



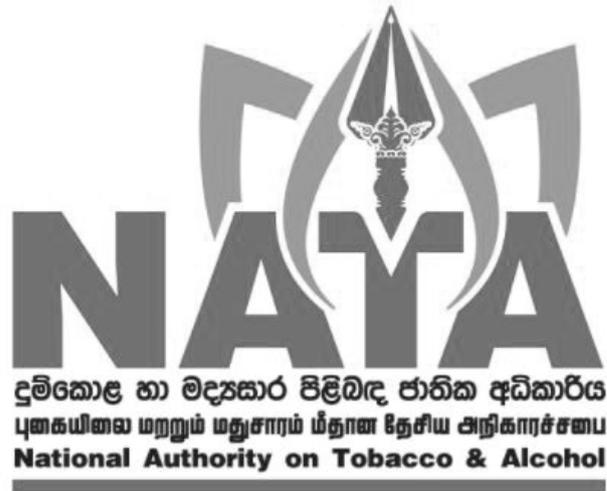
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National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol

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2021

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ஆண்டு அறிக்கை
Annual Report

2021 Annual Report



National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol

01. Preface

The Annual Report 2021 has been prepared based on the information and performance of achievements and special projects undertaken by the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA). In this report, the information has been provided based on the key performance of NATA.

In term of clause 14 of the financial Act No. 38 of 1971 and Guidelines of Good Governance, the NATA is required to prepare this Annual Report contains the information on performance of the Authority, annual accounts and the Auditor General's report.

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05. Message from the Chairman



One such demographic is the minors. The industry aims to sell their products to minors and to increase its accessibility. This is also supplemented by the current taxation policy which allows corporations to escape from a significant portion of taxable funds. The Authority has devised many mechanisms to remedy this circumstance. The first is the introduction of a plan to increase the minimum age limit for alcohol & tobacco consumption. The age limit of 21 is ineffective as Tobacco and Alcohol corporations propagate their products aiming those under the age of 21. The advertisement and romanticisation of such products in the media does not

allow individuals to make a rational choice. Therefore the age of 24 provides a leeway period to unlearn the intense indoctrination and influence imposed by such industries. Another countermeasure to the advancements made by the industry is the creation of a new taxation policy. A novel formula was proposed to maximize the taxable content while decreasing the accessibility of such products. The contrast between the money from taxes and the money expended in preventable diseases related to alcohol and tobacco is quite drastic. The government runs on a deficit related to those matters, which is clear evidence that the taxation policy as of now does not work to successfully compensate for the detriments that stem from smoking. Outside of the proposed taxation strategy,

Even after a year since its emergence, COVID19 has managed to wreak havoc and destabilize the systematic structures that establish governance. It has managed to be a great barrier that has attempted to impede the projects of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol. However, this was to little or no avail at the efforts of the dedicated and hardworking team at the Authority. Several plans have been devised and put into action during this period that have successfully revitalized the campaign against smoking and alcoholism. With reference to the Global Tobacco Industry Interference of 2021, it is evident that the grip the industry has on Sri Lanka has only tightened. The tobacco and alcohol industries have capitalized on the opportunities opened up amidst the COVID crisis, extending its reach to many vulnerable demographics. The government has imposed greater price ceilings for specific cigarettes. The increase in price makes buying tobacco in large quantities far more of a difficult task, this prevents minors from accessing such drugs as they do not have a disposable income that accommodates such costs.

NATA recognizes the need for an approach that restructures the social norms and principles in Sri Lankan society. The status quo promotes the consumption of cigarettes and alcohol, especially in younger social circles where such trends are glorified. These practices allow social mobility in certain spaces and are seen as a vital lubricant to social interaction by many. Such a flawed perspective is harmful and counterintuitive to progress. The governmental body recognises that such norms must be displaced by stronger, more positive norms. This is done via awareness programs that strengthen the community's knowledge and resilience to Tobacco and Alcohol abuse. Various other events such as Symposiums were hosted to induce and stimulate discourse and thought on mechanisms to revolutionize methods to combat prevalence of tobacco and alcohol. A cultural revolution is imperative to cleanse the ideas that promote these habits as if not, such ideas will only reform with time due to the abundance of content that induces the desire to smoke.

While preventing the populace from performing cigarette and alcohol abuse is vital, effective rehabilitation is another important tactic. Those who are suffering from these addictions should be provided with instruments to escape. For this function, the NATA

created the 1948 quitline. It is a very beneficial utility that allows individuals that want to escape addiction to gain valuable strategies that reduce relapsing. It also provides families and groups of people with techniques to assist members in their community to abandon the abuse of alcohol and tobacco. Counseling is provided easily and free of charge under complete anonymity. The advantage of this is ease of accessibility as a cost will only act as a disincentive to the idea of counseling. Individuals tend to be in denial of their addictions and do not seek help due to a variety of social reasons. The quitline aims to dispel a majority of such barriers, opening a pathway for a healthier lifestyle.

The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol recognizes the multitude of mechanisms through which tobacco is consumed and that smokeless tobacco is intensively prevalent in the country. There is cultural weight to the consumption of Betel leaves and Areca Nut with tobacco leaves. Outside of tobacco, the areca nut contains carcinogenic compounds that are dangerous to human health. The abuse of such products is a great harm to public health safety. Therefore, the Authority has put into practice many plans to deter use of smokeless tobacco. This had been established by outlawing the consumption of such goods. However, the law is to be further fortified via many instruments. This is done in consideration of a 3 objective plan. The first objective is to analyze and find areas of weakness in policy. The inadequacies in the law result in it not being seen in practice. The second objective is to target policymakers and induce greater systematic change. Educating individuals with the capacity to change the legislature is vital to create progress. The final objective is to strike down on the availability of loose cigarettes. Purchasing cigarettes in a packet is significantly more expensive. This reduces access to those who do not make a sufficient wage, including children and those in poverty.

The Body acknowledges that there are great strides that must be adopted to keep tobacco and alcohol companies at bay. These plans require time and must involve a strong response from the community. However, this does not mean progress is unattainable. NATA works with great dedication to eradicate smoking and to dismantle the influence of alcohol in society. Intoxication of alcohol and cigarette abuse do not supplement social growth and are barriers to the evolution of not only Sri Lanka, but the entire world. With every year, NATA approaches a smokeless Sri Lanka where alcohol is a redundant commodity. It promises years of innovation and new mechanisms that boast and work towards a brighter future.

Dr. Samadhi W. Rajapaksa
Chairman
National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol

06. Message of Board of Directors

The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA), is pleased to share this report which provides a summary of the main policy decisions and key activities undertaken during the period 1st January until 31st December 2021.



Figure 1: Board of Directors

It is appropriate that we take this opportunity to record our deep appreciation to the President of Sri Lanka, H.E. Gotabaya Rajapaksa, for his enduring interest and support to the control of tobacco and alcohol in particular and to the prevention of all types of substance abuse in general. The Hon Ministers of Health, Mrs. Pavithra Wanniarachchi and Dr. Keheliya Rabukwella deserves our deepest gratitude for their guidance and for reposing their faith in the current Board to provide the leadership to the tobacco and alcohol Programs in the country. They clearly visualizes the relevance and significance of tobacco and alcohol control in the context of non-communicable diseases and within the overall perspective of health.

We also need to place on record the excellent cooperation and support that we constantly receive from the Secretary of Health and the senior officials of the Ministry of Health, who has introduced a number of measures to improve the efficiency of the decision making processes, the Director General of health services who is extremely responsive to our proposals and plans, and the Deputy Director Generals in the Ministry. They are ready support in the spirit of being genuine partners has facilitated the work of NATA enormously. The cooperation we receive from the Ministry is immeasurable and NATA has been able to introduce a number of new initiatives in tobacco and alcohol control, most of which are mentioned in this report.

The Authority formed seven sub- committees for the effective discharge of its functions. Amendments to the NATA act, Developed taxation formula for Tobacco and Alcohol Subcommittee, Cessation and prevention of tobacco and alcohol, smokeless tobacco, development of the curriculum on tobacco alcohol and prevention for medical, enforcing and strengthening NATA media policy and

introducing alternative crops for tobacco for tobacco cultivation subcommittee are those subcommittees. We are grateful to the subcommittee members who represent collage of pulmonary, collage of psychiatrist, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, IPS, University of Colombo, Institute of Indigenous medicine, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, cancer control program, University of Peradeniya, University of Kelaniya, University of Sri Jayawardanapura, University of Jaffna, Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Sabaragamuwa University, University of Ruhuna and Wayaba University of Sri Lanka for their willing support in the spirit of being authentic partners has greatly facilitated the work of NATA.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has been most reliable partner, along with the WHO FCTC Secretariat, and the spontaneous support we receive from the WHO at the Global, Regional and Country levels cannot be overvalued. The resources and the technical advice that we receive from WHO and the FCTC have made a significant contribution to the achievements in tobacco control in our country.

One of the acknowledged successful measures, probably the most effective, and unanimously recommended by the FCTC and the WHO as well as other experts in the area for reducing the initiation and use of tobacco and alcohol is taxation. NATA have been developed a taxation formula for tobacco in this year. Taxation formula for tobacco was developed with the consultation of international experts from the WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Tobacco taxation at the University of Cape Town (UCT), KIVU International, and School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

NATA was able to establish an Ethics Review Committee (ERC-NATA) in 2021 with the aim to ensure the credibility and quality of research on tobacco and alcohol related aspects and not to allow research to be conducted in line with the objectives of the tobacco and alcohol industries.

NATA, act as the coordinating agency for all activities carried out by the government and non-government agencies and organizations relating to Minimizing the harm arising from the production and consumption of tobacco products and alcohol products. We need to thank the NGOs who support to overcome various challengers when we achieving NATA goals.

We can state with a certain degree of confidence that the NATA has grown to a position of some stability both in terms of its structure as well as its financial viability. The nucleus of permanent staff and the temporary staff attached to projects have been carrying an enormous volume of work and for NATA to be able to move to the next stage of growth and development additional staff will be needed. In fact, the necessary cadre requirement has been proposed and accepted by the senior management and the Ministry of Finance and NATA all most filled positions in the approved cadre.

The NATA, was able to complete most of the planed work which is also given as a summary in the report in collaboration with the Ministry of Health We have the confidence that with our collective effort of all our partners and other stakeholders NATA will be able to lead the movement to eliminate the harm from tobacco in our country to a level where it will cease to be a public health problem within the next few years. At the same time, we need to strive much harder, mobilize all the support possible and introduce all measures to contain and control the harm from alcohol in the shortest possible time.

As Board members, we must place on record the excellent support and cooperation that we receive from the NATA family, which although few in number, willingly and unreservedly carry an enormous load of work with very limited resources and personnel.

07. Vision

A country and people free of tobacco & alcohol use.

