## Contents

Introduction	03
Vision, Mission, Composition of the Institution	
Basic expectations, Key Strategic Development Objectives	05
Staff details (2016.12.31)	
International Day Commemorations	

#### Performance of the Divisions

Administrative Division	09-10
Accounts Division	11-13
Internal Audit Division	13-14
Planning Division	15-16
Development Division	17-19
Sri Lanka Women's Bureau	20-27
National Committee on Women	28-30
Children's Secretariat	. 31-42

The Performance Report of the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs for 2016 has been prepared As per the instructions In Public Finance Circular No. 402 Dated 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2002.

## Introduction

The Ministry has been assigned a significant role for the implementation of the tasks entrusted upon it by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1933/13 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 21.09.2015, for the advancement of Sri Lankan women and children.

Based on the Child Rights Convention and the Women's Charter which includes matters contained in the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Ministry and the institutions under its purview have successfully carried out the provision of legislation, formulation of policies and implementation of programs to ensure, safeguard and promote the rights of children and women.

Contributing to the provision of legislation and policies in relation to women and children, development of infrastructure facilities, implementation of development programs to promote the rights of women and children and follow up of the same as well as conducting researches to be used in future policy formulation and creation of a data base that would contribute to the development of children and women were the key functions performed in 2016.

Accordingly, approval was obtained during 2016 for the special policies of utilizing for women 25% of the provisions received for projects implemented targeting rural economic development, a set of guidelines for maintaining temporary shelters to provide protection to women victims of violence, national plan for women headed families, proposal for a more effective method of upgrading the nutrition of the children at Early Childhood Development Centres (Pre-schools) and the 2016-2020 National Action Plan for Sri Lankan children.

Strengthening the child and women development units commenced in 2014 and construction of Police Child and Women's Bureaus and Women's shelters under the program to prevent child abuse and violence against women have also been carried out during this year.

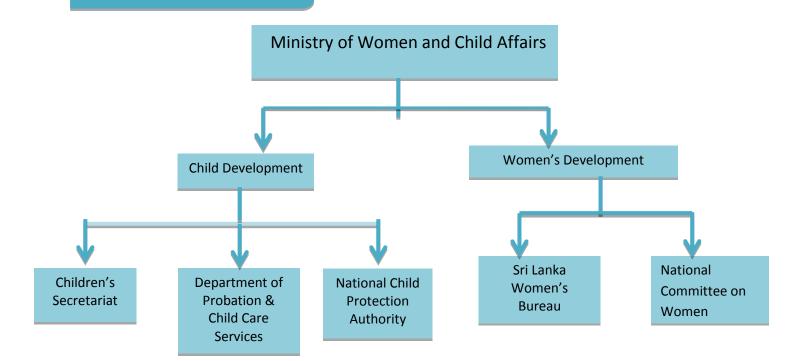
Vision

Towards a glorious land where the rights of children and women are ensured.

Mission

the relevant Provision of requirements and formulation of policies and implementation and regulation of the same to uphold good governance practices in order to safeguard the rights of children and women through the socio economic empowerment, promotion of social values and strategic collaborative participation of all relevant parties for the creation of a glorious land.

Institutional Composition



#### **Basic Expectations**

- > Formulation of a national policy for the protection and development of child rights.
- Formulation of a national plan for the protection and development of women's rights.
- Facilitating the setting up and implementation of a mechanism for the development of children and women.
- Implementation of programs for children and women by co-ordinating public institutions, non governmental institutions, foreign institutions and the private sector.
- Implementation of programs for the protection and development of children and women.
- Monitoring the care and development programs carried out by the Ministry and the agencies under its purview.
- Formulation of laws, policies and programs for all the international conventions and agreements Sri Lanka is committed to for taking action in relation to children and women.
- Establishing an environment consisting of legal and national policies required to eradicate child abuse.

### **Strategic Development Objectives**

- 1. Ensuring an early childhood development and care service of high quality.
- 2. Ensuring the rights of institutionalized children for welfare and reintegrating them into society.
- 3. Preventing and minimizing child abuse.
- 4. Developing women's families at risk.
- 5. Legal and policy intervention for the protection of the rights of children and women.
- 6. Establishing local development methods for children and women in line with the international conventions Sri Lanka has ratified.

## Staff details (as at 31.12.2016)

Serial Number	Post	Service	Grade/Class	Approved Cadre	Existing cadre
Senior	Level				
01.	Secretary	S.L.A.S.		01	01
02.	State Secretary (Child)	S.L.A.S.	(Special)	01	01
03.	Additional Secretary (Administration and Finance)	S.L.A.S.	(Special)	01	01
04.	Additional Secretary (Development)	S.L.A.S.	(Special)	01	01
05.	Senior Asst. Secretary	S.L.A.S.	SL-1	01	01
06.	Chief Accountant	S.L.Acc.S.	SL-1	01	01
07.	Chief Internal Auditor	S.L.Acc.S.	SL-1	01	01
08.	Director (Development)	S.L.A.S.	SL-1	01	01
09.	Director (Women's Bureau)	S.L.A.S.	SL-1	01	01
10.	Director (Planning)	S.L.P.S.	SL-1	01	01
11.	Accountant	S.L.Acc.S.	SL-11/111	02	02
12.	Deputy director /Assistant Director	S.L.A.S.	SL-11/111	05	05
13.	Deputy Director / Assistant director (Planning)	S.L.P.S.	SL-11/111	02	02
14.	Assistant secretary	S.L.A.S.	SL-1 11/111	02	02
15.	Assistant Director (ICT)	S.L.I.T.S.	1 class 111 Grade	01	01
16.	Assistant Director	S.L.I.T.S.	111/11	01	01
17.	Legal Officer	Departmental	111/11	03	03
	Tertiary Level				
18.	Administrative Officer	Public Management Asst. Service (Supra Grade)	MN-07	01	01
19.	Research Officer	Departmental	MN-06	01	01
20.	Translator (Sinhala / English and Tamil / Sinhala)	Translator Service	MN-06	02	01
21.	Counselling Officer	Departmental	MN-05	13	10

2016

## Secondary Level

2	2. Development Assistant	Allied services	MN-04	24	22
2	3. Women Development Officer	Departmental	MN-04	335	282
24	<ol> <li>Budget Assistant</li> </ol>	Allied Services	MN-04	01	01
2	5. Development Officer	Development	MN-04	516	336
		Officer service			
2	5. Librarian	Librarian service	MN-03	01	-
2	7. Public Management Assistant	P.M.A.S.	MN-02	40	32
		(1,11,111)			
2		Departmental	MN-01	01	01
2		Departmental	MN-01	01	01
3		Departmental	MN-01	134	124
3		Departmental	MN-01	02	-
32		Departmental	MN-01	02	-
3	•••	I.T.C.S	MT-01	03	02
-	Communication Assistant			01	01
34		Departmental	MT-01	01	01
3	5. Stills photographer	Temporary	MT-01	01	01
	Primary Level				
-				0.1	24
3	5. Driver	Combined Drivers' Service	PL-03	31	24
3	7. Cameraman's Assistant	Temporary	PL-01	01	01
3		K.K.S.S.	PL-01	25	20
3		Departmental	PL-01	12	11
4		Departmental	PL-01	02	-
		Departmentai	1201		
	Children's Secretariat				
	Children's Secretariat				
4	L. Director	S.L.A.S.	SL-1 1	01	01
43	2. Assistant Director / Deputy	S.L.A.S.	SL-	04	04
	Director		11/111		
43	<b>3.</b> Early Childhood Development	D.O.S.	MN-04	373	327
	Assistant				
4	<ol> <li>Public Management Assistant</li> </ol>	P.M.A.S.(1,11,111)	MN-02	03	01

