

PERFORMANCE REPORT

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2013

SUPERIOR COURTS COMPLEX

COLOMBO 12.

WEB SITE:-www.justiceministry.gov.lk

HON .RAUFF HAKEEM

MINISTER OF JUSTICE

MRS .KAMALINI DE SILVA

SECRETARY - MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

CONTENTS

	PAGE
1. VISION & MISSION	04
2. FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE	05
3. FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE MINISTRY	06
4. FUNCTIONS OF THE DIVISIONS UNDER THE MINISTRY	08
5. PROGRESS OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE	
5.1 LEGAL DIVISION	09
5.2 ADMINISTRATION & ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION	13
5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION	17
5.4 ACCOUNTS DIVISION	20
5.5 PLANNING DIVISION	21
5.6 TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR NON JUDICIAL OFFICERS	21
5.7 INTERNAL AUDIT DIVISION	22
6. PROGRESS OF THE DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE MINISTRY	
6.1 GOVERNMENT ANALYST’S DEPARTMENT	23
6.2 DEPARTMENT OF LAW COMMISSION	25
6.3 DEPARTMENT OF DEBT CONCILIATION BOARD	26
6.4 SRI LANKA LEGAL AID COMMISSION	27
6.5 MEDIATION BOARDS COMMISSION	30
7. COURTS OF LAW	
7.1 REGISTRY OF THE SUPREME COURT	33
7.2 REGISTRY OF THE COURT OF APPEAL	35
7.3 OFFICE OF THE LABOUR TRIBUNALS	36
7.4 QUAZI COURTS AND QUAZIS BOARD OF APPEAL	38
8. RELATED INSTITUTIONS	
8.1 SRI LANKA LAW COLLEGE	40

Ministry of Justice

THE VISION

Efficient system of administration of justice;

Law reform to respond to societal needs in keeping with global advancements and the aspirations of the people;

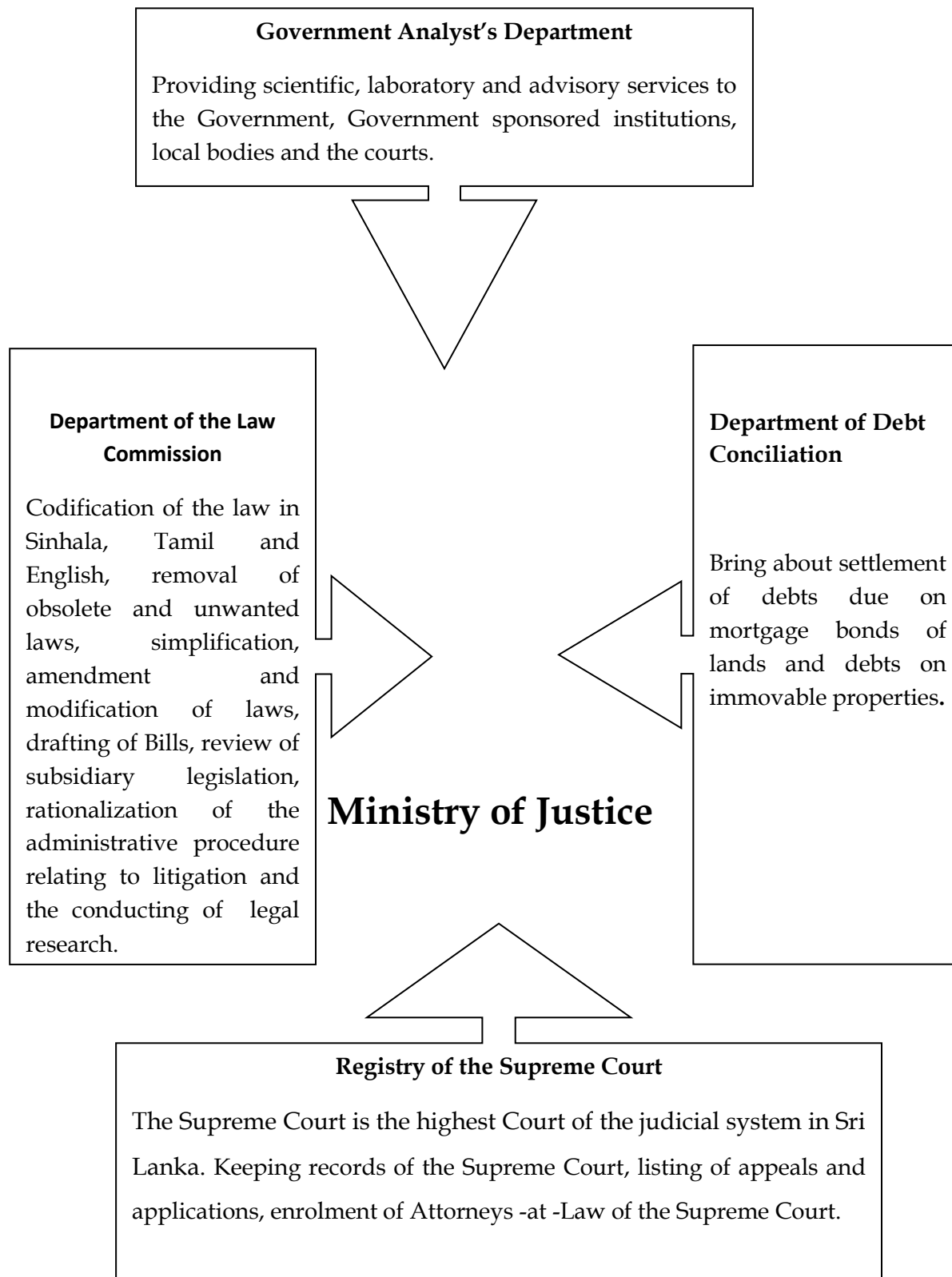
THE MISSION

- Formulation and implementation of policies, plans and programmes aimed at the efficient and meaningful administration of justice;
- Law reform for greater recognition, protection and promotion of the rights of the citizens.

2. Functions of the Ministry

- Formulation of policies, plans and programmes in respect of the machinery for administration of justice
- Implementation and direction of such policies, plans and programmes within the time limit agreed with the national planning authorities and within budgeted resources.
- Matters relating to the administration of justice which have not been assigned to any other Institution in terms of the Constitution.
- Courts Administration
- Advice in respect of granting of pardons, commutation, remissions, respites, suspensions of sentences passed on any offender.
- Matters relating to labour tribunals
- The restatement and codification of law
- Law reforms
- Preparation and issue of legal glossaries
- Formulation and implementation of a scheme to enhance the efficacy and efficiency of the quasi system.
- Formulation and implementation of programmes for elimination of delays in the administration of justice in consultation with the judiciary.
- Publication of Law Reports
- Supervision of Departments /Institutions that come under the purview of the Ministry of Justice and all other subjects that comes under the purview of these Departments /Institutions.

03. Functions of the Departments under the Ministry



In pursuance of the vision of the Mahinda Chinthana;

- Provision of free legal assistance and establishment of Legal Aid Centers Island wide for the benefit of the low income groups.
- Decentralization at provincial level of the judicial functions of the Court of Appeal.
- To provide for alternative dispute resolution mechanism by strengthening the mediation system.
- Introduce new laws for better and effective administration of justice.
- Re-establishment of Courts in the North.
- Arrangements for the filling of the vacancies of Muslims Inquirers into Sudden Deaths and for the creation of posts to new areas, as required.
- Dispute resolution system to be strengthened by establishing new Labour Tribunals.
- Provision of state of the art laboratories with modern equipment and office facilities to expedite the issuance of specialized expert reports of the Government Analyst's Department.
- Reduction of the backlog of cases.
- Steps taken to establish separate Courts for Children.
- Decentralization of the functions of the Department of Debt Conciliation Board to ensure the expeditious disposal of proceedings.

