



Annual Performance Report for the Year 2023

Department of Social Services

Expenditure Head No:- 216

Department of Social Services

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Sethsiripaya - Stage II

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Chapter 01

Institutional Profile/ Executive Summary

1.1 Introduction

The Department of Social Services was established on 1st of February, 1948 in accordance with the recommendations made by the Sir Ivor Jennings-headed Social Service Commission appointed in 1944, and currently, the Department of Social Services performs its functions under the Ministry of Women, Child affairs and Social Empowerment to which the subject of social services is currently assigned. Adhering to the department's mission, various programs identified in accordance with the allocations received for the year 2023 have been implemented from the ground level to the national level in a planned manner. This report contains all information related to the activities carried out accordingly by the Department of Social Services in the year 2023.

The Department of Social Services, which operates proactively with the prime objective of providing relief to marginalized and disadvantaged communities, has provided opportunity for the same through 11 vocational training institutes operating under the department to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for them to live independently in society as useful citizens for their homes and communities and to make them active members of the national workforce.

With the objective of catering for the needs of the persons with disabilities community, the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) programme operates at divisional and district levels in a systematic manner, adopting appropriate methods. As one feature of this programme, special projects are implemented at district and divisional level. Also, the Department of Social Services has 20 officers (Social Service Officer / Elderly Development Officer) serving in 20 hospitals across the island to implement welfare programs for the persons of disabled community who are hospitalized in such hospitals.

This Department performs a specific function towards the welfare of the children with disabilities, through the Nawinna and Sithijaya Child Guidance Centers which are operated by the Department to make early intervention in the early childhood itself to minimize physical and mental problems suffered by children and provide necessary services and facilities.

A Pre-Vocational Skills Development Center has been established in Kottawa area under the Department of Social Services to develop the life skills of youths with intellectual disabilities living at the community level who can be trained through some training and prepare them for vocational training. This center recruits youth with intellectual disabilities in the age range of 14-18 years who are disabled but have the potential to train. After a skill assessment and progress review at the end of the training, this institute carries out referral to a vocational training institute or home / social integration.

Rehabilitation of drug addicts is another programmes that has been implemented by the Department of Social Services. Under this programme residential rehabilitation as well as socialization of them is carried out. In addition to this, through public awareness programs and drug prevention programs and personality development campaigns for school children at the local level, the Department makes a great contribution to save the future generations of the country from drug-addiction.

Several programmes are also implemented for the economic, social as well as cultural enhancement of the target community. Among them, "Sith Ru" National Arts Festival, Swabhimani National Awards Ceremony for Self-help organizations of Persons with Disabilities, "International White Cane Day Celebration", and "International Sign Language Day Celebration" are prominent among them and was able to successfully conducted the events subject to the circulars issued for government expenditure control and by receiving the assistance of sponsoring institutions. Also, Bakmaha Ulela of children with disabilities was held at the institutional level. It is expected through these programmes to improve abilities and skills of the community of persons with disabilities living throughout the country and enhance mutual cordiality, understanding and reliability among the vocational trainees and their parents, the staff and other members.

Further, with a view to achieving the success of all development programmes in line the mission of the Department, all field officers attached to the divisional and district secretariats, officers attached to hospitals, officers attached to the institutions under the Department and the officers of the head office are directed to local and foreign workshops, seminars and training courses for the purpose of improvement of efficiency, motivation for service and productivity of them.

It was possible to achieve high performance through all welfare programs and projects implemented during the year 2023 towards ensuring the welfare of the clients, and this report contains information related to such programmes and overall financial performance under the expenditure Head No. 216.

1.2 Vision, Mission and Objectives of the Institution

Vision

“To be the pioneer in creating a secured Sri Lanka where rights and equality of marginalized and disadvantaged communities are well protected by 2030”

Mission

“Achieving the expected outcome by means of expeditious, efficient and effective conduct of researches, formulation of policies and implementation of programmes with innovative approaches through inter-agency coordination and professional intervention towards social inclusion through upholding the rights and empowerment of the targeted community”

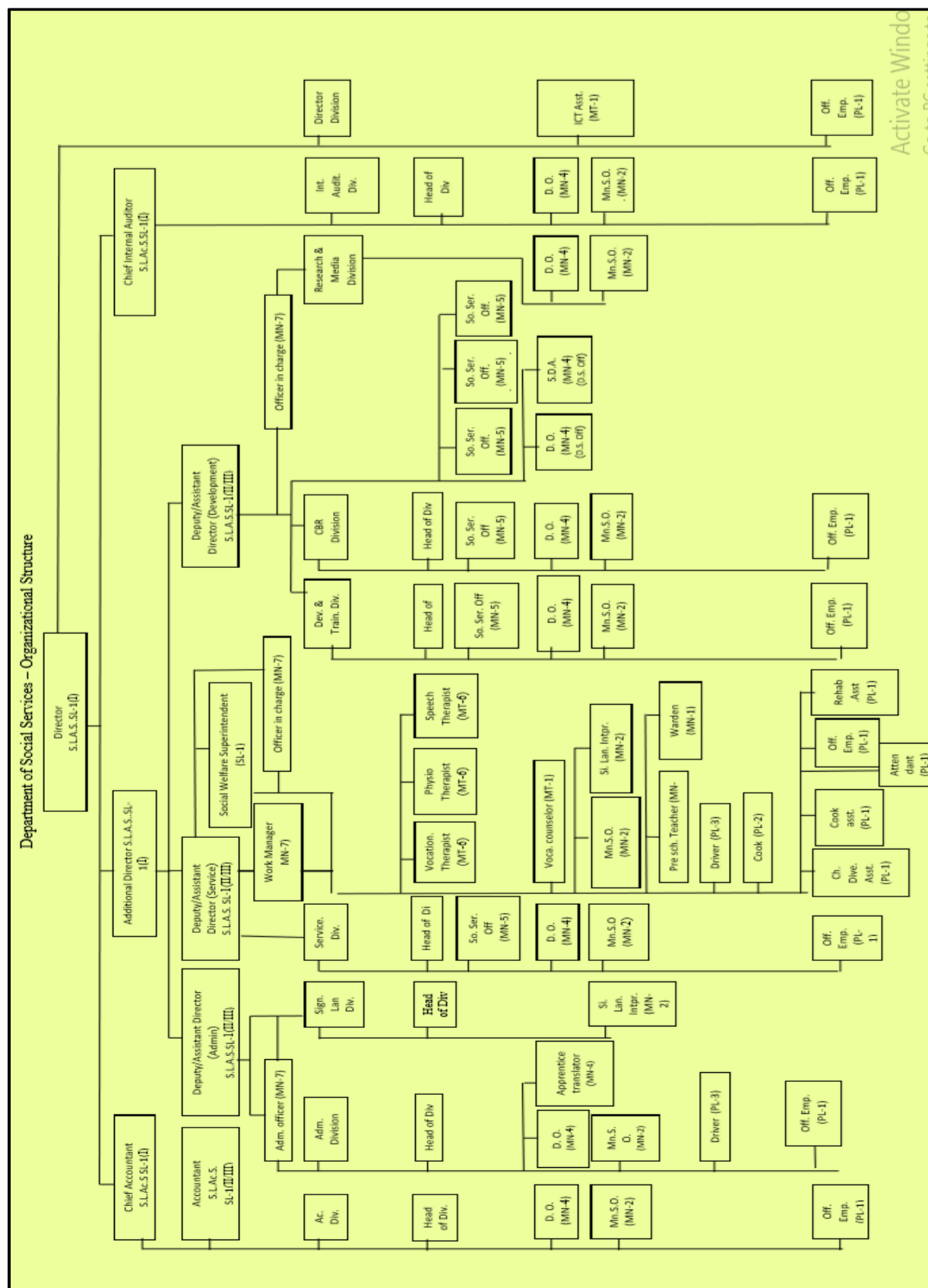
Objectives

- Empowerment of vocational activities and extra-vocational activities of the youth with disabilities aged between 16 - 35 years.
- Providing residential care for children with intellectual disabilities who have lost their guardians.
- Early intervention to mitigate the disability in children with various disabilities aged between 06 months - 16 years.
- Intervention and empowerment for minimizing various problems faced by the disabled community in their day-to-day life.
- Promotion of sign language.
- Empowering voluntary organizations that provide services to persons with disabilities.
- Residential rehabilitation of drug addicts, providing vocational training and socialization of them.
- Providing proper guidance to the people who have been affected by various social problems.
- Issuance of special identity cards for hearing impaired persons.
- Providing the necessary knowledge and training to enhance skills and attitudes of the officers attached to the Department.

1.3 Key Functions

- Providing vocational training for the disabled male and female youth, providing assistive devices for them, trade tools for self-employment and grooming them for open employments.
- Identifying and broadening the job market for persons with disabilities.
- Conducting research to identify the current needs and trends of the persons with disabilities.
- Referring children with special needs for inclusive education through early intervention.
- Issuing special identity cards for persons with impaired hearing and providing sign language interpreter services to facilitate the routine work of the persons with hearing impairment.
- Lifetime protection for mentally retarded boy children who do not have guardians.
- Providing financial assistance to voluntary organizations being operated for the welfare of persons with disabilities. .
- Providing medical assistance and eye lenses, assistance for sports, educational and cultural activities, infrastructure facilities for institutions and other welfare facilities to the persons with visual impairment who are aged below 60 years.
- Providing the required services to persons with disabilities under the Community Based Inclusive Development Programme.
- Establishing & empowering the Swashakthi Organizations (self – reliance organizations) of the persons with disabilities, at divisional level.
- Residential rehabilitation of drug addicts and raising their awareness.
- Directing the service providing officers to take part in local and foreign training programmes, seminars and workshops for the purpose of enhancing their knowledge, skills and attitudes.

1.4 Organizational Structure



1.5 Main Divisions and Institutions under the Department

Department of Social Services

Divisions of the Department of Social Services

- Administrative Division
- Sign Language Division
- Service Division
- Community Based Rehabilitation Division (CBR)
- Development Division
- Finance and Accounts Division
- Internal Audit Division
- Research and Media Division

Institutions operating under the Department

❖ Vocational Training Institutes

Ketawala Vocational Training Institute
Wattegama Vocational Training Institute
Amunukumbura Vocational Training Institute
Madampe Vocational Training Institute
Seeduwa Vocational Training Institute
Kalawana Vocational Training Institute
Thelambuyaya Vocational Training Institute
Ragama Vocational Training Institute
Batticaloa Vocational Training Institute
Killinochchi Vocational Training Institute
Tholangamuwa affiliated Vocational Training Institute

❖ Child Guidance Centres

- Navinna Child Guidance Center
- Sithijaya Child Guidance Center

❖ Kottawa pre-vocational skills development center

❖ Care centers

- Jayawiru Sevana Care Centre
- Manusat Piyasa Women's Welfare Centre

❖ Jayawiru Samadhi Rehabilitation Institution

1.5.1 Divisions of the Department

1.5.1.1 Administrative Division

The key function of the Administrative Division is providing the assistance and services required for efficient and productive fulfillment of the objectives which are expected to be achieved through the mission of the Department.

To that end, carrying out management of human and physical resources, establishment and administrative functions, implementation of policy decisions, providing supporting services for all divisions of the Department are carried out through the Administrative Division.

- General administrative functions of the Department of Social Services and all functions related to the mail.
- All functions related to personal files such as recruitment and promotion of officers, conducting efficiency bar examinations, payment of salary increments, carrying out transfers and retirement of the staff of the Department.
- Duties such as having approved new posts on service requirements, formulation of schemes of recruitment, updating staff information and preparation of Cabinet Memoranda.
- Functions related to leave, railway warrants, overtime and granting distress loans of the staff.
- Duties related to Agrahara insurance.
- Duties related to recovering house rents.
- Issuing office directives, Department circulars and instructions for the Department. Acquisition of circulars issued by other public institutions, updating and maintaining circular files, and implementing the instructions in such circulars.
- Maintenance of Attendance Register, Register for going out, Short Leave Register, Leave Register and Fingerprint Notes Summary Register.
- Duties related to leave out of the island, overseas scholarships and overseas training
- Duties related to disciplinary of the officers of the department head office and institutions.
- Transport related functions of the departmental head office and related institutions.
- Identification of officers entitled to uniform allowance and duties related to identification and payment of uniform allowance to them.

