



Annual Performance Report 2024

Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources



Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources

Maligawatta, Colombo 10

Annual Performance Report 2024

Vote No: 290

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Chapter 01. Institutional Profile

1.1 Introduction

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

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

1.2 Vision, mission and purpose of the organization Vision

Making optimal contribution to the national economy by strengthening socio-economic status of the fisher community while maintaining the Sustainability in fisheries and aquatic resources.

Mission

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

1.2.1. Objectives

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

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

1.3 Main Functions

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

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

1.4 Organization Structure

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

That is,

1. Fisheries Management Division
2. Fisheries Development Division
3. Fisheries Product Quality Control Division
4. Fisheries Operations Division
5. Investigation and Training Division
6. Information Technology Division
7. Administration Division
8. Accounts Division
9. Internal Audit Division

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

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

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

Also, 18 Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centers have been set up in the vicinity of fishing harbours and radio officers are deployed day and night at these centers. These regional MCS Centers have maintained a 24-hour radio communication link between the fishing vessels engaged in the high seas fishing operations and land. It also provides weather forecasts and advisories to vessels on a daily basis, as well as boat owners' messages and fishermen's messages. Further, all necessary arrangements will be made for distress messages received from fishing vessels from that time until the completion of the work. All these activities are coordinated by the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centre at the Head Office, Colombo.

In addition, harbor offices have been set up at 25 fishery harbors located in 07 districts. Fisheries Inspectors and development officers carry out activities such as inspection of vessels departing the fishery harbors day and night, registration of and permitting the departure, obtaining log entries pertaining to the trip of boats arriving at the harbor, checking fish harvest accordingly, preparation of reports for the fish ready for export and providing them to the buyers, taking statements in case illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has occurred, delivering the log entries and statements taken to the Head Office via Fax or E-mail and preparation of alternative monitoring reports etc.

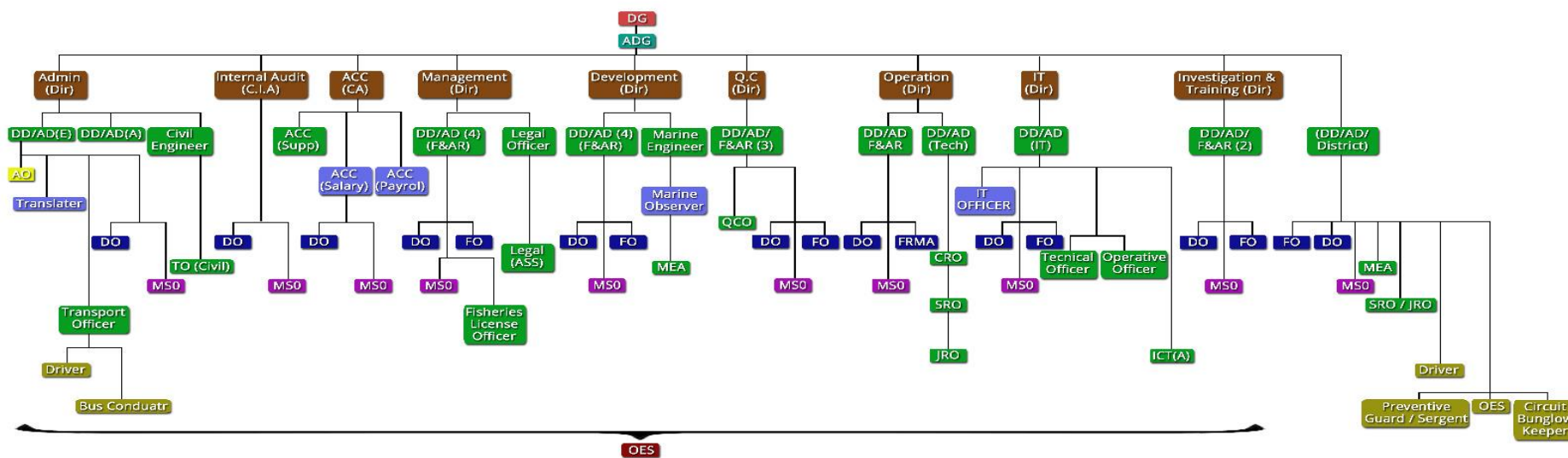
Monitoring of all multi-day fishing vessels departing for fishing in international waters by means of satellite technology is an integral part of international laws and regulations. Since 2015, only the vessels having licenses to operate in international waters are monitored by a Vessel Monitoring System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

Accordingly, a complete vessel monitoring system consisting of 4200 VMS units to fulfill the above requirement was established in the Department as a grant from the Australian Government. The new VMS system is accessible throughout all the port offices and centrally managed by the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) located at the Head Office premises on a 24x7 basis. The facilities available at this centre can be made use of identifying vessels at risk of illegal activities such as illegal fishing, human trafficking, drug trafficking and illegal border crossing. This system can also be used to provide facilities for fishing vessels in emergency situations. The Fisheries Monitoring Center has also been modernized with all modern technology and thus it can be considered as one of the most advanced Monitoring Centers in Asia today.

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

VMS tracking records with the position information of the entire fishing trip of every multi-day vessel arriving to land is sent to the High Seas Fisheries Unit by the Vessel Monitoring Division. Thereafter the log page of that vessel is checked and only if the same is compared with the VMS data the verification officer will issue a verification report signed by the Assistant Director (High Seas) to the effect that the vessel has legally caught fish without engaging in any illegal fishing activities, enabling to export the said fish stock. Only after this verification report is forwarded to the Airport Quality Control Unit located at Katunayake, the officials there will issue the Catch Certificate required for the export of the fish related to the said trip of the vessel. This fish information verification process is implemented by the officers who are working on a roster basis through 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24x7) at 21 Harbor Operations Offices, Vessel Monitoring Unit at Colombo Head Office, High Seas Fisheries Unit as well as Quality Control Unit at Katunayake Bandaranaike Airport. Due to this process, any fish stock brought to the Island by multi-day fishing vessels will have the opportunity to be certified as having been legally caught with reports and licenses, and to direct them for export.

1.5 Organization Chart of the Department



Chapter 02- Progress and the Future Outlook

2.1. Special Achievements,

1. In compliance with existing laws relating to vessel monitoring equipment in the year 2024;
 - Cancellation of vessel departure. 511 vessels
 - Referral for Legal Action 47 vessels
2. Drafting the new Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act
 - 2.1. The new Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act has been drafted and submitted to the Hon. Cabinet of Ministers. It is an Act to amend the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 2 of 1996 and the Fisheries (Regulation of Foreign Fishing Boats) Act No. 59 of 1979 and to make provisions for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been received for the same and a Cabinet Sub-Committee has been appointed to examine the drafts and submit such other and further proposals to the Legal Draftsman.
3. Regulations made under the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act.
 - 3.1. Approval of the House has been obtained for one Act to amend the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No.2 of 1996.
 - Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No.27 of 2023
 - 3.2. Approval of the House has been obtained for five 05 regulations which were made by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and published in the Gazette Extraordinary.
 - Implementation of Satellite based Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for Fishing Boats operating in fishing operations in High Seas (Amendment) Regulations- 2015
 - Fishing Operations (Amendment) Regulations
 - Recreational Fishery Management Regulations
 - Departure and Arrival of Mechanized Fishing Boats Regulations
 - Culture of Coral Species on Artificial Substrates for Export Regulations
 - 3.3. One Regulation drafted by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has been submitted for the approval of the Attorney General's Department.
 - Fishermen's Pension and Social Security Benefits Regulations
 - 3.4. Three (03) Regulations drafted by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources have been submitted for the approval of the Legal Draftsmen's Department.
 - Fish Handling and Distribution Regulations
 - Issue of Fisheries Identity Card Regulations-2023
 - Establishment of Rural Fisheries Organizations/ District Organizations/National Fisheries Federations Regulations-2023
 - 3.5. Approval of the House is to be taken for two Regulations which were made by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and published in the Gazette Extraordinary.

- The Issuance of Certificates of Competence for Skippers (Local Fishing Board) (Amendment) Regulations 2019
 - The Mud Crab Fishery Management Regulations, 2024
- 3.6. One Regulations to be in force under the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act has been drafted.
- Canned Fish Regulations

4. Number of licenses issued for the export of fish and fishery products

- Number of health certificates for seafood export 26,210
- Number of fish catch certificates 16,832
- Number of registered fish processing establishments and fish packaging centers 65

5. Progress in Information and Technology

1. Printing about 10000 Fisheries Identity Cards by using 100% of departmental resources only.
2. In the **Bestweb.lk** competition held for the selection of the best websites in Sri Lanka, the website of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources received an award for getting the third place in the government website category.
3. 181 brand new tabs were received under ALDFG and Pelagisko projects for the distribution among the Officials of the Department.
4. Performance of duties have been commenced using Network Software (MSDFAR), through which it has been able to successfully complete 49000 registrations (Fishermen's Registrations), 170 Yard Registrations, 1535 Boat Design Approvals, 7400 Boat Number Registrations , 4590 Boat Registrations ,4485 Renewal of Boat Registration ,10200 Issue of Operations Licenses, 870 Renewal of Operations Licences,1600 insertions of Scientific Data., 9420 Skipper Registrations and 1427 fish catch certificates by now.
5. A total of 1779 VMS were installed under the Australian Government.



Figure: Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centre



Figure: The award received by the Department's Website for winning the third place in the government sector website category at the Bestweb.lk competition.

6. Release and repatriation of fishermen along with their fishing vessels, arrested in foreign countries

Number of fishermen arrested	Number of fishermen released	Number of fishing vessels arrested	Number of fishing vessels released
125	60	33	03

7. Rescue of fishing vessels which went adrift in local waters, High Seas and waters of foreign countries

Number of rescued fishermen	The number of fishing vessels of which release was coordinated	Fishing vessels wrecked by ships in collisions	Number of abandoned fishing vessels
102	35	04	06

8. Verification of information on fishing vessels carrying out fishing operations at High Seas

1	Number of log copies received by the unit relevant to the fishing operations at High Seas	2197
2	Number of verification reports issued regarding fishing operations	2150

9. Collection of fishing logbooks relevant to operations carried out by multi-day boats

.1	Number of fishing log sheets received by Harbor Operations Offices	39438
2.	Number of log sheets entered into the log data base	30490

10. Providing services through information technology.

1	Providing fishing trips for vessels via online method	72794
2	Number of vessel photographic records entered into the data base maintained for IOTC requirements	352
3	Registration of AIS equipment legally	166

11. Progress of the Investigation Activities-2024

Ser.No.	Activities	Indicators	Achievement of targets
01	District level raids and investigations against illegal fishing activities and supervision of legal proceedings	Updated data report maintained about the district level legal proceedings	The updated data report is being actively maintained.
2	The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources will prepare a procedure for imposing administrative penalties, in accordance with the relevant procedures, in response to requests from all district offices for imposing monetary penalties.	Number of cases made liable to administrative penalties.	37
3	Filing legal actions in court against the confirmed illegal activities	Number of cases heard	0
4	Conducting investigations into the violations of laws identified by the Vessel Monitoring System.	Number of investigations conducted into the violations by VMS	800
5	Conducting special raids	Percentage of implementation of the number of raids planned	0
6	Inspections and investigations into the establishments which are supplying fishing vessels, fishing gear, products and fishing baits	01. Number of inspections	16
		02. Number of prosecutions	0

12. Progress of the Development Programmes

Prime responsibility of the Fisheries Development Division is to increase fish production through development and regulation of the fisheries sector by means of efficient and introducing new environment friendly technological methods in order to achieve a greater contribution towards the National Economy of Sri Lanka and to take necessary steps to upgrade socio economic status of the fisher folks.

