

Head 256 – Gampaha District Secretariat

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Audit Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Gampaha District Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2021 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021 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. The summary report containing my comments and observations on the financial statements of the Gampaha District Secretariat in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 and the Annual Detailed Management Audit Report relevant to the District Secretariat was issued to the Accounting Officer in terms of Section 11(2) of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 on 26 May 2022. This report will be tabled in Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to be read in conjunction with Section 10 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Gampaha District Secretariat as at 31 December 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.2 Basis for Unqualified Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). My responsibilities, under those auditing standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for 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 opinion.

1.3 Responsibilities of the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer for the Financial Statements

The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and provisions in Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 and for the determination of the internal control that 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 District Secretariat is required to maintain proper books and records of all its income, expenditure, assets and liabilities to enable the preparation of annual and periodic financial statements.

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 District Secretariat and carry out periodic reviews to monitor the effectiveness of such systems and accordingly make any alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out.

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

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's summary 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 and its materiality depends on the influence on economic decisions taken by users 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:

- Appropriate audit procedures were designed and performed to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement in financial statements whether due to fraud or errors in providing a basis for the expressed audit opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- An understanding of internal control relevant to the audit was obtained in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Secretariat's internal control.
- Evaluate the structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements including disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

1.5. Report on Other Legal Requirements

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

- (a) The financial statements are consistent with the preceding year,
- (b) The recommendations made by me on the financial statements of the preceding year had been implemented.

2. Financial Review

2.1 Expenditure Management

Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	Recommendation -----
(a) Preparation of Underestimates ----- A total of Rs. 468,600,000 had been made as transfers of Rs. 118,600,000 under Financial Regulations 66 and Rs.350,000,000 under supplementary provisions for the expenditure subject 256-1-1-2-2104 and the amount was 117 percent of the budgeted provision of Rs. 400,000,000.	Nearly Rs. 1000 million in construction of 2104 new buildings were requested during the year in the annual budget estimates. Due to insufficient provisions in the annual estimates, as building construction activities may be hampered, additional provision was allocated under the supplementary estimates and it was informed that if the remaining provisions saved under the capital expenditure subjects, that should be transferred under F.R. 66. The relevant provisions were transferred on the recommendation of the secretary of the ministry and the approval of the Director General of budget without affecting the budget limit and in accordance with Financial Regulations 66.	Action should be taken to prepare the estimates as accurate and complete as possible.

(b) Preparation of Overestimates

Due to the remaining allocations made for 4 capital expenditure subjects, an amount of 38 percent to 91 percent was transferred to other expenditure subjects under the Financial Regulations 66 transfers.

This provision was allocated for the delivery of goods bags, purchase of vegetables under Covid 19 epidemic situation and express pearl ship compensation. In this, Due to the reduction of Rs. 10,000 bag of goods to Rs. 5,000 giving only to low-income beneficiaries, giving only Rs. 5,000 to relevant beneficiaries, stopping the vegetable purchase programme and express pearl ship damage, provisions have been saved due to the beneficiaries not being eligible for the relevant compensations.

Estimates should be prepared as accurately as possible.

2.2 Utilization of Provisions given by Other Ministries and Departments

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a) Out of the Rs. 7,433,318,046 allocated to the Gampaha District Secretary to implement various projects from 51 different ministries and departments in the year 2021, provisions of Rs. 391,985,651 were not utilized.	The problems of maximizing the utilization of provisions have arisen due to the problems of purchasing goods for the projects and the problems implementation at the end of the year, including the remaining provisions under covid-19, the value of bills in hand including the value of nearly Rs. 70 million could not be settled.	Necessary steps should be taken to get full advantages from the allocated provisions.
(b) The 13 Divisional Secretaries in Gampaha District were overpaid pensions of Rs. 33,052,527 to 362 pensioners who were receiving pensions as at 31 December 2021 due to delay in notifying the deceased, noncompliance to pension circulars and other reasons.	It is the responsibility of the Director General of Pensions to deal with this overpayment process and take relevant action. However, I would like to inform that under the guidance of the Chief Accountant, a considerable amount of this overpaid money has been recovered by giving the necessary instructions to the District Secretaries and Accountants in last 10 years.	Immediate action should be taken to recover overpayments.

