

Head 225 – Sri Lanka Police

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Sri Lanka Police for the year ended 31 December 2019 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019 and the statement of financial performance and cash flow statement for the year then ended was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018. In terms of Section 11(1) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018, the summary report including my comments and observations on the financial statements of the Sri Lanka Police was issued to the Accounting Officer on 12 June 2020. In terms of Section 11(2) of the National Audit Act, the Annual Detailed Management Audit Report relating to the Department was issued on 07 October 2020 to the Accounting Officer. This report is submitted to Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, which should be read in conjunction with provisions of Section 10 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the financial statements prepared in terms of provisions of State Accounts Circular No. 271/2019 of 03 December 2019 give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Sri Lanka Police as at 31 December 2019, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

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

1.3 Responsibility of the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer on the Financial Statements

The Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and in terms of Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 and for such internal control as the Chief Accounting Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

1.4 Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sri Lanka Police's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

1.5. Report on Other Legal Requirements

As required by Section 6 (1) (d) and Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018, I state the followings:

- (a) The financial statements of the year under review are consistent with the preceding year.
- (b) Recommendation made by me in relation to the financial statements related to the preceding year had been implemented.

1.6 Comments on Financial Statements

1.6.1 Statement of Financial Position

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) The value of the property, plant and equipment as at the end of the year stated in the statement of non-financial assets submitted with the financial statements related to the year 2019 was Rs.25,386,230,978 as per ACA-6 form and the value was Rs.20,735,157,569 according to the Treasury Assets Report as at 31 December 2019 and a difference of Rs.4,651,073,409 was observed.	Matters relevant to these changes should be identified and corrected expeditiously.	Inclusion of all assets to the CIGAS programme will be carried out expeditiously.
(b) According to the document submitted to audit as at 31 December 2019, the value of liabilities was Rs.1,502,298,747 and according to note (iii) to the Financial Statements the value of liabilities was Rs.1,470,923,575 and as a result, a difference of Rs. 31,375,172 was observed.	The relevant facts for these changes should be disclosed and the correct values should be included in the financial statements.	Comments had not been made.
(c) In stating the opening balance under note II of the financial statement, a sum of Rs.14,645,410 in relation to 32 loss items had been overstated and a sum of Rs.234,593 in relation to two loss items	Financial statements should be prepared with the correct values related to the	Comments had not been made.

had been understated. Moreover, the loss items. final balance that was not written off at the end of the year had been understated by Rs. 9,151,618.

1.6.2 General Deposits

Value of the Deposit Account Balance that had exceeded 2 years by the end of the year under review was Rs. 246,891,352 and the following observations are made in this regard.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) In the year 2013, the sum of Rs. 11,503,192, that had been provided from the Government of India for the construction of SAARC Terrorist Offences and Drug Offences Monitoring Desk, had been kept in the deposit account without carrying out the relevant functions.	Provisions should be utilized for the relevant purposes.	Action is being taken to utilize the funds.
(b) Since the arbitration process for 67 projects, which had been stopped owing to adopting irregular procurement procedures has not yet been completed, value of deposits under the Buildings Division, which had been outstanding for 5 to 7 years without settling was Rs.202,223,782.	Problems in the procurement process should be resolved expeditiously and overdue deposits should be settled.	The arbitration process has not yet been over.

1.6.3 Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) Although the Chief Accounting Officer should ensure that an effective internal control system for the financial control exists in the Sri Lanka Police and periodic reviews are carried out to monitor the effectiveness of such systems and accordingly make any alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out and ensure the timely preparation and submission of annual and other financial statements and the reviews were to be made in writing and a copy should be submitted to the Auditor General according to the provisions of Section 38 of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, declarations that such review had been carried out were not submitted to the audit.	Action should be taken in compliance with the provisions of Section 38 of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.	An effective internal control system has been established for financial control and necessary changes have been made in this regard based on the findings of the internal audit reports conducted in the Sub Account Units.
(b) The loan and advance documents, loan and debtor advance document, loan and creditors document etc. should be duly written and filed for maintaining an adequate accounting system and internal control system with respect to the advance account of public officers. Even though it was stated in the State Accounts Circular	Action should be taken in terms of State Accounts Circular.	Comments had not been made.