- Appointment of officers of the institutions under the Department for acting and duty covering duties and submission of such appointments for approval and related duties.
- Recruitment and appointment of officers on contract/secondment basis for the institutions under the department.
- Implementation of the provisions of the Right to Information Act No. 12 of 2016.
- Payment of electricity, telephone, internet, security service, cleaning service, newspaper expenses bills of the Department and work related to repair of machines and equipment.

1.5.1.2 Sign Language Division

Sign Language is the communication means that facilitates provision of educational, social, cultural services as well as medical, health and legal facilities to the hearing-impaired and partially hearing-impaired persons. The Cabinet of Ministers has taken a decision in principal, on 05.09.2010, to recognize this sign language as a standard language.

Currently 06 sign language officers who are attached to the Department are in service to provide sign language interpretation service, and three of them serve at vocational training institutions and the other three officers serve at the Sign Language Division of the headquarters.

The Division provides necessary assistance for the public institutions with the communication with hearing-impaired persons (Eg. Police stations, courts, hospitals, other government institutions) and provides the service of the sign language interpreters for the evening main news telecast at 12 noon and 6.55 p.m. of the Rupavahini national television channel, and for 7.00 p.m. news telecast of the Sirasa television channel.

1.5.1.3 Community Based Rehabilitation Division (CBR)

The Department of Social Services has been delivering a unique service in the role of rehabilitation and socialization of people with disabilities through the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) National Program for Disabled Persons since 1993. Through this program rehabilitation, socialization and service delivery to people with disabilities, are provided especially at the home level. The primary task of this is to identify disabled persons and prepare rehabilitation plans for each disabled person by the social service officer. There is a system in place from the village level to the national level for the provision of services and opportunities for persons with disabilities in rehabilitation.

The role of the Rural Rehabilitation Committee is to identify disabled people, keep records, prepare rehabilitation plans according to needs, train a family member, and supervise. There, problems that cannot be solved at the village level are presented to the regional steering committee and solutions are obtained. The problems that cannot be solved at the regional level are referred to the District Steering Committee and necessary solutions and services are provided. In carrying out the same, by identifying the obstacles to the implementation of the rehabilitation process at the district and local level, policies, rules and regulations are formulated for the same, and thereby to abide by the international charters that have been signed to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, in addition,

- Provision of direct funds to the persons with disabilities and carrying out follow-up activities. (providing commode, water, electricity and accessibility facilities)
- Establishment and empowerment of self-help organizations of the persons with disabilities at divisional level, and appreciation of self-help organizations and individuals through conducting an annual festival titled “Swabhimanee”
- Provision of facilities for access to services, in collaboration with the government and non-governmental organizations.
- Provision of infrastructure facilities for the skill development centers being operated for the benefit of the children with disabilities.
- Conducting district progress review meetings.
- Conducting programmes for updating of knowledge of the Social Service Officers who carry out field duties at divisional and district level in coordination with the CBR programme.

1.5.1.4 Service Division

The Services Division operates with the objective of empowering persons with disabilities across Sri Lanka under the auspices of the Government and safeguarding their rights to live as dignified citizens, and performs the following functions towards achieving the said objective :

- Empowerment of the youth with disabilities, aged between 16-35 years through vocational training and placing them in employment.
- Development of pre-vocational skills of children with disabilities for referral to vocational training.

- Directing to employment (self-employment and in institutions) the trainees who have completed vocational training and carrying out follow-up on the said process.
- Provision of services through child guidance centers, regarding the development of children with disabilities from pre-school education to school education.
- Provision of services related to the rehabilitation and socialization of drug-addicts through the Drug Addicts Rehabilitation Center with a view to preventing the use of drugs.
- Provision of stipends for service appreciation and motivation of teachers in special education units/non-government pre-schools operating for children with disabilities.
- Provision of necessary services for the care of intellectually handicapped persons through the Care Center for the Mentally Handicapped males without parents/guardians.
- State support for the social mission carried out by the voluntary organizations operating for the disabled community by providing maintenance assistance.

1.5.1.5 Development Division

The Development Division performs a number of functions directly related to the overall operation of the Department of Social Services. The key functions of the division are preparation of the department's plans (strategic plan, action plan), preparation of progress reports, as well as training, knowledge updating, productivity development, etc., taking place concurrently with the capacity development of the officers.

Further, the Division plays a vital role relating to organization, coordination and conducting of national events, carrying out various projects and programmes, updating of information, identifying current social trends and utilizing them. In addition, the following functions related the operation of the Department also carried out by the Division in line with the objectives of the Department.

- Coordination and conducting of the national events (National Sports Festival, Sith Ru National Arts Performance, Bakmaha Ulela) annually conducted by the Department.
- Preparation of the annual action plan, performance report and progress reports.
- Organizing and conducting training programmes for the officers attached to the Department.
- Carrying out all coordination activities related to the officers involved in welfare of the hospitalized patients.

- Duties related to making necessary recommendations for granting duty relief to foreign donations received by voluntary organizations and social service organizations (charities registered under the Inland Revenue Act or non-profit organizations registered under the Registration of Voluntary Social Service Organizations Act).
- Work related to the programs carried out jointly by non-governmental organizations and the Department of Social Services.
- Taking over the lands belonging to the department and settling the existing problems and maintaining schedules related to it.
- Coordination of Provincial Social Services Departments.
- Issuance of ID cards to verify the identity of hearing impaired persons.
- Implementation of productivity programs.

1.5.1.6 Finance and Accounts Division

The main functions carried out by the Accounts Division are obtaining annual allocations for operations and development programmes of the Department of Social Services, management of allocations, making payments as well as putting into practice the powers vested in the Chief Accounting Officer through the Financial Regulations, by maintaining state accounts in a transparent manner, observing financial discipline.

Such functions are performed under the guidance, management, supervision and monitoring by the Chief Accountant, and the following activities are also carried out as per the powers granted through Financial Regulations, special provisions and government circulars.

- Preparation of the overall annual budget of the Department of Social Services and submission of the same to the Department of National Budget before the due date.
- Keeping accounts of all transactions in an updated and correct manner, and presenting of accounts.
- Assisting the higher management with formulation of financial policies and strengthening of the financial management.
- Monitoring of all receipts and expenses and control of expenditure.
- Presenting proposals to the higher management on expenditure review and management.
- Submission of final accounts to the General Treasury and the Auditor General's Department and carrying out coordination activities.

- Assisting with implementation of the procurement process in transparent manner in all purchases.
- Updating and management of the state assets existing under the Department of Social Services.

1.5.1.7 Internal Audit Division

In order to ensure that the responsibility of the Chief Accounting Officer is fulfilled as stated in Section 38 of the National Audit Act, this Division carries out its duties as per the appointment made in terms of Section 40 of the said Act and the powers vested in the Internal Audit Division in terms of Financial Regulations 133 and 134 and in accordance with the circulars of the Department of Management Audit.

1.5.1.8 Research and Media Division

The main objective of establishing this division is to identify the problems and needs of the clients served by the Department of Social Services and provide more effective service to them and in order to achieve that objective, the following roles are performed :

- Conducting research on social issues and problems that arise with social transformations taking place in the socio-economic environment.
- Conducting research to measure the quality and effectiveness of services provided by the Department of Social Services.
- Training of officials to conduct research nationally and thereby to conduct research throughout the island and prepare research reports.
- Paying attention to the Acts and ordinances related to the Department of Social Services and carrying out the basic work required for the amendment of them to be line with the modern needs.
- Preparation of press releases related to various programs and national events implemented by the Department of Social Services and coordinating activities related to media coverage.
- Creating audio, visual and written media promotional tools to promote the role of the Department of Social Services, educate and attract target clients.

1.5.2 Institutions operating under the Department

1.5.2.1 Vocational Training Institutes

One of the main roles of the Department of Social Services is to provide vocational training to help young people with disabilities develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to live independently in their homes and communities as productive citizens. Its aim is to secure the rights of young people with disabilities and make them active members of the national workforce by providing opportunities to stand up in the society with dignity. To meet the said objective, under the Department of Social Services, 08 Vocational Training Institutes and 01 Affiliated Vocational Training Institutes (in Sinhala language medium) are operating in the districts of Gampaha, Kandy, Ratnapura, Hambantota, Puttalam, Kegalle, and 02 Vocational Training Institutes in Tamil language medium are operating in Batticaloa and Kilinochchi districts.

Young people between the ages of 16 and 35, suffering from any kind of disability are provided with the opportunity to have vocational training. This training consists of a training period of one or two years and the trainees are provided with free residential facilities, uniforms, necessary welfare materials, trainee allowance as well as a set of tools and a certificate recognized by the government at the end of the successful vocational training. In addition to the vocational training, training is provided under 21 courses with the aim of socializing trainees through training in sign language training, leadership training as well as sports, arts and daily life skills.

Courses conducted by Vocational Training Institutes

Course	Capacity	130	50	100	100	100	24	30	40	50	20	50
	Trainees enrolled	F/M	Male	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M	Male	F/M	F/M	F/M	F/M
	Course duration	Seeduwa	Ketawala	Wattegama	Thelambuyaya	Amunukumbura	Ragama *	Kalawana	Madampe	Batticaloa	Tholangamuwa	Killinochchi
1. Television and related equipment repair technology	02 years											
2. Carpentry	02 years											
3. Tailoring	02 years											
4. Information Technology	02 years											
5. Three wheeler and Motorcycle Mechanics	02 years											
6. Motor mechanics	02 years											
7. Horticultural Agriculture	02 years											
8. Tailoring	01 year											
9. Massage therapy	01 year											
10. Domestic Electrical Circuitry	02 years											
11. Auto painting	02 years											
12. Welding	02 years											
13. Cement-based products	02 years											
14. Sewing machine operation (Factory-related – Juki)	01 year											
15. Handicraft (cane and coir)	02 years											
16. Handicraft (coconut based)	01 year											
17. Handicraft (ornaments)	01 year											
18. Batik Design	01 year											
19. Bakery Products/ Food Technology	01 year											
20. Beauty Culture	01 year											
21. Footwear and Leather Craft	01 year											

* Course duration at Ragama Vocational Training Institute may vary from 06 months to 01 year.

1.5.2.2 Jayaviru Sevana Care Home

Jayaviru Sevana institute, established on 31st July 2001 to provide care to mentally ill boy children who have lost parental care, is located at North Ambalanwatta area of Puwakpitiya Divisional Secretariat Division of Colombo District of Western Province.

This institute operates with the mission of making the community with intellectual impairment partners of the national development by engaging them in the production process through extending love and affection to them and by giving them the opportunity to develop their talents and skills. These children, who are leading a residential life for the rest of their lives, are not isolated and lovingly cared for and directed to daily activities through this institute. During the care period, free food and medical care, including accommodation, are provided to them.

1.5.2.3 Manusath Piyasa Batugammana Rienzi Alagiyawanna Women's Welfare Centre

The Department of Social Services has started Manusath Piyasa Batugammana Rienzi Alagiyawanna Women's Care center in Balangoda Divisional Secretariat as the first women's care center on 01.02.2023. This center has been established with the aim of providing care to disabled women between the ages of 16-59 all over the island who have lost their parents and guardians. During the period of care, food and medical facilities including residential facilities are also provided free of charge.

1.5.2.4 Jayaviru Samadhi Rehabilitation Institute

In Sri Lanka, there is a significant increase in the number of people addicted to toxic drugs, which has become a severe social problem. Another task of the Department of Social Services is to produce this group as productive persons who contribute to the development of the society and the country.

