Vavuniya North Pradeshiya Sabha Vavuniya District

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Presentation of Financial Statements

The financial statements for the year 2018 had been presented to Audit on 29 March 2019 and the summary report of the Auditor General on the financial statements and the detailed management report had been forwarded to the Chairman of the Sabha on 30 June 2019 and 31 October 2019 respectively.

1.2 Qualified Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effect of the matters described in the basis for qualified opinion section of this report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Vavuniya North Pradeshiya Sabha as at 31 December 2018 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.3 Basis for Qualified Opinion

(b)

(a) Presentation of Financial Statements

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
As per Sub section 16(2) of the National Audit Act No. 19 2018, an annual performant report had not been presented along with the financies statements.	of to the National Audit ce Act. ed	Action will be taken to submit an annual performance report with the financial statements in ensuing year.
Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
Accounting policies adopted in preparing the inancial statements had not been disclosed by the	Accounting policies should be should be disclosed in the financial statements.	

disclosed and rectified in ensuing year.

(c) Accounting Deficiencies

Audit Observation Recommendation

(i) Values of all furniture and fittings, office equipment and plants of the Sabha had not been stated and disclosed in the accounts.

Values of all assets of the Sabha should be stated and disclosed in the financial statements.

 (ii) Interest income of one fixed deposit of the Sabha for the year under review had not been shown in the revenue and expenditure account. Interest income for the year under review should be shown in the revenue and expenditure account.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

Values of all assets of the Sabha had not been assessed, thus it had not been disclosed in the financial statements. It should be disclosed and rectified in the financial statements in ensuing year.

There are ten fixed deposits totally in the Sabha. Out of that, interest of 02 accounts had been deposited in the current account of the Sabha monthly. Maturity period of Account No. 2449422 is 2021, thus interest will be received in 2021.

(d) Lack of Written Evidences for Audit

Audit Observation	Recommendation
Four account items valued	Certifying evidences
at Rs. 107,245,205 could	should be submitted to
not be satisfactorily	audit.
vouched or accepted in	
audit due to non-	
submission of land deeds	
and fixed assets registers.	

Comment of the Accounting Officer

Applications had been forwarded to the Divisional Secretary for obtaining land documents. However, no any documents had been received and Actions will be taken to maintain fixed assets register.

1.4 Non-compliances

1.4.1 Non-compliances with Laws, Rules, Regulations and Management Decisions

Reference to Laws, Rules, Regulations and Management Decisions		lations and Management ions		Recommendations	Comments of the Accounting Officer	
(a)		n 93 of Pradeshiya s Act No. 15 of the 987	Activities of waste management had not been carried out by the Sabha by provisions of laws.	Waste management should be included in the annual plan.	It will be implemented in ensuing year.	
(b)	Interir enacte	ns XI and XII of n Provisions of Law ed under the Local rities Ordinance No. 952	An annual plan had not been prepared by including waste management.		It will be implemented in ensuing year.	
(c)	Nation Act N	nal Environmental o. 47 of 1980	Actions had not been taken in respect of solid waste management.	Should act in terms of instructions of Act.	It will be implemented in ensuing year.	
(d)	Prades (Finar Admin year 1	ncial and nistrative) Rule of the				
	(i)	Rule No. 59	A survey in respect of trade tax had not been carried out by the revenue inspector, revenue supervisor or any other officer who was authorized by the chairman under the purview of the Sabha in the beginning of every year and a schedule in respect of trades had not been prepared in terms section 150(1) of Pradeshiya Sabha Act No. 15 of the year 1987, thus action had not been taken to recover trade taxes.	Should act in terms of Pradeshiya Sabhas Rule.	A schedule in respect of trades will be prepared in future periods and action will be taken to recover trade taxes.	
	(ii)	Rule No. 218	All lands and buildings had not been examined by the Chairman at least once in every year.	Should act in terms of Pradeshiya Sabhas Rule.	They had not been examined due to failure to obtain land documents.	
	(iii)	Rule No. 33	A survey in respect of assessment tax had not been carried out.	Should act in terms of Pradeshiya Sabhas Rule.	Activities of initial stage are being carried out.	
	(iv)	Section 32 of Part III	A register of assessment tax on property had not been maintained for the year under review.	Should act in terms of Pradeshiya Sabhas Rule.	A register had not been maintained due to failure to recover assessment tax on property.	