No. 256/2017 of 05 July 2017 that a reconciliation statement should be submitted to the Auditor General confirming that the monthly departmental books were reconciled with the treasury books, it had not been certified that manner and submitted.

1.6.4 Advance Account Balances

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) Although the balance according to the departmental books in relation to the advances as at 31 December 2019 was Rs.954,557,613, the balance was Rs.955,341,942 according to the treasury books and as a result, a difference of Rs.784,329 was observed.	Action should be taken to identify the differences in balances and to resolve them.	Action will be taken to settle the departmental books after checking and verifying the information of the year 2020.
(b) According to the Advances to Public Officers' Control Account, the balance as at 31 December 2019 was Rs.954,557,613 and the grand total of the individual balance classification summary as at that date was Rs.873,216,435. Accordingly, a difference of Rs.81,341,178 was observed. Action had not been taken to identify the difference and to make necessary adjustments.	Action should be taken to settle after identifying the changes.	Action have been taken to reduce this difference annually. Debt balance recording errors and omissions have occurred and it is practically impossible to conclude a difference that has been prevailing for a number of years.

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| (c) | According to the reconciliation statement submitted to the audit, total of loan balances to be recovered from 3,533, who had to pay arrears by that date was Rs. 79,733,034 and the total of loan balances in arrears for more than 03 years out of the total outstanding loan balances was Rs. 57,201,540. | Expeditious action should be taken to recover the arrears balances. | Loan Recovery Committees have been set up at the divisional level in coordination with the Main Loan Recovery Unit to recover the outstanding loan balances and the necessary steps were being taken continuously to recover the loans as installments. |
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2. Financial Review

2.1 Expenditure Management

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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An amount of Rs. 300,709,393 had been saved out of Rs. 1,091,000,000, the net provision for the total capital expenditure allocated for 04 subjects. Those savings were in the range of 24 percent to 42 percent.	Provisions should be utilized with maximum efficiency.	Non-receiving of imprest as well as bad weather, technical defects and inability to start projects had contributed for this.

3. Operational Review -----

3.1 Non-performance of Roles -----

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation -----	Recommendation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----
(a) Even though it is stipulated that the Accountant should keep proper books of accounts and accounts of all income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and all other financial transactions of the Academy and should prepare annual accounts of the Academy in pursuant to Sections 25 (1) and 25 (4) of the National Police Academy Act No. 44 of 2011, it had not been done.	Action should be taken in accordance with the provisions of the National Police Academy Act.	Comments had not been made.
(b) Establishment of the "National Police Academy Fund" for matters relating to 'money' included in Section V of the National Police Academy Act and the functions and duties stipulated in 22 to 28 of the Act related thereto.	The "Fund" should be established and action should be taken in accordance with the relevant regulations.	The Fund was not established as fees are not charged for the courses.

3.2 Not Obtaining the Desired Level of Output -----

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation -----	Recommendation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----
(a) The need to amend the Police Ordinance No. 16 of 1865 was identified in the year 2014. Accordingly, 16 areas that needed to be amended were also identified. Although the Cabinet had given its approval on 19 November	The Act should be amended in relation to the identified areas.	An Inquiry on the public opinions and proposals had been done and no action has been taken since then. The Ministry of Defense has called for a report in May 2020 from

2014 to update and amend the Act to suit the present and future social and technological development requirements, the Act had not been amended even by June 2020.

the Inspector General of Police on the need to amend the Police Ordinance.