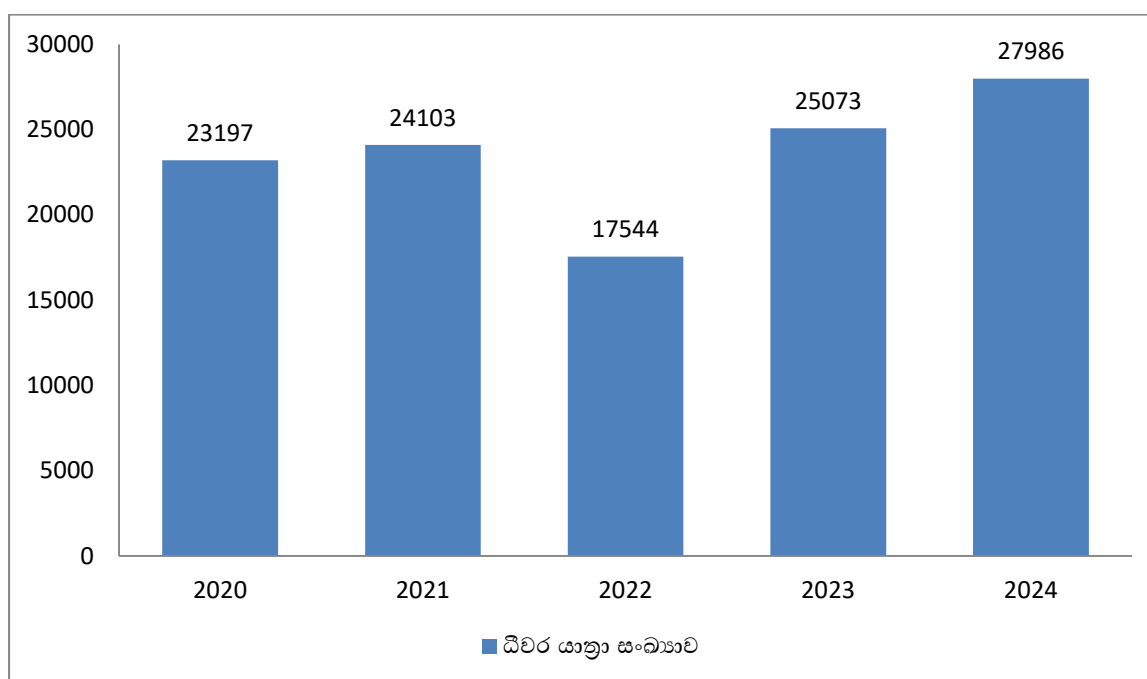
Main functions of the Fisheries Development Division

- Registration, regulation and supervision of fishing boat building yards.
- Granting approvals for boat designs.
- Registration, regulation and supervision of fishing gear suppliers.
- Introduction and promotion of new technological methods to the fisheries industry.
- Granting recommendations to the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) pertaining to the construction projects in coastal areas so as not to cause obstruction to the fisheries industry.
- Development of infrastructure facilities in fisheries sector.
- Implementation of alternative income generating projects
- Implementation of fisheries subsidy schemes.
- Implementation of fisheries loan schemes.
- Ensuring social security of fishermen through the implementation of fisheries pension schemes.
- Dealing with fishermen's compensation.
- Implementation of the Diyawara Kekulu children's saving programme
- Taking necessary action to streamline the development and conservation of lagoon eco system.
- Implementation of lagoon development programmes
- Formulation and implementation of the annual action plan of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.
- Reviewing progress by coordinating all district offices.
- Resolving special fisheries disputes

Ensuring the safety of fishermen

Progress in the tasks related to ensuring the safety of fishermen

Activity	Progress up to 31.12.2024
Total number of fishing vessels insured	27986
Total number of fishermen insured	23756
Number of persons contributing to the Fisheries Pension Scheme	69095
Issue of seaworthiness certificates	28421
Registration of fishing vessels	55
Registration of fishing gear suppliers	19
Registration of fishing equipment suppliers	07

**Graph: Number of fishing vessels insured**

Introduction of new insurance cover for fishermen

According to the criteria of the International Labour Organization, the fishing occupation has been named as one of the most challenging, dangerous and risk prone occupations. Considering the fisheries industry in the country, the risk prone nature of the saltwater fisheries sector is higher than that of the freshwater fisheries sector. As per the statistics of the Ministry of Fisheries, the number of fishermen in Sri Lanka is 315,720, of which 225,070 are employed in the marine fisheries sector and out of the said number, about 87% are coastal fishermen, and 34,300 are engaged in offshore and deep-sea fishing by means multi-day fishing vessels. The number of fisher families in the country is 266,640 and the number of people who are directly dependent on the fisheries industry is about 1,123,000. The number of people engaged in indirect employments related to this sector and its associated dependents are estimated to be around 03 million. Thus, about 18% of the total population of Sri Lanka earns their livelihood from and around the fisheries industry.

The total number of active fishermen in Sri Lanka is 315,720. Out of them, the people who have contributed to the insurance scheme that has been in operation so far, is approximately 1.73% out of the number of active fishermen. Since the necessity of implementing a new insurance scheme with a more effective and affordable installment for the fishermen, having identified shortcomings and issues of the existing insurance scheme, has arisen, the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources jointly with the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation has introduced the "Dheewara Rakuma" personal accidental insurance cover.

Under the "Dheewara Rekuma" personal accidental insurance cover operated by the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation, the amount of compensation received on behalf of the fisherman in case of his death is granted to his dependents in such a way that is a half of the total amount to the wife and the other half among the minor children of the family. 03 options have been introduced by the Insurance Corporation.

Particulars of the “Dheewara Rekuma” Insurance Cover

Particulars of the Cover	Insured Amount(Rs.)		
	Option01	Option02	Option03
01. Personal accidental insurance			
Accidental insurance	1,200,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Permanent total disability	1,200,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Permanent partial disability	600,000	750,000	1,000,000
02. Disappearances			
In case of disappearance of the fisherman due to an accident while engaged in fishing activities, the payment of benefits will be started after completion of 05 months since the date of disappearance.	At a rate of Rs.7,500 per month for up to 12 months	At a rate of Rs.7,500 per month for up to 12 months	At a rate of Rs.7,500 per month for up to 12 months
In case of disappearance for more than one year, the balance will be paid after deducting the above compensation from the insured amount	1,200,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
03. Hospitalization Allowance Claims for a maximum of 14 days per year are paid for a fisher family hospitalization in the event of hospitalization for accidents or illness. Fisherman and spouse - 18 to 65 years Unmarried, unemployed children up to 21 years.	Rs.500/= per day (maximum 14 days)	Rs.500/= per day (maximum 14 days)	Rs.500/= per day (maximum 14 days)
04. Educational Expense Allowance Educational expenses of school going children will be paid for a year at the rate of Rs.1000 per month for a maximum of two children.	1,000	1,000	1,000
05. Funeral Benefit (Payable on natural deaths.)	200,000	200,000	200,000
06. Air ticket cover In case of drifting/arrest by another state due to fishing operations.	40,000	40,000	40,000

Compensation for Natural Hazards

This program is jointly implemented by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Ministry of Finance under the direct government provisions. No any charge is made from the beneficiary for this purpose. Under this programme, a compensation of rupees one million is provided for the dependents of a fisherman who dies due to natural hazard while engaged in fishing activities and accordingly five (05) beneficiary families have been compensated from January 01 to December 31, 2024. Apart from that, steps have been taken to provide Rs. 2,000,000.00 as a relief allowance of Rs. 05 lakh each to the families of the four deceased fishermen in the fishing vessel Devon 05. In order to receive the allowance of Rs. 1 million granted by the government in the event of a natural death, it must be proved that the death was caused as a result of a natural hazard. For this, provision of a report on the hazard is mandatory.

Diyawara Diriya Loan Scheme

Diyawara Diriya Low Interest Loan Scheme has been launched by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in collaboration with the Bank of Ceylon in order to upgrade the standard of fishing crafts and to provide relief for the fishermen with the objective of developing the fisheries industry and taking more qualitative fish harvest through the introduction of new technology.

Under this, loans are granted to each beneficiary subject to a maximum amount of Rs.15 million and the interest rate is as follows.

- 5% interest will be charged from the borrower if the amount of loan is less than Rs.2 million
- 7% interest will be charged from the borrower if the amount of loan is more than Rs.2 million
- In this loan scheme, 4 percent interest subsidy is granted for each fisherman by the Government.
- When granting these loans, priority is given for undertakings such as improvement to the boat yards, construction of fishing boats over 55ft in length, advancement of new technology (RSW, CSW), installation of long lines and winch machines etc.
- Under phase 1, loans have been granted for 755 beneficiaries totaling a sum of Rupees One billion under 01st phase of Diyawara Diriya while a sum of Rupees 1.8 billion has been granted for 1017 beneficiaries under the phase (II) of this loan scheme.

- 4 % premiums hereof are credited to the Bank of Ceylon by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and this has to be paid until 2031.

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Diyawara Kekulu Children's Savings Account

According to the criteria of the International Labour Organization, the fishing occupation has been named as one of the most challenging, dangerous and risky prone occupations. The economy of the vast majority of fishermen's families is entirely dependent on the income earned by the fisherman who is the head of the family. The nutrition, education and health security of those fisher families are completely dependent on the individual income of the fisherman. Due to the accidents encountered by the fisherman, the economy of the family collapses completely, and the education of the fishers' children is broken down at large. Accordingly, attention of the Department has been focused towards ensuring the social security of fisher families, attracting young people to the fisheries industry, and the promotion of thrift and investment/saving habits of fishermen for the future of their families.

Thus, upon the request of the Ministry of Fisheries, the Bank of Ceylon has taken necessary steps to start a special 'Dheewara Kekulu' children's savings account for fishermen's children in order to provide wider cover for them.

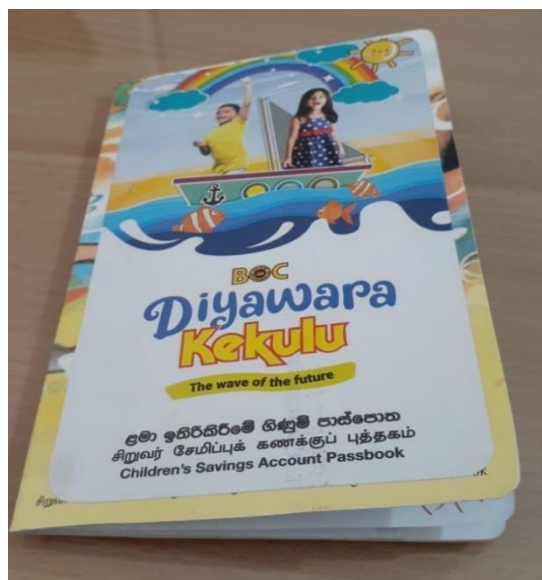


Figure: Diyawara Kekulu Children's Savings Account

Various programs implemented by the Development Division of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the year 2024 and their progress

The programme of providing kerosene under the Chinese's aides for the small fishing vessels with outboard engine (OFRP) and traditional mechanized boats (MTRB) powered using kerosene as fuel, 2023-2024. **[OFRP (Out board fiber Reinforced Plastic Boat), MTRB (Mechanized Traditional Boat)]**

The Petroleum Corporation Ltd decided to provide kerosene for the consumption of small-scale fishermen in place of the 3.79 million liters of diesel donated by the Republic of China and it was observed that there is a possibility to release 4.32 million liters of kerosene according to the prevailing price at that time. The release of this fuel was done in two phases and accordingly, it was decided to provide 75 liters in the first phase and 78 liters in the second phase totaling 153 liters of kerosene per fishing boat at the end of both phases.