(e) Establishment Code of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

	Section 4 of Chapter XXIV	No meaningful actions had been taken to recover loans totalling Rs. 94,384 paid to 02 officers of the Sabha for over the last 05 years.	Should act in terms of relevant rules/ circular instructions.	It could not be communicated with said persons.
(f)	Financial Regulations of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka			
	(i) Financial Regulation 110	Registers in respect of losses had not been maintained.	Action should be taken in terms of financial regulations.	It will be maintained in future periods.
	(ii) Financial Regulation 571	Action had not been taken in respect of lapsed deposits.	Action should be taken in terms of financial regulations.	Actions will be taken in respect of lapsed deposits.
	(iii) Financial Regulation 891	Register of security money had not been maintained.	Action should be taken in terms of financial regulations.	It will be maintained in future periods.
(g)	Procurement Guideline of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Section 178(3)	A register including names of community based organizations and community centers which carry out contract works effectively had not been prepared.	Should act in terms of Procurement Guidelines and instructions.	It will be maintained in future periods.
(h)	Section IV of paragraph 02 of Public Administration Circular No. 09/2009 of 16 April 2009	If it is based on time to pay allowances such as overtime and holiday pay which were being paid based on time after permanent duty hours, such times should be confirmed by the finger scanner. However, overtime and holiday pay totalling Rs. 423,117 had been paid without being confirmed by the finger scanner of the Sabha.	Should act in terms of circular instructions.	Overtime and holiday payment are being made in considering finger scanner since the year 2019.
(i)	Paragraph 03 of Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 of 29 December 2016	Fuel consumption should be tested once in every year by filling fuel in tank fully and running the vehicle. However, actions had not been taken accordingly.	Should act in terms of the circular instructions.	Fuel consumption will be tested for vehicles in every year since the year 2019.
(j)	Treasury Circular No. IAI/2002/02 of 28 November 2002	Register in respect of computer and its accessories had not been maintained.	Should act in terms of the circular instructions.	It will be maintained in future periods.
(k)	Asset Management Circular No. 01/2017 of 28 June 2017 of the Ministry of Finance and Mass Media	A fixed assets register had not been maintained and action had not been taken to subject to documentation of all assets of the Sabha.	Should act in terms of the circular instructions.	Action is being taken to maintain a fixed asset register and subject to documentation also.

1.4.2 Noncompliance with Tax Requirements

Audit Observations

Recommendations

At transactions in respect of Value Added Tax (VAT) of the Sabha, Value Added Tax amount on goods or construction works should be paid to the registered contractors or suppliers as per Section 5.4.12 of Procurement Guideline of 2006. Details of such payments should be forwarded to the Commissioner General of Inland Revenue with a copy of Auditor General on or before 15th day of the following month. Payments of Value Added Tax amounting to Rs. 637,020 had not been informed to audit. Should act as per instructions of Value Added Tax and Procurement Guideline.

Comments of the Accounting Officer

Actions had been taken to submit report on VAT of the Sabha to audit.

2. Financial Review

2.1 Financial Results

According to the financial statements presented, the revenue over recurrent expenditure of the Sabha for the year ended 31 December 2018 amounted to Rs. 12,014,163 as compared with the corresponding the revenue over recurrent expenditure of the preceding year amounted to Rs. 14,529,883.

2.2 Revenue Administration

2.2.1 Estimated Revenue, Billed Revenue, Collected Revenue and Arrears of Revenue

Information on the estimated revenue, billed revenue, collected revenue and arrears of revenue presented relating to the year under review and the preceding year is given below.

