

National Ceremony to commemorate World Kidney Day at Medawachchiya Maithripala SenanayakeVidyalaya in the District of Anuradhapura (12.06.2016)





National Ceremony held at Mahaweli Playground, Giradurukotte in the district of Badulla (29.06.2016)









National Ceremony held at BogaswewaVidyalaya in the district of Vavuniya (12.06.2016)

4.2. Conducting awareness programmes

Jointly with other stakeholders including the relevant ministries awareness programmes are held through various media for the benefit of the community as well as the school children. Awareness is thereby provided on various matters such as the consumption of toxin -free foods, drinking of pure water, engaging in systematic physical exercises, behaviour patterns and the best agricultural practices. Leaflets, posters, magazines banners , videos and documentaries are made use of as methods of awareness.

Table 4.2 : Conducting Awareness Programmes - 2016

District	Region	No of persons involved
Anuradhapura	Medawachchiya / Horowpothane	3,500
Vavuniya	Bogaswewa	3,400
Badulla	Girandurukotte	40,000
Kurunegale	In 10 D.S Divisions	18,000
Polonnaruwa	Medirigiriya/Kalukele	1,450
Ratnapura	Eheliyagoda	400
Monaragala	Kotaveheramankada, Ratambalagame and Hambegammuwa	5,400
Ampara	Ampara Town	3,500
Colombo	Awissawella and the Presidential Secretariat	3,400

Additionally, the following special activities were also conducted

- Implementation of awareness campaigns for the benefit of schoolchildren through creative competition based on schools. (Short stories, poems, drawings, general knowledge competitions and short drama)
- Taking steps to include a message on awareness in school books in consultaion with printers of exercise books. In this regard cooperation of the Health Education Bureau was also obtained.
- A programmes was held on 06 October2016 to educate 400 field officers from 11 districts on consultation activities for the uplift of the social and economic environment of the families of kidney patients.






Screening of patients in 2016.

4.3. Holding pre-diagnostic clinics to identify kidney patients.

Patients are identified through pre diagnostic activities conducted in disaster prone districts with the cooperation of the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine. Such activities were conducted in 2016 with the intervention of the Presidential Task Force.

4.3. The number of patients subjected to pre diagnosis through the intervention of the Presidential Task Force

District / Region	No of persons
Anuradhapura - Medawachchiya / Horowpothane	2,000
Badulla - Mahiyangana/ Ridimaliyadda	28,000
Vavuniya – Bogaswewa	1,000
Balangoda – Kotaweharamankada	1,500
Hambantota–Lunugamvehera	2,100
Polonnaruwa-Dimbulagala/ Kalukela	2,000
Kurunegala–Wariyapola	1,500

Additionally, pre - diagnostic tests have been performed in respect of 300,000 persons in disaster prone areas in 2016 through the clinics conducted by the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine. It is expected to test over 500,000 persons in 2017.






Conducting pre diagnostic tests in 2016

4.4. Providing pure potable water

Even the World Health Organization has recommended that the community affected by this disease could be protected to a certain extent by providing them with pure potable water. Therefore, pure potable water supplies are enhanced as one strategy in finding a solution to this disease. In this task the stakeholder institutions including the Ministry of City Planning and Water Supply , National Water Supply and Drainage Board, Department of National Community Water Supply, Sri Lanka Navy, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government and the Department of Civil Defence are engaged in various functions such as supplying water through service extensions , providing water through reverse osmosis (R/O) Plants, supplying water through bowsers and constructing rain water harvesting tanks. In the supply of pure potable water private donors extended ample cooperation . A number private sector institutions including the Galle Face Hotel, EAP Broadcasting Company Ltd., Sierra Constructions (Pvt.) Limited Amerasian International and Shanthi Foundation are among such donors





Supplying pure potable water for disaster prone Districts

Table 4.4 : Construction of RO Plants - 2016

- Presidential Secretariat has allocated a sum of Rs.167 million to the Sri Lanka Navy for the construction of Reverse Osmosis Plant systems. The financial progress in this regard is 85% RO Plants have already been constructed.

Financial Allocation	Community based Construction	School based construction	Total	Value in Rs. M	Beneficiaries
Allocation from budget, 2016	85	31	116	165.4	85
Contribution from donors	17	40	57	44.7	17
Total	**102**	**71**	**173**	**210.1**	**102**

Table 4.5 : Providing domestic water strainers

District	No. of water strainers	Value in Rs.M	Beneficiaries
Anuradhapura	200	777,000	995
Vavuniya	115	440.250	560
Badulla	343	1,369,795	1,618
Kurunegale	177	712,425	842
Total	**835**	**3,299,470**	**4,015**

Table 4.6. Rain watertanks and other water supply projects

District	Project	Financial Contribution Rs.	Beneficiaries
Anuradhapura	**Providing 85 rain water tanks (under the allocations of the North Central Provincial Council and the Department of Civil Defence)**	4,124,370.00	425
Ampara	**Extension of pipe borne water supply upto Samanbedda and Anuradhapura**	1,277,148.25	2,800
Matale	**Providing water to Devagiri in Wilgamuwa**	1,409,039.00	1,200
Monaragala	**Supplying water through construction of a well for the Kotaweheramankada Vidyalaya**	561,591.00	2,555
Hambantota	**Providing 20 rain water tanks to Divisional Secretary's Division Beliatte**	840,000.00	100





Supplying pure potable water for disaster prone Districts

4.5. Developing other infrastructure in the health sector

Developing essential Infrastructure and providing necessary equipment in order to facilitate better services for the kidney patients, is undertaken in this regard.

- Building hostel facilities to provide accommodation for the guardians of kidney patients.

  - The construction of a dialysis centre and hostel facilities for the kidney patients in Anuradhapura hospital- estimated cost: Rs. 284 million.
    (The actual cost amounts to Rs. 141 million and since Armed Forces are contributing with construction labor, an amount of Rs. 143 million rupees is saved for the government.)

  - The construction of a dialysis centre and hostel facilities for the kidney patients in Kandy Central hospital - estimated cost 382 million
    (The actual cost amounts to Rs. 217 million and since Armed Forces are contributing with construction labor, an amount of Rs. 165 million rupees is saved for the government.)

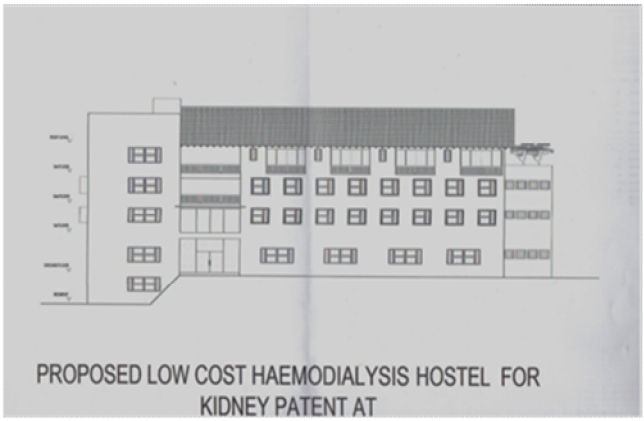
  - The construction of a relief hospice unit for kidney patients in Girandurukotte –Estimated cost : Rs. 40 million.

- Coordinating the renovations of Maligawatta hospital.

- Coordinating the construction of new hospital for kidney-related diseases in Polonnaruwa with the aid of Chinese government.
  (The Chinese government has allocated Rs. 2963 million for this purpose.)

Proposed Hostel Complex, Anuradhapura





Proposed Hostel Complex, Kandy

4.6. Strengthening the national fund for kidney-related diseases

The National Trust Fund for kidney-related diseases, which has been initiated with the proceeds provisioned through the sales of Niroga lottery tickets and with the contributions of various donors and institutions, also provide funding in this regard. The national trust fund for kidney-related diseases, was started with Rs. 200,000 and currently, the accumulation of funds has exceeded Rs. 490 million. The funds which have thus been accumulated, are spent on various welfare activities such as granting scholarships for the children of kidney patients, construction of hostels for the guardians and dialysis centres.

Implementing welfare programmes for the patients and their families.

The socio-economic status of the families of chronic kidney patients has been subjected to serious setback. The primary means of occupation and livelihood of the heads of these families who have been thus affected by kidney diseases, is disrupted. Various programmes are initiated by the Presidential Task Force for the eradication of kidney diseases in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Empowerment and Welfare in order to strengthen the living conditions of such families.

- **Awarding presidential scholarships for education - 2016**

Scholarships are awarded on a monthly basis, for the G. C. E. Advanced level students who lost their parents due to kidney diseases. Accordingly, 111 students from Anuradhapura, Vavuniya and Badulla districts have received these scholarships. In the year 2017, these scholarships are being awarded to 128 students residing in the districts affected by kidney diseases and the amount of money granted with each scholarship in the year 2017 has been increased up to Rs. 3000.00.

Table 4.8 : Scholarships awarded for GCE (A/L) students (Year 2016) (monthly value approximately 000')

District	No of Students	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Anuradhapura	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	52	52	52	52	592
Vavuniya	14					14	14	9	9	9	9	64
Badulla	33					33	33	24	24	24	24	162
Total	**111**	**64**	**64**	**64**	**64**	**111**	**111**	**85**	**85**	**85**	**85**	**818**

- **Providing a monthly allowance for the kidney patients.**

The Ministry of Social Empowerment and Welfare, has taken steps to provide Rs. 3,000 each for kidney patients residing in districts where the kidney diseases of known origin has been found. This initiative is carried out in 11districts at present and the amount of money granted as the allowance, is expected to be increased up to Rs. 5,000. Approval has been granted to provide financial support for around 29,000 patients in 81 divisions.

- **Providing and renovating houses and construction of sterile rooms.**

The Ministry of Housing and Construction in collaboration with the Presidential Task Force for the Eradication of Kidney Diseases, have presented a cabinet paper to facilitate the support provided for families with low income who have been affected by kidney diseases to construct and renovate houses. Approval for this cabinet paper has already been granted. The families of kidney patients with low income are being provided with a sum of Rs. 500,000 in order to build houses for themselves while a sum of Rs. 200,000 are provided to renovate each house that needs to be renovated

Table 4.9 : Constructing, repairing houses and building sterile rooms - 2016

District	Project	Investment (RS.)	Monetary Contribution
Anuradhapura	Constructing houses for 10 families of patients in Medawachchiya	3,940,000.00	By the Presidential Task Force and donors
Badulla	Constructing sterile rooms for 7 families to carry out dialysis at home	630,000.00	Under the funding by the Ministry of Housing and Construction









Awarding scholarships and financial donations for families of kidney patients

4.7. Conducting research

The Presidential Task Force for the Eradication of Kidney Diseases provides the necessary support for researches on causes for chronic kidney diseases and to look for methods of treating the patients in collaboration with the stakeholder institutions while exchanging local and foreign expertise.

