a national level focus was made on this industry by the National Agriculture Policies of 1971.Subsequently,the Department of Minor Crops was established affiliated to the Ministry of Plantations through a Cabinet Memorandum in 1972. In 1975, this department was brought under the purview of the Ministry of Agriculture. Instead of the cultivation of spice in the bordering lands which had been the function of the department then, the Department of Export Agriculture became the navigator of export development based on the spice related crops development with the assignment of a part of the functions of the Crops Diversification Development Programme initiated by the World Food Programme (WFP) and United nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Department was renamed as the Department of Export Agriculture by the Parliamentary Act No.46 of 1992 by which the department was vested with the legal authority relating to the export of spice and agricultural crops. From that point, this department has been operating field researches as well as development activities, Accordingly, being the expert in this sector, the department facilitates the relevant stakeholders in this sector for its development and expansion, through an island wide network.

The Department of Export Agriculture mainly aims to promote the export of Spice Crops such as Cinnamon, Pepper, Cloves, Nutmeg, Cardamom, Coffee, Cocoa, Betel leaves, Areaca nut, Vanilla, Citrus, Lemongrass, Garcinia, Ginger and Turmeric as Beverage Crops and Stimulant Crops. Accordingly, the responsibility of the department is to increase the area of Export Agricultural Crops and productivity of the existing crops, department activities such as promotion of post harvest technology and introducing new varieties, introducing new technical knowledge and innovations to the Export Agriculture Sector. Even though the crop of cinnamon came under another department, the Department of Export Agriculture proceeded with its cinnamon development and research programmes planned for the year 2023.

Accordingly entire departmental capital investment programs were implemented with a provision of Rupees 437.00 million allocated directly to the department for the year 2023 by the budget. 20

In order to achieve the departments main goal of increasing export income by increasing the volume of production, attention was paid to increase the cultivated area annually and special attention was paid in 2023 to obtain higher market advantages by increasing the Value Added Products of Export Crops.

Even amidst the effects of climatic changes and market prices in the year 2023, it was possible to achieve an increase in the export income at Rupees 157,423.36 million which had been Rs. 149,050.41 in the year 2022.

1.2. Vision, mission and the objectives of the department

Vision

Excellence in the spice and allied products

Mission

Planning and implementing the research and development process necessary for a quantitative and qualitative promotion of export agri – crops and eco secure manner with the prime motive of the increased foreign exchange earning and the sustainable economic and social development of all stakeholders involved in the sector of export agri- crops.

Objectives

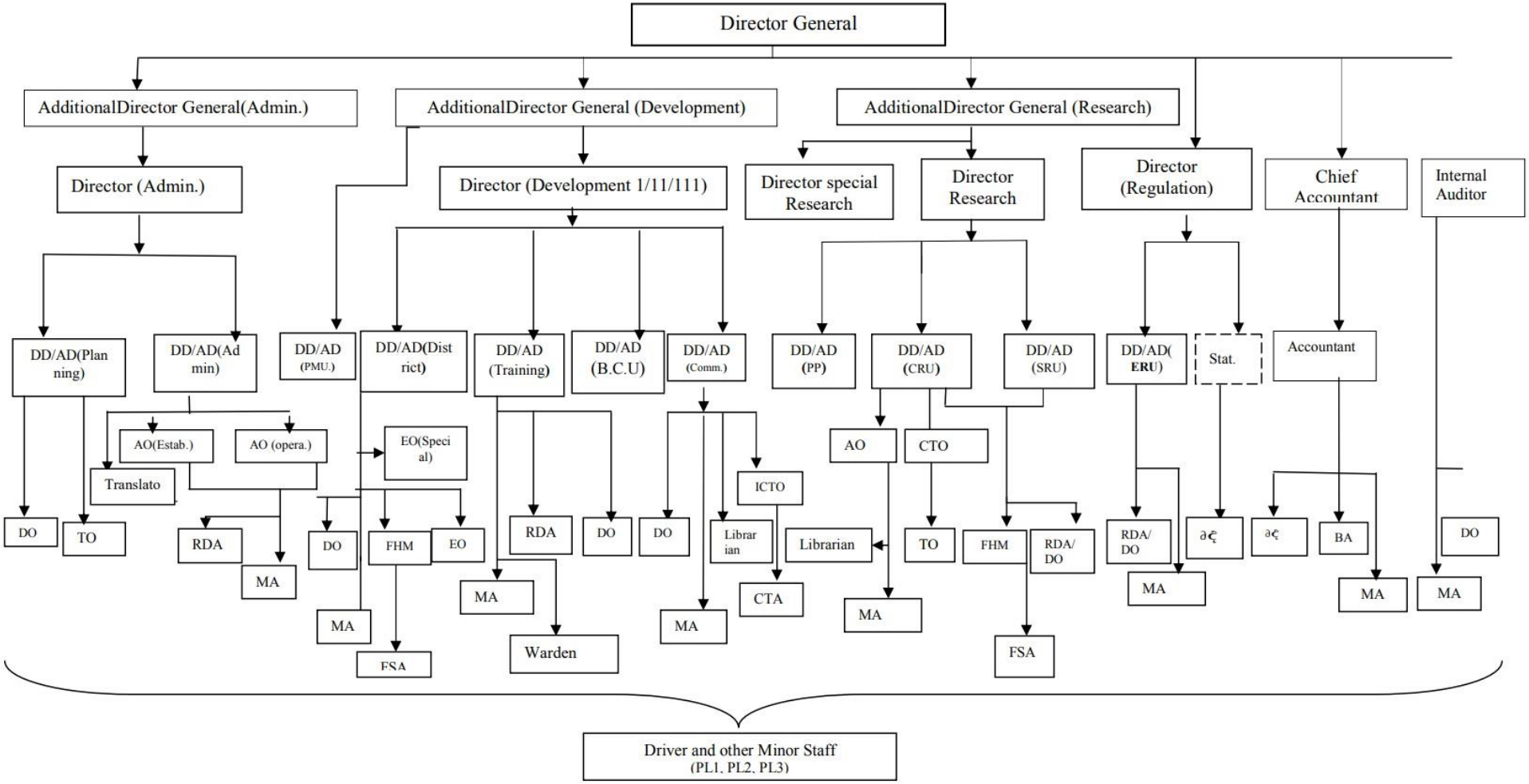
Development of export agri crops sector paving way for a high foreign exchange earnings through the enhancement of the Quality of the product by increasing the export volume.

1.3. Major functions

The Promotion of Export Agriculture Crops Act No. 46 dated 22nd September, 1992 of Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, embodies and gives statutory status to the functions and services mentioned below.

- Organizing and promotion of cultivation and processing of EACs
- Undertaking multidisciplinary research on crop improvement, crop husbandry, crop protection, post-harvest handling and socio economics
- Production and supply of quality planting material
- Implementation of EAC assistant schemes on crop production, productivity improvement and quality improvement
- Providing crop protection advisory services
- Promotion of Integrated Pest Management
- Promotion of Integrated Plant Nutrient Management
- Promotion of Organic Farming
- Dissemination of information on marketing, quality standards and prices etc.
- Control of importation of EAC products and planting materials etc.
- Training of personals involved in EAC production, processing and trading
- Providing advisory services for the promotion of EACs in estate sector
- Strengthening of the linkages among public and private organizations involved with EACs
- Executive authority vested under the Export Agriculture Act No. 46 of 1992
- Contributing towards EACs related policy matters in other governmental organizations
- Maintenance of technological demonstrations

1.4. Organizational Chart



DD-Deputy Director AD-Assistant Director PMU-Progress Monitoring Unit PP-Plant Protection CRU- Central Research Unit SRU-Sub Research Unit ERU-Economic Research Unit Stat-Statistician AO -Administrative Officer EO-Extension Officer RDO-Research & Development Officer DO-Development Officer CTO-Chief Technical Officer TO-Technical Officer FHM-Farm House Manager BA-Budget Assistant MA- Management Assistant FSA-Farm Service Assistant CDEO- Computer Data Entry Operator

1.5. Main Divisions of the Department and Instaurations under the Department

1.5.1 Main Divisions of the Department

1. Development Division
2 .Research Division
3. Administrative Division
4. Financial Division

1.5.2. Expansion of District offices, research centers and nurseries of the department

Distribution of District Offices

- Seventeen offices distributed in the following districts of the country as follows.

Central Province	- Kandy, Matale and Nuwara-Eliya
Sabaragamuwa Province	- Kegalle and Ratnapura
Uva Province	- Badulla and Monaragala
Southern Province	- Galle, Matara and Hambantota
Western Province	- Colombo, Kalutara and Gampaha
North- Western Province	- Kurunegala(cover puttlam District also)
Eastern Provinse	- Ampara (cover Batticallo District also)
North Central Province	- Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa

- Locations of research stations and Sub-Units

Eight Research Stations and Sub-Units located as follows.

1. Central Research Station in Matale
2. Cinnamon Research Station at Pallolpitiya of Matara district
3. Intercropping and Betel Research Station at Dampelassa close to Narammala
4. Economics and Market Research Unit at Head Office in Peradeniya
5. Mid Country Research Station at Delpitiya close to Gampola
6. Tissue Culture Unit and Plant Nursery at Walpita of Gampaha district
7. Sub Research Station at Kundasale of Kandy district
8. Sub Research Station at Nillamba close to Galaha of Kandy district

Location of department nurseries

Production of plants are carried out in 10 nurseries in different locations as follows.

Kurunegala District	-	Serapies Plant Nursery at Polgahawela, Holongolla Plant Nursery at Dodangaslanda, Wennoruwa Plant Nursery at Narammala
Nuwaraeliya District	-	Blackwater, Plant Nursery at Ginihaththena Mulhalkele Plant Nursery at Walapane
Matale District	-	Central Plant Nursery at Elwela
Matara District	-	Central Plant Nursery at Mapalana in Kamburupitiya
Kegalle District	-	Central Plant Nursery at Gasnawa, Nelundeniya
Gampaha District	-	Central Plant Nursery at Walpita
Hambantota District	-	Central Nursery and Spice Park at Middeniya

Chapter 02

Progress and the Future vision

2.1. Special Achievements

- Rs. 381.3 million from a total Allocation Rs 390 million made by the treasury for the Export Agricultural crops Development program in 2023 was spent on the Cultivation Extension Program, Central Plant Nursery Development, Productivity promotion Program, Value Addition Program, Communication program and Capacity Building programs. It was 97.7 % of the total financial allocation given to the department.
- 20,029 rupees were spent on the Export Agricultural Zones program implemented under the ministry allocation and under that program nutmeg, cloves, cardamom, vanilla, garcinia, and coffee plants were distributed among 9822 beneficiaries from February 01.2023, the amount to be borne by the beneficiaries and the amount borne by the department for a plant of cinnamon, pepper, coffee, cocoa, betel, nutmeg and cloves was revised.
- Under the Cultivation Extension program implemented in 2023, New Cultivation program, small scale Gardening program, Export crop promotion program, Export crop promotion program, Cluster village program,Turmeric and ginger program and Arecanut Cultivation program were implemented by spending 229.3 million rupees.
- Under the New Plantation program in the year 2023, export agricultural crop plantations were started as new plantations in an area of 1385.4 hectares. It was 91.14% of the target cultivated area of 1520 hectares by the department in 2023 and 186.04 million rupees was spent.
- Small scale Gardening program implemented in 2023 with the aim of producing the spices required for domestic consumption from the garden it self, creating small- scale economic cultivation in the garden, cultivating export crops that are not cultivated on a large scale as cluster villages, increasing the productivity of the land and promoting export crops.
- In the year 2023, export agricultural crop seedings were provided to establish economically effective export agricultural crop model gardens covering the entire island at the district level. The main objective of this program was to grow Cinnamon, pepper, garcinia, and coffee crops as small scale home gardens 529,091 plants of pepper, cinnamon, garcinia and coffee were given under this program by spending 15.21 million rupees.
- The Export Crop promotion program was implemented with the aim of growing export crops suitable for the area on a small scale in their own gardens and providing export agricultural crop plants needed for special programs and meetings. Under this , 58986 Cinnamon , pepper and coffee plants were given spending 1.54 million rupees which was 89.5 % of the targeted amount.
- The cluster village program was also implemented in 2023 with the aim of establishing a village or several villages as a cluster village and popularizing export

agricultural crops in them. Farmer were organized as a group and necessary arrangements were made to organize, empower and coordinate farmers under a systematic plan from release of seeds to marketing of harvest. 163,546 citronella, coffee,clove and cardamom plants were given under the cluster village program. 1.40 million rupees were allocated for this program of which 1.14 million rupees were spent.