	Assistant				
44.	Public Management Assistant	P.M.A.S.(1,11,111)	MN-02	03	01
45.	Driver	Combined Drivers' Service	Special	02	01
46.	Karyala Karya Sahayaka	K.K.S.S.	Special	03	03

#### **International Day Commemorations**

#### International Women's Day

Theme - "Empowered Women for Sustainable Future"

The International Women's Day of 2016 was commemorated in a dignified manner at Weerasinghe Stadium, Ampara, in the historical city of Digamadulla, led by the Minister of Women and Child Affairs, Hon. Mrs. Chandrani Bandara, with the participation of His Excellency the President Maithreepala Sirisena as the Chief Guest. A trade fair and exhibition of Women's products was held to coincide with this celebration to provide opportunities to market the goods produced by women. In addition to that, popularizing the counselling service,"Suvanari' clinics to promote women's health, awareness programs on non-communicable diseases, an Ayurvedic clinics and a series of programs at 137 Divisional Secretariats for the economic empowerment of women were conducted,

#### World Children's Day

Theme- "Let's be committed to make the world better for children"

The national celebration of the World Children's Day 2016 was organized by State Ministry of Child Affairs and it was held in a grand manner at the auditorium of St. Joseph's Girls' Primary School, Kegalle. Awareness programs at Divisional Level Secretariat and entertainment programs for pre-school children were implemented to coincide with the celebration.

#### International Day of the Girl Child

The National Program conducted under the theme "Daughter, you need a free world. We'll help you to become wholesome in a safe environment' was held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall on 11.10.2016 from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and an open discussion led by the Secretary was held on the same day from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. on the matters contained in the law with regard to the age of consent for sex as 16 years and marriageable age as 18 years.

## Administrative Division

#### **Main functions**

- 01. Maintaining establishment affairs, co-ordination and disciplinary affairs related to the staff of the Ministry.
- 02. Recruitment for vacancies in the approved posts of the Ministry.
- 03. Taking action to create new posts required to carry out the projects and functions of the Ministry, in line with F.R. 71.
- 04. Amending and getting approved the recruitment / promotion procedures for the Departmental posts according to Public Administration Circular 6/2006 and implementation of the promotion method. Preparation of recruitment procedures for new posts and getting them approved.
- 05. Co-ordinating with different divisions/institutions to provide replies for Parliamentary questions and carrying out other related activities. (Activities related to the Budget Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Petitions Committee and Adjournment Motions.)
- 06. Co-ordinating with the Cabinet Office regarding Cabinet Memoranda.
- 07. Co-ordinating with the Presidential Secretariat and the Prime Minister's Office in relation to public grievances.
- 08. Establishment affairs of the staff of the Minister's office and the Deputy Minister's Office.
- 09. Delivery of the letters and other items received by post to other Divisions and posting the out bound mail.
- 10. Maintaining supplies and services (Security, clearing, electricity Bills, Water Bills, newspapers, transport facilities, telephones, railway seasons, railway warrants, refreshments, Vehicle insurance)
- 11. Maintaining the vehicle pool, condemning vehicles, repair of vehicles and purchasing new vehicles.
- 12. Building and equipment maintenance
- 13. Advance loans, festival advance, special advances, Distress loans, property loans and establishment affairs of the Agrahara Insurance scheme
- 14. Affairs of the Kantha Sevana hostel at Biyagama
- 15. Conducting training programs on establishment and financial affairs for the staff of the Ministry.
- 16. Procurement affairs of the Ministry.

## Staff Affairs

The approved cadre for the Ministry as at 31.12.2016 was 1561. The number of vacancies that existed by that date was 339. It was possible to get eight officers of the Public Management Assistant Service in 2016. In addition to that, we were able to recruit a Research Officer and two Legal Officers.

Administrative functions such as regular maintenance and updating of personal files of all the officers of this staff, duties with relevance to day to day leave, granting salary increments, transfers and sending on retirement have been carried out properly. At the same time, establishment and administrative matters related to the staff of the Ministry and the State Ministry have been carried out as relevant.

Officers have been referred regularly to local and foreign training courses with a view to upgrade the knowledge, technical capacity and language proficiency of the all the officers of the Ministry.

Accordingly, domestic training programs such as Motor Mechanics training for drivers on vehicle maintenance, training of trainers on Productivity methodology, MS Excel Advanced Analysis Tool training, Work Study and Methods Study programs and Song appreciation for mental health development of officers have been conducted.

Executive Officers and Development officers have been sent for training abroad.

## Affairs of the affiliated institutions

The Administrative Division has been involved in co-ordination and guidance for the administrative affairs of the Department of Probation and Child Care Services and the National Child Protection Authority that function under the Ministry. Revision of the recruitment procedures of the said institutions in terms of P.A.C 6 / 2006, creation of posts in the staff, appointments, promotions and taking action regarding the complaints lodged with the Ministry regarding service problems of the staff have been handled. At the same time granting approval for overseas torus, scholarships and training courses for the officers of those institutions and approving leave as relevant have also been done.

## Productivity promotion Activities

Productivity promotion activities were carried out by the Ministry regularly to provide an efficient service to the public and to create pleasant office premises. At the same time, it contested at the National Productivity Awards Competition organized by the National Productivity Secretariat and won the Third Place.

#### **Accounts Division**

#### **Key Functions**

Implementation of plans by establishing regular co-ordination with the Treasury in relation to the subject of finance, providing the necessary information to the State Accounts and Treasury Operations Department of the Treasury in relation to accounts and payments of the Ministry including projects, preparation and submission to the National budget Department in a timely manner the budget estimates of the Ministry, Advance "B" account estimates and supplementary estimates, co-ordinating the formulation of annual budget and supplementary estimates of the department, projects and statutory instit5utions under the purview of the Ministry affairs related to opening, operation and closing of official bank accounts of the Ministry and all institutions under its purview, preparation of the capital action plan and the cash flow forecast based on the approved estimates and submitting them to the Department of Treasury operations, management of the total budget provision and releasing cash to various projects and other institutions as planned, control of finances in relation to project funded by foreign aid, submitting the annual appropriation account, advance account, deposit accounts and final accounts of the projects, responding to the audit queries referred by the Auditor General in connection to the Ministry, conducting annual surveys of the stores.