Accordingly, this institution was established on 31.07.2007 as a follow-up project of the Navodaya Project implemented by the Department of Social Services to rehabilitate, socialize and improve the vocational abilities of drug addicts and is located in Puwakpitiya North Ambalanwatta in the Seethawaka Divisional Secretariat Division in the Colombo District of the Western Province.

In appreciation of the quality of service rendered by Jayaviru Samadhi Home, which has been operating as a Private Rehabilitation Center for many years, recommendations have been made by the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board to designate the institute as a registered Rehabilitation Center under Section 2 of the Drug Dependent Persons (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act No. 54 of 2007 for regulating the activities of drug addiction treatments and rehabilitation centers.

Can refer nearly 70 clients can be referred to rehabilitation at a time, who are referred through court orders, voluntary referrals, Divisional Secretariats and hospitals and the rehabilitation period is 03 months, 06 months and up to 01 year. The rehabilitation period of clients referred on court orders is determined according to the court order.

Residential rehabilitation of drug addicts is carried out by this institute, observing the vision of contributing the drug-addicted youth to national development by reducing the tendency towards drugs, giving them an understanding of the true vision of life and the true happiness of life, and improving their abilities.

Functions

- I. Rehabilitation, integration into society and enhancement of vocational skills of drug addicts.
- II. Making intervention in minimizing the problems caused by drug addiction in the family environment of the drug addicts.
- III. Reviving their past relationships with the relevant parties in order to restore their employment and education that lapsed due to addiction to drugs.
- IV. Conducting awareness programmes on drugs to raise awareness among the vulnerable groups.

1.5.2.5 Child Guidance Centers

Child guidance programme is implemented under 02 centers operating under the Department of Social Services with the objective of making early intervention and providing necessary guidance for the development of a child in case of any suspicion that there is any abnormality or delay in the development of a child from his/her birth.

The primary task carried out in meeting the needs of the parents who come to the institution in the hope of obtaining accurate guidance is to obtain the child's life information, register the child, identify the child's needs and ensure that an accurate assessment of developmental status of the child is made. After that, direct and indirect intervention related to the services required for the child's development is carried out. Apart from this, counseling services are provided to improve the mental condition of parents and family members. Also, the children who are provided with services are referred to special schools, special education units and normal schools after they are well developed.

- **Nawinna Child Guidance Centre**

This institution which is established in the year 2003 in Navainna, Pathiragoda in the Maharagama Divisional Secretariat in the Colombo District of the Western Province, provides services to nearly 100 children between the ages of 06 months and 16 years.

- **Sithijaya Child Guidance Centre**

This institution was established on 25th January 2022 at Oluwila Road, Malpettawa in the Ambalantota Divisional Secretariat Division of the Hambantota District. During the past year, this institution has provided guidance to 42 children between the ages of 06 months to 16 years.

1.5.2.6 Pre-Vocational Skill Development Centre, Kottawa

Kottawa Skill Development Center, located in the Maharagama Divisional Secretariat Division of the Colombo District, was established with the aim of preparing the youth between the ages of 14-30 for future vocational training. Development of skills required for vocational training of young people with disabilities who are not qualified for vocational training and children with disabilities who have received basic training from child guidance centers is carried out through this institute. It is expected to develop the skills of nearly 50 children with disabilities annually and thereby direct them to vocational training.

1.6 Funds operating under the Department

1.6.1 Visually Handclapped Trust Fund

It is with the declaration of 1981 the International Year of the Disabled that new attitudes towards the persons with disabilities started to take shape. In parallel with the same, policy decisions were taken at the national level with the support of the state to safeguard the rights of the community of persons with disabilities and to empower them. In line with the same the parliament of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka adopted an Act by the title of Rehabilitation of the Visually Handclapped Trust Fund Act No. 09 of 1992 and published the same through a gazette notification, for establishment of a fund by the name of Visually Handicapped Trust Fund.

The Fund is currently operated at the headquarters of the Department of Social Services, through a committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary to the ministry handling the subject of social services, implementing various services in line with the provisions of this Act for the benefit of the persons with disabilities living in Sri Lanka,

Activities

- I. Providing assistance for sports activities of the visually impaired persons and the organizations for them.
- II. Vocational training.
- III. Support for educational and cultural activities.
 - Providing scholarship for visually impaired students and non-visually impaired school children of visually impaired parents.
 - Providing scholarships for visually impaired university students.
 - Contributing to Braille Media “Kalaya (Time) magazine for visually impaired readers.
- IV. Providing Rehabilitation Assistance
 - Psychological empowerment and socialization program for the later visually impaired persons.
 - Audio Book Program - Converting plain text books into audio books to safeguard the reading rights of visually impaired people.
 - Providing assistance to obtain electricity and drinking water for the homes of the visually impaired.
 - Providing assistance appropriately as per the requests made by visually impaired persons or visually impaired persons' organizations.
- V. Providing assistance for contact lenses and eye treatments.
- VI. Holding the National Program on International White Cane Day.

1.7 Projects under Foreign Technical Aid

- Name of the project : Project for Promoting Employment Support of Persons with Disabilities in Sri Lanka (ESPD)
- Contributing Agency :Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Only the technical knowledge is provided
- Project Duration: - 4 years (November 2021 - November 2025)

1.8 Programs sponsored by Non-Governmental Organizations

Serial No.	Institution	Programme/activity	Sponsorship
01	ChildFund Organization	Guidelines for Trainee Development in Vocational Training Institutes	Sponsorship for printing.
		Capacity Development Training Program - Nillamba Samurdhi Training Centre	Provision of food, accommodation and resource person allowances for 60 officers.
		Training of Trainers Workshop (TOT) - Amunukumbura Vocational Training Centre	Provision of food and refreshments and resource person allowances for 35 officers.
		Social Emotional Learning Awareness Workshop - Sri Lanka Foundation Institute	Provision of food, accommodation and resource person allowances for 40 officers.
		Provision of allowances for vocational instructors recruited on voluntary basis in Kilinochchi and Thelambuyaya Vocational Training Institutes.	Provision of 40,000.00 each for 5 professional instructors.
02	UN Women Organization	Provision of necessary food items for Manusath Piyasa Rienzie Alagiyawanna Care Center for Women with Disabilities.	Provision of necessary food items for 02 months

Chapter 02

Progress and Future Outlook

Programmes of the Department of Social Services and Progress of the Projects.

2.1. Welfare and Development Program for the Persons with Disabilities

The main program implemented by the Department of Social Services is the Welfare and Development Program for the persons with disabilities. Several programs, projects and sub-projects are implemented from the regional level to the national level to realize the objectives of this programme, in line with the mission of the Department. The programmes are as follows:

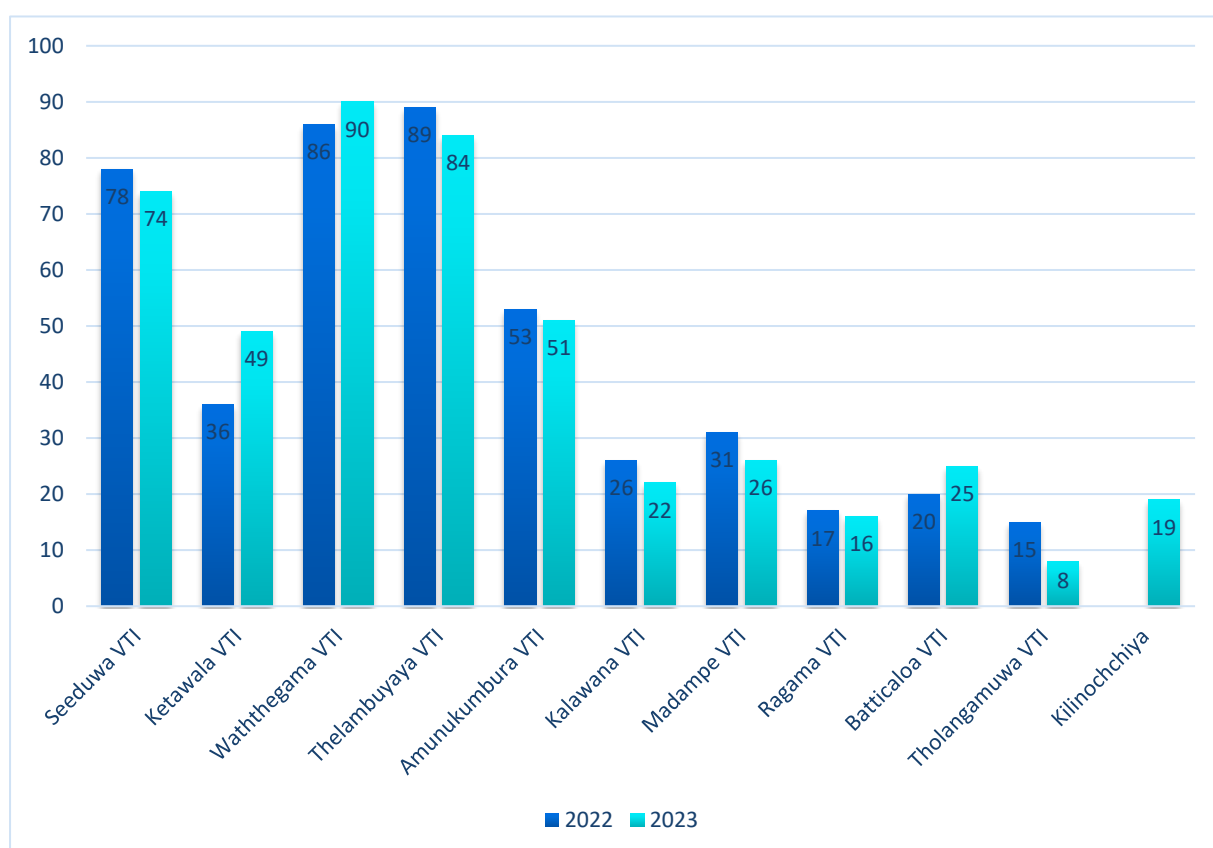
- ❖ Rehabilitation of the male and the female youth with disabilities, providing them with vocational training and integration of them in to society
- ❖ Detection of disabilities at the early stage of childhood and making the relevant remedial intervention and improvement.
- ❖ Pre-Vocational Skill Development of the youth with disabilities
- ❖ Providing care for the intellectually retarded boy children who have no parents and guardians.
- ❖ Providing care for women with disabilities who have lost their parents, guardians.
- ❖ Provision of Trainee Allowance, Participation Allowance, Teacher Allowance, Entertainment Allowance, Transport Allowance, Residential Allowance and Maintenance Allowance for 26 Voluntary Organizations for Persons with Disabilities.
- ❖ National Program for Community Based Rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities.
- ❖ Rehabilitation of visually impaired community through Visually Impaired Rehabilitation Trust Fund.
- ❖ Sports and arts skills development program for children with disabilities.

2.1.1 Rehabilitation of the Male and the Female Youth with Disabilities, through providing them with Vocational Training and Integration of them in to Society

One of the main projects implemented by the Department of Social Services is the provision of vocational training for youth with disabilities. Vocational training is provided to over 500 disabled youth annually through 11 Vocational Training Institutes island wide.

The enrollment of new trainees for the academic year 2023 and the courses were started on January 09, 2023, and the one-year courses related to that academic year were completed on December 22, 2023.

Number of Trainees in 2023 by Vocational Training Centers



464 trainees were recruited for the year 2023, and out of those trainees, the number of trainees who completed the professional training was 307 trainees.

2.1.2 Child Guidance Programme

There are 02 Child Guidance Centers operated by the Department under the Child Guidance Programme.

Nearly 100 children with disabilities receive services from the Navinna Children's Guidance Center which is the first established Colombo District Child Guidance Center. In the year 2023, the total number of beneficiaries who received service from the institutions was about 104, of which 52 were registered as new service beneficiaries.