2.3 Non-compliance with Laws, Rules and Regulations

Instances of non-compliance with the provisions in laws, rules and regulations observed during the course of audit test checks are analyzed below.

	Audit Observation Reference to Laws, Rules and Regulations	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a)	Public Administration Circulars		
(i)	Circular No. 05/2008 dated 06 February 2008 and No. 05/2008 (1) dated 24 January 2018.	The Gampaha District Secretariat had not prepared a system to monitor and evaluate the compilation and implementation of the Citizen Client Charter.	The compilation and implementation of the Citizen Client Charter of the Gampaha District Secretariat and supervision and evaluation by the performance of the officers.
(ii)	Circular No. 30/2016 dated 29 December 2016	Although a fuel re-checked should be done after a period of 12 months after each fuel inspection or after a mileage of 25,000 km or after a major engine repair whichever occurs first, the Gampaha District Secretariat had not acted according to the relevant provisions.	-Do-

- (c) National Budget Circular No. 130/09/14/8 dated 03 July 2017
- While two village officers of the Kelaniya Divisional Secretariat have been received motorcycles on a concessional basis, although Rs. 273,420 of the market value of the motorcycles has to be refunded to the National Budget Department as per the circular instructions due to retirement before the completion of 60 years, even though more than 4 years have been passed, the amount had not been recovered.
- It has been proposed to the Director General of Pensions that the amount of Rs. 273,420, which is the motorcycle amount to be charged, be recovered from the retirement gratuity in June 2022.
- Do-
- (c) Section 13 (3) of the chapter II of the Establishment Code of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- An Acting appointment should be made as even as a temporary remedy pending a permanent appointment, but Grama Niladharis of the divisional secretariats of Negomabo. Attanagalla and Minuwangoda were appointed as acting for a 03 months to 09 months respectively as 07, 27 and 06.
- Vacancies will arise due to the retirement and transfer of the currently employed Grama Niladharis out of the district. However, the vacancies have not been filled due to the non-recruitment of Grama Niladharis after the year 2018. Therefore, serving Grama Niladharis have been appointed to acting work.
- Should be act as per the provisions of the Establishment Code.
- (d) Code of Financial Regulations of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
- (i) F.R. 1647 (e)
- The officer in charge of vehicles at the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat did not maintain a list of the motor vehicles in their custody indicating the registration number, type
- According to the facts indicated by the audit, it has been informed to submit the relevant report to the Auditor General in future.
- Should be act as per the Financial Regulations.

of vehicle, model, as well as the date of delivery or assignment and the details of that and other proper information.

- | | | | |
|----------------|--|---|---|
| (ii) F.R. 1646 | The running charts of the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat had not been submitted for audit. | It has been informed to submit the relevant running charts for the audit. | Should be act as per the Financial Regulations. |
|----------------|--|---|---|

2.4 Fraudulent Transactions

----- Audit Observation -----	----- Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	----- Recommendation -----
<p>According to the final investigation report conducted in terms of Financial Regulations 104 (1)(b) regarding the missing of money in the safe which occurred on 15 July 2014 in the Mahara Divisional Secretariat office, it was recommended that Rs. 270,561 should be recovered equally from the officers of the Divisional Secretary, Accountant, Financial Assistant and Shroff. Accordingly, although the recommendations and approval had been given for recovering by the letter of the Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs dated 22 September 2020, the relevant charges were not recovered. Since all the four officers have expressed their unwillingness to pay this amount of loss, the District Secretary had appointed a new board of inquiry in April 2022 with the approval of the State Ministry of Home Affairs to investigate this loss. Due to this reason, the amount spent for the examination was idle and the examination board fees had to be paid again.</p>	<p>According to the investigation report conducted on 14 July 2014 regarding the missing of money in the Mahara Divisional Secretariat, all the four responsible officers have been notified by letters dated 01 November 2021 to recover Rs. 32,247.14 each for the loss to the Central Government. They have been notified to pay Rs. 228,946.50 each for the loss to be charged to the Western Provincial Council on the even number dated 14 December 2021. But, as there is no consensus among all the relevant responsible officers to complete the damages, according to the letter of the Secretary of the State Ministry of Home Affairs No. F/DA/06/WRI02/003 dated 10 February 2022, a new investigation board has been submitted to the State Ministry of Home Affairs on 22 March 2022 for approval to conduct a re-investigate as per F.R. 104 (1)(b). The new board of inquiry has been notified by Dile/P/1/16 dated 08 April 2022 on the approval given by the secretary of ministry to appoint the new board on investigation. It has also been informed to submit the report within 03 months.</p>	<p>Charges should be made according to the investigation board report and action should be taken against the officers responsible for not taking recover. Action should be taken against the officers who appointed a new investigation board.</p>