#### **Appropriation Account - 2016**

Head 120 : The Appropriation account of the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs for 2016 consisting of DSGA 1` format to format 10 mentioned in Public Accounts Circular No. 252/2016 dated 09.12.2016 and a summary of information from Note (i) to Note (iv) (a) and (b),has been prepared and submitted on due date in accordance with Articles 148, 149,150 and 152 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Appropriation Act No.47 of 2014 as amended by Appropriation (Amendment) Act No.24 of 2016 and No.23 of 2016 and other statutory provisions, the Annual Budget Estimate of 2016 and the Public Finance and Administrative regulations contained in the Code of Financial Regulations of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

2016

## Financial Progress in 2016

Prog.	Name of the	Budget	Supplementary	Transfers	Net Allocations	Total
No.	Program	Estimate	Provisions and	as per		Expenditure
		Allocations	Supplementary	F.R.66 and		
			Estimates	69		
			Allocations			
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Recurrent					
1	Operational	625,130,000	1,500,000	3,235,000	629,865,000	551,373,284
2	Activities	8,048,355,000	133,900,000	3,235,000	8,179,020,000	6,381,362,338
	Development					
	Activities					
	Sub Total	8,673,485,000	135,400,000	0	8,808,885,000	6,932,735,622
	(Recurrent)					
	<u>Capital</u>					
1	<b>Operation Activities</b>	73,300,000	109,213,315		182,513,315	128,532,064
2	Development	711,310,000	198,896,812		910,206,812	406,829,532
	Activities					
	Sub Total (Capital)	784,610,000	308,110,127	0	1,092,720,127	535,361,596
	Total	9,458,095,000	443,510,127	0	9,901,605,127	7,468,097,218

## Expenditure Financing

		Program 1		Total		
Code	Code Description	Net Provision	Actual	Net Provision	Actual	Percentage of
			Expenditure		Expenditure	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	%
11	Domestic Funds	812,378,315	679,905,348	812,378,315	679,905,348	84
	Total	812,378,315	679,905,348	812,378,315	679,905,348	84

		Programs 1 and	2	Тс	otal	
Code	Code Description	Net Provision	Actual Expenditure	Net Provision	Actual Expenditure	Percentage of Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	%
11	Domestic Funds	8,501,270,000	6,660,120,389	8,501,270,000	6,660,120,389	78
12	Foreign Loans	473,500,000	6,185,523,569	473,500,000	6,185,523,569	24
13	Foreign Aid/Grants	112,456,812	39,644,194	112,456,812	39,644,194	35
	Total	9,087,226,812	12,885,288,152	9,087,226,812	12,885,288,152	78

#### Government Officers' Advance "B" Account

Description	Maximum Limit of Expenditure	Minimum limit of receipts Rs.	Maximum Limit of Debit Balance Rs.
Limits Authorized by the Appropriation Act	30,000,000.00	18,000,000.00	85,000,000.00

### **Internal Audit Division**

#### **Key functions**

- Auditing and reporting on funds of the Ministry and the projects implemented under the Ministry and establishment affairs
- Checking whether the control systems operative within the Ministry to prevent irregularities and fraud are successful and submitting observations and proposals in that regard.
- Judging the credibility of Accounts and other reports of the Ministry and inquiring whether assets of the Ministry have been given maximum protection from all kinds of damages and reporting on that.
- Holding Audit and Management Committee meetings every 03 months to review the progress of the affairs of the Divisions under the Ministry mentioned below.
  - Reviewing the progress of implementing the annual action plan and presenting the measures to avoid weak performance.
  - > Replying to the Audit queries / audit reports issued by the Auditor General
  - > Implementation of the annual procurement plan
  - Presenting the Annual Reports / performance reports to the Parliament
  - Conducting the annual Boards of Survey
  - Development and Administrative affairs
- Auditing the problems that have caused delays in implementing the Annual action plans of the institutions under the Ministry and reporting on them.

For 2016, Management and Audit Committee meetings were held on 28.04.2016 for the first quarter, on 22.07.2016. for the second quarter, on 17.10.2016 for the third quarter and on 27.12.2016 for the fourth quarter.

	Details of the audit inquiries carried out within 2016	
01.	Checking the payment vouchers of October 2015	2016.01.13
02.	Nutrition for healthy life program - 2015	2016.01.22
03.	Checking Vanitha Shakthi Foundation of Biyagama	2016.01.22
04.	Provision of Nutritious food worth Rs.20000 to pregnant mothers	2016.01.24
05.	Checking the payment vouchers of November 2016	2016.02.08
06.	Internal Audit Bank Reconciliation Statements- January, 2016	2016.02.29
07.	Checking the payment vouchers of Dece+mber2015	2016.03.29
08.	Auditing of the accounts of Vanitha Shakthi Foundation, Kanthale	2016.03.29
09.	Audit inquiry on the research carried out by the National Committee on Women in 2015	2016.04.01
10.	Kantha Sevana Hostel - Biyagama	2016.04.05
11.	Internal Audit - Bank Reconciliation Statements - February 2016	2016.04.05
12.	Railway warrants (Issuing railway warrants for public servants) 2015	2016.04.05
13.	National Child Development Fund	2016.05.23
14.	Creation of a web page for the Children's Secretariat-	2016.05.24
15.	Internal Audit – Bank Reconciliation Statements - April 2016	2016.05.27
16.	Bank Reconciliation Records – 2016 Department of Probation and Child Care Services	2016.06.16
17.	Checking the Public Officers' Advance B Account - 2015	2016.06.16
18.	Checking the personal files of the officers whose payments have been stopped according to the pay sheet of 2015	2016.06.29
19.	Checking on the officers whose payments have been stopped according to the pay sheet of 2015	2016.06.29
20.	Non settlement of advances	2016.07.27
21.	Internal Audit - Bank Reconciliation Statements - June 2016	2016.07.27
22.	Paratta Children's Hostel - Department of Probation and Child Care Services	2016.08.01
23.	Checking the payment vouchers of December 2016 - Department of Probation and Child Care Services	2016.08.15
24.	Foster Parent Scholarship program - 2016 Progress Review	2016.09.02
25.	Checking the Early Childhood Development Project	2016.10.19
26.	Apeksha Loan Fund - Kurunegala District	2016.11.07
27.	Revolving loan fund - Kalutara District	2016.11.10
28.	Checking the Early Childhood Development Project - Procurement Process	2016.11.23
29.	Imagination - Art competition- 2016	2016.11.28
	1	1

### **Planning Division**

#### **Key Functions**

- 01. Preparation of future plans in co-ordination with all the Divisions and Departments of the Ministry.
- 02. Preparation of progress reports in co-ordination with all the Divisions and Departments of the Ministry.
- 03. Performing the media activities relevant to the Planning Division with the help of the Media Divisions, dissemination of information and co-ordination.
- 04. Coordinating the programs conducted with NGOs and reporting the progress.
- 05. Organizing and conducting successfully, progress review meetings and awareness programs and various functions representing the Ministry.
- 06. Contributing to various social welfare services.
- 07. Operation and follow up of development programs implemented under the Ministry (National, District and D.S.D level women's and children's development programs)
- 08. Collection of basic subject related information relevant to the planning division and updating such information
- 09. Provision of progress reports and plans to research institutions.