- Necessary instructions and technical guidance for the farmers were given during the year 2023 under the Turmeric and Ginger Cultivation Promotion program.

- The use of quality planting material is important for obtaining high quality yield of export agricultural crops. In the year 2023 the requirement of certified high quality seeds to the farmer was provided through 12 departmental nurseries and 661 private nurseries. In 2023, the department improved the infrastructure needed to establish water supply systems at Gasnawa nursery and purchased Farm equipment for central nurseries. In the year 2023, 1,661,052 export agricultural seeds were produced in central nurseries. 11.07 million rupees were spent in the year 2023 for the development of Central nurseries, which is 61.5 % of the target financial amount.

- The Export Agricultural crop productivity promotion program was implemented in the year 2023.seeds were given for gap filling to increase the productivity of existing plantations by following good agronomic methods. Investment assistance was provided for the installation of micro –irrigation units to protect existing export crops from water shortages by introducing appropriate irrigation systems to adapt to climate changes. Devices and systems were also introduced to prevent damages caused by pests and animals to export crops. Under this program, export agricultural crops were given for gap filling in 1133.07 hectares. 50% of the cost was provided under the investment assistance scheme for the installation of 8 drip and sprinkler water supply systems, 16 safely fences and crop protection systems. under this,26.5 million rupees were spent for the program to increase land productivity 0.979 million rupees for micro irrigation systems have been spent and this is 87.5 % of the total financial Target.

- Under the value chain Development program, establishment of organic villages, distribution of post harvest technology equipment , development of trade promotion program software and Digital system, issue of quality certificate stakeholder registration, entrepreneurship development program have been implemented. 35.83 million rupees have been spent for the entire program and it is 98.1 % of the total financial progress.

- Under the Export Agriculture Value chain Development program, The departmental allocation was given to the farmer organization for the third year certification of Gampaha Divulapitiya Organic village, which has already obtained the international organic certification through the program to establish export agricultural crops as organic crops.

- In 2023, the Post Harvest Technology program was implemented with the expectation of streamlining the post harvest technology process of export agricultural products, increasing product quality , encouraging value added products and providing public investment assistance. Modern technical equipments machinery/ building facilities for harvesting were introduced and provided through this program, and also it is a program implemented to follow agronomic methods of export crops, improve the quality of export agricultural products by following good manufacturing practices (GMP)

according to local and foreign standards, encourage value added products (value addition) and increase job creation. Under the post harvest technology investment assistance scheme, 117 post harvest technology equipments have been given in 2023 spending 32.571 million rupees.

- 03 Trade promotion programs were conducted in 2023 under value chain Development Programs, in the year 2023, spending 1.953 million rupees.
- 102 GAP certificates have been issued out of the applications submitted under the Good Agricultural practices (GAP) certification program for export crops.
- ISO 22000 / HACCP certificate was given to two processing centers and GMP certificate to three centers under the quality certification program started to ensure the quality of export agricultural products. The technical and financial contribution for this program was given by the Department of export agriculture and 0.912 million rupees has been spent for this programs.
- 31500 stakeholders have been registered under the value chain Development program. 254 stakeholders were supported under the Entrepreneurship Development program for which 0.0949 million rupees was spent.
- Many communication programs were implemented in the year 2023 for farmers engaged in the field of export agriculture crops as well as for those who are interested in the field. information on export crops was communicated to stakeholders through radio ,television programs, print media, information center,1920 agriculture service information ,website and through social media network such as face book , you tube ,telegram and whatsapp.
- 24 "Segawunu Kahawanu " programs, 24 " Ranmasu Uyana" programs were broadcasted as television programs.51 "Rasa Janani " programs, 51 "Rasa Mansala "programs, 10"Haritha Mansala " programs were broadcasted as radio programs and 07 news paper advertisement were published regarding export agriculture crops.
- 52 price information notices were published in Dinamina news paper to provided export agriculture crops market price to stakeholders and 115,000 brochures were also printed regarding export crops.
- The information center established in the Department of Export Agriculture has provided information about export crops to 1169 people who came to get information and 1277 people have been given informati0on over the phone. Technical information on export crops has been provided to 3519 stakeholders through 1920 Agriculture advisory service. information about export crops is also available through the Department 's website and 194650 people have accused the website to get information about export crops. further more, information about export crops was given to 1325 people through face book ,56 live programs have been broadcasted and responses about export crops information were also given to 9882 people. 137 videos and 70 live programs with technical information on export crops have been broadcasted through you tube Chanel and 111 responses also have been made .responses have been made to 1450 and 3220 people respectively through Telegram and whatsapp channels on technical issues relater to export agriculture crops.11 exhibition on export crops were held in the year 2023 and technical knowledge of export crops was given to stakeholders according , 13.67 million rupees have been spent for the entire communication program in the year 2023.

- Farmer trainings, field training
- programs at Matale In service Training Center, Cinnamon training programs and online training programs were conducted under Capacity building Pragram. Under the Cap[acity Building program, 1940 farmer training programs on export crops have been conducted in 17 districts at a cost of 2.562 million rupees. 216 field day programs were conducted in 2023, for which 0.04 million rupees was spent. Practical knowledge about export crops have been imparted through this programs. The Export Agriculture In Service Training Center, which is responsible for equipping the export agriculture stakeholders and department officials with knowledge, attitude and skills, has successfully completed many training programs in the year 2023 through regular training workshops, training programs and online programs. Seminars, workshops and training programs were conducted for departmental officers as required 0.4357 million rupees have been spent on training programs held in Matale and specific practical training sessions and programs were conducted in the training center as well as in the premises of the relevant institutions at the request of external institutions and higher education institutions. College of Agriculture , kundasale and National Institute of Plantation management , Aquinas Institute, Technical colleges can be mentioned as external institution that received technical training from in service training center in the year 2023.

  With the aim of developing the Organizational and technical knowledge of the departmental officers, 29 seminars and institutional training programs were conducted successfully for 1166 trainees. The contribution of resource persons from department and external institutions was obtained for these programs. The ITMIS program conducted for 100 department officials with the contribution of the resources of the Ministry of finance can be mentioned as a leading program Furthermore this institution conducted two series of online training programs through Zoom technology and broadcasted live through the department's official Face book and you Tube channels. Training programs including technical matters related to export Agricultural crop cultivation, maintenance and disease control were broadcasted on Tuesday and training program aimed at export agriculture entrepreneurship development and export were broadcasted on Thursdays. Accordingly, 68 online trainings have been conducted for 305046 beneficiaries throughout the year 2023. Accordingly In service Training Center of the Department of Export Agriculture conducted 97 training programs in the Year 2023, thereby imparting technical knowledge related to the export agriculture sector to 306212 trainees.

  91 Training programs regarding cinnamon feeling were Successfully conducted at the cost of 2.4076 million rupees in the year 2023 at the Matara Cinnamon Training Center with the aim of formally training cinnamon and providing employment opportunities. Overall for the capacity building program in 2023, 14.06 million rupees was allocated , out of which 5.45 million rupees have been spent.

- The Department of Export Agriculture and the Export Development Board Jointhly worked to obtain the Cinnamon Geographical Index for the Sri Lankan Cinnamon crop. After completing the prerequisites for obtaining the Cinnamon Geographical Index and submitting it to the Export Development Board, 45 Cinnamon Geographical Index Certificates were obtained.
- With the aim of promoting the Unique varieties of coffee available for the global market and increasing the sustainability and quality of coffee cultivation through the introduction of good agricultural practices , the Department of Export Agriculture

organized a coffee day and it was arranged to be held on 20.10.2023 at Ella Pradeshiya Sabha stadium.

This program aims to increase the participation and knowledge of the stakeholders, awareness about following good agricultural practices, certification, coffee processing, value chain development, identifying problems and challenges in the coffee industry.

- With the participation of the Department of Export Agriculture and the food and Agriculture and the food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, training programs were conducted on Good Agricultural practices for export crops. It was expected to direct the farmers to the export market through this program and 11 farmer awareness programs were conducted in 11 districts and 07 programs to train officers were also conducted. Programs were implemented to prepare codes of practice on good agricultural the codes of practice are being prepared for the crops of Turmeric, ginger, nutmeg and cloves after obtaining the public opinion.
- The " Newum Kurudu Mangalyaya" which was started in 2006 after the rehabilitation of cinnamon lands destroyed by the Tsunami in 2004, was celebrated on 23rd December 2023 with the Participation of the minister, ministry officials, Department officials and cinnamon grower at Seenigama Temple grounds, Galle.

Research division of the Department has contributed productivity and quality improvement research programs.

E. cardamomum seed germination performance can be enhanced with acid treatment using 25 % v/v Formic Acid (HCCOH) for 10 minutes. The formic acid treatment optimized in the study can achieve germination percentages up to 75 per cent. And it also reaches 50 % germination level around 70 days after sowing. Therefore, the method can be recommended successfully as an alternative to conventional nitric acid treatment.

Seed yield estimation for *E. cardamomum* accession "Kiriella" (Type: Vazukka) provides accession-specific information. According to that 1 kilogram of matured pods obtained from the accession can produce 181.2 grams of treated seeds. This estimates,1267 seedlings can be produced from 100 g of matured pods harvested from the accession.

The most suitable nursery stages for transplanting *E. cardamomum* seedlings are single Leaf - partially opened, single Leaf – fully opened, and bud with two leaves and three leaves. More than 80 % of seedling survival can be achieved using those stages as found in the study.

Significantly Lower Fresh weight per vine, Dry weight per vine has observed during 2023 Yala season in comparison to 2022 Maha season. Pepper vines grown on Kapok (154.3g) and Dapdap (147.6) has yield more fresh and dry weight per vine in comparison to pepper vines grown on Gliricidea (66.1g) and Gansooriya (90.6g). Highest cumulative fresh and dry yield observed in pepper vines grown on Dapdap supports.

According to the analysis of biomass data gathered from Savandara (*chrysopogonzizanioides*) in August 2023, has shown statistically significant root dry weight per plant (76.61g), Leaf weight (363.03g) and weight/leaf fresh weight ratio (0.2125) in Savandara plants treated with Urea 25KgHa-1, ERP 107KgHa-1 and MOP 50KgHa-1

Pepper vines originated from Orthotropic branches and ground runners have yield significantly higher fresh weight per vine, Dry weight per vine and number of capsules per

vine in comparison to pepper vines originated from lateral branches. Only 3 pepper vines originated from lateral branches have shown vertical vegetative growth.

The maximum fresh weight per vine and filling percentage were given by Pepper vines supported by Areca nut plants which provided with 15L/day while the highest dry weight per vine was given by vines provided 20L/day.

Growth performance and rooting ability of stem cuttings of *Coffea Arabica* Varieties (S9 and Lak-Parakum) in Different Growing Media was tested. Both media consist of coir dust: topsoil (2:1) and topsoil: sand: coir dust: cow dung (1:1:1:1) can be recommended to produce coffee plant by using stem cutting (65% success) for both S9 and Lak-Parakum coffee varieties.

Demand for coffee cultivation is increased due to coffee products demand. Expansion of coffee cultivation is limited with suitable coffee planting material. This particular study was established to evaluation and development of recommendation to plant production by using grafted techniques and rooted cuttings of coffee. Compatibility and nursery performance of Grafting combinations of *Coffea arabica* and *Coffea robusta* with different grafting clamps was tested. Study provides both qualitative and quantitative information on the growth and development of grafted coffee plants at nursery stage. Accordingly, it is better to graft both the arabica varieties; Lak-Parakum and S9 scions to C. robusta root stocks using a suitable, cost-effective grafting clamp. However, Lak-Parakum performed better than S9 in-terms of growth parameters like shoot and root fresh weights and root dry weight. Generally, polythene is used as a wrapping material to seal the grafting sites which is not cost effective. Food wrappings act as a better alternative grafting clamp and cost effective grafting clamp.

Allspice is new crop for the Sri Lanka. However, supply of planting material is problem due to propagation. *In vitro* Cultivation of Allspice (*Pimentadioica* L. Merrill) is good answered to resolve this problem. The objective of this study was to develop an efficient protocol for sterilization of nodal segment explants of Allspice. Nodal segments taken from healthy plants in the research fields of central research stations were utilized as explants to identify the optimal procedure for obtaining cultures of Allspice free from contamination. Nodal segments were cultured on MS medium supplemented with vitamins, myo-inositol, and sucrose. After the study, 0.1% Carbendazim (1 hour) , 2% HgCl2 (6 min) give the best results (4.66±1.24) after two weeks. These findings provide valuable insights for optimizing allspice propagation protocols, with implications for scalable production of high-quality planting materials.

