



**கார்டுகாடுல லார்டால  
செயற்திறன் அறிக்கை  
Performance Report  
2017**

**அலாடாநை கார்டாலு  
பிரதம அமைச்சர் அலுவலகம்  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE**





# **Performance Report**

## **2017**

**Prime Minister's Office**  
**No 58, Sir Earnest De Silva Mawatha**  
**Colombo - 07**

**Telephone: 011-2575317**  
**Fax : 011-2574143**  
**E-mail : [info@pmoffice.gov.lk](mailto:info@pmoffice.gov.lk)**  
**Website : [www.pmoffice.gov.lk](http://www.pmoffice.gov.lk)**



# Contents

Title	Page No.
<b>01. Introduction</b> .....	1
1.1 Vision.....	3
1.2 Mission.....	3
1.3 Functions.....	3 - 4
<b>02. Policy Formulation and Economic Development</b> .....	5
2.1 Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM).....	7 - 8
2.2 Officials Committee on Economic Management (OCEM).....	8 - 9
2.3 Accelerated Programme for the Construction of Middle Class Housing & Infrastructure.....	9 - 10
2.4 Proposed Programme of <i>Grama Rajya</i> .....	10 - 11
2.5 Proposed Public Service Delivery Authority (PSDA).....	11 - 12
2.6 Regaining of GSP Plus Benefit .....	12 - 13
2.6.1 GSP Plus Monitoring Mechanism.....	13
2.7 Ministerial Committee to Coordinate UN Human Rights Council Recommendations.....	14 - 15
2.8 National Human Right Action Plan (NHRAP) 2017-2021.....	15 - 16
2.9 Second Indian Ocean Conference - 2017.....	16 - 17
2.10 Policy Development Office.....	18 - 20
2.11 Committee for Educational Reforms.....	20
2.12 National Media Centre (NMC).....	20 - 21
<b>03. Promotion of International Co-operation</b> .....	23
3.1 Hon. Prime Minister's Official Overseas Visits.....	25
3.1.1 Official Visit to Switzerland - World Economic Forum.....	25
3.1.2 Official Visit to Australia .....	26
3.1.3 Official Visit to Japan.....	27
3.1.4 Official Visit to Vietnam.....	28
3.1.5 Official Visit to India.....	29
3.1.6 "One Belt -One Road" Forum held in Beijing, China.....	30

<b>Title</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
3.1.7. Official Visit to Finland - October 2017.....	31
3.1.8 Official visit to India – November 2017.....	32
3.2 Meetings with Diplomats and Foreign Dignitaries by the Hon. Prime Minister.....	33 - 35
<b>04. National Reconciliation, Social Services and Religious Affairs .....</b>	<b>37</b>
4.1 National Reconciliation.....	39
4.1.1 Progress of the Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM).....	39 - 40
4.1.2 Progress of the Public Outreach Programme on Constitutional Reforms and Constitution-making (POP/CR).....	41
4.2. Employee Welfare.....	42
4.2.1 Ayurvedic Health Clinic .....	42
4.3 Religious Affairs.....	43
4.3.1 Navam Perahara - Colombo.....	43 - 44
4.3.2 Alms Giving for Thousand Bikkus at Temple Trees - 2017.....	44 - 45
4.3.3 Exposition of Sacred Relics & Items of Religious and Archaeological Importance.....	45
4.3.4 “Buddha Rashmi” Vesak Festival.....	46 - 47
4.3.5 Ifthar Festival.....	47 - 48
4.3.6 The annual Esala Maha Pageant of the Valukarama Temple, Kollupitiya.....	48 - 49
4.3.7 Deepavali Festival.....	49
<b>05. Redress for Public Complaints and Grievances.....</b>	<b>51</b>
5.1 Referring Public Complaints and Grievances Received by the Prime Minister’s Office to Relevant State Institutions and Follow-up Actions.....	53 - 58
5.2 Facilities Provided to Submit Public Complaints/ Grievances via Official Website of the Prime Minister’s Office.....	59

<b>Title</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>06. Parliamentary and Legal Affairs</b> .....	<b>61</b>
6.1 Parliamentary Affairs .....	63
6.1.1 Cabinet Memoranda, Notes to the Cabinet and Answers to Parliamentary Questions.....	63
6.1.2 Tabling Reports in Parliament.....	64
6.1.3 Submission of Resolutions to the Parliament .....	65
6.2 Legal Affairs .....	66
6.2.1 Coordination in Respect of Drafting of Legislations.....	66 - 67
6.2.2 Actions related to Court Cases.....	67
<b>07. Human Resources Development and Infrastructure Development</b> .....	<b>69</b>
7.1 Human Resources Development .....	71 - 75
7.2 Making use of Information and Communication Technology Towards the Enhancement of Productivity.....	75 - 76
<b>08. Financial Progress</b> .....	<b>77</b>
8.1 Financial Progress .....	79

# **01. Introduction**





## **1.1 Vision**

“Independent, Sovereign and Prosperous Sri Lanka”

## **1.2 Mission**

“To provide leadership for an excellent public sector with good governance practices, by proper co-ordination of government and non-government institutions in order to fulfill the aspirations of the people of Sri Lanka and to uplift their standards of living”

## **1.3 Functions**

The main function of the Prime Minister’s Office is to facilitate the Hon. Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in carrying out his official duties.

This office will also render assistance in following process:

- Building the Economy
- Combatting Corruption
- Ensuring Freedom
- Infrastructure Developing and Investment Promotion
- Educational Reforms

In accordance with the Election Manifesto “Five-Point Plan – A New Country in 60 Months”

Further,

- Render requisite assistance to implement Government policies and decisions.
- Facilitation, Co-ordination and Follow-up action with regard to various Committees and Meetings chaired by the Hon. Prime Minister.
- Preparation of answers for Parliamentary questions asked from the Hon. Prime Minister.
- Co-ordination of activities pertaining to Bills presented to the Parliament by the Hon. Prime Minister.
- Provision of required facilities for the Hon. Prime Minister to maintain and enhance the diplomatic relations.
- Co-ordination of foreign visits of the Hon. Prime Minister.
- Facilitating media coverage for state and national functions and special occasions.

- Organizing state sponsored national & religious festivals and welfare events.
- Handling public complaints and grievances received by the Hon. Prime Minister and referring them to relevant institutions for redress.
- Proper maintenance of Temple Trees, Prime Minister's Office and Prime Minister's Official Bungalows.
- Routine administrative and development functions of the Prime Minister's Office.

## **02. Policy Formulation & Economic Development**



## 2.1 Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM)

Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM) was appointed by a Cabinet Decision dated 22.09.2015 to make suitable recommendations on matters related to Economic Management to the Cabinet of Ministers and the functions of the committee are as follows:

- 1) To examine Cabinet Memoranda relating to economic affairs, monetary and fiscal policy and financial affairs and submit recommendations to the cabinet;
- 2) To provide guidance in the preparation of the National Investment Programme, Public Investment Programme and facilitation of Private Sector Investments;
- 3) To submit recommendations to the Cabinet on proposals with economic and financial implications; and
- 4) To oversee the implementation of various legislation which have direct bearing on the investment/ economic development of the Country.

### Composition of the Committee

- Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe Prime Minister (Chairman)
- Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation
- Hon. Rauf Hakeem Minister of City Planning & Water Supply
- Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
- Hon. Kabir Hashim Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe Minister of Ports & Shipping
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka Minister of Law & Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama Minister of Special Assignments
- Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

Secretary to the Prime Minister, functions as the Secretary to the Committee. Since 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2017, 41 meetings of the committee have been held and 833 decisions/ policy directives have been given mainly on key economic issues related to

National Policies & Economic Affairs, Finance, Development Strategies & International Trade, Transport & Civil Aviation, Ports & Shipping, Power & Renewable Energy, Highways and Public Enterprises Development, Health, Education, Tourism and Megapolis etc.

## 2.2 Officials Committee on Economic Management (OCEM)

Officials Committee on Economic Management was appointed by Hon Prime Minister on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015 to make suitable recommendations on matters related to Economic Management to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM). The committee consists of the senior public officials representing major institutions involved in providing policy directions to whole economy in the country.

### Composition of the Committee

- Mr. R Paskaralingam    Advisor to the Ministry of National Policies & Economic Affairs (Chairman)
- Mr. J Charitha Ratwatte    Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister
- Mr. Sumith Abeysinghe    Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
- Dr. R H S Samarathunga    Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Mass Media
- Mr. Shantha Bandara    Secretary, Ministry of National Policies & Economic Affairs
- Mr. Athula Senavitathne    Advisor, Ministry of National Policies & Economic Affairs
- Mr. Saman Waduge    Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office

Major functions of the committee are as follows;

- 1) To study Cabinet Memoranda referred to the CCEM, related to economic affairs, monetary and fiscal policy and financial affairs and submit recommendations to the CCEM;
- 2) To provide suitable policy directives to the various project proposals submitted by Private Sector Investors;
- 3) To provide instructions and guidance for the matters referred to the OCEM and select most important matters to be referred to the CCEM;

- 4) To monitor the progress of the decisions taken at the OCEM and CCEM.

Fifty-three (53) meetings of the committee have been held from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. The committee had given its observations and recommendations for more than 581 inquiries including various Cabinet memoranda which were referred to Cabinet Committee on Economic Management (CCEM) by Cabinet decisions and various other requests forwarded by Ministries, Departments, State Owned Enterprises and Private Entities.

### **2.3 Accelerated Program for the Construction of Middle Class Housing & Infrastructure**

A monitoring committee has been appointed under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Paskaralingam, Senior Advisor to the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs along with Mr. Charitha Ratwatte, Senior Advisor to the Hon. Prime Minister and Senior officials from other stakeholder organizations such as the Ministry of Housing & Construction, National Housing Development Authority and Urban Development Authority, in order to implement the National Priority Program for construction of middle class housing and infrastructure as per “Five-point Plan for creating a new country within 60 months”.