Thus, it was expected to grant the said relief to active OFRP and MTRB vessels engaged in fishing operations throughout the Island, powered with kerosene as fuel and which are registered in the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. Accordingly, approval has already been given to grant this relief to 25,564 vessels identified as active fishing vessels in 15 fisheries districts of Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Tangalle, Kalmunai, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Kilinochchi, Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Mannar, Puttalam, Chilaw and Negombo.

The release of the fuel is done by 96 filling stations and 1,825,500 liters of kerosene were released for 24340 OFRP and MTRB vessels at a rate of 75 liters per vessel.

Fuel release under the second phase was done by 97 filling stations and 1,873,872 liters of kerosene was released to 24,024 OFRP and MTRB vessels at a rate of 78 liters per vessel and 153 liters per vessel to OFRP and MTRB vessels for which fuel was not released in the first phase and as such 624,852 liters of kerosene were released to 4,084 OFRP and MTRB vessels. Accordingly, 2,498,724 liters of kerosene for 28,108 vessels have been distributed under the second phase by 05.03.2024.

Distribution of kerosene under first and second phases

District	First Phase		Second Phase								
	Number of vessels approved to be provided with kerosene	Total number of vessels which received kerosene by 28.07.2023	Number of vessels approved to be provided with kerosene			Total number of vessels which received kerosene by 05.03.2024					
			78 (L)	153 (L)	Total Number of Vessels (Approved)	Only Second Stage (Vessels)	Kerosene released (75 L)	First and Second Phase (Vessels)	Kerosene released (153 L)	Total Number of Vessels (Issued)	Kerosene liters issued (Total)
Batticaloa	1796	1725	1727	124	1851	1711	133458	111	16983	1822	150441
Colombo	364	291	291	114	405	287	22386	112	17136	399	39522
Chilaw	1669	1430	1428	449	1877	1391	108498	395	60435	1786	168933
Galle	702	691	691	110	801	678	52884	105	16065	783	68949
Jafna	5478	5282	5283	642	5925	5271	411138	618	94554	5889	505692
Kilinochchi	1045	1021	1020	140	1160	1018	79404	139	21267	1157	100671
Kalutara	418	412	412	41	453	411	32058	39	5967	450	38025
Kalmunai	1000	973	973	155	1128	968	75504	146	22338	1114	97842
Mannar	2431	2309	2310	714	3024	2254	175812	634	97002	2888	272814
Matara	1015	982	982	76	1058	963	75114	70	10710	1033	85824
Tangalle	966	946	946	101	1047	939	73242	99	15147	1038	88389
Trincomalee	3545	3537	3542	380	3922	3535	275730	376	57528	3911	333258
Puttalam	2617	2502	2496	599	3095	2394	186732	456	69768	2850	256500
Negombo	1405	1207	1208	357	1565	1181	92118	334	51102	1515	143220
Mullaitivu	1113	1032	1032	461	1493	1023	79794	450	68850	1473	148644
Total	25564	24340	24341	4463	28804	24024	1873872	4084	624852	28108	2498724

Development of infrastructure facilities in the Fisheries Industry - (Minimizing the impact caused to the fishermen due to sand mining for the development of the Western Terminal of the Colombo Port Expansion Project)

The Sri Lanka Port Authority and the Western Terminal Development Company have allocated a sum of rupees one hundred and forty million (Rs.140 M) to the Ministry of Fisheries to develop the infrastructure of the fisheries industry with a view to minimizing the impact of the Colombo Port Western Terminal expansion project on the concerned fishermen. The said amount is to be used for the development of fisheries infrastructure facilities in Gampaha and Colombo districts which will be highly affected by the project. In parallel to this, 25 fishermen engaged in small scale fishing industry in Negombo district have been given teppans. The Secretary to the Ministry of Fisheries gave approval to allocate rupees 03 million for this purpose. The objective of the project was to increase the active contribution of small-scale fishermen towards the fisheries sector, increase their fish harvest and improve their livelihoods. Through this initiative, a sustainable and prosperous future is envisaged for the local fisher community.

This theppan was produced by the Cey-Nor Foundation. On 26.01.2024, under the leadership of the Ministry of Fisheries, these theppans were distributed to the selected beneficiaries.

The project of renovating the landing site/ breakwater near the Bay of Lunawa which is another identified project is currently underway. The project has been approved by the Department of National Planning. This project is jointly implemented by the Department of Coastal Conservation and Coastal Resource Management. The Department of Coastal Conservation and Coastal Resource Management has been authorized to carry out those activities. Ministry of Finance Rs. 44,762,707.50 allocation has been released for the project. Accordingly, the relevant MoU was signed in June and further work related to the project is currently underway. The main objectives of this project are to increase the structural integrity and resilience of the breakwater, to withstand the currents and storms at sea and also to improve the protection and access of the landing site for fishing activities.

And the new projects to be carried out using the remaining Rs.140 million have been identified.

Progress of the measures taken to regulate the impact caused to the fisheries sector by the fire incident of the cargo ship New X Press Pearl on 21st, May.

On 20th May 2021, Singapore-flagged cargo ship “MV X-PRESS PEARL with 1,486 containers onboard carrying dangerous cargo; 25 tons of nitric acid, other chemicals, some cosmetics, 278 metric tons of bunker oil and 50 metric tons of marine gas oil from Hazira Port of India caught fire while anchored 9.5 km off the coast of Sri Lanka. Plastic pellets, oil and chemical spills caused a significant economic damage to the fisheries industry on the west coast of the country. Coastal pollution from Kalutara to Negombo has been observed with oil, chemicals and burnt particles especially plastic pellets. Plastic debris, oil and chemical spills have caused a high negative impact on coastal fisheries and marine ecosystems. Experts said that this accident will have a serious impact on the entire ecosystem such as coral reefs, sea grass, fish habitats, etc. The impact of the

MV Xpress Pearl vessel is therefore wide-ranging and likely to have short-term, medium-term and long-term impacts. The Ministry of Fisheries, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and other agencies under the purview of the Ministry of Fisheries have taken various measures to mitigate the adverse impacts on Sri Lanka's environmental, social and economic and health sectors and protect fishermen and seafood consumers. Accordingly, fishing activities were banned in the fisheries districts of Negombo, Kalutara and Colombo to reduce the immediate adverse effects on the fisheries sector. The temporary fishing ban was imposed on 21.05.2021 and it was implemented until 05.06.2022 based on the scientific recommendations of NARA.

Recognizing the potential for pollutant spillover based on numerical modeling studies as a precautionary measure against environmental pollution from pollutants and debris from the MV Xpress Pearl, NARA recommended that a 457 square kilometer offshore area of 65 kilometers of coastline be prohibited. Fishing was declared to be prohibited at the Mahaoya River estuary in the North and the Panadura in the South. Due to the long-standing fish ban in the area, a significant number of direct fishermen and indirect beneficiaries of the fisheries industry have been affected by this incident, and 23 categories of fishermen and 24 other professions related to the fisheries industry have been identified as the affected parties.

Information of the Fishermen directly affected

District	No. of directly affected fisheries inspectors' division	No. of active fishermen	Affected vessels
Negombo	13	11,081	IMUL 40 IDAY 60 OFRP 2015 NTRB 1484 MTRB 02
Colombo	10	3,250	IMUL 11 IDAY 14 OFRP 446 NTRB 294 MTRB 01
Kalutara	02	701	OFRP 47 NTRB 33

Multi-day Fishing Vessels (IMUL), 1 Day Fishing Vessels (1 Day), (OFRP), (NTRB), Mechanized Vessels(MTRB)

Information of the affected Fishermen

District	No.of Fishermen
Negombo	3,866
Colombo	851
Kalutara	171

The amount of compensation approved by the Ministry of Fisheries**The amount of compensation granted for direct and indirect fishermen**

District	Amount of compensation granted (Rupees)				
	1 st Phase	2 nd Phase	3 rd Phase	4 th Phase	Total
Negombo	206,197,500.00	242,825,000.00	551,220,000.00	998,237,548.00	1,998,480,048.00
Colombo	58,942,500.00	74,720,500.00	205,233,125.00	288,319,656.00	627,215,781.00
Kalutara	14,170,000.00	16,312,500.00	37,285,000.00	72,558,360.00	140,325,860.00
For the allowance of Rs. 5000	67,000,000.00				67,000,000.00
For netting gear	2,067,515.00			4,474,410.00	6,541,925.00
Compensation for damage to the aquaculture		1,154,930.00			1,154,930.00
Total	348,377,515.00	335,012,930.00	793,738,125.00	1,363,589,974.00	2,773,718,544.00

Provision of the Administrative Expense Allowance

Several government institutions worked together to identify the damage caused due to the fire and sinking of the X-PRESS PEARL ship on the coast of Sri Lanka and to take necessary action in that regard. For this purpose, the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka, Marine Environment Protection Authority, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, District Secretariats and Divisional Secretariats have contributed a lot and these institutions are assisting for all the necessary activities even now.

Accordingly, an allowance was paid for 292 officials of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for carrying out administrative tasks including assessing the damage caused to the

fisheries industry, identifying people who lost their livelihood, and paying compensation for the period from 21.05.2021 to 31.12.2023 depending on the period of service.

Issuance of Fisheries Identity Cards

Issue of fisheries identity cards and skipper licences to verify the identity of the fisher community, who is engaged in fisheries industry, is carried out by the Development Division of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. The particulars about the fisheries ID cards and skipper licences issued by the Development Division from January 01, 2024 to August 31, 2024 are as follows.

Total number of Fisheries Identity Cards issued – 1,528

Total number of Skipper Licenses issued -871

Lagoon Development (Development Division)

➤ Gazetting of Puttalam Lagoon in Puttalam Fisheries District

Puttalam Lagoon has been declared as a Management Area under Gazette Notification No. 1665/17 dated 04th of August, 2010. In accordance with the provisions of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act No. 35 of 2013, the Legal Section is carrying out the necessary activities to re-gazette with GPS readings to ensure the conservation, development and management and safety of the Puttalam lagoon ecosystem.

Conducting awareness programs for the fishermen in Puttalam Fisheries District

In the year 2024, 04 fishermen's awareness programmes of the future activities of the Lagoon Management Committees of the Puttalam Lagoon in the Chilaw Fisheries District and raising the livelihood of the fishermen were held on April 24, 25, 30 and May 09, 2024.



Figure: While conducting the fishermen's awareness program in Puttalam Fisheries District

➤ **Conducting awareness programs for fishermen in Chilaw Fisheries District**

In the year 2024, 04 fishermen's awareness programmes of the future activities of the Lagoon Management Committees of the Chilaw Lagoon in the Chilaw Fisheries District and raising the livelihood of the fishermen were held on April 08, 29 and May 03, 2024.

➤ **Conducting awareness programs for the fishermen in Matara Fisheries District**

In the year 2024, a fishermen awareness programme of the future activities of the Lagoon Management Committees of the Garanduwa Lagoon in the Matara Fisheries District and raising the livelihood of the fishermen was held on February 22, 2024.