Afield survey on plant nutrient deficiiency symptoms conducted with 100 blackpepper growers in the central province revdealedthatthemost common deficiency symptom in thecentral province recorded in about94% of studiedlands was inter veinalchlorosis Later . .it was confirmed as Magnesium deficiency via standard laboratory analysis

A survey carried out at Clove (*Syzygiumaromaticum*) cultivations in Kandy and Matale districtsrevealed that almost all clove plants had infected wit) h Arbuscular mycotthyzaeAM(with visualizedarbuscules and vesicles in root cells. AM spore density of soils ofclove fields ranged 120-1040 spores kg $^{-1}$soil. About 40% of studied clove fields < had30% slope and about70 % of fields had applied appropriate soil conservation measures. But they had never appliedinorganic or organic fertilizers . Majority of studied clove fields were low in available soilphosphorus (>15 ppm) withmoderate levels of soil total N (0.1-0.2 %) and high exchangeableK (ppm 103-426) andsoil organic carbon (1-2%).

The study of the disease condition reported in gliricidia (*gliricidia sepium* l.) - black pepper support tree is given informative results to the pepper farmers. The relevant disease condition was identified and the disease can be successfully controlled by correct pruning of the support trees.of pepper cultivation

Leaf blotch disease (Taphrina maculans Butler) of turmeric in Ampara is reported as a burning problem. On this context, evaluation of fungicides against leaf blotch disease (Taphrina maculans Butler) of turmeric is very important. Itisrecommended that seed treatment with Mancozeb 80 % WP (30g/10 l water) or Captan 50% (30g/10 l water) and Foliar treatment with 1% Bordeaux mixture or Mancozeb 80 % WP (38g/10 l water) at 45 days (2 times @ 2 weeks interval) and 90 days (2 times @ 2 weeks interval) after field planting as the preventive measure of Leaf blotch disease of turmeric.

Practicing of green agriculture as government policy organic solution for application of Selected Botanical extracts to challenge foliar diseases of Export Agricultural Crops
) Here, to obtain plant extracts, Tulsi*Ocimum tenuiflorum*)) smelly ,*Lantana camara*) and) sunflower*Tithonia diversifolia*) was selected.It was experimentally confirmed that the .above plant extracts can be successfully used to control the leaf spot disease of ginger crop

Myristica fragrans (Nutmeg) is one of the main exporting spices in the Sri Lanka, known for its aromatic flavor and medicinal properties. Aflatoxin contamination is the biggest constraint on the export of nutmeg and its products. *Aspergillus flavus* and *A. parasiticus* cause the development of aflatoxin in nutmeg. These toxins are known to be carcinogenic and have been linked to liver damage. On this context, developing appropriate postharvest technologies to reduce the fungal growth in nutmeg seeds is very important phenomena. Accordingly, this study recommended to reduce fungal infection (including *Aspergillus flavus*) in 6 months storage by following these guidelines, harvest closed fruits from the tree (before split the fruits), Nutmeg kernels were hot water blanched for 3 min at 80°C, Nutmeg kernals were drying in cabinet dryer in the temperature 55°C 24 hours, and pack in the laminated aluminium foil pack.

Fresh Arecanut demand is very high in the Sri Lankan market. On this scenario, developed simple processing method for preserved fresh husk in areca nut is timely important. In this particular study, in ambient condition most suitable method is fresh fruits of areca-nut dipped in Paraffin solution and coat paraffin and packed pores polyethene bags. Fresh husk can be preserved one to two months using this method. This is the most profitable method among the using treatments. However using cold condition (between 4- 16°C) can be stored in 5 months without changing husk colour and using defreeze condition can be stored in 9 months without changing husk colour.

Coffee producers are demanding technologies to produce coffee value added products. On this concept, develop a cinnamon flavoured instant coffee by spray drying technique and evaluation of physicochemical properties is very important. Results of the study,addition of microencapsulated cinnamon powder to instant coffee significantly improved its sensory attributes and consumer acceptability. With the use of microencapsulated cinnamon powder, this research creates new opportunities for raising the market value of Sri Lankan coffee products with the promising future for the coffee industry.

Nano curcumin is a newly introduce value added products and its further development is very important to before introduce to market. On this context, Synthesis of encapsulated nano-curcumin from turmeric to improve physico-chemical stability and functionality studied and find out encapsulated curcumin with meso-porousZnO nanoparticles. The synthesis was successful using a sol-gel method and the nano-composite was synthesized successfully.

Curcumin has antibacterial property. Due to this reference, comparison of antibacterial property of nano-curcumin with natural curcumin is needed before introduce nano-curcumin to the market. The antibacterial study was conducted against *E.coli*and *S.aureus* and the antibacterial activities of the samples were compared. Accordingly, better performance was obtained in nano-curcumin against both gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria.

Cocoa mainly used to chocolate and confectionery industries. However, cocoa butter use in cosmetic industry as a natural ingredient. This particular research, cocoa butter was extracted and different formulations using virgin coconut oil, almond oil and olive oil were used to prepare the lip balm. The sensory analysis and physicochemical analysis were done for the lip balm samples.

Irrigation of Cinnamon cultivation is very useful solution to unfavorable weather conditions. With the use of a sprinkler irrigation system growth and yield parameters such as the number of harvestable stems, bark thickness, stem height, fresh bark weight, and dry bark weight could be increased. Although the sprinkler irrigation system creates a favourable micro-climatic condition, the drip irrigation system shows better distribution uniformity than the sprinkler irrigation system due to the nature of the plant canopy.

Soil erosion control in cinnamon lands is needed to productivity improvement in Cinnamon. Due to this condition, evaluate selected agronomic practices for soil erosion control in cinnamon lands was done. Accordingly this evaluation, With optimum soil properties, cover crop *Arichis pintoi* and contour soil bund treatmentsminimize soil erosion, whilist the control treatment (no erosion control method) showed the highest soil erosion. After three months from treatment application, harvesting data did not show a significant difference in any treatment. However, growth and yield have shown higher performances in contour soil bund and cover crop (*Arichis pintoi*) treatments.

Removing apical bud of mother branches of cinnamon is an effect of removing apical buds of mother bushes on the success rate of vegetative propagation of cinnamon, but no effect on growth parameters. Although not significant, treatment of removing the apical bud 2 weeks before planting has produced the highest number of survived and sprouted cuttings.

First two multilocational trials for ‘A1’ and selected hybrid plants with cinnamon varieties of Sri Gemunu and Sri Wijaya were established at NCRTC and Middeniya farm. The success rate of establishment at NCRTC is 100% and 80% at Middeniya. So far no significant differences could be found in growth performances. Experiment is in progress.

The study on effect of above ground morphology of cinnamon plant on yield, quality and processing; A trait desirable for variety improvement Was given results, morphological characters; stem straightness, canopy diameter and number of nodes in stem were given significant impact on final bark yield. According to the measured parameters three significantly different clusters were identified. The cluster with superior morphological characters has a high potential to be utilised for future cinnamon improvement programs.

Taxonomic identification and life cycle studies of Leaf eating caterpillars of cinnamon (*Cinnamomum verum* J.Presl. synonym: *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* Blume) in Sri Lanka was focused on the morphological taxonomic identification of *T.immissaria*, comprehensive description of its life cycle on cinnamon as a common pest and to assess its extent of damage. The total damage during a lifecycle was 36.7cm^2.The female laid 35-40 light greenish cylindrical eggs of 0.5–0.75mm in size.The larval body length increased from 1.4cm-3.36cm within 96 hours.The pupation initiated on the 8th day.The observed larvae displayed three distinct colors. The larval head is bifid,Biordinal crochets arranged in a circle on VIIand IX. Male antenna is bipectinate and female's thread like,body length 1.3cm in female and male is 1.4cm.Front and hind wing span3.5 cm and1.8 cm respectively.Third and distal segment of female labial palpi is longer.Male hind tibia more extended and has hair pencils.Frenulum absent in female.R_S in hind wing unbranched.Mouth parts consisted of long probicis.Ocelli absent.Hind wing with 1 anal veins behind discal cell,fovea at the base of the forewing and dorsal abdominal tufts absent, Male genitalia consisted of long–tongue shaped harpe,which distinguishes *T.immissaria* from other species of the genus.

In India and Sri Lanka, Leaf Gall Thrips (LGT) is considered among major pests of Black pepper (*Piper nigrum*). Despite of this, a serious taxonomic confusion is there where the precise identification of the LGTs in pepper in Sri Lanka is debated. This study was intended to correctly identify the pepper LGTs in Sri Lanka through morphological taxonomy. Maxillary bridge absent, stylets are retracted in to posterior margin of compound eyes, pronotum with five pairs of distinct setae, sculpture indistinct, both sexes lack fortarsal tooth. Antennal segments VII and VIII are uniformly pale as V and VI. These characteristic features lead the specimens to species *Liothrips mirabilis* confirming the confusing original description of *L. mirabilis* by Priesner(1968).

A protective coating based on clay can be efficiently applied at the minimum thickness of 2.5cm around the base of mature cinnamon bushes to successfully reduce and manage the Wood Boring Moth (WBM)(*Ichneumenoptera cinnamomumi* Tosevskiis) attacks. This technique can successfully add to the current recommendation of WBM management, in the cases where earthning up of the base is difficult due to high slope or lack of soil at sufficient quantities.

Investigates the impact of leaf miner (*Acrocercops* spp) infestation on cinnamon's essential leaf oils, focusing on oil percentage. Leaf Samples from cinnamon plants with varying degrees of leaf miner infestation were categorized as small, medium, and large based on visual observations. Each category was further divided based on the leaf miner damage. Standardized methods were used to assess oil yield, a critical indicator of oil quality, and leaf moisture content, reflecting plant health and oil quality. The results revealed a direct correlation between leaf miner infestation severity and a decline in oil percentage. Samples with severe damage exhibited significantly lower oil percentages,

underscoring the need for effective management strategies to mitigate the negative impact of leaf miner infestation and uphold cinnamon oil integrity.

Practicing of green agriculture as government policy organic solution for control cinnamon disease is very important. In this context, *in-vitro* evaluation of *Trichoderma* isolates as biocontrol agents against *Rigidoporus microporus* (fr.) overeem causing white root disease in cinnamon was investigated. A total of 8 *Trichoderma* isolates were screened for their antagonistic potential against *R. microporus* in dual culture plates. *Trichoderma* isolate represented by MA1 showed the high antagonistic potential in the inhibition of radial growth of *R. microporus* of 44.12%. Among the 8 *Trichoderma* isolates, another 3 isolates obtained from cinnamon rhizosphere soils showed higher antagonistic potential against *R. microporus*.

Reducing pesticide usage in cinnamon cultivation is need to cinnamon quality improvement. Under this condition, get positive remarkable results on identification of pathogen causing leaf blight disease in *Cinnamomum zeylanicum* Blume and *in-vitro* screening of fungicide sensitivity. Accordingly the results, In-vitro evaluation of fungicide efficacy of Tebuconazole and Mancozeb was done against selected three virulent *Colletotrichum* isolates among 10 *Colletotrichum* isolates from Matara district. Minimum inhibitory concentration of tebuconazole fungicide and mancozeb fungicide was 150ppm and 1500ppm respectively.

Organic solutions for pest and disease management of cinnamon (*Cinnamomum zeylanicum* Blume) under nursery conditions is needed to quality improvement of cinnamon. Four methods of neem seed extraction preparation were assessed to determine the most effective approach for extracting the insecticidal properties of neem seed against the Cinnamon thrips (*Helionothrips annosus* Wang). The evaluated methods include: soaking 100g of dry neem seed powder in 1 L of distilled water (overnight), soaking 100g of dry neem seed powder in 1 L of distilled water for 5 days, boiling 100g of dry neem seed powder in 1 L of distilled water for 30 minutes, and boiling 100g of dry neem seed powder in 500ml coconut oil for 30 minutes. The results indicated that among these four neem seed extraction methods, the solution prepared through the fermentation process (100g of dry neem seed powder soaked in 1 L of distilled water for 5 days) yielded the best results in controlling cinnamon thrips under both *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* conditions.