Nawinna Child Guidance Centre

Total number of new clients registered in the year 2023 -52 (39 males / 13 females)

Age range (Yrs.)	Nature of disability									Total no. of children
	Autism	Cerebral Palsy	Down syndrome	Slow growth	Speech impairments	Hyper active	Hearing	Mentally rerated	Others	
0 – 03	04	-	05	02	04	-	-	-	-	15
03 – 05	08	02	01	01	03	-	-	-	01	16
05 - 15	09	04	02	03	01	-	-	-	01	20
15 - 18	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
Over 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	21	06	08	07	08	-	-	-	02	52

Nawinna Child Guidance Centre

Total number of clients in the year 2023 -104(74 males / 30 females)

Age range (Yrs.)	Nature of disability									Total no. of children
	Autism	Cerebral Palsy	Down syndrome	Slow growth	Speech impairments	Hyper active	Hearing impairments	Mentally rerated	Others	
0 - 03	04	-	01	01	02	-	-	-	-	08
03 - 05	09	-	06	03	03	-	-	-	01	22
05 - 15	18	08	13	10	04	03	01	-	04	61
15 - 18	01	04	02	02	-	-	-	01	-	10
Over 18	-	02	-	-	-	-	-	01	-	03
Total	32	14	22	16	09	03	01	02	05	104

Nawinna Child Guidance Centre
Details of services provided by each division

Service delivered	No. of Children	No. of times of service delivery
Physio Therapy Service	104	101
Speech Therapy Services		376
Vocational Therapy services		87
Educational Services		4299
Training in Daily Activities		645
Counselling Services		179

Under the Child Guidance Program, Hambantota District Child Guidance Center was established on January 25, 2022 as a model of Navainna Child Guidance Center under the name of "Sithijaya", and the institution has provided services to about 59 children with disabilities in the year 2023. The necessary guidance has been provided to direct 07 of these service beneficiary children to normal schools and 03 to pre-schools.

Also, among the services provided by the institute, speech therapy service and Ayurvedic yoga training have been carried out. In addition, making arrangements to provide uninterrupted service from the year 2024 by taking action to have the children examined by the therapists relating to the services of speech therapy, vocational therapy and physical therapy and sort them into the services required for provision of the services accordingly.

Sithijaya Child Guidance Centre
Number of registered new clients in 2023 - 45

Age range (Yrs.)	Disability	Total No. of Children
03-16	Intellectual Impairments	16
02-14	Multiple Disabilities	06
03-17	Autism	13
03-13	Hearing and Speech Disabilities	08
15	Mental Disorders	02
Total		45

Sithijaya Child Guidance Centre

Total number of clients in the year 2023 – 59 (Male 43/Female 16)

Age range (Yrs.)	Disability	Total No. of Children
03-16	Intellectual Impairments	24
02-14	Multiple Disabilities	07
03-17	Autism	16
03-13	Hearing and Speech Disabilities	10
15	Mental Disorders	02
Total		59

2.1.3 Pre-Vocational Skill Development Programme

Development of basic skills necessary for youth with disabilities in the age group of 14-30 years to study vocational training and necessary preparation for admission to vocational training institutes is carried out by the Kottawa Pre-Vocational Skill Development Programme. In the year 2023, 44 children with disabilities have been provided with necessary services.

Kottawa Pre-Vocational Skill Development Centre

Total number of clients served in the year 2023 – 44

Age range (Yrs.)	Nature of disability									Total No. of Children
	Autism	Down syndrome	Mental impairments	Hyper active	Nerve disorders	Cerebral stroke	Multiple disorders	Speech and Hearing Disorders	Others	
14-20	03	06	12	01	03	01	02	-	03	31
21-25	01	01	01	-	-	02		01	01	07
26-30	-	02	01	-	-	-	-	-	-	03
Over 30	-	01	02	-	-	-	-	-	-	03
Total	04	10	16	01	03	03	02	01	04	44

Kottawa Pre-Vocational Skill Development Centre
Information about services provided

Serial number	Activity	Sub activities
01	Development of self-help skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eating, dressing, cooking, using toilets, personal hygiene, behavior in a public environment
02	Environmental activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture (Plant Cultivation), Shramadaana, Environmental Beautification, Floriculture
03	Thematic concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct spelling, pronunciation of words, understanding of various concepts, understanding of numbers
04	Theme based activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design activities related to the theme • Hands-on activities to improve gross and fine mobility skills
05	Social skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of equality, development of unity, understanding of traffic
06	Personality development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership skills, sportsmanship development, physical fitness
07	Development of aesthetic skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing, playing, dancing, drawing
08	Spiritual development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs of meditation and observing sil
09	Development of vocational training skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making wicks, carpets, flower pot decoration

2.1.4 Program for Providing Financial Assistance for Voluntary Organizations

The Department of Social Services provides grants to organizations (Vocational Training Institutes, Skills Development Centers, and Special Units) selected from voluntary organizations that operate island wide providing services to persons with disabilities. Depending on the nature, need and request of the institution, the grants are given for payment of the allowances such as trainee allowances, maintenance allowances, participation allowances, teacher allowances, hospitality allowances, transport allowances and various other allowances. In the year 2023, there were 26 voluntary organizations which were provided with grants for one or more of the above allowances and the details of the grants given to each of them are given below.

Number of grants made to voluntary organizations

Serial No.	Voluntary organization	No. of allowances provided					
		Attendance allowances (Rs.100 - රු.150)	Teacher allowances (Rs. 10,000/-)	Entertainment allowances (Rs.50/- ,රු.75/-)	Transport allowance (Rs.25/-)	Residential allowance (Rs.75/-)	Maintenance allowance
01	Skills Development Center - Malamulla		02				25
02	Child Guidance Center - Gettuwana	17	02	17			
03	Little Flower Special Child Development Center - Badalkumbura	18	02				
04	Little Flower Special Child Development Center - Ibbagamuwa	15	01	15			
05	Child Skills Development Center, Akmeemana		01				
06	Mentally retarded Women's Rehabilitation Center - Rotuwa					32	
07	“Sahanaya” National Mental Health Council - Colombo			12	12		
08	Ritigahayaya Maha Vidyalaya, Katuwana		02				
09	Arunella Special School - Weeraketiya	21	02				
10	Skills Development Center - Rajanganaya	25	02				
11	Senehasa Child Skills Development Center, Sooriyawewa		01				
12	Child Skills Development Center, Polpithigama		02	15			
13	“Ape Daruwo” Skills Development Center, Kuruwita		02				
14	Special Education Unit, Deltota		02				
15	Sahana Sevana, Seruwila		02				
16	Mental Health Unit, Haputale		02				
17	Pathum Uyana Center, Moratuwa		02				
18	Voltrim Skill Development Center Nuwara Eliya		03				
19	Bentara Sri Gunaratne Nahimi Memorial Skill Development Center – Kesbewa		02				
20	Diriya Daru Rehabilitation and Skill Development Center -Mallawapitiya		01				
21	Child Guidance Center - Kuliapitiya West		01				
22	Ratthota Saviya Skill Development Center - Kaikawala	23	01	23			
23	Tambuttegama Diriya Kusalatha Development Center - Tambuttegama		01		27		
24	National Council for the Deaf, Rajagiriya						70
25	Swarnadama Foundation Nattandiya						70
26	Disabled Persons Development Foundation - Bandarawela	25					25
	Total	144	36	82	39	32	190

2.1.5 Programme for Providing Care for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities who have no Parents and Guardians

Another major program implemented by the Department of Social Services is the care of boy children with intellectual disabilities of various ages who have lost their parents and guardians. Through the Puwakpitiya "Jayaviru Sewana" institute which is operating under the Department for this purpose, lifelong care is provided to more than 75 service recipients.

At the beginning of the year 2023, the institution was operating providing care for 75 clients, and 11 new clients were added in the months of March, June, July, September and December., by the end of the year the total number of service recipients was around 74. Accordingly, in the year 2023, as a whole, a total of 75 beneficiaries have been provided with care by providing food, shelter, medical and sanitary facilities. Under the Open School Program, various activities have been carried out for the development of mobility capacity and literacy of children with mental and other disabilities who are receiving care at these institutions.

81% of clients receiving care in 2023 were mentally impaired, and 9% were clients with other disabilities.

According to the age level, most of the people who received care in the institution are between 30-50 years of age. It is numerically 37 persons. There are 14 young people between the ages of 18-30, and 21 people over the age of 51. The least number of clients are under 18 years of age, who are numerically 04 persons.

Puwakpitiya "Jayaviru Sewana" Institute Information about services provided

Serial No.	Activities	Sub activities
01	Physical Development	- Medical clinics (depending on disability and age levels), Sports programs
02	Mental Development	- Religious programs (charity activities, sermons), Entertainment programs

2.1.6 Programme for Providing Care for Women with Disabilities who have no Parents and Guardians

The first women's care center under the Department of Social Services has been established under the name Manusath Piyasa Batugammana Rienzi Alagiyawanna Women's care center in the Balangoda Divisional Secretariat. This center has been established with the aim of providing care to disabled women between the ages of 16-59 who have lost their parents and guardians all over the island. The center currently provides care for 20 service recipients.

According to the age level, the majority of the women who receive care at the institution are the young people between the ages of 16-30. It is 10 numerically. The minimum number of clients is over 50 years old, which is 02 persons. Also, most of the clients are women with mental impairments.

Batugammana Rienzi Alagiyawanna Women's Care Center Information about the services provided

Serial No.	Activities	Sub activities
01	Physical Development	- Medical clinics, Physical exercises (according to disability and age levels)
02	Mental Development	- Religious programs (Charity activities, Pirith chantings, sermons)
03	Skill Development	- Handicrafts (wool-based, cards, fabric painting, wall decorations, gardening)

In addition, the construction of an auditorium for the center with the help of donors.

2.1.7 Promotion of Sign Language

Another project implemented by the Department of Social Services under the Welfare and Development Program of Persons with Disabilities is providing services to the hearing impaired. Programs have been implemented with the aim of providing and promoting more effective service to the hearing and speech impaired community by facilitating their communication.

The International Sign Language Day celebration for the deaf/hearing- impaired community in Sri Lanka was held on 23 September 2023 at the Setshiripaya Main Auditorium. The following took place at the event :

- Starting a sign language interpreters' pool with the aim of expanding the sign language interpretation service for deaf people throughout the island.
- Publish a code of principles and ethics for sign language interpreters
- Launching a sign language related You Tube channel
- Unveiling of an International flag for the deaf.