2.5 Issuance and Settlement of Advances

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
-----	-----	-----
(a) The sum of outstanding balances of dead, retired, suspended and retired officers as at 31 December 2021 was Rs. 3,946,286. Even though those outstanding balances have existed for a period ranging from 01 year to more than 5 years, the recovery and follow-up of those balances remained in a weak condition.	Constant follow-up has been done to recover these balances. Most of the loans have been decided to be recovered from the retirement gratuity of the respective borrowers and the relevant measures have been taken for that. Other balances are expected to be recovered as far as possible by 30 November 2022.	Action should be taken to recover the loan balances immediately in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulation 371 and the circular provisions.
(b) According to the Financial Regulations 371 (2)(c), although the grant of interim advances should be limited to staff officers only, the District Secretariat and the Merigama and Negomabo Divisional Secretariats had given Rs. 1,089,288 as advance for non-staff officers in 81 cases in the year 2021.	There are cases when ad-hoc interim advances have to be paid for various projects and it is not possible to get these advances in the District Secretariat as there is a limited number of staff officers. Accordingly, an estimate for the relevant programme will be prepared and the advance amount will be given to the Technical Officer in charge of the subject with my approval.	Interim advances should be given only for the staff officers as per the Financial Regulations.
(c) According to the Financial Regulations 371 (b) and Public Finance Circular No. 03/2015 dated 14 July 2015, although the limit of the given ad-hoc interim imprest is Rs. 100,000 at once, the District Secretariat and the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat had ad-hoc interim imprests exceeding Rs. 100,000 on 08 cases in the year 2021.	This interim imprest has been released on the basis of the emergency situation in the relevant 8 cases. Also, due to the corona situation, the shop holders are not willing to provide goods on credit basis, so these officers have been given an advance. Advances have been settled immediately.	Action should be taken as per the Financial Regulations 371 and the circular provisions.

2.6 Deposit Balances

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
-----	-----	-----
(a) Balances of Rs. 25,979,753 which were deposited in 362 occasions including 361 occasions of construction retained accounts in temporarily for repayment to third parties, overdue for more than two years had not been acted in accordance with Financial Regulations 571.	Instructions were given to settle the construction retained deposits (more than 2 years) that were temporarily retained for repayment to third parties by 31 December 2021 as much as possible.	If the contract has been completed as per the agreement and the warranty period has been completed, the deposited money should be credited to the relevant account or government revenue as per Financial Regulations 571.
(b) Action was not taken as per the Financial Regulations 571 regarding the balances of Rs. 86,883,880 related to 77 cases in the land deposit account, which exceeded 10 years.	The necessary instructions have been given for the settlement of land deposits and the divisional secretaries have made a strong effort in last 10 years. Settlement problems had been arisen due to the settlement of the property and the refusal of the land owners to receive the compensation and insufficient funds at the end of the year.	Should be act as per the Financial Regulations 571.

2.7 Bank Accounts Operation

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
-----	-----	-----
(a) There were 16 Divineguma community banks under the divisional secretariats of Minuwangoda, Aththanagalla and Negombo and default loans of Rs. 254,159,657 were observed from the loans given by those banks for various purposes as at 31 December 2021.	Default loans have increased due to the blocking of income sources of borrowers due to the corona epidemic situation. As the situation is equal in the island, the Samurdhi development department has given a relief period for the payment of the	Immediate steps should be taken to recover the loans.

loan. A loan restructuring programme is currently being implemented. Also, Samurdhi bank is recovering these overdue loans.