Date	Workshop	Reason and Results
15.03.2016	Workshop conducted for exchange of Chinese Experts' knowledge	Constructing a "state- of - the art" chemical laboratory at University of Peradeniya
04.04.2016	Netherland Water Specialists' Workshop (with representatives of the National Water Supply & Drainage Board)	Inspecting water sources in affected areas and producing a report on such sources along with recommendations
26.04.2016	Workshop organized by the World Health Organization	Obtaining guidance and recommendations on the prevention of dormant kidney disease
03.07.2016	Workshop to train nurses on dialysis	Providing assistance required to train nurses on dialysis in Malaysia
30.09.2016	Workshop for officials of the Inland Revenue Department on organ transplants and organ donations	Raising awareness on organ transplants and organ donations

Date	Workshop	Reason and Results
30.09.2016	Workshop on the socio-economic impact caused by kidney disease	Raising awareness of 400 Social Service Officers
09.10.2016 -11	World Health Summit	Participating in the summit held in Berlin





Taking measures to regulate research work

5. "Let's Protect Children" National Programme

The National Programme "Let's Protect Children" is planned to be launched between the year 2017 and 2019, aimed at minimizing the issues faced by children in the society and ensuring their protection as well as promotion of their rights.

In planning this programme, a series of consultative discussions were held among various ministries, departments and provincial councils and a number of significant decisions were taken to launch various initiatives in addition to the "ongoing" programmes in order to ensure better protection for the children.

Table 5.1 : Main discussions held with stakeholders to draw up the "Let's Protect Children" national plan

Date	Matters discussed
07.01.2016	Initial discussion was held under the patronage of His Excellency the President, with stakeholders on protecting children and issues that have arisen in relation to children
18.03.2016	Special discussion held with officials of line ministries, departments and institutions on drafting the national plan
07.04.2016	Special discussion held with officials of provincial councils on drafting the national plan
24.05.2016	Presenting the draft plan to His Excellency the President
13.10.2016	Holding a discussion with specialist psychiatrists on child personality development
03.11.2016	Conducting a lecture on cognitive development and methods of raising children in order to achieve a better social recognition
17.11.2016	Special discussion held with His Excellency the President on implementing the "Let's Protect Children" National Programme for 2017 - 2019

The focus of this programme has been on preventing abuses such as domestic violence, sexual abuse, issues concerning health and nutrition, being drawn to substance abuse and commit crimes, being adopted to probation, being helpless due to family issues and being disabled. Accordingly, the National Programme "Let's Protect Children" 2017 – 2019 is to be launched incorporating numerous special activities under three main categories.

- Preventing abuse and protecting children.
- Health, nutrition and welfare
- Personality development, education and life skills.



The special meeting held under the National Program "Let's Protect Children" on 17.11.2016

Gifting a child endowed with a good personality to the society

The Presidential Secretariat is currently taking steps to intervene in the formulation of methods to bestow better citizens upon the society by empowering children using modern psychological concepts which are in use at present. It is also important to foster the cognitive development in childhood towards a better social reconstruction, methods of bringing up children, the views regarding children which currently prevail in the country in a systematic, proper and scientific manner while preventing the depression that can occur during the childhood. Thus it would be possible to groom genteel, productive, loyal and better citizens who possess qualitatively rich personalities. The modern psychology has uncovered that the adverse childhood experiences (ACE) negatively affect the skills and personalities when children are victimized by such intricacies during their infancy. While the psychologists have revealed ten significant facts in this regard, it is essential to invoke awareness in the society about the importance of minimizing the chances for the children being exposed to the negative impact of such experiences during their childhood. In that way it is possible to bestow better citizens upon the future. It is expected to formulate national policies in this regard having identified the specific instances in which the intervention of the government is necessary. The Presidential Secretariat will assume a leading role in this regard.

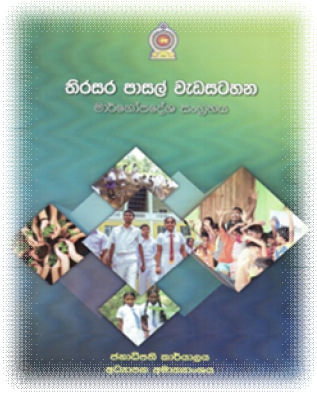
6. Sustainable Schools Programme

The Sustainable Schools Programme has been designed with a view to empowering generation of Sri Lankan school students with better-developed knowledge, skills and attitudes.The first stage of this programme was initiated in 3409 schools including all the schools with Advanced Level classes and some other selected schools. This programme is carried out by incorporating the five main projects under the direct supervision of His Excellency the President which are: **National Food Production Programme, Environmental Conservation Programme, Drug Prevention Programme, Kidney Disease Prevention Programme, and the National Program "Let's Protect Children**".

Under the theme **"A Pleasant World for Children and a Sustainable Tomorrow",** this programme is carried out with a view to preventing children from reckless behaviors and inculcating them into the real world of work and society at large while empowering them to become social change-makers.

The following activities were conducted in relation to this programme in the year 2016.

- On 30.11.2016, a basic discussion was held with the relevant ministries and other entities regarding this programme.
- Compiling the guide book for Sustainable Schools Programme.
- Invoking awareness in the principals of schools chosen for the Sustainable Schools Programme at provincial level.
- Providing Rs. 141 Million as grants of Rs. 50,000 per school in order to procure equipment for the selected schools for the Sustainable Schools programme at the initial stage.
- The initial discussions and organizing work for the commencement of the inauguration ceremony of the Sustainable Schools Programme on the 19.01.2017 at Kengalla Vidyalaya in Digana.







7. National Programme for Poverty Alleviation

There were both negative and positive elements in the poverty alleviation programmes which have been carried out since independence. Having adopted the positive elements from those programmes while developing those initiatives further, His Excellency the President declared the year 2017 as the year of alleviating poverty by presenting a cabinet paper to that effect on the 29.08.2016, with a view to alleviating poverty within the next 14 years and achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

In order to accomplish the said goals, the Development and Special Projects Division carried out the following activities in the year 2016.

- The first meeting was held under the patronage of His Excellency the President Maithripala Sirisena at Committee Room 01 of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, on 25.11.2016. Honourable Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, Honourable Ministers of the Cabinet, Honourable Governors, Honourable Chief Ministers of Provincial Councils, Secretary to the President, Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Governor of the Central Bank, Chairmen of Banks, Secretaries to Ministries, Chief Secretaries of Provincial Councils and many other government officials took part in this meeting. In order to implement the poverty alleviation programme and to carry out the future proceedings in this regard, a primary operation committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama M.P.





The meeting held under the patronage of His Excellency the President Maithripala Sirisena at the Parliament of Sri Lanka, on the 25.11.2016

- The views of the general public on poverty alleviation were obtained by publishing newspaper advertisements.

- Obtaining details about the programmes which are intended to be carried out by ministries and other government institutions in the year 2017 aimed at alleviating poverty.

- Commencing a meeting chaired by Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama (Chairman of the Committee) on 20.12.2016 and formulating a draft policy for poverty alleviation by incorporating the inputs of stakeholder institutions and individuals.

- The second discussion was held on 22.12.2016, under the patronage of His Excellency the President Maithripala Sirisena at the Presidential Secretariat





The discussion held on 22.12.2016, under the patronage of His Excellency the President Maithripala Sirisena at the Presidential Secretariat.

8.Religious Affairs

With the objective of creating religious coexistence in a unitary state, "The Religious Affairs Unit" has been established under the Development and Special Projects Section of the Presidential Secretariat. The primary objectives of this unit are organizing and following up all the religious events, discussions and meetings in which His Excellency the President is to take part. The Religious Affairs Unit that is in operation with the unification of various themes which ensure the creation of a virtuous society through the coexistence of various religious factions in a primarily Buddhist country like Sri Lanka, has been able to accomplish its intents in several different approaches.Those approaches are:

01. Janapathi Sadaham Yathra	- Kaalena Dhamma Savanang – The modern Damsabha mandapa bestowed upon the human race.
02. Aithihasika Perahera Viththi (Historical tales on Perahera)	- The cross-section of Amisa Puja that remains unchanged in the midst of constantly evolving culture.
03. Pujacha Pujaneeyanan (May the ones who deserve, be rewarded)	- The commemoration of gratitude for the great Buddhist clergy and individuals who dedicated their life to dispel the darkness of the ignorance.
04. Anyayoda Ma Waniya (Others are like me too)	- The Saddhamma Paramita of asserting everyone's right to believe and follow any faith of choice
05. Pathirupa desa wasocha	- For an environment of virtuous friendship where the individual protection is guaranteed
06. Alokayen Alokayata (From illumination to further illumination)	- Worthy of being offered with wild flowers Organizing programmes to invoke blessings on the people and their well-being.

8.1 President's Sadaham Yathra Programme

The "Sadaham Yathra" programme is a programme of the Head of State during the full moon Poya with state patronage for a long period of time. Instead of restricting it to the capital itself, there is a religious programme targeting temples in the remote areas and the religious orientation of the people in those areas. It is also a special objective to identify the needs of the temples where Sadaham Yathra sermons are conducted and to develop the infrastructure thereof, and a religious effort to create a noble society with a devoted generation.

Activities performed under the "Sadaham Yathra"

01. Co-ordination and prior discussion of regional government institutions
02. Development of access roads to temples.
03. Development of internal roads.
04. Development of shelter walls and courtyards of Stupa and Bodhi Tree
05. Rehabilitation of sanitary chambers.
06. Updating or renewing of electrical systems.

07. Environmental cleanliness related to Viharaya.
08. Reconstruction work of the temple.
09. Provision of Ashta Parishkara and Special Pirikara.
10. Co-ordination of communication activities.
11. Compilation, printing and advertising of books on Ven. Maha Sanga for free distribution.
12. Overall monitoring of above activities.

8.1 Table - Districts and temples where Sadaham Yathra Dhamma Deshana Programmes were launched in 2016

No.	Date of the Sadaham Yathra Dhamma programme conducted	District	Name of the Temple
01	23.01.2016	Hambantota	Ambalantota Girihandu Seya Rajamaha Viharaya
02	22.02.2016	Kegalle	Beligala, historical Sri Vijayasundararama temple
03	22.03.2016	Nuwara-Eliya	Vijayaba Pirivena Viharaya, Ambagamuwa
04	21.04.2016	Galle	Sri Sylayarama Purana Raja Maha Viharaya
05	19.06.2016	Matale	Madipola, Katangamuwa, Sri Sunandarama Purana Viharaya
06	19.07.2016	Moneragala	Yudagana Raja Maha Viharaya, Moneragala
07	16.09.2016	Ratnapura	Pelmadulla, Galpottalawala Sri Padasthana Raja Maha Viharaya
08	15.10.2016	Gampaha	Sapugaskanda Raja Maha Viharaya
09	14.11.2016	Colombo	Siri Nikethanarama Purana Viharaya
10	13.12.2016	Colombo	Mulleriyawa New Town, Himbutana, Sri Abhinavarama Temple

8.2 Organising the historic Siri Dalada Perahera Closing Ceremony - 2016

After the traditional closing of the Sri Dalada Perahera consists of four Devala Peraharas carried out annually for the Tooth Relic of Shakya Munindra staying in Senkadagala which took place also in the year 2016 with the full State sponsorship is conducted under the head of His Excellency the President, participation of the Ministers of Parliament by the invitation of Nilame of four Dewala heading the Diyawadane Nilame, at the President's House in Kandy on 18.08.2016 in the afternoon. The officials heading the Government Agent and the Chairman of the Perahera Committee, the Gangawatakorale Divisional Secretary, made their solemn contribution to this events.