08. Mission

Mobilizing all social sectors to liberate our society from harm caused from tobacco and alcohol.

09. Objectives

- To identify the board and specific policies in relation to tobacco and alcohol (and other narcotics) for protecting public health.
- To eliminate tobacco and alcohol related harm through the assessment and monitoring of the production, marketing, advertising and consumption of tobacco products and alcohol products.
- To make provisions discouraging persons especially children from smoking or consuming alcohol by curtailing their access to tobacco products and alcohol products.
- To promote and adopt and implement clean air laws and restrict the availability spaces to protect the community from tobacco and alcohol.
- To propose and promote all other measures, including cessation tobacco and alcohol programmes necessary to prevent harm from tobacco and alcohol to the population.

10. Functions

- Advise the Government on the implementation of the National Policy on Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Encourage and assist health promotion through the media sponsorships and community-based projects.
- Recommend measures to minimize the harm arising from the consumption of tobacco products and alcohol products.
- Recommend measures in consultation with the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board, for the elimination or minimization of illicit drug use.
- Recommend legal, taxation, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the National Policy on Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of such policy.
- Evaluate the impact of policy measures and advise the government on such modifications to the Policy as may be necessary.
- Encourage and assist research on issues relating to Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Monitor economic, health and other issues relating to the production, consumption and marketing of tobacco products and alcohol products.
- Conduct, promote and co-ordinate research in relation to the use of Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Secure participation of all necessary governmental, or non-governmental agencies and private sector organizations in the implementation of the National Policy on Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Encourage active community participation in the implementation and monitoring of the National Policy on Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Receive communications from the public on issues relating to tobacco and alcohol and to recommend necessary action in relation thereto the implementing agencies.
- nt and nongovernmental agencies and organizations relating to minimizing the harm arising from the production and consumption of tobacco products and alcohol products.
- Monitor the progress of all investigations relating to Tobacco and Alcohol.
- Liaise with local, regional and international organizations on issues relating to Tobacco and Alcohol.

11. Board Members



Dr. Samadhi W. Rajapaksa
Chairman -National Authority
on Tobacco and Alcohol



Dr. Ajith Rohana
Senior Deputy Inspector
General of Police
Department of Police



Dr. Lakshmi Somathunga
Additional Secretary
(Public Health),
Ministry of Health



Mr. M.J Gunasiri
Commissioner General
of Excise



Dr. Priyangi Amarabandu
Chairman –NDDCB



Mrs. B.M.S Bandara
Additional Secretary
Ministry of Trade



Mr. R.P.Sathkumara
Additional Secretary
(Admin) – Ministry of
Information and Mass Media



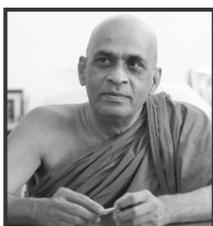
Mrs. Kamani Goonaratne
Director- Education
Ministry of Education



Mrs. Hiranya Perera
Ministry of Justice -
Senior Assistant Secretary



Mr. Sudheera Jayarathne
Director- Ministry of
Sports and Youth Affairs



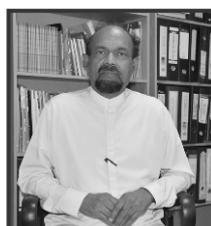
Rev. Elle Gunawansa Thero
Appointed by
Hon. Minister of Health



Mr. Sumith Abesinghe
Appointed by
Hon. Minister of Health



Mrs. Wijayani Rathnayake
Appointed by
Hon. Minister of Health



**Mr. Sunil Shantha
Weerasekara**
Appointed by
Hon. Minister of Health

12. Progress in the year 2021 (1st of January to 31st of December 2021)

12.1. Legal Actions

12.1.1. Legal actions taken by Authorized officers.

Authorized officers have undertaken prosecutions under NATA act.

Province	Offence
Western	6
Central	198
Southern	0
Uva	16
Sabaragamuwa	31
North Western	12
North Central	19
Northern	104
Eastern	5
Total	302

Table 1 : Prosecutions undertaken by Excise Officers under NATA Act

Police Division	Prosecutions
Kebathigollewa	21
Colombo (South)	1
Panadura	14
Matara	2
Thangalla	1
Kandy	39
Theldeniya	23
Mathale	7
Mannar	1
Kanthale	2
Thrincomali	15
Ampara	3
Kegalla	1
Kurunegala	36
Kuliyapitiya	1
Monaragala	2
Total	169

Table 2 : Prosecutions undertaken by Police under NATA Act

12.1.2. Legal activities taken by the Authority

NATA has taken 35 legal actions against violations of the National Tobacco and Alcohol Authority act in 2022.

12.2.1.1 Action against Cinnamon Cigarette

Natures Agro Products Lanka (Pvt) Ltd introduced a new product called “Ayurweda Dhumapanaya”. In sinhala it was mentioned as “කුරුඳු සීගරට්”.

Then the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol took immediate action against the said company. We wrote letters to related institutes and we collected all details regarding this to confirm whether they have received any permission regarding this. In that NATA found that no permission was given to them to manufacture this product and this directly affects the Public Health as well.

Further Investigation was conducted by the Valana Police Station. As a result of this combined activities done by NATA they couldn't achieve their goal and they had to refrain from manufacturing that product. NATA briefed the public through a media conference with the participation of an expert committee and presented our views to the society.

12.2.1.2. Continuous film review

NATA was included as an observer on the Public performance Board. NATA was able to make an influence to the Public Performance Board to refrain from granting approval to the some Sinhala Films where it contained Tobacco and Alcohol Advertisements and also NATA directed the Public Performance Board to Mozaik any Tobacco or Alcohol Advertisement in the foreign film as well during the year 2021.

12.2.1.3. The New Media Policy

NATA was able to introduce a New Media Policy for all the TV Channels to stop them from telecasting any Tobacco or Alcohol Advertisement in a film or a Teledrama. Thus, all the TV channels adhered to that guidelines and from the said adherence even the 1948 Quitline was also promoted and became much more aware of that. NATA was able to stop some films being telecasted on those TV Channels.

12.2.1.4. The Social Media Violations

The Social Media Violations were a huge challenge to NATA , and NATA was able to remove Tobacco and Alcohol Advertisements appeared in the Social Media with the Collaboration of Criminal Investigation Unit and the Department of Excise Social Media Unit. When NATA reported about these violations and those authorized officers took immediate action to remove the content and file cases.

12.2.5. Removing “Abisheka Boards”

Nata identified that, the Crown appears with the word Abisheka was owned by the CTC and it was violate NATA act. Then NATA through the secretary to the Provincial Councils directed to remove the Board which appears with the word Abiseka and it was successfully done.

12.2.1.6. Online Sale of Alcohol

When the proposal was made to do online sale of Alcohol by department of excise NATA expressed the view that it will be violation of the NATA Act and Excise Regulations currently in force. Up to now the permission was not granted to online Sale of alcohol. There also a court case before the court of appeal challenging the decision to allow the sale of alcohol online.

12.2.1.7. Loyalty Points given by the Super Markets

NATA identified that the Super Markets are granting Loyalty Points over the purchase of Tobacco and Alcohol. It was informed to the Super Market Chains that it is a violation of the section 37 of the NATA Act and then all the super market chains informed the public that they will refrain from granting Loyalty points over the purchase of Tobacco and Alcohol.

12.2.1.8. Publications done by Some News Papers

There were some Paper Articles by some News Papers which indirectly promoted Tobacco and Alcohol, thus NATA took immediate legal action against those new papers and the said News Papers apologized and corrected their mistakes publicly.

- **Regarding Paper Article “කල්පිටියෙන් රට වටේ යන සිංහල දුම්කොළ”.**
- **Paper article (That the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol has neglected its responsibilities)**

12.2. Activities of subcommittees

12.2.1. Subcommittee – Cessation and Prevention

The objective of this subcommittee is to develop cessation & prevention of tobacco & alcohol awareness programs according to target group-oriented manner for sustainable change in public. To achieve the objectives, National level programmes have been implemented collaboratively with Ministry of Health, World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Education and other relevant Ministries and government institutes. The subcommittee comprises the following members.

Subcommittee Members

01. Chairperson - Dr.Priyangi Amarabandu (Chairperson, NDDCB)
02. Member - Dr.Samadhi Rajapaksa (Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol)
03. Member -Dr.Janaki Vidanapathirana (Director, NCCP)
04. Member -Dr.Pubudu Chulasiri (Consultant Community Physician)
05. Member -Dr.Manoj Fernando (Senior Lecturer, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka)
06. Member -Dr.Dhanuja Mahesh (Consultant Psychiatrist)
07. Member -Mr.Sudeera Jayarathna (Director – Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs)
08. Member- Ms. Kamani Gunarathna (Director, Ministry of Education)



Figure 2, 3 & 4 : Subcommittee cessation and prevention.

12.2.1.1. Public Opinion survey on tobacco and alcohol regulation.

The objectives of this survey is explore the public opinion on current and suggested tobacco and alcohol regulations and to utilize the main findings of the survey for advocacy purposes during future policy making activities. Public opinion can be described as an aggregate of the individual views, attitudes, and beliefs about a particular topic, expressed by a significant proportion of a community. Public opinion can have various effects on how policy is made or viewed. Public opinion plays an important role in the political sphere. It guides government action, influences public policy, gives feedback to politicians and policy makers, and it gives self-rule in democracy.

The Public Opinion Survey on tobacco and alcohol regulations was a National level survey conducted by the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol in 2021 as an initiative from cessation and prevention of tobacco and alcohol subcommittee of NATA.

This survey includes information on respondents' background characteristics, tobacco and alcohol use, direct and indirect media promotions of tobacco and alcohol products, public opinion on current and suggested tobacco and alcohol control regulations, and knowledge on selected key tobacco and alcohol facts.

The survey was conducted in 2021. Sample size was 1027 and individuals over 15 years of age were selected. Survey was conducted using a pretested self-administered questionnaire which was developed by an expert committee. Both paper based and online platform were used for data collection. Two facts sheets and a booklet including survey results were developed

11.2.1.2. Press conference on public opinion survey on tobacco and alcohol regulations

Description: The Public Opinion Survey on Tobacco and alcohol regulations was conducted by the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol as an initiative from Cessation and Prevention of Tobacco and Alcohol Subcommittee of NATA. The main objective of this survey was to explore the public opinion on current and suggested tobacco regulations and to utilize the main findings of the survey for advocacy purposes during future policy making activities.

After analyzing the survey data, a press conference was conducted on 12th November 2021 at the auditorium of the Department of government information by involving media personnel and other relevant stakeholders from the Ministry of Health, Health Promotion bureau, and National Cancer Control programme, Alcohol and Drug Information Center and the Healthy Lanka Alliance for Development.

Fact sheets of the survey and a booklet including survey results were launched at the press conference.