The monitoring committee has made the contribution by accelerating the processes of providing land with all public amenities for construction of houses, providing infrastructure facilities such as pipe borne water, electricity, access roads and granting requisite approvals without delay, for construction of houses.

Construction of 06 housing projects has been initiated under this programme which is being implemented as a Public- Private Partnership.

No.	Project	No. of Housing Units
1	Nugagaha Kanaththawatta - Panadura	196
2	Dambuawatta - Ragama	124
3	Werellawatta - Lanka Loha Land - Yakkala	669 Housing Units and a Marketing Complex
4	Iskagarawatta - Kundasale	340
5	Mount Clifford Watta - Homagama	600
6	Jalthara- Phase II - Homagama	352

Further, selling price of these houses will be determined by the Government and also, actions will be taken to award loan facilities to the beneficiaries at concessionary interest rates through state and private sector banks.

## 2.4 Proposed Program of *Grama Rajya*

According to the Five Point Plan, 2500 cluster villages called as *Grama Rajya* Units (GRUs) proposed to be established with the aim of socio – economic and cultural development of locality, social well-being, sharing ownership of social economic goods and aligning the development to the national development goals.

The Grama Rajya Units will be formed by combining three or four Grama Niladhari Divisions and these units will be provided fully equipped economic centers under the *Grameen* Marketing Concept. The GRUs will be administrated by its own people. An Administrative Division coming under a Divisional Secretary (DS) is expected to have eight to ten GRUs under its purview and consists of a Regulatory, Supervisory, and Support Structure and a Working Structure. Each village will receive its own financial allocation through Central Government, Provincial Councils and Provincial Administrative Bodies.

### Objectives of the GRUs are;

- To serve as an institutional mechanism within a predefined locality with the active and meaningful participation of local community to contribute to sustainable socio– economic and cultural development of the country;
- To work towards the creation of a sustainable society characterized by a well conserved environment and natural resources, healthy public, learned community, inclusive caring



and fair society, economic prosperity, social harmony and sustainable production, services and consumption; and

- To create a platform which enables interaction between the community and the state and voicing community concerns and priorities related to the development of the locality and create a mutually beneficial feedback mechanism.

The Concept Note prepared for the Establishment of 2500 *Grama Rajya* Units was submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers and it was decided to obtain the views of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management in Parliament for the concept, prior to granting approval. Accordingly, draft Concept Paper and Framework on *Grama rajya* resubmitted to the Cabinet with the recommendations of the Sectoral Oversight Committee.

The Cabinet of Ministers has granted approval to publish the said concept paper in the official website of the Prime Minister's Office in order to seek ideas/ views of the general public.

## **2.5 Proposed Public Service Delivery Authority (PSDA)**

A multidisciplinary study group has been appointed to study and analyze the establishment of an authority to be called as "Public Service Delivery Authority" in order to ensure an effective Public Service.

Accordingly, based on the findings of this study group, a committee headed by the Solicitor General has been appointed to draft a bill for the establishment of the aforesaid Authority. This committee is comprised of Legal Draftsman, Attorney General, Senior Public Officers representing Presidential Secretariat and several Ministries, University Academics, Retired Public Officials and Representatives of the Private Sector.

### **Objectives of the Authority;**

- To ensure a people centric public service;
- To guide the public service and state institutions to provide an efficient and high-quality service in order to satisfy the people's needs;
- To motivate staff of the state sector, evaluate their performance and train them;
- To establish appropriate standards based on the needs identified from time to time and to restructure and operate state institutions in line with same;

- To make available equitable access to all public services and taking action regarding the complaints and grievances of recipients of services; and
- To implement citizen charters for an efficient and people-friendly services.

Cabinet of Ministers has granted its approval to obtain the views of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management in Parliament. Accordingly, The Sectoral Oversight Committee has submitted the views to the Cabinet of Ministers and the preliminary draft is being drafted by the Legal Draftsman.

## **2.6 Regaining of GSP plus Benefit**

Following the end of the conflict situation in May, 2009, Sri Lanka made steady progress in restoring normalcy in the country and establishing an environment in which the rights and development of Sri Lanka were secured. However, various views were expressed on the measures taken to protection and promotion of human rights during the aftermath of the conflict.

On 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2010, The European Commission wrote to the then Minister of External Affairs on the dialogue between the European Commission and Sri Lanka on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka. The annex to this letter included fifteen outstanding issues that Sri Lanka should address to maintain eligibility for GSP+ benefits.

The European Commission requested Sri Lanka to submit substantive information to demonstrate that Sri Lanka has actually taken the required action to fulfill its commitments as agreed in the Application under 15 issues. A period of 06 months from 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 was given to the European Commission to analyze the application under the existing provisions and to propose the granting of GSP+ to Sri Lanka, if the criteria are met.

The European Commission requested relevant information that an update of 58 Action Points with indicative timelines be provided by 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. The updated 58 Action Points and the update to the response on 15 issues reviewed by Ministry of External Affairs, were sent, following the meeting chaired by Hon. Prime Minister held on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2016.

Several progress review meetings on regaining GSP+ were chaired by Secretary to the Prime Minister with the relevant stakeholders. Hon. Prime Minister met the EU Leaders and Ambassadors from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 in Brussels for further discussions.

As a result of all the efforts, GSP plus facility was re-granted with effect from 18 May 2017. However, The EU undertakes monitoring the GSP Plus beneficiaries' obligations as per the EU regulations once a country is granted GSP Plus.

### **2.6.1. GSP plus Monitoring Mechanism**

Since it is required to establish an internal procedure enabling the compliance with the GSP+ obligations, the GoSL adopted a monitoring mechanism comprising of Ministerial Committee, National Level Steering Committee and Four Clusters namely; Human Rights Cluster, Labour Cluster, Environment Cluster & Governance Cluster.

Hon. Prime Minister appointed a Ministerial Committee chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and a National Steering Committee chaired by the Secretary to the Prime Minister to monitor the progress in the follow-up to the 27 international conventions. Four clusters are chaired by senior officials, and the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade designated as the National Focal Point of the EU GSP Plus facility.

The EU monitoring missions visit Sri Lanka time to time, as part of its mandate under the EU GSP Plus scheme, to monitor the progress in the follow-up to the 27 international conventions.

The first EU Monitoring Mission visited Sri Lanka in early September 2017 and several meetings were conducted with National Focal Point, the four clusters and a meeting with Hon. Prime Minister. The EU Monitoring Mission was generally satisfied with the progress on most issues covered by Human Rights Cluster and Governance Cluster. The main objective of the EU is to cooperate with Sri Lanka by attending to requests of line agencies in order to expedite the provision of solutions to such issues while assuring technical assistance

## **2.7 Ministerial Committee to Coordinate UN Human Rights Council Recommendations**

In 2015, The New Government embarked on major reforms aiming to achieve national reconciliation, and respect for human rights, the rule of law and good governance, as well as sustainable economic development. Sri Lanka has taken major steps to improve governance, respect for human rights and Sri Lanka also has re-engaged with the UN system, in particular the UN Human Rights Council, where it has made commitments to promote reconciliation, accountability and human rights.

The UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) adopted a resolution 30/1 of 2015 on Reconciliation, Accountability and Human Rights in Sri Lanka and; by co-sponsoring the resolution the Government of Sri Lanka has taken the initiative with regard to the implementation of its recommendations.

In March 2017, Sri Lanka co-sponsored another resolution 34/20 at the 34th session of the UNHRC, allowing Sri Lanka a period of two more years to implement the commitments made in resolution 30/1 of 2015. Therefore, for the purpose of central coordination and monitoring mechanism for timely implementation of aforesaid initiatives, Cabinet of Ministers appointed the following Ministerial Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe.

- Hon. Thilak Marapone, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, Minister of Ports & Shipping
- Hon. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Science Technology and Research
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka, Minister of Law & Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Thalatha Athukorala, Minister of Justice and Minister of Foreign Employment
- Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence
- Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister of National Policies & Economic Affairs

The following officials' sub-committee was also appointed to assist the above high-level committee.

- Secretary to the Prime Minister (Chairman)
- Secretary, Ministry of Defence

- Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Secretary, Ministry of Justice
- Secretary, Ministry of Law & Order and Southern Development
- Mr. Nerin Pulle, Deputy Solicitor General, Attorney General's Department
- Ms. Chandima Wickremasinghe, Senior Assistant Secretary to the President

The Officials' Sub-Committee has identified all commitments made in resolution 30/1 in to two main categories for monitoring purpose, namely; Transitional Justice Mechanism and Confidence building measures & steps for ensuring non-recurrence. The Ministerial Committee had a discussion with officials' committee and decided to expedite all outstanding actions adhering to the already fixed time line of two years. The officials' sub-committee is currently working on coordinating and monitoring the specific actions dealing with legal reforms, release of lands and other outstanding issues.

## **2.8 National Human Right Action Plan (NHRAP) 2017-2021**

The Government of Sri Lanka recognizes the importance of human rights in the development and right to justice discourse in post conflict Sri Lanka and is committed to promote and implement Sri Lanka's national obligations arising from human rights treaties to which Sri Lanka is a party as well as voluntary undertakings.

Expanding the Government's commitment to human rights further, it has been decided to formulate a National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) for 2017-2021. Prepared in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders including those in government, independent institutions including the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and the Election Commission, United Nations agencies, NGOs, Civil Society Actors and the General Public, the plan envisions Sri Lanka's vision for human rights from 2017 to 2021. With the Cabinet of Ministers having given clearance to the NHRAP on 3 October 2017 the NHRAP now constitutes a formal policy document of the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) on implementing action points within the time span of short, medium and long term.