04. Functions of the Divisions under the Ministry

- The functions of the Ministry are carried out by the following divisions,

- I. Legal Division
- II. Administration/ Establishment Division
- III. Infrastructure Division.
- IV. Accounts Division
- V. Planning Division
- VI. Internal Audit Division

I. Legal Division

Formulation of policies for the laws relating to an instrumental in the administration of Justice, publication of law reports and Legal Aid. The Central authority for the Mutual Assistance in Criminal, Civil and Commercial matters and the Civil Aspects of International Child abduction. Transfer of Prisoners under Act No 5 of 1995, and Recommendation on Grants of Pardons.

II. Administration/ Establishments Division

Establishment matters of all officers of the Ministry and the Departments which are coming under the Ministry (other than Scheduled Public Officers appointed by the Judicial Service Commission)

III. Infrastructure Division

Construction of Court-houses, Judges' Quarters and Labour Tribunals and other affiliated buildings and any additions and improvements to them.

IV. Accounts Division

Financial Planning, Management and Control of financial aspects of the Ministry, Department and Courts.

V. Planning Division

Project Planning, Progress control and Monitoring of activities of the Ministry and departments that come under the Ministry.

VI. Internal Audit

Auditing of accounts of the Ministry, departments and court-houses.

05. Progress of the Ministry of Justice

5.1 LEGAL DIVISION

The following Bills, and amendments to acts have been prepared by the legal division up to 31st Dec. 2013.

01. CHILDREN (JUDICIAL PROTECTION) BILL

This Bill seeks to provide for contemporary realities relating to Child Protection and repeals the antiquated Children and Young Persons Ordinance. It seeks to increase the collaboration between the Court, the police and probation. The best interest of the child is given paramount consideration. It is expected to submit this as a joint Cabinet Memorandum with the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs.

02. PRESCRIPTION (Special Provisions) BILL

The Bill seeks to give relief to persons who are disadvantaged by reason of the provisions of the Prescription Ordinance. The Bill has been drafted by the Legal Draftsman in accordance with the recommendations of the Sub Committee of Legislation and shortly send to Cabinet.

03. AMENDMENT TO THE PRESCRIPTION ORDINANCE (Section 15)

The Cabinet Sub Committee on Legislation has given its recommendations and the Bill has been drafted by the Legal Draftsman incorporating the recommendations of the Cabinet Sub Committee of Legislation.

04. OBSCENE PUBLICATION BILL

A section which dealt with child pornography, in the Computer Crimes Bill was removed, on the understanding that it would be included in the New Obscene Publication Bill. The Bill is under consideration by the Attorney General's Department.

05. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE (Special Provisions) Bill

The Bill was passed by Parliament on 22-01-2013 (Act No. 2 of 2013).

06. AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE Act , No. 15 of 1979

The Bill has been drafted, to give effect to certain recommendations contained in the National Human Rights Action Plan.

07. AMENDMENT TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA ACT

The Bill has been drafted to give effect to certain recommendations in the National Human Rights Action Plan.

08. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Bill seeks to empower the Presidents of Labour Tribunals to enforce their awards. However, certain objections were put forward by Trade Unions to the Ministry of Labour.

09. ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION TO VICTIMS AND WITNESSES BILL

The Bill makes provision for providing assistance and protection to victims and witnesses. The Bill has been sent to the Cabinet. The Cabinet referred it to the Cabinet sub Committee on Legislation and the Legal Draftsman has incorporated the recommendations of the Cabinet Sub Committee on Legislation. Cabinet has referred it for the observations of the Minister of Finance and Planning.

10. NOTARIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Due to the high prevalence of land frauds, it is sought to amend the Notaries Ordinance to provide for bio-metric signatures to deeds at the time of signing. The Bill incorporates certain other provisions designed to prevent fraud. The Bill has been sent to the Cabinet. The Cabinet referred it to the Cabinet sub Committee on Legislation. The Cabinet Sub Committee on Legislation has made certain recommendations and they have been incorporated in the Bill. The Bill will be sent to the Legal Draftsman.

11. MUSLIM MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Amendments to the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act are being discussed at a Committee appointed by the Hon. Minister of Justice and are in the process of being drafted.

12. PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Bill seeks to give relief in cases where the girl and boy in statutory rape cases have been conducting a close consensual relationship. The Bill is under consideration.

13. PRISONS ADMINISTRATION BILL

This Bill provides for a new regime for the administration of prisons and has been sent to the Ministry of Prisons and Rehabilitation.

14. PARENTAGE TESTS IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS BILL

The Bill provides for DNA tests to be done to determine paternity or maternity. The Bill would be of great assistance in matters such as custody of children, maintenance proceedings and inheritance. The Bill was submitted to the Cabinet.

15. JUDICATURE (AMENDMENT) ACT (Increase of High Court Judges)

Subsequent to a request being received to increase the number of High Court Judges to 92. A cabinet memorandum with the draft Bill attached, was forwarded to Cabinet.

16. CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE (Judicial Mediation) and PRE-TRIAL (Proceedings) BILL

The Bill is being considered, by the Cabinet Sub Committee on Legislation.

17. RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGMENTS.

The draft bill sent by the Law Commission is under consideration.

18. REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS (Special Provisions) BILL

This Bill was passed by Parliament (Act, No. 37 of 2013)

19. CONTEMPT OF COURT BILL

It is under consideration.

Other Functions

• INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION ACT, NO 10 OF 2001

38 applications have been received in respect of child abduction under the Act No.10 of 2001. Most of them could be settled without filing cases. Presently only one case is pending in the High Court under this Act, two children abducted to Australia and Italy were brought back to Sri Lanka. Two children brought from Norway were returned back to Norway by a court order. Two applications have been received from UK and Ireland and are being processing by the Ministry.

- **Transfer of Offenders**

Act No. 05 of 1995, provides for the transfer to a specified country of a citizen of such country convicted of an offence in Sri Lanka and transfer to Sri Lanka of any citizen of Sri Lanka convicted of an offence in a specified country. Accordingly, 23 Indian offenders, 50 Pakistan offenders and one Maldives offender have been transferred to relevant countries. Two Sri Lankans convicted of an offences in the United Kingdom have been transferred to Sri Lanka under the provisions of this Act, to serve their term of imprisonment imposed upon them. Negotiations are being made for transfer of 10 Sri Lankan Prisoners from Maldives in due course.

- **International Arbitration Centre**

Developing the country as a regional hub in relation to allied services was identified in the 2010 budget speech, considering the potential in the legal sector and professional standards prevalent in the legal services. In view of this proposal, it was decided to establish an International Arbitration Center, in Colombo.

International Arbitration is a leading method of resolving disputes arising from international commercial agreements and other international relationships and has long asserted its superiority over transnational litigation. The role of the Ministry of Justice in this endeavor is to provide support to establish the center. The government has allocated 100 million for this task. A Center is established in the World Trade Center with latest technical facilities. A Consultant has been appointed to look into administrative matters and other concerns in relation to the establishment of the Centre. The Centre will provide a venue for International Arbitrations.

- **Matters pertaining to summons issued by the Courts in Sri Lanka for the service on defendants abroad.**

In pursuance of Mutual Assistance in Civil and Commercial Matters Act, No.39 of 2000, 388 foreign summons issued by the Courts of Sri Lanka with reference to the period between January 2013 to December 2013, have been furnished to different Courts through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as indicated below.

Country	No. of Summons Issued	Country	No. of Summons Issued
Australia	25	Austria	02
Canada	11	China	01
Cyprus	06	Croatia	02
Estonia	01	France	14
Germany	08	India	19
Italy	78	Japan	12
Jordan	10	Korea	05
Kuwait	13	Lebanon	04
Malaysia	08	New Zealand	04
Oman	04	Pakistan	01
Qatar	13	Saudi Arabia	09
Seychelles	02	Switzerland	08
Tanzania	01	United Arab Emirates	48
United Kingdom	56	United States	19
Ukraine	01	Venezuela	03

- **Treaties on Mutual Legal Assistance in criminal Matters**

The treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal matters between Sri Lanka and Belarus provides for parties to grant each other mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, including investigations, prosecutions, trials and resulting proceedings. The objective of the memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Justice of Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Belarus is to provide a legal framework for cooperation between the parties on issues pertinent to the development of their legal systems, institutions and legislation in a manner which would be beneficial to both countries and in conformity with their laws and international treaties which the respective states have accepted or signed.