#### **Programs implemented in 2016**

- The Annual Action Plan for the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs was prepared for 2016 and 25 district combined plans were also prepared based on that. All the field officers attached to the districts by the Ministry were informed about those plans and they have been forwarded to the District Secretaries.
- Cabinet approval has been received by now for the Five Year Action Plan (2016-2020) for children which is to be implemented with a combined approach at National and Provincial Levels in line with the National and International agreements with the aim of ensuring the rights and protection of Sri Lankan children.
- A special national program called "Let's Protect Children" has been commenced under the guidance of His Excellency the President and it aims at short term and long term creation of a safe society for Sri Lankan Children. An environment where children's rights are safeguarded is expected to be created through this program which is implemented during the period from 2016-2020, combined with the other Ministries and institutions that operate for children.
- The Strategic Action Plan to Prevent Child Abuse (2016-2018) is implemented to look into the reasons for the incidents of child abuse common throughout Sri Lanka and to provide solutions for them. Cabinet approval has also been received for this the progress is monitored on a quarterly basis.

#### 02. Progress Review

Progress review has to be carried out to achieve productive and maximum utilization of the limited financial provision/ funds allocated for this Ministry annually.

Accordingly, Progress Review was carried out for 2016 as follows:

- 1. Preparing the first, second and third quarterly progress reports according to the Annual Action Plan.
- 2. Holding 02 meetings with all Sectional Heads to discuss the quarterly progress according to the Annual Action Plan.
- 3. Preparing 03 online progress reports relevant to the first, second and third quarterly progress of 2016.
- 4. Preparing the quarterly progress reports of the economic policy statement of the government.

A special program with staff officers of the Ministry directly holding the responsibility for each district was implemented from 2016 to achieve the provision of a service of maximum productivity and efficiency to the beneficiaries through the development programs the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs implements at District and Divisional Secretariat Division levels throughout the island.

As one District Co-ordinating Staff Officer per district, such officers have been appointed for all 25 districts and they have to conduct progress reviews of the relevant district at least twice a year and present a report. This program is being implemented very successfully by now and for all 25 field officers of the districts a two day progress review and capacity building program was conducted in Colombo to further strengthen this process. Financial and physical progress of the development programs were investigated through that and the problems / requirements faced in the process of implementation were identified and advice was provided to overcome them.



Highlights of the Thalahena Progress Review Meeting

#### **Development Division**

#### **Key functions**

Implementation of national level development programs by formulating the policies relevant to the development programs implemented through the projects relevant to all the institutions and divisions under the Ministry as well as NGOs including the United Nations agencies and cocoordinating those programs to fulfill the aspiration of realizing the vision of the Ministry.

#### **Programs implemented and the Progress**

- Provisions amounting to Rs. 50,000,000.00 were allocated in 2016 under Diriya Kantha program and the financial progress at the end of the year was Rs. 33,702,478.03. Accordingly a financial progress of 67% has been achieved.
- In 2016, under the program to prevent child abuse and violence against women, provisions worth Rs. 66,376,000.00 were allocated and the financial progress at the end of the year was Rs. 37,581,499.86. Accordingly, a financial progress of 75% has been achieved.
- Provisions amounting to Rs. 6,500,000.00 were allocated in 2016 under the United Nations Population Fund and the financial progress at the end of the year was Rs. 690,313.00,
- Rs. 12,906,812.00 was allocated in 2016 under the United Nations Development Fund and the financial progress at the end of the year was Rs. 11,415,307.00.

#### Special projects implemented under the aforesaid programs :

#### Setting up Child and Women Development Units at Divisional Secretariat

Setting up these units within the Divisional Secretariats to facilitate the operation of the mechanism for the development of children and women was carried out to 2016 as well. With the aim of providing an efficient and productive service by incorporating affairs related to the subject of children and women into the activities of the Divisional Secretariats to conduct the programs implemented by the government for women and children with proper co-ordination and close supervision of the Divisional Secretaries, Rs. 6.245 million has been spent in this year.

#### Launching awareness programs over media

Media is performing its role in various areas to make crucial impacts to build a favorable image of woman within Sri Lankan society. Production of programs and short films and creation of leaflets to ensure gender equality, increase women's representation in politics, eliminate various forms of violence and crimes against women and to eliminate underage pregnancies have been done under this.Rs.1.325 million has been spent in this regard in 2016.

#### Information technology unit and women's data base

Rs. 3.716 million has been spent in 2016 to provide proper training to field officers at Divisional Secretariats to field officers at Divisional Secretariats to enter the necessary information and progress of the development programs to the women's data base at the Divisional level and for matter related to that function.

#### Providing Computer Training for Field Officers

Regular updating of information in the data base is expected to be done through the Women Development Officers attached to each Divisional Secretariats. Office equipment including computers required for that and the computer training required for entering such information into the data base have been provided by the Ministry at district level.

# Gender mainstreaming and sensitizing the society towards women's rights

This program is conducted with the aim of gender mainstreaming, liberating, women from all kinds of suffering they face as a result of violence against women and making the society sensitive towards various misconceptions about women and neglect of women. Action has been taken to take these messages to the society by way of awareness programs, lecturers, workshops and musical programs.

#### Encouraging women to engage in the environment tourism sector

Program to increase the income of rural women involved in the environment friendly tourism for economic empowerment of women in the environment tourism industry under the program for economic empowerment of women and guiding them towards jobs, and programs to promote products produced using local law materials and indigenous medicine and income generating programs through promoting crops cultivated using organic fertilizer, are launched through this. This new project also aims to promote products of women living at a very low income level and to prevent problems such as labor exploitation and violence against women that crop up with tourist industry. This has been commenced as a pilot project within the Nuwara Gampalatha Central Divisional Secretariat Division focusing on the sacred Area of Anuradhapura.

#### Women friendly and supportive model village program

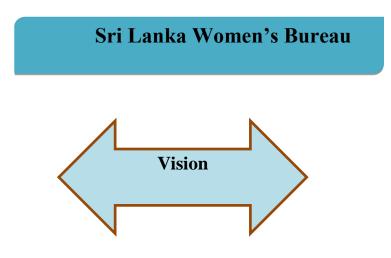
Under this 5 villages selected from the Divisional Secretariat Divisions of Maha Vilachchiya, Welikanda, Rideemaliyadda, Yatawatta and Koraleipattu South (Kiran), were developed as model villages.