The Cabinet of Ministers appointed an Inter-Ministerial Committee chaired by the Hon. Prime Minister, to review the progress of implementation of the Action Plan. The NHRAP was officially launch at the inaugural meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee which was held on 1 November 2017 in the Parliament.

An Officials' Committee also appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers under the direction of Hon. Sagala Rathnayake, Minister of Law & Order and Southern Development, tasked with ensuring timely progress on the implementation of the Action Plan and reporting there on to the Inter-Ministerial Committee. The Officials' Committee is chaired by Secretary to the Prime Minister and comprised with Secretaries of lead ministries pertaining to the 10 clusters responsible for implementing each chapter of the NHRAP and representatives of other stakeholders including the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka and Civil Society Organizations.

Ten Sectorial Committees have been appointed to coordinate activities of relevant chapters chaired by the Secretaries of the lead ministries. Sectoral Committees meet monthly and report to the Officials' Committee regarding the progress. Representatives of Civil Society Organizations, Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM) and representatives of Provincial Councils also participate in the Sectorial Committee meetings.

SCRM which is established under the Prime Minister's Office is entrusted with the monitoring the NHRAP and report the implementation barriers to the Officials' Committee and there on to the Inter-Ministerial Committee.

## **2.9 Second Indian Ocean Conference - 2017**

Sri Lanka hosted Second Indian Ocean Conference (IOC 2017), which was co-sponsored by the Prime Minister's Office of Sri Lanka and India Foundation with its partners - Bangladesh Institute of International & Strategic Studies, Bangladesh; and S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore. The Conference was held from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 to 01<sup>st</sup> September 2017 at Temple Trees under the patronage of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe.

The IOC 2017 brought together the stakeholders of the region together on one platform so that a collaboration on peace, progress and prosperity can be made.

The conference was attended by eminent leaders and distinguished delegates including Vice President of Seychelles, External Affairs Minister of India, Minister of Commerce of

Bangladesh, Foreign Affairs Minister of Singapore, and Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and Ms. Alice Wells, Acting Assistant Secretary of State, USA. Over 300 delegates from 40 countries in the region were participated in the conference.

The Conference was made up of three Pre-conference workshops, Inaugural Session, two Special Plenary Sessions on Peace, Session on Progress, Session on Prosperity and concluded with the Valedictory session which was graced by H.E. the President Maithripala Sirisena.

The following agreements were reached at the conference;

- The conference facilitated the emergence of unanimity among all the countries of the Indian Ocean region as well as the stakeholders in the vast ocean that the Indian Ocean needs to be secured and kept free for unrestricted navigation, formulate a rule-based architecture to regulate shipping, exploration and other activities in the Indian Ocean.
- The piracy, Trafficking of drugs and humans, Illegal fishing, Unscientific exploration and extraction of oceanic resources and the spread of terrorism aided by some state actors in the region were the biggest challenges facing countries in the Indian Ocean Region.



## **2.10 Policy Development Office**

The Policy Development Office is established at the Prime Minister's Office, to develop coherent, acceptable and equitable policies towards achieving Sri Lanka's expansion goals; It is set up with an objective of contributing towards the acceleration of state mechanisms in developing Sri Lanka efficiently, and targets achieving the following goals;

- Planning and formulation of national policies
- Co-ordination of implementing policies
- Review and evaluation of policies
- Review the development of external sectors and its impact on Sri Lanka

The Policy Development Office worked through the following committees and sub committees and the performance of those committees during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017 is as follows;

### **1. Committee on Vocational and Technical Training**

#### **I. Sub- Committee for Policy on Elder Care**

- Elder Care Assistant Training Programmes were conducted in Baddegama, Mawanella and Kilinochchi with the help of Help-age, NAITA (National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority) and VTA (Vocational Training Authority).
- National Secretariat for Elders along with University of Colombo has designed an official website to enter details of service providers, list elder homes nationwide, including a management module for the Elder Care Secretariat.

#### **II. Sub- Committee for Policy on Child Care**

- Child Care Guidelines were approved by the cabinet on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017.
- Child Care curriculum developed with the assistance of the National Child Protection authority (NCPA), Tertiary & Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), NAITA, VTA other industry stakeholders. VTA & NAITA are conducting training.

#### **III. Sub-Committee for Policy on Offering Vocational Training in Schools**

- As part of "13 Years of Guaranteed Schooling" initiative, a pilot programme has been designed to introduce Vocational Training and Skills Development in 49



schools located near Technical Training Colleges and Vocational Training Institutes island wide (25 districts). The training will focus on providing an NVQ level 4 qualification under this programme.

#### **IV. Sub- Committee for Policy on Developing a Tourism Curricular and Training**

- Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) together with TVEC has finalized and published the National Unified Curriculum on Craft Level Courses (NVQ Level-3/4)

#### **V. Sub-Committee for Policy on Persons with Disability**

- Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC) included equal employment opportunities for PwDs into their selection criteria for the “Best Corporate Citizen & Sustainability Award” (BCCS) of CSR Awards for 2017
- An existing database on PwDs has been transferred by the Ministry of Labor to PDO.
- Successfully completed first “Train the Trainer Program” with Ministry of Skills Development for the field officers in state institutions and private sector companies.
- University of Kelaniya organized a research symposium on PwD related research on 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2017
- Developed an action plan to provide TVET opportunities for persons with disabilities.

In addition to above, PDO engaged with coordination and monitoring mechanism of the followings;

Policy on Construction, TVET Sub Committee on Women, Solar Power - Policy Review, Business-Matchmaking Policy Review, Policy on Creation of Databank from school to work transition Policy for High-tech University, Policy Review for Employment and Training Law, Policy for Northern Development, Policy on Court e-Filing, Safety Net Policy, Policy on Personal Health Number, TVET Awareness Campaign – Policy, Adventure Tourism and Training Policy, Policy on Bankruptcy Law, State Land Bank (eSLIMS) Policy, Healthcare/Health Insurance Policy, National Audit Policy, Investment Special Provisions Policy, Policy for Sigiriya

over visitation, Policy on Yala Over Visitation, Policy for Interactive Human Resource Database of All Island Services, Matters connected to Domestic Civil Aviation Policy, Business Register, Primary Care Policy, Civil Aviation Policy, Policy on Career Guidance in schools, Introducing Key Performance Indicators for National Youth Corps & Vocational Training Institutions, Labour Demand Survey, Day care policy, Public Service Reform, Policy on the development of Village Fairs, Nation policy on woman

## **2.11 Committee for Educational Reforms**

During the past year, a number of discussions chaired by Hon. Prime Minister and attended by Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education and other relevant officials were held on education reforms.

During those meetings, discussions on the reforms proposals such as 13 years of compulsory education, establishment of school inspectorate, establishment of school boards, teacher recruitment, restructuring of National Institute of Education, Establishment of a National E-Library took place.

At present, the proposals on 13 years of compulsory education and the establishment of school inspectorate have been finalized and those will be implemented within the year 2018

## **2.12 National Media Centre (NMC)**

The National Media Center is one of the leading state agencies that are dealing with mass media. Media monitoring, media and political analysis and conducting political researches are the main functions of the NMC. In addition, the NMC is involved in making reports and providing information on various government projects.

### **• Follow-up Activities on Media Reports**

Electronic, print and new media in the country are monitored on daily basis. Under the monitoring section-18 daily newspapers, 10 TV channels and 5 radio channels as well as social media websites are being monitored and detailed analytical reports are prepared. All such reports are sent to authorities concerned on daily basis.

Reports are being prepared by analyzing reports on special incidents and facts based on such incidents.

- **Media and Political Analysis / Political Research**

Based on media monitoring reports about 100 special analytical reports on various subjects have been prepared and sent to relevant authorities. In addition, supporting material for the Cabinet briefing such as possible questions and detailed answers are provided with supplementary materials.

Apart from the above activities the NMC is contributing as a resource center for special government projects such as RTI Act, reconciliation and provide future forecast reports on various issues. Especially NMC has had a remarkable contribution to media campaigns and issues such as OMP Act, SAITM and in times of natural disasters.



## **03. Promotion of International Co-operation**



### 3.1 Hon. Prime Minister's Official Visits

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, has made several official visits during the year 2017 to strengthen the diplomatic relations and cooperation with the aim of obtaining assistance from other countries and international organizations to develop the infrastructure facilities, education, technology and investments. During the bilateral discussions held with heads of state, Hon. Prime Minister has stated that the vision of the government is to develop the country as an economic and business hub in the Indian Ocean and to upgrade the Sri Lanka as a high-income level country by 2030.

A short description of visits that have been instrumental in obtaining several benefits to the country in the economic, political and social fields are given below;

#### 3.1.1 World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland -January 2017

Around 3000 global leaders in the fields of Politics, Finance, Business, Economics and Science attended the 47<sup>th</sup> World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland. Hon. Prime Minister was also invited to deliver a special presentation at the forum under the topic “Regional Cooperation in South Asia”. Accordingly, Sri Lankan delegation led by the Prime Minister, undertook an official visit to Switzerland.

During the visit, the Prime Minister held discussions with several political leaders and business leaders on the program of the economic development of the country. Those discussions were helpful to gain assistance to Sri Lanka under the following fields;

- AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank) express credits ability to provide aid and loan facilities to develop infrastructure facilities
- The Microsoft Company agreed to provide assistance to develop the education system and to initiate smart class-room project; in Sri Lanka



### 3.1.2 Official Visit to Australia- February 2017

On the invitation of the Government of Australia, Prime Minister undertook an official visit to Australia in February, 2017. This visit signified the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between two countries. During the visit, Prime Minister held several discussions with Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Malcolm Turnbull and Premier of Victoria and few Australian Ministers who are responsible for key areas such as Foreign Affairs, Industry, Immigration, Investments and SMEs.