	Source of Revenue			2018			2017		
		Estimated Revenue	Billed Revenue	Collected Revenue	Total Arrears as at 31 December	Estimated Revenue	Billed Revenue	Collected Revenue	Total Arrears as at 31 Decembe r
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(i)	Rates and	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Taxes								
(i)	Rentals	5,083,000	8,193,746	5,428,263	2,765,483	4,270,000	6,248,305	5,174,410	1,073,895
(ii)	License	940,000	793,166	793,166	-	725,000	3,390,165	3,390,125	-
	Fees								
(iii)	Other	9,237,000	11,709,798	5,902,629	5,807,169	8,265,000	14,530,648	9,645,776	4,884,872
	Revenue	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,
	Total	15,260,000	20,696,710	12,124,058	8,572,652	13,260,000	24,169,118	18,210,351	5,958,767
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2.2.2 Performance in Collection of Revenue

Audit O	bservations
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Recommendations

- (a) Action had not been taken by the Sabha to recover a sum of Rs. 20,563,277 receivable from revenue debtors even as at 31 December 2018.
- (b) No meaningful action had been taken by the Sabha to recover arrears of revenue of Rs. 8,572,652 as at 31 December 2018.
- (c) Budget estimate had not been prepared properly and estimate had not been planned and programmed in a proper manner, thus variances ranging from Rs. 40,870 to Rs. 7,097,844 between the budgeted revenue and actual revenue were incurred.

Action should be taken by the Sabha to recover revenue in due periods.

Relevant actions should be taken by the Sabha to recover arrears of revenue.

Budget should be prepared properly.

Comments of the Accounting Officer

It was instructed to respective parties to settle all arrears other than grant, court fine, stamp duty.

It was instructed to respective parties to settle all arrears other than grant, court fine, stamp duty.

Unexpected revenue had been received and budget in respect of grants had been prepared for total staffs, thus variances were incurred.

2.2.3 Rates and Taxes

Audit Observation

Recommendation

taken by the Sabha to

maintain a register of

property in terms of

Administrative) Rule.

tax

Actions should

assessment

instructions

Pradeshiya

(Financial

It was observed that a register of assessment tax on property had not been maintained by the Sabha in terms of Section 32 of Chapter III of Pradeshiya Sabhas (Financial and Administrative) Rule of the year 1988.

2.2.4 Rentals

(a)

Audit Observations

No meaningful actions had been

taken by the Sabha to recover

arrears rental of all stalls under

Rs. 1,565,690 under the purview

of the Sabha had not been

recovered for the last 04 years.

the purview of the Sabha.

(b) Arrears of stall rental totalling

Recommendations

be

on

of

and

Sabhas

Actions should be taken by the Sabha to recover

rental of all stalls.

Actions should be taken by the Sabha to recover arrears of stall rental and action should be taken to use these stalls properly.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

General public didn't have relevant land document and land value had not been updated, thus assessment tax on property could not be recovered. However, necessary actions had been taken to collect data from Divisional Secretaries for initial activities of recovering assessment tax.

Comments of the Accounting Officer

Respective parties had been instructed to settle the arrears.

Even though tender notice and re-tender notices had been published for said shopping complex in many instances, no one had submitted bids. However, stall contracts had also been cancelled for market stalls which had not paid nonrefundable deposits.

(c) Arrears of stall lease totalling Rs. 20,883 under the purview of the Sabha had not been recovered for the year under review. Arrears of stall lease under the purview of the Sabha should be recovered for the year under review. (d) Arrears of ground rent totalling Rs. 229,050 under the purview of the Sabha had not been recovered. Arrears of ground rent under the purview of the Sabha should be recovered. Respective parties had been instructed to settle the arrears.

2.2.5 License Fees

Audit Observation

Recommendation

Trade licenses had been issued to 243 institutions only and action had not been taken to issue trade licenses to all other institutions. Action should be taken to issue trade license to all institutions.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

Trade licenses had been issued to 243 trade centers under the purview of the Sabha in the year under review. However, license had not been issued to the remaining trade centers due to lack of recommendation of Public Health Inspector. It had been informed to the respective trade centers by letter.

2.2.6 Other Revenue

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
No meaningful actions had been taken to recover fines in respect of arrears of stall rent.	Actions should be taken to recover fines.	It was instructed to recover fines.

2.2.7 Court Fines and Stamp Fees

(a) Court Fines

Audit Observation

Recommendation

Court fines totalling Rs. 6,461,470 had to be received from the Chief Secretary of the Provincial Council and all authorities as at 31 December 2018. Action should be taken to recover court fines.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

A request had been forwarded to the Provincial Department of Inland Revenue to receive Court fines by letter.