Senior dancers being rewarded by His Excellency the President

8.3 Co-ordinating the 152nd National Commemorative Ceremony of Sirimath Anagarika Dharmapala

This event was held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall and the Sri Sambuddhatva Jayanthi Mandiraya on 25.09.2014 and 26.09.2016 together with the Religious Affairs Unit, the Ministry of Buddha Sasana and the Department of Mass Communication of the University of Kelaniya. The 152nd National Commemorative Ceremony of Sirimath Anagarika Dharmapala was gracefully held with the participation of Maha Sangha, Ministers, Academics, Secretaries to Ministries, Buddhist co-ordinators, students, Sirimath Anagarika Dharmapala Foundation, Principals and Buddhist Associations.

8.4 Organizing the Deepavali Festival - 2016 at the President's House

The Deepavali Festival was held under the patronage of His Excellency the President with the participation of the Honourable Prime Minister on 29.10.2016 at the President's House in Fort. Hindu Priests, Leader of Opposition, Honourable R. Sampanthan and representatives of the people and other devotees (Sinhala / Tamil) participated in the Deepavali festival which had a variety of colourful items.





8.5.1 Discussions with Sasanarakshaka Balamandala – 2016

This meeting was held at the Presidential secretariat under the patronage of His Excellency the President with the participation of Registrars of Sasanarakshaka Balamandala and the Venerable chairpersons with Secretaries to the Ministries in attendance in order to ensure stability and growth of Sri Buddha Sasana and to realize the most important objectives of National policy in relation to the Buddha Sasana.



8.5.2 Discussions with Sasanarakshaka Balamandala– 2016

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8.5.3 Co-ordinating Annual Jasmine Flower Pooja at Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi, Anuradhapura

The prime objective of this Asirvada Jasmine Flower Pooja organised by Shanthi Foundation under the patronage of Venerable Kotapola Amarakithi Thero, the Patron of the Foundation is to invoke blessings on His Excellency the President, the Tri-Forces, the Police and entire public. This pooja was held on the 23rd of July 2016 under the full State patronage at Vijaya Sri Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi, Anuradhapura.

Parallel to this programme was a scattering of flowers from the air over the site to mark the occasion.





Conducting annual Jasmine Flower Pooja - Anuradhapura

8.5.4 Organising the first anniversary of the President's inauguration in office

The first anniversary of the President's inauguration in office was held on 08th January 2016. An all-night Pirith Chanting and an Alms - Giving on the following day were held at the President's House to mark the occasion. The Buddhist monks of the three Nikayas, Members of the Cabinet, Representatives of foreign Governments, Provincial public leaders, senior staff members of the President's staff and other State service personnel attended this ceremony.





09. Other Special activities undertaken - 2016

9.1 Opening of the President's House for Exhibition

The opening of the President's House to the public for the first time was done making a reality concept of His Excellency the President Maithripala Sirisena. A large number of public including school children visited this House which was used as the Official Residence of the Governor in the Colonial Era, and thereafter as the residence of the Head of the state in the post independence Era. Among the visitors to the President's House were a number of foreigners visiting Sri Lanka.









9.2 "Come back safely"- Road Safety Week

(01.12.2016-07.12.2016- Western Province)
This programme was launched jointly by National Rupavahini Corporation and the other agencies to minimize road accidents and reduce deaths resulting therefrom. A sum of Rupees 10 Mn (10,000,000) out of the expenses involved was paid by the President's Office to the National Rupavahini Corporation.

9.3 Establishment of a Cultural and Arts Policy Unit

A programme was put in place with a view to developing a progressive national artistic and cultural policy which is so essencial for good governance and supportive of advancement as a modern democratic society. A number of rounds of discussions were held between the officials of the Arts and Cultural Policy Unit and the relevant stakeholders, and it was decided that the existing Arts and Cultural Policy Unit should be established by an Act of Parliament.

9.4 The Rhythm of the Earth

The entertainment programme titled "Rhythm of the Earth" was developed with the intention of creating an eco - friendly society based on entertainment programmes encouraging artistic creations. The Presidential Secretariat has provided funds for the launch of four such inaugural programmes at four selected locations. The initial programme was conducted by a group comprising renowned musician Ruwan Dissanayake, on 30. 11. 2016 till 6.30 P.M. at the Moneragala Library Auditorium.

9.5 Formulating a National books Policy

A books Policy is expected to be formulated with a view to building up a vibrant culture associated with books in Sri Lanka thereby fostering intellectual development and social culture. The active participation of the professionals involved in Book industry, the Writers, Editors, Translators, Researchers, Book Publishers, Printers Planners, Book Sellers as well as the general readers are to be enlisted in this exercise. A discussion was held on 07.10.2016 with all stakeholders referred to above. At the said meeting it was proposed that once the National Book Policy is formulated it should appropriately be adopted by an Act of Parliament. It was decided to call for suggestions and views from the relevant parties for the formulation of the draft Act.

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
		Meetings held under the patronage of His Excellency the President
1	07.01.2016	Discussion on establishing the Presidential National Unit for Child Protection
2	27.01.2016	Drug Prevention Committee Meeting
3	25.01.2016	Discussion with agricultural Entrepreneurs in the private sector
4	23.02.2016	Consultaion with economists on the "Economy of Sri Lanka"
5	05.02.2016	Inter-religious Leaders' Summit
6		Economic Professionals' meeting with His Excellency, the President
7	23.03.2016	University lecturers' expert committee's meeting with His Excellency, the President on environmental conservation
8	31.03.2016	Discussion on "Economy of Sri Lanka and way forward"
9	06.05.2016	Presenting to His Excellency the President the report prepared following the workshop held at "Mihilaka Medura" at BMICH on the 27th, 28th and 27th, 28th and 29th of April, 2016 with participation of local and foreign scholars

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
10	24.05.2016	Discussion on "Let's Protect Children" programme
11	30.05.2016	Discussion with the Presidential Task Force on Prevention of Chronic Kidney Disease
12	31.05.2016	Discussion with all Nilames including Diyawadana Nilame
13	14.06.2016	Inter-religious Council
14	23.06.2016	Meeting on investing in Power and Electricity Sectors
15	05.07.2016	Discussion with All Ceylon Shasanarakshaka Mandala
16	29.08.2016	Progress review meeting the HE President had with the officials of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
17	31.08.2016	Discussion with His Excellency the President on the problematic situation that has arisen between the Central Environmental Authority and Wayamba
18	18.10.2016	Discussion held in order to address the environmental concerns in Trincomalee district
19	28.11.2016	Discussion with the President on the Quarry located in the area of authority of Rideegama Pradeshiya Sabha
Discussions and Meetings held chaired by the Secretary to the President		
20	2016.01.05	Discussion on opening the President's House for school children
21		Discussion on the development of Kandy city
22	2016.02.17	Discussion on enlisting the assistance of Transport and Finance sectors for in drug prevention
23	2016.03.09	Media coverage for dramas and teledramas with drug prevention as the theme
24	2016.05.31	Discussion on Ampara district Agrarian Summit
25	2016.06.30	Special discussion on setting up tents for functions organized by the Presidential Secretariat
26	2016.08.05	Progress review meeting on annual Dalada Perahera
27	2016.12.22	Discussion on issues that are likely to arise in the production of food owing to the prevailing drought

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
28		Discussion with Civil Security Department and Hadabima Authority on the sales programme of the National Programme on Food Production
Meetings and Discussions held chaired by the Senior Additional Secretary to the President		
29	2016.01.04	Discussion on the function organized in Colombo district under the National Programme on Drug Prevention
30	2016.01.12	Initial discussions on the 4th National Programme: "A country free of drugs"
31	2016.01.14	A meeting of the Expert committee on environmental conservation
32	2016.01.22	Discussion on the legal framework of the Arts and Cultural Unit
33	2016.01.25	Progress review meeting of National Programme on Food Production
34	2016.02.01	Programme to raise awareness of provincial and district directors on the special programmes launched by the Development and Special Projects Division
35	2016.02.03	Discussion with the National Food Promotion Board
36	2016.02.03	Discussion on the 70th Upasampada Ceremony of Sri Lanka Ramanna Maha Nikaya
37	2016.02.08	Discussion on the action plan of 'Punarudaya' National programme on Environmental Conservation 2016-2018
38	2016.02.15	Discussion held on commemorating the World Kidney Day
39	2016.02.15	Discussion on formulating the National Plan on the Prevention of Chronic Kidney Disease (2016-2018)
40	2016.02.16	Initial discussion on the programme: 'A country free from toxins'
41	2016.02.24	Discussion on formulating the environmental conservation plan for the year 2016
42	2016.02.26	Discussion on formulating the National Plan for the Prevention of Chronic Kidney Disease (2016-2018)
43	2016.03.01	Discussion on opening the President's House for the public

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
44	2016.03.03	Special discussion on measures to the taken to minimize the use of polythene and plastic
45	2016.03.03	Initial discussion on the 5th National Programme: "A Country Free of Alcohol"
46	2016.03.18	Programme to raise awareness on provincial and district directors on the programmes launched by the Development and Special Projects Division
47	2016.03.18	Discussion on the Presidential National Unit on Child Protection
48	2016.04.07	Preparing the national plan of the "National Programme for the Prevention of Chronic Kidney Disease"
49	2016.04.07	Discussion with provincial council representatives on the future activities of the Presidential National Unit for Child Protection
50	2016.04.11	Initial discussions on the commemoration ceremonies marking the birthday of Srimath Anagarika Dharmapala
51	2016.04.19	Initial discussions on the commemoration ceremonies marking the birthday of Srimath Anagarika Dharmapala
52	2016.04.20	Display of a series of documentaries on Sri Lankan National Heritage and special discussion.
53	2016.04.26	Discussion on the units to be constructed in Kandy/Anuradhapura hospitals for kidney patients
54	2016.04.28	Discussion on opening the President's House in Fort for the public.
55	2016.04.29	83rd commemoration ceremony of Srimath Anagarika Dharmapala
56	2016.05.02	Progress review meeting of Ratnapura district environmental summit
57	2016.05.02	Discussion on the national agri business development programme
58	2016.05.03	Initial discussions on organizing activites of National Vesak Celebrations at Naigala Temple
59	2016.05.04	Discussion with project directors (Physical and financial progress)
60	2016.05.05	Initial discussion on the National Programme for the Prevention of Kidney Disease - Badulla district