#### Construction of Shelters for women

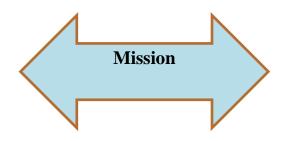
The remaining work of the Centers constructed at Mardankerni in Jaffna District, Maritime Pattu in Mulativu District, Manmune North in Batticaloa district and Collins' Crescent Government quarters located at Muwagama in Ratnapura Divisional Secretariat Division of Ratnapura district, was completed.

#### Establishing Police Child and Women's Bureau

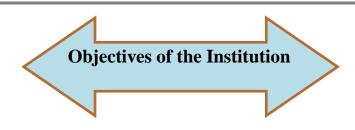
To strengthen the role played by the police to prevent child abuse and violence against women, establishing Police Child and Women's Bureaus was commenced in 2014. The remaining work of that special project was completed in this year.



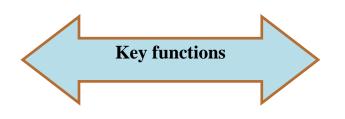
To be the national institution that creates an intelligent, sensitive and self confident generation of Sri Lankan women.



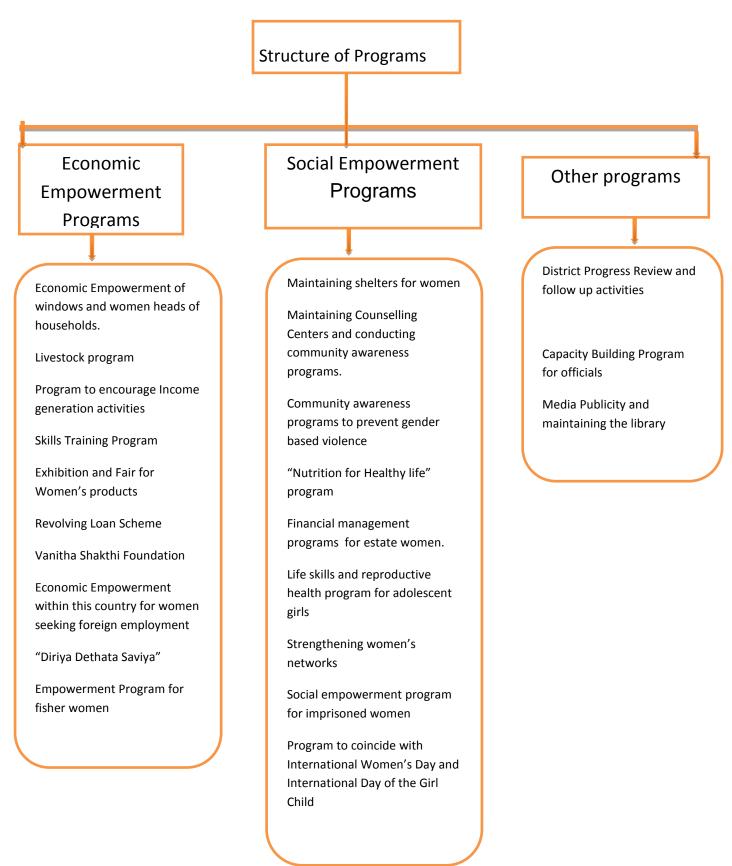
To be the national mechanism operating for the advancement of women in compliance with the state policies through social and economic empowerment achieved by systematic awareness raising along a proper organizational framework to create a conducive environment for a generation of Sri Lankan women who make the optimum and best use of intelligence and strength and face challenges with self confidence.



- 1. Providing the opportunity to Sri Lankan women to enjoy equal rights within the economic, social, educational, political and cultural sectors.
- 2. Empowering women to eliminate constraints they experience at present within various fields for the sole reason of being women.
- 3. Identifying sectors where equal rights and equal opportunities for women should be ensured, supporting the formulation of state policy required for that and implementation of various programs for that purpose.



- 1. Identifying, planning, implementing and evaluating appropriate programs and projects for economic and social empowerment of Sri Lankan women.
- 2. Implementation of programs to identify unique characteristic of women of all age groups and making them partners to the total development of the country as appropriate.
- 3. Implementation of programs to eliminate social constraints faced by women as a result of being women.
- 4. Implementation of special programs for women facing various kinds of harassment in society due to special reasons.
- 5. Implementation of programs to upgrade knowledge, skills and attitudes of the entire generation of women.
- 6. Organizing women from community level to national level within a single network for smooth functioning within a single organization.



#### Programs implemented and the Progress

Budget estimates amounting to Rs. 35,000,000 were allocated this year under the Kantha Saviya Program and the financial progress at the end of the year was Rs. 34,306,539.79. A financial progress of 98% has been achieved accordingly.

#### Economic Empowerment Program

# Economic empowerment Program for widows and women heads of households.

This program has been planned for economic empowerment of widows, unemployed women and women heads of households in Sri Lankan society and to uplift their social status. Under this program 221 women within 25 Divisional Secretariat Divisions have been granted Rs. 5.0222 million in the form of self employment assistance and loans in 2016 making them direct beneficiaries of the program.

#### Livestock Program

This program has been planned to provide nutrition to the family through the consumption of liquid milk, encourage the production of organic fertilizer through organic waste and home gardening, produce bio gas, uplift the living standards through supplementary income sources, produce 55% of the domestic liquid milk requirement locally and to make a positive contribution to the Glass of Milk program, and it is implemented for the members of Women's organizations. In this, the beneficiaries are initially provided training in animal husbandry and subsequent to the training, a loan subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 40,000 is provided under a revolving scheme to purchase dairy cows. Accordingly, 14 training programs have been conducted in 2016 for 150 beneficiaries in 7 Divisional Secretariat Divisions. Rs. 1.9975 million has been spent for purchasing dairy cows and the training programs.

## Training Program to encourage income generation (Entrepreneurship Development Training)

Providing the knowledge in management, entrepreneurship and accounting required to commence and maintain a business and incentivizing to commence business are done through this is. This program has been planned so that highly experienced trainers from National Crafts Council, Laksala, Handicraft, Department of Agriculture, Vidatha Training Centers and Ministry of Textiles provide the training and facilitating the provision of raw materials and introducing market opportunities to sell the goods can be done. In 2016, 89 programs to encourage income generation for 4580 beneficiaries, 20 skills training programs from 428 beneficiaries and 24 exhibition and trade fair programs involving 1530 beneficiaries to increase market opportunities, were conducted. Rs. 4.9716 million has been spent in 2016 for these programs.

#### Revolving loan program and training in accounting

This loan scheme is operated for registered members of women's organizations to increase the input for investments. Rs. 0.44794 million has been spent in 2016. Training women and officers of the Ministry attached to the Divisional Secretariat on the accounting methods to be used in implementing the revolving loan program was carried out in 2016 as well. 827 have benefitted from 12 programs and Rs. 2273 million has been spent on that.

## Economic empowerment within this country for women seeking foreign employment

Under this, programs were implemented to raise awareness among women seeking foreign employment about the unfavorable consequences of such employment, introduce local employment opportunities and to encourage women to be employed within the country. 83 programs have been held in 2016 spending Rs. 2.3458 million.