Appliedsulfur-containing fertilizers was given positive effect on growth and yield of Cinnamon. Application 139kg/ha/year of Urea (U) with 675 kg/ha/year Ammonium sulfate (SA) as nitrogen fertilizer for cinnamon gives 15% higher dry bark yield than application of 976kg/ha/year of SA and 1% higher dry bark yield than 450kg/ha/year of Urea along to give same amount of nitrogen (207kg/ha/year) in fifth harvest. Although, the yield increment in combination use of Urea and Ammonium sulfate (U -139 + SA- 675) was 4 and 5 % when consider the cumulative dry bark yield for entire five years of harvests than those of alone application of Ammonium Sulfate or Urea respectively.

Highest dry bark yield in fourth harvest was given by the cinnamon plant that treated by applying half of Department Recommend inorganic fertilizer dose with 10 t/ha/Yr. compost fertilizer and it was not significantly different from 700kg/ha/yr of compound fertilizer (21:07:14) or 1250kg/ha of mix fertilizer (18:8:12:2) in cinnamon plantation.

After one year of planning observed 24% and 12% plant height increment when applied 1000kg of Poultry manure per cinnamon bush and department recommended dose of chemical fertilizer in respectively than no fertilizer application.

When it used Banana stem as feeding material to Earthworms after four months the earthworm population increases from 200 to 800, however if the feeding material was only cinnamon leaves that 200 of Earthworm population 200 was reduce in to 120.Applicaition of Vermiwash prepared when using Gliricidia as feeding material gives significant higher growth in cinnamon seedlings than vermiwash prepared with grass, Cow dung, Cinnamon leaves, Banana stem as feeding materials for earthworms.

In fifth harvest the whatever the type (Normal, Sri Wijaya, Sri Gamunu) seedling plant gives significant high yield than vegetative propagated plant. Fertilizer levels and cinnamon types were not make any significant result in fifth harvest.

In fifth harvest revealed that no significant influence in cinnamon dry bark yield when change the N, P, K ratios.

Six different formulations using Cinnamon bark oil, cinnamon leaf oil, citronella oil and oil from *Ocimum* sp. were used to prepare the mosquito repellent sticks. Testing of Mosquito repellent activity was started in collaboration with Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna. Sticks with pure cinnamon leaf oil and citronella oil showed the highest mosquito repellent activity. Testing of Mosquito repellent activity was repeated to confirm the results.

Highquality Citronella oil extracted from selected Citronella accessions (*Cymbopogon nardus, Cymbopogon winterianus*) have been showing an antifungal activity against dandruff causing fungal strain, *Candida sp* and can be effectively use in an antidandruff shampoo.

Cinnamon (*Cinnamomum zeylanicum* Blume) bark oil and oleoresin was confirmed that preservatives have significant effects on physico-chemical properties of juice during storage. According to this study, 0.2% essential oil incorporated beverage help in controlling microbial growth and maintaining physico-chemical properties of mango ready to serve beverage and store 28^0C for 12 weeks. And also 0.2% oleoresin incorporated beverage has shown eight week storage period. These findings of this study generally indicate that cinnamon essential oil is a similar natural preservative that can be used instead of chemical preservatives for long-term preservation of mango beverage.

Ceylon cinnamon leaf tea which produces at 50 ^{0}C temperature from immature cinnamon leaves and Ceylon cinnamon leaf tea which produces at 60 0C temperature from mature cinnamon leaves both have high amount of polyphenolic content, flavonoid content, and DPPH radical scavenging activity which provides high level of health benefits specially for the non-communicable diseases. When considering about the other quality parameters, Ceylon cinnamon leaf tea which produces at 50 ^{0}C temperature from immature cinnamon leaves had more favorable quality attributes making it more suitable for the competitive market.

Curcumin content, moisture and color of powdered turmeric obtained from turmeric accessions grown under coconut in low country intermediate zone in Sri Lanka was clearly revealed that there were significant differences ($p<0.05$) among turmeric accession types grown based on curcumin content. Curcumin percentage of turmeric powder ranged from 0.3458±0.037% to 4.9881±0.0141%. From the results it was evident that the curcumin content of turmeric grown under coconut in intermediate zone complies with the range identified in the Sri Lankan standard level which is 3-6%.

Highest percentage of viable plants were observed in cuttings taken from ground runners in Nursery Stage of Black Pepper. The percentage of viable plants in ground runners (92%) and terminals (88.7%) are not significantly different while percentage of viable plants gained from laterals (70%) is significantly different. In addition to that, cuttings taken from ground runners resulted highest plant height (26.04cm), highest new leaf weight (2.093g), highest root length (18cm), highest number of new nodes (5) while lowest disease incidence (4.66%) and lowest mortality percentage (8%).

Accordingly Growth Performances of Different Black Peper (*Piper Nigrum*) Selections During Nursery Stage in Low Country Intermediate Zone was no significant difference among the KW31, GM28, MN48, MB12, DM7, IW5, GK49, KW33, TG7 and KW27. However, MB12 has shown the highest survival rate and highest dry shoot weight. KW31 has shown the highest plant height and highest fresh shoot weight.

Betel is a cash crop and earns remarkable amount of foreign exchange. Under this condition qulity improvement is needed. Effect of LED lights on growth and quality of betel was studied. In an experiment conducted under 40% shade, white and blue LED lights had similar performance to the natural sunlight but red light reduced the growth. Red and Blue had impact on leaf quality and color.

Study on inter-plant competition and plant structure on growth and yield of Betel given results that the yield of "Kanda Kola" is higher at the first year under four plants per stake compared to two plants per stake. However, no other growth or yield parameters showed significant difference.

Evaluation of alternative nursery potting mixtures for betel (*Piper betle L.*) is needed to reduce cost of production in produce plants. Accordingly this, Cattle manure can be replaced using compost from Department of Export Agriculture (DEA) recommended potting mixture (Topsoil: Sand: Coir dust:Cattle manure 1:1:1:1).Therefore, best alternativepotting mixture for nursery production of betel is Topsoil: Sand: Coir dust: Compost (1:1:1:1) can be recommended

Spent Button Mushroom Compost (SMC) is a valuable by-product of mushroom cultivation. The potential of incorporating SMC into betel nursery potting mixture was evaluated. Potting mixture SMC: top soil: sand (1:1:1), showed more similar performances to the DEA recommended potting mixture. Spent button mushroom compost can be incorporated in the nursery potting mixture of betel.

The study advises against undue reliance on chemical fertilizers, as it may incur additional costs with the risk of environmental issues related to nutrient loss through leaching, runoff, and evaporation. Promoting awareness among farmers about sustainable nutrient management practices is essential for optimizing betel cultivation outcomes.

Bacterial Leaf Blight in Betel is affected to the betel cultivation. Due to this condition, in the first step following treatments were applied in the research field established in intercropping and betel research station. T1 - Burning cashew sticks and logs on plots and incorporated ash into the root zone of the bed, T2 – Application of cashew outer shells on plots and incorporated into the root zone of the bed, T3 - Cappetiya (*Croton aromaticus*) as a mulch after every 6 months, T4 - Nidikumba (*Mimosa pudica*) as a mulch after every 6 months, T5 – planting Heerassa Palu (*Cissus quadrangularis*), T6 – planting Murunga (*Moringa oleifera*). Bacterial leaf blight disease was not appeared as naturally within the 3-year research duration. Secondly, this research was established in "Muthugala field belongs to the Kurunegala plantation surrounded by many betel cultivations. There were no signs of bacterial leaf blight disease in this field also. Finally above treatments were applied in laboratary cultured *Xanthomonas cappestrisbetlicola* plates in central research station at Matele. Results had reveald that cashew outer shells, Cappetiya, Nidikumba and Murunga extractions had completely controled the groth of *Xanthomonas cappestrisbetlicola.* Therefore, the above treatments can be used for the management of the above disease with correct fertilizer application.

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2.2. Challenges and future goals

2.2.1. Challenges

01. On September 01, 2023 Cinnamon Development Department was established for the cinnamon crop. Cinnamon crop can be introduced as a crop that gives more contribution by this department and removing that crop from the scope of the department was a challenge in reaching future development goals and export income.

02. There was an inability to provide the necessary physical facilities for the department at aim optimal level and it was a challenge that the department did not have sufficient provisions to provide office facilities, equipment and goods requirements and transportation facilities for the officers.

03. Lack of funds to develop infra structures of laboratories – All Research station's laboratories has not sufficient facilities to do research activities.

04. Lack of equipment – Many scientific equipment and instruments required for laboratory testing and experiments are lacking in all laboratories.

05. Lack of human resource – Many cadre positions in various levels are lacking at all research stations at the moment.

06. Lack of funds to purchase chemical glass wear and consumable to run research activities

07. Fuel shortage and high fuel cost created to huge barrier to conduct adaptive research activities on farmer field.

2.2.2. Future Goals

01. Increasing Export Income

In the year 2023, the export of 63,232.77 metric tons of agricultural crops could add an income of 157,423.33 million rupees to the national economy. It was higher than the previous year and the future goal is to achieve the export income of 100 billion rupees by the year 2025. In order to achieve that objective , awareness programs were conducted to increase the cultivation area, increase the yield and get more foreign income through the coordination of growers, producers processors and exporters. It is expected to further strengthen the income of export agricultural crop stakeholders in the coming years.

02. Development of Coffee Cultivation

In the next few years, coffee cultivation is expected to be expanded on a large scale in the plantation sector, and for this purpose, it is expected that the department will actively contribute in the future to organic workshops with the top management and official;ls of the plantation sector and resolve the problems arising in large scale coffee cultivation. Department is expected to be given directly to conquer the export market through coffee processing and value added products.

03.Promotion of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) programme.

It is planned to get more income by presenting the export agriculture products as value added products to the local and foreign markets and to popularize good agricultural and production practices among the growers and producers engaged in the field. Accordingly, through the intervention and regulation of the department, interested producers will be contacted and arrangements will be made to produce and export certified export crops. It is expected to obtain more foreign income by offering more export agricultural products to the foreign market. Accordingly, it is expected to prepare codes of practice for export agricultural crops.

04. Promotion of organic cultivation

The organic farming program was implemented to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and to encourage the production of organic fertilizers and there by encourage farmers to get higher prices for their products. Attention has been paid to increase the area of organic export agricultural crops and it is expected to get higher foreign income and it is mandatory require pment that the department receives allocations for extension programs to popularize and encourage organic farming.

05. Regularization of dried arecanut export (Karunka)

A Special project unit will work to introduce a proper method to the exporters in order to regularize the export of karunka, to analyze and evaluate the reports of the exporters, to provide the export quantities to each company to regularize the export of karunka, to monitor the supply network of the exporters and to prepare reports. Karunka exporters are expected to be regularized in the future by providing necessary recommendations regarding the re- exporting of Karunka, registration of spice related suppliers / processors providing guidance on technical matters essential for business such as export methodology, business promotion, marketing and enterprise development and by organizing and conducting training programs, providing various reports on international trade to stakeholders.