(b) Stamp Fees

Audit Observation

Stamp fees totalling Rs. 951,750

had to be received from the Chief

Secretary of the Provincial Council

and all authorities as at 31

Recommendation

Action should be taken to recover stamp fees.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

A request had been forwarded to the Provincial Department of

Inland Revenue to receive

stamp duties by letter.

3. Operating Review

December 2018.

3.1 Performance

(b)

The matters observed in respect of execution of activities that should be executed under Section 3 of the Pradeshiya Sabhas Act such as regularize and control over the matters of public health, public utility services and public thoroughfares and the comfort, convenience and welfare of the people are given below.

(a) **By-Laws**

by the Sabha.

	Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
	By-laws were required to be enacted for 30 main functions in terms of section 126 of the Pradeshiya Sabhas Act. But by-laws had not been enacted even by 31 December 2018.	By–laws should be enacted in respect of 30 main functions in terms of section 126 of the Pradeshiya Sabhas Act.	By-law of the Northern Province published on 05 September 2018 had been accepted by the Sabha on 07 June 2019.
)	Action Plan		
	Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
	An annual action plan had not been prepared in respect of activities to be implemented	An annual action plan should be prepared by the Sabha.	It was instructed to prepare a plan in future periods.

Dy-Laws

(c) Delays in completing Activities

Audit Observation

Recommendation

Seven contract works carried out by the Sabha had not been completed in the year under review. However, reasons therefor had not been made available to audit.

Action should be taken to complete works planned within the due period.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

It was instructed contractors to complete such works. However, the period was extended due to

abnormal situations.

(d) Solid Waste Management

The following deficiencies were observed in respect of solid wastes.

Audit Observations

Recommendations

- (i) Environmental license had not been obtained for the places of disposing garbage.
- (ii) Sanitary labourers had not been subjected to medical test annually
- (iii) Garbage had not been categorized separately and collected.
- (iv) A work plan for categorizing garbage being brought to the dumping place of garbage of the Sabha had not been implemented.
- (v) Solid wastes had been set on fire in order to damage the environment without being subjected to recycling.
- (vi) Interim law had not been enacted in respect of solid waste management.

А solid waste management should be established properly and actions should be taken to regularize wastes separately and subject to reuse and recycle them and produce a natural fertilizer by implementing without being affected environment.

Comments of the Accounting Officer

Action is being taken to obtain license.

Medical test will be made in future periods.

Action is being taken to categorize and collect garbage separately.

Planisbeingpreparedtotakeactiontocollectgarbageseparately.

Adequate facilities and fund had not been available to subject to recycling.

Law and rules will be followed in future periods.

- (vii) A waste management plan had not been prepared.
- (viii) No action had been taken to take garbage by categorizing and collecting them separately in bags from stalls and residents under the purview area of the Sabha.

(e) Sustainable Development Goals

Audit Observation

No actions had been in respect of preparedness of the Sabha to achieve sustainable development targets in terms of the Circular No. A.S.General/2018/61 of 23 April 2018.

Action should be taken as per instructions of the circular.

Recommendation

An activity plan is being prepared.

Garbage had not been collected adequately to make categorizing.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

It had not been informed.

December of the year under

3.2 Management Inefficiencies

(a)

(b)

Audit Observations	Recommendations	Comments of the Accounting Officer
Ten fixed deposit balances of the Sabha valued at Rs. 33,601,810 for the year ended as at 31 December 2018 had remained as deposits continuously without being used for intended purposes.	Fixed deposits should be used for intended purposes.	At beginning period, out of reimbursed salary amount for the total staffs, an excess amount had been deposited as 06 fixed deposits without being stated purpose. Four other fixed deposits had not been closed due to failure to achieve objectives thereof.
No meaningful actions had been taken to settle a sum of Rs. 16,545,147 payable to the creditors even as at 31 December 2018.	Action should be taken to settle said amount to creditors.	PaymentsofRs.16,097,150.28fornoncompletedcontractworksandinvoicesofexpenditure for the month of

11

review had not been received. As such a sum of Rs. 447,996.90 had not been settled.

	Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
(a)	Vacancies of Cadre		
	Eleven staff vacancies of the Sabha had not been filled as at 31 December 2018.	Staff vacancies should be filled.	A request had been forwarded to the Depu Chief Secretar Administration.
(b)	Employee Security Deposits		
	No meaningful actions had been taken to recover loans totalling Rs. 94,384 paid to 02 officers of the Sabha for over the last 05 years.	Action should be taken to recover loans in due period regularly.	It could not communicated wi relevant officers.