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
61	2016.05.05	Preliminary discussion on organizing activites of Baudhdhaloka Vesak Zone
62	2016.05.06	Initial discussions on Matale district environmental summit
63	2016.05.06	Ceremony to present Acts of appointment to newly appointed Maha Nayaka and Anu Nayaka Theras of Asgiriya Chapter
64	2016.05.09	Initial discussion - 02 - on the 6th National Drug Prevention Programme
65	2016.05.09	National Steering Committee Meeting of National Agribusiness Development Programme
66	2016.05.10	Progress review meeting on organizing activities of the State Vesak celebrations held in Naigala Temple
67	2016.05.11	Discussion on opening the President's House in Fort for the public.
68	2016.05.11	Initial discussion on organizing activites of Baudhdhaloka Vesak Zone
69	2016.05.18	Discussion on the programmes launched in parallel to the World Environment Day
70	2016.05.18	Discussion on setting up nurseries for environmental conservation
71	2016.05.18	Discussion on mini - hydro power plants
72	2016.05.18	Discussion on rehabilitating gem mines in Ratnapura in which gem mining has been completed
73	2016.05.22	Programme of the State Vesak Celebrations held under the patronage of His Excellency the President
74	2016.05.26	Discussion on selecting the best farmer
75	2016.05.27	Discussion on the ceremony organized to mark the commencement of Environment Week
76	2016.05.30	Ceremony to declare the "Environmental Week" organized in parallel to the World Environment Day
77	2016.05.31	Progress review meeting on organizing Poson Day Celebrations

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
78	2016.05.31	Discussion on celebrating the World Oceans Day
79	2016.06.01	Discussion on opening the President's House in Fort for the public.
80	2016.06.07	Discussion on organizing activities of Poson ceremony
81	2016.06.07	Initial discussion on the 7th District Programme: "A country free from drugs"
82	2016.06.10	Discussion on organizing “Pichcha Mal” (Jasmin Flowers) Pooja
83	2016.06.14	Discussion on organizing the Poson ceremony
84	2016.06.20	Progress review meeting of national programme for Environmental Conservation for 2016 - 2018: “PUNARUDAYA”
85	2016.06.22	Review meeting on physical and financial progress of national programmes
86	2016.06.22	Discussion on organizing the Ordination Ceremony of Ramanna Nikaya
87	2016.06.27	Discussion on waste management by Local Authorities
88	2016.06.30	Handing over of maintenance activities of reverse osmosis units to the Navy
89	2016.07.01	Initial discussion on the 7th District Programme "A country free from drugs"
90	2016.07.05	Programme to raise awareness of project directors
91	2016.07.22	Students and teachers of Madukanda National School visiting the President's House in Fort followed by a discussion with His Excellency the President
92	2016.07.28	Workshop on formulating an action plan for conservation of catchment areas
93	2016.07.28	Initial discussion on the commemoration ceremony of Anagarika Dharmapala
94	2016.11.02	Discussion on drawing up the national plan for 2017 and also the review progress of the programmes initiated by the Development and Special Projects Division

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
Meetings and Discussions held under the patronage of Heads of Departments		
95	2016.01.06	Discussion held with tobacco farmers on the present situation of tobacco cultivation
96	2016.01.13	Media briefing on the fourth National Programme "A country free from drugs"
97	2016.03.02	Establishing an operations unit on drug prevention at the Police Department
98	2016.03.09	Special discussion on amending the Excise Ordinance
99	2016.03.11	Meeting of Expert Committee on "Food production and Security in Sri Lanka " with the academics
100	2016.04.04	Discussion with research teams from Netherlands
101	2016.04.05	Discussion on the programme on popularizing non - toxic food introduced by “Hela Suwaya” Organization
102	2016.04.25	Raising awareness of school children on drug prevention
103	2016.04.26	Workshop on formulating Inter-agency action plan of the programme for popularizing non toxic food
104	2016.04.26	Discussion held with Assistant Director (Agriculture)
105	2016.05.02	Declaring the drug prevention month
106	2016.05.06	Preliminary discussion on "SadahamYathra" programme organized during the month of Vesak
107	2016.05.06	"A country free from toxin" - Coordinating Committee Meeting
108	2016.05.06	Discussion with regard to the drug prevention programme
109	2016.05.09	Raising awareness of health officials in Nuwara Eliya district
110	2016.05.09	Discussion with the business community on the 6th national programme on drug prevention
111	2016.05.16	Discussion on impreving soya bean cultivation in Sri Lanka
112	2016.05.24	Discussion with Assistant Directors - Agriculture

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
113	2016.06.21	Implementing in a methodical manner the disposal garbage within the president's Secretariat premises
114	2016.06.24	Discussion with the welfare society of sand businessmen - Mahaweli C Zone
115	2016.06.27	Special lecture on implementing in a methodical manner the disposal of garbage within the presidential Secretariat premises
116	2016.07.07	Discussion on the issues encountered in the conservation of catchment areas
117	2016.07.07	Declaring open the reverse osmosis system in Bogaswewa - follow up action
118	2016.07.07	Discussion on mitigating the risks of landslides in areas prone to earth-slips
119	2016.07.08	Diverting the total income received from Namal Uyana to the kidney fund
120	2016.07.18	Initial discussions on the ceremony for the presentation of Acts of appointments
121	2016.07.25	Planning future activities of drug prevention
122	2016.07.25	Increasing awareness of police officers in charge in Colombo district
123	2016.07.26	Initial discussions on formulation an action plan for the conservation of catchment areas
124	2016.07.26	Inter - Religious Advisory Council
125	2016.08.02	Walk organized as a fund raiser for National Kidney Fund and to raise public awareness on prevention of kidney diseases to mark the 37th Anniversary of Sri Lanka Ports Authority
126	2016.08.04	Initial discussion on waste management in health institutions in the western province
127	2016.08.05	Inital discussion on the drug prevention programme in Hiriyaagala - Kurunegala
128	2016.08.09	A review of matters discussed at the Presidential Task Force on Prevention of Kidney Disease was held on 30.05.2016 (A meeting was also held to review the progress made and the tasks assigned)

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
129	2016.08.09	Discussion with Exercise Book Printers on preventing chronic kidney disease
130	2016.08.10	A Progress Review Meeting on Projects
131	2016.08.11	Collection of the relevant data for "PUNARUDAYA" National Programme on Environmental Conservation:
132	2016.08.18	Discussion held with private entrepreneurs on limiting the importation of subsidiary crops
133	2016.08.18	Walk and National kite festival: 'A country free from drugs' - Press Conference
134	2016.08.19	Discussion held on organizing the Ampara District Agrarian Summit
135 on	2016.08.19	Progress review meeting on "PUNURUDAYA" National Programme environmental conservation (R.M. 148)
136	2016.08.24	Conducting the Colombo International Book Fair in an environmental friendly manner
137	2016.08.24	Discussion on the youth summit in Polonnaruwa
138	2016.08.30	Permits issued for mining and transportation of the shells of dead oysters in the district of Trincomallee.
139	2016.08.31	Discussion on extending waste management programmes under way in medical institutions in the western province to other institutions
140	2016.08.04	Progress review meeting on the commemorative ceremony of Anagarika Dharmapala
141	2016.08.30	Progress review meeting on the commemorative ceremony of Anagarika Dharmapala
142	2016.10.03	Press briefing on 5th Asia Pacific Regional Conference on Adapting to Climate changes
143	2016.10.03	Discussion on the construction project of the proposed lodging complex adjoining Kandy General Hospital for kidney patients and their family members
144	2016.10.10	Progress review meeting

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
145	2016.10.10	Progress review meeting on the utilization of funds allocated for projects
146	2016.10.25	Second discussion with private entrepreneurs on limiting the importation of subsidiary crops
147	2016.10.31	Progress review meeting
148	2016.10.31	Discussion on allocating funds to ministries
149	2016.11.02	Implementing in a methodical manner the disposal of garbage within the Presidential Secretariat premises
150	2016.11.04	Discussion on the possible adverse impact on the District of Trincomalee by the height of Minipe dam built across river Mahaweli being raised
151	2016.11.15	Discussion on the action plan on conservation of catchment areas
152	2016.11.15	Discussion on programmes launched to mark the assumption of office by His Excellency the President
153	2016.11.16	Discussion and lecture on waste disposal within Presidential Secretariat premises
154	2016.11.17	Discussion on programmes launched to mark the assumption of office by His Excellecny the President
155	2016.11.17	Organizing the programmes launched to mark the assumption of office of the President
156	2016.11.17	Discussion on the ceremony organized to introduce green building guidelines
157	2016.11.21	Progress reveiw meeting of "Punurudaya"
158	2016.11.29	Discussion on programmes to be launched to mark the assumption of office by His Excellency the President
159	2016.12.06	Discussion on environment - friendly Sri Pada season
160	2016.12.06	Discussion on drug raids carried out in western province
161	2016.12.07	Discussion held to enlist the assistance of Ranaviru Authority for the National programme on food production

No.	Date	Meeting / Discussion
162	2016.12.09	Drawing up a drug prevention programme to alleviate poverty (workshop held with university lecturers)
163	2016.12.15	Discussion on sustainable school programme
164	2016.12.16	Discussion on sustainable school programme
165	2016.12.21	Drug prevention programme held for university students - Kegalle district
166	2016.12.21	Progress review of Methsiri Sevana
167	2016.12.22	Sustainable school programe
168	2016.12.27	Progress review meeting on the physical and financial progress of the programme for the prevention of chronic kidney disease

Public Relations Division

Introduction

Issues and requests of the employees of all public and state institutions addressed to His Excellency the President are referred to relevant Ministries, Departments and State Institutions for grant of immediate redress

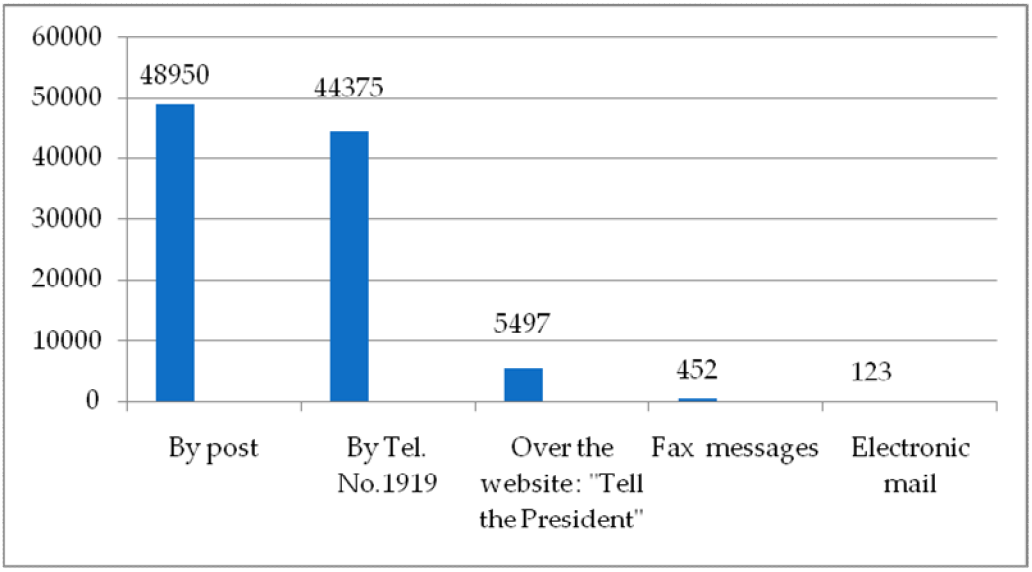
Main Functions and Objectives

- Implementation of the programme "Tell the President" by providing immediate response to the public requests presented through e-mails, posts and telephone calls addressed to His Excellency the President.
- Taking action to solve problems by providing prompt responses to the people who directly come to the Public Relations Division.
- Intervene in immediately responding to memoranda sent to His Excellency the President through public demonstration by referring such memoranda to state institutions.
- Launch of a special programme for the management of issues relating to employees in liaison with all Ministries and Departments.
- Provide immediate response to the public grievances received *via* the President's mobile service.