➤ **Necessary legal action is being taken to gazette the Fisheries Development and Management Plan of Chilaw, Koggala and Garanduva lagoons.**

The Fisheries Development and Management Plan has been gazetted with the aim of sustainably maintaining the Koggala Lagoon in Galle District, Garanduwa Lagoon in Matara District and Puttalam Lagoon in Puttalam District and the ecological conditions of the said lagoon ecosystem, thereby securing the livelihood of the people around the lagoon.

➤ **Transporting demarcation posts for the fixation around Puttalam Lagoon in Puttalam Fisheries District.**

Demarcation posts have been transported for the fixation around Puttalam Lagoon in Puttalam Fisheries District.

The Subsidy Program under the aid of the Chinese government for low-income fisher families in the Northern and Eastern provinces-2024.

	District	Amount of rice distributed (50kg of Rice)
1	Jaffna	7129
2	Kilinochchi	1174
3	Mannar	4226
4	Mullaitivu	2818
5	Batticaloa	6504
6	Trincomalee	5640
7	Kalmunai	4288
Total		31779

Table: Summary of the distribution of rice subsidy



Figures: The occasion of distributing rice under Chinese Government aids

The program of providing 500 prefabricated housing units under the assistance of the Chinese Government to low-income fisher families in the northern and eastern provinces 2024

500 prefabricated housing units valued at Rs.750 million have been donated to the Government of Sri Lanka under the assistance of the Republic of China and these prefabricated housing units are to be distributed to low-income fishermen engaged in active fisheries industry in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and Kalmunai. The prefabricated housing units have been transported to the respective districts as follows.

Summary of distributing prefabricated housing units

District	No. of prefab houses assigned	No. of prefab houses transported
Jaffna	116	116
Kilinochchi	64	64
Mannar	64	64
Mullaitivu	64	64
Batticaloa	64	64
Kalmunai	64	64
Trincomalee	64	64
Total	500	500

One model housing unit has been built in Trincomalee, Mannar, Jaffna and Batticaloa districts and by showing it to the beneficiaries, their consent to get such a house is being taken. Tri forces have agreed to supply the required labour to build these prefabricated houses.



Figure: Model prefabricated housing unit

64 beneficiaries have been identified in Trincomalee district by now and such housing units are to be constructed first with the labour support of the Tri Forces.

Program to provide 75,000 fishing nets for the low-income fisher families in the Northern and Eastern provinces under the aid of the Chinese government 2024

75,000 fishing nets worth Rs. 500 million have been donated to the Government of Sri Lanka under the aid of the Republic of China and the fishing nets are to be distributed to the low-income fishermen engaged in the active fisheries industry in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and Kalmunai. These fishing nets have been transported to the respective districts in the following manner.

Summary of distributing netting subsidy

	District	No. of selected beneficiaries	Number of nets approved and transported to each district	No. of beneficiaries nets were distributed
1	Jaffna	3614	21684	2384
2	Trincomalee	2625	15750	1196
3	Mannar	2309	13854	1504
4	Batticaloa	1589	9534	1583
5	Mullaitivu	583	3498	437
6	Kalmunai	887	5322	791
7	Kilinochchi	870	5220	622
Total		12477	74862	8517



Figure: Fishing nets received as a Chinese donation

Providing climate resilient boats under the support of World Food and Agriculture Organization

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) handed over two climate-resilient fishing vessels designed at the research level to the Ministry of Fisheries in order to meet the challenges of sustainable development and challenges in climate change.

These two fishing vessels named SL20 and SL23 of 6.3 and 7 meters in length are designed for inshore fishing in Sri Lanka. Complying with FAO/ILO/IMO standards, these boats prioritize the safety of fishermen and are built to withstand the challenges posed by climate change, including frequent and intense storms and cyclones, and to withstand capsizing. Designs of these climate-resistant boats are freely available through the FAO Fishing Vessel Designing Database.

When considering the performance of the boats, the wider footprint on the water of SL20 and SL23 is more than the traditional fishing boats. One of the advantages of a wider footprint is that the SL20 and SL23 can carry more ice and carry that load when loaded with crew. The SL20 and SL23 have an improved V-shaped bottom design. The advantage of the improved “U”-shape is that the SL20 and SL23 can maintain speed and efficiency, even in bad weather condition. Traditional fishing boats have a relatively flat bottom, which makes them less stable and less efficient in rough sea conditions.

The approximate cost of Rs.9 million for the design and construction of these boats was allocated from the financial funds generously credited by the Norwegian government to FAO's Trust Fund for projects related to "Responsible use of fisheries and aquatic resources for sustainable development".

These two boats have been handed over to the fisheries offices of Jaffna and Kalutara districts for use at an experimental level. Data pertaining to their use should be submitted to the World Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The programme of reviving the fisheries industry by minimizing the impact caused to the fisheries sector due to the economic crisis - 2024

Under this program, about 6,500 one-day (IDAY) and multi-day (IMUL) fishing vessels using diesel as fuel and about 32,000 small vessels (OFRP, MTRB) using kerosene as fuel are provided with the “Fisheries Industry Recovery Allowance”.

Fishermen using kerosene as fuel are provided with a “Fisheries Industry Recovery Allowance” of Rs. 25/- per liter only for the days they are engaged in fishing, subject to a maximum of 15 liters of kerosene per day and a maximum of 25 days per month. A sum of Rs.9375 is reimbursed per month for the owners of MTRB and OFRP fishing vessels registered in the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, who are actively engaged in fishing activities.

The government decided to provide a “Fisheries Industry Recovery Allowance” to the owners of fishing vessels using diesel as fuel in such a way they receive Rs.25/ per liter of diesel purchased by them based on the type of fishing vessel, type of operation, area of operation and number of days of operation, and accordingly, an amount of Rs. 25 per liter of diesel purchased for IMUL and IDAY fishing vessels using diesel as fuel, registered under the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and actively engaged in the fisheries industry will be reimbursed. However, the amount of fuel to be reimbursed for one trip should not exceed the fuel tank capacity of that vessel and the reimbursement is subject to a maximum of Rs. 300,000/- per month.

This program will be implemented for a period of 06 months only. During that period, whenever the Petroleum Corporation revises the prices of diesel and kerosene, the benefit under this scheme will also be revised from the date of implementation of the revision. Accordingly, the benefit provided per liter will always be calculated by considering a percentage of 7.5% for diesel while 12.5% for kerosene.

The relevant “Fisheries Industry Recovery Allowance” is provided only for the fishing vessels registered with the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in accordance with the Fishing Vessel Registration Regulations, 1980 and which have obtained a fishing license for the year 2024.

When providing the allowance to the beneficiaries, the relevant receipts for the amount of fuel purchased by them should be submitted to the Head Office by the Assistant Director of the relevant Fisheries District along with the reimbursement application, and thereafter the payments will be credited to the beneficiary's bank account by the Head Office.

Granting of “Fisheries Industry Recovery Allowance” from 01.10.2024 to 31.12.2024

Ser.No.	District	No. of boats the allowance was granted	Total amount paid (Rs.)
1	Batticalo	256	1,796,300.00
2	Colombo	185	693,050.00
3	Chilaw	343	37,419,460.00
4	Galle	93	4,839,075.00
5	Jaffna	726	3,954,437.75
6	Kilinochchi	108	645,375.00
7	Kalutara	232	8,604,388.00
8	Kalmunai	36	1,012,875.00
9	Mannar	72	337,500.00
10	Matara	553	24,113,000.00
11	Tangalle	374	15,370,383.76
12	Trincomalee	635	4,082,326.00
13	Puttalam	179	3,646,250.00
14	Negombo	141	7,867,197.50
15	Mullaitivu	0	-
	Total	3933	114,381,618.01

2.2. Challenges:

Information Technology Division.

1. No update of the relevant rules and regulations in implementing information technology activities.
2. Some officers' backwardness in using new technology.
3. Lack of provisions when paying the service fees of VMS devices.
4. Dearth of officers as those who underwent training in the systems have obtained leave to be spent in and out of the Island.

Development Division

1. Issues arising in identifying lands, verifying ownership and acquisition of private lands in implementing development projects on landing sites
2. Impacts on the coastal ecosystem due to frequent natural disasters and weather changes
3. In insuring the fishermen, some fishermen's lack of interest in obtaining life insurance policies.

Management Division

1. Although there is a high demand for the export of marine species with high commercial value, the demand for the same cannot be adequately fulfilled. Also, it has been an issue because of the depletion of these resources and due to the fact that no any study about the fish stocks in the sea around Sri Lanka for management of harvesting resources has been conducted for yet.
2. Although multi-day vessel regulation has been implemented in the management of fishing efforts, the use of small vessels by low-income fishermen affects their livelihoods, and thus, so restricting these vessels is a problem even though there is a high use of small vessels in the coastal fishing industry.
3. Scientific research reports and recommendations are mandatory for the preparation of regulations for the management of fishery resources, but it has not been possible to prepare and amend the necessary regulations in a timely manner due to the inadequate annual allocation of funds to the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency for this purpose and the lack of necessary studies, ion this regard.

➤ Operations Division

1. Difficulty in obtaining accurate information from the district offices to properly update the information of some vessels when updating the valid period of licences of the vessel lists maintained by the Division in the website of the Department of Fisheries on a daily basis, which is inspected by the foreign countries buying fish from Sri Lanka.
2. When updating the fishing data information logbook, which is completed by the skippers of multi-day vessels whenever they fish at sea, the relevant fisherman determines the weight of the fish he catches according to his experience and writes the same in the logbook, and this practice is a challenge to the accuracy of the fish production data of the Fisheries Department.

3. There is a challenge regarding the issuance of Catch Verification report issued by the Fisheries Operations Division for the issuance of Catch Certificates by the port officers and the Verification Unit of the Colombo Operations Division, based on the weight mentioned by the skipper of the relevant vessel and also the accuracy of the quantity of fish brought on board, without weighing the fish at the time of landing.
4. In accordance with the VMS Regulations, once the skipper of the vessel becomes aware that his vessel monitoring system has become inactive at sea, he shall, in terms of Regulation 9 thereof, transmit the position and time of his vessel to a land-based Fisheries Monitoring Centre of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources once every four hours while fishing.
5. If the same is not possible, the vessel should immediately turn back and return to land. It is a challenging task to contact the land via HF frequency once every four hours, and at the same time it is very difficult to contact the land at all times of the day using SSB HF technology.

➤ **Quality Control Division**

1. Lack of domestic raw materials suitable for export.
2. Lack of necessary facilities in the laboratories to test fish stocks exported to European Union countries in accordance with the approved parameters of the European Union.

➤ □ **Investigation and Training Division**

1. Difficulties in involving the fisher community in training programs implemented for them due to the nature of their occupation.
2. Reduction of the ability in conducting training programs at district levels due to the shortage of staff.

2.3. Future Goals

➤ □ **Information Technology Division**

1. Introducing an administrative management system for the departmental staff.
2. Updating the basic computer knowledge of the departmental staff.
3. Implementing a promotional program to educate the fisher community on the use of the MSDFAR system.
4. Launching a program for the promotion of the VMS system.
5. Development of the MSDFAR system for recording vessel arrivals.
6. Development of the MSDFAR system for issuing special permits.