3.4.1 Failure in carrying out Maintenance and Repairing

Audit Observation

Recommendation

No actions had been taken to repair and use a motorcycle bearing No. EP HR 2742 and a three-wheeler bearing No. NP QR 6033 of the Sabha for a long period in a usable manner up to now. Relevant actions should be taken to repair as a usable manner or destroy it.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

Motorcycle bearing No. EPHR 2742 had been issued the period of combined North-East Province. Application for getting approval had been forwarded for destroying it.

3.4.2 Assets not acquired

Audit Observations

- (a) According to the financial statements presented, Disclosures had not been made in respect of land and buildings belonging to the Sabha and a register in respect of land and buildings had not been maintained properly. Ownership of such assets belonging to the Sabha had not been certified by verifying land and buildings regularly as well.
- (b) No actions had been taken to transfer ownership of 07 vehicles donated to the Sabha, to the Sabha.

Recommendations

Action should be taken to transfer ownership to the Sabha.

Comments of the Accounting Officer

Applications for obtaining land deeds had been forwarded to the Divisional Secretary. However, no any documents had been received.

Action should be taken to transfer ownership to the Sabha. Action is being taken to transfer ownership of vehicles which ownership was not transferred.

3.4.3 Idle Assets

(a)

Audit Observation	Re
No actions had been taken by the Sabha to use a bus stand constructed at a cost of Rs. 26,137,591 and handed over to the Sabha on 12 August 2011 by Emergency Northern Recovery project	Act take
up to now.	

(b) No action had been taken by the Sabha to use an electric motor obtained as a donation in the year 2017. Recommendation

Action should be taken to use for intended purpose.

Comment of the Accounting Officer

A tender had been called for using bus stand building in many instances. However, stalls had remained idle.

Action should be taken to use for intended purpose.

It had been obtained instead of electric motor fixed under Maruthodai water supply scheme. It had not been obtained as a donation. It had been

obtained as per estimate.

3.4.4 Annual Board of Survey

3.5

3.5.1

3.5.2

	Audit Observation	Recommenda	ation	Comment of the Accounting Officer
(a)	Report on annual board survey for the year under rev had been submitted in terms Financial Regulation 7 However, actions to be taken terms of Financial Regular 757 had not been taken.	iew taken in terr of Financial Regul 756. n in	ns of	It was instructed to implement.
(b)	Action had not been taken respect of 16 categories of go stated as unusable in the rep on annual board of survey of preceding year in terms of public finance circular No. of 13 November 2009.	ods circular instruction port the the	s per	It was instructed to implement.
	curement curement Plan			
	Audit Observation	Recommendation		ent of the Accounting Officer
Pro sun mae Ho		Recommendation Action should be taken to prepare a procurement plan.	A proc been furnitur	Officer urement plan had not prepared. However, e had been purchased owing proper quotation
Pro sun mae Ho ^v had	Audit Observation 	Action should be taken to prepare a	A proc been furnitur by follo	Officer urement plan had not prepared. However, e had been purchased owing proper quotation
Pro sun mae Ho ^v had	Audit Observation 	Action should be taken to prepare a	A proc been furnitur by follo system.	Officer urement plan had not prepared. However, e had been purchased owing proper quotation

review by the Sabha had not been completed in the year under review.

(b) Two contract works valued at Rs. 61,098 commenced without being budgeted had not been completed in the year under review. contract period.

taken

budget

complete

contract works.

Action should be

to

make

and

the

rules. However, it could not be completed due to bad weather and other reasons.

It had been done as per decision of the Sabha as it was essential.

4. Accountability and Good Governance

4.1 Budgetary Control

Audit Observation

Recommendation

Comment of the Accounting Officer

Budget estimate had not been prepared properly and estimate had not been planned and programmed in a proper manner, thus variances ranging from Rs. 11,038 to Rs. 7,527,351 between the budgeted expenditure and actual expenditure were incurred.

Budget should be made use of as an efficient control instrument. It was instructed to prepare budget by comparing properly in future periods.