11.2.1.3. Certificate Course of Counseling on Cessation and Prevention of Tobacco and Alcohol

The Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the Certificate Course in counseling on cessation and prevention of Tobacco and Alcohol conducted by the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol was held on 03rd November 2021 at the Lavender seminar room, BMICH. The senior professor Sampath Amarathunga, Chairman, University Grants Commission participated in the ceremony as the chief guest and Chairman of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Dr. Sri Samadhi Rajapaksa, and other members of the Board of Directors of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Faculty members of the certificate course and representatives from the WHO participated for the ceremony.

Certificates were distributed among the officers representing the Sri Lanka Police, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Youth, and those who completed the course at the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol.

These Certificate holders, who are specially trained in tobacco and alcohol prevention, will continue to contribute to the 1948 quit line call service, further strengthening the 24-hour, seven-day free service.



Figure 8, 9 & 10 : Award ceremony of certificate course of counselling on cessation and prevention of tobacco and alcohol

11.2.1.4. Virtual Training Workshop on Telephone Counseling in Sri Lanka Conducted by WHO

The workshop had experts from WHO. They were Dr.Dongbo Fu, Prof.Smitha Deshpande and Prof.Sonali Arora. Within the three days of workshop approximately 80 participants engaged in the workshop per each day. With the invitation of NATA several institutions engaged for the workshop. The Institutions were National Dangerous Drug Control Board, National Youth Corps, Teaching Hospital Anuradhapura, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and Participants including faculty from the Counseling Course conducted by NATA.

11.2.1.5 : ProCall details of 1948

The "1948" quit line was established by the NATA to give an opportunity for tobacco and alcohol users to free from alcohol and tobacco usage.

The prospect of this counseling service was providing to free from tobacco and alcohol usage and service for problems related to tobacco and alcohol use.

The following table (Table 01) indicates the call details relevant to the Months of January to December in 2021. According to the call details, there is a significant increase in the counseling calls during the month of August. Meanwhile, the Month of August had the highest number of calls within the period of January to August.

Table 03 : Pro call details of 1948

Month	Total Calls	Counseling Calls
January	190	30
February	181	47
March	275	32
April	41	12
May	102	01
June	257	13
July	247	26
August	2500	734
September	1482	640
October	897	485
November	1660	554
December	1193	223
TOTAL	9025	2797

12.2.2 Subcommittee – Develop Taxation Formula for Tobacco and Alcohol

The objective of this subcommittee is to develop simple transparent taxation formula for tobacco and alcohol. To achieve these objectives the national-level process has been implemented. World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Finance, and non-governmental organizations such as the Institute of Policy Studies have been collaboratively working with other relevant ministries and government institutes to develop the taxation formulas.

Subcommittee Members

01. Chairperson – Dr.Samadhi Rajapaksa (Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol)
02. Member – Dr.M.K.C.Senanayake (Director General, Department of Fiscal Policy)
03. Member – Prof. K. Amirthalingam (Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts, university of Colombo)
04. Member – Dr.M.D.K.De Silva (Head, Health Human Resource Division, Ministry of Health)

As an invitee

Ms. Harini Weerasekra – Research Economist, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka

The objective of this subcommittee is to develop simple transparent taxation formula for tobacco and alcohol. To achieve these objectives the national-level process has been implemented. World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Finance, and non-governmental organizations such as the Institute of Policy Studies have been collaboratively working with other relevant ministries and government institutes to develop the taxation formulas.



**Figure 11, 12 & 13 : Subcommittee –
Develop taxation formula for Tobacco and Alcohol**

අනුකමිටුව මගින් පහත දැක්වෙන ක්‍රියාකාරකම් සිදුකරන ලදී.

12.2.2.1 : Advocacy meeting with health expertise and relevant non-government stakeholders

The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA) established a subcommittee to develop taxation formula for Tobacco. In April 2020, the board approval was given to form a subcommittee to develop taxation formula for tobacco. Experts of the subject were appointed as subcommittee members and gathered to formulate tobacco tax indexation for Sri Lanka.

Expert/ consultation meeting with the expertise and with the relevant stakeholders were conducted. Meeting was conducted at sethsiripaya office complex and its auditorium. Nearly 30 were engaged with the meeting. After several discussions held within the expert committee members at NATA subcommittee, while developing this indexation formula/policy proposal consulted international experts from the WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Tobacco Taxation at the University of Cape Town (UCT), KIVU International, School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and the WHO FCTC-2030 coordinator for Sri Lanka. Meeting was held on 21st December 2021 to advocate higher officials of the ministry of health, ministry of finance, authorized officers, key stakeholders and non-governmental organizations regarding the benefits of the developed taxation module and its need at the Auditorium, 11th Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage II, Battaramul



Figure 14, 15 & 16 : Advocacy meeting with health expertise and relevant non-government stakeholders

12.2.2.2. WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Tobacco Taxation and Illicit Trade Virtual Workshop

The countries participated for the workshop were El-Salvador, Suriname, Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia and Sri Lanka. Experts in WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Tobacco Taxation, Research Unit on the Economics of Excisable Products, University of Cape Town guided modifying the tax indexation formula and introducing the TETSIM model to modify the Tobacco tax indexation. It was organized by WHO FCTC knowledge Hub on Tobacco Taxation, Research Unit on the Economics of Excisable Products, University of Cape Town.

12.2.2.3. Press briefing to aware the public regarding important of implementing tobacco taxation formula

Press Briefing was held to aware the public of the importance of implementing a developed tobacco taxation module on 30th December 2021. One hundred and fifteen media personals participated in the press briefing and they were actively involved with the press briefing. More articles were also published by the press regarding the newly developed taxation module after the event.



Figure 17, 18 & 19 : Press briefing on tobacco taxation

12.2.3. Sub-Committee – Alternative crops

The subcommittee is to eliminate tobacco cultivation from Sri Lanka and to introduce alternative livelihoods for tobacco farmers. To achieve the objectives, National level programmes have been implemented collaboratively with Ministry of Health, World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Universities and other relevant Ministries and Government Institutes.

The subcommittee comprises the following members.

- Dr. Lakshmi Somathunga – Chairperson/ Additional secretary (Public Health), Ministry of Health
- Mr. R.P. Sathkumara – Additional secretary, Ministry of Information and Mass Media /Board Member of NATA
- Eng. Ms. Wijayani Rathnayake – Board Member of NATA
- Prof. D.K.N.G. Pushpakumara – Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Prof. H.L.T. Weerahewa – Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
- Mr. P.C. Peiris – Director, Agri Technology Division, Ministry of Agriculture
- Mr. W.R.W.M.S.N.P. Weerakoon – Deputy Director, Agriculture (Extension), Department of Agriculture



Figure 20, 21 & 22 : Sub- committee meeting

Following activities are done by the subcommittee

12.2.3.1: Creating sustainable tobacco cultivation free districts through a pilot test.

The World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) addresses environment concerns in Articles 17 and 18, which primarily apply to tobacco agriculture. The past decades have seen a steady shift of tobacco cultivation from high income countries to low income countries to low income countries, which has allowed multinational tobacco corporations to access cheaper labour resources and to lower their production costs. Sri Lanka has allowed multinational tobacco corporation to access cheaper labour resources and to lower their production costs. Sri Lanka has ideal conditions to grow tobacco and interference in the cultivation process by providing those seeds, interference in the cultivation process by providing those seeds, agrochemicals and buying their harvest at high price by Tobacco Company in led to spread of tobacco cultivation in Sri Lanka. There are short-term economic benefits for some famers, but there will be long- term social, economic, health and environment detriments for many others.

In Sri Lanka, alternative livelihood for the tobacco cultivation project was implemented in 2017-2018 as a presidential task force project according to a cabinet decision issued on 07.07.2015. With the above project around 664 ha of tobacco cultivation was substituted with alternative crops. The project was implemented in, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, Puttalam districts and in Census & Statistics department, mainly tobacco cultivation is spreading in Jaffna, Matale, Kandy, Puttalam and Anuradhapura districts in Sri Lanka.

The project is conducted for support tobacco farmers to engage in economically viable alternatives, and designing and implement alternative livelihood programmes for tobacco farmers to sustain the process I Monaragala and Anuradapura.

The program was done as four activities. During the initial stages, advocacy programs for district secretary, divisional secretary, grama niladhari, agricultural field officers, farmers, barn owners, civil society members and for farmer families in selected districts have been scheduled to conduct with the help of Ministry of Mahaweli, Agriculture, Irrigation & Rural Development and Development of Agriculture and Ministry of Health and situation analysis of tobacco farming will be carried out by getting farmer information via government officials.

Key factors of tobacco farmers that inhibits the shift from tobacco cultivation were identified at the program in Monaragala. Around 125 farmers including tobacco farmers including tobacco farmers were addressed during the pilot project in Monaragala and around 75 ground level agricultural field officers were sensitized. Upper level officials within the Monaragala district were sensitized and had a truthful discussion to address the issues of the farmers.

Key factors of tobacco farmers that inhibits the shift from tobacco cultivation were identified at the program in Anuradhapura. Around 150 farmers including tobacco farmers including tobacco farmers were addressed during the pilot project in Monaragala and around 100 ground level agricultural field officers were sensitized. Upper level officials within the Monaragala district were sensitized and had a truthful discussion to address the issues of the farmers.



Figure 23,24,25,& 26 : Advocacy program for farmers in Anuradhapura district



Figure 27,28,29,& 30 : Advocacy program for farmers in Monaragala district





Figure 31, 32 & 33 : Sensitivity program for officers in Anuradhapura district



Figure 34,35 & 36 : Sensitivity program for officers in Monaragala district



Figure 37,38 & 39 : Family awareness program in Anuradhapura district



Figure 40, 41& 42 : Family awareness program in Monaragala district

12.2.4. Smokeless Tobacco Subcommittee

The smokeless Tobacco subcommittee to the NATA was formed in 2020 and continuously contributed to eliminating the smokeless tobacco burden from Sri Lanka also in the year 2021. The subcommittee has implemented the following projects with the support of international and national institutions in the year 2021.

- Launch a smokeless tobacco-related scientific literature magazine called "මුලත් විටට සැබෑ අරුතක්"
- Introduced a medicinal product that can improve oral hygiene named "මුලත් විටට සැබෑ අරුතක්" with collaboratively Sri Lanka Ayurvedic Drug Corporation.
- Developed an educational video material to advocate both policymakers and the general public regarding the real harm of oral cancer with the support of the Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya.