- (b) Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat had written 08 cheques amounting to Rs. 3,262,082 to purchase machines and equipment to be given to the beneficiaries under the programme of creating one village industrial entrepreneur per Grama Niladhari Division. The goods had not been received by the divisional secretariat on 07 February 2022 and the officer in charge of the subject had kept the cheques without issuing. The validity period of the cheques was also exceeded in accordance with the Financial Regulations 386 (4).
- The situation has arisen due to the economic crisis in the country. 04 cheques have been given to the relevant institutions yet and the remaining four cheques which are Rs.1,260,000, Rs. 436,450, Rs. 98,794 and Rs.110,000 are in the custody of the officer. I will arrange to give the cheques to the respective companies as immediately.
- Cheques should be written only after receiving goods.

2.8 Non-maintenance of Documents and Books

----- Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	Recommendation -----
(a) A documents list of the vehicles to be prepared including the type, registration number, date of assignment, date of exchange and other important information was not maintained at the Mirigama Divisional Secretariat in accordance with Financial Regulations 1647 (e).	A vehicle registration register was not maintained and the office has been informed to maintain the relevant documents for the two vehicles in future.	A register containing vehicle information should be maintained as per Financial Regulations.
(b) The Mirigama Divisional Secretariat had not maintained a fuel consumption stock register as required to be maintained in accordance with the Financial Regulations 1647 (c).	A fuel consumption stock register was not maintained and however, as the fuel issuing register is properly maintained, fuel issuing is properly controlled from that. Also, fuel consumption is controlled as the vehicle's driving records are updated and maintained daily.	-Do-

3. Operational Review

3.1 Non-performance of Duties

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
According to the letter of the Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs No. HAF-3-ADMIN 04-002 dated 27 April 2016, one Grama Niladhari's office should be inspected at least three times a year by the Administrative Grama Niladhari, but out of 121, 151 and 39 Grama Niladharis' domains belonging to Minuwangoda, Aththanagalla and Negombo Divisional Secretariat areas respectively, 61,94 and 13 respectively had not been inspected over at once.	Due to the covid epidemic situation during that period, the target of the office inspection could not be achieved and I would also like to inform you that have been carried out those activities properly in this year.	Adequate number of Grama Niladhari officers should be inspected.

3.2 Non-achievement of Expected Output Level

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
The Mirigama Divisional Secretariat had received an allocation of Rs. 117,500,000 for 188 construction projects under the rural infrastructure development project allocation. Out of the 188 planned constructions, only 11 were 100 percent complete and 126 constructions were 25 percent complete. Estimates were prepared and bid documents prepared for 36 constructions. 15 projects were not implemented. Accordingly, out of the total estimate of Rs. 106,650,000 for the 188 projects, contracts were awarded for Rs. 68,270,726	The progress of the projects has been reduced due to the problems of project implementation and non-availability of funds and the increase in commodity prices, contractors and suppliers are not forwarded for project work and supply work.	Provisions should be properly utilized.

and the financial progress was Rs. 976,898. Thus, the use of contract provisions was 0.83 percent and the financial progress of the contract value was at a low level of 1.43 percent. Accordingly, it was observed that the annual allocations given by the government were not utilized properly.

3.3 Non-achievement of Expected Outcome

Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	Recommendation -----
<p>As per circular No. 03/2021 dated 16 June 2021 of the State ministry of cane, brass, clay, wood and rural industries promotion and letter SMRIP/DEV/(V)/10/03/2021/(General) dated 15 July 2021, it was informed that while selecting the beneficiaries for the programme to create one rural industrial entrepreneur per Grama Niladhari domain, the beneficiaries should not be selected to provide household appliances such as food stalls, daily food outlets, shops, mushroom growing, ornamental flower growing, garment industry related machines, gas stoves, blenders etc. But, on the contrary, the Negomabo, Minuwangoda and Mirigama Divisional Secretariats had provided equipment worth Rs. 7,780,985 for 102 such beneficiaries.</p>	<p>The selected self- employed persons have been provided with the relevant equipment according to the circular instructions. However, a detailed report on this has been summoned form the director of planning and expected to be submitted to you as soon as possible.</p>	<p>According to the circular provisions, the equipment should be provided only to the beneficiaries who are eligible for the project purpose.</p>