Mutual Legal Assistance on Criminal Matters and Prisoner Transfer with Russian Federation have been finalized. Also Sri Lanka participated in the negotiation of a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with BIMSTEC countries.

- **UNDP – Equal Access to Justice Project**

Under the aegis of the above Project Ministry of Justice initiated a Programme to assist the Court of Appeal to clear back log of cases accumulated at the Court for non-availability of adequate number of Tamil Translators who could translate Tamil briefs into English language, At the time there were only one judge at the court of Appeal who could read and understand Tamil language. Therefore in August 2013, a Special Translator's Unit was set up at the Court of Appeal by the Ministry of Justice as a pilot Project to get 30 such briefs translated and submit for hearing. The period of the pilot Project ended in 31 December 2013. At the end of the Project all 30 briefs were translated and listed for hearing by the Court of Appeal for early 2014. The Project will continue as a main Project under the Ministry of Justice in 2014.

- **Project on Child Protection and Children's Courts established in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund**

The main objective of this project is to expedite the processing and disposal of cases of child abuse and prevention of secondary victimization of victims of child abuse. The institutions coming under this project are Attorney General's Department, Police Department and Ministry of Health.

This new initiative is intended to expedite the processing and disposal of cases of child abuse in less than one year from the date of complaint to the police. The project also aims at ensuring the prevention of secondary victimization of child victims of crime when they participate in the Criminal Justice System.

Several Training Programmes were conducted in Anuradhapura, Kandy, Hambantota and Tangalle. 394 Officers (OIC Police Stations, OIC Crimes, OIC Women and Children's Bureau and Magistrate Courts Prosecuting Officers participated. Several activities were carried out for clearance of backlog of child abuse cases arising in the Pilot Project areas. Final draft of Children (Judicial Protection) Bill has been developed and finalized in consultation with stakeholders.

- **Official Web Site of the Ministry of Justice**

Official web-site of the Ministry of Justice- www.justiceministry.gov.lk.

5.2 ADMINISTRATION& ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION

The primary object of the Administration and Establishment Division is to assist in providing trained and skilled human resources to the Ministry of Justice and the Departments and other institutions which come under the purview of the Ministry. This includes approval of cadre, preparation of recruitment procedures, selections and recruitments, trainings, transfers, promotions and disciplinary control of officers. Accordingly, the Administration and Establishment Division of the Ministry bears the responsibility in respect of the administration and control of 215 officers directly attached to the Ministry of Justice in addition to 3697 officers who are serving in the courts throughout the island.

Additionally, approval of loan and advances, securities of public servants and auction of court productions confiscated by courts are also carried out by the Establishment and Administration Division. Further, appointment of Inquirers into Sudden Deaths, Justices of the Peace, Justices of the Peace and Unofficial Magistrates, Commissioner for Oaths and Sworn Translators are other functions discharged by the Administration and Establishment Division.

The services rendered by the Establishment and Administration Division for the period from 01.01.2013 to 31.12.2013 are given below.

- **Creation of posts**

As per the Financial Regulation 71, new posts created with reference to the above period are as follows-

Department	Staff Grade	Parallel Services	Minor employee	Total
Ministry of Justice		42		42
Courts		618		618
Government Analyst's Department		06		06
Department of Law Commission		04		04
Dept. of Debt Conciliation Board		02		02
Office of the Labour Tribunal		15	01	16
Non Judicial Officers' training Institute	01	03	03	07
Judges' Training Institute	06	09	06	21
	Total			716

- **Preparation of schemes of recruitment and submission for approval**

Twelve (12) schemes of recruitment during the period under review have been submitted to Public Services Commission for approval of them, 08 schemes of recruitment were given approval by the Public Services Commission.

Recruitments and Appointments

Recruitments

Institution	Post	Number of Recruitments
Ministry of Justice	Assistant Secretary (Legal)	01
	Officers in Grade III (Training Grade) of the Sri Lanka Technical Service	14
	Post of Drivers	04
	Development Officers	11
	Receptionist	02
	Circuit Bungalow Keeper	01
	Camera aid (Temporary)	01
Ministry of Justice (for courts)	Development Officers	247
	Graduate Trainees	50
	Courts Caretakers	110
Office of the Labour Tribunals	Stenographers	29
	Drivers	02
Government Analyst's Department	Graduate trainees	02
Dept of Debt Conciliation Board	Graduate Trainees	01
Mediation Boards Commission	Graduate Trainees	12

- Appointments**

By virtue of powers vested in the Hon. Minister of Justice, the details of recruitments and appointments made are given below:-

Post	No. of Appointments
Commissioner for Oaths	661
Inquirer into Sudden Deaths	11
Justices of the Peace & Unofficial Magistrates	85
Justice of the Peace	4143
• Sworn Translators	189

For recommendation of Sworn Translators

Particulars of the Examinations held		Number of Candidates
Examination for recruitment of Sworn Translators (Sinhala, Tamil and English Languages)	03	647
Examination for recruitment of Sworn Translators (Arabic Language)	01	16

- Training**

Local

Nature of Training	Number of Officers
Case Study	33
Computer	04
Library Diploma	01
Languages	
English Language	06
Tamil Language	80
Human Rights Diploma	25
Project Management	50
Conferences	02
Training (Process Server and Writ Executor)	36

- Foreign**

Nature of Training	Number of Officers
Trainings (including judges)	63
Conferences	18

- Approval of loan**

Approval of Loan		
Category of Loan	Number of Applications graded	Amount (Rs.)
Property/ Housing	57	82,062,088.20
Distress Loan	129	9,600,942.00
Festival Advance	161	815,000.00
Special Advance	34	85,000.00
Bicycle Loan	05	30,000.00

- **Auctions**

Number of auctions conducted	Amount of proceeds (Rs.)
150	42,320,162.00

- **“SuwaSampatha” Insurance Scheme for Judges**

Number of judges enrolled	Amount granted
240	Rs.5,670,119.90

- **Insurance of Official vehicles**

Department	Number of Official Vehicles		Amount (Rs.)
Minister’s Staff	10	(Fully insured)	1,079,361.07
Official vehicles of Judicial officers	158	(Fully insured)	8,436,208.95
	02	(Third party)	2,316.56
Official vehicles of the Ministry	20	(Fully insured)	722,372.81
	08	(Third party)	11,235.35

- **Other functions**

- Conducting of 10 programmes to bring awareness to the officers on the productivity concept in the Districts of Kegalle, Puttalam and Kurunegala in parallel with the Deyata Kirula National Development Programme for the year 2013.
- Presenting of awards and certificates for the best court in the productivity award competition conducted among the courts of Polonnaruwa, Trincomalee, Ampara and Batticaloa parallel to the Deyata Kirula National Development Programme for the year 2013.
- It becomes apparent that the awareness programmes on the concept of productivity conducted in parallel with the Deyatakirula National Development Exhibition 2013/2014 covering the courts that are under the judicial zones of Ampara, Kalmunai, Polonnaruwa, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Kurunegala, Kegalle, Chilaw and Puttalam proved insufficient. Therefore, a further awareness programme was conducted to the officers attached to the abovementioned courts at the Non-Judicial Officer’s Training Institute in Battaramulla.
- Providing of Internet facilities for 93 courts.

5.3 THE INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION

The Infrastructure division of the Ministry of Justice plays a major role in this Ministry as the facilitator of the judicial system in Sri Lanka by providing Infrastructure facilities, such as construction and maintenance of courts buildings, Judge's Bungalows and acquisition of lands etc.

The following major projects have been completed.



- 1) Court Complex at Negombo was entrusted to the Public in 2013.