#### > "Diriya Dethata Saviya" Empowerment of fisher women

Producing fishing equipment and producing goods using local raw material and encouraging fisher women to be self employed through that is the aim of this program "Diriya Dethata Saviya" implemented to uplift the economy of the women from fishing community who are members of Women's organizations, and Rs. 2 million has been spent in 2016 for this purpose.

#### **Social Empowerment Programs**

Safeguarding the rights of Sri Lankan women and providing facilities to enable them to enjoy their rights are done under this. The following come under this:

#### 01. Shelters

Safe detention of local and foreign women victims of trafficking and their children and providing them shelter until the relevant issue is solved, facilitating counselling and legal measures and providing health facilities and the basic needs (food, clothing) are the functions performed by these centers. Rs. 1.6315 million has been spent on maintaining 02 shelters.

#### 02. Counselling programs and Counseling Centers

12 counselling centers are maintained under counselling officers to provide psychological counselling to women and child victims, refer them to service providing individuals and institutions and to teach them to use psychological methods to solve the problems that they face in life. In addition to that, Counselling Assistant Officers have been attached to Divisional Secretariats. Providing solutions for social problems and implementation of community awareness programs are carried out through them. Counseling and guidance have been provided to 172 persons in 2016. Rs.1.0695 million has been spent for this purpose.

#### 03. Program to prevent gender based violence and human trafficking

Providing knowledge about the National and international policies and agreements on women, Women's rights, and how to identify instances of gender based violence and the ways of getting over it and obtaining necessary legal advice, raising awareness of women about identifying human trafficking, identifying instances of falling victims to trafficking and sexual exploitation are expected through this program. 60 programmes have been conducted for 6056 beneficiaries in this year and Rs. 1.4843 million has been spent in that regard.

#### 04. Nutrition for healthy life program

Knowledge about health, nutrition and hygiene is essential for women to create a healthy nation in future. It will help to get the contribution of a healthy community for national development and promoting food production without improper use of chemicals is also done. 56 programmes have been conducted for 4814 beneficiaries spending Rs.1.4671 million.

#### 05. Financial Management programme for women in the estate sector

Implementing the recommendation of the Lessons learnt and Reconciliation Commission to upgrade the social, economic and cultural status of women in the estate sector, 50 programmes involving 5600 beneficiaries in the Divisional Secretariat Divisions where estate communities live were conducted for improving nutrition, drug eradication, encouraging estate women seeking Foreign employment to seek alternative sources of income, to provide education and to minimize trafficking and violence. Rs.1,9998 million has been spent for this.

#### 06. Life skills and Reproductive Health Program for adolescent girls

100 programmes have been conducted involving 20130 adolescent girls of Divisional Secretariat Divisions to develop their skills and knowledge. Rs.1.9867 million has been spent for this program.

#### **07.** Strengthening the network of Women's organizations

Creation of a network of organization to work for the protection of women's rights and their development and strengthening the Village level women's organizations, regional Bala Mandala and district Bala Mandala established to provide them leadership training and provision of services including infrastructure. Rs. 0.9874 has been spent in this regard.

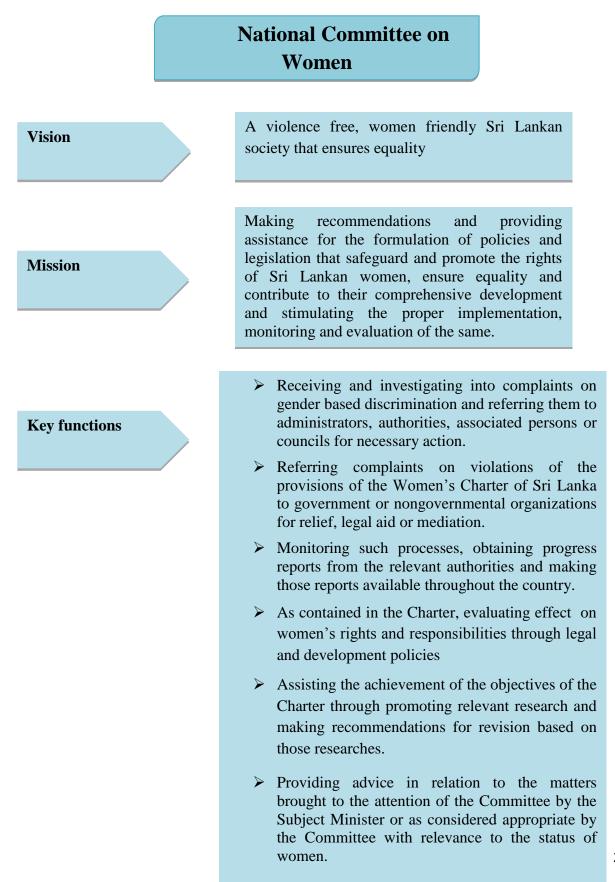
#### 08. Program for social empowerment of imprisoned women

This program is implemented in Prisons to prevent women imprisoned on minor offences from repeating such offences and to reintegrate them into the society in a favorable manner. Dressmaking courses and training in handicraft production are provided through this. 11 programmes have been conducted in 2016 for 488 beneficiaries. Rs. 0.4974 million has been spent for this.

#### 09. Other programs

District progress review and follow up activities, capacity building programs for officers, publicity and maintaining the library have been carried out very successfully and Rs.2.2793 million has been spent in 2016 and those purposes.





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#### **Programs implemented and the progress**

#### Holding discussions on amendment of laws

Rs. 34,405.00 has been spent for this.

#### > Incentivizing, awareness raising and capacity building programme

Gender mainstreaming program, programs in the BOI and Free Trade Zone institutions to prevent harassment at work place, programs on prevention of violence against women in the estate sector and reproductive health and the 16 day programme of the United Nations were conducted. Rs.2, 222,769.50 was spent on these programs.

#### Policy and Research

Programs related to action on the final observations presented by the United Nations regarding the CEDAW report, developing the Beijing Action Plan, elimination of gender stereotyping in education and protection for women engaged in the informal and agricultural sectors were conducted and research was conducted in relation to violence against women in the estate sector, child mothers, cyber crimes and discrimination against women employed in plantations of minor agricultural products (tea, coconut, rubber). Rs.1,003,267.00 was spent on these programs and research.

#### Panel discussions

Discussions were held with political parties about Head of the household concept, women and trafficking, Muslim law and women's representation in politics. Rs. 370,738 has been spent for these discussions.

#### > Developing Media programs and media statements

Broadcasting radio programs regarding the complaints received by the Complaints centre, printing the annual magazine,"Prgathiye Hawulkaruwo" printing the quarterly magazine "Vanitha Vibhawa", printing the booklet to prevent under – age pregnancies under development of media statements and preparing a poster to minimize sexual harassment at work place and producing a documentary film to alleviate the consequences of under-age pregnancies were carried out Rs. 1,582,876.00 has been spent on those activities.

