

Pachchilaipalli Pradeshiya Sabha - 2022

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Pachchilaipalli Pradeshiya Sabha including the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2022, statement of financial performance, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement for the year then ended and significant accounting policies and other explanatory information was carried out, for the year then ended, 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 Sub-Section 172 (1) of the Pradeshiya Sabha Act No. 15 of 1987 and National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018. My comments and observations which I consider should be report to parliament appear in this report.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Pachchilaipalli Pradeshiya Sabha as at 31 December 2022, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally accepted Accounting Practices.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

I expressed qualified opinion on the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report.

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

1.3 Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Pradeshiya Sabha's financial reporting process.

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

1.4 Audit Scope (Responsibility of the Auditor for the audit of 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 exercised professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism 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 its 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.

The scope of the audit also extended to examine as far as possible and as far as necessary the following;

- Whether the organization, systems, procedures, books, records and other documents have been properly and adequately designed from the point of view of the presentation of information to enable a continuous evaluation of the activities of the Pradeshiya Sabha and whether such systems, procedures, books, records and other documents are in effective operation;
- Whether the Pradeshiya Sabha has complied with applicable written law, or other general or special directions issued by the governing body of the Pradeshiya Sabha;
- Whether it has performed according to its powers, functions and duties; and
- Whether the resources of the Pradeshiya Sabha had been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws.

1.5 Report on Other Legal Requirements

National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 include specific provisions for following requirements.

- (a) The financial statements of the Pradeshiya Sabha presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirement of section 6(1)(d)(iii) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- (b) The financial statements presented includes all the recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirement of section 6(1)(d)(iv) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

1.6 Audit Observations on the preparation of Financial Statements Accounting Deficiencies

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
The cost of the Rs.1,439,759 traditional (Siddha) Ayurvedic hospital building owned by the Sabha, which was partly built with funds from the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Fund had not been accounted for.	It will be rectified in the financial statements of the year 2023.	It should be properly accounted for.

2. Financial Review

2.1 Financial Result

According to the Financial Statements presented, excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure of the Sabha for the year ended 31 December 2022 amounted to Rs. 27,480,454 as against the excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure amounted to Rs. 20,160,216 in the preceding year.

2.2 Revenue Administration

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

According to the information presented by the Sabha, information relating to Estimated Revenue, Revenue Billed, Revenue Collected and Arrears of Revenue relevant to the year under review and the preceding year are shown below.

Source of Revenue	2022				2021			
	Estimated Revenue	Revenue billed	Revenue Collected	Arrears as at 31 December	Estimated Revenue	Revenue billed	Revenue Collected	Arrears as at 31 December
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rates and Taxes	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	-	-	-
Rent	5,971,162	5,287,502	5,273,252	123,757	5,955,222	4,947,297	4,905,141	194,362
License Fees	1,599,100	2,134,720	2,134,720	-	1,624,300	965,700	965,700	-
Other revenue	28,272,475	40,212,515	37,165,945	3,674,813	27,623,110	34,917,718	28,965,668	6,574,947
	<u>35,942,737</u>	<u>47,634,737</u>	<u>44,573,917</u>	<u>3,798,570</u>	<u>35,302,632</u>	<u>40,830,715</u>	<u>34,836,509</u>	<u>6,769,309</u>

2.2.2 Performance in Revenue Collection

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
(a) Tenants enjoying 25 lands owned by the Sabha in Sub office, Pulopalai had constructed permanent buildings and run businesses on those lands. Apart from charging a total rent of Rs. 42,242 monthly for more than 10 years, no measures had been taken to assess the value of the property and charge the rent formally.	Commissioner of Local Government had been informed for obtaining instruction.	Property should be assessed and rent charged accordingly.
(b) There was an outstanding rent and lease balance of Rs.123,757 for the period from 01 to 03 years.	Further steps are being taken to recover the arrears.	Appropriate actions should be taken to recover the arrears.

3. Operating Review

3.1 Management Inefficiencies

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
A software (App) used to register people's deficiencies which had been purchased for Rs.120,000 by the Local Government Capacity Development (CDLG) Fund has not been implemented since the last 05 months.	Action had been taken to aware the public and implement the software.	There should be adequate utilization for the money spent.

3.2 Operating Inefficiencies

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
Although waste bins valued at Rs. 1,842,794 had been purchased and placed in selected places with the funds of the Local Development Support Project (LDSP) to encourage the collection of solid waste, the relevant objectives had not been fulfilled due to the fact that the waste contained in those bins had not been segregated.	Action is being taken to aware the public and segregate and collect the garbage.	Actions should be taken to properly segregate and collect solid waste.

3.3 Assets Management

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
The ownership of 05 vehicles and 27 lands with extent of 31 acres being used by the Sabha had not been acquired for a period of 05 years.	Action is being taken to transfer the ownership.	Ownership of assets should be settled.

3.4 Human Resources Management

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
There were 14 staff vacancies in primary level and 06 excess officers in secondary level in the approved cadre.	Actions will be taken to fill the vacancies as soon as approval is received.	Actions should be taken to fill the vacancies as per necessity and to employ the surplus effectively.

4. Accountability and Good Governance

Environmental Issue

Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
Necessary measures had not been taken since last 02 years to prevent the spread of mosquitoes and bad smell in the solid waste disposal area.	Actions will be taken to spray mosquito oil and prevent bad smell in the future.	Actions should be taken to dispose garbage in an eco friendly manner.