➤ **Development Division**

1. Minimizing the impact on the fisheries industry caused due to natural hazards or disruptions to the coastal fisheries industry (development of infrastructure facilities)
2. Under the programme of distributing 500 prefabricated houses donated to the Government of Sri Lanka under the assistance of the People's Republic of China among the low-income fishermen engaged in the active fisheries industry in the Northern and Eastern provinces, these prefabricated housing units have to be built on the lands of the identified beneficiaries.
3. Demarcation of lagoon boundaries, gazetting of lagoon management areas, establishment of committees and preparation of plans for lagoon management and development.
4. Implementation of infrastructure development projects around landing sites.

E.g. Installation of beacon lights

➤ **Management Division**

1. Updating of vessel register
2. Digitalization of issuance of licenses
3. Formulation of necessary regulations for regulation of fishing operations.

➤ **Operations Division**

1. MSDFAR system has to be upgraded in such a way as to enable issuing the operations licences to multi-day fishing vessels through the particular system of the Department by all the district offices thereby enabling the Operations Division to download the said information on a daily basis.
2. A program should be initiated to check the quantity of fish landed in each multi-day vessel trip at each harbour by a vessel inspector and weigh the weight of the relevant fish using scales maintained by the Department and compare the same with the weight stated by the skipper of the vessel.
3. The issuance of fish catch certificates should be started only on the basis of a certificate issued by a vessel inspection officer of the Department after weighing the fish of the relevant vessel.
4. Instead of the HF Radio technology currently used by our multi-day vessels, attention should be focused to a communication medium using satellite technology currently used by sailors in the world. It will be mandatory to have communication devices including this new technology for all vessels that depart for fishing activities with the aim of exporting fish.

➤ **Quality Control Division**

1. Commencement of the programme to issue online fish catch certificates prescribed by the European Commission in the year 2026.

➤ **Investigation and Training Division**

1. Minimizing illegal operations related to fishing activities.

2. Completing annual raid targets at an optimal level.

3. Launching quantitative and qualitative training programs for the officers of the Department and the fisher community as per the annual training plan.

Chapter 03- Overall Financial Performance for the Year ended 31st December 2024

3.1 Statement of Financial Performance

Statement of Financial Performance **For the period ended as at 31st December 2022**

Revised Budget 2024		Note	Actual	
			2024 Rs.	2023 Rs.
	Revenue Receipts			-
-	Income Tax	1		-
164,812,500	Taxes on Domestic Goods & Services	2	173,842,450	179,170,315
-	Taxes on International Trade	3		-
-	Non-Tax Revenue & Others	4		-
164,812,500	Total Revenue Receipts (A)		173,842,450	179,170,315
	Non-Revenue Receipts		-	-
	Treasury Imprests		660,489,423	400,637,299
	Deposits		264,313,407	225,239,292
	Advance Accounts		29,753,255	32,454,828
-	Other Main Ledger Accounts			
	Receipts		-	-
-	Total Non-Revenue Receipts (B)		954,556,085	658,331,418
-	Total Revenue Receipts & Non-Revenue Receipts C = (A)+(B)		1,128,398,535	837,501,733
-	Treasury Remittances (D)		-	-
-	Net Revenue Receipts & Non-Revenue Receipts E=(C)-(D)		1,128,398,535	837,501,733
	Less: Expenditure			
-	Recurrent Expenditure			
646,588,000	Wages, Salaries & Other Employment Benefits	5	624,233,273	541,509,993
179,900,000	Other Goods & Services	6	161,744,364	334,802,171

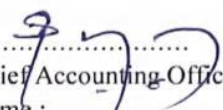
831,400,000	Subsidies, Grants and Transfers	7	104,059,986	21,230,218	ACA 2 (ii)
	Interest Payments	8	-	-	
100,000	Other Recurrent Expenditure	9	43,269	1,057,034	
1,657,988,000	Total Recurrent Expenditure (F)		890,080,892	898,599,417	
Capital Expenditure					
23,000,000	Rehabilitation & Improvement to Capital Assets	10	18,496,442	27,063,949	ACA- 2(ii)
36,087,632	Acquisition of Capital Assets	11	7,601,733	649,101,479	
5,000,000	Capital Transfers	12	3,176,392	912,900	
-	Acquisition of Financial Assets	13	-	-	
2,000,000	Capacity Building	14	1,854,471	2,089,586	
40,000,000	Other Capital Expenditure	15	11,263,960	20,429,193	
106,087,632	Total Capital Expenditure (G)		42,392,998	699,597,107	
	Deposit Payments		173,107,132	97,128,641	ACA-4
	Advance Payments		33,325,953	26,495,786	ACA-5
	Other Main Ledger Payments		-	-	
	Main Ledger Expenditure (H)		206,433,085	123,624,428	
	Total Expenditure I= (F+G+H)		1,138,906,975	1,721,820,951	
	Balance as at 31 st December J=(E-I)		(10,508,440)	(884,319,218)	
	Balance as per the Imprest Adjustment Statement		-	-	ACA-7
	Imprest Balance as at 31 st December		-	-	ACA-3
			-	-	

3.2 Statement of Financial Position**ACA-P****Statement of Financial Position****As at 31st December 2024**

	Note	Actual	
		2024 Rs.	2023 Rs.
Non-Financial Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	ACA-6	2,217,108,554	2,160,107,046
Financial Assets			
Advance Accounts	ACA-5/5(A)	67,573,654	64,000,956
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA-3	-	-
Total Assets		2,284,682,208	2,224,108,002
Net Assets / Equity			
Net Assets to the Treasury		(255,487,108)	(167,262,494)
Property, Plant & Equipment Reserve		2,217,108,554	2,160,107,046
Rent and Work Advance Reserve	ACA-5(B)	591,037	
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Deposits Accounts	ACA-4	322,469,725	231,263,450
Imprest Balance	ACA-3	-	-
Total Liabilities		2,284,682,208	2,224,108,002

Detail Accounting Statements in ACA format Nos. 1 to 7 presented in pages from 07 to 36 and Annexures to accounts presented in pages from 37 to 49 form an integral part of these Financial Statements. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Government Financial Regulations 150 & 151 and state accounts Guideline No.06/2024, dated 16.12.2024 and hereby certify that figures in these Financial Statements, Notes to accounts and other relevant accounts were reconciled with the Treasury Books of Accounts and found in agreement.

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


 Chief Accounting Officer
 Name :
 Designation :
 Date : 25/02/2025


 Accounting Officer
 Name :
 Designation :
 Date : 25/02/2025


 Chief Financial Officer/ Chief Accountant/
 Director (Finance)/ Commissioner (Finance)
 Name :
 Date : 25/02/2025

M.A.L.S.N.K. Manthrinayake (AAL)
 Secretary
 Ministry of Fisheries, Aquatic and
 Ocean Resources
 2 Floor, New Secretariat Building,
 Maligawatte, Colombo 10

Susantha Kahawatta
 Director General
 Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources

A. G. M. Dilhani
 Chief Accountant
 For Director General
 Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources

3.3 Cash Flow Statement**ACA-C**

Cash Flow Statement
For the period ended 31st December 2024

	Actual	
	2024	2023
	Rs.	Rs.
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses	173,126,050	179,348,915
Profit	-	-
Non Revenue Receipts	-	-
Revenue Collected for the Other Heads	40,876,634	32,640,661
Imprest Received	841,595,400	573,350,000
Recoveries from Advance	24,925,557	23,659,038
Deposit Received	264,313,408	225,239,292
Total Cash generated from Operations (a)	1,344,837,049	938,408,905
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Personal Emoluments & Operating Payments	772,892,584	665,519,090
Subsidies & Transfer Payments	102,484,183	21,230,218
Expenditure on Other Heads	53,582,430	6,531,334
Imprest Settlement to Treasury	181,105,977	76,883,701
Advance Payments	25,246,697	19,999,828
Deposit Payments	173,107,132	97,128,641
Total Cash disbursed for Operations (b)	1,308,419,003	887,292,813
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	36,418,046	51,116,092
(C)=(A)- (B)		
<u>Cash Flow from Investing Activities</u>		
Interest	-	-
Dividends	-	-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets	-	-
Recoveries from On Lending	-	-
Total Cash generated from Investment Activities (D)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Purchase or Construction of Physical Assets & Acquisition of other Investment	36,418,046	51,116,092

Total Cash disbursed for Investment Activities (E)	36,418,046 -	51,116,092
NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES (F)=(D)-(E)	(36,418,046)-	(51,116,092)
(G)=(C) + (F)		
<u>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</u>		
Local Borrowings	-	-
Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Grants Received	-	-
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (H)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Repayment of Local Borrowings	-	-
Repayment of Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Total Cash disbursed for Financing Activities (I)	-	-
NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES (J)=(H)-(I)	-	-
Net Movement in Cash (K) = (G) +(J)	-	-
Opening Cash Balance as at 01st January	-	-
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December	-	-

3.4 Notes to the Financial Statements

Reporting Basis

1) Reporting period

The reporting period for these Financial Statements is from 01st January to 31st December 2024.

2) Basis of Measurement

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

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

3) Recognition of Revenue

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

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

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

5) Property, Plant and Equipment Reserve

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

6) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash & cash equivalents include local currency notes and coins on hand as at 31st December 2024.

3.5 Performance of the Revenue Collection

Revenue Cord	Description of the Revenue Cord	Revenue Estimate		Revenue Collected	
		Original Estimate (Rs.)	Revised Estimate (Rs.)	Amount (Rs.)	As a % of Final Revenue Estimate
10.03.07.06	License Fee s relevant to the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources	183,354,500	164,812,500	173,842,450	105

3.6 Performance of Utilization of Allocation

Type of Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Utilization of allocation as a % of Final Allocation
	Original Allocation	Original Allocation		
Recurrent	800,000,000	1,657,988,000	890,080,892	53.68
Capital	100,000,000	106,087,632	42,392,998	39.96

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

Serial No.	Allocation received from Which Ministry / Department	Purpose of the Allocation	Allocation		Actual Expenditure	Utilization of allocation as a % of Final Allocation
			Original Allocation	Final Allocation		
151-1-2-1-1501	Ministry of Fisheries	Carrying out administrative tasks including assessing the damage caused to the fisheries industry due	51,647,075	51,647,075	49,146,762	95

		to the fire on the Express Pearl Ship, identifying those who lost their livelihoods and paying compensation				
151-2-3-64-2104	Ministry of Fisheries	Transporting 2276 manufactured demarcation posts from Chilaw Lagoon to Puttalam Lagoon	2,592,725	2,592,725	2,149,108	82
151-2-3-82-2509	Ministry of Fisheries	Allocation of provisions for the distribution costs of rice subsidies donated to the fishermen by the People's Republic of China	6,293,000	6,293,000	1,465,589	23
253-1-2-4-1502-12	Department of Pensions	Settlement of loan balance related to Advance B. Account	889,351	889,351	820,971	92

3.8 Performance of the Reporting of Non-Financial Assets

Asset Code	Code Description	Balance as per the Board of Survey Report as at 31.12.2024 (Rs.)	Balance as per the Financial Position Report as at 31.12.2024 (Rs.)	Yet to be accounted	Reporting progress as%
9151	Buildings & Structures	585,258,490.38	585,258,490.38	-	-
9152	Machineries	1,217,863,620.65	1,217,863,620.65	-	-

9153	Land	392,066,000.00	392,066,000.00	-	-
9154	Intangible Assets	21,920,443.02	21,920,443.02	-	-
9155	Biological Assets	-	-	-	-
9160	Work in progress	-	-	-	-
9180	Leasing assets	-	-	-	-

3.9. Auditor General's Report**

** When presented in Parliament, the final audit report issued by the Auditor General should be scanned and included herein.