Subcommittee members

- Dr. Samadhi Rajapaksa – Chairman, NATA
- Mr. R. P. Sathkumara – Additional Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Mass Media
- Mr. S.S Weerasekara – Board Member, NATA
- Prof. Kamal Perera – Professor, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo
- Prof. Nadeena Jayasuriya – Professor and Consultant OMF Surgeon, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya
- Dr. Medhani Hewagama – Consultant Psychiatrist
- Dr. Sanjeevani Rupasinghe – Consultant ENT Surgeon
- Dr. Sachini Rasnayaka – Senior Lecturer and Consultant Oncologist, Sir John Kotelawala Defence University



Figure 43, 44 & 45 : Subcommittee cessation and prevention

Following activities are done by the Subcommittee.

12.2.4.1: Launching the Bulath witata sebe aruthak (බුලත් විටට සැබෑ අරුතක්) smokeless tobacco-related scientific magazine and Sanstha bulath sepee (සංස්ථා බුලත් සැපේ) ayurvedic medicinal product

The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA), organized a Launching event of the developed Substitute for Betel Chew with the aim of eliminate harm of the use of smokeless tobacco in the country. The use of smokeless tobacco directly influences oral cancer. In the Sri Lankan case, the burn of oral cancer is directly increased. Because of that, both board of directors of the NATA and the smokeless tobacco subcommittee decided to develop an ayurvedic product that can be improved oral hygiene. Alongside "Bulath witata Saba Aruthath" (බුලත් විටට සැබෑ අරුතක්) scientific magazine was published.

The objectives of this program were to launch the developed product and get the relevant media attention towards it, to aware real harm of the smokeless tobacco to the public and to gathered relevant scientific data and information related to smokeless tobacco & its harm.

This programme was held on 26th March 2021 from 02.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. at Lotus Hall, BMICH. Hon. Minister of health, Mrs. Pavitradevi Wanniarachchi (MP) graced the occasion as the chief guest and Hon. State Minister Mr. Sisira Jayakodi (MP) also participated to the event.

At this programme Ayurvedic medicinal Product developed by NATA collaboratively with the SLADC called "Sanstha Bulath Sape" (සංස්ථා බුලත් සැපේ) was launched , Bulath witata sabe aruthak (බුලත් විටට සැබෑ අරුතක්) the first scientific publication that includes history, health impact and tradition of the betel chew was launched and aware the public through the media and few TV channels published that event on their main time News.





Figure 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 & 51 : Opening Remarks of ceremony



Figure 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 & 57 : Key speakers address the gathering





Figure 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 & 63 : Special moments in the event.

12.2.5. Sub Committee - Enforcing & Strengthening NATA Media Policy

A new subcommittee was formed to enforcing & Strengthening NATA Media Policy. The pictorial health warnings was changed by the subcommittee. Ten photographs were selected based on the views and suggestions of the experts and new photographs was sent to CTC.

Recommendation was made to all media channels to use the "mosaic method" again. They were instructed to use the mosaic method if cigarette and alcohol content was included in other programs, including movies and tele drama aired on television channels.

The National Tobacco and Alcohol Authority planned to launch a mobile application called the "NATA Media Violation App". Its main objective is to identify and take action against any illegal activities promoting tobacco and alcohol products in Sri Lanka through any means of communication. Accordingly, this mobile application was created and launched on 29/12/2021.

As the focal point of prevention of tobacco and alcohol in Sri Lanka, under the patronage of the Honorable Minister of Health, Dr. Keheliya Rambukwella (MP) NATA organized an advocacy Programme for Sri Lankan media personal with the aim of appreciating their contribution towards tobacco and alcohol prevention in the country. Media personnel were appreciated and encouraged on their contribution for tobacco & alcohol prevention at this program. The program was a good domicile to advocate media personnel and stockholders towards tobacco & alcohol prevention.

Members of the subcommittee:

- Dr. Samadhi.W. Rajapaksa - Chairman, NATA
- Dr. Lakshmi Somathunga - Additional Secretary , Public Health Service, Ministry of Health
- Mr. R. P. Sathkumara - Additional Secretary , Ministry of Information & Mass Media
- Prof. Diyanath Samarathunga - Dr. Mahesh Rajasuriya - Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo
- Dr. Dhanuja Mahesh - Consultant Psychiatrist
- Dr. Venura Palihawadana - Consultant Psychiatrist
- Dr. Chamara Wijesinghe - Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya
- Dr. Amila Isuru - Consultant & Senior Lecturer in psychiatrist, Faculty of Medicine & Allied Science, Rajarata University
- Dr. Susith Mendis - Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist
- Dr. Medhani Hewagama - Consultant Psychiatrist



Figure 64 & 65 : Subcommittee Enforcing & Strengthening NATA Media Policy

12.2.5.1. Media Award Ceremony - 2021

The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (NATA), the focal point of prevention of tobacco and alcohol in Sri Lanka, organized an advocacy Programme for Sri Lankan media personnel with the aim of appreciating their contribution towards tobacco and alcohol prevention in the country.

The Programme was held on 29th (Wednesday) December 2021 at 5.30PM to 8.00PM at the View "Waters Edge" hotel, Battharamulla. Honorable Minister of Health, Dr. Keheliya Rambukwella (MP) graced the occasion as the chief guest.

The objectives of this program are to appreciate media personnel on their contribution for tobacco & alcohol prevention, to encourage media personnel towards tobacco & alcohol prevention and to advocate media personnel and stockholders towards tobacco & alcohol prevention.

Eight digital media channels (Siyatha Tv, Sirasa Tv, Tv Derana, Rupavahini, Swarnawahini, Hiru Tv, ITN, Shraddha Tv), and the special awarded goes to "Piyum Vila from Siyatha Tv" and three journalists for printed media (Mr. Ananda Kannangara for Daily News English paper, Ms. Nisansala Nadeeshani Pathirana for Ada News paper and Mr. Riffthy Ali for Vidiyal.lk Tamil Epaper) and three radio channels (SLBC, V Fm and Lakhada radio) and the special awarded goes to "Vidula Lama Guwanwiduliya Program" were felicitated behalf of their contribution on tobacco and alcohol.

Expert panel moderated the interactive session (Panel Members – Dr. S.W. Rajapaksa, Dr. Ajith Rohana, Mr. M.J. Gunasiri, Mr. Upul Rohana). Higher officials of the ministry of Health, WHO representatives and other stakeholders actively participated to the event. NATA launched two mobile apps called "V NATA Mobile App". First one is for authorized officers and the other one is for public society.

VNATA Authorized Officer's Mobile Application is the main platform to provide information on the cases filed under the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act No 27 of 2006 (as amended) violation by the authorized officers. And NATA can directly monitor and evaluate their service through this app. VNATA Media violation mobile application is to identify the illegal activities of tobacco and alcohol. Accordingly, violations through all media should be identified here and specially NATA can monitor newly data through this app.

This event is a effectively integrate media sector with tobacco & alcohol prevention activities. It 's important to advocate higher officials of the media sector. Develop a platform to monitor violations in NATA act done by media sector including social media and It is appropriate to hold this award ceremony annually.

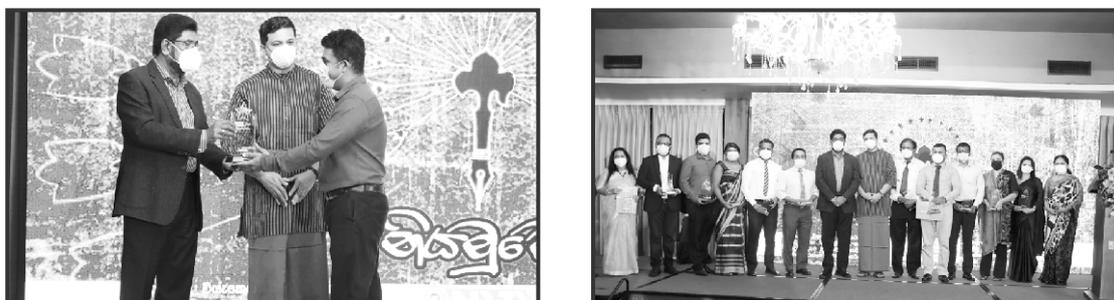


Figure 66 & 67 : Highlights of the event

12.2.6. Subcommittee - Pictorial Health Warnings

NATA established a Subcommittee called "Enforcing & Strengthening NATA Media Policy". Accordingly, through this subcommittee, NATA took a great step regarding pictorial health warnings on cigarette packs in Sri Lanka. In view of the decision of the said subcommittee, we introduced a new set of pictorial health warnings. The set of new Pictorial Health Warnings were selected by an expert panel of the Enforcing & Strengthening NATA Media policy subcommittee. Further, NATA sent a request letter asking permission from Thailand & Bangladesh to use their Pictorial Health Warnings as well. Thus, those two countries gave permission to do so

However, NATA introduced the New Set of Pictorial Health Warnings through the photographs collected from the expert panel and Now NATA has new set of Pictorial Health Warnings which only belongs to NATA

Thus, then NATA sent new Pictorial Health Warnings with the compact disk to CTC. By the said letter NATA directed them to use a new set of pictorial health warnings for the new Cigarette Packets.

After several correspondence the CTC has raised a legal objection regarding Authority on Issuing Pictorial Health Warnings therefore currently NATA has sought the Opinion of Hon AG regarding this matter

12.2.7. Subcommittee- Development of the Curriculum on Tobacco, Alcohol and Substance Use Prevention for Medical Undergraduates

As the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol in Sri Lanka, NATA has noted that the skills and the knowledge base of the young doctors on tobacco, alcohol and substance use related illnesses, treatment, prevention and health promotion are not satisfactory and up to date. Further, there is a disproportionately less emphasis on these aspects, due to lack of alignment of curricula with the current global disease burden.

Therefore, to enhance the knowledge of future medical undergraduates on tobacco and alcohol prevention, “The curriculum development on tobacco and alcohol prevention for medical undergraduates - sub-committee” was appointed with the approval of the NATA board. With the aim of to develop the tobacco and alcohol prevention curriculum and implement the developed curriculum in all state medical faculties in Sri Lanka. Further, this sub-committee initiated with honored academia such as professors, doctors, senior lecturers and lecturers from state medical faculties in Sri Lanka. Accordingly, the first committee meeting was held on 04th March 2021 with 9 committee members including the Chairman of the NATA as the chairperson of the committee. Up to date, the committee has been upgraded with 14 committee members covering ten state medical faculties in Sri Lanka.

So far in the sub-committee process, at the beginning the sub-committee members started to develop a curriculum on tobacco and alcohol prevention. And at the mid of the development of the curriculum, the committee decided to include substance use prevention subject area also in to the curriculum. In the end, the committee successfully developed the curriculum on tobacco, alcohol, and substance use prevention. As the major point of the process, the sub-committee proposed the developed curriculum to the University Grants Commission (UGC) on 9th August 2021 and got the approval from the UGC Chairman to implement this proposed curriculum in all state medical faculties in Sri Lanka. Further, NATA is planning to develop a Virtual Learning Portal with reference to this proposed curriculum to increase accessibility.