- (b) Even though it was identified in the year 2015 to establish a university for the Sri Lanka Police and a 16-acre land in Attidiya area had been selected for the proposed university and it had been planned to get the support of the British Universities, such as Nottingham, Liverpool as well as the Deakin University of Australia, the passing of the Act required to establish the university had not been done even by June 2020.
- Action should be taken to expedite the legal process related to the establishment of the university.
- It has been proposed in July 2020 to re-establish the Working Committee that had been inactive in order to establish the university and to prepare the concept paper again and the relevant work in that regard is in progress.
- (c) Although the report of the committee established to identify the current shortcomings and weaknesses of the Sri Lanka Police and to make appropriate updates and to make the necessary plans to establish a better and more efficient police service in the country in the future was released on 31 May 2017 as the "Police Reorganization Action Plan", it had not been implemented even by June 2020.
- Identified reorganization activities should be carried out.
- Action is being taken to reappoint the Working Committee as it is inactive.
- (d) Although plans had been designed since 2014 to establish a system of automatic payment of fines for traffic offenses aimed at speeding up the collection of fines, increasing the amount of fines added to government revenue and facilitating the payment of fines to the public, the relevant system has not yet been established.
- Action should be taken to establish an automatic payment system of fines in order to accomplish the identified objectives.
- Comments had not been made.
- (e) Subsequent to the liquidation of the Police Sub Service Benefit Scheme, the benefits amounted to Rs. 65 million had been invested on 01 October 2009 as the "Police Medical Services Fund". Even though the total balance including four fixed deposits as at 31 December 2019, stood at Rs.133,624,248, the payment of
- Action should be taken to achieve the objectives of establishing the fund.
- Comments had not been made.

benefits to the members of the Fund and their family members had been suspended from about 10 years.

- (f) Even though the implementation of the system of levying fines, introduced by the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act No. 10 of 2019, according to the frequency of committing motor vehicle offenses has been in effect from 20 June 2019, the Sri Lanka Police had not implemented a method of computerizing data, from which the frequency of committing the same offence by the traffic offenders in relation to traffic offences can be clearly identified. Therefore, it was not possible to recover the correct fine from the offenders who committed the same offense several times.
- A computer data system, through which the frequency of committing the same traffic offences by the traffic offenders, who violate traffic rules, can be identified should be established and accordingly, action should be taken to charge fines.
- Action is being taken to install a computer data system.
- (g) One hundred and eight (108) cameras installed at 33 locations in the City of Colombo controlled by the Police CCTV Division were imported to Sri Lanka in 2008. This camera system is of the ANALOG type and the system needs to be modified to DIGITAL type as well as it should be modified to include the latest technology to enhance the ability to analyze data, clarity of video data, data transmission capability and ability to increase data storage capacity and it is required to further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of activities such as the ability to display specific moments automatically on screen as and when required instead of staring at the video channel with the naked eye. Nevertheless, it had not been done.
- Action should be taken to update the computer and camera system to suit the present.
- Plans are underway to update the camera system.
- (h) Activities pertaining to 406 transfers of lands and buildings for police station offices and for other uses had not been completed even by 31 July 2020. Although these lands and buildings have been enjoyed by the Sri Lanka Police
- Action should be taken to expedite acquisitions and transfers of lands.
- Comments had not been made.

for a longer period of time, the formal initiation of activities in relation to transferring and acquisition had been done after the year 2010.

3.3 Management Weaknesses

 The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) The entry of data into the Personnel Control Computer Programme introduced by the Information Technology Division to the Sri Lanka Police had commenced in the year 2017 under 05 phases. Although it was aimed at computerizing the information of more than 84,000 officers including 44 Territorial Divisions, 65 Functional Divisions, and the Special Task Force, the progress of entering data (such as promotions, transfers, family information, educational qualifications, leave and salaries) in other 04 stages except the information of the initial stage of identification of officers, remained at 25 per cent. The audit observed that this was due to the inadequate contribution made in the entry of data in the police station level.	Action should be taken to expedite the entry of data to Personnel Control Computer Programme introduced to the Sri Lanka Police by the Information Technology Division.	Comments had not been made.
(c) Files and relevant books of about 87,000 police officers currently attached to the Sri Lanka Police and about 20,000 retired officers had been kept on shelves within a limited area of the HRD Division. Even though it had been instructed through the report issued by the Building Division on the rusty state of the shelves in November 2018, to remove a half of	According to the report issued by the Building Division, half of the files on the shelves should be removed as soon as possible for ensuring the safety of the files.	Comments had not been made.

