



Annual Performance Report for Year 2023

Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources

Maligawatta, Colombo 10

Expenditure Head No: 290

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01. Institutional Profile

1.1. Introduction

The main responsibilities of the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources, which is coming under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries, are to implement the Fisheries (Foreign Fishing Vessels) Act No. 59 of 1979, the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996 and the regulations made thereunder, and also manage and regulate the fisheries industry by introducing amendments and new regulations to be made in compliance with current trends and international maritime laws and conventions.

Similarly, introducing new technology for the development of the fisheries industry, improving the infrastructure needed to minimize post-harvest losses, improving the standard and quality of fish products for export and local consumption, and empowerment of fishermen and fisherwomen for upgrading socio-economic status of fisher households are also included in the tasks of top priority.

1.2. Vision, mission and purpose of the organization

Vision

Optimal contribution to the national economy by strengthening socio-economic status of the fisher community while maintaining the sustainability in fisheries & aquatic resources.

Mission

Management of fisheries & aquatic resources by adopting new technological methods in accordance with the national and international maritime laws and conventions to make an effective contribution towards the Sri Lankan economy through sustainable development in the fisheries industry.

1.2.1. Purposes

- Management, regularization, conservation and sustainable development in fishing activities in compliance with local and international maritime laws and conventions
- Encouraging local and foreign investment in the fisheries sector
- Introduction of new technology for exploiting fishery resources in local and international waters
- Improving socio-economic status of the fisher community

- Ensuring the quality and hygiene of exporting fish products in keeping with the international standards
- Minimizing post-harvest losses and improving the quality of local fish products
- Ensuring that fishing operations are conducted in accordance with international statutes and regional conventions
- Implementation of port services in accordance with the implementation of Port State Measures Regulations
- Monitoring the operations and ensuring the safety of fishing vessels at High Seas
- To provide optimum service to the fishermen and the other clients via online platform using information technology
- Enabling to obtain data related to the fisheries sector quickly and accurately via online using information technology

1.3. Main Functions

- Formulation, imposition, updating and implementation of fisheries operations regulations
- Formulation, imposition, updating and implementation of fisheries management regulations
- Formulation, imposition, updating and implementation of aquaculture management regulations
- Registration of fishing vessels and issuance of fishing operation licenses
- Issue of permits for the export of live fish
- Issue of fish landing permits for foreign fishing vessels
- Improving awareness on fisheries management among the fisher families
- Coordination of institutional credit facilities for obtaining capital goods
- Registration, regulation and supervision of boat building companies
- Registration, regulation and supervision of fisheries input suppliers
- Providing guidance to bring the fisheries cooperative societies to an efficient level
- Coordination and monitoring of regional fisheries organizations established under the National Fisheries Federation
- Collection of data related to the fisheries industry
- Repatriation of fishermen and fishing boats taken into custody by foreign countries
- Bringing the fishermen and fishing boats stranded at sea back to Sri Lanka
- Quality inspection of export fish
- Registration of fish processing establishments and issue of health certificates for fish export
- Upgrading the standard of local fish sale outlets

- Installation of Vessels Monitoring System (VMS) devices on multiday fishing boats engaged in High Seas fishing operations
- Providing radio communication facilities between the fishing vessels and land
- Obtaining reports on fishing boats which are involved in border crossings
- Providing daily weather reports and weather advisories on a daily basis
- Making aware of fishing boats based on the information given by Vessels Monitoring System (VMS)
- Making the respective institutions aware of illegal foreign fishing vessels and fishermen
- Taking action to provide licenses and call signs for communication purposes of fishing boats
- Substantiation of information for insurance in case of accidents encountered by fishermen and fishing crafts
- Taking action to save fishing boats adrift in international maritime boundaries
- Conducting training programmes for the vocational education of the members of fisher families
- Fisheries social security through the implementation of fishermen's insurance and pension schemes
- Implementation of lagoon development programmes and infrastructure development in fishery villages
- Implementation of alternative income generating programmes for fisher women

1.4. Organization Structure

The Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources, which is coming under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries, is governed by a Director General. An Additional Director General has also been appointed to carry out these functions in a more effective and efficient manner. The activities of the Head Office are divided into 09 divisions considering the ease of planning, implementation and monitoring of the functions of the Department.

That is,

1. Management Division
2. Development Division
3. Quality Control Division
4. Fisheries Operations Division
5. Investigation & Training Division

6. Information & Technology Division
7. Administration Division
8. Finance Division
9. Internal Audit Division

These divisions are headed by 07 Directors, Chief Accountant and Chief Internal Auditor.

There are 15 district offices covering the coastal districts of the Island and the activities of each district are carried out under the direction of the Deputy/ Assistant Director of the District.

There are 149 Fisheries Inspection Divisions in the Districts covering the coastal areas. A Fisheries Inspector's Office has been established in each of these Fisheries Inspection Divisions. Fisheries Inspector, Fisheries Social Development Assistant, Fisheries Resource Management Assistant, Development Officer and Fisheries Officer carry out all fisheries activities in these Fisheries Inspection Divisions.

Also, 20 Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centers have been set up in the vicinity of fishing harbors and radio officers are deployed day and night at these centers. These MCS Centers have maintained a 24-hour radio communication link between fishing vessels and land vessels engaged in the deep sea fishing industry. It also provides weather forecasts and advisories to vessels on a daily basis, as well as boat owners' messages and fishermen's messages. Further, all necessary arrangements will be made for distress messages received from fishing vessels from that time until the completion of the work. All these activities are coordinated by the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centre in the Head Office, Colombo.

In addition, offices have been set up at 15 fishery harbours located in 07 Districts. The officials of the Department attached to those places to carry out activities such as inspection of vessels departing the fishery harbours day and night, registration of and permitting the departure, obtaining log entries pertaining to the trip of boats arriving at the harbour, checking fish production accordingly, preparation of reports for the fish ready for export and providing them to the buyers, taking statements in case illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has occurred, delivering the log entries and statements taken to the Head Office via Fax or E-mail and preparation of alternative monitoring reports etc.

Monitoring of all multi-day fishing vessels departing for fishing in international waters by means of satellite technology is an integral part of international laws and regulations. Since 2015, only the vessels having licenses to operate in international waters are monitored by a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), but according to the above international rules and the requirement of fish export, there was a need to cover all multi-day vessels by VMS. Necessity has also emerged as a cost-effective method of detecting other non-fishing illegal activities (e.g. illegal immigration and drug trafficking) carried out by using multi-day fishing vessels.

Accordingly, a traditional vessel monitoring system consisting of 4200 VMS units to fulfill the above requirement was established in the Department as a grant from the Australian Government.

The new VMS system is accessible throughout all the harbour offices and centrally managed 24x7 by the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) located at the Head Office premises. The facilities available at this centre can be made use of identifying vessels at risk of illegal activities such as illegal fishing, human trafficking, drug trafficking and illegal border crossing. This system can also be used to provide facilities for fishing vessels in emergency situations. The Fisheries Monitoring Center has also been modernized with all modern technology and thus it can be considered as one of the most advanced Monitoring Centers in Asia today.

Also, a sub-office has been established at the Bandaranaike International Airport, which works in coordination with the Vessel Monitoring Unit, the Operations Division and the High Seas Units established at the fishery harbours. This office issues catch certificates for every fish stock in the export of fishery products, especially in the export to countries belonging to the European Union, and carries out the necessary inspections in the import of fish for the re-export of fishery products. A Quality Control Unit has been set up at the International Airport to facilitate prompt and delay-free issuance of necessary certificates for exports by air on a daily basis and it is open round the clock (24x7).

VMS tracking records with the position information of the entire fishing trip of every multi-day vessel arriving to land is sent to the High Seas Fisheries Unit by the Vessel Monitoring Division. Thereafter, the log page of that vessel is checked and only if the same is compared with the VMS data the verification officer will issue a verification report signed by the Assistant Director (High Seas) to the effect that the vessel has legally caught fish without engaging in any illegal fishing activities, enabling to export the said fish stock. Only after this verification report is forwarded to

the airport Quality Control Unit located at Katunayake, the officials there will issue the Catch Certificate required for the export of the fish related to the said trip of the vessel. This fish information verification process is implemented by the officers who are working on a roaster basis through 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24x7) at 21 Harbour Operations Offices, Vessel Monitoring Unit at Colombo Head Office, High Seas Fisheries Unit as well as Quality Control Unit at Katunayake Bandaranaike Airport. Due to this process, any fish stock brought to the Island by multi-day fishing vessels will have the opportunity to be certified as having been legally caught with reports and licenses, and to direct them for export.

Chapter 02- Progress and the Future Outlook

2.1. Special Achievements

1. In compliance with existing laws relating to vessel monitoring equipment in the year 2023

Cancellation of vessel departure	169
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Referral for Legal Action	46
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2. Regulations made under the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act

- 2.1. Parliament approval has been obtained an Act (Amendment) to the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996

- Fisheries & Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No. 27 of 2023

- 2.2. Parliament approval has been obtained for five 05 regulations made by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources and published in the Gazette Extraordinary.