- 2) New Court Building and Judge's Quarters at Mallakam (Funded by ADB)



3) New Court Building and Judge's Quarters at Chavakachery (Funded by ADB)



- 4) New Court Building and Judge's Quarters at Kayts (Funded by ADB)
- 5) New Court Complex at Kotapola
- 6) New High Court Building at Kuliyaipitiya
- 7) New District/Magistrate's Court at Thambuthegama
- 8) New Circuit Magistrate's Court at Manampitiya
- 9) New Circuit Magistrate's Court at Bakamuna
- 10) District and Magistrate's Court at Pottuvil
- 11) Quazi Court at Oddamavadi
- 12) Quazi Court at Irakkamam
- 13) Horana Court Complex (Lift)
- 14) The Production and Record Room of the Magistrate's Court at Anuradhapura
- 15) District Court Building at Akkaraipattu
- 16) Quazi Court at Horombawa
- 17) Stores Building and Garage at Ministry of Justice
- 18) Quazi Court at Matale
- 19) Quazi Court at Pottuvil

Ongoing Projects in 2013

1. Circuit Magistrate's Court at Kalpitiya
2. The Record Room and the Production Room of the District / Magistrate's Courts at Kekirawa
3. Magistrate's Court at Sammanthurai
4. Court house of the Circuit Magistrate's Court at Nochiyagama
5. The Record Room and the Production Room of the Magistrate's Court at Udugama
6. Repairs of District Judge's Bungalow at Nuwareliya
7. Quazi Court at Vellaimanal
8. Quazi Court at Periyamadhu- Manthai
9. Quazi Court at Kurunagala
10. Magistrate's Court Building at Bibile
11. Magistrate's Court Office at Polgahawela
12. Court Complex at Batticaloa
13. Production and Record Room at Naula MC
14. Repairs of Superior Court Complex Building

Following Major projects are commenced in 2013



1) Courts Complex at Homagama (Proposed Building)



2) Courts Complex at Galle (Proposed Building)



3) Courts Complex at Wattala

Following Projects are scheduled to be commenced in 2014

- 1) District & Magistrate's Court Building at Muthur
- 2) Construction of Office and Record Room, Magistrate's Court at Elpitiya
- 3) Construction of Record Room and Production Room, DCMC at Hingurangoda
- 4) Construction of Remand Cell and Police Post at Chief Magistrate's Court, Col.12
- 5) Construction of Official Quarter's at High Court, Puttalam
- 6) Repairs of Magistrate's Court at Kantale
- 7) Repairs of Magistrate's Court at Dehiattakandiya
- 8) Repairs of District Judge's Quarters at Warakapola
- 9) Repairs of Additional District Judge's Quarters at Tangalle
- 10) Construction of Record Room and Production Room at Nickavaretiya
- 11) Repairs of Additional District Judge's Quarters at Kegalle
- 12) Repairs of District Judge's Quarters at Matara
- 13) Repairs of High Court Judge's Quarters at Polonnaruwa
- 14) Repairs of High Court Judge's Quarters at Bibila

5.4 ACCOUNTS DIVISION

Functions of regularizing the accounts under the expenditure heads of the Ministry Administration and Courts Administration have been initiated as indicated below during the year 2013, for the improvement of the efficiency and the effectiveness of the accounting functions of the Ministry of Justice.

In making financial allocations to the Ministry of Justice, it is executed in the following manner.

1. Hon. Minister's Office
2. Administration of the Ministry
3. Courts Administration
4. Mediation Boards Commission
5. Legal Aid Commission/ Sri Lanka Judges' Institute

Financial Progress (From 1st of Jan 2013 to 31st of Dec. 2013)

Ministry Administration- 110-1, 2, 3

Description	Allocation (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)	Progress
Recurrent Expenditure	508,104,690.00	497,822,659.00	98%
Capital Expenditure	301,195,310.00	293,050,685.00	97%
Total	809,300,000.00	790,873,344.00	98%

Courts Administration 228-1, 2

Description	Allocation (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)	Progress
Recurrent Expenditure	3,775,168,625.00	3,761,324,328.00	99%
Capital Expenditure	1,020,740,000.00	910,573,419.00	89%
Total	4,795,908,625.00	4,671,897,747.00	97%

5.5 PLANNING DIVISION

The planning division discharges the functions relating to planning and follow up activities of the projects in the Ministry and the Departments coming under it, including the following functions:-

- Preparation of annual Budget Estimates for the Ministry
- Preparation of Annual Action Plan
- Preparation of quarterly progress and submission to the relevant institutions.
- Conducting follow up activities relating to construction of court buildings
- Preparation of annual performance report
- Preparation of progress report (this should be submitted to the Parliament to obtain the provisions for the coming year.)
- Collecting statistics in respect of court cases
- Preparation of annual report in respect of court cases
- Preparation of project reports and obtaining recommendations of the National Planning Department.
- Taking action to submit Annual Accounting Statements of the institutions coming under the Ministry to the Parliament
- Reviewing the progress and conducting the follow up activities of the programmes implemented by the Ministry
- Co-ordinating the development activities implemented by the Ministry of Justice at Divisional and District level with District Secretariats and Divisional Secretariats.
- Deyata Kirula National Development Exhibition related works.
- Execution of co-ordination activities of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee.
- Execution of co-coordinating activities regarding parliament questions.

5.6 TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR NON JUDICIAL OFFICERS

This institute was established in 2010 in the court building in Palawatte, Battaramulla to fulfill the training requirements of non-Judicial Officers who work at Courts. Accordingly, this training institute has conducted a number of programmes for the non-judicial officers in order to achieve the following objectives.

1. Development of attitudes and discipline
2. Awareness of understanding the duties
3. Modernization and innovation
4. Elimination of bribery and corruption

From 1st of January 2013 to 31st of December 2013, the following training programmes were conducted.

Serial Number	Training Programme	No. of Programmes conducted	No. of employees participated	Judicial Zone
01	Process Servers and Writ Executors	12	181	Colombo, Kalutara, Gampaha, Kurunegala, Tangalle & Puttalam
02	Court Clerks	10	211	Colombo, Kurunegala, Chilaw, Puttalam & Kegalle.
03	Awareness Programmes conducted parallel with Dayatakirula National Dev. Programme on Productivity Concept	04	107	Kurunegala, Puttalam, Kegalle, Ampara, Polonnaruwa, Trincomalee, Batticaloa & Kalmunai
04	Leadership Training Programme	02	53	Officers of the Ministry of Justice

5.7 INTERNAL AUDIT DIVISION

Auditing of accounts of the Ministry, the departments under it and the 03 statutory institutions i.e. Superior Courts Complex Management Board, Judges Institute and Legal Aid Commission, the Mediation Board Commission which is functioning as a support project under the expenditure head of Ministry Administration, the office of the Labour Tribunal which is functioning as a support project under the expenditure head of Courts Administration, and High Courts, Civil Appeal High Courts, District Courts and Magistrate's Courts which are under the expenditure head of Courts Administration are carried out by the Internal Audit Division.

This division is headed by a Chief Internal Auditor and supported by an Accountant and 06 Financial Assistants, 05 Management Assistants, and 6 Development Officers.

These officers are conducting internal audits at the above organizations with special emphasis on system audit. Considering the Period from January to December 2013, this division has completed a total of 70 audit inspections including at 15 High Courts, 16 District/Magistrate's Courts, 09 District Courts, 15 Magistrate's Courts and 10 Departments and Institutions including a special audit inspection.

06. PROGRESS OF THE DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE MINISTRY

6.1 GOVERNMENT ANALYST'S DEPARTMENT

The Government Analyst's Department consists of the only forensic laboratory in the whole Island and is also the main food laboratory. This department is a service providing Department and performs the functions of conducting scientific testing on productions referred to it by courts, police, custom, excise, local government institutions, health, other government departments and statutory institutions and issuing of reports thereon. In addition to the above functions testing of samples referred by the various state departments and Government sponsored institutions for quality control purposes and testing of samples referred by the Sri Lanka Customs for quality control purposes and for categorization of tariff are carried out by this department. Further, examining of questioned documents forwarded by relevant authorities to the courts and submitting reports on such documents are also carried out by this department.