3.4 Abandoned Projects without Completion

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a) A project was started in the year 2020 with an estimated amount of Rs. 1,000,000 to build a tube well and install a water pumping station in Minuwangoda Nalanda Boys School in Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat division and after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 800,714, the project was abandoned due to non-fulfillment of the expected benefits.	A detailed report on this water project has been requested from the Divisional Secretary and it will be hope to submit as it is received.	The projects should be completed as that the public can get maximum service from the received allocations.
(b) 05 projects worth Rs. 950,000 in the year 2021 that were proposed to be implemented under the decentralized bidget in the Attanagalla Divisional Secretariat division were not implemented. Due to the shortage of raw materials in the market and the increase in prices, the relevant contractors had informed that it is not possible to implement these 05 projects.	Due to the shortage of raw materials in the market and the increase in prices, the relevant contractors had informed that it is not possible to implement these 05 projects.	The projects should be completed as that the public can get maximum service from the received allocations.

3.5 Delays in Project Execution

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a) As the existing building of the Jaela divisional secretariat is in a very dilapidated condition, the construction of a new building was started in the year 2013 and expected to be completed as soon as possible at an estimate of Rs. 165.34	The work of the project, which was awarded to Sinha Ruwan construction institute for an amount of Rs. 145.33 million for the construction of the building, is currently implemented. Due to the	The project should be completed within the agreed period.

million. However, due to a delay as the problematic circumstances of the land, the work on the contract was temporarily suspended after an advance payment of Rs. 5,369,779 was also paid for the foundation construction contract. After almost a year, the same company constructed the foundation part of Rs. 27 million and the remaining work was assigned to another company at a value of Rs. 145.33 million. This project, which was started in the year 2013, was scheduled to be completed on 18 November 2021, but it was not completed by the end of the year under review.

- (b) There were 19 Nila Sewana offices will be used and 07 Nila Sewana offices that have only laid the foundation by the end of the year 2021 in the Mirigama Divisional Secretariat office and it was observed that there are not enough facilities in the Nila Sewana offices that are being used. The office layout and provision for Nila Sewana offices is allocated by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Further, due to the covid 19 epidemic situation in the country, some Nila Sewana office constructions have been stopped without completion due to lack of provision from the ministry. Arrangements should be made to provide relevant office facilities to officers as public service can be done in the best possible way.
- (c) A total cost estimate of Rs. 167.9 million has been approved in the cabinet meeting held on 03 October 2013 to construct a five-storied building for the Watthala Divisional Secretariat. It was decided to carry out the piling work as the first phase and construct the buildings as the second phase. After conducting the procurement for the second phase, the contract was awarded to a private company on 29 December 2016 for an amount excluding VAT of Rs. 110,999,052. This contract started on 12 January 2017 and it was to be completed in 350 days or by 28 December 2017. But, even at the end of the second wave of covid-19 in Gampaha district, where the curfew has been in effect for the longest time in Sri Lanka, the construction work has been interrupted from time to time, but currently the construction progress is at a satisfactory level of 85 percent. Trio construction, which was the first to offer the tender, paid Rs. 24,049,996 after the project was abandoned and after the project was awarded to Thilaka Engineering Pvt. Ltd. for an amount of Rs. 135.94 million for the construction of the building, the work of the project is currently being implemented. Gampaha district, where the curfew has been in effect for the longest time in Sri Lanka, has been interrupted from time to time due to the second wave of Covid-19, The projects should be completed within the agreed period.

of the year under review, the building was not in usable condition.

but currently the construction progress is 85 percent in satisfactory.

3.6 Procurement

The following observation is made.

Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	Recommendation -----
According to 9.3.1 (b) of the revised procurement guidelines dated 21 April 2021, it is stated that the approval of the Secretary of the line ministry should be obtained for repairs over Rs. 500,000, but although Rs. 746,070 was paid to the agency for the repair cab No. 56-6456 in the year 2021, the approval of the Secretary of the ministry was not obtained.	Repairs were not done by the local agency and the approval of the Secretary of the ministry was not submitted as it can be proceed when the repair was done in a regional garage according to the procurement committee decision.	Should be act as per the laws, rules and regulations laid by the code of procurement guidelines.