List of committee members

1. Chairperson – Dr. Samadhi Rajapaksa (Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol)
2. Member – Mr. Sunil Shantha Weerasekara (Board Member, National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol)
3. Member – Dr. B. R. Chandani Mendis (General Manager, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol)
4. Member – Prof. Asela Oluperiyawa (Professor, Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo)

5. Member – Dr. Mahesh Rajasuriya (Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo)
6. Member – Dr. Sisira Dharmarathna (Senior Lecturer, Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya)
7. Member – Dr. Wasana Jayarathne (Senior Lecturer, Medical Education Unit, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka)
8. Member – Dr. Manuja Perera (Senior Lecturer, Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya)
9. Member – Dr. Jayamal De Silva (Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura)
10. Member – Dr. B. Kumarendran (Senior Lecturer, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna)
11. Member – Dr. K.D.C.A Banagala (Senior Lecturer, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka)
12. Member – Dr. A.R.M. Sanooz (Lecturer, Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University Sri Lanka)
13. Member – Dr. I.L.A.N Dharshana (Lecturer, Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna)
14. Member – Dr. Asanka Eriyawa (Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka)

12.3. Other Programs

12.3.1. National Symposium on Tobacco & Alcohol Prevention (NSTAP) - 2021

National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol (NATA) has conducted the National Symposium on Tobacco & Alcohol Prevention 2021 (NSTAP 2021) with the theme of "Commit to Quit" alongside with the anti-tobacco media campaign. This initiative directly addresses the theme of the World No Tobacco Day 2021. As the focal point to the tobacco and alcohol prevention in Sri Lanka, NATA has implemented the project to achieve aforementioned objectives by implementing this initiative to strengthen tobacco and alcohol control in Sri Lanka.

The objectives of this Symposium are to increase scientific evidence regarding the reality of tobacco among the public, to implement comprehensive both social and traditional media campaigns to help smokers to quit tobacco and to increase the enthusiasm among researchers to work on tobacco related researches.

Symposium was conducted as two sessions from 8.00 AM to 5.30 PM on 26th November 2021 at Waters Edge, Battaramulla, Colombo, Sri Lanka with six sub themes. Those were,

1. Cessation and prevention on tobacco & alcohol use
2. Economic impact of tobacco & alcohol consumption
3. Environmental sustainability and tobacco & alcohol consumption
4. Sociological influence of the tobacco & alcohol
5. Health impact of tobacco and alcohol consumption
6. Legal aspect of the tobacco & alcohol use

A committee was formed including higher academic personals to discuss the procedures of implementing this scientific conference. Then, an Action plan was created to conduct the NSTAP 2021. Forty (40) abstracts with their extended reports were received to the NATA by the end of abstracts calling time period.

After reviewing the abstracts, twenty-eight (28) abstracts were selected to publish in the Symposium. Twenty abstracts were selected for oral presentations and eight abstracts were selected for poster presentations.

Three hundred abstracts books were printed to distribute among participants to the symposium and relevant academic institutions. Relevant materials (souvenirs, ID cards, posters, certificates and medals) were developed to distribute among the participants and winners.

First ever National Symposium on Tobacco & Alcohol Prevention (NSTAP) was conducted in Sri Lanka. Raised enthusiasm among young researchers to conduct research related to tobacco and alcohol prevention.

Empowering tobacco users to quit tobacco use will be comprehensively beneficial to users' life. These implementations will help to uplift smokers' quality of life and their family status. It's always important to strengthen the availability of scientific evidence.



Figure 68, 69 & 70 : Highlights of the NSTAP event

12.3.2. Establishment of the special committee to develop tobacco and alcohol prevention related health messages for school textbooks

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act, No. 27 of 2006 has identified protecting children from tobacco and alcohol is a part of its preamble. Scientific evidence shows that tobacco and alcohol industry influence children to initiate the use of tobacco and alcohol products as they are in a continuous process of recruiting new customers to maintain their economic stability. Children who are exposed to this influence often find the use of these substance appealing and attractive, which can increase children's desire to smoke and drink. Thus, it is well clear that tobacco and alcohol industries spread wrong and misleading information amongst the children using various tactics aiming to influence their perception on tobacco and alcohol and then attract them to use those.

Hence the evidence from various countries including Sri Lanka proved that these industries directly target the next generation by manipulating them with misleading information, public health decision makers also should be ready with prompt and effective measures to counteract it. Thus, NATA strongly believes that it is our young generations' right to access the right information, in order be empowered and combat the influence of these industries.

Hence the evidence from various countries including Sri Lanka proved that these industries directly target the next generation by manipulating them with misleading information, public health decision makers also should be ready with prompt and effective measures to counteract it. Thus, NATA strongly believes that it is our young generations' right to access the right information, in order be empowered and combat the influence of these industries.

NATA recognizes that effective, integrated and coordinated communication with children is integral to ensure this right, as communication is a necessary component of any effort to achieve positive health outcomes. Further, providing accurate health information in a way that encourages audiences to empower and take action to protect their health is very important.

Thus, NATA established an expert committee including nine members to develop tobacco and alcohol prevention related health messages to include in school textbooks. The members of the expert committee as follows,

- Dr. Samadhi W. Rajapaksa (Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol)
- Mrs. Kamani Goonaratne (Director, Ministry of Education)
- Dr. Ranjith Batuwanthudawa (Director, Health Promotion Bureau)
- Dr. Janaki Vidhanapathirana (Director, National Cancer Control Programme)
- Dr. Vindya Kumarapeli (Director-Non Communicable Diseases Unit, Ministry of Health)
- Dr. Dulangi Dahanayake (Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo/Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist)
- Dr. Medhani Hewagama (Consultant Psychiatrist)
- Mrs. Nadee Ama Jayasekara (Senior Educationalist, National Institute of Education)
- Ms. Hansamali Wickramasooriya (Research Officer, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol)

This expert committee developed a set of health messages on tobacco and alcohol prevention, aiming to educate and encourage next generation to act against tobacco and alcohol use. These health messages are developed age appropriately using a child and youth friendly language in order to improve the effectiveness. After developing the health messages, those were translated into English and Tamil as well and submitted to the Department of Educational Publications to print in school textbooks. As a result of this initiative, one selected health message was published in the grade 10 Sinhala medium Science textbook and grade 11 Tamil medium Science textbook in the 2021.

12.3.3: Establishment of the Ethics Review Committee of NATA

The National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol is the main focal point of tobacco and alcohol control in Sri Lanka which was established under the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol act no. 27th of 2006.

Tobacco and alcohol industries are always trying to bypass the enforced provisions by the act and increase their profits by increasing the consumption of their deadly products. They use number of different strategies for that. One of the main strategies is funding false research and disseminate wrong and misleading information through so called scientific papers.

Apart from that, a vast group of research academics representing universities, government organizations, non-governmental organizations, and civil organizations also conduct research on tobacco and alcohol related aspects.

Accordingly, the NATA established an Ethics Review Committee (ERC-NATA) on 29th December 2021 with the aims of ensuring the credibility and quality of research on tobacco and alcohol related aspects and not to allow research to be conducted in line with the objectives of the tobacco and alcohol industries.

Objectives:

- To monitor the research conducts on tobacco and alcohol related aspects in the country
- To control tobacco and alcohol industries funded research in the country
- To encourage authentic research on tobacco and alcohol related aspects

Following experts are appointed as members to the ERC-NATA

1. Chairperson - Mr. Ruwan Sathkumara, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mass media/NATA board member
2. Secretary - Mr. Viraj Bandaranayake, Legal Officer, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol
3. Mrs. Vijayani Rathnayake, NATA board member
4. Dr. Janaki Vidanapathirana, Consultant Community Physician/Director, National Cancer Control Programme
5. Prof. Dilip De. Silva, Chair professor, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya
6. Prof. Kamal Perera, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo
7. Prof. Nadeena Jayasuriya, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya
8. Prof. Manouri Senanayake, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo
9. Prof. Chandrani Liyanage, Professor in Sociology, Faculty of Art, University of Colombo
10. Prof. C.S. Weerathne, Former professor in Rajarata University of Sri Lanka and University of Ruhuna
11. Dr. R. Haniffa, Head/Department of Family Medicine, University of Colombo
12. Dr. Kusumalatha Lankamulla, Head/Department of Sinhala and Mass communication, University of Sri Jayawardhanapura
13. Dr. Amila Isuru, Senior lecturer, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
14. Dr. Medhani Hewagama, Consultant Psychiatrist
15. Dr. N. Jeyakumaran, Consultant clinical oncologist. Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama
16. Dr. B. Kumarendran, Senior lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna
17. Dr. S.M. Hettiarachchi, National Hospital for Respiratory Diseases, Welisara
18. Dr. Ranga Perera, Consultant Oncological surgeon/Senior lecturer, Faculty of Medicine. General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University

19. Dr. Shreenika De. Silva Welianga, Community physician/Medical statistician, Senior Lecturer, Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo
20. Dr. Nishantha Kumarasinghe, Behavioral Scientist/Clinician, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University
21. Dr. Seuwandi Subasinghe, Senior Lecturer, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna
22. Mr. Shakya Nanayakkara, Attorney at law
23. Mrs. Nadee Ama Jayasekara (Senior Educationalist, National Institute of Education)
24. Ms. Kamani Hettiarachchi (Entrepreneur)

13. Our NATA team

13.1. Recruitment of the General Manager



Figure 71 : Granting apponings to the General Manager

13.1. Recruitment of the Development Officer



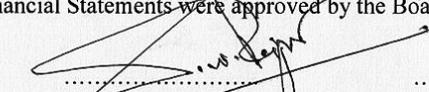
Figure 72 : Granting apponings to the Development Officer

14.1. Financial Statement

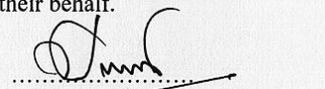
NATIONAL AUTHORITY ON TOBACCO & ALCOHOL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

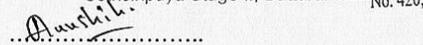
	Note	2021 (Rs.)	2020 (Rs.)
Assets			
Non Current Assets			
Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	16	11,901,780.33	13,154,942.28
Intangible Assets	18	8,567,995.49	3,400,510.25
Current Assets			
Inventories	19	46,638.92	31,694.01
Receivables	26	-	-
Prepayments	28	50,000.00	50,000.00
Cash & Cash Equivalent	20	1,198,009.00	5,710,772.82
Total Assets		21,764,423.74	22,347,919.36
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accrued Expenses	21	500,892.01	271,584.19
Provision for Audit Fees	22	4,368,000.00	4,777,165.00
General Deposit	23	-	-
Non Current Liabilities			
Provision for Gratuity	22	687,157.50	-
Total Liabilities		5,556,049.51	-
Total Net Assets		16,208,374.23	17,299,170.17
Net Assets/ Equity			
Capital	24	6,560,893.26	6,560,893.26
Government Grant - Capital	25	19,206,567.21	17,371,578.41
Accumulated Surpluses / (Deficit)	29	(9,961,479.56)	(6,633,301.51)
Prior year Adjustments	27	-	-
Capital Gain	33	402,393.32	-
		16,208,374.23	17,299,170.17

The Board of Directors are responsible for the preparation and presentation of these Financial Statements in accordance with the Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards (SLPSAs). These Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Directors and signed on their behalf.