06. Increase the plant production of newly introduced EAC varieties

07. Established the mother plant garden

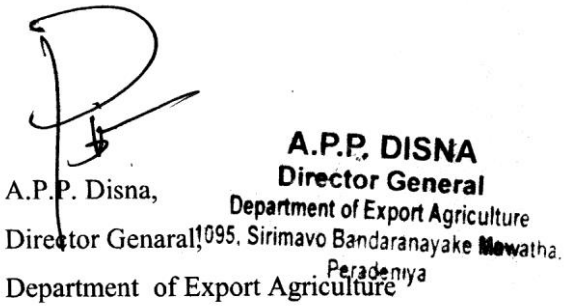
08. Introduce newly develop value added products to market

09. Increased the infrastructure of the laboratories

10. Expand the research activities on Coffee, cocoa and vanilla

11. Introduce new varieties for EACs.

12. Get an accreditation certificates for laboratories



A.P.P. Disna,
Director Genaral,
Department of Export Agriculture

Chapter 03
Financial Performance

3.1 Statement of Financial Performance

For the period ended 31st December 31/12/2023 **ACA -F**

Statement of Financial Performance

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Budget 2023		Note	Actual 2023	Actual 2022	
-	**Revenue Receipts**				
-	**Income Tax**	1			
-	**Taxes on Domestic Good & Services**	2			ACA-1
-	**Taxes on International Trade**	3			
-	**Non Tax Revenue & Others**	4			
-	**Total Revenue Receipts (A)**				
-	**Non Revenue Receipts**				
1,227,512,780	**Treasury Imprests**		1,272,125,000	1,633,160,000	ACA-3
	Deposits		239,124,066	86,978,491	ACA-4
35,000,000	**Advance B Account**		48,021,175	40,885,228	ACA-5/5(a)
	Other main Ledger Receipts				
1,262,512,780	**Total Non Revenue Receipts (B)**		**1,559,270,241**	**1,761,023,719**	
1,262,512,780	**Total Revenue Receipts & Non Revenue Receipts C=(A)+(B)**		**1,559,270,241**	**1,761,023,719**	
	Remitance to the treasury (D)		21,496,362	119	
1,262,512,780	**Net Revenue Receipts & Non Revenue Receipts E=©-(D)**		1,537,773,879	1,761,023,600	
	Less : Expenditure				
	Recurrent Expenditure				
762,900,000	**Wages, Salaries & Other Employement Benefits**	5	744,889,990	696,666,692	
89,500,000	**Other Goods & Services**	6	81,163,045	59,250,320	ACA-2(ii)
15,500,000	**Subsidies, Grants and Transfers**	7	12,995,560	14,924,175	
	Interest Payements	8			
	Other Recurrent Expenditure	9			
867,900,000	**Total Recurrent Expenditure**		839,048,595	770,841,187	
	Capital Expenditure				
22,500,000	**Rehabilitation & Improvement of capital**	10	22,269,232	14,455,901	
5,000,000	**Acquisition of capital Assets**	11	4,146,346		
400,000,000	**Capital Transfers**	12	387,697,746	240,853,621	ACA-2(ii)
	Acquisition of Financial Assets	13			
1,500,000	**Capacity Building**	14	792,433	789,075	
8,000,000	**Other Capital Expenditure (E)**	15	6,412,910	8,221,318	
437,000,000	**Total Capital Expenditure (E)**		421,318,667	264,319,915	
	Deposit Payements		315,896,357	2,555,937	ACA-4
40,000,000	**Advance Payements**		46,797,548	43,604,499	ACA-5/5(a)
40,000,000	**Main Ledger Expenditure(H)14+15**		362,693,905	46,160,436	
1,344,900,000	**Total Expenditure G=(D+E+F)**		1,623,061,167	1,081,321,538	
-	**Imprest Balance as at 31 st December**		(85,287,288)	679,702,062	
	Balance as per the Imprest Recolaniciation statement		(85,287,288)	679,702,062	ACA-7
	Imprest Balance as at 31 st December		.....	.....	ACa-3

3.2. Statement of financial Position.

ACA-F

Statement of Financial Position
As at 31st December 2023

	Note	Actual 2023 Rs	2022 Rs
Non Financial Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	ACA-6	1,448,474,901.52	1,107,015,274.00
Financial Assets			
Advance Accounts	ACA-5/5(a)	128,977,569.00	130,201,196.00
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA-3	-	-
Total Assets		**1,577,452,470.52**	**1,237,216,470.00**
Net Assets / Equity			128,977,568.50
Net Worth to Treasury		119,121,783.85	43,573,120.00
Property, Plant & Equipment Reserve		1,448,474,901.52	1,107,015,274.00
Rent and Work Advance Reserve	ACA-5(b)		
Current Liabilities			
Deposits Accounts	ACA-4	9,855,785.15	86,628,076.00
Unsettled Imprest Balance	ACA-3	-	-
Total Liabilities		**1,577,452,470.52**	**1,237,216,470.00**

Detail Accounting Statements in ACA format Nos. 1 to presented in pages from …01…. to…38… and Annexures to accounts presented in pages from …40…. to …58….. form an integral part of these Financial Statements. The Financial Statements have been prepared in complying with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles whereas most appropriate Accounting Policies are used as disclosed in the Notes to the Financial Statements and hereby certify that figures in these Finacial Statements, Notes to accounts and other relevant accounts were reconciled with the Treasury Books of Accounts and found in agreement.

We hereby certify that an effective internal control system for the financial control exists in the Reporting Entity and carried out periodic reviews to monitor the effectiveness of internal control system for the financial control and accordingly make alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out.

Chief Accounting Officer	Accounting Officer	Chief Financial Officer/ Chief Accountant/ Director (Finance)/ Commissioner (Finance)
Name :	Name :	Name :
Designation :	Designation :	Date : 22/02/2024
Date : 2024.02.27	Date :	
Janaka Dharmakeerthi Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries No.80/5, "Govijana Mandiraya", Rajamalwatta Avenue, Battaramulla.	A.P.P. DISNA Director General Department of Export Agriculture 1095, Sirimavo Bandaranayake Mawatha, Peradeniya	M.S.S.L. PEIRIS CHIEF ACCOUNTANT Dept. of Export Agriculture 1095, Kandy Road Peradeniya

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3.3. Statement of Cash Flows

for the Period ended 31st December-……2023……..

	Actual	
	2023	**2022**
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Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses	-	-
Profit	-	-
Non Revenue Receipts		
Revenue collected on behalf of other Revenue Heads	101,548,526	87,252,987
Imprest Recsipts	1,272,125,000	1,633,160,000
Recovery of advance	49,036,854	42,257,699
Deposit Receipts	239,124,066	86,978,491
Cash flow generated from operational Activities	**1,661,834,447**	**1,849,649,177**
Less - Cash disbursed for:		
Personal Emoluments & Operating Payments	822,708,145	1,026,338,882
Subsidies & Transfer Payments	12,995,560	5,770,416
Expenditure incurred on behalf of other heads	27,738,095	771,379,325
Imprest Settlement to Treasury	21,496,362	119
Advance payments	46,595,756	43,604,499
Deposit Payments	315,896,357	2,555,937
Cash Flows from Investing Activities	**1,247,430,275**	**1,849,649,178**
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES(C)=(a)-(b)	**414,404,172**	**(1)**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		-
Interest		-
Dividends		-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets		
Recoveries from On Lending		
Total Cash generated from Investing Activities (d)		
Less - Cash disbursed for:	**414,404,172**	
Purchase or Construction of Physical Assets & Acquisition of		
Total Cash disbursed for Investing Activities (e)		
	-	-
NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES(F)=(d)-(e)	**414,404,172**	**(1)**
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING & INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES (g)=(c) + (f)		
Cash Flows from Fianacing Activities	-	
Foreign Borrowings	-	
Grants Received	-	
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (h)		
		-
Less - Cash disbursed for:	-	-
	-	-
NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES (J)=(h)-(i)		
Net Movement in Cash (k) = (g) -(j)	-	-
මුදල්වල ශුද්ධ වෙනස්වීම් (ඔ) = (උ) -(ඒ)	-	-
Opening Cash Balance as at 01st January	-	-
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December		

3.4.Notes to the Financial Statements

3.5.Performance of the Revenue Collection

Rs. ,000

Revenue Code	Description of the Revenue Code	Revenue Estimate		Collected Revenue	
		Original Rs . Mn	Final Rs. Mn	Amount (Rs)	As a % of final Revenue Estimate
2002-01-01	Government building rent	2900	2900	2681.3	92.5
2002-02-99	Loan - interest	5500	5500	5172.4	94
2003-01-00	Sales and fees – Departmental sales	15000	35000	43263.1	123.6
2003-02-99	Sales and fees. Administrative fees and payments - various	1000	250	23.8	9.5
2003-99-00	Sales and fees – Other receipts	5000	3000	4910.3	163.7
2006-02-02	Sales of Capital assets - Other	200	200	177.6	88.8

3.6. Performance of the Utilization of Allocation

Rs. ,000

Type of Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Allocation Utilization as a % of Final Allocation
	Original	Final		
Recurrent	854,000	867,900	839,048.6	96.7
Capital	437,000	437,000	421,318.7	96.4
Total	1,291,000	1,304,900	1,260,367.3	96.6

3.7. In terms of F.R. 208 grant of allocations for expenditure to this Department / District Secretariat / Provincial Council as an agent of other Ministries / Departments.

Rs. ,000

Serial No	Allocation Received from Which Ministry / Department	Purpose of the Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Allocation Utilization as a % of Final Allocation
			Original	Final		
01	Ministry of Plantation Industries	153-2-3-47-2507	34049.8	23900.0	22152.5	92.7

3.8. Performance of the Reporting Non - Financial Assets

Rs. ,000

Assets code	Code Description	Balance as per Board of survey Report as at 31.12.2023	Balance as per financial Position Report as at 31.12.2023	Yet to be Accounted	Reporting progress as a %
9151	Building and Structures	539,750.0	539,750.0		
9152	Machinery and Equipment	326,783.7	325,783.7		
9153	Land	582,941.2	582,941.2		
9154	Intangible Assets				
9155	Biological Assets				
9160	Work in Progress				
9180	Lease Assets				

3.9. Audit Report

3.9. Audit Report

Accounting Officer,
Department of Export Agriculture.

Head -289 The Auditor General's Abstract Report as per the Section 11 (1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 on the Financial Statement of the Department of Export Agriculture for the year ending on 31st December 2023.

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1. Financial Statement

1.1. Qualified Opinion

Head -289The Financial Statement of the Department of Export Agriculture for the year ending on 31st December 2023 comprising the Financial Performance Statement and Financial situation as at 31st December 2023 was audited under my order as per the provisions included in the Constitution 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, which must be read together with the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018. Included on this report are my comments and observations on this Financial Report forwarded to the Department of Export Agriculture as per the Section 11 (1) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.The Annual Detailed Management Audit Report as per the Section

11 (2) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018 was issued to the Accounting Officer on the 24 th May 2023.The Auditor General's Report, which must be forwarded as per the Section 10 of the National Audit Act No .19 of 2018 and must be read together with Article 154 (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka will be presented to the Parliament in the due course.

I am of the view that the financial situation of the Department of Export Agriculture as at 31 st December 2023 and its Financial Performance and Financial Flow for the year ending on that day depict a true and fair situation as per the Accounting Principles commonly agreed upon.

1.2. The Basis for the Qualified Opinion

My opinion is qualified based on the matters indicated in the Para 1.6 of this report. Auditing was carried out by me according to the Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (S.L.A.S).My responsibility with regard to financial statement has been further described under the clause Responsibility of the Auditor. It is my belief that the auditing proofs I have obtained to provide a basis for my opinion are sufficient and appropriate.

1.3. The responsibility of the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer towards the Financial Statement

Preparation of financial statements as per Commonly Agreed Accounting Principles and the provisions mentioned in the Section 38 of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, depicting a true and a fair situation and determination of internal administration required to prepare financial statements devoid of quantitative false statement which may be caused by frauds and errors is the responsibility of the Accounting Officer.

Books and reports on one's revenue, expenses, assets and liabilities must be duly maintained enabling the preparation of annual and periodical financial statements by the department of Export Agriculture as per the Section 16 (1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.

While the Accounting Officer must certify that an effective internal administration system is arranged and continued as per the Sub- section (38) (1)(d) of the National Audit Act for the financial control of the Department of Export Agriculture and the changes required to continue the system effectively, must be made after carrying out reviews on the effectiveness of the system from time to time.

1.4. The Auditor's Responsibility on the Audit of Financial Statements

As a whole, my objective is to provide a reasonable confirmation that the financial statements are devoid of quantitative false statements caused by frauds and errors and to issue the Auditor General's Report including my opinion. Even though the fair certification is a high standard certification when carrying out the auditing as per Sri Lanka Audit standards, it will not be confirmed as devoid of quantitative misstatements. While quantitative misstatements could be caused by frauds and errors individually or wholly, the must be taken in to consideration by the users when arriving at economic decisions based on these financial statements.

The audit was carried out as per Sri Lanka Audit Standards with professional judgment and professional suspicion, as a part of audit.

- I base my opinion on planning a suitable auditing procedures opportune to identifying and assessing the risk of quantitative false statements which may occur in Financial Statements as a result of frauds and errors and obtaining sufficient and suitable auditing proof to avert possible risks occurring as a result of frauds and errors. The effect of a fraud is graver than that of quantitative false statements caused by misstatements since they can occur as a result of collusion, preparation of fake documents, international avoidance, misstatements or miss out by internal administration.

- Even if it was not with view to expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal administration, an understanding on the internal administration was gained in order to plan out appropriate auditing procedures opportunely.
- Assessing that the transactions and events which were the bases for the structure and content of financial statements including disclosures have been included in financial statements appropriately and fairly.

- I assessed that transactions and events which were the base for the structure and content of financial statements have appropriately and fairly been included and the whole presentation of financial statements including disclosures.