- Implementation of Satellite based Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for Fishing Boats Operating in High Seas (Amendment) Regulations 2015
- Fishing Operations (Amendment) Regulations
- Recreational Fishery Management Regulations
- Departure and Arrival of Mechanized Fishing Boats Regulations
- Culture of Coral Species on Artificial Substrates for Export Regulations

- 2.3. One Regulation drafted by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources has been submitted for the approval of the Attorney General's Department.

- Fishermen's Pension and Social Security Benefits Regulations

- 2.4. Three regulations drafted by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources have been submitted for the approval of the Legal Draftsmen's Department.

- Fish handling and distribution regulations
- Issue of fishing identity card regulations
- Establishment of rural fisheries organizations/ district organizations/ National Fisheries Federations Regulations- 2023

2.5. One Regulations drafted by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources has been sent to the Department of Government Printing for publishing in the Gazette Extraordinary.

- The Issuance of Certificates of Competence for Skippers (Local Fishing Board) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019

2.6. One regulation to be in force under the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act has been drafted.

- Canned Fish Regulations

2.7. New Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act has been drafted and currently being discussed with the Hon. Minister of Fisheries.

3. Number of licences issued for the export of fish and fishery products

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • Number of health certificates for seafood export | 37,535 |
| • Number of fish catch certificates | 18,408 |
| • Number of registered fish processing establishments and fish packing Centres | 65 |

4. Progress in Information & Technology

1. Printing of about 10,000 Fisheries Identity Cards only by using 100% of the Departmental resources
2. At the Bestweb.lk competition held for the selection of the best websites in Sri Lanka, the website of the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources received an award for securing the third place from the government website category
3. Provision of 103 new tab machines to the officials of the Department
4. Use of online application for Departmental activities has been commenced and through which 49,000 Fishermen Registrations, 180 Yard Registrations, 1,535 Boat Design Approvals, 7,400 Boat Number Registrations, 4,590 Boat Registrations, 4,485 Renewal of Boat Registration, 10,200 Operations Licenses, 870 Renewal of Operations Licenses, 1,600 insertions of Scientific Data, 9,420 Skipper Registrations and 1,427 fish catch certificates have been carried out successfully.
5. Installation of 4,512 new Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)

5. Releasing and repatriation of fishermen and fishing vessels arrested in foreign countries

Number of fishermen arrested	Number of fishermen released	Number of fishing vessels arrested	Number of fishing vessels released
113	74	22	07

6. Rescue of fishing vessels which went adrift in local waters, high seas and waters of foreign countries

Number of rescued fishermen	Number of Fishing Vessels for which rescue operations were coordinated	Vessels destroyed following collision with ships	Number of abandoned multi-day fishing vessels
450	75	01	03

7. Verification of information on fishing vessels carrying out fishing operations at high seas

1	Number of log copies received relevant to the fishing operations at High Seas from fishing vessels	39,191
2	Number of verification reports issued regarding fishing operations	3,024
3	No. of copies entered into log data base	35,112

8. Provision of services by means of information technology

1	Providing fishing trips for vessels according to online system	65,618
2	Number of vessel photographic records maintained for IOTC requirements	849
3	Registration of AIS equipment legally	3,443

9. Progress of Investigations – 2023

Ser. No.	Activities	Performance Indicators	Achievement of Targets
01.	Raids at district levels and Investigations against illegal fishing activities and supervision of legal proceedings	Up-to-date data report maintained on district level legal affairs	05
02.	Preparation of the system of imposing administrative fines by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources regarding the requests from all district offices for imposition of administrative fines according to the relevant process.	Number of cases subject to imposition of administrative fines	29
03.	Conduct of investigations into violations detected by Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)	Number of cases heard	07
04	Conduct of investigations for violation of laws detected by Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)	Number of investigations for violations of laws by Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)	529
05	Execution of special raids	Percentage of execution of planned raids	07
06	Inspection and investigation related to the firms supplying fishing vessels, fishing gear, products and fishing baits	Number of inspections	20
		Number of prosecutions	0
07	Inspection and investigation of all district offices, fisheries inspector's offices, radio stations and harbour offices	Number of office inspections conducted (one inspection per quarter)	05

10. Progress of the development programs in relation to the year 2023

It is the foremost responsibility of the fisheries development activities to take necessary steps with a view to increasing fish production and upgrading the socio economic and social welfare status of the fisher folks through the development and regulation of fisheries sector by means of efficient and environmentally friendly technological methods thereby providing greater contribution towards the National Economy of Sri Lanka. The following undertakings were carried out pertaining to it.

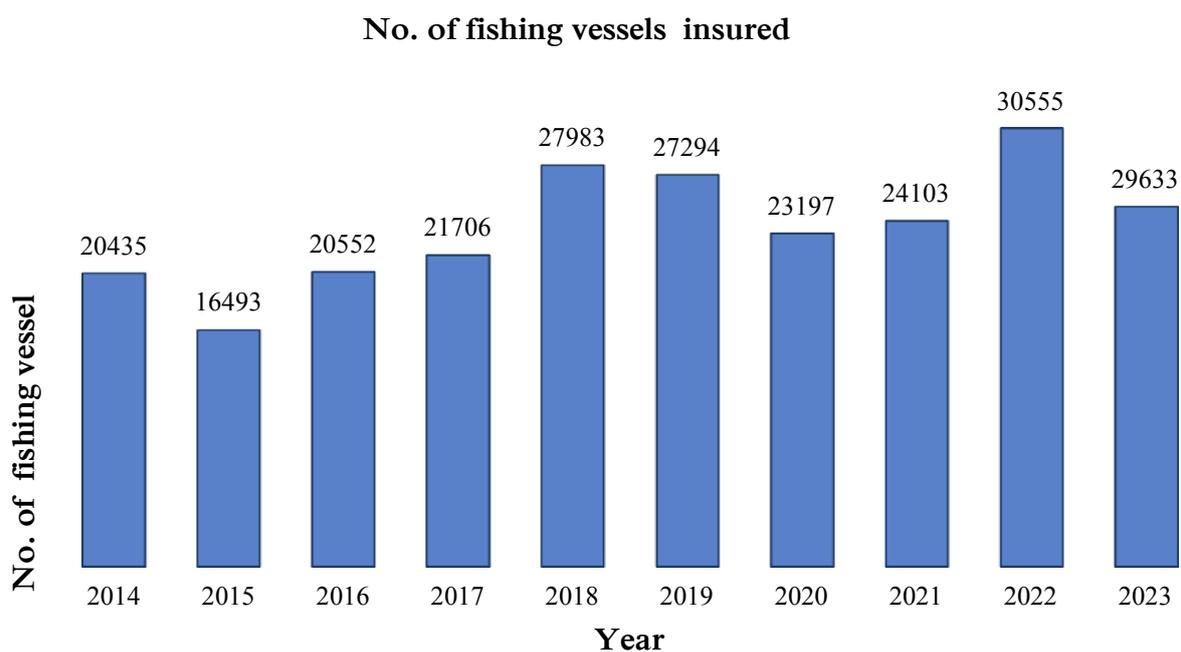
- To introduce, promote new technological methods for the fisheries sector and also coordinate with the Training Division to design related training programs.
- Implementation of Fishermen's Social Security Schemes (Fishermen's Insurance and Pension)
- Monitoring the introduction of new fishing inputs and non-traditional fishing operations methods for the development of coastal fisheries
- Making recommendations related to coastal constructions and projects
- Designation of coordinating management areas and performing related activities
- Preparation of budget proposals related to fisheries development activities and review of progress on the proposals
- Arranging progress review meeting of District Assistant Directors and activities related to progress review
- Coordination of special fisheries disputes
- Regulating and monitoring the registration of fishing vessel building firms
- Granting approval for fishing vessel designs
- Regulate and monitor the registration of fishing input suppliers
- Providing recommendations for environmental assessment reports related to coastal construction projects
- Development of infrastructure related to fisheries sector and implementation of post-harvest technical plans
- Implementation of alternative income generation projects
- Implementation of fisheries subsidy programs
- Implementation of fisheries credit schemes, monitoring and reviewing its progress

- Implementation of activities related to sustainable development, management, regularization of all lagoons
- Activities related to inputs imported for fisheries industry
- Providing answers to the fisheries sector matters raised by the Parliamentary Advisory Committee
- Collection of information on traditional fisheries industry and development and implementation of methods to use them for fisheries management

Insuring Fishing Vessels

Insurance of fishing vessels is mandatory for mechanized fishing vessels as per the Registration of Fishing Vessels Regulations 1980.