The final audit report is shown at the end of this Annual Performance Report

Chapter 04 - Performance Indicators

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

Specific Indicators	Actual output as a Percentage (%) of the expected output		
	100% -90%	89% - 75%	74% - 50%
1. Compensation for natural hazards			71%
2. Demarcation of lagoon boundaries			50%
3. Measures taken to regulate the impact on the fisheries sector due to the fire incident of the cargo ship New X Press Pearl on 21 st of May 2021 and their progress	97%		
4. Training of officers of the VMS division and the other sections linked to it	100%		
5. Obtaining reports under the following details at 7.00 am, 2:00 pm and 10:00 pm.	100%		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining reports on fishing vessels approaching within 48 kilometers of the port limit 	100%		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining reports on fishing vessels crossing borders 	100%		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining reports on VMS disconnections on vessels 	100%		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining reports on the disconnection of inner-battery of the vessels of which the battery is disconnected.. 	100%		
6. Identifying distressed vessels and providing information to the Search and Rescue Operations Division	90%	√	
7. Retrieval and management of information from vessels conducting fishing operations at the high seas	100%		
8. Verification of information of the fishing vessels	90%		
9. Inserting log reports into the database and managing of them	100%		
10. Investigating information and taking legal action according to the law	90%		
11. Providing radio communication facilities	90%		

between the fishing vessels and land			
12. Taking action to provide license and call signs for communication purposes in fishing vessels.	100%		
13. Substantiation of information for insurance in accidents faced by fishermen and fishing crafts	90%		
14. Releasing fishermen along with fishing boats, arrested in foreign countries and repatriation of them	100%		
15. Taking action to rescue fishing boats adrift in international maritime boundaries	90%		
16. Providing communication facilities for small and one- day fishing crafts and making the fisher community aware of the same			50%
17. Provision of daily weather reports and weather advisories on a daily basis.	100%		
18. Making aware of the vessels as per the information provided by Vessel Monitoring System	90%		
19. Informing the relevant agencies about unauthorized foreign fishing vessels and fishermen	90%		
20. Rescue of fishermen and vessels in distress	90%		
21. Submission of periodical reports to international organizations such as Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), European Commission (EC) and representing Sri Lanka at the annual meetings of such organizations.	100%		
22. Training of the DFAR Staff - Information Technology Foundation	100%		
23. Acting on security of the Server System	100%		
24. Implementation of e-log application for fishermen	100%		
25. Introducing “R” statistical language for analyzing DFAR data.	100%		
26. Commencement of registration through OFRP, MTRB and NTRB vessel system			20%
27. Widening the use of Doxpro system	100%		
28. Training officers for BLUE TRACKER system	100%		
29. Introducing an Alert Management System	100%		



30. Establishment of a consortium called Regional Fishing Monitoring Center			70%
31. Maintenance of the Vessel Monitoring System	100%		
32. Inspection and Monitoring			
• Number of Inspections of export fish processing establishments			66%
• Official samplings-Institutions			27%
• Inspection of prawn farms			47%
• Inspection of fish stocks imported for the purpose of re-export			
33. Approvals and Certifications			
• Approving new fish processing establishments and updating registration of fish processing establishments.	100%		
• Issue of health certificates for import	93%		
• Issue of fish catch certificates	99%		
34. Aquaculture Residue Monitoring National Programme			
• Inspection of prawn breeding centres			} 37.5%
• Field inspection of aquaculture farms			
• Taking samples and analyzing			
35. Implementation of training and awareness programmes.			
• Fishermen	100%		
• Institutional officers/ Departmental field officers and University students	100%		
36. Investigations			
➤ Investigating and taking action in cases of non-compliance with the regulation.	100%		
➤ Investigation into violation of laws identified by the Vessel Monitoring System	100%		
➤ Inspections and investigations into the firms supplying fishing vessels, fishing gear, fishery products and fishing baits			44%
37. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources shall prepare the methodology for imposing administrative fines in accordance with the relevant procedures, in response to requests from all district offices for imposing administrative	100%		

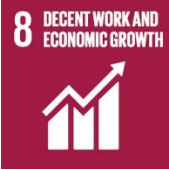
finer.			
38. Investigation into violation of laws identified by the Vessel Monitoring System	100%		
39. Registration of fishing vessels	100%		
40. Issue of High Seas fishing operation licenses	100%		
41. Issue of skipper licenses	100%		
42. Issue of licenses for the import of ornamental fish	100%		
43. Issue of licenses for the export of ornamental fish	100%		
44. Issue of licenses for the re-export of ornamental fish	100%		
45. Issue of permits for the export of lobsters			72%
46. Issue of permits for the possession and transport of lobsters	100%		
47. Issue of permits for possession, exhibition and transport of Chunks	100%		
48. Issue of permits for the export of Chunks	100%		
49. Issue of permits for taking, collection, possession and transport of beche de-mer	100%		
50. Issue of permits for the import, export and re-export of beche-de-mer		89%	
51. Issue of permits for collection and transport of dead sea shells and production of fancy goods.	100%		
52. Registration of establishments for the export of fish and fishery products		76%	
53. Registration of establishments for the import of fish and fishery products	100%		
54. Registration of establishments for the re-export of fish and fishery products		77%	
55. Allotment, approval and issue of registration numbers for new vessels	100%		
56. Issue of permits for export of Nakla (Operculum of <i>Chicoreus ramosus</i>)			60%
57. Issue of permits for possession, sale, exhibition and transport of Nakla (Operculum of <i>Chicoreus ramosus</i>)	93%		
58. Issue of permits for possession, sale, exhibition and transport of <i>Chicoreus ramosus</i> flesh.		83%	
59. Issue of permits for export of <i>Chicoreus ramosus</i> flesh	100%		



60. Issue of permits for the transport, possession and exhibition of dead sea shells			35%
61. Issue of permits for the transport and export of sea weeds	100%		
62. Issue of log books	100%		
63. Number of audit programmes	100%		
64. Number of audit reports assigned and completed	100%		
65. Number of audit management meetings held once a quarter	100%		

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

5.1 Indicate the relevant sustainable development goals.

Goal/ Objective	Targets	Indicators of the achievement	Progress of the Achievement to date		
			0%-49%	50%-74%	75%-100%
 <p>1.2 Reduction of the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in all forms of poverty by at least half, consistent with national definitions.</p>	Taking steps to improve the income status of low-income fisher communities	Increase in the number of boats registered for fishing operations			100%
 <p>2.1. To eradicate hunger by 2030 and ensure that all people, especially children, in poverty and those in vulnerable situations, have access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.</p> <p>2.C. To take necessary measures to ensure that food markets and their by-products, including food reserves, are functioning properly to prevent excessive food price volatility.</p>	<p>Increasing the consumption of fish as a protein-rich food.</p> <p>Providing necessary facilities to ensure that fish products are available at affordable prices to the consumer</p> <p>Promoting the local canned fish industry</p>	The amount of canned fish products that consumers need is produced locally			100%

 <p>8.1. To sustain per capita economic growth in line with national circumstances and, in particular, maintain a GDP growth rate at least 7% per annum at least by the developed countries.</p> <p>8.2.To achieve a high level of economic output through diversification, technology upgrading, and innovation, and by focusing on sectors with high value added and high demand for labour.</p> <p>8.3.To promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent work opportunities, entrepreneurship and creativity. Encouraging the establishment and development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises by providing access to financial services.</p> <p>8.9.To design and implement policies on sustainable tourism industries that enhance local culture, production and employment opportunities by 2030,</p>	<p>Making a significant and continuous contribution towards the GDP from the fisheries sector</p> <p>To introduce cooling systems for multi-day fishing vessels</p> <p>To provide a professional value to fishing for the local young fishing community</p> <p>To provide opportunities to experience live fishing to increase tourist attraction</p>	<p>Contribution to the Gross Domestic Product</p> <p>Number of fishing vessels installed with cooling systems</p> <p>Number of skipper licences issued</p> <p>Number of licences issued for recreational fishing activities</p>	<p></p> <p>20%</p>	<p>72%</p> <p>100%</p> <p>100%</p>	
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 <p>12.3. To minimize per capita food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce waste in production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses by 2030.</p> <p>12.5. To reduce the generation of waste through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse of them by 2030.</p>	<p>Minimizing post-harvest and production chain waste.</p> <p>Formulation of necessary laws and regulations for minimizing the use of plastic in the fisheries industry and promoting recycling.</p>	<p>Introducing cooling systems to fishing vessels to minimize post-harvest losses.</p> <p>Number of new regulations introduced</p>		<p>50%</p>	<p>100%</p>
 <p>14.2. To manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems sustainably, thereby building resilience to disasters and restoring oceans so as to be healthy and productive.</p> <p>14.4. To effectively manage fishing and eliminate the excessive use of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) and destructive fishing</p>	<p>Demarcation and mapping of lagoon boundaries to protect coastal ecosystems.</p> <p>Formulation of laws and regulations to regulate fishery resources.</p>	<p>Number of demarcated lagoons</p> <p>Number of new regulations introduced</p>		<p>50%</p> <p>70%</p>	

<p>practices, and implement science-based management plans to restore fish stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by the biological characteristics of fish.</p> <p>14.7. To sustainably manage fishery resources, culture and tourism around the water and enhance the economic benefits of small developing Island states and the least developed countries by using the marine resources in a sustainable manner.</p>	<p>Maintenance of logbooks and formulation of regulations regarding illegal and unreported fishing.</p> <p>Providing market access for marine fishery resources</p> <p>Increasing the avenues for export of fishery products</p>	<p>Number of new regulations introduced</p> <p>Increase in the number of establishments registered for the export of fishery products</p>		<p>80%</p> <p>100%</p>	
<p>14. A. To grow scientific knowledge, develop research capacities and exchange marine technology Promote the health of the oceans and enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity, in particular to small developing Island States and the least developed countries, taking into account the procedures of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the guidelines for the transformation of marine technology.</p>		<p>The number of data reports obtained and the number of regulations prepared accordingly</p> <p>Number of awareness programmes/work shops</p>		<p>60%</p> <p>50%</p>	

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

In order to achieve sustainable development goals, insurance schemes for fishermen were implemented with the aim of ensuring socio- economic security of fisher families.

2,498,724 liters of kerosene were distributed to the fishermen during the year 2024 through the selected filling stations in 15 fisheries districts to meet the direct fuel requirements of the fisheries industry in order to secure fisheries sector jobs and ensure food security.

Furthermore, under the assistance of the People's Republic of China, 1,630 metric tons of rice worth Rs. 555.4 million have been donated to the Government of Sri Lanka and the rice subsidy was distributed to low-income fishermen engaged in active fisheries industry in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and Kalmunai.

Challenges

1. Declining the interest towards the fisheries industry due to increase in fuel and input prices and gear prices
2. Relatively deflating the fish consumption due to fluctuating prices of fish products.
3. Financial and technical barriers for gaining awareness of modern research related to fisheries and marine resources
4. Illegal and destructive fishing trends
5. Weaknesses in the restoration of fishing activities for the fisher communities
6. Uncertainty among the fisher communities about the continued sustainability of fishing activities.
7. Overexploitation of resources.
8. Although the Sustainable Development Goals are achieved within a year, the constant changes in internal and external conditions of economic, political, social, legal, technological and environmental factors are beyond control.