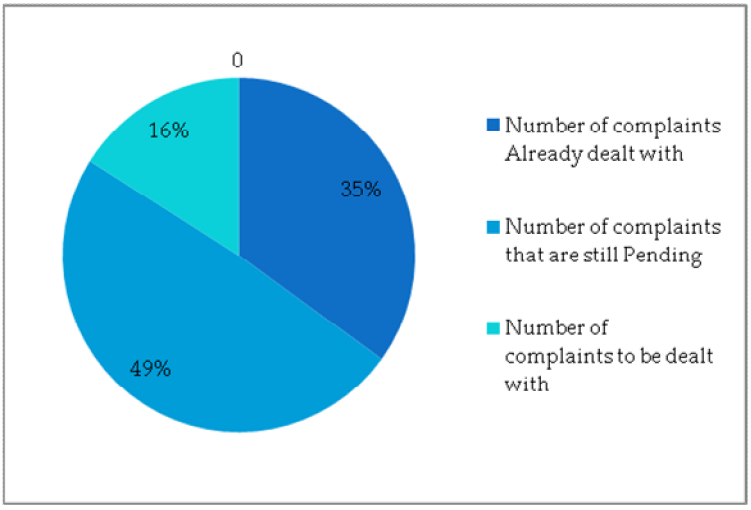
Accomplishments in 2016

"Tell the President" Programme

Mode of Presentation of Complaints



Progress made in dealing with complaints lodged



- **Initiating action to speedily settle issues raised by members of the public that were directly referred to the Public Relations Division**

It was possible to respond positively to over 4,000 persons who directly called at the Public Relation Division and aired their problems

- **To settle grievances aired through memoranda presented to His Excellency the President through Public demonstrations**

Action was taken to successfully resolve issues raised by 28 public demonstration and protest meetings held in relation to pay increase, recruitment, permanency of service, deposits of money, retirement related matters and those affecting war heroes during the year 2016.

- **The special program launched in liaison with all Ministries / Provincial Councils in the management of employees related issues**

This programme was put in place in order to provide an opportunity for the employees in all State Institutions to make representations on matters / grievances still remaining unsettled in relation to their performance of duty and to settle such issues through the launch of an action plan. With this end in view, initially an employee's day was held under the patronage of His Excellency the President on 21.11.2016 to sort out issues affecting employees in the Mahaweli Authority. At this meeting a large number of employees - related issues were submitted. And action was initiated to resolve these issues by 06 committees which were comprised of experienced state officers.

- **Speedy responses to the public grievances aired through the President's mobile service.**

The Public Relations Division has initiated action to refer to the relevant institutions those public issues and requested addressed to His Excellency the President during the mobile services conducted by the Presidential Secretariat.

Media Division

Introduction

This division is expected to responsibly provide the other media agencies with accurate information in relation to special meetings/discussions/functions held under the patronage of His Excellency the President/ meetings held at the Presidential Secretariat

Accomplishments in 2016

Division/ Unit Name: Editorial Division	
Activity/ Item	Details of the task accomplished
1.Organising National Programmes	• Organizing a discussion with the heads of the national newspapers and electronic media • Initiating a dialogue with local media persons at provincial level
2. Special Projects	• Editing and brining out 06 publication for the year 2016
3. Liaising with local and foreign media agencies and issuing press releases	• Providing His Excellency the President's notifications and statements to all foreign news agencies and briefing His Excellency the President on requests made by foreign news agencies
4. Publishing feature articles/reports on His Excellency the President and the development projects so as to build up the image of His Excellency	• In order to brief media persons on special development projects such as Moragahakanda, and taking them on observation tours and contributing articles on the projects.
5. Daily reporting	• Briefing all TV / radio and newspapers on the role of the President, providing necessary information and issuing notices
6. Workshops/ Training Programmes (Capacity building)	• Conducting seminars by inviting those at specialist level aimed at improving the performance and professional knowledge of media persons of the Editorial Division including the other officers.
7. Briefing His Excellency the President on news on Sri Lanka disseminated by local and foreign media daily	• Submitting to His Excellency the President weekly and as and when required special reports thereon.
8. Collecting required data for the speeches and address by His Excellency the President	• Providing the information and background reports that may be necessary for such functions His Excellency the President is scheduled to attend

Division/Unit Name: Web Sites Control Division	
Activity/Item	Details of the tasks accomplished
1. Publishing feature articles/reports on His Excellency the President and the development projects so as to build up the image of His Excellency	Publishing articles and news letters on web sites on every project Commencement of internet live broadcast of special functions of His Excellency the President
2. Conducting special seminars and discussions	Organizing two workshops for the SLFP members who use internet
3. Any other matters	Conducting goodwill get together with His Excellency the President and media institutions and editors and focussing on investigative journalism for government's week spots..

Division/Unit : Photographic Division	
Activity/Item	Details of the Tasks accomplished
1. Liaising with local and foreign media agencies and issuing press releases	Taking photographs related in His Excellency the President and the news releases on country's development
2. Publishing features articles/reports on His Excellency the President and the development projects so as to build up the image of His Excellency	Publishing special photo pages in newspapers, magazines and on web sites on development projects attended by His Excellency the President that were launched and completed in 2016 and photographs of His Excellency the President from the time of swearing -in to date so as to buildup the image of His excellency .
3. Exhibitions	Holding a photo exhibition collecting the photographs taken on country's development and all the photographs taken from the time of the swearing-in ceremony of His Excellency the President until the 8th of January 2016
4. Workshops/ Training Programmes (Capacity Development)	Putting a place a special training program for the photographers, editors and assistants

Division/Unit : International Media and Research Division	
Activity/ Item	Details of the tasks accomplished
1. Organizing the National Programmes	• Operation of all media activities including the live telecasting of all the organizational activities of the Independence Day, 04th of February • Liaising with international media and diplomatic personnel • Coordinating the cultural activities and lectures including the chief guest of the occasion "Beginning of the Three Year Sustainable Development Era" held at the BMICH
2. Special Projects	• Implementation and operation of the programme on empowering villages (Grama Shakthi programme) throughout the country • Establishment of sustainable development school societies
3. Coordinating local and foreign media agencies and issuing press releases	• Maintaining direct contact with all print and electronic media institutions • Producing and releasing daily news and video records to the media • Compiling and distributing newscasts • Issuing messages of His Excellency the President to the media institutions
4.Publishing features articles/reports on His Excellency the President and the development projects so as to build up the image of His Excellency	• Contributing feature Articles to newspapers on the policies of His excellency the President and how they are being implemented • Releasing them to the media and liaising with the media in orcer to ensure that they are published in the media
5.Conducting special seminars and discussions	• Conducting round table discussions and special seminars once a month, selecting political, social, economic and technical themes in keeping with the policies of His Excellency the President
6.Exhibitions	• Organizing cartoon exhibitions and photo exhibitions to mark the inauguration of His Excellency the President in office • Organizing such shows provincially as well

Activity/ Item	Details of the tasks accomplished
7. Daily reporting	• Coverage of all the occasions, discussions and meetings attended by His Excellency the President and compiling reports for distribution to the media
8. Workshops / Training Programmes (Capacity building)	• Organizing workshops and training programs in collaboration with the Department of Government Printing and Embassies to horn skills of officers in the Media division
9. Briefing His Excellency on the news items on Sri Lanka by local and foreign media daily	• Providing a news analysis on Sri Lanka to His excellency the President in relation to the print and electronic media daily • Submitting to the His Excellency a comprehensive report on every Monday giving an analysis of the weekend newspapers
10. Gathering necessary data for the speeches and addresses by His Excellency the President	• Providing a daily report giving information in brief gathered by researches for every speech of His excellency the President
11. Any other matters	• Organizing press conferences of SLFP Selecting speakers including Members of Parliament to address them on policies of His Excellency the President

Division/Unit Name: Video Division	
Activity/ Item	Details of the tasks accomplished
1. special projects	• Media coverage of all event attend by His Excellency and providing highlights thereof to all the channels (Local and Foreign) through FTP or cassette tapes. • Producing highlights of the occasions attended by His Excellency the President as documentaries, and publishing via all the channels • Creating documentaries on foreign tours made by His Excellency the President and disseminating such information through various channels

Division/Unit Name: Video Division	
Activity/ Item	Details of the tasks accomplished
20. special projects (Contd.)	• Producing documentaries relevant to the Ministries under the purview of His Excellency the President and broadcasting in the media channels • Production of the 7-day memory documentary • Making a footage of the official events attend by His Excellency and sending same to the Department of National Archives • If the O/B bus is made available at the events attended by His Excellency the President providing all the footage of the photographs taken for the Face Book, You tube and New Media • Video photographing of the issues that need to be brought to the attention of His Excellency and compiling documentary programme presenting public views and submitting such programme for the attention of His Excellency • Coverage of the event attend by His Excellency the President and the Honourable Ministers and Members of Parliament filming them separately on a daily basis • Telecasting the documentaries produced on His Excellency the President on the screen installed at the Visitors area of the Media Division
2. Workshops/ training Programmes (Capacity Development)	• Educating video camera men, editors and assistants in the Media Division on the modern technology by the senior technicians in the media section
3. Other	• Taking scenes of Moragahakanda reservoir filmed with landing vessels and store them in order to use when necessary

Reconciliation Division

Introduction

The reconciliation division was established and made operational since June 2015. The pivotal role of this division has been to build a stable country where every citizen could live in unity, being respectful of pluralities and national identities with equality of opportunities and to basically contribute to national unity and reconciliation thus, ensuring protection of fundamental rights. This division is functional under the direction and guidance of the former President, Honourable Madam Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga under the overall guidance of the Presidential Secretariat

General objectives

- The prime objective of this division is to have a sustained dialogue with diverse communities and religious leaders, Civil Society Organizations, Provincial Councils and regional political leadership and adopt necessary measures in order to forge national unity and reconciliation.