Dr. Samadhi Rajapaksa
Chairman


Sudheera Jayarathne
Director
National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Enterprises Development Division
11th Floor Wing A
Ministry of Youth and Sports
No. 420, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.


S.R.W.M.R.P. Sathkumara
Additional Secretary (Administration)
Ministry of Mass Media
163, Asidisi Medura,
Kirulapona Avenue, Polhengoda,
Colombo 05.


Anushika Korlage
Accountant
National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol
11th Floor, Wing A,
Sethsiripaya Stage II, Battaramulla.

Final Accounts 2021
National Authority on Tobacco And Alcohol

NATIONAL AUTHORITY ON TOBACCO & ALCOHOL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		Rs.	Rs.
<u>Operating Revenue</u>			
Government Grant - Recurrent	9	22,883,000.00	20,135,500.00
Revenue - Capital Reimbursement	31	8,218,725.00	2,258,142.01
Other Income (Non refundable money received from Suppliers' registration /sold old newspapers)	23	-	450.00
Capital Grant Amortization	30	2,583,951.20	2,859,140.14
Total Revenue		33,685,676.20	25,253,232.15
<u>Operating Expenses</u>			
Personnel Emoluments	10	13,478,536.51	8,306,567.51
Supplies & Consumables used	11	423,987.49	228,110.69
Maintenance	12	506,886.06	381,749.39
Contractual Services	13	11,056,849.53	10,462,043.42
Depreciation & amortisations	14	2,583,951.19	2,859,140.14
Expenditure on programs	32	7,152,584.64	4,345,985.96
Total Operating Expenses		35,202,795.42	26,583,597.11
Surplus/(Deficit) from Operating Activities		(1,517,119.22)	(1,330,364.96)
<u>Finance Cost</u>			
Bank Charges	15	6,300.00	6,855.00
Net Surplus/(Deficit) from Operating Activities		(1,523,419.22)	(1,337,219.96)

**NATIONAL AUTHORITY ON TOBACCO & ALCOHOL
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	2021	2020	
		Rs.	Published	Restate
Cash flow from Operating Activities				
Surplus/(Deficit) from Operating Activities		(1,523,419.22)	(1,337,219.96)	(1,337,219.96)
Adjustment for:				
Accrued expenses adjustment	29	(2,960,000.00)	56,350.25	(3,327,650.00)
Depreciations adjustment		1,155,241.16	-	-
Operating profit before working Capital charges		(3,328,178.06)	(1,280,869.71)	(4,664,869.96)
Increase / (Decrease) in Depreciation	14	2,583,951.19	2,859,140.14	2,859,140.14
Amortization of Government Capital Grant	30	(2,583,951.19)	(2,859,140.14)	(2,859,140.14)
(Increase) / Decrease in Inventories	19	(14,944.91)	10,037.69	10,037.69
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivables	26	-	-	-
(Increase) / Decrease in Prepayments	28	-	266.00	266.00
Increase / (Decrease) in Deposit	23	-	(275,223.02)	-
Increase / (Decrease) in Accruals	21	229,307.82	(378,934.26)	(378,934.26)
Increase / (Decrease) in provisions(Gratuity & Audit fees)	22	853,992.50	1,112,337.00	4,496,337.00
Cash Generated from Operations		(2,259,822.65)	(812,386.29)	(537,163.53)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities		(2,259,822.65)	(812,386.29)	(537,163.53)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Acquisition of Plant & Equipment	16.1	(103,960.00)	(57,395.00)	(57,395.00)
Acquisition of Intangible assets	18.1	(4,314,980.00)	-	-
Removeble of fixed assets Gain /(Loss)	33	(84,175.85)	-	-
Capital Re-imbursment (government/foriegn grant)	25	2,525,290.00	332,618.02	57,395.00
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities		(1,977,825.85)	275,223.02	-
Net Increase/ (Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		(4,237,648.50)	(537,163.28)	(537,163.53)
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year (GOSL)		1,712,497.48	824,128.08	824,128.08
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year (Foreign funds)	20	3,723,160.02	5,423,808.02	5,423,808.02
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the end of the year		1,198,009.00	5,710,772.82	5,710,772.82

NATIONAL AUTHORITY ON TOBACCO & ALCOHOL
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021
	Rs.
NATA Fund as at 01.01.2021	17,299,170.17
Adjustments in respect of the previous years	(1,804,758.84)
Capital Grant Amortization for the previous years	-
Adjusted Balance as at 01.01.2021	15,494,411.33
Capital Reimbursement	4,418,940.00
Capital Grant Amortization	(2,583,951.20)
Capital Gain	402,393.32
Adjustment for the period	-
Excess/(Deficit) for the Year	(1,523,419.22)
Balance as at 31.12.2021	16,208,374.23

14.2. Notes to the financial statement

NATIONAL AUTHORITY ON TOBACCO & ALCOHOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31st December 2021

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol comprise the Statement of Financial position, Statement of Financial performance, Cash flow Statement, Statement of change in equity and notes to the financial statements. These statements are prepared in accordance with the Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards (SLPSAs) laid down by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL).

1.2 Functional and presentation Currency

The Financial Statements of the Board are prepared under the historical cost convention and used in Sri Lanka Rupees (Rs.)

1.3 Government Grants

Board receives two types of Government grants namely,

- Capital Grant
- Recurrent Grant

The capital grant is accounted as per the Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting standards. The method sets up the capital grant as deferred income which is recognized as income on basically the useful life of the assets (eg. Annually depreciated value of the assets is accounted as income for the years.)

Recurrent grant has been recognized income of the period and credited to the statement of financial performance.

2. ASSETS & BASES OF THEIR VALUATION

2.1 Property, Plant and Equipment

The cost of Property, Plant and Equipment is the cost of acquisition or construction together with any expenses incurred in bringing the assets to its working condition for its intended use.

Depreciation has been provided from the date the assets are available for use up to the date of disposal. Plant and Equipment are depreciated on straight line method as mentioned below, further, that the plant and equipment have been accounted at cost method as prescribed in the SLPSAS7 – Property plant and Equipment.

The principle annual rates are used as follows:

Building & Fittings	25 Years (4%)
Machinery and Equipment	10 Years (10%)
Furniture & Fittings	10 Years (10%)
Computers	5 Years (20%)
Vehicles	10 Years (10%)
Others	10 Years (10%)

If there is an indication that there has been a significant change in depreciation rate, useful life of residual value of an asset, the depreciation of that asset is revised prospectively to reflect the new expectation.

Expenditure incurred on repairs or maintenance of property, plant and equipment in the order to restore or maintain the future economic benefit expected from originally assessed standard of performance is recognized as an expense when incurred.

2.2 Intangible Assets

Expenditure incurred for purchasing software is recognized as an intangible asset and these assets are amortized over their useful lives. The principle annual rate is used as follows:

Intangible Assets	20 Years (5%)
-------------------	---------------

3. INVENTORIES

The inventories have been valued at cost.

4. CASH & CASH EQUIVALENT

Cash and Cash Equivalent comprise cash in hand, cash at bank.

5. LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognized in the balance sheet when there is a present obligation as a result of past events. Obligation payable at the demand of the creditors or within one year of the balance sheet date is treated as current liabilities in the balance sheet.

6. REVENUE RECOGNITION

The capital grant and the foreign grant have identified as deferred income. Recurrent Grant has been recognized as income of the period and credited to the Statement of Income. All income has been recognized on an accrual basis.

7. CONTRIBUTION PLANS

The company contributes 12% and 3% of gross emoluments of employees as Provident Fund and Trust Fund contribution respectively.

8. CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Cash Flow Statement has been prepared using the indirect method.

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol
Annual Report 2021

National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol
Notes to the Financial Statement for the year ended 31.12.2021

Note: 9	2021	2020
Recurrent Reimbursement	Rs.	Rs.
Recurrent Reimbursement (9.1)	22,883,000.00	20,135,500.00
Total	22,883,000.00	20,135,500.00

Note: 10	2021	2020
Personnel Emoluments	Rs.	Rs.
Staff Salaries	11,594,640.25	7,160,254.30
EPPF Contribution	1,173,602.14	629,531.59
ETF Contribution	293,400.54	157,382.89
Overtime	198,321.69	121,774.73
Gratuity expenses	193,992.50	212,337.00
Expenditure for new Recruitments	24,575.00	25,287.00
Expenditure occurred on festival loan	4.39	-
Total	13,478,536.51	8,306,567.51

Note: 11	2021	2020
Supplies & Consumerables Items	Rs.	Rs.
Stationery and office requisites	159,748.49	65,771.69
Fuel	215,668.00	126,370.00
Food / Refreshments	48,571.00	35,969.00
Total	423,987.49	228,110.69

Note: 12	2021	2020
Maintenance	Rs.	Rs.
Vehicle maintenance	331,363.97	288,761.21
Office equipments maintenance (Computers & Machinery)	175,522.09	92,988.18
Total	506,886.06	381,749.39

Note: 13	2021	2020
Contractual Services	Rs.	Rs.
Postal charges	14,885.00	13,215.00
Telephone / Internet charges	154,553.66	134,193.60
Building Rent / Cleaning service	8,611,188.03	8,207,678.99
Electricity charges	602,320.84	501,946.33
Administrative board member fee & Refreshments	848,913.00	512,956.00
Advertisement / other expenses	164,989.00	192,053.50
Audit Fees	660,000.00	900,000.00
Total	11,056,849.53	10,462,043.42

Note: 14	2021	2020
Depreciation - Plant Machinery and Equipment	Rs.	Rs.
Building & Fittings	99,290.00	99,290.00
Machinery & Equipments	158,288.22	172,150.83
Furniture & Fittings	180,960.95	186,558.39
Computers	399,897.72	678,204.93
Vehicles	1,414,350.00	1,414,350.00
Other	28,428.38	26,861.31
Depreciation - Intangible Assets		
Intangible Assets	302,735.92	281,724.69
Total	2,583,951.19	2,859,140.14

Note: 15	2021	2020
Finance cost	Rs.	Rs.
Bank Charges	6,300.00	6,855.00
Total	6,300.00	6,855.00

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol
Annual Report 2021

National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol
Notes to the Financial Statement for the year ended 31.12.2021