**Physical and Financial Progress of the Welfare and Development Program for
Persons with Disabilities
Expenditure Head 216-02-03-1-1501 (as at 31/12/2023)**

Seria I No.	Activity and Physical Progress	Expenditure Rs.
01.	Providing services for vocational training, skill development centers and child guidance centers I. Raw materials II. Other welfare expenses III. Counseling training allowances IV. Educational tours	11,410,000.00
02.	Providing maintenance and rehabilitation assistance to the voluntary organizations which are financially sponsored under the Department. I. Deaf Service Board II. Swarnadama Foundation III. Skills Development Center - Malamulla	150,000.00
03.	Providing teacher allowances to teachers in voluntary organizations, pre-schools, child guidance centres, skill development centers and vocational training institutes providing services to children with disabilities. No . of teachers 47	6,980,000.00
04.	Vocational Training Institute Uniforms – T-shirt, Bottoms	5,680,000.00
05.	Providing toolkits to trainees who have completed vocational training	500,000.00
06	Providing services for Nawinna Child Guidance Centre	530,000.00
07	Capacity Development Program (Education of Pre-school Teachers - 15 teachers)	50,000.00
08	Trainee Allowances	2,000,000.00
Total Expenditure		27,300,000.00
Allocation Made		28,200,000.00

Physical and Financial Progress of Welfare Program for Persons with Disabilities
Expenditure Head 216-02-03-13 – 1501 (as at 31/12/2023)

Serial No.	Activity and Physical Progress	Allocation Rs.	Expenditure Rs.
01.	Payment of trainee allowance for 464 Trainees with Disabilities in Vocational Training Institutes run under the Department, and for Children in Child Guidance Centers (Rs. 150/- per child)	25,000,000.00	24,450,000.00
02.	Payment of trainee allowances to 249 service recipients of the Voluntary Institutions financially sponsored by the Department		

Financial Progress of the Welfare Programme for the Persons with Disabilities
Vote No. 216-02-03 – 1203 (as at 31.12.2023)

Serial No.	Activity	Allocation Rs.	Expenditure Rs.
01	Payment for food obtained for vocational training institutes and uniform allowances for wardens and caregivers	59,220,000.00	59,175,000.00

2.1.8 Cultural and Artistic Skills Development Project for the Children with Disabilities

The Department of Social Services, while empowering the vocational skills of the children with disabilities, plays a leading role in fostering them to become healthy and dynamic persons who have a sense of aesthetic taste. For this purpose, the Department has created the arena that helps identify the sports and artistic skills of all the youths with disabilities in the country. Sports and arts festival have been conducted every year allowing the representation of all young persons with disabilities. The winning individuals and the teams of the district level competitions are produced to the national level competitions and then the winners are awarded prizes and certificates.

In the year 2023, the Bakmaha festival for children with disabilities was held at the level of child guidance centers and vocational training institutes.

❖ The National Award Ceremony for Appreciating Swabhimani Self-help Organizations

In order to encourage people with disabilities under the community based inclusive program, evaluation of the self-help organizations in all district and divisional secretariats of the island, which are made up of persons with disabilities under 17 competition categories and giving prizes and certificates.

Accordingly, the Swabhimani - 2023 National Award Ceremony was held on 03 August 2023 at the Kalutara District Secretariat Auditorium.

2.1.9 Community Based Rehabilitation National Programme (C.B.R.)

The objective of this programme is to empower the persons with disabilities in knowledge and skills in accordance with the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities in order to protect their rights and enable them to discharge their duties and responsibilities. At the same time, this project is implemented with the objective of ensuring the social and economic well-being of the family member of this community.

Community Based Rehabilitation National Programme

Financial and Physical Progress

Vote No. 216-02-03 -5 – 2509 (as at 31.12.2023)

Project	Programme	Physical progress	Allocation Rs.Mn.	Expenditure Rs.Mn.
Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBR)	Appraisal of Swashakthi (Self-reliance) organizations operating from the grassroots level to the national level.- Swabhimanee awards	17 district level competition evaluations have been made.	2.0	1.983
	Providing direct assistance to the disabled community	Direct Aid (105) • Commode toilets- 23 • Electric power facilities - 02 • Access road facilities - 11 • Provision of air mattresses - 12 • Providing water mattresses - 02 • Water facilities - 25 • Other equipment and aids -20	1.90	1.95
	Conducting progress reviews and awareness programs in district and divisional secretariats	National Programs-12 District – 250 Divisional- 1486	3.35	2.78
	Hospital welfare programs and officer training programs	Programmes 02	0.10	0.084
	Implementation of special projects.	Projects 24	3.30	3.121
	Administrative and other expenses	C.B.R. Division telephone bills, stationery and other general expenses	0.35	0.35
Total			11.00	10.27

2.1.10 Visually Handicapped Trust Fund - Financial Progress

With the objective of providing necessary services, rehabilitation and relief to the visually impaired, various programmes are carried out under this trust fund for the welfare of the visually impaired community and their families throughout the island. The programs planned under this project in the year 2023 and the physical and financial progress achieved through it are as follows.

Visually Handicapped Rehabilitation Trust Fund – Financial progress Vote No. 216-02-03-3-1508 (as at 31.12.2023)

Serial No.	Programme	Physical Progress	Estimate Rs. Mn.	Expenditure Rs. Mn.
01	Educational and cultural assistance		4.26	4.66
	I. Providing scholarships for visually impaired school children and visually impaired university students	331 Students		
	II. Assistance for the Kaalaya Magazine (for volumes)	12 Volumes		
02	Rehabilitation assistance			
	I. Allowances for instructors	05 Instructors	1.4	0.74
	II. Student allowance for trainees	15 Trainees		
	III. Provision of electricity and drinking water	03 Beneficiaries		
03	Eye lenses and eye treatment	01 Eye lenses 02 Eye treatments	0.1	0.1
04	White Cane Day Celebration National Festival	01 Festival	1.0	1.0
05	Vocational training	02 Persons	0.3	0.08
06	Sports assistance		0.1	-
07	Administrative and other expenses		1.3	1.29
Total			8.46	7.87

- ❖ Due to the allocation made from the Visually Handicapped Trust Fund being insufficient for the National Festival of White Cane Day Celebrations, Rs. 410,000.00 has been received from sponsors.

2.2 Drug Addicts Rehabilitation and Socialization Project

Under this project, which is being implemented with the objective of rehabilitation, socialization of drug addicts and improvement of the vocational capabilities of them, drug addicts are institutionalized and rehabilitated.

After admission to the institution, primarily, the drug addicts are engaged in the rehabilitation process through psycho therapeutic and psychological counseling methods and medical approaches. During this period, they are involved in yoga meditation and religious programmes to stimulate spiritual development in them. The persons being rehabilitated are provided with free accommodation, food and medical facilities during the residential therapy. The residential treatment includes training aimed at vocational skills development too in order to ensure development of the livelihood means of the trainees.

At the beginning of the year 2023 (2022 intake), rehabilitation services were provided to 46 clients, and a total of 122 clients were provided with rehabilitation services by the institution during the year. 76 of them have been socialized as rehabilitated persons.

Along with institutional rehabilitation, community drug prevention programs are also conducted at the divisional secretariat level in selected districts of the island.

Financial and Physical Progress of Awareness Programs under the Drug Addicts Rehabilitation and Socialization Program **Vote No. 216-02-03-2-1501 – (as at 31.12.2023)**

Activity	Allocation made Rs.	Financial progress Rs.	Physical progress
Community Drug Prevention Program (District and Regional Level)	1,410,000.00	1,276,000.00	Conducting 25 awareness programs for school children, community and officials in 23 district and divisional secretariat offices.

2.3 Employment Support for Persons with Disabilities – ESPD project

Due to limited employment opportunities for people with disabilities in Sri Lanka, they have lost their important contribution to economic development. Therefore, by making people with disabilities a part of economic development, their dependency mentality can be removed and turn them into effective social activists. Accordingly, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Department of Social Services jointly launched a project called "Employment Support for Persons with Disabilities - ESPD" in November 2021 with the aim of providing employment support for job seekers with disabilities in the private sector.

The primary stakeholders of this project include the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Department of Social Services and the Department of Manpower and Employment. The National Secretariat for Persons with Disabilities, the Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce, the Sri Lanka Employers' Federation, and the United Front of organizations of persons with disabilities can be stated as other groups that support this project. The duration of this project is 04 years (November 2021 - 2025) and the results expected under the project is as follows:

- Developing a plan to promote the employment of the disabled community
- Strengthening the government mechanism for providing employment support to the disabled community through linkage creation.
- Increasing the contribution of the private sector to provide employment to the disabled community.

Accordingly, in order to achieve those goals and objectives, the ESPD project carried out preliminary surveys and pilot activities in Sri Lanka, and the Linkage Creation Program was started in the year 2022 as the initial stage of the implementation of the employment. Under the same, workshops were started at the district level for the social service officers and human resource development officers working in the district and region. Through those workshops, officials are being made aware of how to implement the linkage creation program at the ground level.

In 2022, the ESPD project has conducted linkage creation workshops and related progress review 48 sessions covering the 25 districts. The number of government officials who participated in such sessions was 964. The number of persons registered for the ESPD project expecting jobs is 431. In the year 2023, 130 persons with disabilities have been successfully employed in various private institutions.

2.4 Census of Urban Beggars in Sri Lanka

The long-standing growth of urban beggars in Sri Lanka has become a strong social problem at present. As a solution for the same, the need for a system of rehabilitation and empowerment of beggars has been identified. According to the report of the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Ways and Means on 10.05.2023, this department has been informed to conduct a census of beggars wandering in urban areas within 03 months. Accordingly, the Department of Social Services and the Rural Development Training and Research Institute jointly conducted a census on September 05, 06, 07, and 08, 2023, in municipal and urban council areas covering the entire island with a view to numerically identify the beggars wandering in the urban areas and to implement a formal rehabilitation mechanism for them. Data analysis related to this census is being carried out under the guidance of an advisory board.

2.5 Achievements

- Commencement of vocational training courses at Kilinochchi Vocational Training Center. Starting 2 sewing and computer courses in the first quarter of 2023 with the aim of providing vocational training to the youth with disabilities through the medium of Tamil language.
- Introduction of guidelines for trainee development in vocational training institutes. (the 03 subjects namely aptitude test for recruitment of trainees, orientation program and individual development for developing trainees have been combined and compiled as a guidebook.)
- Development and socialization of 357 trainees according to the individual development plan by identifying the abilities and weaknesses of young people with disabilities
- Providing necessary facilities and guidance to provide job opportunities for 214 persons with disabilities.
- Preparation of 106 business plans related to starting self-employment businesses for trainees who have successfully completed vocational training.

2.6 Challenges

- Sustainably employ trainees who have successfully completed vocational training to enable them to actively contribute to the economy.
- It is practically difficult to provide inclusive opportunities for people with disabilities in the fields of general education and employment in Sri Lanka.
- Lack of sufficient resources and facilities to provide protection and care for people with disabilities (children with disabilities, women with disabilities, adults with disabilities) who need long-term care.
- Ensuring the necessary facilities and health safety for the officers engaged in hospital welfare services.

2.7 Goals

- In January 2024, taking over the "Ridiyagama Detention Home" located in the Ambalantota Divisional Secretariat of the Hambantota District and being operated under the Southern Provincial Council to the Department of Social Services.
- Taking over the Sahanaya School located in Ukuwela Tibbatumulla area of Matale District to the Department of Social Services and developing the place as Matale District Child Guidance Center and Pre-vocational Skills Development Centre.
- Providing on-the-job training to trainees who are nearing the completion of vocational training by linking up with public/private sectors.
- Implementation of a job promotion unit at the national level and establishment of 10 of them at the divisional secretariat level.
- Starting a program called "Sihina Sri Lanka" in every divisional secretariat as a program to retain employed disabled people in employment, and implementation of the same in 25 Divisional Secretariat Divisions in 2024.
- Preparing and obtaining approval for a Cabinet paper to replace the Vagrants Ordinance related to the Department of Social Services with a new act.

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Accounting Officer

Name:- W.G. Darshani Karunarathna

Designation:- Director of Social Services

Date:- 2024.

Chapter 03

Overall Financial Performance of the Year

Overall Financial Performance of the Year ended 31st December, 2023

3.1 Financial Performance Statement

Financial Performance Statement for the period ended 31 December 2023

ACA- F

Rs.