During the visit, both Prime Ministers discussed on enhancing the bilateral cooperation in the areas of Defence and Economy. Parliamentary Budget Office of Parliament of Australia was also observed by the Prime Minister. Premier of Victoria agreed to provide assistance for the development of sectors such as University Education, IT, Hospitality, Engineering, Technical & Vocational Education and Tourism etc.

In order to strengthen the bilateral relations between two countries following MoUs were signed;

- MoU on Development Cooperation Partnership; and
- MoU on Cooperation in Sports

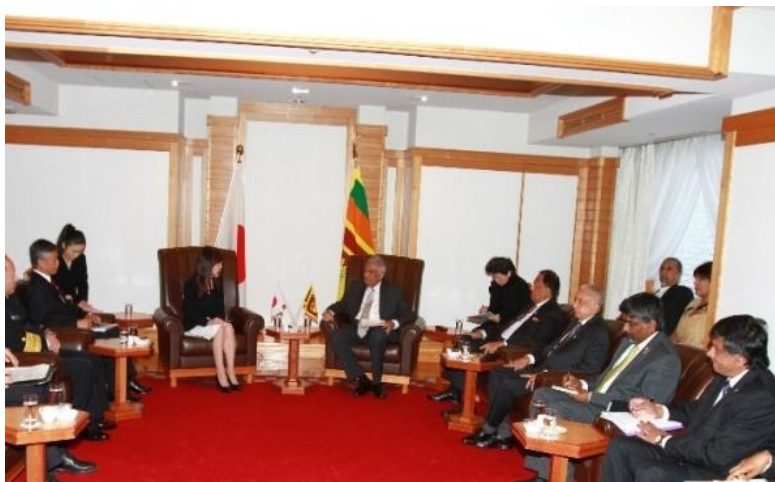




### 3.1.3 Official Visit to Japan - April 2017

Hon. Prime Minister met with H.E Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, Ministers of Defence and Finance and several high level Japanese officials during his visit to Japan in April 2017.

Hon. Prime Minister explained his plans to develop Sri Lankan Economy and strengthen maritime cooperation. Accordingly, H.E Abe agreed to provide assistance for Kandy City Development Plan, Colombo Western Megapolis Plan and training to strengthen the capacity of Tri Forcers of Sri Lanka. During this visit the proposals on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Plant/Floating Terminal and Digital Broadcasting System were also discussed. This visit was an opportunity to both countries to accelerate cooperation on development of ports, transportation, infrastructure and other national development projects.

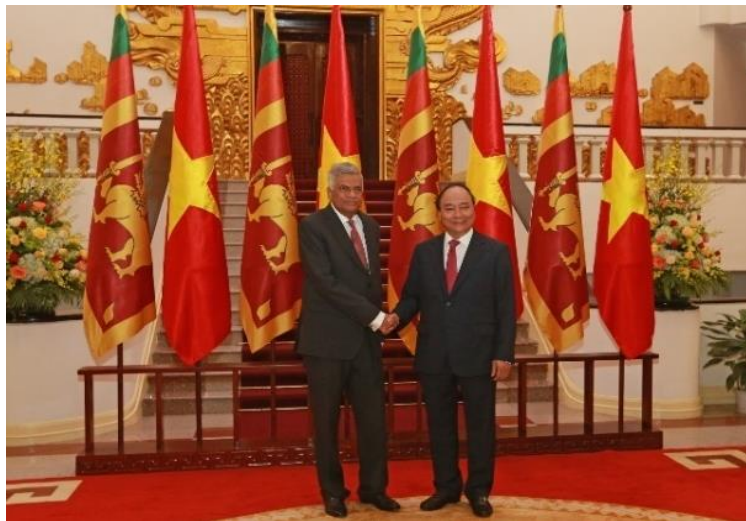


### 3.1.4 Official Visit to Vietnam - April 2017

In response to the invitation of the Vietnamese Prime Minister Hon. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Hon. Wickremesinghe undertook an Official Visit to Vietnam from 16-19 April 2017. During the visit, Prime Minister held discussions with Vietnamese President and Prime Minister on strengthening cooperation between two countries in several sectors, including trade and investment and on international and regional issues of mutual concern. It was also discussed about appointing a high level joint commission to strengthen the relations between the two countries.

With the intention of strengthening the bilateral relations between two countries following Agreements were signed;

- Agreement on Educational Cooperation between Ministry of Higher Education and Highways of Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam for the year 2017-2020; and
- Work Plan for the Year 2017-2019 on Development Cooperation between Ministries of Agriculture of both countries.



### 3.1.5 Official Visit to India- April 2017

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to India at the end of April 2017, and met with Prime Minister Hon. Narendra Modi. During this visit, the two leaders discussed a range of bilateral issues and the progress in implementation of the decisions taken during various high-level exchanges in the past two years since February 2015. The MoU on Cooperation in Economic Projects were also signed to ensure firm implementation of the programs of bilateral economic cooperation.

During this visit Hon. Wickremesinghe had several bilateral discussions with Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Road, Transport and Highways of India. Further, the Fishermen issue, “Saranath” land issue, Mahabodhi security issue and providing training for Sri Lankan Police and STF officers were discussed during those discussions. Moreover, plan to develop road network in the North and assistance to implement housing projects for hill country plantation workers were also discussed.



### 3.1.6 " One Belt - One Road" Forum held in Beijing, China – May 2017

Hon. Prime Minister attended “One Belt One Road Summit” held during 13-16 May 2017 in Beijing, China on the invitation of the Chinese Government. During this official visit Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe had bilateral discussions with the President and Prime Minister of China on development of Ports and Industrial Zones, Proposed Financial City Project, Central Express ways Project and FTAs.

This was an excellent opportunity for Sri Lanka to strengthen the bilateral relations between two countries, and it was agreed to provide RMB 400Mn grant for Education, Livelihood and Health sector development and the following Agreements and MoUs were also signed;

- Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation
- Treaty on Extradition
- MoU on Comprehensive Implementation of Investment Economic and Technological Cooperation
- MoU on Comprehensive Cooperation between Monetary Board CBSL and CBCC China
- MoU on Science and Technology Cooperation
- Preferential Buyer Credit Loan Agreement between GoSL and Import Export Bank of China



### 3.1.7 Official Visit to Finland - October 2017

Hon. Prime Minister undertook an official visit to Finland from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2017. During this visit Hon. Prime Minister met Hon. Juha Sipila, Prime Minister of Finland, Hon. Speaker of Finland, Ministers of Defence, Economic Affairs, Social Affairs & Health and representatives of Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) and Confederation of Finnish Industries. The Sri Lankan delegation visited the AW Energy, Outotec, Finish Meteorological Institute and some other industries. During the visit the Agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland and the Ministry of Finance and Mass Media on Projects Funded under Finland's Public Sector Investment Facility (PIF) Scheme was signed.

After the discussions held with Political leaders and industrial representatives of Finland, following decisions were taken.

- A pilot project on Wave Energy to be commenced by AW Energy in 2018 in the Southern Coast of Sri Lanka.
- Find the possibilities in Public Private Partnerships in Medical Diagnosis and Digitalization of Health Services and Commercial Partnerships in Health Sector.
- Find the collaboration possibilities for Meteorological Capacity Building and Modernization Activities between FMI, Vaisala and the Department of Meteorology of Sri Lanka.
- Assist Sri Lanka in the field of Upper Secondary Education.
- Exchange visit by young Parliamentarian of both countries and to have regular dialogues between two Parliaments.
- Issue a Joint Statement on Digitalization.



### 3.1.8 Official visit to India – November 2017

Hon. Ranil wickremesinghe undertook an official visit to India again at the end of November 2017 and met H.E. the President of India Ram Nath Kovind, Indian Prime Minister Hon. Narendra Modi and Congress Party Delegation led by Ms. Sonia Gandhi, President of the Congress Party separately. During these discussions it was noted that two countries could work on the synergies that would contribute to mutual benefit.

Further, it was discussed the progress of the investment projects, Status of ETCA, issues pertaining to the Indian Ocean, flagship project of 50,000 houses and steps on constitutional reform process, progress of implementation of MoU signed between two countries in April 2017, political status of Sri Lanka and security matters of the region.