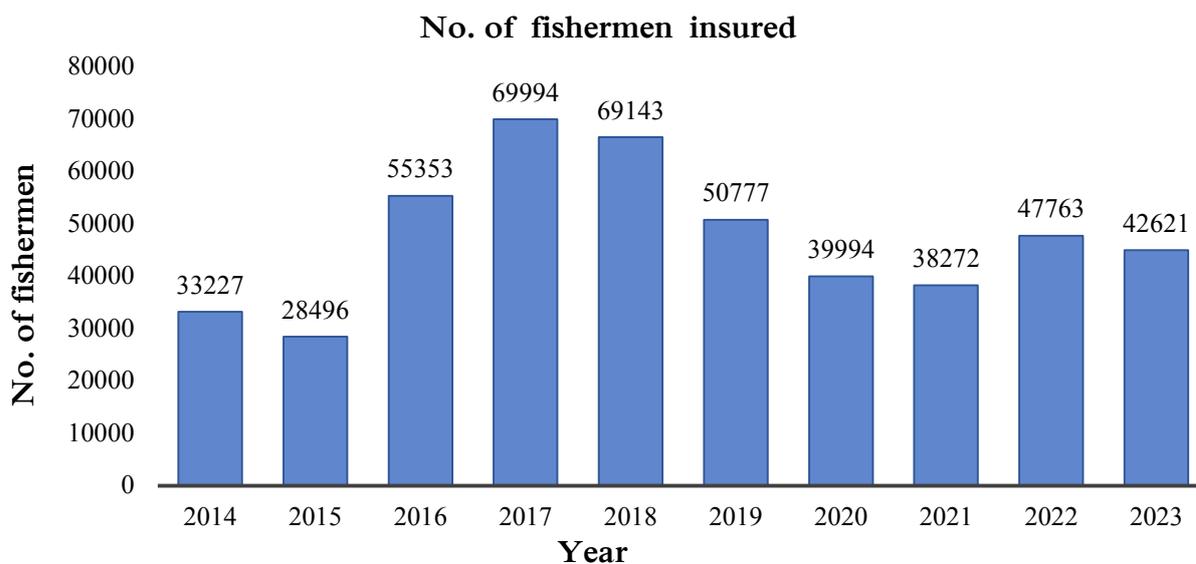
Accordingly, the progress of insuring fishing vessels in the years from 2014 to 2023 is comparatively shown below.



Insuring of fishermen

According to the Departure and Arrival of Mechanized Fishing Boats Regulations No. 01 of 2023, it is mandatory to insure the fishermen engaged in fishing industry. Previously, it had not become a law but at present the same is mandatory for mechanized fishing boats.

Accordingly, the progress of insuring fishermen from 2014 to 2023 is comparatively shown below.



10.1. Ensuring Safety of Fishermen

Task	Progress
Total number of fishing vessels insured	29,633
Total number of fishermen insured	42,621
Number of contributors to the Fishermen's Pension Scheme	1,444
Issue of sea worthiness certificates	34,731
Registration of boat yards	58
Registration of fishing gear suppliers	18

11. Introducing Loan Schemes

Dheewara Rekuma New Insurance Cover

According to the criteria of the International Labour Organization, the fishing has been named as one of the most challenging, dangerous and risky prone occupations. In considering the fisheries industry in this country, the risk of the marine fisheries sector is higher than that of the freshwater fisheries sector. According to the statistics of the Ministry of Fisheries, the number of fishermen in Sri Lanka is 315,550, of which 223,490 are employed in the marine fisheries sector, of which about 87% are coastal fishermen. About 34,300 are engaged in offshore and deep sea fishing with multi-day fishing vessels. The number of fisher families in Sri Lanka is 266,640 and the number of people directly dependent on fishing is about 1,123,000. Also, it is estimated that the number of people engaged in indirect employments related to this sector and the other related dependents is around 06 lakh. Accordingly, about 7.7% of the total population of Sri Lanka is supported by the fisheries industry.

The total number of active fishermen in Sri Lanka is 315,550. Out of this, the people who have contributed to the insurance scheme that has been in operation so far take an amount of approximately 1.73% of the number of active fishermen. As the need arose to implement a new insurance scheme with a more effective and affordable premium for the fishermen by identifying the shortcomings and issues in the existing insurance scheme, the Ministry of Fisheries and the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation have jointly introduced the "Dheewara Rekuma" personal accident insurance policy.

Necessary steps have been taken to provide the compensation receivable on behalf of a fisherman in the event of his death to the legal heirs of the fisher under the "Dheewara Rekuma" personal accident insurance operated by the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation.

Details of the "Dheewara Rekuma" Personal Accident Insurance Cover

Details of Insurance Cover	Insured amount (Rs.)		
	Option 01	Option 02	Option 03
01. Personal Accident Insurance			
Accident Insurance	1,200,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Permanent and total disability	1,200,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Permanent and partial disability	600,000	750,000	1,000,000
02. For disappearance			
In the case of the disappearance of a fisherman due to an accident while engaged in fishing activities, compensation payment will be started after completion of 05 months since such disappearance.	Up to 12 months at a rate of Rs.7,500 per month	Up to 12 months at a rate of Rs.7,500 per month	Up to 12 months at a rate of Rs.7,500 per month
In the case of disappearance for more than one year, the balance will be paid after deducting the above compensation from the insurance claim	1,200,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
03. Hospitalization Allowance			
In the case of hospitalization due to accidents or sickness, claims will be paid to a maximum of 14 days per each fisher family Fisher or Spouse - from 18 years to 65 years Unmarried or unemployed children - Up to 21 years	Rs.500/- per day (Maximum of 14 days)	Rs.500/- per day (Maximum of 14 days)	Rs.500/- per day (Maximum of 14 days)
04. Allowance for educational expenses			
An allowance at a rate of Rs.1,000 per month will be paid to a maximum of two children for their educational expenses for a period of one year.	1,000	1,000	1,000
05. Death benefit (will be paid only for the natural deaths.)	200,000	200,000	200,000
06. Air ticket cover			
In the case of drifting away to another country/ being arrested due to fishing operations	40,000	40,000	40,000

This program is implemented under the direct allocation of the government jointly by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources and the Ministry of Finance as per the Cabinet Paper No. අම/20/0725/204/069 dated 22.04.2020. For which, no charge is made from the applicant and under this, a compensation of Rupees One Million will be given to the dependents of a fisherman who dies due to natural hazards while engaged in fishing activities. Insurance compensations have been granted to 2 beneficiary families during the year 2023. Further, the Ministry of Finance has been notified to grant compensations to three recommended beneficiaries.

Diyawara Diriya

With the aim of developing the fisheries industry and obtaining more quality fish production through the introduction of new technology, the Ministry of Fisheries, the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources and the Bank of Ceylon have jointly implemented the Diyawara Diriya Low Interest Loan Scheme to improve fishing vessels and provide relief to the fisher community.

Under this, loans are granted subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 million per beneficiary and the interest rates are as follows.

- If the amount of loan is less than Rs. 2 million, the interest rate charged from the debtor is 5%.
- If the loan amount of loan is more than Rs. 2 million, the interest rate charged from the debtor is 7%.
- Government provides an interest concession of 4% per beneficiary in this loan scheme.
- In providing loans, priority is given for carrying out improvement to the boat yards, construction of fishing vessels over 55ft., enhancement of new technology (RSW, CSW), installation of long lines and winches.
- Under the Diyawara Diriya phase one, loan worth of Rs. 1.03 billion has been granted to 755 beneficiaries whereas under the Diyawara Diriya phase two loan amounting to Rs.1.82 billion has been granted to 1,017 beneficiaries.

Interest premiums of 4% are being paid to the Bank of Ceylon by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources even by now.

Divawara Kekulu Children's Savings Account



According to the criteria of the International Labor Organization, the fishing profession has been named as one of the most challenging, dangerous and risky prone occupations. The economy of the vast majority of fisher families is entirely dependent on the income earned by the fisherman who is the head of the family. The nutrition, education and the health security of those fisher families are completely dependent on the individual income of the fisherman. Accidents to the fisherman result in a complete collapse of the family's economy, and mainly, the collapse of their children's education is common. Accordingly, our Department has focused on ensuring the social security of fisher families, attracting young people to the fisheries industry, inculcating the habit of investment/ savings for the future of the fishermen and promoting frugality.

Accordingly, in order to provide wider coverage for children, Bank of Ceylon has taken necessary steps to start a special 'Divawara Kekulu' children's savings account for the children of fishermen at the request of the Ministry of Fisheries. In the year 2023, nearly 300 children's savings accounts have been started.

12. Various programs implemented by the Development Division of the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources in the year 2023 and its progress

12.1. Requirement of Kerosene to Power Fishing Vessels for Fisheries Industry

Most of the boats with outboard engines use Kerosene as fuel. That is, most of the OFRP and MTRB vessels use Kerosene as fuel. Thus, 27,903 MTRB and OFRP fishing vessels with outboard engines island wide would require 1,044,974 liters of Kerosene per day if they were engaged in fishing throughout the month. But, when it is estimated on the average basis that one vessel is

employed for 25 days per month, the amount of Kerosene consumed per month will be about 26,124,350 liters (26.12 million liters).

The Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources has identified 128 filling stations for the daily distribution of Kerosene required for the fishing industry, and the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources is doing the necessary coordination to distribute the stocks of Kerosene needed by fishermen through the respective filling stations.

12.1.1. The Programme of distributing Kerosene for Fishing vessels with Outboard Engines (OFRP) and Mechanized Traditional Boats (MTRB) under the aid of Chinese Government - 2023 [OFRP (Out Board Fiber Reinforced Plastic Boat), MTRB (Mechanized Traditional Boat)]

Distribution of Kerosene donated by Chinese Government to Fishermen of Sri Lanka was commenced under the auspicious of Hon. Douglas Dewananda, Minister of Fisheries, Hon. Piyal Nishantha de Silva State Minister of Fisheries and the Chinese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Hon. Mr. Qi Zhenhong on 23.05.2023 at Panadura Fisheries Harbour.

It was decided to provide Kerosene for the consumption of small-scale fishermen instead of 3.79 million liters of diesel donated by the Republic of China. It was observed that 4.32 million liters of kerosene could be released according to the price prevailing at that time. The release of this fuel stock was done in two phases and under the first phase, 75 liters whereas under the second phase, 78 liters thus aggregating 153 liters to a fisherman altogether.

Thus, it was expected to provide the said relief for the OFRP and MTRB vessels, powered by kerosene as fuel and which are registered in the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources. Accordingly, approval has already been given to grant the relief to 25,564 vessels identified as active fishing vessels in 15 fisheries districts of Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Tangalle, Kalmunai, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Kilinochchi, Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Mannar, Puttalam, Chilaw and Negombo under the first phase while for 28,806 vessels under the second phase.

The release of the fuel was done by 96 filling stations under the first phase and 1,825,500 liters of kerosene were released for 24,340 OFRP and MTRB vessels at a rate of 75 liters per vessel.

Under the second phase, fuel was released by 97 filling stations, under which 1,860,300 liters of Kerosene was released to 23,850 OFRP and MTRB vessels at a rate of 78 liters per vessel. As regards the vessels that were not fueled in the first phase, 153 liters per vessel were released for 3,864 OFRP and MTRB vessels totaling 581,192 liters. Accordingly, 2,451,492 liters of Kerosene for 27,714 vessels have been distributed under the second phase by 31.12.2023.

In the year 2023, 4,276,992 liters of Kerosene have been distributed to 15 fisheries districts under the first and second phases.

DISTRIBUTION OF KEROSENE UNDER FIRST AND SECOND PHASES

<u>Scheme for Providing Kerosene Subsidy for OFRP & MTRB Fishing Vessels - 2023</u>									
District	First Phase		Second Phase						
	Number of fishing vessels to which release of Kerosene is authorized	Total number of fishing vessels received Kerosene	Number of fishing vessels to which release of kerosene is authorized			Total number of fishing vessels received Kerosene up to 31.12.2023			
			78 (L)	153 (L)	Total number of fishing vessels	78 (L)	153 (L)	Total number of fishing boats (released)	Total number of vessels to be released
Batticaloa	1,796	1,725	1,727	124	1,851	1,704	106	1,810	41
Colombo	364	291	291	116	407	287	110	397	10
Chilaw	1,669	1,430	1,428	449	1,877	1,391	389	1,780	97
Galle	702	691	691	110	801	678	105	783	18
Jaffna	5,478	5,282	5,283	642	5,925	5,265	611	5,876	49
Kilinochchi	1,045	1,021	1,020	140	1,160	1,009	135	1,144	16
Kalutara	418	412	412	42	454	408	42	450	4
Kalmunai	1,000	973	973	156	1,129	966	135	1,101	28
Mannar	2,431	2,309	2,310	714	3,024	2,171	541	2,712	312
Matara	1,015	982	982	76	1,058	960	66	1,026	32
Tangalle	966	946	946	101	1,047	938	98	1,036	11

Trincomalee	3,545	3,537	3,541	380	3,921	3,502	336	3,838	83
Puttalam	2,617	2,502	2,496	598	3,094	2,374	440	2,814	280
Negombo	1,405	1,207	1,208	357	1,565	1,181	334	1,515	50
Mullaitivu	1,113	1,032	1,032	461	1,493	1,016	416	1,432	61
Total	25,564	24,340	24,340	4,466	28,806	23,850	3,864	27,714	1,092

12.2 The programme of providing monthly living allowance to the NTRB vessel owners by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Among the project proposals presented to the World Food and Agriculture Organization by the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources for the purpose of providing relief to low-income fishermen, it was agreed to sponsor the program to provide a living allowance to the NTRB boat owners for a period of three months. Accordingly, the implementation of the project was carried out in two main phases and under which living allowance was granted to a total of 11,794 beneficiaries.

Under the first phase of this, 6,947 non-mechanical traditional boat owners in the Districts of Batticaloa, Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, Kalmunai and Trincomalee were given living allowance at the rate of 42\$ each for a period of 03 months.

Under the second phase of this, 4,847 non-mechanical traditional boat owners in the Districts of Halawata, Colombo, Mannar, Puttalam, Galle, Kalutara, Matara, Negombo and Tangalle were given living allowance for a period of 03 months at the rate of 47\$ each.

First Phase

Sr. No.	District	Number of Beneficiaries	Added Beneficiaries	Total Number of Beneficiaries	Total Number transferred through CERF
1	Batticaloa	4,036	66	4,102	4,010
2	Jaffna	993	32	1,025	1,017
3	Mullaitivu	236	15	251	235
4	Kilinochchi	221	60	281	277
5	Kalmunai	629	0	629	626
6	Trincomalee	783	0	783	782
Total		6,898	173	7,071	6,947

Second Phase

No.	District	Original list issued through district offices	Final list forwarded to FAO after correction	First Phase	Second Phase	Total beneficiaries in first and second phases with grievances	Total Number transferred through CERF
1	Chilaw	1,086	1,084	84	87	1,255	1,222
2	Colombo	85	85	0	0	85	84
3	Mannar	339	308	0	0	308	298
4	Puttalam	698	693	0	61	754	726
5	Galle	163	162	0	19	181	180
6	Kalutara	199	199	0	26	225	224
7	Matarara	195	193	3	33	229	220
8	Negombo	1,610	1,607	62	6	1,675	1,623
9	Tangalle	255	251	12	9	272	270
	Total	4,630	4,582	161	241	4,984	4,847

12.3. Development of Infrastructure of the Fisheries Industry - (Minimizing the impact on fishermen caused due to the mining of sand for the development of the Western Terminal of the Colombo Port Expansion Project)

The Sri Lanka Port Authority and the Western Terminal Development Company have provided an amount of Rs. 140 million to the Ministry of Fisheries to develop the infrastructure of the fisheries industry in order to reduce the impact on the fishermen caused due to the Colombo Port Western Terminal expansion project.

By now the said amount has been given to the Ministry of Fisheries and the money is to be used for the development of fisheries infrastructure in Gampaha and Colombo Districts which will be affected by this project. For that purpose, suitable projects are currently being identified and implemented.

Accordingly, the approval of the Department of National Planning has been received for the implementation of the Wattala Lunawa estuary breakwater restoration project, and orders have been awarded for the production of Log-Rafts (Teppan) for the project of providing Log-Rafts (Teppan) to 25 small-scale fishermen in Negombo Fisheries District.

12.4 Issuance of Fisheries Identity Cards

To verify the identity of the fisher community engaged in the fisheries industry, issue of fisheries ID cards and skipper licenses is carried out by the Development Division of the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources.

The information about the fishing ID cards and skipper licenses issued by the Development Division from January 1st, 2023 to December 31st, 2023 is as follows.

Total number of Fisheries ID cards issued - 2,603

Total number of Skipper Licenses issued - 1,485

12.5. Progress of the project to place fish aggregation structures using condemned vehicles in order to increase fish stock in the coastal waters.

Decommissioned multi-day fishing boats, railway carriages and buses are being used as artificial substrates with the aim of creating fish breeding places on artificial substrates of the coastal seabed in order to increase the marine biodiversity for the purpose of protecting the marine ecosystem and marine biodiversity for the future generations and increasing marine biodiversity. Accordingly, in the years 2021, 2022 and 2023, artificial substrates were created by placing a large number of decommissioned multi-day fishing vessels and bus bodies in the ocean without harming the environment.

In the year 2021, this project was carried out in Galle, Matara and Jaffna Districts. An amount of Rs. 11.3 million was allocated to the Department to carry out this project in Jaffna District as the second phase in the year 2022, and the remaining amount of Rs. 24 million required for the same was allocated through the Ministry allocation and thus, by the end of 2022, 47 condemned buses were purchased and transported to Kankasanturei.