Accomplishments in 2016

- Discussions have been held with the Cabinet Ministers, State Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Members of Parliament, Provincial and Local Government Representatives, Civil Society Organizations, Religious Leaders, Community-based Organizations as well as Ambassadors of foreign countries, Representatives of Sri Lanka in the United Nation, Representatives of Asian Development Bank, World Bank and other Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations.

- Replying to letters received from people across the Island, Ministries, Departments and other institutions and referring them to relevant Ministries and institutions and replying to messages received over the telephone.

- This division has received more than 4000 letters from January to December 2016 and they have been responded to without delay.

Information Technology Unit

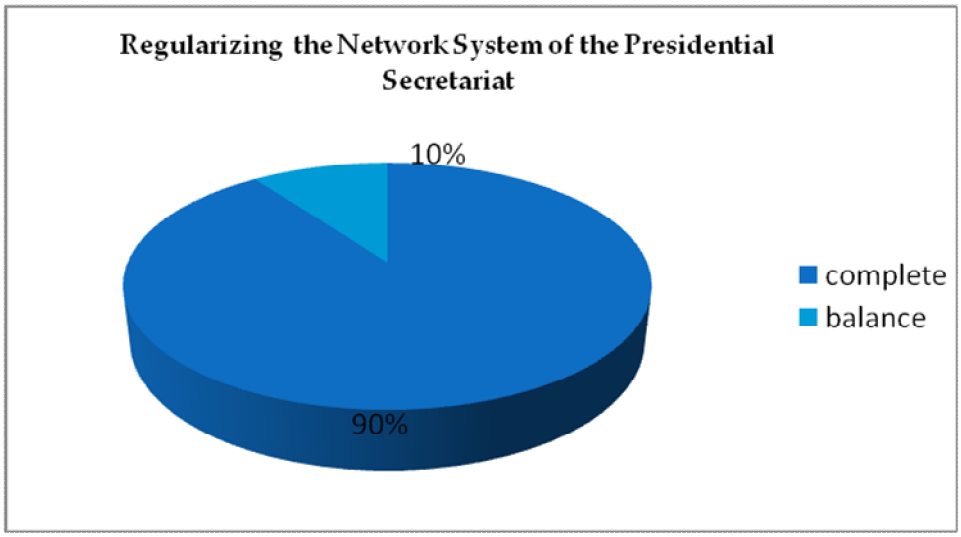
Introduction

Information and Communication Technology Unit, functioning under the Internal Administration Division , is tasked with maintaining computers, telephones and other technical equipment, designing web sites and software and networking in the Presidential Secretariat and all its affiliated agencies

Following are the assignments initiated by the Information and Communication Technology Unit of the Presidential Secretariat in 2016 and the progress achieved.

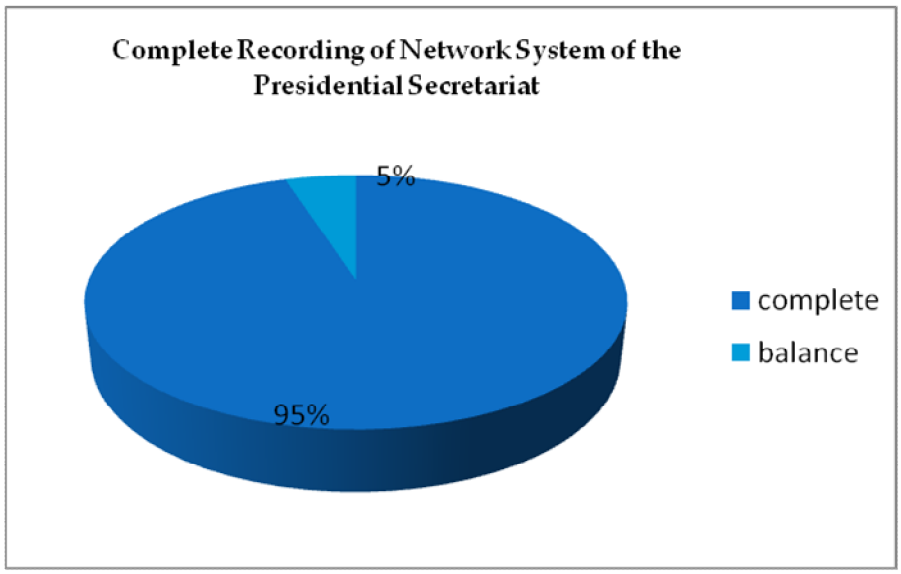
01. Regularizing the Network System of the Presidential Secretariat.

90% of this assignment was completed in 2016 and the rest is expected to be completed by mid-2017.



02. Complete Recording of Network System of Presidential Secretariat

This project was expected to be completed by the "Upgrading the Infrastructure at the Presidential Secretariat" launched by the Presidential Secretariat in 2016. However, 95% of the assignment has been completed in 2016 and the final phase will be implemented in the mid-2017.



03. Installing backup systems for software systems and Web Server.

Completed in 2016

04. Installing a Cloud Based Server in Development and Special Projects Division situated in the Chartered Bank Building.

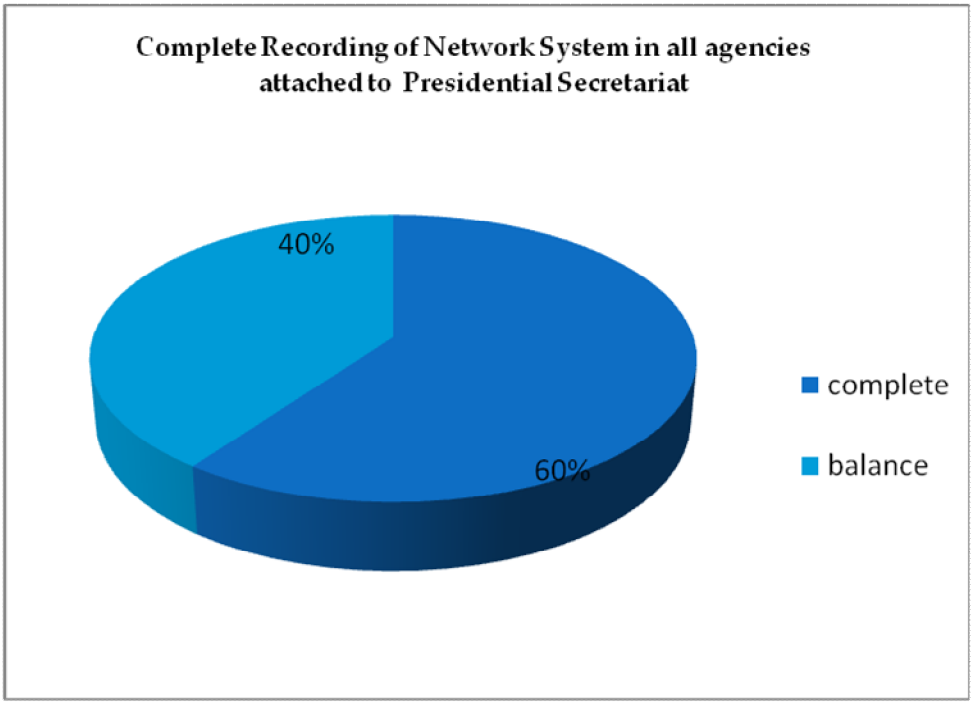
This assignment was completed in 2016 and the facility is currently being utilized by Development and Special Projects Division .
Policy Coordination and Progress Review Division has also been provided with the same.

05. Installing a Proxy Server for Development and Special Projects Division.

This assignment was completed in 2016 and this server is currently being used by the Division for their day- to -day tasks.

06. Complete Recording of Network System in all agencies attached to Presidential Secretariat

60% of this assignment has been completed by the project "Upgrading the infrastructure at the Presidential Secretariat" launched by the Presidential Secretariat.

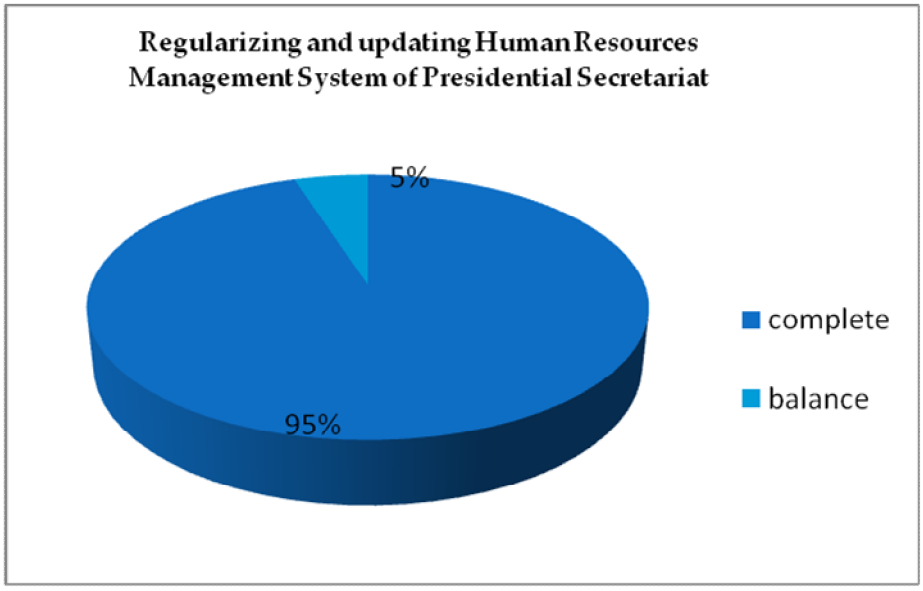


07. Installing a Cloud Based File Server in Presidential Secretariat.

These Servers have already been installed for Development and Special Projects Division and Policy Coordination and Progress Review Division. The above facility is currently being utilized by the said divisions.

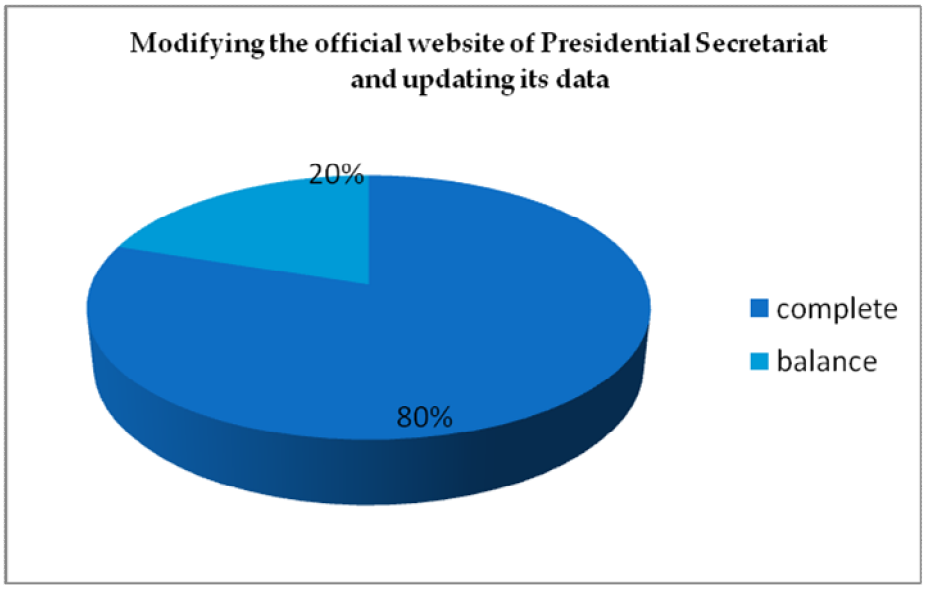
08. Regularizing and updating Human Resources Management System of Presidential Secretariat.