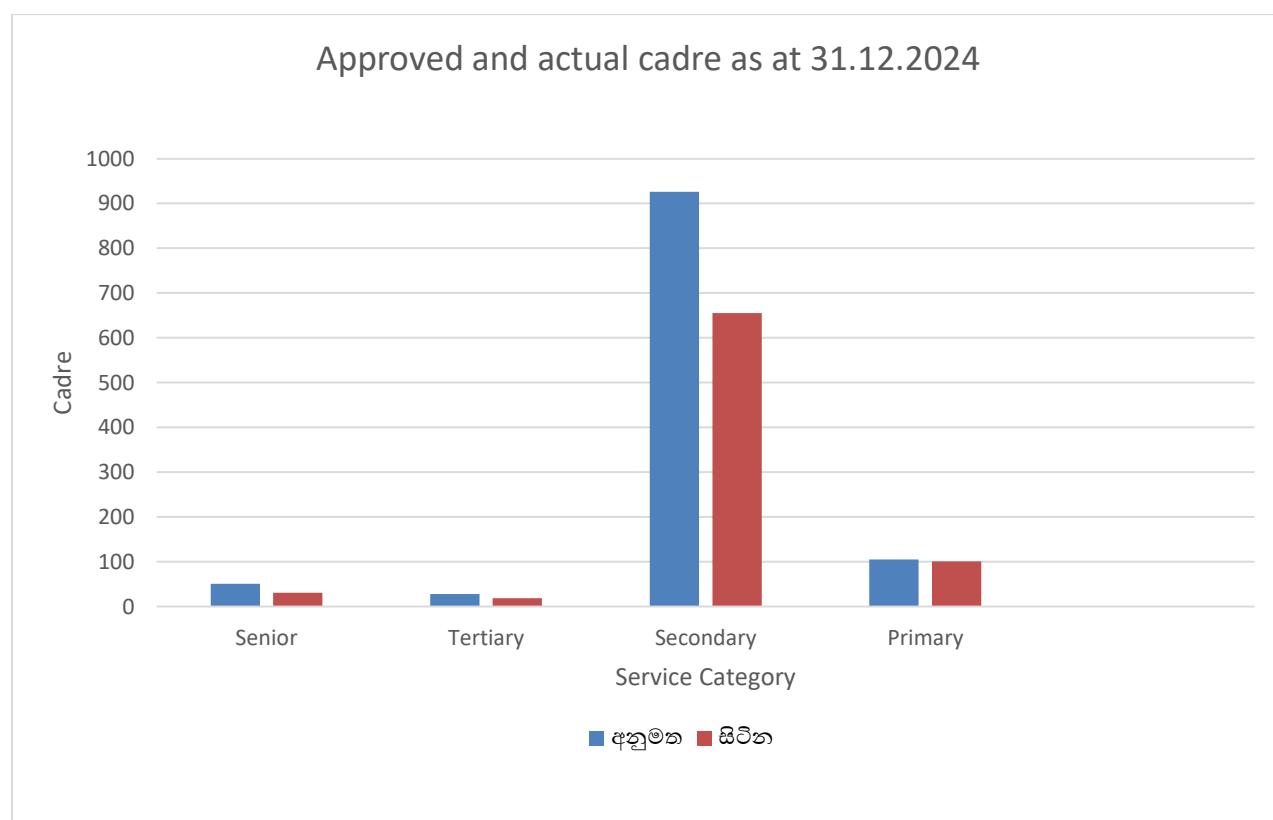
Targets

1. To take necessary steps to digitize the licensing system in order to streamline and expedite the issuance of licenses for fisheries management in the coming year
2. To improve the data collection system to obtain sufficient scientific data for fisheries management
3. To provide a logbook prepared in accordance with the fishing line for each multi-day fishing vessel to prevent illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing vessels

Chapter 06 – Human Resources Profile

6.1 Cadre Management

	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre	Vacancies / (Excess) **
Senior	51	31	20
Tertiary	28	19	09
Secondary	926	655	271
Primary	105	10`	04



Graph: Approved and actual cadre of the Department

Quarter	Cadre	Senior	Tertiary	Secondary	Preliminary	Total
First Quarter	Approved	51	28	928	105	1112
	Initial Status	32	18	705	100	855
	Transferred in	0	1	31	9	41
	Transferred out	0	1	24	9	34
	Vacation of post	0	0	2	1	3
	Retirements	0	0	1	0	1
	Release	0	0	4	0	4
	Actual	32	18	701	100	851
	Vacancies	19	10	227	5	261
Second Quarter	Approved	51	28	928	105	1112
	Initial Status	32	18	701	100	851
	Transferred in	0	1	1	0	2
	Transferred out	0	1	4	2	7
	Vacation of post	0	0	3	0	3
	Deceased	0	0	0	1	1
	Release	0	0	0	1	1
	Actual	33	17	701	100	851
	Vacancies	18	11	227	5	261
Third Quarter	Approved	51	28	926	105	1110
	Initial Status	33	17	701	100	851
	Transferred in	1	1	2	3	7
	Transferred out	1	0	4	2	7
	Vacation of post	0	0	4	0	4
	Retirements	0	0	2	0	2
	Release	0	0	3	0	3
	Termination of post	0	0	0	1	1
	Actual	33	18	690	102	843
Fourth quarter	Vacancies	18	10	236	3	267
	Approved	51	28	926	105	1110
	Initial status	33	18	690	102	843
	Transferred in /Assumption of new posts	0	2	5	0	7
	Transferred out	0	0	1	0	1
	Vacation of first	0	0	1	0	1
	Retirements	1	0	2	0	3
	Appointment to a new post	0	0	2	0	2

	Number of officers who have obtained leave to be spent out of the Island /in the Island as per P.A.C.14/2022	1	1	35	1	38
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Table: Change in the cadre of the Department according to the quarters in 2024

6.2. Briefly state how the shortage of human resources or surplus of employees has affected the performance of the institution.

Recruitments are being made to vacant positions as per the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers received.

6.3 Human Resources Development

Training programmes for the departmental officers/external parties and university undergraduates

Name of the programme	No. of employees trained	No. of programmes	Duration of the programme	Participants	Total investment (Rs.)	Nature of the programme (local/foreign)	Output/knowledge obtained
Awareness programmes for the relevant parties about the Fisheries law in order to combat illegal activities committed by using fishing boats.	292	09	09 days	Officers of the Navy/officers of the Sri Lanka Coast Guard	Rs.156,122.50 This amount has been incurred under the following votes. (290-1-1-0-2401) Rs.55,977.50 (290-1-1-5-2202) Rs.66,510.00 (290-1-1-0-1409-140)- Rs.33,635.00	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers
Organization of training programmes, capacity development programmes, and post graduate degrees/diploma programmes for officers.	723	49	On 01/02/03/04/5/13-2 years	Executive Officers/ Staff Grade officers/Fisheries Officers/ Quality Control Officers/Development Officers/Management Officers/Information	Rs.4,759,945.38 This amount has been incurred by the following votes and financial aides of the external parties. (290-1-1-0-2401) Rs .	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers

				Technology/ Assistants/Of fice Employees/ and Drivers	770,1,476.14 (290-1-1-0- 1703)- Rs.43,269.24 (World Food and Agriculture Organization) FAO) – Rs. 2,946,200.00		
Training courses conducted for university undergraduat es	52	4	(06 month s) (03 month s)	Undergradua tes of the Ocean University, University of Moratuwa and the undergraduat es of the University of Anuradhapur a	Rs.28,018.00 This amount has been incurred under the following vote (290-1-1-0- 2401)	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers

Awareness programmes for fishermen

Name of the programme	Number of program mes	Number of fisherme n trained	Total investment	Nature of the programe (local/foreign)	Output/knowledg e obtained
Awareness on the prevention of non- communicable diseases, national security of Sri Lanka, prevention of use of fishing boats for illegal activities and the effects of drug abuse)	11	300	Rs.396000.00 (290-1-1-0-2202)	Local	Provided the knowledge about the relevant scope for the officers

Awareness regarding the recent amendments to the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996, the laws, rules and regulations introduced by the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources regarding the fisheries industry, registration of fishing boats, fishing data entry book (log book), awareness on Vessel Monitoring System and the release of endangered and economically worthless fish caught in fishing nets.	28	1224	Rs.864000.00 (290-1-1-0-2202)	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the fishermen
Training on fish quality control procedure	13	661	Rs.253,840.00 (290-1-1-0-2202)	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the fishermen
Awareness on disaster management	02	111	Rs.53,017.50 (290-1-1-2202)	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the fishermen
First aid training	63	1659	Rs.2,295,386.75 This amount has been incurred by the following	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the fishermen

			votes and under the financial aides of the external parties. (290-1-1-2202)- Rs1,528,024.15 (Ministry of Health)- Rs.767,362.60		
Awareness on the repairs to fishing vessels with outboard engines (OFRP)	1	15	Rs.15,000.00 (290-1-1-0-2202)	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the fishermen
Awareness programs for relevant parties (Sri Lanka Navy) on the Fisheries law to combat illegal activities committed using fishing boats	1		Rs.66,510.00 (290-1-1-0-2202)	Local	Provided the knowledge of the relevant scope for the Navy officers

Information about the officials who participated in foreign scholarships, training programs, conferences, seminars, and official discussions in the year 2024

Name of the program	No.of officers trained	Duration (Days)	Knowledge gained
Blue Economy Policy and Institutional Knowledge Exchange-Korea	2	7	Increasing technical knowledge and exchange of experiences related to fisheries
Knowledge sharing program to discuss Management and conservation of shark and rays-UK	2	5	Increasing technical knowledge and exchange of experiences related to fisheries

Border Management & Identity Conference on Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building-Thailand	1	5	Increasing technical knowledge and exchange of experiences related to fisheries
Technical Workshop to improve the reporting of Fisheries Statistics to the IOTC-Thailand	1	7	Knowledge of fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, and fisheries data analysis
Workshop on "Regional Fisheries management Organization (RFMO) Strategy and Negotiation" of G16 Indian Ocean Costal States -Dubai	1	7	Knowledge of fish stock surveys, fisheries management tools, and fisheries data analysis
Indian Ocean Costal State Tuna Alliance for Sustainable Tuna Fisheries Management -Dubai	1	3	Gaining knowledge and experiences on data analysis
SEAFDE/BOBP - IGO Regional Training Course on Enhancing Capacity for Monitoring Control and Surveillance of Domestic and International Fishing Vessels to Combat IUU Fishing-Thailand	1	4	Knowledge and experience related to combating illegal fishing activities
Training Course on Mari culture and Aquatic Produce Processing Technology for Sri Lanka-China	6	21	Knowledge on Mari culture and Aquatic Produce Processing Technology for Sri Lanka
Regional Training Workshop for Fish Loss Assessment Methods: A Gender Responsive Approach- Thailand	1	5	Training for Fish Loss Assessment Methods
Fisheries Education & Technology Policy Training Programme-Korea	4	21	Training on fisheries education and technology policies

BoBP - IGO Regional Training Course on " Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)-India	2	14	Knowledge about Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and Ecosystem Approach
Regional Workshop on Opportunities and Challenges in Economic and post harvest Issues related market access for fisheries and aquaculture products-Indonesia	1	6	Opportunities and Challenges in Economic and post harvest Issues related market access for fisheries and aquaculture

Details of training and awareness programs and financial allocations conducted under the training and awareness vote in the year 2024

Vote	Total expenditure
290-1-1-0-2401	Rs.1,854,471.64
290-1-1-0-2202	Rs. 3,176,391.65

6.3.1. Briefly explain how the Training Division contributes to the performance of the organization.

- It is very important to direct public officials to the capacity development programs provided by the institution for the enhancement of their knowledge and attitudes related to their official services.
- Under this, special attention has been focused in directing officers to the training and awareness programs.
- These programs are carried out by making the officers participate in the department and the other external institutions.
- These programs enable the officers to perform their official services successfully in a creative and practical manner according to the list of duties assigned to them in the official institutions. These programs also provide an opportunity to improve relationship with other institutions.
- Accordingly, these programs will pave the way for the capacity development of officers, obtaining active participation and support of officers for the development of the

institution, and producing a group of officers equipped with knowledge and attitudes for the public service.