### 3.2 Meetings with Diplomats and Foreign Dignitaries by the Hon. Prime Minister

No.	Date	Name of Visiting Dignitary
01	08.01.2017	Hon Chandrababu Naidu, Andra Pradesh Chief Minister
02	07.02.2017	Dr. Subir Gokarn, IMF (International Monetary Fund) Executive Director
03	20.02.2017	Dr. S Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary of India
04	20.02.2017	H.E. Kong Xuanyou, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of China
05	21.02.2017	IMF Mission
06	22.02.2017	Mr. Peter Roskam and the US Congressional Delegation
07	23.02.2017	H.E. Song Tao, Minister of International Department of the CPC (Communist Party of China) Central Committee
08	24.02.2017	Hon. Bob Goodlatte, Chairman of the US House of Representatives Judiciary Committee
09	03.03.2017	French Senate Mrs. Marie C Blandin, Chair of the SL-France Parliamentary Friendship Group
10	15.03.2017	Hon. Yun Byung-se, Foreign Minister of Korea
11	28.03.2017	Mr. Andrew McDowell, Vice President of European Investment Bank
12	30.03.2017	Mr. Salil Shetty, Secretary General of Amnesty International
13	05.04.2017	Dr. S Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary of India
14	07.04.2017	H.E. Yu Zhengsheng, Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference
15	11.05.2017	H.E. Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India
16	23.05.2017	Rear Admiral Art McDonald, Command of Maritime Forces Pacific (MARPAF) and Joint Task Force Pacific
17	19.06.2017	Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Foreign Minister of Singapore
18	20.07.2017	Hon. Julie Bishop, Foreign Minister of Australia
19	20.07.2017	Mr. Jeff Felthman, UN Under Secretary General
20	09.08.2017	H.E. Ahmet Davutoglu, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey
21	10.08.2017	Hon. Rodney Frelinghuysen, Chairman of the US House of Representatives Appropriations Committee
22	11.08.2017	Dr. Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan

23	14.08.2017	H.E. Alexander de Croo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Post and Telecommunications of Belgium
24	31.08.2017	H.E. Vincent Meriton, Vice President of Seychelles
25	31.08.2017	H.E. Iwao Horii, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan
26	31.08.2017	H.E. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs of India
27	01.09.2017	Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Foreign Minister of Singapore
28	01.09.2017	Ambassador Alice G Wells, US Acting Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs and Actg. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan
29	01.09.2017	Hon. To Anh Dzong, Assistant Foreign Minister of Vietnam
30	04.09.2017	Mr. David Pittaway QC, The Treasurer of the Honorable Society of Inner Temple
31	13.09.2017	Mr. Guus Houttuin, Head of GSP+ Monitoring Mission and the Delegation
32	04.10.2017	Speakers of the SAARC Parliaments
33	16.10.2017	Mr. Andrew Fairly, Deputy Head of the Australian Tourism Board
34	18.10.2017	Ms. Tehmina Janjua, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan
35	19.10.2017	Mr. Pablo de Greiff, Special Rapporteur of UN for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of Non-recurrence
36	30.10.2017	H.E. Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim bin Mohammed Al-Thani, Minister of Economy and Commerce of Qatar
37	01.11.2017	Honourable Kazuya Nashida, Assistant Minister and Director General/International Cooperation Bureau of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
38	02.11.2017	Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia
39	06.11.2017	Ambassador Thomas Shannon, US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
40	09.11.2017	Ms. Yasmin Ratansi, Chair of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the delegation of Canadian Branch
41	18.11.2017	His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of UAE
42	18.11.2017	Dr. S Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary of India
43	05.12.2017	H.E. (Dr) Yahya bin Mahfou Al Mundhari, Head of Oman Parliamentarian and the delegation



44	11.12.2017	Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, Chief of the Air Staff of Indian Air Force
45	18.12.2017	H.E. Shahibul Islam, Secretary General of BIMSTEC
46	19.12.2017	Hon Dato Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia



## **04. National Reconciliation, Social Services and Religious Affairs**



## **4.1 National Reconciliation**

### **4.1.1 Progress of the Secretariat for Coordinating the Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM)**

The SCRM was established, as proposed by the Prime Minister, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers at the Cabinet Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

The functions of the SCRM are as follows;

- 1) Coordination of national level discourses on reconciliation mechanisms.
- 2) Development of a plan and a timeline to establish Office on Missing Persons, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Office on Reparations, Special Judiciary, and other relevant reconciliation mechanisms.
- 3) Liaising with both national and international institutions, including the Sri Lanka Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) and United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- 4) Follow-up of the progress and coordination of implementing recommendations stipulated in the reports of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) and UNHRC.
- 5) Coordination of requirements related to strengthening the rule of law, human rights, and administrative and judicial reforms.

The SCRM launched a Consultations Website ([www.scrm.gov.lk](http://www.scrm.gov.lk)) in Jaffna and established an Office of Missing Persons.

The progress of the SCRM from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017 is as follows;

#### **1. Transitional Justice Mechanisms;**

- Coordinated the work of the National Consultative Task Force on Transitional Justice mechanisms.
- Military Dialogues were conducted for the Senior Officers of Military and Police. (Established a working group to design the Training of Trainers programme)

- Several workshops on Transitional Justice mechanisms were conducted in collaboration with the UN, UNICEF, and IOM etc. where international experts presented various relevant country case studies.
- Facilitated and attended UNHRC Sessions in Geneva along with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **2. Reconciliation and Non-Recurrence**

- Capacity Building initiatives were initiated to develop government, non-government and civil society entities with technical and practical assistance at national and local levels to facilitate and enhance delivery of services at grassroots level along with the relevant line Ministries and Office of National Unity & Reconciliation (ONUR). Accordingly, SCRM observed the issuance of “Certificate of Absence” in 8 districts and assisted in further enhancing the service.
- Co-Chaired and attended the Peace Building board meetings along with the UN to facilitate reconciliation related projects that are funded by the International Community.

## **3. Communications and Outreach:**

- SCRM conducted Quarterly review meeting with Consultation Task force and Zonal Task Force members to update the progress on Governments reconciliation agenda in collaboration with Line ministries and ONUR.
- Regular meetings were conducted with the Diplomatic Community to share progress updates and views in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **4. Research and Legal**

- Continued to study best practices worldwide in the area of transitional Justice by attending several international workshops and conferences.
- Commenced work on addressing various legal issues and monitored the progress of several legal cases along with the AG’s Department and other related entities.

#### **4.1.2 Progress of Public Outreach Programme on Constitutional Reforms and Constitution-making (POP/CR)**

The Public outreach programme on Constitutional Reform and Constitution-making (POP/CR) aimed at reaching the General Public, Civil Society, Public Officers, Religious Dignitaries, School Children, Youth, etc., in order to make them aware of the Constitutional Reform Process and Constitution-making in the Country after the formation of the new government in 2015.

The Coordinator, POP/CR in consultation with the Constitutional Assembly Secretariat and the Prime Minister's Office mounted the following awareness programmes on district basis for this purpose;

- 1) Youth Forum in collaboration with the National Youth Services Council (NYSC) Commenced in the second week of December 2016 and have successfully completed in 25 Districts through Youth Parliament.
- 2) The School Programme in collaboration with the Ministry of Education Conducted in all districts commenced in January 2016 and completed in February, 2017
- 3) The Public Officers Forum in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs through District Secretaries.  
Divisional Secretaries, Representatives of the other Public Departments in the District, Development Officers, Grama Niladharies, etc. Were attended.
- 4) The Public Forum (Civil Society) in collaboration with the Civil Society Organizations in the island.
- 5) Additional Civil Society Programme in collaboration with Sarvodaya Movement.

Phase three of the programme is for Religious Dignitaries of all faiths. The Chief Religious Dignitaries and Religious Institutions of all faiths numbering around 15 have been selected in each District.

The first awareness programme for Religious Dignitaries was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2107 at Visumpaya with the participation of 40 Chief Buddhist Prelates from all three Nikayas.

## 4.2 Employee Welfare

Under the leadership and guidance of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, the Prime Minister's Office has conducted the following social welfare activity in 2017.

### 4.2.1 Ayurvedic Health Clinic

Welfare Society of Prime Minister's Office in collaboration with Siddhalepa Ayurveda hospital conducted a Health Camp at the office auditorium to examine the health of the office staff and encourage a fitness life. More than 200 office staff members took medical treatments from the Campaign.





### 4.3 Religious Affairs

Since its inception, the Government has maintained a strong commitment towards ensuring religious harmony among Buddhist, Hindu, Islam and Christian followers, through the celebration of key religious festivals of importance. Under the aegis of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, the following religious festivals were thus observed.

#### 4.3.1 Navam Perahara – Colombo

The Navam Perahara - 2017 which was jointly organized by the Gangarama Temple, Hunupitiya along with the Prime Minister's Office was conducted on the 09<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February, 2017, in grand scale, parading across the streets of Colombo.

The event was made colorful with the participation of around 75 elephants and tuskers and around 7000 artists with acts of dancing falling under Up Country, Low Country and Sabaragamuwa artistic traditions.

On 09<sup>th</sup> February, 2017, the inaugural day of the pageant, H.E. Maithripala Sirisena, the President of Sri Lanka graced the occasion when the Gold Casket containing Sacred Relics was ceremoniously placed on the majestic tusker. On 10<sup>th</sup> February, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe joined to mark the beginning of the procession by placing the casket of sacred relics on the majestic tusker.

A large number of local and foreign visitors were present to witness the event along the streets of Colombo and the event was broadcasted through several television channels for the benefit of countless viewers. The procession was a huge opportunity to the local artists to showcase their talents and also to preserve the artistic traditions of Sri Lanka.





#### **4.3.2 Alms Giving for Thousand Bhikkus at Temple Trees - 2017**

The alms giving for thousand Bhikkus which was organized by the Prime Minister's Office took place on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at the main conference hall of Temple Trees with the participation of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Honorable Ministers and the Members of the Parliament.

More than thousand Bhikkus including Maha Nayaka Theros representing all the three monastics in fraternities were participated at the Alms Giving.





### **4.3.3 Exposition of Sacred Relics & Items of Religious and Archaeological Importance**

The exhibition of items of religious and archeological importance including Relics from Neelagiri, organized by the Gangarama Temple, Hunupitiya along with the Prime Minister's Office was held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 at the Main Conference Hall of Temple Trees. On 11<sup>th</sup>, the inaugural day, the opening was marked by the presence of Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe and the Minister of Law and Order & Southern Development, Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka.

The exhibition was included of stalls from Department of Archaeology, Ministry of Education, Export Development Board, Narada Buddhist Centre, Central Cultural Fund, National Museums, Department of Archives, Department of Buddhist Affairs, National Crafts Council, Board of Handicrafts (Laksala), National Design Centre, Department of Ayurveda, University of Aesthetics and Cultural Ministries of Provincial Councils namely, the Western, Central, Uva, Southern, North Western and Sabaragamuwa.