#### Programs to improve women's participation in politics

Conducting a certificate course in collaboration with University of Peradeniya and conducting capacity building programs for women elected to local government bodies who were willing to participate in politics were carried out. Rs. 1,060,323 was spent in this regard.

## Programs to strengthen 1938 Help for Women Hotline and the Complaints Centre



1938 capacity building programs, steering committee meetings, 1938 and complaint centre publicity affairs and discussions with institutions connected to 1938 Help for Women Hotline and Complaint Centre were carried out and programs were launched for International Women's Day as well. In addition to holding Policy discussions, other programs were also conducted. Rs.830, 703.50 was spent for these activities.

	Chi	ldren's	Secre	tariat
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Vision	Creation of a physically, psychosocially and cognitively developed generation of Sri Lankan children in their Early Childhood.
Mission	Ensuring the total development of Sri Lankan children in their Early Childhood through formulation, implementation, monitoring and following up of policies and programs, as the national level focal institution.
Key Functions	<ul> <li>Functioning as the mechanism for the formulation and implementation of national policies on early childhood care and development.</li> <li>Coordinating and networking early childhood development programs of the public and private sectors non-government organizations.</li> <li>Conducting research, collection of data and formulation of programs relevant to early childhood care and development.</li> <li>Formulation and implementation of training programs relevant to the overall development of children in their early childhood.</li> </ul>

**Programs Implemented and the Progress** 

**Special Programs** 

# 01. Program to provide a nutrition allowance of Rs.20,000 to pregnant and lactating mothers

This program was started last year to provide a Rs.20,000/= nutrition allowance for 10 months to every mother giving birth to a child, as Rs 2000/= per month, with the aim of minimizing low birth weight in Sri Lanka. Every pregnant mother registered with Medical Officer of Health Office was provided this allowance (through the use of coupons) in the form of a nutrition pack consisting of all nutrients required by pregnant or lactating mothers, up to April of this year. But a new method has been introduced to issue vouchers instead of coupons from May this year with the aim of making it convenient for the mothers to purchase the recommended food items and for convenient implementation of the program. Under this, 10 vouchers with a value of Rs.2,000/- each are provided at the same time. It is possible to obtain the entire pack of nutritious food items within the last 06 months of pregnancy and the first 04 months of lactation.Rs.7,500 million has been allocated for this and the expenditure by the end of 2016 was approximately Rs. 5,764.413 million with 2,869,465 packs of nutritious food distributed among beneficiaries.

#### 02. Program to Provide a Glass of Fresh Milk to Pre School Children

The provisions allocated by the Treasury for this program in 2016 amounted to Rs.300 Millon.Rs.127.9 million out of that amount has been made available and by the end of 2016, 67,988 children of 2,207 Early Childhood Development Centers had become beneficiaries of this program. Rs.106.429 Million has been spent by the end of 2016 for this program implemented in 130 Divisional Secretariat Divisions in all 25 districts. Rs.106.429 million has been spent on this in 2016.



Program to provide a glass of fresh milk to preschool children



#### **Daycare Centre at Matale**



Daycare Centre at Anuradhapura





#### 03. Project to Prevent Child Abuse and Violence against Women (Rs.700 Million)

Rs.19.47 Million has been allocated in 2016 and construction work is under way. The day care centers constructed in the districts of Kilinochchi and Polonnaruwa have been completed and vested in people by now and the day care centers under construction are in Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Monaragala, Batticaloa and Anuradhapura. Those day care centers are also expected to be vested in people speedily.

#### 04. Program to Provide Rs.250/= to Lama Diriya Pre School Teachers

On the interim budget proposals of 2015, it has been decided to pay a monthly allowance of Rs.250/= from June 2015 to the teachers of Preschool/Early Childhood Development Centers, with the aim of further strengthening and developing Preschool/Early Childhood Development Centre services and the responsibility of implementing that was assigned to the Children's Secretariat, the institution operating at national level in relation to Early Childhood Care and Development. Accordingly, Rs.30 million was allocated for this program in 2016 and this allowance has been provided to eligible preschool teachers for the 12 months of 2016 as for 4,159 in the first installment, for 4,126 in the second installment and for 3,636 in the third installment.

#### 05. Other Programs on Early Childhood Care and Development

Provisions amounting to Rs.50 million have been allocated to implement programs under this and programs are implemented in the following manner.

#### "Senehe Thataka" Home based Early Childhood Development Program

The key objective of this program is to bring about all round development of children by involving children in their early childhood in the household environment and the day today activities of the households. Awareness rising for parents, public officers, and groups of youth etc. at Divisional Secretariat level is carried out under this.

Provisions amounting to Rs.1.580 million have been allocated for 304 programs at Divisional Secretariat level in 2016 and 281 programs have been conducted by now. The financial progress in that is Rs.1.580 million.

At the same time Rs.0.8 million was provided as Rs.32,000 per district for conducting 25 programs at district level under this and 21 district level programs have been conducted by now at a cost of Rs.0.664 million.

#### "Poshana Manpetha "Food and Nutrition Program"

Provisions amounting to 2.432 million rupees have been released for 304 programs at Divisional Secretariat level with the aim of raising awareness among parents and preschool teachers about food and nutrition of children in their early child-hood. 278 programs have been conducted at Divisional Secretariat level by the end of 2016 and the amount spent on this is Rs.2.21 million.

#### > District Child Development Committees

The total provisions allocated for holding district child development committee programs in 2016 for the creation of a child friendly environment with the participation of all responsible sectors amount to Rs.0.75 million. Accordingly a financial progress of Rs.0.492 million has been achieved for 58 committees by now.



Holding District Child Development Committee meetings

## Implementation of National / Divisional Coordinating Committees on Early Childhood Care and Development

Rs. 1.192 million has been allocated for holding national and divisional committees on early childhood care and development in accordance with the national policy on early childhood care and development 2004. Accordingly 3 national level committees, 8 provincial level committees and 491 divisional level committees have been held and the expenditure for that was Rs.0.614 million.

#### Progress review meeting of the Early Childhood Development Officers

143 progress review meetings of District Early Childhood Coordinating Officers who engage in field duties and Early Childhood Development Assistant Officers who engage in duties at Divisional Secretariats and 04 national level meetings have been conducted by now. The amount spent in this regard is Rs.0.444 million.

## Review and updating of the National policy on early child-hood care and development and converting that policy into an Act

The National policy on Early Childhood Care and Development launched in 2004 is being implemented at present and action is being taken to review and re – print the national policy to suit current early childhood development and care, with the aim of converting that into an Act for the legal enforcement of the said national policy. Simultaneously an Early Childhood Care and Development Act is being drafted. The amount allocated for this purpose is Rs.1.075 million rupees. Two meetings have been held in this regard and the financial progress is Rs.0.915million rupees.

#### Maintaining the network on early childhood care

A Network on early childhood care involving government, non-government and private sector institutions and individuals working for early childhood development in Sri Lanka (ECCD Network) has been established by the Children's Secretariat and Rs.0.650 million has been allocated for this purpose. A preliminary meeting has been held in relation to that accordingly and the amount spent was Rs. 0.049 million. Further meetings are to be held in this regard in due course.