In the year 2023, an amount of Rs. 30 million was allocated for this project and in the first quarter of the year, 47 such buses were sunk in the coastal sea belonging to the Jaffna district under the second phase of the project incurring Rs. 20.22 million.

Photographs showing how fish stocks have grown on condemned buses after being placed in the ocean as an artificial substrate.



12.6. Lagoon Development

12.6.1. Gazette of Puttalam Lagoon in Puttalam District

Puttalam Lagoon was declared as a Management Area under No. 1665/17 on 04th August 2010. In accordance with the provisions of the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No. 35 of 2013, the Legal Section is taking necessary action to re-gazette the same with GPS readings to ensure the conservation, development and management and safety of the ecosystem of the Puttalam lagoon.

12.6.2. Conduct of Puttalam Lagoon Fisheries Management and Coordinating Committee Meeting Accordingly, in terms of Section 31(a) of the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.35 of 2013, Fisheries Management and Coordinating Committee meeting of the Puttalam Lagoon was held at the Auditorium of District Secretariat to enforce and maintain the

conservation, management, protection and control of the Puttalam Lagoon Fisheries Management Area.

12.6.3. Conducting awareness programs for fishermen

In the year 2023, 08 fisher awareness programs were conducted in Puttalam Lagoon in Puttalam Lagoon regarding the future activities of the Lagoon Management Committees and raising the livelihood of fishermen, and 04 fisher awareness programs were conducted in Chilaw Lagoon. Also, 06 lagoon management committees were reorganized in Lankapatuna lagoon in Trincomalee district. 02 Lagoon Management Committees were reconstituted in Nandikadal Lagoon in Mullaitivu district.

12.6.4. Necessary legal process is being done to gazette the fisheries development and management plan of Chilaw, Koggala and Garaduva lagoons

Koggala Lagoon in Galle District, Garaduva Lagoon in Matara District and Chilaw Lagoon in Mahawewa Fisheries district are to be gazette with the aim of maintaining the ecological conditions of the lagoon ecosystem sustainably thereby securing the livelihoods of the people around the lagoon.

12.6.5. Fixation of demarcation posts at Chilaw Lagoon in Mahawewa Fisheries District

283 demarcation posts have been fixed in Chilaw Lagoon in Mahawewa Fishery district during the period between 30.03.2023 and 18.04.2023.

12.6.6. Conservation and Development of Chilaw Lagoon

For the purpose of conservation and development of Chilaw Lagoon, monitoring of the sedimentation ponds of shrimp farms around the Chilaw Lagoon was carried out jointly with the Ministry of Fisheries, the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency and the National Aquaculture Development Authority.

2.2. Challenges

1. Backwardness of some officials to use new technology
2. Due to shortage of foreign exchange, difficulty in paying bills of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
3. Officers' leaving abroad

2.3. Future Goals

1. Introduction of an operational system for the Departmental staff
2. Updating of basic computer knowledge of the Departmental staff
3. Implementation of e-log application for fishermen for 10,000 trips
4. Introducing a system for entering LOG record data
5. Implementation of campaign for MSDFAR publicity
6. Launching a programme for the promotion of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
7. Management of vessel departures and arrivals through new software

Chapter 03 - Overall Financial Performance for the Year ended 31st December 2023**3.1 Statement of Financial Performance****Statement of Financial Performance For the period ended as at 31st December 2023**

Budget 2023	Note	Actual			
		2023	2022		
-	Revenue Receipts				
-	Income Tax	1	-	-	
186,779,500	Taxes on Domestic Goods & Services	2	179,170,315	185,602,364	ACA -1
-	Taxes on International Trade	3	-	-	
-	Non-Tax Revenue & Others	4	-	-	
<u>186,779,500</u>	Total Revenue Receipts (A)		179,170,315	185,602,364	
	Non-Revenue Receipts		-	-	
-	Treasury Imprests		400,637,299	513,882,000	ACA- 3
-	Deposits		225,239,292	141,474,293	ACA- 4
-	Advance Accounts		32,454,828	29,601,674	ACA- 5
-	Other Receipts		-	-	
-	Total Non-Revenue Receipts (B)		658,331,418	684,957,967	
-	Total Revenue Receipts & Non-Revenue Receipts		837,501,733	870,560,331	
	C = (A)+(B)		-	-	
	Treasury Remittances (D)				
	Net Revenue Receipts & Non-Revenue Receipts E=(C)-(D)		837,501,733	870,560,331	
	Less: Expenditure				
-	Recurrent Expenditure				
573,600,000	Wages, Salaries & Other Employment Benefits	5	541,509,993	523,811,430	ACA-2(ii)
347,609,000	Other Goods & Services	6	334,802,171	106,739,117	
47,562,000	Subsidies, Grants and Transfers	7	21,230,218	63,013,496	
-	Interest Payments	8	-	-	
1,065,000	Other Recurrent Expenditure	9	1,057,034	54,000	
<u>969,836,000</u>	Total Recurrent Expenditure (F)		898,599,417	693,618,043	

Capital Expenditure					
38,000,000	Rehabilitation & Improvement to Capital Assets	10	27,063,949	9,328,347	ACA - 2(ii)
649,779,795	Acquisition of Capital Assets	11	649,101,479	281,525,328	
1,000,000	Capital Transfers	12	912,900	457,100	
-	Acquisition of Financial Assets	13	-	-	
2,100,000	Capacity Building	14	2,089,586	907,378	
30,000,000	Other Capital Expenditure	15	20,429,193	2,753,819	
720,879,795	Total Capital Expenditure (G)		699,597,107	294,971,971	
	Deposit Payments		97,128,641	132,790,655	ACA - 4
	Advance Payments		26,495,786	24,693,580	ACA - 5
	Other Main Ledger Payments		-	-	
	Total Main Ledger Expenditure (H)		123,624,428	157,484,235	
	Total Expenditure I= (F+G+H)		1,721,820,951	1,146,074,249	
	Balance as at 31 st December J=(E-I)		(884,319,218)	(275,513,9,218)	
	Balance as per the Imprest Adjustment Statement		-	-	ACA - 7
-	Imprest Balance as at 31 st December H = (C-G)		-	-	ACA - 3

3.3 Statement of Financial Position**Statement of Financial Position**As at 31st December 2023

ACA-P

	Note	Actual	
		2023 Rs.	2022 Rs.
Non-Financial Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	ACA -6	2,160,107,046	1,470,200,079
Financial Assets			
Advance Accounts	ACA-5/5(A)	64,000,956	69,959,998
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA -3	-	-
Total Assets		2,224,108,002	1,540,160,077
Net Assets/ Equity			
Net Worth to Treasury		(167,262,494)	(33,192,802)
Property, Plant & Equipment Reserve		2,160,107,046	1,470,200,079
Rent and Work Advance Reserve	ACA -5(B)	-	-
Current Liabilities			
Deposits Accounts	ACA -4	231,263,450	103,152,800
Unsettled Imprest Balance	ACA-3	-	-
Total Liabilities		2,224,108,002	1,540,160,077

Detail Accounting Statements in ACA format Nos. 1 to 7 presented in pages from 07 to 32 and Annexures to accounts presented in pages from 33 to 46 form an integral part of these Financial Statements. The Financial Statements have been prepared in complying with the Generally Accepted Accounting principles whereas most appropriate Accounting Policies are used as disclosed in the Notes to the Financial Statements and hereby certify that figures in these Financial Statements, Notes to accounts and other relevant accounts were reconciled with the Treasury Books of Accounts and found in agreement.

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

 Chief Accounting Officer Name : Designation : Date : 27.02.2024 K.N. Kumari Somaratne Secretary Ministry of Fisheries 2nd Floor, New Secretariat Building, Maligawatta, Colombo 10.	 Accounting Officer Name : Designation : Date : 26/02/2024 Susantha Kulawatta Director General Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources	 Chief Financial Officer/ Chief Accountant/ Director (Finance)/ Commissioner (Finance) Name : Date : 04.02.26 A. G. M. Dissanayake Chief Accountant Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Maligawatta - Colombo 10.
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3.4. Cash Flow Statement

ACA-C

Cash Flow Statement
For the period ended 31st December 2023

	Actual	
	2023 Rs.	2022 Rs.
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses	179,348,915	185,602,364
Profit	-	-
Non-Revenue Receipts	-	30,826,439
Revenue Collected for the Other Heads	32,640,661	23,511,492
Imprest Received	477,521,000	513,882,000
Recoveries from Advance	23,659,038	29,004,905
Deposit Received	225,239,292	141,474,293
Total Cash generated from Operations (a)	938,408,905	924,301,493
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Personal Emoluments & Operating Payments	665,519,090	630,527,968
Subsidies & Transfer Payments	21,230,218	62,537,096
Expenditure on Other Heads	6,531,334	73,684,427
Imprest Settlement to Treasury	76,883,701	-
Advance Payments	19,999,828	24,761,346
Deposit Payments	97,128,641	132,790,655
Total cash disbursed for operations (b)	924,301,493	924,301,493
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES (C)=(A)-(B)	51,116,092	
<u>Cash Flow from Investing Activities</u>		
Interest	-	-
Dividends	-	-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets	-	-
Recoveries from On Lending	-	-
Total Cash generated from Investment Activities (D)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Purchase or Construction of Physical Assets & Acquisition of other Investment	51,116,092	-
Total Cash disbursed for Investment Activities (E)	51,116,092	-

NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES (F)=(D)-(E)	(51,116,092)	
(G)=(C) + (F)		
<u>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</u>		
Local Borrowings	-	-
Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Grants Received	-	-
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (H)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Repayment of Local Borrowings	-	-
Repayment of Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Total Cash disbursed for Financing Activities (I)	-	-
NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES (J)=(H)-(I)	-	-
Net Movement in Cash (K) = (G) +(J)	-	-
Opening Cash Balance as at 01st January	-	-
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December	-	-

3.5 Notes to the Financial Statements

Reporting Basis

1) Reporting period

The reporting period for these Financial Statements is from 01st January to 31st December 2023.