Many local and foreign visitors were present at the exhibition which was also broadcasted on several television channels. The event was a great opportunity to witness many items with religious and archeological importance including the sacred relics at the same place.

#### 4.3.4 Buddha Rashmi Vesak Festival

Buddha Rashmi National Vesak Festival – 2017 jointly organized by the Gangarama Temple and the Prime Minister’s Office was held in grand manner from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, covering the area of Gangarama Temple, Temple Trees, Beira Circular Road and Beira Lake.

The opening night of the Vesak Festival was held with the participation of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Honorable Ministers and Members of Parliament including the Prime Minister of India, Honorable Narendra Modi and other foreign delegates.

This event can be considered as a major religious and cultural festival that included special Buddhist artistic creations mounted on a floating stage in the Beira Lake, Buddhist ballets, street plays depicting various events in Buddhist Jathaka Stories, puppet shows, Vesak lanterns, Vesak pandols and various other artistic creations.

Millions of devotees, including local and foreign tourists were there to witness this event which was broadcasted over a number of television channels for the benefit of many viewers. This was a great opportunity for Sri Lankan artists to showcase their artistic skills as well.





#### **4.3.5 Ifthar Festival**

The Ifthar Festival, celebrated by the Muslims, was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2017 with the participation of Maulavi (Chief Priest) and other 1500 devotees under the patronage of His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka and Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at Temple Trees.





#### **4.3.6 The annual Esala Pageant of the Valukarama Temple, Kollupitiya**

The annual Esala Pageant of the Valukarama Temple, Kollupitiya was conducted on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2017, for 54<sup>th</sup> time, which was organized by the Prime Minister's Office, with the objective of building national reconciliation through inter-religious harmony.

Hon. Prime Minister, the Ministers and the Members of the Parliament took part to grace the occasion. The pageant held in a grand manner with the participation of numerous elephants and tuskers, included various and colourfull acts of dancing falling under up country, low country and Sabaragamuwa artistic traditions.

Many devotees including local and foreign tourist were present to witness this event which was broadcasted over a number of TV channels for the benefit of countless viewers.





#### 4.3.7 Deepavali Festival

The national Deepavali festival which was organized by the Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs together with Prime Minister's Office was held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at Temple Trees for the third consecutive year, under the patronage of H.E. the President and Hon. Prime Minister and with the participation of Ministers and other 1500 devotees.

The meaning of celebrating this festival which is given the priority to the Hindu Culture & traditions, is that the triumph of good over evil, truth over false, love over anger, compassion over hatred and freedom over dependence.







## **05. Redress for Public Complaints and Grievances**



## 5.1. Referring Public Complaints and Grievances Received by the Prime Minister's Office to Relevant State Agencies and Follow-up Actions

Prime Minister's Office has taken a decision to expand the functions of the existing public relation division, in order to expeditiously handle the problems and grievances referred to the Prime Minister, in effective and efficiency manner.

Accordingly, the Public Relations Division of the Prime Minister's Office was established on 20.07.2017 at a new venue at No.101, R.A.de Mel Mawatha, for the purpose of settling problems, grievances and needs of the general public which are received in person or in writing from any part of the Island.



This Division was established under the guidance of the Prime Minister. This Division which is functioning under the direct supervision of the Secretary to the Prime Minister has a staff of around 25 members, including two Consultants (Public Relations) to the Prime Minister and two Directors.

This Division also handles necessary co-ordination for the purpose of finding expeditious solutions to public complaints and requests pertaining to all state organizations. Further, the Division takes follow – up action with regard to the public complaints while following progress achieved by various institutions with regard to the fulfillment of requirements of the general public. In addition, the Division is concerned with the improvement of public relations skills in state institutions, enhancement of facilities and strengthening of public relations strategies.

### **Objectives**

- Improvement of attention pertaining to efficient delivery and streamlining of services.
- Facilitation of finding solutions to problems pertaining to public requirements.
- Improvement of management process pertaining to public relations concerns in public service.
- Proper monitoring of evaluation process pertaining to public relations and access to resolving strategies.
- Compilation of a programme to ensure active contribution of state institutions, private sector agencies and political organizations towards settlement of public complaints and improvement of such skills and capacities.
- Facilitation of consultations on behalf of the general public and introduction of co-ordination required for resolving problems.
- Identification and strengthening of information technology connectivity for public relations and resolving of problems.
- Improvement of community capabilities through participatory development accesses, dialogues and communication and introduction of methods to ensure community participation.
- Professional enhancement and introduction of strategies for progression and facilitation of public services.

## Strategies

The Prime Minister's Office, under the direct supervision of the Hon Prime Minister has taken steps to introduce following strategies for strengthening public relations and giving due attention to the public complaints.

- Establishment of a separate Public Relations Unit under the Prime Minister's Office and thereby providing a suitable and convenient place for the general public to lodge their complaints.
- Establishment of Public Relation Cells connecting all major state institutions in order to strengthen connectivity between the Prime Minister's Office and state institutions.
- Thereby, ensuring state's responsiveness, accountability and responsibility pertaining to solving public problems and establishing a mechanism to review solving process of such complaints through the introduction of a follow-up system.
- Identification of classifications of public complaints and thereby creation of policy connectivity for generally minimizing such grievances through an analytical access to public complaints.
- Introduction of an Information Technology instrument for solving public problems and developing such information technology process towards more expeditious accesses to solve public complaints by establishing an institutional network connectivity.
- Introduction of various strategies through management and policy dialogues required for fulfillment of public requirements and solving of problems.



## Public Requests /Complaints Received and Actions Taken & the Progress

Month	Total number of letters received	Total number of letters replied
January	3801	2708
February	4031	2898
March	4649	3223
April	2669	1766
May	2499	1871
June	2150	1678
July	2268	1819
August	3977	3330
September	4045	3664
October	6175	4270
November	6347	4602
December	4530	3326
<b>Total</b>	<b>47141</b>	<b>35155</b>

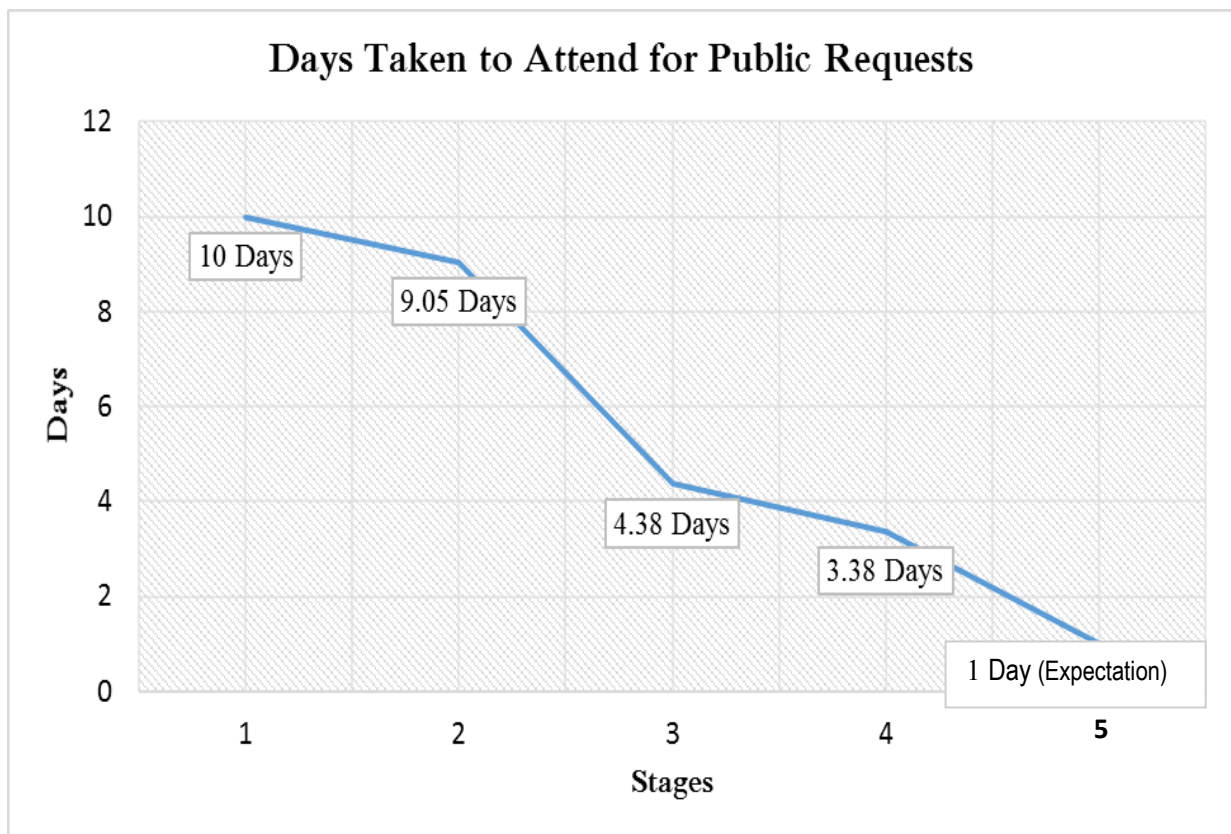
### Summary Details

Total number of letters replied	-	35155
Acknowledgements Received	-	6830
Total numbers of letters filed as Copies	-	5077
Pending Letters as at <b>31.12.2017</b>	-	<u>79</u>
<b>Total Number of Letters received in the year 2017</b>	-	<b><u>47141</u></b>

**Progress on number of days taken to reply for Public Requests after establishment of the unit**

The unit is expecting real time delivery and attending solution with respective information technology solution

Stage	Number of days taken to reply
Initial Stage	10 days
2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage	9.05 days
3 <sup>rd</sup> Stage	4.38 days
4 <sup>th</sup> Stage	3.38 days
Expectation in Next Stage	1-day service



## **Future Plans and Ambitions**

- **Strengthening Internet Facilities**

Establishment of a network to solve public complaints through internet facilities. Thereby strengthening connectivity with relevant institutions through E technological facilities and effective co-ordination of problems through E technology.