All productions submitted for testing will be referred to relevant tests according to various ordinances such as the Code of Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Custom, Excise and Factory Ordinances, Poisons, Opium and Dangerous Drugs Act, Pesticide Act, Environmental Act, Fire Arms Ordinance, Explosives Act, Offensive Weapons Act, Colombo Harbor (Administration) Act, Perfume Act, Methodologies and Drugs Act, Food Act, Fertilizer Act.

This Department also functions as the scientific consultant of other government departments and Government sponsored institutions on required occasions. On occasions where expert assistance is required, scientific officers engage in the task of examining the scene of the crime. The officers of the Department appear before courts and other commissions to give evidence on reports issued, when it is necessary.



In May 2013, this Department was shifted to a new building equipped with state of the art technology and all modern facilities at Pelawatte, Battaramulla. A DNA Laboratory which was an essential need has now been established at these premises with all necessary equipment and the analysis of Court productions has commenced. This Department has established a Provincial Laboratory at Kurunegala.

Progress from 1st of Jan 2013 to 31st Dec. 2013

Section	B/F end of 31.12.2012	No.of cases Received	No.of cases reported	No.of cases not reported on 31.12.2013
Narcotics and other Drugs - CD	1448	6182	6955	675
Firearm & Ammunition - CF	1437	374	995	816
Explosives & Fires - CE	805	292	567	530
Poisons - CT	3065	1620	2288	2397
Blood & other Physiological Fluids - CB	1775	495	869	1401
Questioned Documents	561	710	701	570
Forensic Miscellaneous - CM	388	328	485	231
Head Office Court Samples	63	2335	2281	117
Miscellaneous - Liquors & Tobacco	119	1309	1316	112
Liquors -CL- Kurunagala	4353	3342	7132	563
Food Samples under food Act	837	4165	4473	529
Food Miscellaneous	22	577	561	38
	14873	21729	28623	7979

Progress from 1st of Jan 2013 to 31stDec. 2013

- In order to expedite the issuing of reports, several steps have been taken to reduce the backlog cases within one year.
- As at present, the total number of Scientists required by the Department has increased to 79 and 95% of these vacancies have already been filled. Action has been taken to fill the rest of the vacancies.
- Action has been taken to introduce a new methodology for analysis of Court Productions.
- Action has been taken to establish the Multi-Media Crime investigation Center

Progress at 31stDec. 2013

Details	Allocation(Rs)	Expenditure as at 31 st Aug. 2013	Progress
Recurrent Expenditure	135,363,426	134,032,377	99%
Capital Expenditure	237,193,000	201,543,798	85%
Total	372,556,426	335,576,176	90%

6.2 DEPARTMENT OF LAW COMMISSION

The Law Commission of Sri Lanka was established under the Law Commission Act No. 03 of 1969, and it is the main government institution which recommends legal reforms. The Department of Law Commission is constituted to extend administrative and research support.

The main objective of the Law Commission is to promote the reforms of the law. Following functions are performed by the Law Commission for the purposes of such promotion.

I. The codification of law

II. The elimination of anomalies

III To take and keep under review the law, both substantive and procedural with a view to its systematic development and reform.

IV. The repeal of obsolete and unnecessary enactments

V. The simplification and modernization of the law

VI. To receive and consider any proposals for the reform of the law

VII. To prepare and submit to the Minister, from time to time, programmes for the examination of different branches of the law with a view to reform,

VIII. To obtain such information as to the legal systems of other countries.

Progress from 01.01.2013 to 31.12.2013

The following law reform activities were completed by the Law Commission during the period from 01-01-2013 to 31-12-2013.

1. Decriminalizing of Termination of Pregnancy for Rape, Foetal Impairment. (Draft – Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Special Provision Act.)
2. Draft Revocation of Irrevocable Deeds of Gifts (Special Provisions) Act.

Plan for the year 2014

The main areas identified are as follows:

1. Examination of land acquisition and related legislation
2. Principle relating to transfer, donation, and alienation of lands in the light of judgments
3. Review of existing laws of procedures in relation to law's delays.
4. Examination of Constitutional and other provisions of law vis-a-vis effective Administration of Justice.

Progress from 2013.01.01 to 2013.12.31

Details	Allocation(Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)	Percentage
Recurrent Expenditure	13,800,000	11,534,872	84%
Capital Expenditure	2,500,000	2,177,392	87%
Total	16,300,000	13,712,264	84%

6.3 DEPARTMENT OF DEBT CONCILIATION BOARD

This Department was established under the Debt Conciliation Ordinance No. 39 of 1941 with the objective of introducing some sort of relief to help the public to get over their indebtedness caused by loans obtained on the security of deeds on conditional transfer of immovable property such as land, paddy fields, estates, houses, unsecured loans obtained on documents such as promissory notes, cheques, along with such secured loans.

Objective

To assist parties to arrive at a settlement on the repayment of loans on Mortgage Bonds , Deeds of Conditional Transfer and Deeds of transfer executed solely for a loan transaction in respect of immovable property.

In addition thereto, the Amendment Act No.29 of 1999 enables the Board to intervene in respect of transfer deeds executed purely for a loan transaction, resulting in further expansion of its relief support.

The Debt Conciliation Board consists of five (05) members, appointed by the Minister one of whom shall be nominated by the Minister to be Chairman of the Board.

No fee is charged for the applications submitted to the Board and the proceedings before the Board are free of any stamp duty. A very small amount is charged as Gazette and notice fees, and as such an immense service is afforded to the average persons suffering under indebtedness. It is a great relief to the public that it is not compulsory for the applicants to be represented by a lawyer.

The proceedings before this Board are different from those before an ordinary court of law. The settlement arrived at between the parties is not an agreement imposed by the Boards but one arrived at voluntarily by the parties, before the Debt Conciliation Board. However, the Board has the power to reduce the unreasonable rates of interest charged or in case of failure on the part of the parties to accept the just suggestions made by the Board to issue a certificate under the Ordinance to the debtors. Further, if the creditors fail to appear before the Board at the final hearing in response to the notice issued, an expert hearing is held after which a certificate is issued to the debtor.

Progress from 01-01-2013 to 31-12 - 2013:

Details	Numbers
No. of pending applications brought forward -01.01.2013	533
No. of new applications	453
No. of applications received for review	31
Total No. of applications 31 st Dec. 2013	1017
No. of applications settled	133
No. of applications dismissed	157
No. of applications reviewed	20
No. of applications on which certificates were issued	03
No. of applications withdrawn	19
Total No. of Applications (Taken Actions)	332
No of Applications pending by the end of the 31.12.2013	685

	Allocation Rs.	Expenditure Rs.	Performance as Percentage
Recurrent Expenditure	9,635,000.00	7,458,932	77%
Capital Expenditure	765,000.00	717,593	94%
Total	10,400,000.00	8,176,526	79%

6.4 LEGAL AID COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA (LAC)

The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka (LAC) was established by Legal Aid Law No.27 of 1978. The main objective of the LAC is to provide legal aid to 'deserving persons' in Sri Lanka. The role of the LAC is to provide legal advice and free assistance of lawyers to low income groups and to create awareness in the entire society on legal procedures. Many activities inclusive of representation in courts of law and other fora were implemented under the following divisions during the year.

- **Legal Division: Representation in Courts on behalf of deserving persons**

At present there are 76 Legal Aid Centers island-wide inclusive of the Colombo Center located directly under the Head Office. . The main focus of the centers of the Legal Aid Commission is litigation. Legal aid is given to deserving persons: that is, persons whose monthly income is Rs.15,000/= or less. Legal representation in courts for women who seek maintenance for themselves and or their children is irrespective of their income status.

Cases handled by the Legal Aid Commission.