the books on the shelves as soon as possible since unbearable number of files had been stored on these shelves, the files had been stored in that manner even by the end of August 2020. This situation had impeded the security of more than 150 officers serving in this Division as well as the safety of the files.

- (d) The Department of Police owned only 03 plots of land, in total extent of 07 acres and 146 perches, out of 67 plots of land, in total extent of 28 acres, where Police Offices, Administration Buildings, Police Stations, Police Posts, Official Quarters and barracks of the Jaffna Police Division were located. Even though 09 plots in extent of 08 acres owned by other state institutions and 55 plots of land exceeding 13 acres owned by private parties have been used for carrying out activities of the Police for more than 10 years even after the end of the war, transfer of ownership or purchasing activities had not been completed even by January 2020.
- Transferring of the ownership or purchasing of lands, which are enjoyed by the Police should be expedited even though the lands are not owned by the Police.
- Comments had not been made.
- (d) A surplus of 19 T-56 firearms had been identified in a survey of goods conducted in relation to the year 2018 in the Vavuniya District armoury and when comparing with the information of the Field Force Headquarters it was later found that only 1,303 out of 1,380 T-56 weapons in the armoury were possessed by the Police. Resolving these issues on firearms, arisen due to not keeping clear records on firearms during the period of war had not been finalized even by August 2020.
- Problems with these firearms should be resolved expeditiously.
- Had agreed with the observations.

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| (e) | Number of complaints reported during the year under review were on causing grievous injury to women, rapes and murders of women which are considered as the major grave crimes to women were 208, 199 and 95 respectively. However, the resolving percentage was as low as 37, 31 and 45 per cent respectively. | Action should be taken to increase the percentage of resolving major grave crimes committed against women. | Comments had not been made. |
| (f) | There were 1,576, 623 and 606 number of complaints reported against major types of grave crimes namely, rape, grave sexual abuse and abduction respectively committed against children. However, the resolving percentage was as low as 58, 50 and 56 per cent respectively. | Action should be taken to increase the percentage of resolving major grave crimes such as rape, grave sexual abuse and abduction committed against children. | Comments had not been made. |
| (g) | During the year under review, the number of cases reported in relation to intoxicants increased by 4,825 as compared with the year 2018 and seizures of heroine increased by 1,380 kg and number of persons arrested in relation to heroin offences had been increased by 8,672. | Action should be taken to minimize the circulation and use of intoxicants. | Comments had not been made. |

3.4 Procurement

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) The last purchase of P-Caps for about 60,000 police sergeants and police constables in the police service was made in February 2013. Although the required quantity of P-Caps for police recruits was purchased later in small quantities, the above officers had not received	Arrangements should be made to provide the required P-Caps to the officers as and when required.	Comments had not been made.

P- Caps for more than 03 years as the annual quantity of P-Caps was not accurately estimated and purchased.