I made the Accounting Officer aware of important auditing disclosures and main internal administrative short comings.

1.5 . Report on Other Legal Requirements.
I declare below mention information as per section 6 (1)(D) of the National Audit Act No: 19 of 2018.

(a) Financial Statements corresponds with the last year.
(b) The recommendations I had made with regard to the Financial Statements related to the last year had been implemented.

1.6 Opinion on Financial Statements.

1.6.1. Non-financial Assets

(a) Lands worth Rs.3,000,000, two buildings totaling Rs.7,728,000 and 12 vehicles worth Rs.720,000 had not been recorded under fixed assets in the Statement of Financial Position as of the last date of the year under review.

(b) During the year under review, Rs.3,380,950spent and the capital assets had not been capitalized in 09 cases.

1.6.2. The Imprest Balance

Even though, there was no balance according to the department's Imprest Account (ACA-03) as of the last day of the year under review, in the computer printed notes of the Treasury(SA-70), there was a balance of Rs.21,496,362.

1.6.3 Non-maintenance of Documents and Books

Vegetation Register of the Matale District Office and Matale Central Plant Nursery and the Harvest Register of the Matale District Office had not been continued having updated.

2. Financial Review

2.1. Non-compliance with laws, rules and regulations

The following rules, rules and regulations had been not followed.

Reference to laws, rules and regulations	Value	Non adherence
(a) Parliamentary Acts Section 15 of the Promotion of Export Agriculture Act No. 46 of	Rs. 289,964,900	The schemes for giving subsidies and other financial or other assistance to those who grow and

1992		process agricultural crops must be implemented after making orders by the Minister , Export Promotion Assistance had paid to the beneficiaries during the year under review without making orders by the Minister.
(c) Establishment Code of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Section 1.3 of Chapter XII		Even though approval for leave had to be obtained after submitting the leave applications to the leave approving authority 07 days prior to taking leave, all the applications submitted by officials of the Matale District Office for approval of leave had been delayed for more than 2 months.
(c).The Code of Financial Regulations of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	1,218,365	Although the money collected must be deposited in the bank daily or as early as possible, the money collected in 14 institutes of the department had been banked late by 5 days to 44 days in 41 occasions during the period from January to June 2023, according to the sample check.
i. Financial Regulations 177		
ii. Financial Regulation 395 (c)		In relation to 02 bank accounts of the department, bank reconciliations had been prepared in delay of 15 to 31 days in 12 occasions.

3. Operational Review

3.1. Performance

3.1.1 Planning

No Corporate Plan had been prepared, after 2015

3.1.2 Failure to achieve desired level of output

(4) Department of Export Agriculture had allocated Rs. 400,000,000 for the promotion of 12 types of crops in the year 2023 and had spent Rs.387,697,746 during the year under review. In this connection, plants related to 12 types of crops had been distributed to the farmers during the year. Out of this, 622,226 plants had been distributed to the farmers in Kandy district. Of 9,580 pepper plants that were given to 10 farmers in 03 selected Extension Officer Divisions of Kandy district, 4,240 plants had been destroyed. Also, in relation to Rikilagaskada Extension Officer Division of the NuwaraEliya District, 2,890 and 600 pepper and coffee plants were given respectively, but 1,225 and 598 pepper and coffee plants were destroyed respectively. Also, it was observed that the plants were not maintained, and the follow-up was not done for a sufficient period of time, and due to this, the tested crops had a low feasibility of about 54 percent.

(b) The Department of Export Agriculture had allocated Rs. 10,000,000 for research in the year under review, out of which Rs. 6,410,734 had been spent during the year. Of the said allocation, Matale Research Center had been allocated Rs. 5,703,092 of which Rs.3,607,811 had been spent in the year under review. According to a research conducted on cinnamon at the Matale Research Institute, it was concluded that biscuits can be produced using cinnamon instead of sugar, but no program was implemented to inform the producers in this regard. Similarly, having spent Rs. 730,000 on 04 researches related to developing a method for extracting piperine from dry black pepper and analyzing how the quality of pepper varies depending on the region where pepper is grown in Sri Lanka. No action whatsoever had been taken to communicate this to the public as well as the pepper farmers.

3.1.3. Projects that have not progressed even though funds have been released

On December 29, 2021, Rs.420,031 had been spent on buying the required material for putting up a polythene house at the Plant Nursery of the Central Research Station, Matale. However, the material had been stored without carrying out the construction by the last day of the year under review.

3.2 Asset Management

The following observations are made.

(a) 31 plots of land of 387 acres used by the department had not been acquired as at the last date of the year under review.

(b) 05 vehicles with a total value of Rs.4,850,000 were parked idle and underutilized at the head office and Matale District Office for a period of 24 years.

(c) According to the information obtained in relation to the period from 2019 to 2023, the maximum production capacity level of 12 plant nurseries operated directly by the department was 3,005,000 plants and the production target was 2,104,508.Number of plants produced was 1,829,144. Although 1,560,005 plants were certified during that period, the number of plants released to the field was 1,514,813. Even though the maximum production capacity ofKundasale and Nillamba nurseries under the Department is 250,000 plants annually, the annual production was 65,026 plants i.e. at a low level as 26 percent and compared to the plants target, the release of plants to the field was as low as 44 percent. Similarly, compared to the maximum capacity of 10 other government nurseries, plants production stood at 61 percent.

(d) 4.2 acres of land in the Central Plant Nursery of Mulhalkelle remained underutilized without being used for any productive economic activity.

(e) 5000 liter water tanks numbering 2 purchased for Rs.111,600 in the year 2021 for Matale Central Plant Nursery remained idle for more than 02 years without being used for the intended purpose.

3.3. Transactions in the form of financial irregularities

Even though, there was a shortage of material to the value of Rs. 470,745 at MulhalkelleCentral Plant Nursery, the responsible officials had not identified and taken necessary measures in this regard.

3.4. Losses and damages

According to the financial statements prepared on the last day of the year under review, necessary actions were not taken in relation to 17 losses and damages totaling Rs.903,544.

3.5 Management Weaknesses

(a) Despite the department having 98 vehicles, a vehicle had been acquired for a monthly rental of Rs.178,000 on the basis of driving 3,000 kilometers per month for a period of one

year from May 2022. Even though 36,000 kilometers should have been driven in the year, by driving 18,020 kilometers during that period, 17,980 kilometers had been underutilized and a cost of Rs.1,066,813 had been paid without any use.

(c) The department without specifically identifying the number of tyres required for vehicles, had purchased 50 tyres worth a total of Rs. 2,416,265 by the month of December previous year, of which, 35 tyres worth Rs. 1,812,231 remained in stores, by end of the year under review.

(d) 102 cubes of potting medium to a value of Rs.2,294,000 purchased without identifying the annual material requirement of 02 plant nurseries in the department remained unused during the year under review.

4. Human Resource Management

(a) As at the last date of the year under review, when the approved cadrewas compared with the actual cadre, there were vacancies in 166 posts and 24 posts were in excess.

(b) 24 senior level vacancies were posts belonging to Sri Lanka Scientific Service and it had adversely affected the departmental activities.

(d) Vacancies in 13 posts of District / Subject Related Extension Officers and 34 posts of Extension Officers had adversely affected the smooth running of the field work.

H.A. Ananda

Senior Assistant Auditor General
For the Auditor Genral

Chapter 04

Performance Indicators

4.1. Performance Indicators of the Institute.(Based on Action Plan)

4.1.1. Export Agricultural Crops Development Programme

In the year 2023, of theRs. 390.00 million provided by Treasury under the Export Agricultural Crops Development Program, Rs. 381.30 million was spent on development programmes including expansion of the cultivation extent, development of central nurseries, increasing the productivity, Value Addition Program, communication programs, Capacity Building Program, administrative expenses and bills in hands payments in 2022.

Programme	Allocation Made (Rs.M)	Targets
Program to Increase Crops Extent	210.97	• New Cultivation – 1520hectares • Small Scale Gardens -561,000 plants • Plants for Export Crops Promotion - 79,300 • Under Cluster Village programme-176,150 plants • Areca nut Cultivation Promotion Programme - 100,000 areca nuts plants
Central Plants Nursery Development	18.00	• Areca nut seeds - 40,000 • Cinnamon seeds - 3,500 kg • Cardamom seeds - 50 kg • Nutmeg seeds - 10,000 • Potting media- 625 cubes • Irrigation systems - 02
Export Agricultural Crops Productivity Enhancement Programme	32.06	• Providing plants for gap filling – 1090 hectares • Prevention of animal damage - 25 units • Micro irrigation systems - 10 units
Value Addition Programme	36.50	• Organic Villages (Cinnamon) - 15 hectares • Post-harvest technical equipment - 100 units • Software development - 02 • GMP / GAP / ISO / BRC - 05 • Stakeholder registration- 50,000 • Enterprise Development – 225beneficiaries
Mass Media and Communication	23.88	• Electronic Media - 100 • Leaflets, posters - 300,000 • Printing of technical bulletins - 30,000 • Exhibitions -04 • 10,000 information communications
Skill Development	14.16	• Farmer training 1,585 • Field days- 160 • In-service training programs, Matale-40 • Cinnamon training programs, Matara Cinnamon Research Center - 120 • Digital Extension Programmes -32
Administrative Expenses	10.20	
Bills in hand payments in 2022	44.23	
Total Allocations	390.00	

According to the Action Plan of 2023, New Cultivation and Small Garden Programme, Export Crops Promotion Programme, Cluster Village Program, Turmeric and Ginger Cultivation Program and Areca Nut Cultivation Promotion were implemented under the Cultivation Extension Programme.

Under the New Crops Development Programme implemented by the department in 2023, 785.41 hectares of cinnamon, 371.65 hectares of pepper, 180.04 hectares of Arabica Coffee, 40.90 hectares of cocoa and 7.4 hectares of cardamom were planted as new cultivations. In the year 2023, out of the total targeted new cultivation extent of 1520 hectares, the new cultivation extent completed was 1385.4 hectares.

A total of 529,091 plants including 168,114 pepper plants, 310,686 cinnamon plants, 12,096 garcinia plants and 38,195 coffee plants were given away under the Small Scale Home Gardens Programme. In 2023, the target number of plants under this program was 561,000.

17,772 pepper plants, 40,914 cinnamon plants and 300 coffee plants were provided under the Export s Promotion Programme aimed at providing plants to government institutes, various other institutes and small-scale home gardening. The total number of plants given was 58,986 and the number of plants expected to be given under the program in 2023 was 79,300.

Actions were taken to empower the farmers and coordinate themarket having prepared a systematic plan from the release of the plants to the sale of the harvest by combining a village or several villages as a cluster village and organizing those villages as a group. Under this, 143,275 citronella and lemon grass plants, 17,871 Robusta coffee plants, 2,000 cardamom plants and 400 clove plants were distributed among the farmers and the total number of plants distributed was 163,546. 176,150 plants were expected to be provided under the Cluster Village Programme in 2023.

Under the Turmeric and Ginger Cultivation Programme - 2023, only the necessary technical guidance and awareness programs were conducted for the farmers.

968,300 plants ,out of the target number of one million plants, were made available under the Areca Nut Cultivation Promotion Programmeimplemented to improve the environment conservation and the export of areca nut.

The annual seedling requirement for the development programmes of the Department of Export Agriculture is met by 12 directly maintained snurseries and private nurseries

registered with the department. The department provides the necessary infrastructure, planting materials and planting media for central nurseries, and the production of plants in the department's Central Nurseries was 1,661,052 plants.

89,223 areca nut seeds, 4,587 nutmeg seeds, 3,300 kg cinnamon seeds were purchased for the Departmental Central Nursery. Similarly, for the year 2023, the equipment including shade nets needed for the Central Nurseries was purchased. 461 cubes of potting media required for the production of seedlings were purchased and the actions were taken to obtain the necessary infrastructure for the installation of the Micro-water Supply System at GasnawaNursery.

Under the program to increase the productivity of existing cultivations, it was expected to raise the quantity of harvest obtained from a unit of cultivation extent. In the year 2023, this programme was implemented continuously, and under this, plants required for 1133.07 hectares including 797.6 hectares of cinnamon, 31.10 hectares of Arabica coffee, 295.77 hectares of pepper and 8.6 hectares of cocoa were provided.

Other than providing 16 Pest Control Units to prevent damage to cultivation from wild animals and 08 units of Micro Irrigation Systems to protect the crops from damages due to climatic changes, were made available for the growers on the basis 50% of the cost is borne by the department.