- **Establishment of Public Connectivity Network.**

Identification of Institutional network connected with the Prime Minister's Office. Further strengthening of public relations in state service by establishing Public Relations Units in every institution.

- **Introduction of Citizens and Public Charter**

Introduction of a Citizens Charter containing policies pertaining to rendering public services in a more streamlined, efficient and responsive manner and thereby creating a credible mechanism pertaining to delivery of public services.

- **Strengthening of Trade Union Relations**

Identification of strategies for solving institutional and vocational problems through relationships with trade unions in order to deliver institutional services. Co-ordination and capacity development required for minimizing vocational actions obstructing delivery of public services.

- **Study and Management of Public Relation Policies**

Attention towards policy studies required for improvement of public services through co-operation with state sector agencies and thereby identification of policies relevant to improvement of public services and directing relevant institutions towards them.



## 5.2 Facilities Provided to Submit Public Complaints / Grievances via Official Website of the Prime Minister’s Office

The screenshot displays the official website of the Prime Minister's Office of Sri Lanka. The header includes the national emblem, the Prime Minister's name (Ranil Wickremesinghe) in Sinhala and English, and the Prime Minister's Office logo. A navigation menu is located below the header, and a language selector is in the top right corner.

The main content area is titled "Prime Minister's Office" and provides the address: "58, Sir Earnest De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 07." Below this, there is a section for "Submission of Public Grievances, Complaints and Comments" with the text: "Your feedback will help us to serve you better." The form consists of several input fields: "First Name", "Last Name", "Email address", and "Contact Number". There are three text areas for providing details: "Please mention your grievances, complaints and requests here.", "If you have any comments, please mention.", and "other".

To the right of the form is a "Location" section featuring a Google Map. The map shows the Prime Minister's Office location marked with a red pin at the intersection of Sir Earnest De Silva Mawatha and Raswamy Mawatha. Other nearby landmarks like Sri Lanka Tennis Association, Glass House, Ladies College, and Mahanama College are also visible.



## **06. Parliamentary and Legal Affairs**



## **6.1 Parliamentary Affairs**

Parliamentary Affairs are coordinated by the Parliamentary and Legal Affairs Division, established at the Prime Minister's Office to function as a special unit to liaise with the Parliament, the Office of the Cabinet of Ministers and Legal Institutions on relevant matters.

### **6.1.1 Cabinet Memoranda, Notes to the Cabinet and Answering to the Parliamentary Questions**

- **Cabinet Memoranda and Notes to the Cabinet**

Ninety one (91) Cabinet Memoranda and 33 Notes to the Cabinet on different subjects have been submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers from 01<sup>st</sup> of January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. This division involves in implementing the Cabinet decisions which are to be executed by Secretary to the Prime Minister among the Cabinet decisions made by the Cabinet of Ministers having studied the said Cabinet Memoranda and Notes to the Cabinet.

- **Answering to the Parliamentary Questions**

The Division also engaged in drafting answers to 72 questions raised by both the government and opposition Members of Parliament in relation to the Ministries, Departments, Statutory Boards and Corporations coming under the purview of the President and Prime Minister during the period from January 01 to December 31, 2017. Answers to 43 oral questions pertaining to matters relevant to the Ministries of Mahaweli Development and Environment, and Defence which are coming under the purview of H.E. the President, have also been drafted during the period and another 29 answers to oral questions raised pertaining to matters relating to the Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs.

Further, answers have been drafted for 13 questions that have been referred to the Hon. Prime Minister under the Standing Orders of the Parliament. In addition, answers are given for the 04 verbal questions on policy matters with national importance raised from the Hon. Prime Minister on the first Wednesday of every month that the Parliamentary Session is held under the stage of raising questions from the Hon. Prime Minister. Accordingly, answers have been drafted for 28 questions during this period and answers have been drafted for 03 on adjournment motions.

### **6.1.2 Tabling Reports in Parliament**

The division pursued necessary action to table special reports on subjects coming under the purview of the President and Prime Minister such as Annual Reports, Performance Reports and Statements of Accounts in Parliament and 15 such reports on the following subjects have been tabled in Parliament during the period from January 01 to December 31, 2017:

- Annual Reports
  - i. Commission to Investigate into Allegations of Bribery or Corruptions - 2008 - 2015
  - ii. Commission to Investigate into Allegations of Bribery or Corruptions - 2016
  - iii. National Finance Commission - 2015
  - iv. Administrative Appeal Tribunal - 2015
  - v. Administrative Appeal Tribunal - 2016
  - vi. Defence University of General Sir John Kothalawala - 2013 - 2014
  - vii. Public Service Commission - 2016
  
- Progress Reports
  - i. Delimitation Commission -2016
  
- Quarterly Progress Reports
  - i. Public Service Commission – 01.04.2017 – 30.06.2017
  - ii. Commission to Investigate into Allegations of Bribery or Corruptions - 01.01.2017 – 31.03.2017
  
- Performance Reports and Statements of Accounts
  - i. Public Service Commission - 2016
  - ii. Election Commission - 2016
  - iii. Administrative Appeal Tribunal - 2016
  
- Other
  - i. Recommendations of the National Finance Commission for the financial year 2017
  - ii. Recommendations of the National Finance Commission for the financial year 2018

### **6.1.3 Resolutions**

This Division pursues action to present the proposals referred to the Cabinet by H.E the President, in the form of resolutions, in Parliament for approval and following resolutions were presented in Parliament for approval during the period from January 01, 2017 to December 31, 2017;

- Guidelines to be followed by Electronic and Print Media during the time of an election or a referendum.
- Revision of salaries and allowances to the Director General of the Commission to Investigate into Allegations of Bribery or Corruptions.
- Revision of limits of the Detection and Raids Advance Account of the Commission to Investigate into Allegations of Bribery or Corruptions.
- Revision of emoluments and other allowances to Chairmans and Members of Independent Commissions.
- Revision of salaries of the Chairman of Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.
- Revision of salaries of the Chief Justice and Puisne and Judges of the Court of Appeal, in terms of Article 108(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- Provision of a special pensionable standing allowance to the Chief Justice and Puisne and Judges of the Court of Appeal in terms of Article 108(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- Revision of emoluments to Chairman and Vice Chairman and revision of allowances to Members of National Education Commission.
- Revision of salaries and allowances of the Chief Justice and Supreme Court judges.
- Ratification by Sri Lanka to the Kigali Amendment of the Montreal Protocol on phase down of Hydro flour carbons. (HFC)

## **6.2 Legal Affairs**

Coordination of drafting legislation and actions related to court cases are also handled by the division.

### **6.2.1 Coordination in Respect of Drafting of Legislations**

The Division coordinates among relevant stakeholders with a view to laying a formidable legal foundation for various activities aimed at the development of Sri Lanka and in the process the division provides necessary coordination for activities ranging from the drafting of bills on various subjects to presenting them in Parliament for approval to enact as laws.

Accordingly, the Division engaged during the period from January 01, 2017 to December 31, 2017 in following coordination activities;

- Necessary coordination for the enactment of Office *on* Missing Persons (Establishment, Administration and Discharge of Functions) (Amendment) Bill on July 03, 2017 was done by the Prime Minister's Office.
- Foreign Exchange Act - Necessary coordination in introducing the new law on its enactment by Parliament on July 28, 2017 to provide for the promotion and regulation of foreign exchange was done by the Prime Minister's Office.

Moreover, the Division is also engaged in coordinating the activates relating to the land management, drafting of legislations in pursuance of the International Convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance and in respect of functions of the Ministers and Deputy Ministers, introducing timely amendments to the existing legislations viz. Companies Act, Provisions of Transfer of Powers, proposed Counter Terrorism Act of Sri Lanka, Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment) Act, as indicated below;

- Lands (Special Provisions) Bill
- State Land Bank Bill
- Bill on the International Convention for the protection of all persons from Enforced Disappearance
- National Audit Bill



- Bill to amend the Energy Supply (Temporary Provisions) Act No. 02 of 2002
- Bill to amend the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007
- Assignment of functions to Ministers who are not members of the Cabinet of Ministers (Consequential Provisions) Bill
- Voluntary Disclosure Bill
- Transfer of Powers (Divisional Secretaries) (Special Provisions) Bill
- Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment) Bill
- Counter Terrorism Bill of Sri Lanka
- Bill for the Establishment of Parliamentary Budget Office and
- Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution.

### **6.2.2 Actions related to Court Cases**

Coordinating activities have been carried out with the Attorney General's Department on 37 applications filed in the Supreme Court and the 11 cases filed in the Court of Appeals which are the Hon. Prime Minister has been named as a respondent.



## **07. Human Resources Development and Infrastructure Development**



## 7.1 Human Resources Development

With the aim of enhancing quality of the service by facilitating the efficiency and effectiveness of the staff of the Prime Minister's Office, the officials have been provided foreign and local training to augment their knowledge, skills and attitudes. Accordingly, such Programmes undertaken from 01<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 are as follows.