## "Updating the minimum standards book for 'A Correct Beginning' Early childhood development centers

The initial work required to revise and print the minimum standard book for early child hood development centers has been carried out by now. A two day workshop has been held in this regard and the expenditure was Rs.0.712 million.

#### Program to introduce Early Childhood Development Standards

There have not been any standards or indices to measure the development of children in their early childhood in Sri Lanka up to now. The Children's Secretariat has conducted island wide researches and with the consensus of early childhood development authority in all the provincial councils and the competent authorities of the bureaus "Early Childhood Development Standards" have been formulated. Early Childhood Development Standards (for children in the age group of 3-5 years) were launched at national level in 2015 and they have been named "National Standards" and a Cabinet memorandum has been submitted to the Cabinet by now to get the approval. These Early childhood Standards have been prepared in the form of a pre-school teacher training hand book and training programs are implemented to introduce that to pre-school teachers. A group of trainers are trained at provincial level for that purpose and by the end of 2016 training programs have been conducted covering all 9 provinces and 149 training programs have been conducted for preschool teachers of all the Divisional Secretariat Divisions in the Southern, Western Central and Uva Provinces. The financial progress is Rs.4.101 million.

# Developing a method to conduct a national level examination for pre-school teachers and provision of assistance for a pre-school diploma course

Two preliminary rounds of discussions have been held with the relevant institutions for the formulation of a basic method for conducting a national level examination for pre-school teachers. The amount allocated for that purpose is Rs.0.05 million and the expenditure borne by now is Rs.620.00.

That methodology is expected to be further developed in the coming years. In addition to this Rs.0.2 million has been allocated for providing assistance for a free diploma course in pre-school teaching and financial progress of that is Rs.0.2 million.

#### Program to register diploma courses on early child hood development

The key objective of this is to ensure that one year diploma courses on early childhood development (pre -school teacher training) are of national level standards and to register them under the Children's Secretariat.

61 national level diploma courses have been registered under this and a follow up mechanism has been developed to monitor the standards of the courses. Rs.0.15 million has been allocated for that. The financial progress of this is Rs. 0.032 million.

#### Research and conference on early childhood development and care

5 researches are underway at present on early childhood development and care and the relevant preliminary work is being done. These researches are to be concluded in the coming years.

## "Aruna Dakina Rata" Art exhibition and workshop of children in their early childhood

An annual all island art exhibition is conducted to enhance the creative skills of children in their early childhood. Paintings by preschool children are received to represent all parts of the island and this exhibition is held in Colombo with 500 drawings selected out of them and the relevant children are awarded prizes and certificates. This program was conducted in September in the previous years but due to practical reasons it was held at Ape Gama premises on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October this year. Provisions allocated for this program amount to Rs.4.5 million. Accordingly Rs.1.986 million has been released for conducting 331 drawing programs at Divisional Secretariat level. 25 district programs have been held to select suitable paintings out of the those selected through the Divisional level programs for "Aruna Dakina Rata "Art exhibition and awards ceremony. The total estimated amount has been spent accordingly.



"Aruna Dakina Rata" Divisional programs

#### National week on early child hood care and development

Cabinet approval was obtained to revise and hold this national week which had been implemented from December 14 to 20<sup>th</sup> on Cabinet approval granted in 2010, from July 14 to 20<sup>th</sup> of this year. The target groups of this are early childhood policy makers, pre-school children, pre-school teachers, officers engaged in the field, parents, pregnant mothers etc. Accordingly, provision of school and educational equipment as benefits for those target groups, providing assistance to construct preschool buildings under the model villages, awareness programs and aesthetic programs for children etc. have been carried out this year. Within this national week action was taken to raise the awareness of the public about early childhood development through mass media. This time, the national week on early childhood – Life of Tomorrow's Nation" and special attention was paid in that towards protection from disasters and early childhood care.

Rs. 4.5 million was estimated for 2016 and Rs.4.474 million has been spent by now for this program. Accordingly 284 Divisional programs have been held covering all Divisional Secretariat Divisions and 7 national programs have been conducted.



National week on early childhood care and development program

#### World Children's day

The national program to mark the World Children's Day was held at Kegalle, St Joseph Girl's Primary School. Provisions amounting to Rs.3.648 million for 304 Divisional Secretariats at Rs.12,000/= per Division have been released to implement various awareness workshops at Divisional Secretariat level and entertainment programs for pre-school children. Accordingly, 289 Divisional level programs have been conducted and the total expenditure on World Children's Day program and Divisional level programs was Rs.8.052.







World Children's Day Celebration

#### Program to develop early child hood development centers / pre -schools

The main objective of this program is to provide support for the learning environment required to develop pre-schools. Activities such as providing play areas for pre-schools, and renovation of essential preschool buildings are carried out under this.

Rs.2.5 million has been allocated in 2016 for the construction of 50 play areas under the construction of play areas at pre schools and police child and women's bureaus and 38 play areas at pre-schools/early child hood development centers are being constructed with that

money. Financial provisions have also been made available for 12 play areas at child and women's bureaus at police stations and 16 play areas have been constructed at a cost of Rs.2.4949 million.

Under the renovation of preschool buildings, Rs.5 million has been allocated for renovation of 10 buildings at pre-schools/early childhood development centres. Accordingly, pre-school buildings located at the districts of Ratnapura, Kalutara, Kandy, Ampara, Hambantota, Kilinochchi, Kurunegala, Galle, Vavuniya and Moneragala are being renovated and the total estimated amount has been spent.

#### Early Child hood development Model Village Project

Suitable villages are selected from Grama Niladhari divisions in selected Divisional Secretariat Divisions in the island and those villages are developed as "Model early childhood development villages" with the aim of making the people in them aware of and sensitive to early child hood development.

Rs.2 million had been allocated in 2016 for setting up six such model villages and the total amount was spent. 6 model villages have been implemented through this and the construction activities of those villages are under way. These model villages being implemented combined with the model villages for women of the Development Division of the Ministry of Women and Child affairs is a significant feature. Those villages are located in the districts of Anuradapura, Badulla, Polonnaruwa, Jaffna, Batticaloa and Vavunia. 3 villages have been constructed by now and the financial progress is Rs.0.8033 million.

### > Program on early child hood care and development in emergency situations

Rs.2.5 million has been allocated to act on requests made in respective instances on requirements created in unplanned emergency situations, in relation to early childhood care and development. In that, material assistance was provided to flood victims of Kolonnawa area utilizing approximately Rs.13 million under UNICEF aid and Rs.33, 905.00 has been spent by the Children's Secretariat for that. It is expected to make these provisions available in future for the essential renovations required as a result of sudden disasters. Under this provisions worth Rs.0.8 million have been provided for renovation of a preschool affected by a disaster in Beliatta Divisional Secretariat Division. Accordingly, Rs.2.2 out of the amount allocated in 2016 has been spent.