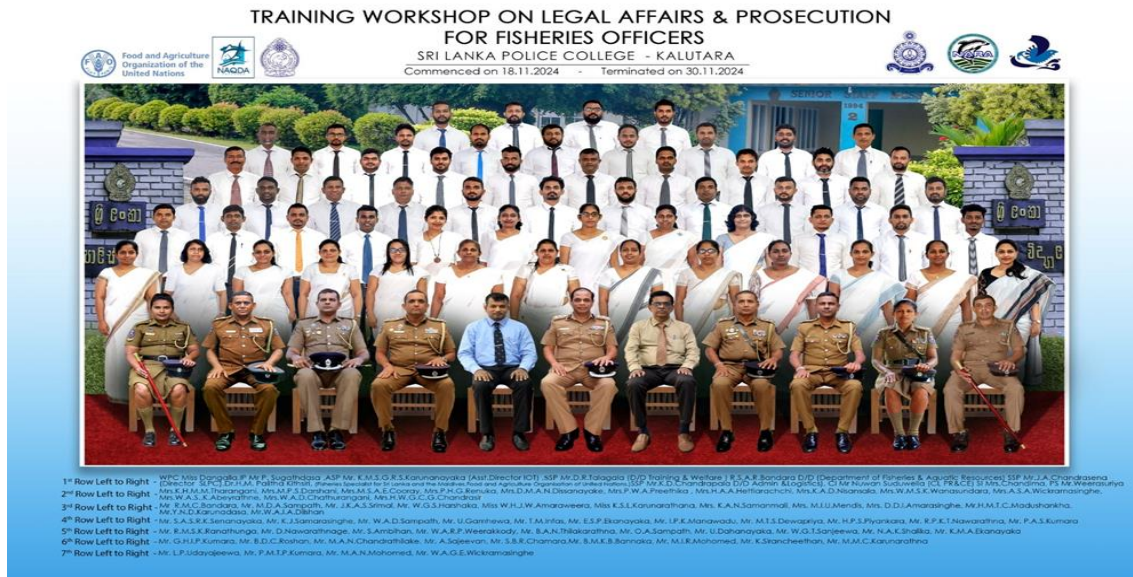


Figure: Officers involved in training program in legal affairs conducted for fisheries officers





Figures: Moments of the several training programs conducted for the officers of the Department



Figure: Providing first aid training for fishermen



Figure: Officers involved in awareness programs on fisheries laws meant combating illegal activities carried out using fishing boats

Chapter 07-Compliance Report

No	Applicable Requirement	Compliance Condition(Compliant /non-compliant)	Brief explanation for non-Compliance	Corrective action proposed to avoid non – compliance in future
1	The Following Financial Statements/ Accounts have been submitted on due date			
1.1	Annual financial statements	Compliant		
1.2	Advance to Public Officers Account	Compliant		
1.3	Trading and Manufacturing Advance Accounts (Commercial Advance Accounts)	×	Not applicable to the Department.	
1.4	Store Advance Accounts	×		
1.5	Special Advance Accounts	Compliant		
1.6	Others	Compliant		
2	Maintenance of books and registers (FR(445.			
2.1	Fixed assets register has been maintained and updated in terms of Public Administration Circular 267/2018	Compliant		
2.2	Personal emolument register/ personal emolument cards have been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.3	Register of Audit Queries has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.4	Register of Internal Audit reports has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.5	All the monthly account summaries (CIGAS) are prepared and submitted to the Treasury on the due date	Compliant		
2.6	Register for cheques and money orders has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.7	Inventory register has been maintained and update	Compliant		

2.8	Stock Register has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.9	Register of losses and damages has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.10	Register of liabilities has been maintained and update	Compliant		
2.11	Register of Counterfoil Books (GAN 20) has been maintained and update	Compliant		
3	Delegation of function for Financial Control (FR 135)			
3.1	The financial authority has been delegated within the institute	Compliant		
3.2	The delegation of financial authority has been communicated within the institute	Compliant		
3.3	The authority has been delegated in such a manner so as to pass each transaction through two or more officers	Compliant		
3.4	The controls have 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	Compliant		
4	Preparation of Annual Plans			
4.1	The Annual action plan has been prepared	Compliant		
4.2	The annual procurement plan has been prepared	Compliant		
4.3	The annual Internal Audit plan has been prepared	Compliant		
4.4	The annual estimate has been prepared and submitted to the National Budget Department (NBD) on the due date	Compliant		
4.5	The annual cash flow has been prepared and submitted to the Department of Treasury Operations on time	Compliant		
5	Audit Queries			

5.1	All the audit queries have been replied within the specified time by the Auditor General	Non-Compliant	Failure of relevant departments to respond on time	
6	Internal Audit			
6.1	The internal audit plan has been prepared at the beginning of the year after consulting the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134 (2) DMA/ 1 - 2019	Compliant		
6.2	All the internal audit reports have been replied within one month	Compliant	Delay in receiving some replies	Appointment of an officer from each division by assigning responsibilities
6.3	Copies of all the internal audit reports have been forwarded to the Department of Management Audit in terms of Sub-section 40(4) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018	Compliant		
6.4	All the copies of internal audit reports have been submitted to the Auditor General in terms of Financial Regulation 134(3)	Compliant		
7	Audit and Management Committee			
7.1	Minimum 04 meeting of the Audit and Management Committee has been held during the year as per the DMA Circular I-2019	Compliant	Three meetings had to be held due to COVID-19 condition in the country.	
8	Asset Management			
8.1	The information about purchase of assets and disposals was submitted to the comptroller General's Office in terms of paragraph 07 of the Asset Management	Compliant		

	Circular No. 01/ 2017			
8.2	A suitable liaison officer was appointed to coordinate the implementation of the provisions of the circular and the details of the nominated officer was sent to the Comptroller General's office in terms of paragraph 13 of the aforesaid circular	Compliant		
8.3	The boards of survey was conducted and the relevant reports submitted to the Auditor General on due date in term of Public Finance Circular No.05/ 2016	Compliant		
8.4	The excesses and deficits that were disclosed through the board of survey and other relating recommendations, action was carried out during the period specified in the circular	Compliant		
8.5	The disposal of condemned articles had been carried out in term of FR 772	Compliant		
9	Vehicle Management			
9.1	The daily running charts and monthly summaries of the pool vehicles had been prepared and submitted to the Auditor General on due date	Compliant		
9.2	The condemned vehicles had been disposed of within a period of less than 6 months after condemning	Non-compliant		No such vehicles are available pertaining to the year 2024
9.3	The vehicle logbooks had been maintained and updated	Compliant		
9.4	The action has been taken in terms of F.R. 103, 104,109 and 110 with regard to every vehicle accident	Compliant		
9.5	Fuel consumption of vehicle has been re-tested in terms of	Compliant		

	the provisions of Paragraph 3.1 of the Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of 29.12.2016			
9.6	The absolute ownership of the leased vehicle log books has been transferred after the lease term	Non-compliant		No such vehicles are available pertaining to the year 2024
10	Management of Bank Accounts			
10.1	The bank reconciliation statements had been prepared, got them certified and forwarded for audit	Compliant		
10.2	Settled the dormant accounts that had existed in the year under review or since the previous year	Compliant		
10.3	Action had been taken in term of Financial Regulations regarding balance that had been disclosed through bank reconciliation statements and for which adjustments had to be made, and those balances been settled within one month	Compliant		
11	Utilization of Provisions			
11.1	The provision allocated had been spent without exceeding the limit	Compliant		
11.2	The liabilities not exceeding the provision that remained at the end of the year after utilization as per the FR 94 (1)	Compliant		
12	Advance to Public Officers Account			
12.1	The limits had been complied with	Compliant		
12.2	Age analysis had been done on the loans in arrears	Compliant		
12.3	The loan balances in arrears for over one year had been settled	Compliant		
13	General Deposit Account			
13.1	The action had been taken as per F.R. 571 in relation to	Non-compliant		Action is being taken

	disposal of lapsed deposits			
13.2	The control register for general deposits had been updated and maintained	Compliant		
14	Imprest Account			
14.1	The balance in the cash book at the end of the year under review remitted to TOD	Non-Compliant	No balance in the cash book at the end of the year.	
14.2	The ad – hoc sub imprests issued as per F.R. 371 settled within one month from the completion of the task	Compliant		
14.3	The ad – hoc sub imprests issued not exceeding the limit approved as per F.R. 371	Compliant		
14.4	The balance of the imprest account had been reconciled with the Treasury books monthly	Compliant		
15	Revenue Account			
15.1	The refunds from the revenue collected had been made in accordance the relevant regulations	Non-Compliant	No requests for refunds.	
15.2	The revenue collection had been directly credited to the Deposit Account without credited to the deposit account	Compliant		
15.3	Returns of arrears of revenue have been forwarded to the Auditor General in terms of FR 176	Compliant		
16	Human Resources Management			
16.1	The staff had been maintained within the approved cadre	Compliant		
16.2	Duty lists have been issued to all members of the staff in writing.	Compliant		
16.3	All reports have been submitted to the Department of Management Services in terms of the Circular No. 04/2017 dated 20.09.2017.	Compliant		
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 the Right To Information Act and Regulations	Compliant		
17.2	Information about the institution has been provided through the website therein. General public have been facilitated to publish appreciations /to level allegations via this website or alternative measures	Compliant		
17.3	Bi-annual and annual reports have been submitted as per Sections 08 and 10 of the RIT Act	Compliant		
18	Implementing Citizen's Charter			
18.1	A Citizens Charter/ Citizens Client's Charter has been formulated and implemented by the institution in term of the circular number 05/2008 and 05/2018 (1) of the Ministry of Public Administration and Management	Compliant		
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	Compliant		
19	Preparation of the Human Resources Plan			
19.1	A human resources plan has been prepared in terms of the format in Annexure 02 of public administration circular no. 02/2018 dated 24.01.2018	Compliant		
19.2	A minimum training opportunity of not less than 12	Compliant		

	hours per year for each member of the staff has been ensured in the aforesaid Human Resource Plan			
19.3	Annual performance agreements have been signed for the entire staff based on the format in Annexure 01 of the aforesaid circular	Compliant		
19.4	A Senior officer was appointed and assigned the responsibility of preparing the Human Resources Development plan, organizing capacity building programs as per paragraph No. 6.5 of the aforesaid Circular	Compliant		
20	Reponses to Audit paras			
20.1	The shortcomings pointed out in the audit paragraphs issued by the Auditor General for the previous years have rectified	Compliant		