Budget		Note	Actual		
			2023	2022	
	Revenue Receipts		-	-	
	Income Tax	1	-	-	ACA-1
	Taxes on Domestic Goods & Services	2	-	-	
	Taxes on International Trade	3			
	Non Tax Revenue & Others	4	-	-	
	Total Revenue Receipts (A)				
	Non-Revenue Receipts		-	-	
	Treasury Imprests		442,776,000	379,023,000	ACA 3
	Deposits		1,738,928	4,114,054	ACA- 4
	Advance Accounts		22,871,986	21,894,336	ACA- 5/5(₹)
	Other receipts		-	-	
	Total Non-Revenue Receipts (B)		467,386,914	405,031,389	
	Total Revenue Receipts		(764,941)	405,031,389	
	Non-Revenue Receipts		466,621,973		
	C=(A)+(B)				
	Less: Expenditure		-	-	
	Recurrent Expenditure		-	-	
618,000,000	Wages, Salaries & Other Employment Benefits	5	592,667,557	533,372,646	

224,966,000	Other Goods & Services	6	212,829,168	166,545,814	ACA-2(ii)
71,750,000	Subsidies, Grants and Transfers	7	65,497,978	58,909,001	
	Interest Payments	8	-	-	
65,000	Other Recurrent expenditure	9	64,711	70,800	
914,781,000	Total Recurrent Expenditure (D)		871,059,413	758,898,260	ACA 2(ii)
	Capital Expenditure		-	-	
14,580,000	Rehabilitation & Improvement of Capital	10	12,823,897	5,152,296	
10,139,000	Acquisition of Capital assets	11	8,633,042	4,157,722	
	Capital transfers	12	-	-	ACA- 4
	Acquisition of Financial assets	13	-	-	
2,000,000	Capacity Building	14	1,436,449	645,201	
11,000,000	Other Capital expenditure	15	10,267,252	6,538,513	
37,719,000	Total Capital Expenditure (E)		33,160,640	16,493,732	ACA 5/5(๔)
	Main Ledger Expenditure (F)		-	-	
	Deposit Payments		5,381,981	158,125	
	Advance payments		24,250,046	21,999,361	
	Total Expenditure G=(D+E+F)2019		(467,230,108)	(392,518,089)	
	Imprest Balance as at 31st December= (C-G)		(467,230,108)	(392,518,089)	

3.2 Statement of Financial Position

ACA - P

As at 31 December 2022
Statement of Financial Position

	Note		Actual	
			2023 Rs.	2022 Rs.
<u>Non-Financial Assets</u>				
Property, Plant & Equipment	ACA 6		1,105,769,707	606,881,557
<u>Financial Assets</u>				
Advance accounts	ACA 5		59,593,312	58,215,252
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA 3		-	-
Total Assets			1,165,363,019	665,096,809
<u>Net Assets / Equity</u>				
Net Assets			59,255,437	54,234,323
Property, Plant & Equipment Reserve			1,105,769,707	606,881,557
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			-	-
Deposits Accounts	ACA 4		337,857	3,980,929
Imprest Balance	ACA 3		-	-
Total liabilities			1,165,363,019	665,096,809

Details of Accounting Statements in above ACA format Nos. 1 to 6 presented in pages from 41 to 43 and Notes to accounts presented in pages from 44 to 46 are integral parts 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 to be in agreement.

.....
Chief Accounting Officer
Name: Yamuna Perera
Designation: Secretary
Date : .2024

.....
Accounting Officer
Name: W.G. Darshani Karunaratne
Date : .2024

.....
Name: J.R. Denawaka
Designation: Chief
Accountant
Date : .2024

3.3 Statement of Cash Flows

ACA - C

Statement of Cash Flow for the period ending 31st December 2023

	Actual	
	2023 Rs.	2022 Rs.
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>	-	-
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses	-	-
Profit	-	-
Non-Revenue Receipts	-	-
Revenue collected for other heads	16,514,573	11,491,634
Impress receipts	442,776,000	379,023,000
Recovery of advances	22,154,080	23,853,326
Deposit received	1,688,928	4,114,054
Total Cash generated from Operations (a)	483,133,581	418,482,014
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>	-	-
Personal Emoluments & Operating Payments	391,185,893	349,691,266
Subsidies & Transfer Payments	53,072,947	34,422,290
Expenditure made on other heads	4,966,148	8,171,856
Impress Settlement to Treasury	764,491	-
Advance payments	24,245,051	21,970,230
Payment of deposits	4,726,981	158,125
Total Cash disbursed for Operations (b)	478,961,961	414,413,767
Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities (c)=(a)-(b)	4,171,620	4,068,247
<u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</u>	-	-
Interest	-	-
Dividends	-	-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets	-	-
Recoveries from On Lending	-	-
Recovery of advances	-	-

Total Cash generated from Investing Activities (d)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>	-	-
Purchase or Construction of Physical Assets & Acquisition of Other Investment	4,171,620	4,068,247
Advance payments	-	-
Total Cash disbursed for Investing Activities (e)	4,171,620	4,068,247
Net Cash Flow From Investing Activities (f)=(d)-(e)	(4,171,620)	(4,068,247)
Net Cash Flows From Operating & Investment Activities (g)=(c) + (f)	-	-
<u>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</u>	-	-
Local Borrowings	-	-
Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Grants Received	-	-
Deposits received	-	-
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (h)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>	-	-
Repayment of Local Borrowings	-	-
Repayment of Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Payment of deposits	-	-
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 01" January	-	-
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December	-	-

3.4 Notes to the Financial Statements - Not applicable

3.5 Performance of the Revenue Collection – Not applicable

3.6 Performance of Utilization of Allocation

Rs ,000

Type of Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Allocation Utilization as a Percentage (%) of Final Allocation
	Original Allocation	Final Allocation		
Recurrent	888,000,000	914,781,000	871,059,413	95.22%
Capital	36,000,000	37,719,000	33,160,640	87.92%

3.7 In terms of F.R.208 grant of allocations for expenditure to this Department/District Secretariat/Provincial Council as an agent of the other Ministries/ Departments – not applicable

3.8 Performance of the Reporting of Non-Financial Assets

Rs.. ,000

Assets Code	Code Description	Balance as per Boar of Survey report as at 31.12.2023	Balance as per Financial Position report as at 31.12.2023	Yet to be ccounted	Reporting Progress as %
9151	Building and Structures		874,076,563.79		
9152	Machinery and Equipment		152,573,343.62		
9153	Land		79,100,000.00		
9154	Intangible Assets		19,800.00		
9155	Biological Assets				
9160	Work in Progress				
9180	Leased Assets				

3.9 Auditor General's Report

Accounting Officer,
Department of Social Services.

Head – 2016 Summary Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of Department of Social Services for the year ended 31 December 2023 in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Department of Social Services for the year ended 31 December 2023 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the statement of financial performance and cash flow statement for the year then ended, 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. This report contains my comments and observations on the financial statements to be presented to the Department of Social Services in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018. The report of the Auditor General will be presented in Parliament in due course in accordance with Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with Section 10 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Department of Social Services as at 31 December 2023, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

My opinion is qualified based on the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report. I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuS). 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 Responsibilities of the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer for the Financial Statements

The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and provisions in Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 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.

As per Sub-section 16(1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Department 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.

As per Sub-section 38 (1) (c) of the National Audit Act, the Accounting Officer shall ensure that effective internal control system for the financial control of the Department exists, and carry out periodic reviews to monitor the effectiveness of such systems and accordingly make any alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out.

1.4 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:

- Appropriate audit procedures were designed and performed to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement in financial statements whether due to fraud or errors in providing a basis for the expressed audit 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.
- An understanding of internal control relevant to the audit was obtained in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.
- Evaluate the 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.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements including disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accounting Officer regarding, among other matters significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

1.5 Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

I express the following matters in accordance with Section 6 (1) (d) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

- (a) The financial statements are consistent with the preceding year.
- (b) The recommendation mentioned in Paragraph 1.6.1.1 (e) relating to the financial statements of the preceding year had not been implemented.

Reference to Paragraphs	Audit observation	Recommendation
1.61. (a)	Although a period of over 10 years had elapsed since 05 lands in extent of 33 acres had been donated to the Department in order to establish vocational training institutes and centers for rehabilitation & guidance, those lands had not been brought to account as lands and buildings by assessing the lands with buildings thereon.	The value of the land and buildings given as donations should be calculated and brought in to account
2.6 (b)	If a government vehicle is used as a learning aid, it should be done after deregistration of the vehicle according to the proper procedures, but it was observed that the but the Nissan double cab with a registration number plate that is in a drivable condition was used for motor mechanics training at Ketawala Vocational Training Institute. According to the information of the Commissioner of Motor Traffic, the vehicle was registered under the name of the Secretary of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Social Welfare and was used as a learning aid without proper authority.	Vehicles should be used as learning aid after disposing of them and cancellation of their registration.

1.6 Comments on Financial Statements

1.6.1. Non-financial Assets

The following observations are made :

(a) Although more than 11 years have passed since the donation of 06 lands with an area of 29 acres which had been donated to the department for the establishment of vocational training institutes, rehabilitation centers and guidance centers, the value of those lands and the buildings had not been assessed and had not been brought in to accounts as lands and buildings.

(b) The legal rights of the lands where 07 vocational training institutes had been established had not been vested in the Department and the value had not been assessed and the cost of the buildings of which construction had been completed 11 years ago had not been identified and had not been brought in to accounts as buildings and constructions under non-finance assets.

2. Financial review

2.1 Incurring Liabilities and Commitments

According to the provisions of paragraph 02 (c) of the Public Accounts Circular No. 255/2017 dated April 27, 2017, all debts related to a certain financial year should be settled in that year and even though the instructions had been given that no debt should be carried forward with the intention of settlement in the next year, there were such unsettled liabilities amounting to Rs. 49,500 that had lapsed for periods from 01 year to 02 years.

2.2 Certifications to be made by the Chief Accounting Officer / Accounting Officer

The Chief Accounting Officer/Accounting Officer should certify the following matters in terms of provisions set out in Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018. However, it had not been so done.

The Chief Accounting Officer and Accounting Officer should ensure that an effective internal control system is developed and maintained for the financial control of the department and the effectiveness of the system should be reviewed from time to time and necessary changes should be made accordingly to make the system effective. Although those reviews should have been made in writing and a copy of it should have been submitted to the Auditor General, statements to the effect that reviews were made had not been submitted to the audit.

2.3 Irregular Transactions

If a government vehicle is used as a learning aid, the vehicle should be used as a learning aid after disposing of the vehicle and cancellation of the registration in accordance with the Motor Traffic Ordinance, but the 5 vehicles in the Wattegama Vocational Training Institute had been used as learning aids with their chassis numbers. Further, 19 motorcycles from Wattegama Vocational Training Institute had been taken to Katawala Vocational Training Institute, but the motorcycles had been kept in that institute with their number plates.

3. Operating Review

3.1 Performance

3.1.1 Vision and Mission

Although in the functions that are carried out by the department, research and policy making should have been done rapidly, efficiently and effectively through innovative approaches to realize its mission of “to achieve the expected results by conducting research, formulating policies and implementing programmes in an efficient, expeditious and effective manner, adopting innovative approaches through inter-institutional co-ordination and professional intervention, for integrating the target community into society through protection of their rights and empowerment of them”, sufficient action had not been carried out. duties

3.1.2 Non-performance of duties

During the year under review, under the Visual Handicapped Fund, an allocation of Rs. 100,000 had been made but no assistance had been given to any individual.

3.1.3 Projects for which funds had been released but that had achieved no progress

In the year under review, Rs. 5,000,000 had been allocated to provide tool kits to the trainees who successfully complete the vocational training conducted for disabled people with different abilities in the year 2022, but according to the 2022 annual performance report, only 5 trainees out of the number of trainees who successfully completed vocational training in the year 2022 had been provided with tool kits worth 50,000 . Due to this, an amount of Rs. 4,950,000 had not been utilized.

3.1.4 Annual Performance Report

According to the vision of the Department, the progress of achieving the expected goal of establishing the rights and equality of the target community by the year 2023 had not been included in the performance report in the year under review as well as in the previous year.

3.1.5 Failure to achieve expected outcome

It was observed that for the construction of the Kilinochchi Vocational Training Center, of which construction was started in the year 2017 and which was opened on December 20, 2022, Rs. 1,280,000 had been spent and the value of the land was Rs. 93,630,000. In May 2023, trainees had been recruited for two courses and the courses had been started, but by January 2024, the courses had been stopped due to lack of instructors. This vocational training center, which was built at a high cost with all the facilities, is currently remaining idle with only the officers, namely, the in charge of the center and the development officer attached to it, and payments are also being made to the security service and the cleaning service. Accordingly, it had been failed to achieve the expected objectives of this institution.