2) Basis of Measurement

The Financial Statements have been prepared on historical cost modified by the revaluation of certain assets and accounted on a modified cash basis, unless otherwise specified.

The figures of the Financial Statements are presented in Sri Lankan rupees rounded to the nearest rupee.

3) Recognition of Revenue

Exchange and non-exchange revenues are recognized on the cash receipts during the accounting period irrespective of taxable period.

4) Recognition and Measurement of Property, Plant and Equipment (PP & E)

An item of Property, Plant and Equipment is recognized when it is probable that future economic benefit associated with the assets will flow to the entity and the cost of the assets can be reliably measured.

Property, plant and equipment are recognized at cost and revalued value is used in cases where the cost model is not applicable.

5) Property, Plant and Equipment Reserve

This revaluation reserve account is the corresponding account of PP&E.

6) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash & cash equivalents include local currency notes and coins on hand as at 31st December 2023.

3.6 Performance of the Revenue Collection

Rs. ,000

Revenue Cord	Description of the Revenue Cord	Revenue Estimate		Revenue Collected	
		Original Estimate	Revised Estimate	Amount	As a % of Final Revenue Estimate
10.03.07.06	License Fee relevant to the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources	144,830,500	186,779,500	179,170,315	28.96

3.7 Performance of Utilization of Allocation

Rs. ,000

Type of Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Utilization of allocation as a % of Final Allocation
	Original Allocation	Original Allocation		
Recurrent	785,000,000	969,836,000	898,599,417	92.65
Capital	75,000,000	720,879,795	699,597,107	97.04

3.8 Grant of allocations to this Department as an agent of the other Ministries in terms of F.R. 208

Rs. ,000

Serial No.	Ministry/ Department from which the allocations received	Purpose of the allocation	Allocations		Actual Expenditure	Utilization of allocation as a % of final allocation provided
			Original allocation	Final allocation		
151-02-03-78-2506	Ministry of Fisheries	Fixation and transport of - ----posts	751,400.00	751,400.00	960,435.00	63
		Awareness of fishers	775,750.00	775,750.00		
151-02-03-80-2202	Ministry of Fisheries	Development of infrastructure facilities in the fisheries	3,615,000.00	3,615,000.00	2,994,853.75	83

		sector				
130-1-2-0-1001 130-1-2-0-1003	Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government	Payment of salaries and allowances and other allowances for the officers of the SLICT Service during the induction training	21,505.00	21,505.00	21,505.00	100
130-01-02-0-1003			8,265	8,265	8,265	100
334-01-01-1003	Department of Multipurpose Development Task Force	Payment of salaries and allowances for employees in the Office Employees' Service	767,903.23	767903.23	767903.23	100
253-01-02-04-1502-12	Department of Pensions	According to Advanced B account, settlement of the loan balances	1,778,372.24	1,778,372.24	1,778,372.24	100

3.9 Performance of the Reporting of Non-Financial Assets

Asset Code	Code Description	Balance as per Board of Survey Report as at 31.12.2023 (Rs.)	Balance as per the Financial Position Report as at 31.12.2023 (Rs.)	Yet to be accounted	Reporting progress as%
9151	Buildings & structures	555,058,490.38	555,058,490.38	-	-
9152	Machineries	-	1,213,862,112.72	-	-
9153	land	369,266,000.00	369,266,000.00	-	-
9154	Intangible assets	-	21,920,443.02	-	-
9155	Biological assets	-	-	-	-
9160	Work in progress	-	-	-	-
9180	Leasing assets	-	-	-	-

3.10 Auditor General's Report**

When presenting in Parliament, the final Auditor General's Report to be scanned and included herein.

The final Auditor General's Report is shown at the end of this Annual Performance Report.

Chapter 04 - Performance Indicators

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

Specific Indicators	Actual output as a Percentage (%) of the expected output		
	100% - 90%	89% - 75%	74% - 50%
1. Compensation for natural disasters			√
2. Placing fish aggregation devices made by using condemned vehicles to increase fish stock in the near shore waters			√
3. Integrated programme of awareness in fisheries sector	√		
4. Granting fuel subsidy to the fisheries industry with the objective of securing employments in the artisanal (OFRP/ NTRB) fisheries sector and ensuring food security	√		
5. Installation, maintenance, removal and re-installation when necessary of vessel monitoring devices on multi-day fishing vessels engaging in fishing operations at high seas	√		
6. Training of the officers in the VMS Unit and the other divisions connected to it.	√		
7. Obtaining reports under the following information at 7.00 am, 2.00 pm and 10.00 pm	√		
8. Obtaining reports on fishing boat arrival at harbours and maps of each boat	√		
9. Obtaining reports on fishing vessels approaching harbour limit within 48km	√		
10. Obtaining reports on fishing boats involved in border crossings	√		
11. Obtaining reports on fishing vessels departing the harbour	√		
12. Obtaining BAPTO reports	√		
13. Obtaining power down reports of its interior battery of the fishing boats	√		
14. Obtaining power up reports	√		
15. Obtaining reports on silent vessels during time horizon	√		
16. Providing locations of all the updated vessels to the High Seas Unit	√		
17. Tracking down distress fishing vessels and providing relevant details to the MCS unit	√		

18. Obtaining and managing information of fishing vessels engaged in High Seas fishing operations	√		
19. Verification of information of fishing vessels engaged in High Seas fishing operations	√		
20. Inserting log reports into the database and managing of them	√		
21. Investigating into information and taking legal action	√		
22. Providing radio communication facilities between the fishing vessels and land	√		
23. Taking action to provide license and call signs for communication purposes of fishing vessels	√		
24. Substantiation of information for insurance in accidents faced by fishermen and fishing crafts	√		
25. Releasing of fishermen and fishing boats arrested in foreign countries and repatriation of them	√		
26. Taking action to rescue fishing boats adrift in international maritime boundaries	√		
27. Providing communication facilities for small and one-day fishing crafts and making the fisher community aware of the same	√		
28. Provision of daily weather reports and weather advisories on a daily basis	√		
29. Making aware of vessels as per the information provided by Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)	√		
30. Informing the relevant agencies about unauthorized foreign fishing vessels and fishermen	√		
31. Rescue of fishermen and vessels in distress	√		
32. Submission of periodical reports to international organizations such as Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), European Commission (EC) and representing Sri Lanka at the annual meetings of such organizations	√		
33. Launching a publicity program about VMS system		√	
34. Training of the DFAR Staff - Information Technology Foundation	√		
35. Acting on Security of the Server System		√	
36. Implementation of e-log application for fishermen	√		
37. Introduction of the “R” statistical language for analyzing DFAR data.		√	
38. Commencement of registration through OFRP, MTRB and NTRB vessel system	√		
39. Expansion of the use of Doxpro system.	√		
40. Training of officers for BLUE TRACKER system		√	
41. Introduction of Alert Management System.		√	
42. Establishment of a consortium called Regional Fishing Monitoring Center		√	