### Local Training Programmes

	Course	Training Institute	Duration	Number of Participants
1	Lecture on customer care	National Human Resource Development Council	10.01.2017	01
2	CIGAS course	Academy of Financial studies	24.01.2017-26.01.2017	02
3	Combating procurement fraud through First Class Public Procurement	Academy of Financial studies	25.01.2017	03
4	Advanced certificate course in Contract & Procurement Management	Construction Industry Development Authority	08 months	01
5	PAYROLL course	Academy of Financial studies	13.02.2017-15.02.2017	01
6	Diploma in Public Procurement & Contract Administration	Academy of Financial studies	1 year	01
7	Training on Supervisory Management	Skills Development Fund	20.02.2017-21.02.2017	03
8	Diploma in Diplomacy & World Affairs	Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute	1 year	05
9	Civil Engineering Design Course	Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka	03 months	01
10	Training on Scheme of Recruitment	Skills Development Fund	16.03.2017-17.03.2017	01
11	Master of Development Studies	University of Colombo	01 Year	01

12	File Management and General Office Administration & e-code	Academy of Financial studies	27.03.2017-29.03.2017	02
13	Training for Drivers	Construction Machinery Training Center	04.03.2017 - 11.03.2017	25
14	Diploma in English for Junior Executives	Academy of Financial studies	1 Year	05
15	IT Skills for non- IT Officers	Academy of Financial studies	08.05.2017-09.05.2017	01
16	Training on Salary Conversion	Skills Development Fund	15.06.2017-16.06.2017	01
17	Post Graduate Diploma Course in Diplomacy & World Affairs	Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute	04 months	01
18	Training on Improving Attitudes & professional knowledge for Drivers & office Assistants	Skills Development Fund	22.06.2017-23.06.2017	03
19	Role of Audit & Management Committee	National Human Resource Development Council	06.07.2017	02
20	Training for Transport Officers	Skills Development Fund	25.08.2017-26.08.2017	01
21	Speech craft Training with the Toastmasters International for Additional Secretaries	SLIDA	2.5 months	01
22	Diploma in Translation and Interpretation course	University of Kelaniya	01 Year	01
23	Diploma in English for Junior Executives (DEJE)- Level1	Academy of Financial studies	2017.10.19-2017.12.	03
24	Master of Public Administration & Management	University of Colombo	01 Year	02
25	Formal Letter Writing Skills	Academy of Financial studies	02 days	01
26	Attitude & Professional Development of Office Aids	Skills Development Fund	01 day	18
27	Stores Management & Purchasing Procedures	Skills Development Fund	02 days	02

## Foreign Training Programmes

	<b>Course</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
1	Religion in Plural Societies Cohesion, Conflict and Peace Building	Singapore	16.01.2017- 20.01.2017	2
2	Sakura Exchange Program in Science	Japan	19.02.2017- 25.02.2017	1
3	Regional Economic Cooperation for Developing Countries	China	10.03.2017- 30.03.2017	1
4	International Cooperation in Capacity Building for Developing Countries	China	10.03.2017- 30.03.2017	1
5	Seminar for Diplomatic from Developing Countries	China	16.03.2017- 05.04.2017	1
6	Fiscal Analysis & Forecasting	India	20.03.2017- 31.03.2017	1
7	High Impact Leadership/ Managerial Skill Development	India	20.03.2017- 14.04.2017	2
8	Economic Development & Social Policy for Developing Countries	China	21.03.2017- 10.04.2017	1
9	Youth Leadership Programme for Developing Countries	China	06.04.2017- 26.04.2017	1
10	Management for Administrative Officials from Developing Countries	China	12.04.2017- 26.04.2017	1
11	China's Experience in Rural Economic Development for developing Countries	China	12.04.2017- 04.05.2017	1
12	Promoting Urbanization Construction & Planning for Developing Countries	China	12.04.2017- 04.05.2017	1
13	Policy Development of Emergency Industry for Developing Country	China	14.04.2017- 28.04.2017	1
14	South - South Cooperation for Developing Countries	China	01.06.2017- 21.06.2017	1
15	38th Annual International Human Right Training Programme	Canada	02.06.2017- 27.06.2017	1
16	Project Financing Development and Management of Public Infrastructure for Developing Countries	China	07.06.2017- 01.07.2017	1

17	Smart Nation; Strategy to Implementation	Singapore	12.06.2017-16.06.2017	1
18	Cross Border Connectivity US Dot Workshop	Nepal	26.06.2017-02.07.2017	1
19	Capacity Development Programme For Expert of Urban Development Project Planning and Implementing	Korea	29.06.2017-23.09.2017	1
20	Development of Information & Telecommunication for Developing Countries	China	10.07.2017-08.08.2017	1
21	Capacity Building for B & R Countries	China	19.07.2017-08.08.2017	1
22	Urbanization for Developing Countries	China	30.07.2017-19.08.2017	1
23	National Ethnic Policy & Practice for Developing Countries	China	04.08.2017-24.08.2017	1
24	Building Government Capacity for the Support of Harmonious Industrial Relations	Vietnam	06.08.2017-11.08.2017	1
25	Financial Service for China's Development Assistant project for Asian Countries	China	16.08.2017-25.08.2017	1
26	Modernization of Market Governance System and Governance Capacity for Developing Countries	China	18.08.2017-09.09.2017	1
27	Workshop on South - South Knowledge Corporation for Agricultural Officials	China	29.08.2017-04.09.2017	1
28	Business Association Management of Developing Countries	China	19.09.2017-09.10.2017	1
29	Energy Policy & Structure for the Belt and Road Countries	China	20.09.2017-10.10.2017	1
30	Transforming Nations through Creativity and Innovation under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation programme (MTCP)	Malaysia	25.09.2017-29.09.2017	1
31	Youth Business Initiation for Developing Countries	China	27.09.2017-17.10.2017	1
32	Trade Facilitation for B & R Countries	China	11.10.2017-31.10.2017	1



33	Infrastructure Construction Investment and Financing for B & R Countries	China	10.10.2017-30.10.2017	1
34	New Public passion: Motivating the public service	Singapore	09.10.2017-13.10.2017	1
35	Biodiversity Conservation and Management for Developing Countries	China	11.10.2017-31.10.2017	1
36	Human Resource Development and Management Training Programme	Qatar	13.11.2017-16.11.2017	2

## **7.2 Making use of Information and Communication Technology Towards The Enhancement of Productivity**

In conformity with the E-Gov policy, the primary objectives of the Information and Communication Technology Division is to identify and take action with regard to ICT needs in the Prime Minister's Office and fulfill the ICT requirements to implement state policies and programs. Accordingly, following information and communications technical assistances are being performed by the division.

- **Prime Minister's Office Official Website**

The official website of the Prime Minister's Office is frequently updated to disseminate timely and accurate information to its users.

- **Prime Minister's Office Internal Mail Service**

Few attempts of unauthorized access to the Prime Minister's office internal mail server were detected and successfully suppressed by the ICT division of the Prime Minister's office. The Criminal Investigation Department of the Police has been assigned to conduct further investigations about these unauthorized accesses. Based on the facts disclosed at the investigations, the security mechanism of the internal mail server had been enhanced to provide a reliable and secure mail service.

- **ICT Infrastructure Enhancement**

Action has been taken to modernize the Local Area Network (LAN) in the Temple Trees premises and Flower Road premises with the Wi-Fi facility under LGN 2.0 Project implemented by Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA). Also, the preliminary works are already in progress to get the video conferencing facility for both the premises under the same project.

- **Workflow Management of the Prime Minister's Office**

- I. Meeting Organization and Management
- II. Visitor Management.
- III. Work Assignment
- IV. Correspondent Management

The project has been implemented to develop software systems through the ICTA in order to manage the above workflows. The implementation of the system is being completed and is under the test running status.

- **Developing of software for internal uses of the Prime Minister's Office**

The ICT Division is in the process of developing a software required to facilitate internal establishment activities in the Prime Minister's Office. This will minimize the cost involved in software and enabling the version-updating possible. Accordingly, the software system developed to facilitate internal mail processing is being upgraded to a new version including several new enhancements. Two systems are being developed and is presently in the testing stage to computerize the Fixed Assets Register of Electronic Equipment and Follow-up of Cabinet Decisions.

- **Provision of ICT Training to Staff**

Through the financial assistance of ICTA, it was able to meet the ICT training requirement of the officers at Prime Minister's Office. Having discussions and negotiations with the training institute, ICT division was able to fine tune the content to provide productive training sessions for officers to enhance their ICT skills.

## **08. Financial Progress**



## 8.1 Financial Progress

Financial provisions for the annual expenditure of the Office of the Prime Minister for the year of 2017 were allocated under the Expenditure Head No.2 of the Annual Budget Estimate. These provisions have been set apart for the Recurrent and Capital expenditure under 04 main projects and 02 sub projects. Total provisions amounting to Rs. 1490 million consists of Rs.913 million towards the recurrent expenditure and Rs.577 million towards the capital expenditure for the year 2017. Accordingly, the summary of the financial progress of the year 2017 are as follows;

Projects/Sub Projects	Total Provision (Rs. Million )		Financial Progress (Rs. Million)			
	Recurrent	Capital	Recurrent		Capital	
Office of the Prime Minister	480	523	477	99%	490	94%
General Administration and Establishment Services	275	38	266	97%	31	82%
National Media Center	44	13	32	73%	1	8%
Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms	66	3	54	82%	1	33%
Japan-Sri Lanka Joint Comprehensive Partnership Secretariat	20	0	17	85%	0	-
Millennium Challenge Corporation	28	0	9	32%	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>91%</b>

Under the projects and sub projects of the Office of the Prime Minister, the annual expenditure consist of expenses of Administration, Supplies, Maintenance, Acquisition of Capital Assets, Rehabilitation and Improvement of Capital Assets , relating to the activities of Temple Trees premises, Prime Minister's Office, Visumpaya, Official Residences of the Prime Minister in Nuwara Eliya and Bentota , National Media Center, Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms , Japan-Sri Lanka Cooperation Secretariat and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.