3.2 Assets management

The following observations are made.

- (a) A water bowser belonging to the department that was purchased in the year 1992, the cost of which is not mentioned, had been identified by a special board of survey on August 11, 2021, under the vehicles that are not economically viable to repair and had been recommended to be disposed of. But even by the end of the year under review, the vehicle had been assigned to District Secretary of Monaragala for carrying out disposing of the same.
- (b) Due to not including in assets the two tractors among the vehicles belonging to the Department, whose costs have not been identified and had been used in Amunukumbura and Thelambuyaya Vocational Training Institutes, there is a possibility of misplacement or misuse of those assets, and it was not observed as to what purposes of the Department those tractors had been purchased.
- (c) A van of ramshackle condition belonging to the Ministry of Highways and a jeep belonging to the Ministry of Health had been parked idle at Wattegama Vocational Training Institute for several years. The management had not acted during the year under review to use the two vehicles as learning aids or to take any other suitable action.
- (d) Considering the recruitment to the 11 vocational training centers for the vocational training course in the year 2023, the 06 centers were underutilized because only 288 people had received training in the year under review, even though the residential facilities and facilities to receive training in 6 centers were available for 450 people.

3.4 Management inefficiencies

The management had not taken steps to maintain an information data system that consists of statistics on the nature, size and geographical distribution of marginalized and disadvantaged communities in Sri Lanka as of the year under review, and estimated data on new additions to the same annually, detailed statistics, data and information on the community empowered annually by the Department and by other institutions.

3.5 Sustainable development

Progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

The following observations are made.

- (a) Although the first development objective identified under the sustainable development goals is “Eliminate gender-based disparities in education by 2023, ensure access to all

levels of education and provide access to vocational training for indigenous peoples and vulnerable children with disabilities”, due to the fact that the department does not have a data system that includes the numbers and information of the parties related to this objective, such as people with disabilities scattered all over the island, vulnerable children, the ability to achieve the objective by 2030 through the annual achievement index was at a minimum level.

- (b) Although the second development goal identified under the Sustainable Development Goals is to provide productive and suitable employment opportunities for all women and men, including persons with disabilities and youth, by 2030, during the year under review, only 214 persons had been given such opportunities. No confirmation had been made as to whether sufficient targets had been achieved in the year under review to achieve this goal by 2030 without an updated island-wide data system on persons with disabilities and youth.

H.M. De Soyza
Senior Assistant Auditor General
For Auditor General.

Copies : Director General, Department of Public Accounts
Secretary, Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment

Chapter 04

Performance Indicators of the Institution

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

Specific Indicators	Actual output as a percentage (%) of the expected output		
	90% - 100%	75% - 89%	50% - 74%
01. Number of youth with disabilities provided with vocational training		√	
02. Coordinating employment opportunities for trainees who have completed vocational training		√	
03. Providing child guidance services for children with disabilities	√		
04. Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBR) Number of persons with direct acquired disabilities	√		
05. Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBR) Number of persons with disabilities who received special project assistance		√	
06. Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBR) Number of district competitions held for evaluation of self-help organizations	√		
07. Number of visually impaired persons benefited under Visually Impaired Rehabilitation Trust Fund	√		
09. Number of trainings conducted under Officers Capacity Development Training Programme	√		

Chapter 05

Performance in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

5.1 Identified Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Identified sustainable development goals	Target	Achievement indicator	Percentage		
			0 – 49%	50 – 74%	75 – 100%
4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender-based disparities in education, ensure access to all levels of education and provide vocational training opportunities for persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and vulnerable children.	To provide child guidance for children with disabilities and to provide necessary guidance for pre-school and general school education. 150	Number of children with disabilities provided child guidance -163 Number of referrals to regular pre-schools and regular schools - 16			√
	Providing vocational training and skill development to 554 persons with disabilities aged 16-35 years.	Number of youth with disabilities who completed vocational training - 464			√
	Preparation of individual development plans for the development of trainees in vocational training institutes.	Number of individual development plans prepared - 357 Preparation of a guideline for the development of trainees in vocational training institutes.			√
	Provision of bursary for education of students under Visually Handicapped Trust Fund - 375	Number of students who received bursary - 331			√
8.5 Provide effective and sustainable employment	Training guidance and co-ordination for persons with disabilities seeking employment for self-	Number of youth with disabilities employed and referred and			√

opportunities for all women and men, including persons with disabilities and youth, by 2030	employment or institutional employment - 100	facilitated for self-employment - 214			
10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the socio-economic and political integration of all, regardless of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, race, religion or economic or other circumstances.	Providing care for 75 children with intellectual disabilities who have lost their parents and guardians	Number of persons with disabilities provided with care - 76			√
	Rehabilitation and socialization of 100 drug addicts	Number of persons rehabilitated and socialized 76			√
	Starting a new care center for women with disabilities.	Number of Care Centers established- 01			√

5.2 Achievements and Challenges in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

The Department of Social Services prepares annual projects and program plans under 03 sustainable development objectives subject to its allocations. Thus, in the year 2023, the desired goals were able to achieved through many of the planned programs.

Chapter 06

Human Resource Profile

6.1 Cadre Management

Approved Cadre and Number of Vacancies - as at 31.12.2023

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies/ (Surplus)**
Senior	08	06	02
Tertiary	501	244	60*
Secondary	686	642	44*
Primary	256	139	117

* Although cadre has been approved for 486 posts of Social Service Officers, belonging to the Tertiary level, the vacancies of the said post can only be filled by appointing the Social Development Assistants of MN 4 salary category to the post of Social Service Officer and on the cessation of the Development Officer posts which have been approved on the personal to the holder basis.

Also due to the attachment of development officers from time to time by the Ministry of Public Administration, MN 4 posts of Development Officers in secondary level have currently become redundant. Hence, the actual number of existing vacancies related to Tertiary and Secondary level has been stated here.

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies/(surplus)**
Medical Officer	01	0	1
Vocational Instructor	09	1	8
Apprentice Translator	1	0	1
Pharmacist	1	0	1
Rehabilitation Assistant	9	4	5

Staff of the Department of Social Services as at 31.12.2023

Serial No.	Position	Service	Grade	Salary Level P.A.C.	Approved cadre	Existing cadre	Vacancies
1	Director	S.L.A.S.	I	SL 1	1	0	1
2	Additional Director	S.L.A.S.	I	SL 1	1	1	0
3	Chief Accountant	S.L.Ac.S.	I	SL 1	1	1	0
4	Chief Internal Auditor	S.L.Ac.S.	I	SL 1	1	1	0
5	Accountant	S.L.Ac.S.	II/ III	SL 1	1	1	0
6	Deputy Director/Assistant Director	S.L.A.S.	II/ III	SL 1	3	2	1
7	Medical Officer	Contract			1	0	1
8	Administrative Officer	M.S.O. (Supra)	Supra Grade	MN 7	1	1	0
9	Officer-in-charge	Departmental	Special	MN 7	13	3	10
10	Work manager	Departmental	Special	MN 7	1	0	1
11	Social Service Officer **	Departmental	I /II	MN 5	486	240	49
12	Physio therapist	Supplementary medical service	I /II/ III	MT 6	1	0	1
13	Vocational therapist	Supplementary medical service	I /II/ III	MT 6	1	0	1
14	Speech therapist	Departmental	I /II/ III	MT 6	1	0	1
15	Pharmacist	Contract			1	0	1
16	Social Development Assistant **	Associated services	I /II/ III	MN 4	1	1	0
17	Development Officer (Social service) ***	D.O. Service	I /II/ III	MN 4	196	201	-5
18	Development Officer (Elders/social service)	D.O. Service	I /II/ III	MN 4	292	331	-39
19	Visually Handicapped Development Officer *****	Departmental		MN 4	11	0	11
20	Apprentice Translator	Associated Services Contract		MN 4	1	0	1
21	Vocational Instructor	Departmental	I /II/ III	MT 1	67	43	24
22	Vocational Instructor	Contract			9	1	8
23	Information and Communication and Technology Assistant	SL.I.C.T.A Service	I /II/ III	MT 1	1	1	0
24	Management Services Officer	M..S.O.	I /II/ III	MN 2	58	44	14
25	Sign Language Interpreter	Departmental	I /II/ III	MN 2	26	6	20
26	Preschool Teachers	Departmental	I /II/ III	MN 1	3	3	0

27	Warden (Male/female)	Departmental	I /II/ III	MN 1	26	12	14
28	Nurse***	Departmental	I /II/ III	MN 1	2	0	2
29	Driver	Drivers' service	I /II/ III	PL 3	16	11	5
30	Cook	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 2	15	4	11
31	Electrician	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 2	1	0	1
32	Carpenter***	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 2	1	0	1
33	Attendant	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 2	40	0	40
34	Child Development Assistant	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	5	4	1
35	Cook Assistant	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	25	16	9
36	Attendant	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	59	55	4
37	Office Employee	O.E.S.	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	50	49	1
38	Labourer	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	10	0	10
39	Sanitary Labourer	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	20	0	20
40	Watcher	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	13	0	13
41	Water Pump Operator ***	Departmental	I /II/ III/special	PL 1	1	0	1
42	Rehabilitation Assistant	Contract		PL 1	9	4	5
Total					1472	1036	239

* Vacancies in the post of Social Service Officer shall not be filled until the holders of the post of Social Development Assistants are recruited as Social Service Officers and the 196 posts of Development Officers are abolished.

** Subject to non-filling of vacancies

*** Subject to subsequent abolition on the personal to holder basis.

**** Has been absorbed into the Development Officers' service minute.

6.2 How the Lack/Surplus of Human Resources has affected the Performance of the Institution

There is an overall staff shortage within the approved cadre for the Department of Social Services. However, there is a surplus of Development Officer posts due to the appointment of newly appointed Development Officers by the Ministry of Public Administration to the Department of Social Services. However, the said appointed Development Officers have been attached to the National Secretariat for the Elders to perform of the duties of the said institution. Therefore, although there is a surplus against approved cadre, the human resources have been effectively utilized through the duties performed by them.

Many vacancies in the entire staff have not been filled due to the limitation of the government expenditure. Therefore, the existing human resource was directed to reach the desired level of performance by effectively and efficiently performing the functions of the Department by fair distribution of the same according to the service requirement.