95% of this assignment has now been completed. Input of data to this software system is currently underway and it is scheduled to be completed by mid-2017.



09. Modifying the official website of the Presidential Secretariat and updating its data.

Designing a new website for this purpose is underway and 80% of it has been completed.



10. Updating the Letters Management System in Public Relations Division.

A new letters management system has been introduced to Public Relations Division under the project: "Tell the President" to be connected to the existing one with the aim of discharging duties more efficiently.

Further, a separate telephone exchange centre has been installed for 'Tell the President' programme to provide a better service to the public.

11. Launching a computer training programme for the officers attached to Presidential Secretariat and its affiliated agencies.

A basic training programme on computer functions was launched by the Information and Communication Technology Unit for the officers attached to Presidential Secretariat and affiliated agencies. Required teaching materials will be obtained from Microsoft. Plans have been drawn to launch computer training programmes for all the officers attached to this office in mid-2017.

12. Designing the computer system and website of the Office of Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman)

Designing the website for the office of Ombudsman has been completed and the said office is tasked with designing a petitions management system and posting data on the system.

13. Designing a software system for the Transport Division.

Preliminary steps have been taken to design a new computer porgramme for inclusion of all information pertaining to the Transport Division of Presidential Secretariat and this is expected to be completed by mid-2017.

Transport Unit

Introduction

Accomplishment of tasks assigned to the Transport unit of the Presidential Secretariat, at the highest level of efficiency.

MainFunctions/ Objectives

- Attending to all types of work pertaining to vehicles meant for His Excellency the President and provision of daily transport
- Maintenance of Presidential Secretariat – owned fleet of vehicles
- Obtaining insurance certificates, revenue licences, vehicle emission test certificates in respect of the fleet of vehicles of the Presidential Secretariat
- Submitting insurance claims in respect of vehicles involved in road accidents
- Issuing fuel orders and submitting vouchers to the Financial Management Division for payment after scrutiny
- Scrutiny of bills related to repairs and servicing of vehicles and submitting them for payments.
- Scrutiny of running charts related to fuel orders issued and proper management of expenditure incurred on fuel
- Maintaining an updated inventory of vehicles and transfers, taking over and disposal of vehicles.
- Attachment of drivers newly- recruited by the Presidential Secretariat to relevant divisions where there are vacancies for them
- Organizing capacity development programs for drivers and the staff in collaboration with Human Resource Development Division

01. Staff

- The staff of the Transport Division is comprised of new recruits to the public service and those who were transferred to this office from other state institutions. Accordingly, all the vacancies except two (2) in the office staff have been filled. Provision of required training is organized by the Human Resource Development Division. A number of vacancies have been created in the cadre of drivers and necessary measures for new recruitments are now underway.

- The cadre of drivers is also comprised of new recruits and those who were transferred to this office from other state institutions.Training programmes were launched by the Ceylon- German Technical Training Institute and the Vocational Training Authority for all drivers. In addition to the workshop on technical knowhow and road rules, programmes were also put in place for them on positive thinking and stress management at the Sri Lanka Foundation. The feedback from the participants at the conclusion of these workshops was found to be most encouraging.
- Drivers and supervisory staff were acquainted with the procedures to be adopted in claiming compensation for road accidents in two workshops held in the cooperation of Sri Lanka Insurance on August 22 and 23, 2017. In addition, a board of investigation comprised of Army officials is scheduled to be appointed under the direction of Secretary to the Ministry of Defence to probe into road accidents.
- Accommodation provided for the drivers when engaged in night duty was not adequate and there was no proper rest room for them to use during the daytime. Accommodation has been improvisedout of two suitably adjusted containers for the purpose.
- Two Technical Officers have also been accommodated in a container for the time being.

02. Delivery of Services

- Transport Division has been able to deliver a satisfactory service making use of the available physical and human resources. Although there was a slight drawback in the delivery of services on a day in May 2016 due to the transfer of 86 drivers, our staff could provide the best possible service on a single day. There are, at present, 30 vacancies in the cadre for drivers. And a certain degree of control has had to be exercised on their requests for grant of leave.

03. Refurbishment of the Office

- Refurbishment of the office has been completed and a computer software designed by Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration has been installed with the assistance of the Information and Communication Technology Unit of the Presidential Secretariat. Entering data to the said system and utilizing on a test basis have already been initiated. It is expected to make speedily available requisite reports for decision – making by the management and reduce the heavy paper work involved making the performance of day-to-day duties more efficient.

04. Repairs to vehicles

- Vehicles are to be sent for repairs only when a proper inspection of such vehicles has been carried out by the Technical Officers. A certain control has thus been exercised on the number of requests made for repairs that are found to be quite unnecessary. Even after repairs were effected the vehicles are subjected to inspection and spares removed from vehicles are taken over and stored.

05. Consumption of fuel

- It was possible to cut down on consumption of fuel to a satisfactory level compared to the previous year as is borne out by the following figures:

Year	Expenditure incurred on fuel (Rs.)
2014	350,000,000.00
2015	120,000,000.00
2016	140,000,000.00

(Vouchers have been sent to the Financial Management Division for payment and figures have been roughly calculated in relation to the vouchers with bills)

- Coupons worth about Rs.165 million purchased by the Presidential Secretariat before 2015 had been left without using. Those coupons were used for the fleet of vehicles in 2016.

06. Progress made in the settlement of accident and insurance claims

- Initiatives have been taken to expedite proper investigation related to accidents, take disciplinary action against the responsible drivers and two seminars are to be held by Sri Lanka Insurance Cooperation speedily since an increase in accidents can be seen.

Insurarance claims have been obtained as follows (approximately calculated)

Year	Claim (Rs.)
Compensation obtained in 2016 for the accidents that occurred before 2016	16,000,000.00
Compensation obtained in 2016 for the accidents that occurred during 2016	15,000,000,.00

- It was revealed that there were unrealized insurance claims and a number of unsettled ones of past few years (2014 and before) for which cheques had been received in favour of Secretary to the President but, payments to the garages are still pending. All of them except a controversial few have already been settled.

- The Secretary to the President has instructed that reckless driving be considered to be a criterion in the evaluation of performance as well as in the granting increments.

07. High Security Vehicles

- As modified high security vehicles are not transferrable for private use they are not meant to be either disposed of or privately used. The methodology hitherto adopted has been either to destroy them or sink them in the deep sea with the least damage to sea environment in conformity within the generally accepted standards. Enquires were also made from the suppliers as to whether they could re- purchase these vehicles, the Diesel and Motor Engineering Company has responded stating that they could do so provided export shipping charges and re-cycling charges are met by the Government

- Hence, actions have been taken to transfer 69 bullet-proof armoured cars that are un-serviceable or out of commission to Sri Lanka Army, one vehicle to Technical Training Institute, Orugodawatte and another to Special Task Force for VIP security training purposes.

08. Transfer of Vehicles

- Arrangements have been made to transfer about 95 vehicles to 16 State Institutions including Civil Security Department, Department of Irrigation, Department of Health and Department of Immigration and Emigration.
- Agreements of 76 vehicles leased from LOLC have been cancelled and returned.
- Vehicles have been provided for the Navy Worksite in Jaffna
- 40 excess vehicles;07 vehicles from Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs, 14 from Plantation Industries, 13 from Ministry of Children and Women's Affairs, 03 from Ministry of Local Government and 03 from Official Languages Department have been taken over and repaired and are being re-used.

09. Taking over the possession of vehicles under custody in Court proceedings

- Possession of those vehicles under custody in court proceedings and those under court custody and still remaining parked in such premises over a protracted period on various grounds such as accidents, misuse, being found missing have been taken over once the legal issues involved are settled.

10. New purchases

- Two (02) Car Carriers have been purchased for the Presidential Secretariat since huge expenditure has had to be incurred in transporting high security vehicles and those damaged in road accidents. Accordingly, payments made to the private sector has been stopped.
- 05 double cabs, a van and 04 cars have been newly purchased under treasury leasing scheme and deployed in the Special Projects Division.
- 18 vehicles and 10 motor-cycles have been provided for the project 'Pibidemu Polonnaruwa'.

11. Providing with transportation for new projects

- Facilities for transportation are provided for the discharge of duties under new projects launched under the purview of Presidential Secretariat such as Pibidemu Polonnaruwa, Development and Special Projects, National Agri-business Development Programme (NADEP) as per requirement.

- This facility has also been provided for the Drug Prevention Programme, Right to Information Commission and Presidential Commission on Investigation on Treasury Bonds.

- A decision has been reached to procure vehicles for projects launched under Presidential Secretariat under operational leasing scheme in terms of the National Budget Circular No. 01/2016. Procurement Process is underway.

12. Necessary measures have been adopted as pointed out in audit queries and in terms of the audit reports issued on the subject.

- Important matters on more efficient and proper discharge of duties in the transport division are discussed in the Audit and Management Meeting. Actions are taken on the decisions reached and the progress is reported.

Legal Division

Introduction

Established on March 18, 2015 this division is expected to direct all legal proceedings related to the Presidential Secretariat and proffer legal advice on related matters.

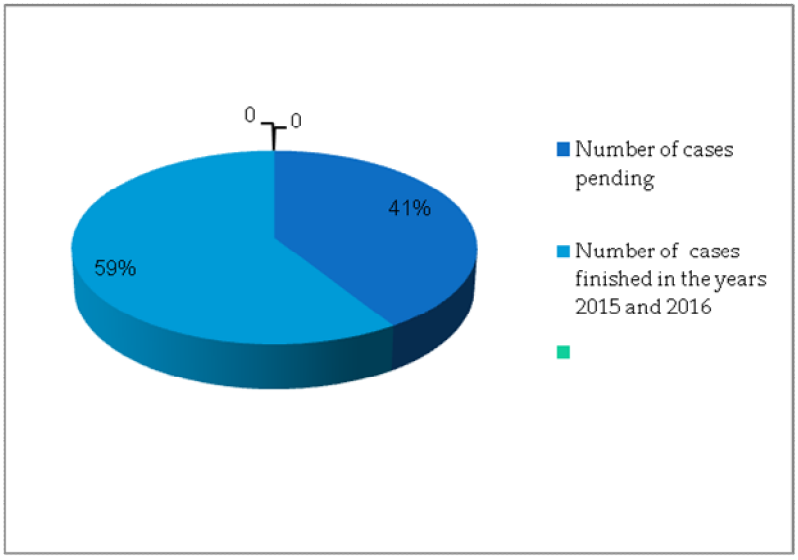
Main Functions / Objectives

- Co-ordinating and making representations in Fundamental Rights Cases in which His Excellency the President has been made a respondent and the Cases filed in Courts of Law related to the Secretary to the President or the President's staff.
- Providing necessary advice on legal matters to all divisions of this institution.
- Initiating necessary action in terms of recommendations of the reports of Presidential Commissions of Inquiries appointed by His Excellency the President.
- Making studies on the agreements entered into by the Presidential Secretariat with other parties and submitting observations and making recommendations thereon.
- Submitting observations on legal Drafts that are referred to the Cabinet Sub Committee.
- Calling for relevant reports and submitting observations on files that are referred to this division by His Excellency the President.
- Submitting observations on new rules and regulations referred to the Secretary to the President by the Cabinet of Ministers wherever such observations are required.