Note: 16	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Plant & Equipment (16.1)		
Building & Fittings	2,004,422.34	2,103,712.34
Machinery & Equipments	779,915.88	1,003,137.45
Furniture & Fittings	966,935.80	1,180,459.25
Computers	1,608,685.61	892,764.16
Vehicles	6,336,558.08	7,750,908.08
Other	205,262.61	223,960.99
Total	11,901,780.33	13,154,942.28

Note: 18	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Intangible Assets		
Intangible Assets (18.1)	8,567,995.49	3,400,510.25
Total	8,567,995.49	3,400,510.25

Note: 19	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Inventories (19.1)		
Stationery items	46,638.92	31,694.01
Office equipment maintenance	-	-
Total	46,638.92	31,694.01

Note: 20	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Cash & Cash Equivalents		
Bank of Ceylon, Battaramulla A/C 0077769376 balance as at 31.12.2021	1,192,609.34	46,638.92
Bank of Ceylon, Taprobane A/C 008724393 balance as at 31.12.2021	5,399.66	-
Cash in Hand	-	-
Total	1,198,009.00	46,638.92

Note: 21	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Accrued Expenses		
Balance B/F 30.12.2021	-	56,350.25
Over Time	59,396.08	19,505.00
Fuel expenses	22,903.00	10,920.00
Building Rent / Cleaning service	-	14,650.63
Electricity	72,422.80	78,982.19
Staff Salaries	254,121.25	128,649.38
Telephone / Internet chargers	14,218.43	12,771.99
Other expenses (Supplying of newspapers)	1,320.00	3,480.00
Food expenses (Drinking water supplying)	3,000.00	2,625.00
Over estimation on accrued expenses for the year 2018	-	(56,350.25)
Expenditure on program of introducing alternative crops for tobacco cultivation	73,510.45	-
Total	500,892.01	271,584.19

Note: 22	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Provisions		
Provision for Gratuity	687,157.50	493,165.00
Provisions for Audit fees	4,368,000.00	4,284,000.00
Total	5,055,157.50	4,777,165.00

Note: 23	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Deposit		
General Deposit / Revenue other	-	450.00
Total	-	450.00

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National Authority on Tobacco And Alcohol

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol
Annual Report 2021

National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol
Notes to the Financial Statement for the year ended 31.12.2021

Note: 24	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Capital & Reserves		
NATA Fund	6,560,893.26	6,560,893.26
Total	6,560,893.26	6,560,893.26

Note: 25	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Government Grant - Capital		
Balance B/F	17,371,578.41	20,173,323.55
Capital Reimbursement (25.1)	5,357,000.00	1,112,000.00
Foreign Grant Reimbursement (25.2)	7,147,165.00	-
Capital Grant Amortization (Depreciation on Plant & equipments,Intellectual property,Intangible Assets)	(2,583,951.20)	(2,859,140.14)
Revenue for the year	(8,085,225.00)	(1,054,605.00)
Total	19,206,567.21	17,371,578.41

Note: 26	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Receivables		
Festival Loan	-	-
Total	-	-

Note: 27	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Prior years Adjustments		
B/F Balance	-	-
Total	-	-

Note: 28	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Prepayments		
Advances for programmes (Capital Advance)	-	-
Deposit for the fuel supplier	50,000.00	50,000.00
PAYE Tax prepayment	-	-
Total	50,000.00	50,000.00

Note: 29	2021	2020
	Rs.	Rs.
Accumulated Surpluses / Deficit (Income & Expenditure A/C)		
B/F Balance	(6,633,301.51)	(1,968,431.80)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	(1,523,419.22)	(1,337,219.96)
Provisions for the audit fees	576,000.00	(3,384,000.00)
Over estimation on accrued expenses account for the year 2018	-	56,350.25
Provisions for the payments on GATS survey	(3,536,000.00)	-
Accumulated Depreciation - Intangible assets (Accumulated Depreciation from 2016 to 2018)	1,155,241.16	-
Total	(9,961,479.56)	(6,633,301.51)

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol
Annual Report 2021

National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol
Notes to the Financial Statement for the year ended 31.12.2021

Note: 30	2021	2020
Capital Grant Amortization	Rs.	Rs.
Government Grant - Capital (2018 Depreciation on Plant & equipments, Intellectual property, Intangible Assets)	2,583,951.20	2,859,140.14
Total	2,583,951.20	2,859,140.14

Note : 31	2021	2020
Revenue	Rs.	Rs.
Capital Reimbursement (25.1)	4,026,060.00	1,054,605.00
Money received from WHO for the year 2019	4,059,165.00	1,203,537.01
Other income	133,500.00	-
Total	8,218,725.00	2,258,142.01

Note : 32	2021	2020
Expenses	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure on programs (funds received from Treasury)	3,378,148.83	1,441,800.95
Expenditure on programs (funds received from WHO/Bloomberg)	3,774,435.81	2,904,185.01
Total	7,152,584.64	4,345,985.96

Note : 33	2021	2020
Capital Gain	Rs.	Rs.
Revaluation - Computer & Computer equipments	486,569.17	-
Removeable of Fixed Assets	(84,175.85)	-
Total	402,393.32	-

Note : 34

Disclosures by restating the comparative amounts for prior period presented in which the error occurred (SLPSAs 03)

- The provision has been adjusted for audit fees in amount of Rs. 576,000.00 on based on the issued invoices with removing of Value Added Tax (VAT) from 2016 to 2020 on the Financial Statement of year 2021.

- Rs. 3,536,000.00 due for the Global Adult Tobacco Survey had not been accounted for as accrued expenses as at 31 December 2020. Therefore, the shortfall in the year under review was understated by that amount in the financial statements. This was corrected on the Financial Statement of year 2021.

- The over depreciation on audio & video visuals which were rectified under property, plant and equipment amount in Rs. 1,155,241.16 had not been adjusted to the cumulative surplus / deficit account. On this circumstance the net worth of intangible assets was understated by an equivalent amount in financial statements. This was corrected on the Financial Statement of year 2021.

- According to paragraph 82 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards 1, the provisions for gratuities as at 31 December 2020 was Rs.493,165.00 which was mentioned under current liabilities instead of non-current liabilities. From the financial statements of the year 2021 has been rectified the provisions for gratuities under non-current liabilities.

National Authority on Tobacco & Alcohol

Notes to the Financial Statement for the year ended 31.12.2021

Note: 35

THE TRANSACTION MADE BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH THE RELATED PARTIES

Member of Board Director	Other Institutions that are members of the Board Director	Position Held	Date of Appointment	Period
Dr. Samadhi Rajapaksa Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol	-	-	-	-
Rev. Elle Gunawansa Thero Appointed by Hon. Minister of Health	-	-	-	-
Dr. Lakshmi Somathunga Additional Secretary (Public Health Service), Ministry of Health	The National Kidney Foundation	Member of the Board	February 2021	-
	Home Victoria	Member of the Board	January 2020	Regular Member
	National Council for Persons with Disabilities	Member	October 2021	-
	Environmental Council of the Central Environmental Authority	Member	April 2021	-
Mr. Sumith Abesinghe Appointed by Hon. Minister of Health	Finance Commission of Sri Lanka	Chairperson	2020.12.03	03 years
	Institution of Development Administration Sri Lanka	Member	March 2020	03 years
Mr. Sudheera Jayarathne Director – Small Enterprises Development Division	National Crafts Council	Member of the Board	2020.01.05	02 year
Dr. K. Ajith Rohana Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police	National Child Protection Authority	Member of the Board	2021	-
	National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses	Member of the Board	2021	
	National Dangerous Drugs Control Board	Member	2021	

Mr. M.J Gunasiri Commissioner General of Excise	-	-	-	-
Mr. S.R.W.M.R.P.Sathkumara Additional Secretary – Ministry of Information and Mass Media	Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation	Representative of the Ministry	2021.07.12	-
	Selacine Television Institute	Member of the Board	2021.02.23	-
Dr. Priyangi Amarabandu Chairman, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board	National Dangerous Drugs Control Board	Chairperson	2021.06.07	03 Years
Mrs. Hiranya Perera Ministry of Justice- Senior Assistant Secretary	Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka	Commissioner	2019.02.18	03 Years
Mrs. B.M.S Bandara Additional Secretary, Ministry of Trade	National Innovation Agency	Member of the Board	June 2021	03 Years
Mr.Sunil Shantha Weerasekara Appointed by Hon. Minister of Health	Provincial Public Service Commission, Sabaragamuwa Province	Member	2019.12.30	05 Years
	Department of Archaeology, Advisory board	Advisory Member of the Board	2020.02.01	03 Years
	Buddhist affairs, Presidential Secretariat Office	Director	2021	-
Ms. G. Kamani Gunaratne Director, School Health and Nutrition, The Ministry of Education	-	-	-	-
Mrs. Wijayani Rathnayake Appointed by Hon. Minister of Health	-	-	-	-

14.3. Auditor General's Report

My No: THO/B/NATA/01/2021/03 Date: 30th June 2021

Chairman

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol

Auditor General's report in terms of Section 12 of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018 on the financial statements and other legal and regulatory requirements for the year ended 31 December 2021 of National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol

The above report is sent herewith.

.....

W.P.C. Wickremaratne

Auditor General

Copies: 01 Secretary- Ministry of Health

02. Secretary -Ministry of Finance

My No: THO/B/NATA/1/21/03 Date: 30th June 2021

Chairman

National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol

Auditor General's report in terms of Section 12 of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018 on the financial statements and other legal and regulatory requirements for the year ended 31 December 2021 of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol for the year ended 31 December 2021 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021 and the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 and Finance Act No. 38 of 1971. In terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution, my report will be tabled in the Parliament in due course.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the section on qualified opinion in my report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 December 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

(a) Though, in terms of paragraph 49 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard 7, the entire class of assets should be revalued, when an asset is revalued, contrary to this, out of computers and equipment belonging to the Authority, only the computers and equipment with a

net value of Rs. 257,180 purchased before the year 2017 had been revalued at Rs. 743,750 on 28 February 2022 and a revaluation profit of Rs. 486,570 was shown in the financial statements of the year under review. Further, details pertaining to this revaluation had not been disclosed in the financial statements.

(b) Instead of writing off the loss of Rs. 84,175 incurred by selling 10 types of various assets with a carrying value of Rs. 102,475 which had been removed from use during the year under review against the income of the year, had been adjusted against the profit generated from the revaluation of computers and equipment. As a result, the deficit of the year under review had been understated by a value equal thereto.

(c) As a result of not preparing the statement of cash flow prepared for the year under review in accordance with the terms set out in Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard 2, the net cash flow from operating activities had been overstated by Rs. 377,590, the net cash flow from investing activities had been understated by Rs. 102,475 and the value of cash & cash equivalents as at 31 December 2021 had been understated by Rs. 275,115.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). My responsibilities, under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

1.3 Other information contained in the Annual Report 2020 of the Authority

Other information means information, though included in the draft Annual Report 2021 of the Authority which is expected to be handed over to me after the date of this audit but not included in the financial statements and in my audit report thereon. Those charged with management shall be responsible for other information.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover other information and I do not provide an assurance of any manner or express an opinion on it.