6.3 Human Resource Development

Serial number	Name of the programme	No. of staff trained	Programme duration	Total investment Rs.	Nature of the programme (local/foreign)	Output/ knowledge gained
01	Positive Attitude Development Program	60	03 hrs.	6,206.00	Local	Attitude Development
02	Training in Sign language					
	* Basic Training (Head Office)	08	30 hrs.	0.00	Local	Sign language communication skills
	* Basic Training - Wattegama Vocational Training Institute	19	30 hrs.	0.00		
	* Basic Training - Katawala Vocational Training Institute	10	30 hrs.	0.00		

	* Sign Language Promotion and Update of Knowledge - For Sign Language Pool Officers	20	02 days	67,600.00		
	* Sign Language Promotion and Update of Knowledge - For Sign Language Pool Officers (on payments made last year)			129,325.00		
03	Capacity Building Programme	52	02 days	0.00	Local	Leadership skills and ability to work as a team
04	"Mindfulness" program for creating mindfulness	60	01 day	4,200.00	Local	Spiritual development
05	Training in Social Emotional Learning	38	03 days	0.00	Local	Spiritual development
06	Subject-related training for professional development			0.00	Local	Subject-related knowledge
	* One day training on financial regulations	26	01 day	0.00	Local	
	* Awareness Program on Audit Act * Procurement process	14	01 day	0.00	Local	
	* Procurement process	16	01 day	0.00	Local	
	* Accounting methods	10	01 day	0.00	Local	
	* Training related to land acquisition	02	01 day	0.00	Local	
07	Training in general conduct and code of conduct in public service	04	05 days	0.00	Local	General conduct and discipline

08	Creating a Quality Work Environment – O.E.S./Driver	08	01	40,000.00	Local	Professional development
09	Internal audit in public sector and its importance, dealing with Auditor General's audit queries	30	03 hrs.	1,130.00	Local	Importance of audit and reduction of errors
10	Training in Government Payroll System	01	03 days	18,000.00	Local	Knowledge of government payroll processing
11	"Heart to Heart" Counseling Program	40	04 hrs.	5,022.00	Local	Counseling
12	Tamil Language Training - 200 hrs.	25	200 hrs.	0.00	Local	Proficiency in Tamil language
13	5 Days Residential Training (TOT) on Training of Trainers in Community Based Rehabilitation	37	05 days	0.00	Local	Community Based Rehabilitation Knowledge
14	Payment for efficiency bar examinations of social service officers	189		288,515.87	Local	Professional development
15	Professional development programs					
	* Annual Academic Session of Sri Lanka Spinal Cord Net Works (SLSCoN)	05	01 day	0.00	Local	Preventing Spinal Cord Accidents
16	Training in social intervention, health and basic first aid	43	02 days	94,085.00	Local	Knowledge of health and basic first aid
17	Basic induction and professional development training for the staff of primary category	20	05 days	162,653.00	Local	Professional development
18	Payments for Social Welfare Superintendent Efficiency Bar Exams	01		17,045.00	Local	Professional development

19	Awareness Program on Mental Health and Wellbeing	22	04 hrs.	2,400.00	Local	Knowledge of mental health and well-being
20	JICA KCCP Program (Country Focus) for the Project for Promoting Employment Support of Persons with Disabilities in Sri Lanka	04	2023.0 1.12 – 2023.0 2.03	448,866.00	Foreign	Training related to job promotion
21	Community Based Integrated Care System	2	2023.0 6.19 - 2023.0 7.01	259,902.00	Foreign	Community-based integrated care system
22	JICA KCCP Program 2023 – Promotion of Employment of Persons with Disabilities	4	2023.0 6.07 – 2023.0 6.18	448,866.05	Foreign	Training related to employment promotion of persons with disabilities
23	16 th Session of the Conference of States Parties (COSP16) to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	1	2023.0 6.10 – 2023.0 6.19	88,721.00	Foreign	16th Session of the Conference of States Parties on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
24	WASLI 2023 Conference	1	2023.0 7.04 – 2024.0 7.10	63,544.00	Foreign	
25	From Family Care to Social Care Workshop	1	2023.0 8.28 – 2023.0 9.03	50,395.00	Foreign	Workshop on Social Care
26	Accelerating Access to Assistive Technology	1	2023.1 1.06 – 2023.1 1.10	51,256.00	Foreign	Assistive Technology Training for the Handicapped

Contribution from the Training Programs Towards the Performance of the Institution

The prime task of the Department of Social Services is to rapidly, efficiently and effectively formulate policies and implement programs through innovative approaches through inter-institutional coordination and professional intervention in order to secure and empower the rights of the marginalized and disadvantaged community.

Nearly 1100 officers serving under the Department of Social Services, who are attached to various divisions, institutions, Divisional Secretariats and District Secretariats are working towards fulfilling this task.

In order to provide an efficient and effective service to the target community, it is essential to develop the human resource providing subject knowledge and fostering attitude; therefore, training programs were planned in a manner that covered all positions. But training programs were conducted at minimal cost by identifying essential training needs, prioritizing those that were possible to be carried out, subject to the circulars issued for government expenditure control.

Job satisfaction, attitude development programs, various awareness programs, subject knowledge updating programs, were carried out and various training opportunities were provided. Several officers had the opportunity for having trainings, seminars and workshops abroad. Some of these training programs were conducted under the sponsorship of non-governmental organizations, and the human resource equipped with knowledge, skills and positive attitudes provide a great contribution to increase the Department's performance.

Chapter 07

Compliance Report

7.1 Compliance Report

No.	Applicable Requirement	Compliance status (complied/ not complied)	Brief explanation for non-compliance	Corrective actions proposed to avoid non-compliance in future
1	The financial statements/accounts have been presented by the due date			
1.1	Annual financial statements	Complied		
1.2	Advance to public officers account	Complied		
1.3	Trading and Manufacturing Advance Accounts(Commercial Advance accounts)	Not applicable		
1.4	Stores advance accounts			
1.5	Special advance accounts			
1.6	Others			
2	Issue of books and registers (F.R. 445)			
2.1	The fixed assets register has been maintained and updated in terms of Public Administration circular No. 267/2018			
2.2	Personal emoluments register/ Personal emoluments cards has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.3	Audit Query register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.4	Internal Audit query register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.5	All the monthly account summaries (CIGAS) are prepared and submitted to the Treasury on due date	Complied		
2.6	Cheques and money order register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.7	Inventory register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.8	Stocks register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.9	Losses register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.10	Commitment register has been maintained and updated	Complied		
2.11	Counterfoil Books(GA – N20) register has been maintained and updated	Complied		

03	Delegation of functions for financial control (FR 135)			
3.1	The financial authority has been delegated within the institution	Complied		
3.2	The delegation of financial authority has been communicated within the institution	Complied		
3.3	The authority has been delegated in such a manner so as to pass each transaction through two or more officers	Complied		
3.4	The controls has been adhered to by the Accountants in terms of State Account Circular 171/2004 dated 11.05.2014 in using the Government Payroll Software Package	Complied		
4	Preparation of annual plans			
4.1	Annual action plan has been prepared	Complied		
4.2	Annual procurement plan has been prepared	Complied		
4.3	Annual internal audit plan has been prepared	Complied		
4.4	The annual estimate has been prepared and submitted to the Department of National Budget	Complied		
4.5	Annual cash flow statement has been prepared and submitted to the Department of Treasury Operations on the due date	Complied		
5	Audit Quarries			
5.1	All audit quarries have been replied before the due date specified by the Auditor General	Complied		
6	Internal Audit			
6.1	In terms of financial regulation 134 (2) DMA/1 - 2019, internal audit plan has been prepared at the beginning of the year in consultation with the Auditor General	Complied		
6.2	All internal audit reports has been replied within one month	Not Complied	Answers have not been received for the 4 audit reports issued in the fourth quarter of 2023	
6.3	In terms of Sub-section 40(4) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, copies of all internal audit reports have been submitted to Management Audit Department	Complied		
6.4	In terms of financial regulation No. 134(3), copies of all internal audit reports have been submitted to the Auditor General	Complied		
7	Audit and Management Committees			
7.1	As per the Department of Management Audit Circular 1/2019, a minimum of 04	Complied		

	Audit and Management Committee meetings have been held within the year			
8	Assets Management			
8.1	As per the Paragraph 07 of the Asset Management Circular No. 01/2017, the information of purchase of assets and disposal has been submitted to Comptroller General's Office.	Complied		
8.2	A suitable officer has been appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the circular and details of the nominated officer has been sent to the Comptroller General's Office in terms of Paragraph 13 of the aforesaid circular	Complied		
8.3	Board of Survey has been conducted and submitted relevant reports to the Auditor General on due date in terms of the Public Finance Circular No. 05/2016.	Complied		
8.4	The excesses and deficits were disclosed through the annual board of survey and other relating recommendations, actions were carried out during the period specified in the circular.	Complied		
8.5	Disposal of the condemned articles has been carried out in terms of F.R. 772.	Complied		
9	Vehicle Management			
9.1	Daily running charts and monthly summaries of the pool vehicles have been prepared and submitted to the Auditor General on due date	Complied		
9.2	The condemned vehicles have been disposed of within less than 06 months after condemning	Complied		
9.3	vehicle log books have been maintained and updated	Complied		
9.4	Action has been taken in terms of FR. 103,104,109 and 110 with regard to every vehicle accident	Complied		
9.5	Fuel consumption of the vehicles has been re-tested in terms of the provisions of the Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 2016/30 dated 29.12.2016.	Complied		
9.6	The absolute ownership of the leased vehicle had been transferred after the lease period.	Complied		
10	Management of Bank Accounts			
10.1	The bank reconciliation statements have been prepared, got certified and made ready for audit by the due date.	Complied		
10.2	The dormant bank accounts that had existed in the year under review or since the previous years have been settled	Complied		

10.3	Action has been taken in terms of Financial Regulations regarding balances that had been disclosed through bank reconciliation statements and for which adjustments had to be made, and had those adjustments been made within one month.	Complied		
11	Utilization of provisions			
11.1	The provisions allocated have been without exceeding their limit.	Complied		
11.2	The liabilities not exceeding the provisions that remained at the end of the year as per FR 94(1)	Complied		
12	Advances to the Public Officers Account			
12.1	The limits have been complied with	Complied		
12.2	A time analysis on the loans in arrears has been carried out	Complied		
12.3	The loan balances in arrears for over one year have been settled	Complied		
13	General Deposit Account			
13.1	Action has been taken in terms of FR. 571 in relation to disposal of lapsed deposits	Complied		
13.2	The control register for general deposits has been maintained and updated	Complied		
14	Imprest account			
14.1	The balance in the cash book has been remitted to the Department of Treasury Operations at the end of the year	Complied		
14.2	The ad-hoc sub imprests issued as per FR. 371 have been settled within one month from completion of the task	Complied		
14.3	Ad-hoc sub imprests have been issued not exceeding the limit approved as per FR. 371	Complied		
14.4	Imprest account balance has been reconciled with the Treasury books monthly.	Complied		
15	Revenue Account			
15.1	Refunds have been made from the revenue in terms of regulations.	Not applicable		
15.2	The revenue collection has been credited to the revenue account directly without crediting to the deposit account.	Complied		
15.3	Returns of arrears of revenue have been submitted to the Auditor General in terms of FR. 176	Complied		
16	Human Resource Management			
16.1	The staff had been paid within the approved cadre.	complied		
16.2	All members of the staff had been issued duty lists in writing	Complied		

16.3	All reports had been submitted to the Department of Management Services in terms of MSD circular No. 04/2017 dated 20.09.2017	Complied		
17	Provision of Information to the Public			
17.1	An information officer has been appointed and a proper register of information is maintained and updated in terms of Right To Information Act and Regulation	Complied		
17.2	Information about the institution to the public have been provided by Website or alternative measures and has it been facilitated to appreciate / allegation to public against the public authority by this website or alternative measures	Complied		
17.3	Bi-Annual and Annual reports have been submitted as per section 08 and 10 of the RTI Act	Complied		
18	Implementing Citizens Charter			
18.1	A citizens charter/ Citizens client's charter has been formulated and implemented by the Institution in terms of the circular number 05/2008 and 05/2018(1) of Ministry of Public Administration and Management	Complied		
18.2	A methodology has been devised by the Institution in order to monitor and assess the formulation and the implementation of Citizens Charter / Citizens client's charter as per paragraph 2.3 of the circular	Complied		
19	Preparation of the Human Resource Plan			
19.1	A human resource plan has been prepared in terms of the format in Annexure 02 of Public Administration Circular No.02/2018 dated 24.01.2018	Complied		
19.2	A minimum training opportunity of not less than 12 hours per year for each member of the staff has been ensured in the aforesaid Human Resource Plan	Complied		
19.3	Annual performance agreements have been signed for the entire staff based on the format in Annexure 01 of the aforesaid Circular	Complied		
19.4	A senior officer was appointed and assigned the responsibility of preparing the human resource development plan, organizing capacity building programs and conducting skill development programs as per paragraph No.6.5 of the aforesaid Circular	Complied		
20	Responding Audit Paras			
2.01	The shortcomings pointed out in the audit paragraphs issued by the Auditor General for the previous years had been rectified	Complied		