- (b) The total number of vehicles including motorcycles owned by the Sri Lanka Police was 10,123 and 1,561 out of that were jeeps. Nine hundred nine (909) or 58 percent of the jeeps were purchased 15 years ago, prior to 2004. Only 21 jeeps had been added to the vehicle pool during the last 05 years. In the circumstances, the need to purchase new jeeps to carry out police duties had been identified and the approval had been granted by the Cabinet Decision අංක 18/1650/828/10-1 of 08 August 2018, to purchase 750 Jeeps (including 150 Jeeps for the Special Task Force) under Indian Line of Credit. Since procurement activities related to this had delayed until August 2020, transport problems had arisen in the accomplishment of duties in police stations, police divisions and special units.
- The procurement activities, under the Indian Line of Credit that had been approved, for purchasing 750 jeeps, should be expedited and arrangements should be made to purchase jeeps.
- Comments had not been made.
- (c) It was proposed to construct a six storied building at Slave Island to provide accommodation, restaurant and parking facilities for the Police Officers, who were in the Grade of Inspectors to lessen the hardships faced by the Officers including the provision of accommodation in Colombo area. Accordingly, approval had been granted under the Cabinet Memorandum No. CP/ 180342/748/012 of 07 March 2018 to construct the building within the framework of the 2018-2020 Medium Term Budget at a total cost of Rs.468,272,027. However, a contractor had not been selected for the constructions even by August 2020.
- Construction should be expedited by selecting a contractor quickly.
- Comments had not been made.
- (d) Procurement activities of 32 procurement files initiated in the year 2019 for the purchase of uniform items (Leather Shoes - PS / PC, Sport Shoes - PS / PC and Raincoat - Woman etc.), goods such as ammunition, pistols and furniture (bookshelves and cupboards) that are required by the Sri Lanka Police had not been finalized even by August 2020 as technical evaluations were carried out further and specifications were reset.
- Procurement activities of the relevant 32 files should be expedited along with technical evaluations and specifications in order to quicken the purchasing activities.
- Comments had not been made.

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| (e) | <p>One hundred and fifty thousand (150,000) sports socks were purchased at Rs.18,285,000 for police officers for the year 2018 and 152,000 sports socks were purchased at Rs. 19,699,200 for police officers for the year 2019 and these 302,000 sports socks were received to the warehouse of the IGP within the period of September 2019 up to March 2020. Sports shoes were being supplied to the officers by August 2020. Procurement activities for the purchase of 60,000 sports shoes were commenced in May 2019 and the technical evaluation was going on until September 2020. Accordingly, it was observed that there were delays in the timely delivery of facilities to the officers as the procurement process was late.</p> | <p>Action should be taken to expedite the procurement process and to provide the necessary facilities to the officers in the due period.</p> | <p>Comments had not been made.</p> |
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3.5 Uneconomic Transactions

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) Although an amount of Rs.8,895,273 had been incurred by the end of the year 2018 after starting the construction work of the Police Higher Training Institute and Ingiriya Police Station on 19 March 2008, construction work had been suspended midway. Even this land in extent of 06 acres, which had been vested to the police in the year 2008 had not been settled.	Action should be taken expeditiously to restart construction activities of the Police Higher Training Institute and the Ingiriya Police Station, which were suspended after starting construction activities and incurring a cost of Rs.8,895,273. The 6 acres of land that has been vested should also be settled expeditiously.	Comments had not been made.
(b) An annual rent of Rs. 260,675,352 had been paid for the lease of 271 buildings required for the Sri Lanka Police for the year 2019. Out of these, the annual rent for 15 buildings, where the area was 162,088 square feet and located in the City of Colombo was	Action should be taken to systematically identify and to plan and implement the building requirement of the police.	Comments had not been made.

Rs.148.28 million and all those buildings were leased for a period of 03 years to 08 years. The Sri Lanka Police had no long-term plan to construct buildings instead of these rented buildings.