My responsibility in relation to my audit regarding financial statements is to read other information whenever available and in doing so, consider whether there are material inconsistencies between other information and the financial statements or my knowledge gained at the audit or otherwise.

If I concluded that there are material misstatements, on the basis of other information that I obtained prior to the date of this audit report and on the basis of activities carried out by me, I am required to report such matters. I have nothing to report in this regard.

1.4 Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing matters related to going concern and using the

going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the Authority or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

As per the Section 16(1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Authority is required to maintain proper books and records of all its income, expenditure, assets and liabilities, to enable annual and periodic financial statements to be prepared of the Authority.

1.5 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I have communicated with those charged with governance regarding the significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I have identified during the audit.

2. Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

2.1 Special provisions are included in respect of the following requirements in the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.

2.1.1 In terms of the requirements of section 12 (a) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, except for the effects of the matters described in the section on the 'Basis for the Audit Opinion' of this report, I obtained all information and explanations required for the audit and as far as it appears from my inspection, the Authority had maintained proper financial reports.

2.1.2 In terms of the requirement indicated in Section 6(1)(d) (iii) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the financial statements of the Authority presented are consistent with the preceding year.

2.1.3 In terms of the requirement indicated in Section 6(1)(d) (iv) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, other than the observations made in paragraphs 1.2 (b), the recommendations made by me in the previous year have been included in the submitted financial statements.

2.2 On the basis of the procedures followed and evidence obtained and being restricted within the material matters, nothing that warrants the making of the following statements did not come to my attention.

2.2.1 In terms of the requirement of section 12 (d) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, whether the Authority has not complied with any applicable written law, or other general or special directions issued by the governing body of the Authority;

2.2.2 In terms of the requirement of section 12 (f) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, except for the following observations, whether the scheme has not complied with any applicable written law, or other general or special directions issued by the governing body of the Authority;

Reference to laws, rules/regulation	Description
(a) Treasury Circular No. 842 of 1978 paragraph 02 of circular No DMA/2009(2) dated 01 September 2009 of the Department of Management Audit.	A proper fixed assets register had not been maintained so as to include the cost and revaluations of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets valued at Rs. 32,489,006 as at December 2021.
(b) Public Administration Circular No. 03/2017 dated 19 April 2017	Though the arrival and departure of public officers should be confirmed by using finger print scanner in all government institutions, the arrival and departure of the legal officer recruited to the Authority on contract basis had not been recorded in the finger print scanner of the Authority. Without confirming the arrival or departure in any manner, Rs. 841,455 had been paid as gross salaries and allowances to the said officer.
(c) Public Administration Circular No. 09/2019 dated 22 April 2019	Though the interim allowance of Rs. 2,500 approved to be paid monthly to public officers

	terms of budget proposals of 2019 which came into effect on 01 st July 2019 could not be paid to employees of the semi government sector, Rs. 690,648 had been paid to 13 officers of the Authority during the 30 month period from July 2019 to December 2021.
(d) Cabinet decision No: 21/Misc (03) dated 15 June 2021 and letter No: MIN/add/Sec/Admin/16/21 of the Secretary of the Ministry of Health	Though the special monthly allowance of Rs. 7,500 approved to be paid to the staff in health services for the 03 month period from June 2021 to August 2021 could not be paid to the staff of the Authority, Rs. 262,375 had been paid as special allowances to 12 staff members of the Authority for the 03 month period from June 2021 to August 2021.

2.2.3 In terms of the requirement of Section 12(f) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, whether the Authority has not performed according to its powers, functions and duties, except for the following observations.

2.2.4 In terms of the requirement of Section 12(f) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, other than the following observation, whether the resources of the Authority had not been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws.

During the year under review, 02 programmes had been conducted in the two districts of Anuradhapura and Monaragala under a pilot test for creating sustainable tobacco cultivation free districts using financial grants of Rs. 2,979,900 agreed to be provided by the World Health Organization during the year under review. But in procuring food and lodging facilities for those programmes, contrary to the government procurement guidelines, Rs. 1,350,104 had been paid for procuring food and lodging facilities from suppliers selected by the Chairman of the Authority on the basis of quotations called through email without selecting suppliers through a procurement committee. Therefore, the transparency of the procurement had been compromised.

2.3 Other matters

(a) Though Rs. 25,000,000 had been estimated for 27 sub-activities under 07 strategies according to the Action Plan prepared for the year under review, since a total sum of only Rs. 15,127,150 had been received made up of Rs. 5,357,000 from the Treasury and Rs. 9,770,150 from foreign grants, only 19 sub-activities had been carried out. Accordingly 08 sub-activities planned were unable to be carried out due to the non-receipt of treasury provisions. Similarly, 10 workshops planned to be conducted during the year for the control of smokeless tobacco had not been conducted during the year under review but instead 03 activities which could be associated with the aforesaid object which were not included in the Annual Action Plan had been carried out.

(b) Though the final report of the Global Adult Tobacco Survey should have been released by the Authority and the Department of Census and Statistics before 31 October 2021 as per the agreement entered into with the World Health Organization, the final report of the survey had not been issued even by 24th May 2022.

(c) During the year under review, the Authority had spent Rs. 1,380,500 for upgrading psychological counseling service, Rs. 2,022,500 for promoting that service and Rs. 1,205,085 for maintaining the service which aggregated to Rs. 4,608,085. Out of 9,025 calls received during the year under review, counseling services had been provided in respect of 2,797 and 1,084 calls had been referred to relevant institutions such as the Sri Lanka Excise Department, Police Narcotics Bureau and the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board. Though counseling services had been provided for 2,797 calls, the Authority was unable to gauge the effectiveness of the service as there was no follow-up methodology.

(d) Since a formal register was not maintained to enter details of calls received daily to 1948 counseling service, the actions taken in respect of them and to confirm that such details were being monitored by a senior officer, the accuracy of statistical information as regards the calls received to the 1948 counseling hotline and the counseling services offered could not be verified.

(e) 75,650 stickers, 47,828 handbills and 13,346 posters printed in the three languages of Sinhala, Tamil and English for various programmes of previous years remained unused even by 31 December 2021 and adequate information was not submitted to the audit whether they could still be used for the objectives of the Authority. Similarly, at a physical inspection conducted by the Authority on 15 November 2021 as regards these stocks, it had been identified that there was a shortage of 8,313 units, but no action had been taken in that regard.

(f) 03 desktop computers, 05 laptop computers and 06 tables that were in working condition remained idle as at 31 December 2021 without being used for the purposes of the Authority. Similarly, 119 Pen Drives costing Rs. 160,421 which had been purchased for the Training of Trainers Programme in the year 2018 without properly identifying the requirement too remained idle.

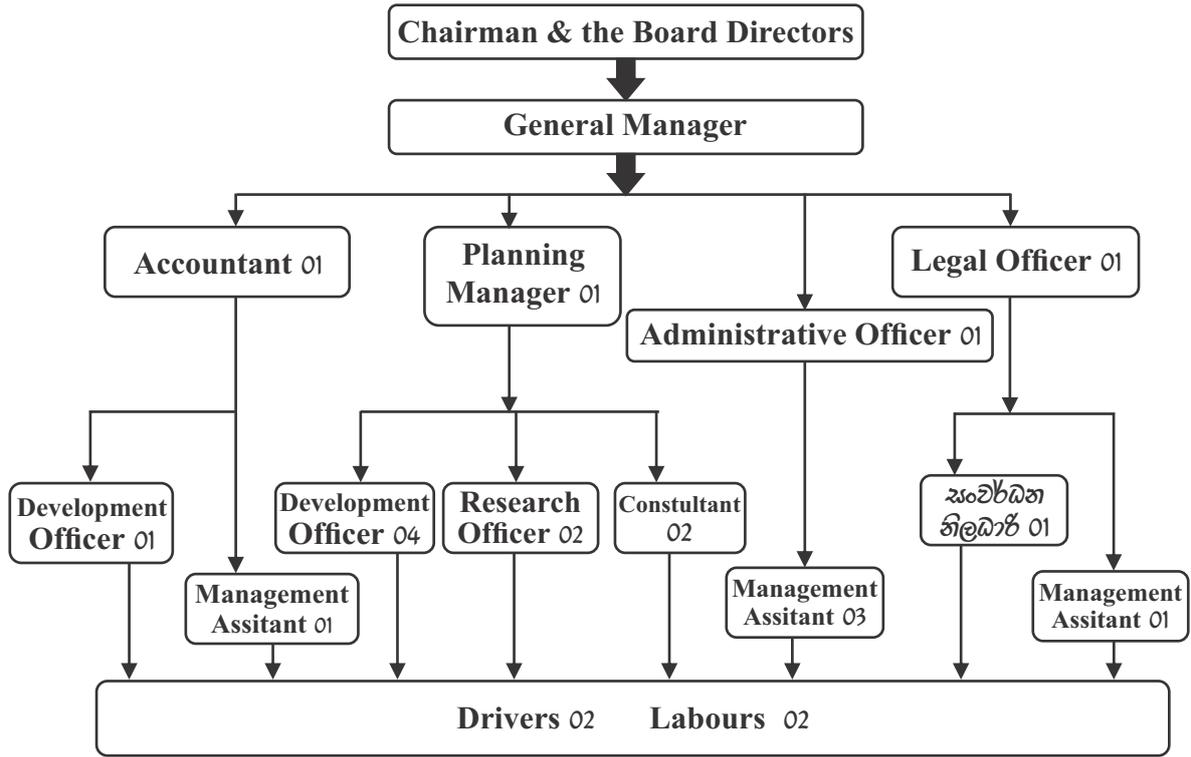
W.P.C. Wickremaratne

Auditor General

15. Management Team/Staff

15.1 Organizational chart





15.2 Cadre Information at 31.12.2021

Designation	Salary Code	Approved Cadre		Existing Cadre	
		Permanent	Contract	Permanent	Contract
General Manager	HM 1 - 1(2016)	01	-	01	-
Accountant	MM 1 - 1(2016)	01	-	01	-
Legal Officer	-	-	01	-	01
Administrative Officer	JM 1-1 (2016)	01	-	01	-
Research Officer	MA 3 (2016)	02	-	02	-
Development Officer	MA 3 (2016)	04	02	04	02
Counselor	-	-	02	-	02
Management Assistant	MA 1-1 (2016)	01	-	01	-
Labor	PL - 1 (2016)	02	-	02	-
Driver	PL - 3 (2016)	02	-	02	-
TOTAL		14	05	14	05



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