43. Maintenance of Vessel Monitoring System	√		
44. Inspection and Monitoring			
➤ Number of Inspections of export fish processing establishments		√	
➤ Official samplings - Institutions			√
➤ Inspection of prawn farms	√		
➤ Inspection of fish stocks imported for the purpose of re-export			√
45. Approval and Certification			
➤ Approving new fish processing establishments and updating registration of fish processing establishments	√		
➤ Issue of Health Certificates for exports	√		
➤ Issue of fish catch certificates	√		
46. Aquaculture Residue Monitoring National Programme			
➤ Inspection of prawn breeding centres	√		
➤ Field inspection of aquaculture farms	√		
➤ Taking samples and analyzing	√		
47. Implementation of training and awareness programmes			
➤ Fishermen/ Aqua culturists/ Processors			√
➤ Institutional Officers/ Quality Control Officers / relevant Field Officers	√		
48. Investigations			
➤ Investigating and taking action in cases of non-compliance with the regulation.	√		
➤ Investigation and action on notifications made by importing countries	√		
49. Registration of fishing vessels	√		
50. Issue of High Seas fishing operation licenses	√		
51. Issue of skipper licenses	√		
52. Issue of licenses for the export of ornamental fish	√		
53. Issue of licenses for the import of ornamental fish	√		
54. Issue of licenses for the re-export of ornamental fish	√		
55. Issue of permits for possession, transport and export of lobsters	√		
56. Issue of licenses for the export of lobsters	√		
57. Issue of license for catching Chanks and beche- de-mer	√		
58. Issue of permits for the possession, exhibition and transport of Chanks	√		
59. Issue of permits for the export of Chanks	√		

60. Issue of permits for catching, collection, possession and transport of beche-de-mer	√		
61. Issue of permits for import, export and re-export of beche-de-mer	√		
62. Issue of permits for collection and transport of Dead Sea shells and production of fancy goods.	√		
63. Issue of permits for the export of corals cultured on artificial substrates			√
64. Registration of fish and fishery production establishments for importation	√		
65. Registration of fish and fishery production establishments for re-export			√
66. Allocation, approval and issue of registration numbers for new vessels	√		
67. Issue of permits for export of Operculum of <i>Chicoreus Ramosus</i>			√
68. Issue of permits for possession, sale, exhibition and transport of Operculum of <i>Chicoreus Ramosus</i>		√	
69. Issue of permits for possession, sale, exhibition and transport of <i>Chicoreus Ramosus</i> flesh	√		
70. Issue of permits for export of <i>Chicoreus Ramosus</i> flesh	√		
71. Issue of permits for the transport, possession and exhibition of dead sea shells	√		
72. Issue of permits for the transport and export of sea weeds	√		
73. Issue of log books	√		
74. Number of audit programmes	√		
75. Number of audit reports assigned and finalized	√		
76. Number of Audit Management Meetings held once a quarter	√		

Chapter 05 - Performance of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

5.1 Indicate the relevant Sustainable Development Goals

Goal/ Objective	Targets	Indicators of the achievement	Progress of the Achievement to date		
			0%-49%	50%-74%	75%-100%
<p>2-Ending hunger, achieving food security and good nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture</p> <p>3-Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being of all those who are at all ages</p> <p>8-Ensuring nutritious, perfect sustainable economic growth and promoting productive and better employments for all</p> <p>12-Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>14-Conservation and economical use of oceanic, sea and marine resources for sustainable development</p>	Ensuring hygiene, quality and legality of fish products in the domestic market and the export market				√
To develop and streamline the fisheries industry using efficient and environmental	Compensation for natural disasters	%		√	
	Placing fish aggregation structures made	%		√	

friendly new techniques thereby increasing fish production and raising socio-economic status of the fisher community aiming at sustainable development goals (01,02,12 and 14)	out of condemned vehicles to increase fish stock within the near shore waters.				
	Integrated Fisheries Sector Awareness Programme	%	√		√
	Demarcation of lagoon boundaries	%			
	Granting fuel subsidy to the fisheries industry in relation to securing fishing employments artisanal fisheries (OFRP/NTRB) sector and ensuring food security	%		√	
	Implementation of the program to provide monthly subsistence allowance to NTRB vessel owners by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	%			√
	Measures taken to regulate the impact caused to the fisheries sector following the fire incident of cargo ship New X Press Pearl on 21 st May, and progress thereof.	%		√	

5.2. Describe in brief the achievements and challenges of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

In order to achieve sustainable development goals, insurance schemes for fishermen were implemented with the aim of ensuring social and economic security of fisher families. Fishermen, small and medium scale fish traders and related stakeholders were made aware of the importance of using the fish harvest in a quality and hygienic manner and the proper handling methods to be followed for that purpose.

As another special project, the second phase of the project to create artificial fish habitats in the coastal sea by using decommissioned buses with the aim of increasing the fish population in the coastal sea, was proposed to be implemented in Kankasanthurai area of Jaffna District and it was decided to carry out this project in the first quarter of 2023. Here, 47 such buses were transported to the venue. It is expected to increase the fish stock and also bring economic security to the fisher community.

With a view to securing fishing jobs and ensuring Food Security, Petrol, Kerosene and Diesel were provided to fishermen through the filling stations selected for the direct fuel requirement of the fisheries industry. Furthermore, according to the agreement received to sponsor one of the proposals submitted to the World Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with the aim of providing relief to low-income fishermen, the beneficiaries were given monthly living allowance at the rate of Rs.15,000.00 for period of three months.

Under 14 sustainable development goals, it was able to work for the conservation of marine resources through the introduction of new regulations mentioned in Chapter 02. Also, action was taken to fulfill the targets 2 and 3, by working to increase the production of fish for the protein requirement in the country. Fuel shortage and hiking of fuel prices have become a major challenge in meeting these targets in 2023.

Achievements

- Although it was not possible to carry out the duties as usual in the face of corona epidemic (COVID-19) in the country, duties were performed via online technology.
- Conducted training programs through online technology.
- The activities such as investigations and analysis were carried out by means of distance platform.
- To look after the health, safety and welfare of the staff even during a period where there is a health risk.
- To restore the fish market by restoring the disrupted fish distribution network
- Enabling to perform duties with a good relationship if such a situation arises in the future.
- In the face of this situation, it was able to continue the fisheries industry and export of fish to the foreign market.

Challenges

- Co-ordination issues arose due to non-use of technology by some institutions even though the work was carried out online.
- In view of the economic crisis in the country, Public Finance Management Circulars were issued and due to their inclusion, provisions allocated to various subjects were reduced.

06. Chapter - Human Resource Profile

6.1 Management of Cadre

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies / (Excess) **
Senior	51	32	19
Tertiary	28	18	10
Secondary	928	705	223
Primary	105	100	05

6.2 Briefly mention as to how the dearth of human resources or excess of cadre has affected the performance of the organization.

Cabinet approval has been received to make new recruitments to the vacant positions of the Department. Necessary arrangements are being made to recruit the officers in the future.

6.3 Human Resources Development

Internal Training Programmes - Local

Name of the programme	No. of Officers trained	Duration of a programme and No. of programmes	Participants	Total investment (Rs.)	Output and knowledge gained
Awareness programmes for the relevant parties about the Fisheries law in order to combat illegal activities committed by using fishing boats	106	03 days 02 programmes	Police Narcotic Bureau/ Officers of the Navy	58,394.00	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject.
Awareness programmes for the relevant parties about the fisheries law in order to control illegal activities committed by using fishing boats. (Participation as Resource Persons in lectures)	126	05 days 05- programmes	Officers of the Navy/ Coast Guard Officers	-	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject

Organizing training programmes, capacity development programmes and post graduate degree/ diploma programmes	341	1/2/3/25 days 06 months 02 years 19 programmes	Executive Officers / Staff Grade Officers/ Fisheries Officers/Quality Control officers/Development Officers/Management services Officers/ICT Assistant/Office Employees and driver	1,806,159.00	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject.
Organizing training programmes, capacity development programmes (Online and physical) (Non-expenditure of financial provision)	409	01, 02 and more than 02 days 44 programmes	Executive Officers / Staff Grade Officers/ Fisheries Officers/ Development Officer/ Legal Officer/ Fisheries Inspector / ICT Officer/ Quality Control Officer	-	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject.
Conducting of Efficiency Bar Examinations	08	02 programmes	Executive Officer in Grade II/ III/ Staff Grade Officer	225,033.43	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject.

<p>Awareness programme on Vessel Monitoring System, prevention of drugs and non-communicable diseases around fishery harbours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kalutara-Beruwala • Negombo-Pitipana • Chilaw-Wellamankara • Galle • Dikowita • Amabalangoda • Hikkaduwa 	348	07 days 07 programmes	Fishing vessel owners/ vessel skippers and crews	277,310.00	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject.
<p>Better fish handling practices for boat owners/ fishermen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahawewa • Matara • Batticaloa - Valaichanai Harbour • Jaffna - Karainagar • Trincomalee - Sandy Bay Society • Trincomalee – Karamalayu Society Building • Mullativu • Kalmunai 	540	09 days 09 programmes	Fishing vessel owners and fishermen	150,960.00	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject
<p>Officers' awareness programme at the Navy Camp Thalathuoya, Kandy</p>	43	01 days 01 programme	Officers of the Navy	33,255.50	-

Awareness programme on the new Fisheries Act	400	02 days 01 programme	-	451,374.00	-
Making the district fishermen aware of C.188 as per International Labour Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tangalle • Kalutara • Galle • Matara • Jaffna • Trincomalee • Negombo • Baticaloa • Hotel Taj Samudra Word Fisheries Day Programme	400	10 days 10 programmes	Fishermen	-	Officers were provided with the knowledge of the relevant scope of the subject.