Description	No. of Cases
Brought forward from 2012	27351
New cases added (2013 Jan - 2013 Dec.)	9135
No. of cases concluded (2013 Jan -2013 Dec)	4932
Carried forward to the next Year	31554
No of clients serviced by LAC in the January to Dec. 2013	58,346

Media Programmes

- **Programmes telecast over TV Channels**

On the invitation of different TV channels the legal staff of LAC conducted programmes on legal matters to educate the public. There were 26 such Programmes conducted via several TV channels during the year 2013.

- **The Question and Answer pages in Newspapers**

The Question and Answer pages in Newspapers is another initiative taken by the LAC to assist the public to resolve their problems as well as to improve their legal awareness.

Name	Language	The day on which the legal aid page is published
Daily News	English	Every Friday
Lankadeepa	Sinhala	Every fortnight Tuesday
Rivira	Sinhala	Weekly
Diyanaya	Sinhala	Weekly
Thinakaran	Tamil	Weekly

- **Publications**

The Legal aid Commission continued to print and distribute booklets in the year 2013 on topics of interests to the Public and also Public Officials like Police Officers, GramaNiladhari etc., The publications were in Sinhala and Tamil. (No. of Sinhala Books – 35,000 and No. of Tamil Books 6,000)

- **Awareness and Outreach Programmes**

In 2013, the LAC conducted 377 Awareness programmes and Clinics, The 20334 participants of these programmes included the Public, Public Officials, Students, Women and Children island-wide.

The LAC in collaboration with the Ministry of National Languages & Social Integration under the framework of Equal Access to Justice Project conducted 25 Awareness Programmes. This programme specially focused on providing legal awareness and assistance to vulnerable groups in the country during the Social Integration Week: 15th July to 21st of July.

Special Projects

- **Para Legal Project**

The LAC launched a comprehensive Certificate Course in Para Legal Studies. This Course commenced in February 2011 initially for Management Assistants of the LAC who work in a legal environment. The objective was to improve their capacity in their chosen work roles. The programme has since expanded to include Public Officials inclusive of court staff, field Officers of the Ministry of National languages and National Integration and also private sector personnel. In 2013 the LAC conducted the fifth and sixth Para-Legal Courses.

- **Rights of Migrant Worker's Unit**

During the year 2013 this Unit carried out consultations with migrant workers who faced problems. Subsequent to the consultations such persons were referred either to Consular Division of the Ministry of External Affairs or to the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment. The problems of migrant workers are categorized as follows: Nonpayment of wages, sexual harassment, death of migrant workers overseas, and repatriation to Sri Lanka.

- **Rights of Women & Children's Unit**

The Women and Children's Unit (W & CU) of the LAC coordinates with the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs to achieve the objectives of the LAC as well as that of the Ministry. The main focus of LAC has been women and children as reflected in the ongoing number of maintenance cases.

- **Prisoner's Rights**

The kith and kin of any prison inmate who needs legal aid could seek assistance from any of the Legal Aid Centers. Very often prison department officials refer cases to LAC.

- **Accident Victims' Rights Unit**

The main objective of the unit is to get compensation for accident victims. . The procedure is to file a civil case for compensation for the victim without delay in the District Court of the relevant area. Delay has to be avoided at all costs as compensation cases as in any money recovery case gets prescribed within two years. Whilst the civil case for compensation is pending consultations are also held simultaneously with the insurance company concerned under the auspices of the Insurance Ombudsman. This is with the objective of entering into a negotiated settlement rather than going through a lengthy court procedure. Currently there are number of cases under such consultations with the Insurance Ombudsman.

- **Human Rights Bureau**

The work of this unit emphasizes the filing of fundamental rights applications in the Supreme Court relating to the violations of the fundamental rights of citizens by State Officials. Currently there are thirteen fundamental rights cases filed and two cases were concluded.

- **Co-Partnering with UNAIDS**

The co-partnering with UNAIDS commenced in the year 2013 with a Legal Officer of the LAC conducting a legal aid and an Awareness Programme and a clinic to HIV-Aids Victims. Apparently this was the first instance this type of Programme had been conducted for HIV -Aids victims.

- **Elders Rights**

Recognizing that elders are one of the most vulnerable sectors in society, the LAC implements several programs targeting elders. When a settlement cannot be reached in disputes involving elders, LAC refers these to the Elders Maintenance Board.

- **Deyata Kirulla**

The following activities were carried out by the LAC .

- Conducting Legal Aid Clinics (No. of 720 Clinics)
- Displaying Awareness Banners, Posters & Exhibits
- Distributing Awareness Booklets and Pamphlets free of Charge
- Sale of Law Books published by LAC
- Conducting Legal Awareness during the Book Sale (simple consultation)

Financial Status as at 31.12.2013

Details	Allocation (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Performance as Percentage
Recurrent Expenditure	116,500,000	116,500,000	100%
Capital Expenditure	19,700,000	19,655,237	99%
Total	136,200,000	136,155,237	99.9%

6.5 MEDIATION BOARDS COMMISSION

Mediation Boards were established under the Mediation Boards Act, No. 72 of 1988. This Act provides a mechanism for the settlement of disputes as an alternative to litigation. At present, there is a growing tendency for people who have experienced complexity in all aspects of their lives to proceed to legal action to resolve their disputes. In this process litigants have to face long delays in addition to a purposeless expense being incurred. Further the aggrieved party feels depressed.

At present, 326 Mediation Board Panels have been established in Divisional Secretariat's Divisions and approximately 7900 Mediators are working in the Mediation Boards. There are five members on the Mediation Boards Commission who are appointed by His Excellency the President by an Extra Ordinary Gazette Notification. The authority for the appointment, transfer, dismissal and disciplinary control of mediators is vested with the Mediation Boards Commission.

The mechanism of Mediation Boards has been further expanded. In terms of the Mediation Boards (Amendment) Act. No.04 of 2011 the financial value of the disputes which need to be compulsorily referred for mediation has been increased upto Rs. 250,000/=. Further certain offences committed by the children are also referred to the Mediation Boards for settlement. Accordingly, the community has accepted Mediation as a convenient and low cost mechanism to settle their disputes which inclines the community towards mediation. Every year, more than 100,000 disputes are referred to Mediation Boards.

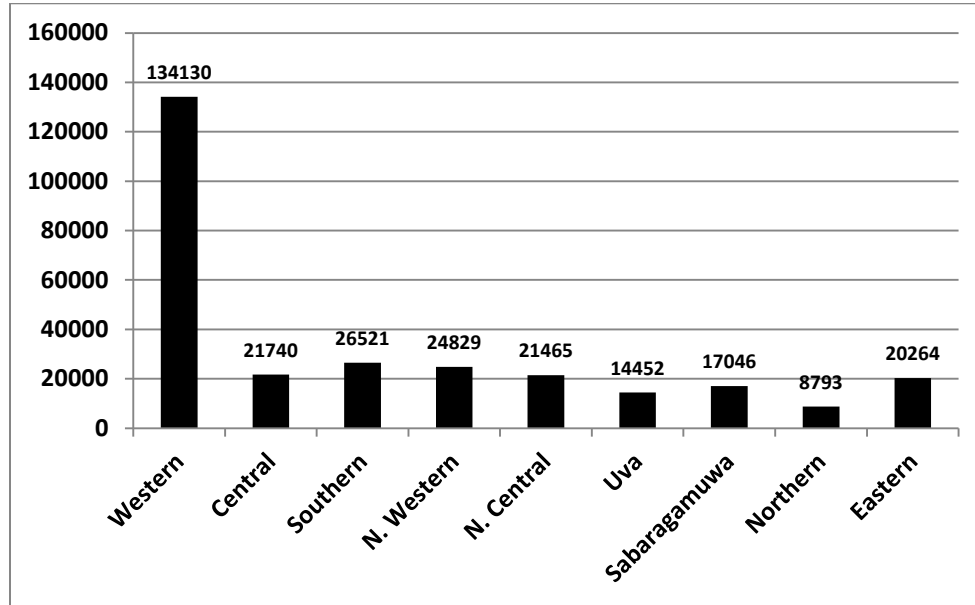
Progress from 1/1/2013 to 31st Dec. 2013.