- (c) The Sri Lanka Police continued the court procedure after refusing to pay the amount for 75,000 P-Caps and other charges incidental thereto as per the decision given in the arbitration conducted owing to the irregular activities carried out during the procurement process initiated in the year 2011 for purchasing 75,000 P-Caps for Police Sergeants and Police Constables. Court activities had not been finalized even by June 2020 and the supplier had demanded that the Sri Lanka Police had to bear the supplier's storage fees, legal fees and the loss occurred due to increasing the exchange rates.
- Action should be taken to minimize the possible disadvantages due to the changes in storage fees, legal fees and exchange rates that are payable to the supplier and to finalize the court proceedings expeditiously.
- It has been suggested that action be taken to submit a revision application to the Supreme Court if it is not possible to come to an agreement on making the relevant payments according to the units of measurement approved by the Central Bank regarding the interest rate that should be paid to the complainant after obtaining the C-Caps as per the given specification.
- (d) An agreement had been entered on 29 December 2017 for purchasing 192 houses for an amount of Rs.729,600,000 at the rate of Rs.3,800,000 per house under the "Nila Sevana" housing scheme in Habaraduwa. Even though Rs.500 million had been paid in 05 instances by 02 April 2009, facts had been raised that one house should cost only Rs. 1,548,000. Accordingly, the total value of 192 houses was only Rs. 304,128,000. Further, only 115 houses could have been sold to public servants under the Conditions of the modernization of the 'Nila Sevana' scheme, it had been agreed to purchase 192 houses.
- Purchases should be made in accordance with the Conditions of the "Nila Sevana" scheme and formal steps should be taken for payments made exceeding the value.
- Comments had not been made.

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| (e) | Deeds of transfer related to 100 houses of the “Nila Sevana” housing project in Wakunagoda, which had been purchased for Rs.333,000,000 in December 2016, had not been obtained even by August 2020. | Action should be taken without delay to obtain the deed for the house. | Drafted copies of the deeds have been received by the Legal Division and future action is being taken accordingly. |
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3.6 Asset Management

The following observation is made.

	Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a)	A land in extent of about two acres out of the 4-acre land where the Sapugaskanda Police Station is located has been underutilized since 1981. Further, four floors of the 6 storied building constructed by incurring Rs. 334 million by the end of the year 2018 for the expansion of the Narahenpita Police Hospital remained underutilized even by June 2020.	The underutilized assets mentioned herein should be utilized expeditiously.	It has been indicated that the insufficient staff was the reason for that and activities for recruiting 14 new medical officers on the secondary basis have already been finalized and 29 had been recruited as nursing officers and they have been sent for training. Action is being taken to recruit retired skilled officers from the Three forces and from the Ministry of Health on contract basis for filling vacancies of the Post of Nurse. Subsequent to making these recruitments, the building could be fully utilized.
(b)	Although it had been pointed out by the Audit in the year 2017 and by the Board of Survey in the year 2018 that there had been 77,450 units belonging to 63 items including uniforms and medals that were damaged and hence become unusable and outdated and stored in the IGP warehouse in Kotahena for a longer period of time, appropriate action had not been taken in that regard.	Appropriate action should be taken expeditiously on 77,450 units belonging to 63 items, including uniforms and medals that have been damaged and hence become unusable and outdated.	Comments had not been made.

(c) Although the Cabinet of Ministers had granted approval on 20 June 2017 to transfer the land in extent of 12 acres, 01 rood and 08 perches located in Malwana to establish a Police Studies Institute, activities of transferring those lands were still progressing slowly even by July 2020.

Activities pertaining to transfer of this land, for which the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers had been granted, should be expedited. Comments had not been made.

(d) The land, in extent of 75 acres in the Ellakandawatta land in Horana, of which the possession had been

Action should be taken expeditiously to utilize the land in extent of 75 acres. Comments had not been made.

transferred on 28 September 2017 for the construction of the Police Equestrian Division and the Ranaviru Protection Centre. It had been proposed to build a fence around the land and it had not been implemented.

in Ellekanda Estate for the relevant purposes.

4. Good Governance

Audit Observation

Recommendation

Comments of the Accounting Officer

Even though 28 Posts out of the 60 Posts in the Audit Staff, including the post of Internal Auditor in the Internal Audit Unit, remained vacant, the failure to fill those vacancies had hampered the realization of a higher performance by the unit.

Activities pertaining to the filling of vacancies should be carried out expeditiously.