3.7 Assets Management

Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	Recommendation -----
(a) The Dippitigoda Seva piyasa office, which was constructed by the Kelaniya Divisional Secretariat for an amount of Rs. 50 lakhs allocated from the decentralized budget under the regional infrastructure development programme in the year 2018, was built as a multi-purpose building. All officers such as Grama Niladharis, Development Officers, Samurdhi Officer and Agriculture Officer were in perform their duties	The Pradeshiya Sabha said that the ground floor of the relevant building will be given to the Sewa piyasa office.	Construction of buildings should be done as a way that there are no issues of the ownership and usage.

in that building. But, since the building was constructed on a land owned by the Pradeshiya Sabha, the Pradeshiya Sabha did not allow the above officers to do their work in that service area.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| (b) | The tractor and bowser owned by the disaster division of the Mirigama Divisional Secretariat remained idle for about 04 years after the year 2017. | I inform that the relevant tractor and bowser have been used for service needs during the drought of the year 2020. | Assets should be utilized maximally. |
|-----|--|---|--------------------------------------|

3.8 Property, Plant and Equipment

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
-----	-----	-----
(a) Due to the lack of a deed for the 0.1744 hectare land where the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat is located, its value was not assessed and accounted and the land on which the Katana Divisional Secretariat building is located had been assessed and accounted for Rs. 15,000,000, but the ownership of the land belonged to the Land Reform Commission.	Although the Valuation Department and the Public Accounts Department have been informed to assess the land of the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat from several years, the necessary work has not been done till now and the Valuation Department has informed that it cannot be done due to the lack of a deed. Every effort has been taken to assess and account for this land by the end of this year. Although the land of the Katana Divisional Secretariat belongs to the Land Reform Commission, information has been recorded in the documents that it has been assigned to the Katana Divisional Secretariat.	The problems related to the ownership of the land should be checked and necessary steps should be taken to correct them.

- (b) The buildings value of 96 Sewa piyasa/ Nila Sewana offices belonging to the Divisional Secretariats of Divulapitiya, Waththala, Katana, Gampaha, Aththanagalla, Ja ela and Dompe built by the divisional secretariat or under the authority of the Divisional Secretary had not been assessed and accounted.
- While assessing the buildings, it has not been possible to assess them due to the ownership issues of those lands. I inform you that it is not possible to assess most of these lands due to the ownership of the land by the Pradeshiya Sabha. Since it is problematic to account for the non-current assets that the District Secretary does not have, I will discuss this with the Director General of Treasury Accounts and arrange a proper work order.
- Land settlement rights should be transferred to the Divisional Secretariat and the value of the land and buildings should be accounted.

3.9 Losses and Damages

----- Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	Recommendation -----
(a) The cab belonging to the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat also suffered an unrecoverable loss of Rs. 189,360 in the accident that occurred in July 1999. According to the recommendations of the basic report, the driver of the van that caused the accident was responsible for this. Accordingly, legal proceedings have been initiated against, but although almost 23 years have passed by 31 December 2021, the relevant loss was not recovered or cut off due to the lack of further proceedings in that case.	It is informed that action shall be taken to get information regarding the accident that the vehicle 251-3437 of the Minuwangoda Divisional Secretariat from the Senior Assistant State Attorney, Ms. Risni Firdaws and the relevant parties have been asked to report on the progress of the case.	Investigations should be done immediately and recovered the relevant loss.
(b) Due to the collapse of the signal tower belonging to the Gampaha District Motor Traffic office on 20 October 2021, According to the final report of the investigation on the loss carried out under Financial Regulations 104(4), the loss to the	The committee appointed in relation to the collapse of the signal tower is working to expedite and complete the related work.	The formal investigations should be completed soon and charged the related loss.

planning division building and its equipment was Rs. 861,938. The Gampaha District Secretary had recommended the appointment of a committee to conduct a formal investigation according to the terms of Financial Regulations 104 (1) (b) and this loss was not recovered or cut off due to the delay in related matters.