Organic Certification was given to an organic village in Diviulapitiya, Gampaha under the Export Agricultural Crops Organic Programme.

• 03 programs under the Trade Promotion Programme coming under the Value Chain Development Programs and out of the applications submitted to get the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Export Agricultural Crops, 102 GAP Certificates were awarded to 102 applicants .ISO 22000/HACCP certification was awrded to two processing centers and GMP certification was awarded to three centers under the Quality Certification Programme. It was possible to hold 03 programmes under the Trade Promotion Programme. 31,500 stakeholders were registered through the stakeholder registration under the Value Chain Development Programme. Assistance was provided for 117 post-harvest equipment through the Post-harvest Technology Investment Assistance Scheme under the Value Chain Development Programme,

• Many communication programs were implemented in the year 2023 for stakeholders engaged in the field of Export Agricultural Crops as well as those interested in the field.

Information on Export Agricultural Crops was communicated among the stakeholders through the Radio and TV Programmes ,Print Media. Information Center, 1920 Agricultural Advisory Service , Websites, Social Media Networks like Facebook, You Tube, Telegram and Whatsapp . The required technical know howon Export Agricultural Crops has been disseminated through the Information Centre,1920Agricultural Advisory Service, web sites and exhibitions

• Farmer training, field days, training programs at the In –service Training Centre-Matale, cinnamon training programs and online training programmes were conducted under the Capacity Building Programme.

Specific indicators	Actual output as a percentage (%) of expected output		
	100% - 90%	75% - 89%	50% - 74%
Number of New Cultivation hectares	91.14		
Number of plants issued for Small Scale Home Gardens Programme	94.31		
Number of plants issued for the Export Crops Promotion Programme		74.38	
Number of plants released for Cluster Village Programme	92.84		
Number of areca nut plants issued under the Areca Nut Promotion Programme	96.83		
No. of Central Nurseries developed			72.64
Potting media purchases			73.76
Extent of land of which productivity was improved by gap filling (Hectares)	103.95		
Number of Micro Irrigation Systems installed		80	
Number of animal damage protection fences installed			64
Micro irrigation systems installed		80	
Hectares of Organic Export Cultivation	100		
Quantity of post-harvest technology equipment distributed	117		
Trade promotion programs	150		
GAP and other certifications		75	
Registration of stakeholders			63
Enterprise Development Programs	112		
Export Agriculture Media	96.79		
Farmer training	122.40		
Field -Day Programs	135		
In-service Training Programs			72.5
Training Programmes on Cinnamon Peeling		75.83	

- Research division have been conducted knowledge dissemination program during year 2023. Central Research station, Matale conducted 30 training programson EACs. Cinnamon research and training center and IBRS Narammala conducted86 and 11 training programmes respectively.
- Officers of Central Research station, Matale participated to technology dissemination activities through 22 online programs andmass media 36 program.

- Officers of Central Research station, Matale was participated to auditing on 15 programs of Good agricultural practices certification activities during year 2023.
- Research respect to export agricultural crops and plant protection program emphasized on maximum production and high quality from Export agricultural crops. This goal achieved through the functioning of eight research stations.
- Successfully conducted Annual research symposium on 22nd and 23rd June 2023on the theme of "Good Agricultural practices for productivity and quality improvement of Export Agricultural crops". 25 research papers were published on this event.

Laboratory accreditation

- Soil and Plant nutrition laboratory and the postharvest technology laboratory of NCRTC reached the final assessment for achieving the accreditation, as conducted by SLAB, these laboratories have conducted more than 3300 tests this year alone to improve the quality of exports and productivity of the industry.
- Postharvest technology laboratory is processing activities for the accreditation. Assessment was successfully conducted by SLAB and calibration of equipment was conducted by SLSI.

4.1.2. Construction of Buildings ,Renovations, Land Development and Infrastructure Development.

An allocation of 25 million rupees has been allocated for the year 2023 for building repair, infrastructure development and New building Construction under the three programs of Export Agricultural Crops Development Program and the Export Agricultural Crops Research and Integrated Disease and pest Management program.

Vote	Number of projects implemented in Districts	Number of projects implemented in Research Centers
289-02-01-2001	24	13
289-02-01-2104	01	02
289-02-01-2506	12	06

Specific Indexes	Actual output as a percentage of the expected output		
	100%-90%	75%-89%	50%-74%
Number of building renovations completed	100		
Number of infrastructure projects completed	100		
Number of New Building Construction completed	100		

Chapter 05

Performance in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

5.1. Sustainable Developmental Goals identified in Relation to the Department

Department related Sustainable Development Goals	Targets	Achievements made as per the indices	Percentage of Achievements made		
			0%-49%	50%-74%	75%-100%
2.4.1.1.The extent of land covered by Export Agri-Crops under Productive and Sustainable Agriculture	New Cultivation Programme (Hec.) 1520	1385.40 Hec			91.14%
	Small Scale Home Gardens Programme (Distribution of plants) 561,000	529,091 plants			94.31
	Export Agricultural Crops Promotion Programme(Distribution of plants 79,300	58,986 plants		74.38	
	Cluster Village Programme (Distribution of plants)	163,546 plants			92.84
	Electronic Media 100 Leaflets-300,000 Technical Bullatinns 30,000 Exhibitions -04Information Communication - 10,000	Electronic Media -161 Printed- 07 Exhibitions -11 Information Communication -4796			96.79
	Farmer Training Programmea - 1585	Farmer Training Programmes 1940			100
	Value Chain and Value Addition Promotion Programme Field day Programmes -160	Field day Programmes-216			100
17.11.1.1. The share of Export Agriculture of the Agriculture Sector under	Trades Promotion Programmes – In service Training Programmes -40	In service Training Programmes - 29(Online- 68)		72.5	

the local contribution for the foreign market.	GAPCertification – Organic Certificates -03 Other certificates - (GMP/ISO/BRC)-05	Organic Certificates- 01 Other Certificates - (GMP/ISO/BRC)-03			75
	Registration of stakeholders- 50,000	31,500		63	
	Entrepreneurship Development Programmes 225 beneficiaries	254 beneficiaries			112
	Cinnamon traingProgramme 120	Cinnamon Training Programme 91			75.83
2.5.1.1.Number of exportable agricultural crop genetic resources secured in medium or long-term conservation facilities	Overall 23 Researches were carried out as cinnamon -04, Turmeric-03,Pepper -05, Coffee-02, Cardamom -02, Nutmeg-01, Ginger-02,Betel -01, Areca nut- 01,Garcinia -01 and Vanilla 01.	Findings -7	30		
9.5.2. Innovations and Researches continued	No. of researches -168 Researches continued-87	Innovations - 126			75

5.2. Achievements and Challenges in Accomplishing Sustainable Development Goals

The Export Agriculture Department initiated export-oriented agricultural cultivations with the aim of achieving sustainable and productive agriculture in order to accomplish the sustainable development goals. Under this, a new cultivated area of 1,385.4 hectares of Export Agricultural Crops was established to attract stakeholders to the export agriculture sector, increase the cultivation extent of farmers, and elevate the income of all parties involved in the export crop sector, thereby enhancing the economy. The primary challenge was the establishment of these new cultivations while being resilient to the continuous climatic and weather conditions, as well as the damages caused by diseases and pests affecting the export agricultural crops.

In the pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals, a program was implemented to establish Model Home Gardens for Export Agricultural Crops with the objective of enabling households to procure spice from their own premises and consume locally produced, chemical-free food, thereby fulfilling the overall spice requirements of the nation's population.

Under this program, a total of 529,091 plants of pepper, cinnamon, cloves, and coffee were distributed. However, due to the limited budgetary allocation for this initiative, while farmers were able to receive the targeted export crops, they were unable to obtain plants for additional crops such as turmeric, ginger, and vanilla, which posed a challenge.

Under the Export Crop Promotion Programme, various community organizations and societies, as well as governmental/non-governmental/private institutions have submitted requests, and plants have been provided to them under this programme.

The Export Agriculture Zone (EAZ) program was implemented in 2023 with the aim of identifying and promoting the cultivation of agricultural crops with high export potential, considering the environmental, social, and agricultural factors specific to the target regions. Under this program, plants such as cashew, cinnamon, coffee, vanilla, cardamom, and cocoa were provided. This initiative was undertaken to strengthen the economy through enhanced national production of export-oriented agricultural crops.

Environmental conservation is a key component in the pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals. Accordingly, a program was implemented in 2023 to expand the cultivation of areca nut along irrigation canals and drainage systems. Under this program, 968,300 areca nut plants were distributed to farmers. While there was demand for areca nut for hedgerows and home gardens, propagating the cultivation of areca nut as a mono-crop remained a challenge.

In 2023, The government launched the Program to Enhance the Productivity of Export Crop Cultivations in order to facilitate adaptation to the incessantly changing climatic and meteorological anomalies, as well as natural disasters, while also strengthening the sustainable food production process. Under this program, a 50% investment subsidy was provided to the farmers for the installation of micro-irrigation systems/drip irrigation systems and pest control units, which aimed to mitigate drought-related yield losses. This intervention facilitated the establishment of 16 pest control units and 8 micro-irrigation systems. However,

the low propensity of farmers to participate in the productivity enhancement program posed a challenge in the effective implementation of this initiative.

The sustainable socio-economic model towards a climate-resilient society has been implemented through the Organic Village Program, which aims to promote environmentally-friendly agriculture and healthy food production. This program encourages farmers to adopt organic farming practices and efficient water management techniques for the cultivation of Export Agricultural Crops, with the objective of transitioning towards pesticide-free, environmentally-friendly export agriculture.The program has focused on encouraging the adoption of organic farming for Export Crops Cultivation, and the lands practicing these recommended organic practices have been incorporated into the Organic Certification Program as a cohesive farming system. Furthermore, the Export Crop Agriculture Value Chain Development Program has facilitated the establishment of organic export crop cultivations, with the GampahaDivulapitiyaOrganic Village currently in its third year of organic certification, for which the department has allocated funds to the farmer organization. Implementation of the Organic Village Programme is challenged by the limitation of the lands maintaining Export Agricultural Crops as organic cultivations.

The region has the potential to achieve high economic benefits by considering the environmental, social, and agricultural factors that are specific and recommended to the area. Through an export agricultural zone, activities such as cultivation, production processing, value addition, marketing and exporting, as well as ensuring the entire value chain, certification, and management are facilitated to develop the value chain of production.This program aimed to aggregate the rural population and carry out production targeting national and international markets as well as niche markets. The Export Agricultural Zone Program was launched in 2023. Under this program, 404,537 plants of cinnamon, cocoa, coffee, vanilla, cardamom, and pepper were distributed. While implementing this program, the challenge was to cater to the seedling requests made by villages not belonging to the selected villages where the plants were distribute

Chapter – 06

Human Resource Profile

6.1. Cadre Management

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies
Senior	86	58	28
Territory	29	12	17
Secondary	800	717	83
Primary	350	337	13
Watcher *Departmental			
Laborers* Departmental			
Total	1265	1124	141

6.2. The way in which the lack of human recourses has affected the performance of the department.

Mention briefly how the shortage or surplus of human resources has effected the performance of the institute. The vacancies existing in the Sri Lanka scientific Service and the Sri Lanka Technological Service has hampered the efficiency of the research and extension activities of Export Agricultural Crops.