Training and Awareness Programs conducted and financial allocations incurred during the year 2023

Vote	Total number of programs conducted	Total Expenditure (Rs.)
290-01-01-0-2401	23	2,089,586.43
290-01-01-2202	20	912,899.50

6.3.1. Contribution of the training programmes towards the performance of the institution

- It is important to direct the public officers to the Capacity Development Programmes provided by the Institution for the development of their knowledge and attitudes in relation to their official functions

- Under this, special attention has been drawn to direct the officers for training and awareness programmes
- Those programmes are conducted within the Department and also by making the officers participate in outside institutions
- These programmes enable the officers to successfully discharge the duties assigned to them in work places according to duty list creatively and in a practical manner. At the same time, these programmes will pave the way to improve relationship with the other institutions.
- Accordingly, these programmes will result in officers' capacity development and in obtaining officers' active participation and contribution towards the growth of the institution and also generating a group of officers full of knowledge and attitudes to the public service

Chapter 07 - Compliance Report

No	Applicable Requirement		Brief explanation for non-Compliance	Corrective action proposed to avoid non – compliance in future
1	The following financial statements/ accounts have been submitted on due date			
1.1	Annual financial statements	√		
1.2	Advance to Public Officers Account	√		
1.3	Trading and Manufacturing Advance Accounts (Commercial Advance Accounts)	X		
1.4	Stores Advance Accounts	X		
1.5	Special Advance Accounts	√		
1.6	Others	√		
2.	Maintenance of books and registers (F.R. 445)			
2.1	Fixed assets register has been maintained and updated in terms of Public Administration Circular 267/ 2018	√		
2.2	Personal emolument register/ personal emolument cards have been maintained and update	√		
2.3	Register of Audit Queries has been maintained and update	√		
2.4	Register of Internal Audit Reports has been maintained and update	√		
2.5	All the monthly account summaries (CIGAS) are prepared and submitted to the Treasury on the due date	√		
2.6	Register for cheques and money orders has been maintained and update	√		
2.7	Inventory register has been maintained and update	√		
2.8	Stock Register has been maintained and update	√		
2.9	Register of losses and damages has been maintained and update	√		
2.10	Register of liabilities has been maintained and update	√		

2.11	Register of Counterfoil Books (GA - N 20) has been maintained and update	√		
03	Delegation of function for Financial Control (F.R. 135)			
3.1	The financial authority has been delegated within the institute	√		
3.2	The delegation of financial authority has been communicated within the institute	√		
3.3	The authority has been delegated in such a manner so as to pass each transaction through two or more officers	√		
3.4	The controls have been adhered to by the Accountants in terms of State Accounts Circular 171/2004 dated 11.05.2014 in using the Government Payroll Software Package	√		
4	Preparation of Annual Plans			
4.1	Preparation of the annual action plan	√		
4.2	Preparation of the annual the annual procurement plan	√		
4.3	Preparation of the annual internal audit plan	√		
4.4	The annual estimate has been prepared and submitted to the National Budget Department (NBD) on the due date	√		
4.5	The annual cash flow has been prepared and submitted to the Department of Treasury Operations on the due date	√		
5	Audit Queries			
5.1	All the audit queries have been replied within the specified time by the Auditor General	√		
6	Internal Audit			
6.1	The internal audit plan has been prepared at the beginning of the year after consulting the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134 (2) DMA/ 1 - 2019	√		
6.2	All the internal audit reports have been replied within one month	√		
6.3	Copies of all the internal audit reports have been forwarded to the Department of Management Audit in terms of sub-section 40(4) of the National Audit Act	√		

	No. 19 of 2018			
6.4	All the copies of internal audit reports have been submitted to the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134(3)	√		
7	Audit and Management Committee			
7.1	Minimum 04 meetings of the Audit and Management Committee have been held during the year as per the DMA Circular I-2019	√		
8	Asset Management			
8.1	The information about purchase of assets and disposals was submitted to the comptroller General's Office in terms of paragraph 07 of the Asset Management Circular No. 01/ 2017	√		
8.2	A suitable liaison officer was appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the circular and the details of the nominated officer was sent to the Comptroller General's office in terms of paragraph 13 of the aforesaid circular	√		
8.3	The boards of survey was conducted and the relevant reports submitted to the Auditor General on the due date in terms of Public Finance Circular No. 05/ 2016	√		
8.4	The excesses and deficits that were disclosed through the board of survey and other relating recommendations, were carried out during the period as specified in the circular	√		
8.5	The disposal of condemned articles had been carried out in term of F.R. 772	√		
9	Vehicle Management			
9.1	The daily running charts and monthly summaries of vehicles in the pool had been prepared and submitted to the Auditor General on due date	√		
9.2	The condemned vehicles had been disposed of within a period of less than 6 months after condemning	X		
9.3	The vehicle logbooks had been maintained with update	√		

9.4	Taking action with regard to every vehicle accident in terms of F.R. 103, 104 and 110	√		
9.5	Fuel consumption of vehicle has been re-tested in terms of the provisions of Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of 29.12.2016	√		
9.6	The absolute ownership of the leased vehicle log books has been transferred after the lease term	X		No such vehicles are available pertaining to the year 2023.
10	Management of Bank Accounts			
10.1	The bank reconciliation statements had been prepared, got them certified and forwarded for audit	√		
10.2	Settled the dormant accounts that had existed in the year under review or since the previous year	√		
10.3	Action had been taken in term of Financial Regulations regarding balance that had been disclosed through bank reconciliation statements and for which adjustments had to be made, and those balances been settled within one month	√		
11	Utilization of Provisions			
11.1	The provision allocated had been spent without exceeding the limit	√		
11.2	The liabilities not exceeding the provision that remained at the end of the year after utilization as per the F.R. 94 (1)	√		
12	Advance to Public Officers Account			
12.1	The limits had been complied with	√		
12.2	A age analysis had been done on the loans in arrears	√		
12.3	The loan balances in arrears for over one year had been settled	√		
13	General Deposit Account			
13.1	The action had been taken as per F.R. 571 in relation to disposal of lapsed	√		

	deposits			
13.2	The control register for general deposits had been updated and maintained	√		
14	Impress Account			
14.1	The balance in the cash book at the end of the year under review remitted to TOD	√		
14.2	The ad-hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 settled within one month from the completion of the task	√		
14.3	The ad- hoc sub imprests issued not exceeding the limit approved as per F.R. 371	√		
14.4	The balance of the imprest account had been reconciled with the Treasury books monthly	√		
15	Revenue Account			
15.1	The refunds have been made from the revenue collected in compliance with the relevant regulations.	√		
15.2	The revenue collection has been directly credited to the revenue account without crediting to the deposit account	√		
15.3	Returns of arrears of revenue have been forwarded to the Auditor General in terms of F.R. 176	√		
16	Human Resources Management			
16.1	The staff had been maintained within the approved cadre	√		
16.2	Duty lists have been issued to all members of the staff in writing	√		
16.3	All reports have been submitted to the Department of Management Services in terms of the Circular No. 04/ 2017 dated 20.09.2017	√		
17	Provision of Information to the Public			
17.1	An information officer has been appointed and a proper register of information is maintained with update in terms of the Right to Information Act and Regulations	√		
17.2	Information about the institution has been provided through the website	√		

	therein. General public have been facilitated to publish appreciations/ to level allegations via this website or alternative measures			
17.3	Bi-annual and annual reports have been submitted as per Sections 08 and 10 of the RTI Act	X		Preparation of annual reports is being performed with the coordination of the Ministry.
18	Implementation of the Citizen's Charter			
18.1	A Citizen's Charter/ Citizen's Client's Charter has been formulated and implemented by the institution in term of the circular number 05/2008 and 05/2018 (1) of the Ministry of Public Administration and Management	√		
18.2	A methodology has been devised by the institution in order to monitor and assess the formulation and the implementation of Citizens Charter/ Citizens Client's Charter as per paragraph 2.3 of the Circular	√		
19	Preparation of the Human Resources Plan			
19.1	A human resources plan has been prepared in terms of the format in Annexure 02 of public administration circular no. 02/ 2018 dated 24.01.2018	X		Being prepared
19.2	A minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for each member of the staff has been ensured in the aforesaid Human Resources Plan	√		
19.3	Annual performance agreements have been signed for the entire staff based on the format in Annexure 01 of the aforesaid circular	X		Taking action to prepare for the year 2021
19.4	A Senior officer was appointed and assigned the responsibility of preparing the Human Resources Development plan, organizing capacity building	X		An officer will be appointed by formulating the plan in

	programs as per paragraph No. 6.5 of the aforesaid Circular			2024
20	Reponses to Audit paras			
20.1	The shortcomings pointed out in the audit paragraphs issued by the Auditor General for the previous years have rectified	√		