3.10 Management Inefficiencies

----- Audit Observation -----	----- Comments of the Accounting Officer -----	----- Recommendation -----
(a) 399 Families living in unauthorized houses, 318 temporary houses, 345 families without toilet facilities, 269 families without road facilities, 662 families without clean water and 564 houses without electricity in the families of the Aththanagalla Divisional Secretariat area, and 27,118 people of working age are unemployed and it was also observed that there are a large number of people who live without even the minimum facilities.	Actions have been made to reduce the problems in the office area as much as possible and due to the covid situation, this situation has become difficult to control. However, I would like to inform you that steps will be taken to resolve the existing problems in Gampaha district as soon as possible in the year 2022.	Special attention should be paid to uplift those living without minimum facilities.
(b) Among the 49,886 families in Mirigama Divisional Secretariat, it was observed that there were a large number of people without even the minimum facilities of there were 97 families living in unauthorized land, 407 families living in temporary houses, 745 families without toilet facilities, 676 families using public water taps, 478 houses without electricity and 858 houses without road facilities.	-Do-	-Do-

- (c) 07 Cheques worth Rs. 1,183,234 written in the period from 23 December to 31 December 2021 were retained in the hand of the Science and Technology officers of the Vidatha Center of the Negombo Divisional Secretariat and the goods in relation to the cheques had not been received until 02 February 2022.
- It has been informed to obtain the relevant goods before the releasing cheques.
- Cheques should be written only after receiving of goods.
- (d) A re-survey of Senior Citizen allowance beneficiaries shall be conducted by 31 December of every year as per section 7.3 of Ministry of Social Empowerment and Welfare circular No. 2016/1 dated 12 January 2016, but the survey was not conducted in relation to 32 Grama Niladhari domains of the Negomabo Divisional Secretariat.
- The relevant officers have been informed to carry out the survey work as per the relevant circulars.
- Should be act as per the circular provisions.
- (e) According to letter No. L/3/J95/HW/11 of the Ministry of Lands Assistant Director No. 1/2016 dated 21 December 2021, while the expansion of the Peliyagoda Puttalam road, compensation in related to 406 plots of acquired land and interest in related to 518 plots of land had not been paid and transfer certificates under section 44 had not been issued. The Divisional Secretariat had informed that 861 of the 1221 sub-files were not in the office in relation to that.
- As the Divisional Secretariat did not have enough information for this purpose, that was asked whether the Road Development Authority has the information, but no reply has been received yet.
- Compensation payments should be expedited by keeping files up-to-date.

4. Progress of the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
10 Sustainable Development Goals were identified and 20 targets were identified for that. The progress in achieving those goals was between 0 percent to 49 percent for 18 expected goals and 50 percent to 74 percent for 02 expected goals by the end of the year under review.	Due to the covid-19 epidemic control methods in the country, the country has been lock down from time to time, Government institutions have been closed, officers have been called to work in rotation methods etc.	Should be acted as per planned.

5. Human Resource Management

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Accounting Officer	Recommendation
(a) The number of approved employees for the District Secretariat as at 31 December 2021 was 3,457 and there were 288 vacancies due to that the actual staff was 3,169.	Every month on 15 th and 30 th of the district staff vacancies are updated by the official websites (misco, moha) of Ministry of Public Administration and Ministry of Home Affairs.	Arrangements should be made to recruit the required number of employees to work efficiently.
(b) Out of 1177 approved Grama Niladharis for the 13 Divisional Secretariat offices under the Gampaha District Secretariat, 201 Grama Niladahri positions remained vacant as at 31 December 2021.	Since the recruitment of Grama Niladharis has not been done after the year 2018, there has been an obstacle to fill the vacancies.	Should be filled the vacancies.
(c) According to Public Administration Circular No. 18/2001 dated 22 August 2001, officers who have completed more than 05 years of service at one work place should be subject to transfers, but it was observed that there were 134 officers	Officers are in the same work place due to Development Officers not being transferred out of the divisional secretariat, transferred officers filing appeals and canceling the transfers,	Transfers should be effected in accordance with circular provisions as that each officer can work in different offices.

who have been working from a period of 6 to 8 years in the Mirigama Divisional Secretariat and 09 officers who have been working from a period of 6 to 9 years in the Negombo Divisional Secretariat. These officers were allowed to stay at the same work place even though transfer procedures had been implemented for these services. officers not being transferred due to the absence of the successor.