6.3. Human Resource Development

Name of Programme	No. of Officers Trained	Duration of the Programme	Total Investment		Nature of programe Local /Foreign	Output/ Knowledge Received
			Local (Rs.)	Foreign		
One day Training Programme on Awarding Phytosanitary Certificate	04	01 Day	60,000.00		Local	Procedure to be followed in obtaining Phytosanitary Certificate Redsons for disqualification for Phytosanitary Certificate and knowledge on Technical valuation.
Certificate Course on staff Training and Development	01	26 Days	Free		Local	Knowledge required for carrying out the duties pertaining to the post
Training Programme on the Maintanance of Land Files	11	02 Days	10,500.00		Local	Gaining Knowledge on the process of Land acquisition (Government/ Private/LRC)

Training Programme on Procument Methods	02	01 Day	Free		Local	Carrying on Procument Activities efficiency and productively
Three Months certificate course on Management pestaining to Efficiency ba	19	03 Months			Local	Carrying out the duties in a transparent efficient and productive manner
Training Programe on Implementing Digital Policy	09	01 Day	Free		Local	How to take actions under the maintenance of computer Data
Training Program on Storing Computer Data	08	01 Day	Free		Local	
"CIGAS" Training Programe	100	01 Day	54,724.73		Local	Resolution of the problems with regard to "CIGAS" in head office and sub- offices
Training on Central Plant Nursery Management	45	02 Days	73,853.26		Local	Knowledge on Plant Nursery Management
Program on the preparation of Combined Treasury Management Information System	80	04 Days	392,656.79		Local	Knowledge on ITMIS System and its function
GAP Training program (Preparation of Bulletin Good Agricultural Practices)	16	01 Day	12,000.00		Local	Knowledge on GAP Certification for a selected Export Agri Crops
In –Service Training Program for Extension officers working in the posts of Special Grade 1, 1st class and District Extention officer	45	02 Days	73,532.00		Local	Knowledge required in carrying out the functiond of the post efficiently
GAP Training Programe (Preparation of the Standarized Bulletin for Good Agricultural Practices – Vanilla)	21	01 Day	12,914.00		Local	Knowledge on GAP Certificate for selected Export Agri Crops
Training Program on Production of Plants through Branches and matters to be considered compulsorily	50	02 Days	29,984.00		Local	Knowledge required in planting coffee branch plants / seeed Plants

Chapter - 07

Report of Conformity

No	Applicable Requirement	Compliance Status (Complied / Not Complied	Brief explanation for Non Compliance	Corrective actions proposed to avoid non – Compliance in future
1	The following Financial statements/accounts have been submitted on due date	Complied		
1.1	Annual financial statements	Complied		
1.2	Advance to public officers account	Complied		
1.3	Trading and Manufacturing Advance Accounts (Commercial Advance Accounts)	Not Complied		
1.4	Stores Advance Accounts	Not Complied		
1.5	Special Advance Accounts	Not Complied		
1.6	Others			
2	Maintenance of books and registers (FR445)/	Complied		
2.1	Fixed assets register has been maintained and update in terms of Public Administration Circular 267/201 8	Complied		
2.2	Personal emoluments register/ Personal emoluments cards has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.3	Register of Audit queries has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.4	Register of Internal Audit reports has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.5	All the monthly account summaries (CIGAS) are prepared and submitted to the Treasury on due date	Complied		
2.6	Register for cheques and money orders has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.7	Inventory register has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.8	Stocks Register has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.9	Register of Losses has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.10	Commitment Register has been maintained and update	Complied		
2.11	Register ofCounterfoil Books(GA -N20) has been maintained and update	Complied		
03	Delegation of functions for financial control (FR 135)			
3.1	The financial authority hasbeen delegated within the institute	Complied		

3.2	The delegation of financial authority has been communicated within the institute	Complied		
3.3	The authority has been delegate din suchmanner so as to pass each transaction through two or more officers	Complied		
3.4	The controls has been adhered to by the Accountants in terms of State Account Circular 171/2004 dated I 1.05.2014 in using the Government Payroll Software Package	Complied		
4	Preparation of Annual Plans			
4.1	The annual action plan has been prepared	Complied		
4.2	The annual procurement plan has been prepared	Complied		
4.3	The annual Internal Audit plan has been prepared	Complied		
4.4	The annual estimate has been prepared and submitted to the NBD on due date	Complied		
4.5	The annual cash flow has been Submitted to the Treasury Operations Department on time	Complied		
5	Audit queries			
5.1	All the audit queries has been replied within the specified time by the Auditor General	Complied		
6	Internal Audit			
6.1	The internal audit plan has been prepared at the beginning of the year after consulting the Auditor Genral in terms of Financial Regulation 134 (2) DMA/ 1- 2019	Complied		
6.2	All the internal audit reports has been replied within one month	Not Complied		
6.3	Copies of all the internal audit reports has been submitted to the Management Audit Department in terms of sub- section 40(4) of the National Audit Act No:19 of 2018	Complied		
6.4	All the copies of internal audit reports has been submitted to the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134 (3)	Complied		
7	Audit and Management Committee			
7.1	Minimum 04 meetings of the Audit and Management Committee has been held during the year as per the DMA Circular I -2019	Complied		
8	Asset Management			
8.1	The information about purchases of assets and disposals was submitted to the Comptroller General's Office in terms of Paragraph 07 of the Asset Management Circular No. 01/2017	Complied		
8.2	A suitable Liaison officer was appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the circular and the details of the nominated officer was sent to the Comptroller	Complied		

	General's office in terms of Paragraph 13 of the aforesaid circular			
8.3	The boards of survey was conducted and the relevant reports submitted to the Auditor General on due date in terms of Public Finance Circular No. 05/2016	Complied		
8.4	The excesses and deficits that were disclosed through the board of survey and other relating recommendations, actions were carried out during the period specified in the circular	Complied		
8.5	The disposal of condemn articles had been carried out in terms of FR 772	Complied		
9	Vehicle Management			
9.1	The daily running charts and monthly summaries of the pool vehicles had been prepared and submitted to the Auditor General on due date	Not Complied		There has been a delay. It has been arranged to present it correctly in the future.
9.2	The condemned vehicles had been disposed of within a period of less than 6 months after condemning	Complied		
9.3	The vehicle logbooks had been maintained and updated	Complied		
9.4	The action has been taken in terms of F.R. 103, 104, 109 and 110 with regard to every vehicle accident	Complied		
9.5	The fuel consumption of vehicles has been re-tested in terms of the provisions of Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of29.12.2016	Not Complied	Due to restriction of fuel supply by a QR code, it is not possible to conduct fuel combustion tests due to inability to apply sufficient fuel	Relevant inspections can be updated once Sufficient fuel is available
9.6	The absolute ownership of the leased vehicle log books has been transferred after the lease term	Complied		
10	Management of Bank Accounts			
10.1	The bank reconciliation statements had been prepared, got certified and made ready for audit by the due date	Complied		
10.2	The dormant accounts that had existed in the year under review or since previous years settled	Complied		
10.3	The action had been taken in terms ofFinancial Regulations regarding balances that had been disclosed through bank reconciliation statements and for which adjustments had to be made, and had those balances been settled within one month	Not Complied		

11	Utilization of Provisions			
11.1	The provisions allocated had been spent without exceeding the limit	Complied		
11.2	The liabilities not exceeding the Provisions that remained at the end of the year as per the FR 94(l)	Complied		
12	Advances to Public Officers Account			
12.1	The limits had been complied with	Complied		
12.2	A time analysis had been carried out on the loans in arrears	Complied		
12.3	The loan balances in arrears for over one year had been settled	Complied		
13	General Deposit Account			
13.1	The action had been taken as per F.R.571 in relation to disposal of lapsed deposits.	Complied		
13.2	The control register for general deposits had been updated and maintained	Complied		
14	Imprest Account			
14.1	The balance in the cash book at the end of the year under review remitted to TOD	Complied		
14.2	The ad- hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R.371 Settled within one month from the completion of the task	Complied		
14.3	The ad-hoc sub imprests had been issued exceeding the limit approved as per F.R .371	Complied		
14.4	The balance of the imprest account had been reconciled with the Treasury books monthly	Complied		
15	Revenue Account			
15.1	The refunds from the revenue had been made in terms of the regulations	Complied		
15.2	The revenue collection had been directly credited to the revenue account without credited to the deposit account	Complied		
15.3	Returns of arrears of revenue forward to the Auditor General in terms of FR 176	Complied		
16	Human Resource Management			
16.1	The staff had been paid within the approved cadre	Complied		
16.2	All members of the staff have been issued a duty list in writing	Complied		
16.3	All reports have been submitted to MSD in terms of their circular no. 04/2017 dated 20.09.2017	Complied		
17	Provision of information to the public			
17.1	An information officer has been appointed and a proper register of information is maintained and updated in terms of Right To Information Act and Regulation	Complied		
17.2	Information about the institution to the public have been provided by Website oral ternative measures and has it been facilitated to appreciate/ allegation to public against thepublic authority by this website or alternative measures	Complied		

17.3	Bi- Annual and Annual reports have been submitted as persecution08and 10 of the RTIAct	Is being prepared		
18	Implementing citizens charter			
18.1	A citizens charter/ Citizens client's charter has been formulated and implemented by the Institution in terms of the circular number 05/2008 and 05/2018(1) of Ministry of Public Administration and Management	Complied		
18.2	A methodology has been devised by the Institution in order to monitor and assess the formulation and the implementation f Citizens Charter/ Citizens client's charter as per paragraph 2.3 of the circular	Complied		
19	Preparation of the Human Resource Plan			
19.1	A human resource plan has been prepared in terms ofthe format in Annexure 02 of Public Administration Circular No.02/2018 dated 24.01.2018	Complied		
19.2	A minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for each member of the staff has been ensured in the aforesaid Human Resource Plan	Complied		According to paragraph 6 © of Budget circular No. 1/2023 bearing BD/CBP/01/01/05/2022 dated 27.01.2023 training activities had to be severely restricted.
19.3	Annual performance agreements have been signed for the entire staff based on the format in Annexure 01 ofthe aforesaid Circular	Complied		
19.4	A senior officer was appointed and assigned the responsibility of preparing the human resource development plan. Organizing capacity building programs and conducting skill development programs as per paragraph No .6.5 of the aforesaid Circular	Complied		
20	Responses Audit Paras			
20.1	The shortcomings pointed out in the audit paragraphs issued by the Auditor General for the previous years have been rectified	Complied		

Export & Import Volume and Value of Export Agriculture Crops -2023

Commodity	Units		Import	Export
Cinnamon	Volume	Metric .T	16.49	19,676.55
	Value	Rs. Mn	87.25	68,560.03
Cinnamon Leaf Oil	Volume	Metric .T	0.05	198.39
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.74	958.89
Cinnamon Bark Oil	Volume	Metric .T	0.25	6.68
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.35	466.94
Clove	Volume	Metric .T	10.00	4283.94
	Value	Rs. Mn	22.64	13,061.90
Clove Stems	Volume	Metric .T		1,558.42
	Value	Rs. Mn		1,762.79
Clove Oil	Volume	Metric .T	2.02	10.64
	Value	Rs. Mn	20.15	168.65
Cocoa & Cocoa Products	Volume	Metric .T	4669.14	1,985.09
	Value	Rs. Mn	8846.52	6,649.56
Coffee	Volume	Metric .T	361.88	34.71
	Value	Rs. Mn	1209.10	145.83
Pepper	Volume	Metric .T	43.54	14,254.94
	Value	Rs. Mn	97.87	29,329.45
Pepper Oil	Volume	Metric .T	0.65	64.19
	Value	Rs. Mn	1.47	692.53
Oleoresin	Volume	Metric .T	2.34	188.67
	Value	Rs. Mn	21.88	2,371.56
Cardamom	Volume	Metric .T		7.59
	Value	Rs. Mn		438.99
Cardamom Oil	Volume	Metric .T	0.04	0.61
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.80	56.31
Citronella	Volume	Metric .T	0.03	0.75
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.02	6.49
Lemon Grass Oil	Volume	Metric .T	0.00	394.88
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.01	2,061.71
Nutmeg	Volume	Metric .T		2,323.04
	Value	Rs. Mn		4,571.05
Mace	Volume	Metric .T		394.88
	Value	Rs. Mn		2,061.71
Mace Oil	Volume	Metric .T		1.24
	Value	Rs. Mn		25.17
Nutmeg Oil	Volume	Metric .T		63.17
	Value	Rs. Mn		1,152.85
Vanilla	Volume	Metric .T	0.59	5.56
	Value	Rs. Mn	3.88	456.63
Vanilla Oil	Volume	Metric .T	0.84	0.64
	Value	Rs. Mn	3.56	1.34
Arecanut	Volume	Metric .T		14,051.38
	Value	Rs. Mn		19,686.13
Betel	Volume	Metric .T	0.05	3,555.89
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.03	4,856.70
Ginger	Volume	Metric .T	0.80	98.13
	Value	Rs. Mn	0.92	232.20
Ginger Oil	Volume	Metric .T	1.02	5.71
	Value	Rs. Mn	15.30	109.20
Turmeric	Volume	Metric .T		89.28
	Value	Rs. Mn		262.40
Garcinia	Volume	Metric .T	68.13	117.95
	Value	Rs. Mn	123.19	220.19
එකතුව	Volume	Metric .T	**5,199.98**	**63,232.77**
	Value	Rs. Mn	**10,737.94**	**157,423.36**

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

2023

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