	No. of Disputes
Referred to the Mediation Boards	172,892
Settled	78,401
Percentage	45%

- Up to 31st of Dec 53 five days workshops have been conducted and 1900 Mediators have been trained.
- Community Mediation, School Mediation and other awareness programmes are also being conducted by Programme Assistants. They have conducted 31 One day programmes, 5 Three days Programmes and 39 Five days programmes.

- **Number of Disputes received by Mediation Boards (Province wise)**

from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013



Mediation Boards Panel in respect of which interviews have been conducted

from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013

Serial No.	District	Mediation Panel Boards
01	Colombo	Sri JayawardanepuraKotte, Maharagama, Thimbirigasaya, Homagama, Ratmalana, Kaduwela
02	Gampaha	Attanagalla, Wattala, Ja-ela, Katana, Mirigama
03	Kalutara	Kalutara, Ingiriya, Beruwala, Mathugama (vacant)
04	Galle	Habaraduwa, Akmeemana (vacant), Ambalangoda, Imaduwa, Welivitiya, Divitura, Baddegama, Nagoda
05	Matara	Matara, Weligama
06	Hambantota	Hambantota, Katuwana
07	Kurunegala,	Weerambagedara, Maspotha, Bamunakotuwa, Kurunegala, Mallawapitiya, Wariyapola, Mahawa, Kotawehera, Nakkawaththa
08	Kandy	Pujapitiya, Akurana, Udunuwara, Ududumbara, Panwila, Harispaththuwa, Pathahewaheta
09	Matale	Ukuwela, Yatawatta
10	Nuwara - Eliya	Kotmale
11	Ratnapura	Ratnapura, Elapatha, Pelmadulla
12	Kegalle	Ruwanwella, Aranayaka, Bulathkohupitiya, kegalle
13	Polonnaruwa	Welikanda, Elahera, Medirigiriya, Lankapura
14	Anuradhapura	Kahatagasdigiliya (vacant), Horowpothana (vacant), Kebathigollewa, Mihinthale, East Kandy Gampalatha, Central kandyGampalatha, Rajanganaya, Thabuththegama
15	Moneragala	Wellawaya, Moneragala, Sewanagala

16	Badulla	Passara
17	Trincomalee	Muttur, Trincomalee (Town & Gravets) Kinniya (vacant), Padawi Sri Pura, Kanthale
18	Vavuniya	Vavuniya North, Vavuniya (Vacant)
19	Batticaloa	Vavunathivu, Manmunai pattu, Kattankudy, Wellaweli, Vakara, Valachchenai, Ottamavadi, Kiran, Kalawanchikudy, Padippalai, Koralaipattu Central Valaichchenai
20	Mullaitivu	Marudampata (Karaituraipattu), Thunukkai, Manthai West
21	Ampara	Akkaraipattu (vacant), Sammanthurai (vacant), Ampara (vacant)
22	Kilinochchi	Punakary, Karachchi (vacant)

Mediation Panel Boards in respect of which appointments have been granted

from 01/01/2013 to 31/01/2013

Serial No.	District	Mediation Panel Boards
01	Colombo	Thimbirigasyaya , Sri Jayawardanapura Kotte
02	Gampaha	Minuwangoda, Waththala, Ja-ela, Katana
03	Kaluthara	Kaluthara, Mathugama (vacant)
04	Galle	Elpitiya (vacant), Imaduwa, Karadeniya, Habaraduwa
05	Matara	Devinuwara, Mulatiyana
06	Hambantota	Weeraketiya, Beliatta, Tissamaharama, Ambalantota
07	Kurunegala	Panduwasnuwara East, Alawwa, Bamunakotuwa, Maspotha, Abanpola
08	Puttalam	Mahakumbukkada, Anamaduwa, Nawagaththegama
09	Kandy	Gampola, Galagedara, Akurana, Pujapitiya, Udunuwara
10	Matale	Ukuwela, Dambulla
11	Nuwara-Eliya	Walapane
12	Ratnapura	Nivitigala, Godakawela, Pelmadulla, Ratnapura
13	Kegalle	Warakapola (vacant), Galigamuwa, Aranayaka, Ratnapura, Ruwanwella
14	Polonnaruwa	Medirigiriya, Dibulagala, Elahera, Welikanda
15	Anuradhapura	Thalawa, Galnewa
16	Monaragala	Wellawaya, Moneragala
17	Badulla	Ella, Haputale, Hali Ela, Haldummulla, (vacant) Welimada, Badulla, Soranathota
18	Trincomalee	Verugal, Kinniya
19	Batticaloa	Batticaloa, Chenkalady, Eravur, Vakara
20	Mullaitivu	Ottusudan, Pudukudirippu
21	Ampara	Karaitivu, Sainthamaruthu, Kalmunei
22	Mannar	Moosali, Nanattan, Mannar, Madu
23	Kilinochchi	Kandawalai, Punakary, Palai (Pachchileipalli)

Financial Progress from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013

Description	Allocation (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Progress (%)
Recurrent Expenditure	202,898,500	197,855,369	98%
Capital Expenditure	1,706,800	1,349,377	79%
Total	204,605,300	199,204,746	97%

7. COURTS OF LAW

The votes of this Ministry include provision for the following courts –

- Supreme Court
- Court of Appeal
- High Courts
- Provincial Civil Appellate High Courts
- District Courts
- Magistrate's Courts
- Labour Tribunals
- Quazi Courts and Board of Quazis

The Ministry exercises accounting responsibility in respect of Supreme Court, Appeal Court, 20 Provincial Civil Appellate High Courts, 37 High Courts, 40 District and Magistrate's Courts, 70 District Courts, 78 Magistrate's Courts, 23 Circuit Magistrates' Courts, 39 Labour Tribunals, 65 Quazi Courts and Board of Quazis. The expenditure is disbursed through 25 High Court Accounting Centers.

7.1 THE REGISTRY OF THE SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court is the highest Court of the judicial system in Sri Lanka. The Supreme Court, which consists of 11 Judges including the Hon. Chief Justice appointed by His Excellency the President, hears all applications received by it.

The Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka recognizes jurisdiction of the Supreme Court as follows: -

- Jurisdiction in respect of Constitutional matters,
- Jurisdiction in respect of Fundamental Rights,
- Final Appellate Jurisdiction,
- Consultative Jurisdiction,
- Jurisdiction in Elections Petitions (Presidential election),
- Jurisdiction in respect of any breach of Privileges of the Parliament, and
- Jurisdiction in respect of such other matters which Parliament may by Law vest or ordain.

Progress from 01.01.2013 to 31.12.2013

Type	No. of cases pending as at 31/12/2012	No. of cases registered as at 31/12/2013	Total No. of cases as at 31/12/2013	No. of cases concluded as at 31/12/2013	No. of cases leave to proceed	No. of cases pending as at 31/12/2013
Fundamental Rights Applications	1045	405	1450	633	-	817
Special Applications	347	319	666	230	57	379
Orders of the Supreme Court in respect of Parliamentary Bills	-	19	19	19	-	00
Appeal cases	600	249	849	224	-	625
High Courts Leave Applications	130	98	228	64	11	153
Writ Applications	02	02	04	03	-	01
Provincial Appellate High Courts cases	1043	544	1587	378	106	1103
Revision Cases	03	01	04	04		00
Reference Cases	-	01	01	-	-	01
Miscellaneous	02	06	08	02	-	06
TAB Appeal	01	-	01	-		01
SC Special	-	08	08	01	-	07
SC Acceleration	-	02	02			00
Total	3173	1654	4827	1560	174	3093

Financial Progress from 2013.01.01 to 2013.12.31

Details	Allocation(Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)	Progress
Recurrent Expenditure	58,100,000	54,163,108	93%
Capital Expenditure	14,200,000	10,481,400	73%
Total	72,300,000	64,644,509	89%

7.2 THE REGISTRY OF COURT OF APPEAL

The Court of Appeal was established under the Constitution of Sri Lanka. It has appellate and revisionary jurisdiction over the decisions of the courts of first instance, Jurisdiction of Labour Tribunals and other statutory bodies are following within the powers of Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal also has Writ jurisdiction. For the purposes of the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act No.25 of 2002 and Mutual Assistance in Civil and Commercial Matters Act No.39 of 2000, also terms under the provision of the Court of Appeal issues for the necessary orders and directions. The election petitions are also heard in the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal has the power and authority to inspect and examine the records of any court of First instance or Labour Tribunal or any other legal institution.