Deployment of new officers is not effective and since there are difficulties in releasing experienced officers owing to the inability of replacing them in the attachment of experienced officers, it is not possible to effectively attach officers as audit officers.

5. Human Resource Management

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Recommendation	Comments of the Accounting Officer
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(a) Even though the total number of vacancies under the uniformed staff as at 31 December 2019 was 10,092, the total number of vacancies as at 31 July 2020 after making recruitments in the year 2020 was 7,217. There were 11,626 vacancies out of 85,603 approved cadre since 3,514 officers had vacated their posts and 895 officers had been interdicted as at that date and this situation had hampered the day-to-day operations of the Sri Lanka Police.	Immediate steps should be taken to overcome the shortage of officers, which is an obstacle in the accomplishment of the day to day duties of the Sri Lanka Police.	Comments had not been made.
(b) Vacancies that exist in the Post of Assistant Director (Civil Administration) and the Post of Assistant Director (Planning), 24 Posts of Accountant out of 56 Posts and vacancies in 9 Posts of Administrative Officer out of 11 Posts in the Civil Staff of the Sri Lanka Police had obstructed the performance of financial and administrative functions of the Police.	Action should be taken immediately to fill the vacancies.	Agreed with the observation. Accordingly, action taken to fill the given vacancies had been indicated in writing.
(a) Schemes of Recruitment and Schemes of Promotion for 05 Posts of Chief Inspector of Police, Inspector of Police, Sub Inspector of Police, Sergeant and Police Constable of the Uniformed Staff had not been approved and Schemes of Recruitment and Schemes of Promotion for 76 Posts had not been approved even though there were 106 approved Posts in the subordinate staff.	Immediate action must be taken to fulfil the need in the uniformed staff and the subordinate service.	Had agreed with the observation and action taken to fill vacancies in each Post had been indicated in writing.

- (d) Although the approved staff of the subordinate service was 7,615 as at 31 December 2019, the vacancies were 6,361 or 83 per cent and this acted as an impediment to the maximum efficiency of the operation of the Medical Division and the Building Division as well as the Information Technology and Building Maintenance activities of the Sri Lanka Police.
- Action should be taken expeditiously to fill the vacancies in the approved cadre in the subordinate service.
- Schemes of Recruitment and Schemes of Promotion have been prepared and submitted to the National Police Commission for approval. Recruitments can be made after getting the approval.
- (e) Nine thousand and nine hundred sixteen (9,916) uniformed staff and 270 officers in the subordinate service are to be retired during the period of 31 July 2020 to 31 December 2025 and annual plans (including target dates) had not been prepared even by the end of the year under review to fill these vacancies and the existing vacancies.
- Annual plans should be prepared expeditiously, including target dates, in order to fill the vacancies mentioned.
- Comments had not been made.
- (f) The preliminary assessment of the Western Province had not been carried out to enable the identification of the number of officers that should be present per each rank at the police station, divisional and office level and preliminary assessments had only been carried out in the remaining eight Provinces. Under the circumstances, it was not possible to identify shortages or excesses of officers at each location.
- Relevant activities should be expedited to identify the officers who should be deployed in the office level after conducting a preliminary evaluation at the relevant offices.
- Comments had not been made.
- (g) The number of officers in the Jaffna Police Headquarters decreased from 703 to 483, the number of officers in the Vavuniya Police Headquarters decreased from 464 to 384 and the number of officers in the Jaffna Division decreased from 1223 to 1081 during the period of 2015-2019. The officers receiving annual transfers to the Northern Province had transferred to other areas was the reason for this and this situation had hampered the day to day duties of the Police Stations in the Northern Province.
- Arrangements should be made to deploy officers to avoid any interruption for the discharge of day-to-day duties of the police stations in the Northern Province.
- The number of officers attached to the Jaffna Police Headquarters has also been reduced in relation to the decrease in the number of troops in the Division. I will take action to attach officers for this purpose through new recruitments made from time to time.