Performance of disposal cases from 01-01-2013 to 31-12-2013

Case Category	No. of Cases
Writ Application	368
High Court Appeal (Criminal)	193
Provincial High Court Appeal	472
Civil Appeal	648
High Court Revision Application	83
Revision (Civil) and Leave to Appeal Applications	31
Other Application	25

Financial Progress as at 31st Dec. 2013

Description	Allocation (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)	Progress
Recurrent Expenditure	45,100,000	42,807,249	95%
Capital Expenditure	700,000	427,433	62%
Total	45,800,000	43,234,682	94%

7.3 OFFICE OF THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL

The Labour Tribunal head office is located in the building of Ministry of Justice on the 1st floor at A/, No.428/11, DensilKobbekaduwaMawatha, Battaramulla.

The main functions assigned to the Labour Tribunals are to hear and dispose of the applications received in respect of disputes in terms of the Section 31(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act No.62 of 1957. Labour Tribunals can be defined as an institution which provides justice in respect of matters such as expulsion from employment of employees of the non-governmental institutions etc. and is considered a great privilege restored to such parties. 37 Labour Tribunals are functioning under the head office and they are listed as follows:-

Colombo - 06	Kandy - 01	Avissawella - 01	Palapathwela - 01
Rathmalana - 01	Nawalapitiya - 01	Kaduwela - 01	Maharagama - 01
Hatton - 01	Thalawakele - 01	Wattala - 01	NuwaraEliya - 01
Gampaha - 01	Badulla - 01	Negombo - 02	Bandarawela - 01
Panadura - 01	Ampara - 01	Kalutara - 01	Batticaloa - 01
Galle - 01	Trincomalee - 01	Matara - 01	Chilaw - 01
Kotapola - 01	Anuradhapura - 01	Ratnapura - 01	Kuliyapitiya - 01
Kegalle - 01	Balangoda - 01	Kurunegala - 01	

Labour Tribunal – Bandarawela has achieved the 6th under the segment micro scale from the National Productivity Awards Competition 2010/2011 and the 1st place under B grade from Uva Province.

The provision and management of the human resources, collective resources and financial resources required to maintain the Labour Tribunals are the main functions of the Office of the Labour Tribunals. Accordingly, establishment and administrative functions of all officers excluding the Presidents of the Labour Tribunals and all financial administration and accounting functions including payments of salaries and allowances of the staff including the Presidents of the Labour Tribunals are dealt with by the Office of the Labour Tribunals.

Progress from 01.01.2013 to 31.12.2013

Number of cases pending as at 01.01.2013	During the period from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013		No. of cases pending as at 31/12/2013
	No. of cases filed	No. of cases concluded	
6,464	2510	2537	5437

Awareness Programmes, capacity building programmes, and Other Language Training Programmes have been conducted for officers of Labour Tribunal Secretariat and Labour Tribunals island wide.

Post Graduate Courses have been offered with the objective of advancing the knowledge and skills and accordingly five Labour Tribunal Presidents/ Additional Magistrate's are now reading for a Post Graduate Degree in Law at the University of Colombo. Moreover, two Presidents/ Additional Magistrate's attended a two week training for Judges conducted by ITC.

Financial Progress from 01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013

Description	Provision (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Progress (%)
Recurrent Expenditure	216,012,912	213,619,428	99%
Capital Expenditure	13,040,000	12,416,191	95%
Total	229,052,912	226,035,619	99%

7.4 QUAZI COURTS AND QUAZI BOARD OF APPEAL

Quazi Courts are a special type of courts which were established under Section 12 (1) of the Registration of Muslim Marriages and Divorce Act No. 13 of 1951 for the followers of Islam to conduct their judicial activities according to their customs. Quazi Board of Appeal consisting of 5 Muslims are in operation to hear appeals of the Quazi Courts. The administration of the Quazi Courts and the Quazi Board of Appeal was assigned to the Ministry of Justice and Law Reforms by the Gazette notification dated 8th October 2005. Quazi Courts and Board of Appeal earlier functioned under the Ministry of Home Affairs. At present, 65 Quazi Courts and one Quazi Board of Appeal are in operation.

Quazi Courts

Addalaichenai	Kalpitiya	Polonnaruwa
Akkaraipattu	Kalutara	Pottuvil
Akurana	Kandy	Pulmooddai
Anuradhapura	Kattankudy (Manmunaipattu)	Puttalam&Chilaw
Avissavella	Kegalle	Ratnapura
Badulla	Kinniya	Refugee Population (Kalpitiya/ Puttalam)
Balapitiya&Elpitiya	Kuliyapitiya	Sainthamaruthu
Beruwela	Kurunagala	Sammanthurai
Bhora Community	Maho	Thambalagamuwa&Kantale
Biyagama	Mannar	Tangalle
Colombo East	Matale	Trincomalee
Colombo North	Matara	Thumpane
Colombo South	Mawanella	UdapalathaGampola
Colombo West	Memon Community	Udathalawinna
Eravur	Moneragala	Udunuwara
Galle	Muthur	Valaichenai
Gampaha (Thihariya)	Navalapitiya	Vavuniya
Hambantota	Negombo	Yatinuwara
Harispattuwa&Pujapitiya	Nintavurpattu	Jaffna
Hatton	Nuwera_Eliya	
Horana	Oddamavady	
Irakkamam	Pahatha-Hewaheta	
Kalmunai	Panandura	

Progress of Quazi Board of Appeal Court (2010 - 2013)

Year	Total Complaints	No. of Complaints disposed	Complaints to be disposed
2010	276	184	92
2011	160	48	112
2012	206	69	137
2013	219	65	154

Progress of Quazi Courts (2010 - 2013)

Year	Total Complaints	No. of Complaints disposed	Complaints to be disposed
2010	11,239	6,249	4,990
2011	10,554	5,786	4,768
2012	13,226	8,651	4,575
2013	12,735	7,660	5,075

Construction work for the following quazi Courts were completed

• Oddamavadi	• Horambawa	• Pottuvil
• Irakkamam	• Matale	•

Construction works for the following Quazi Courts are in progress

• Wellaimanal	• Periyamadhu(Manthai)	• Kurunegala
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QuaziCourts buildings are proposed to be established in the following areas

• Addalaichenai	• Sainthamaruthu	• Valaichenai
• Musali	•	•

08. RELATED INSTITUTIONS

8.1 SRI LANKA LAW COLLEGE

The Council of Legal Education, established under the Council of Legal Education Ordinance as amended in 1990 is responsible for the management of the Sri Lanka Law College. The functioning of the College is, in terms of Rules of the Council of Legal Education, which are made by the Council with the concurrence of the Minister of Justice. The Council is chaired by His Lordship Hon. Chief Justice and consists of 10 nominated/appointed members (representatives of the Chief Justice, the Minister of Justice and the Bar Association) and three ex-officio members (the Hon. Attorney General, the Secretary to the Ministry of Justice and the Solicitor General).

The Law College conducts 3 1/2 years course which leads to the Final examination for the admission of Attorneys-at-Law, after which successful candidates are required to follow a Practical Training Course and an apprenticeship of 6 months with a senior lawyer of at least 8 years at the Bar, prior to applying to the Supreme Court to be admitted and enrolled as an Attorney-at-Law.

This institute runs as a self financing Organization. Lectures are conducted by well qualified and experienced resource persons from the legal Profession.