Accomplishments in 2016

Number of case files carried forward from 2015	-	35
Number of case files recieved in 2016	-	24
Total number of case files	-	**59**

Total Number of cases	Number of cases finished in 2015	Number of still pending cases in Courts
59	24	35



➢ **Given below is a brief note on agreements entered into with other parties by the Presidential Secretariat in relation to the year 2016 of which a study was made by this Division**

- New agreement with Chinese Technical Team in respect of Peliyagoda warehouse complex leased out.
- The lease agreement related to the building No.07 at No.1, Mudalige Mawatha, Colombo 01 leased out to provide residential accommodation for personnel of the Presidential Security Division.
- Agreement related to the provision of Security Service for the building No. 17, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01.
- Lease agreement related to the building at No. 21, Chatham Street, Colombo 01.
- Lease agreement related to the building at No.06, Sir Baron Jayathilaka Mawatha, Colombo 01
- Lease agreement related to the building bearing Assessment No. 93, Chatham Street, Colombo 01
- Lease agreement relating to the building at assessment No. 10/C., R. A. de Mel Mawatha, Colombo 03
- Lease agreement related to the building No. 41, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01.
- The agreement related to the provision of sanitary services for the President's Official Residence at Paget Road
- Lease agreement related to the building bearing Assessment No. 30/75A, London Place, Colombo 07

- Lease agreement related to the building No. 61, Chatham Street, Colombo 01.
- Agreement in respect of the 1st Floor of Block 05 of the of BMICH
- Agreement signed between the Secretary to the President and Hayleys Agriculture Holdings Ltd.
- Agreements reached under National Agri Business Development Programme
- Maize project signed between Presidential Secretariat and Nelna Farm Pvt.Ltd
- Seaweed project signed between Presidential Secretariat and Hayleys Aquagri Pvt.Ltd
- Apiculture Project signed between Presidential Secretariat and Sunfrost Pvt.Ltd
- Liquid milk project due to be signed between Presidential Secretariat and Fontera Brands Sri Lanka and Chello Dairy Products Pvt.Ltd
- Big onion cultivation project due to be signed between Presidential Secretariat and Hayleys Agro Farm Pvt.Ltd
- Maize project due to be signed between Presidential Secretariat and CIC Grains Pvt.Ltd
- Nutritious paddy cultivation project due to be signed between Presidential Secretariat and CICAgri Produce Export (private) Limited
    - Passion Fruit cultivation project due to be signed between Presidential Secretariat and HJS Condiments (Pvt) Limited
    - Jaggery palm treacle and jaggery project due to be signed between Lanka Eco Products Pvt.Ltd and Presidential Secretariat
    - Poultry development project with Lanka Poultry Development Pvt.Ltd

➢ A committee was appointed as per the directions of His Excellency the President to probe into whether the Government suffered any loss by the release of 212 Toyota Prado Jeeps imposing a special customs duty by the Department of Customs. Mrs. Lakshmi Jayawickreme, Additional Secretary to the President (Legal) chaired the committee while Mr.Nalaka Kaluwewa, Senior Assistant Secretary to the President, Mrs.Anula Harasgama, Director General of the Department of State Accounts and Mr.K.A.B.S.Nanayakkara, former Deputy Auditor General were appointed as the other members.The committee, having conducted a special investigation calling all the evidences submitted the final report of the investigation to His Excellency on 09.12.2016

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- A meeting chaired by His Excellency the President on problems faced by the Judges in the Judicial Service was held and attention has been focused on same.

- Presentation of Observations on the amendment of the Constitution.

Medical Services Unit

Introduction

The Medical Services Unit of Presidential Secretariat is functional under the Secretary to the President. This Unit is expected to provide necessary guidance and administer treatment so as to help maintain the good standard of health of His Excellency the President, His Excellency's immediate family members as well as the personnel of the Presidential Secretariat.

Further,
this Unit also plans relief measures required to uplift the standard of health of the economically

Main Functions / Objectives

- To draw up and put in place an action programme to maintain in good condition an ambulance accompanying His Excellency the President's motorcade.
- To keep a constant watch of the maintenance and the supplies of the ambulances and effect repairs necessary.
- Monitoring the state of Health of His Excellency's and those accompanying His Excellency on local as well as visits abroad.
- Launching diverse awareness raising programmes for the staff to enhance the level of knowledge required for them to maintain a sound standard of health.
- To maintain a medical centre for the staff to seek medical treatment and medical advice.
- To direct the officers of the Secretariat to other leading institutions where necessary for consultation with medical specialists in the field.
- To provide advice and contribute actively to organizing quality health programmes planned and conducted from time to time in under-served areas for the benefit of the public.
- To plan and put in place programmes to meet any health issues that may arise in the country.

Accomplishments in 2016

- A family counselling programme that focuses on issues of under-age marriages and drug addiction was held on 30.04.2016 at Kotawehera Mankada Maha Vidyalaya and Hambegamuwa Maha Vidyalaya (in Weli-oya, Balangoda)





A medical clinic aimed at bettering the health of the community in Weli-oya, Balangoda was held on 07.05.2016 and a project was also launched on 07.05.2016 on the sidelines of this to provide potable water to the community.







Performing 1000 cataract surgeries in 19 selected hospitals islandwide for poverty- stricken cataract patients.- 02.09.2016





Office of National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR)

Introduction

The Office of National Unity (ONU) has been established under the purview of His Excellency the President in terms of the Cabinet Memorandum dated April 8, 2015 based on the Cabinet Memorandum dated March 25, 2015 presented by Honourable Prime Minister

The Office of National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR) has been designed in terms of Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1945/41 of 18.12.2015 under the purview of Ministry of National Integration and Reconciliation.

Organizational Objectives

(i) Making recommendations to and motivating the Government to resolve problems that would create conflicts and tensions among different communities.

(ii) Providing facilitation , recommendation and thereafter motivating the Government to launch programmes required for reconciliation that build understanding, unity and solidarity amongst all communities.

Details of Staff

Designation	**staff**	**Actual figures**	**Vacancies**
Director General	01	01	-
Director/Advisor	03	03	
Deputy Director	03	03	
Assistant Director	08	08	
Administrative Officer	01	01	
Accounting Officer	01	01	
Management Assistant	06	06	-
KKS	03	03	-
Drivers	05	03	02
Total	**31**	**29**	**02**

Performance of the development projects.

Financial Provisions for the year 2016

No.	Source of financing	Value (Rs. million)
01	General Treasury	249.00
02	Gnanam Foundation	20.78
03	United Nations Development Programme(UNDP)	19.88
04	Ministry of Prison Reforms, Resettlement and Hindu Religious affairs	10.00
Total		**289.66**

Projects launched by Office of National Unity and Reconciliation

01. **Projects:**Policy and Research
Expected outcome: National Policy on Reconciliation
Performance indicators: Policy on National Reconciliation

Physical Progress

- Reviewing and researching the pre requisites of reconciliation including Investigation Reports, Report of Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission, National Human Rights Action Plan 2011-2016, National Policy on Social Cohesion, Multi-cultural Vision for Peace, civil society reports and international publications on the reconciliation process in Sri Lanka.
- Meetings held with target groups and representatives of the affected in the United Nations and International Organizations through policies and workshops by stakeholders and divisions in a wide range including State Institutions and Departments;Co-ordinating Secretariat of Reconciliation Mechanisms, Public Representations Commission on Constitutional Reforms that co-ordinate reconciliation mechanisms, Consultation Task Force on Reconciliation, Ministry of National Integration, Ministry of National Dialogue and Official Languages, scholars, researchers, members of civil society, international and local experts and consultation held in relation to the interviews with team leaders.
- Representations made to the pilot committee and the co-ordinating committee of the government in the National Human Rights Action Plan for 2017 – 2021.
- Cabinet Memorandum related to the National Policy on Reconciliation was presented to the Cabinet of Ministers by His Excellency the President and a decision was taken to hold further discussions.

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs.Million 0.28

Financial Progress: Rs.Million 0.28





Advisory workshop on formulating a National Policy

02. Project: Education for social cohesion

Expected outcome:National and Provincial level joint policy for amalgamating reconciliation and social cohesion through normal education system

Performance Indicators

(*a*) Initial studies have been conducted
(*b*) Policy frame has been completed
(*c*) Number of programmes completed
(*d*) Number of students involved

Physical Progress

- An inter - ministerial pilot committee has been appointed for amalgamating reconciliation and social cohesion through normal education system.
- Action plan for social cohesion has been completed.
- A three day sensitization programme on social cohesion for 160 Education Officers in Nothern, Eastern, Southern, Central, Western and Sabaragamuwa provinces was held.
- A meeting was held with provincial chief ministers on strengthening activities related to social cohesion.
- A sensitization programme was held for civil society organizations working on social cohesion in schools at Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration(SLIIDA)
- A familiarization programme for civil society organizations was held.
- Conducting brother school programme in Central, Southern and Eastern provinces with the participation of 80 principals and teachers and 800 students.

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs.Million 11.75

Financial Progress: Rs.Million 11.71





Sensitization programme for education officers

03. Project: Conflict transformation project (Inter-faith dialogue)

Expected outcome: Promoting inter-faith, inter-ethnic and interlectual dialogues to uphold national unity and reconciliation through conflict transformation.

Performance Indicators

(a) Number of training programmes held
(b) Number of trainers trained
(c) Number of officers trained
(d) Number of inter-cultural dialogues conducted
(e) Number of workshops held at the grassroot level

Physical Progress

- Two five day ToT workshops were held to train 33 trainers.
- Holding three orientation programmes in Jaffna, Ratnapura and Anuradhapura.
- Two day training workshop was held for the development of strategic plan.
- 220 one day workshops were held for 8000 multi religious followers in Jaffna, Ratnapura and Anuradhapura.
- Two day review programmes were held for 28 trainers.
- Reconciliation for higher studies programme was launched in Colombo.

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 18.55

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 18.55





Workshop for multi - ethnic representatives

04. Project:Multi Religious functions

Expected outcome: Celebrating major festivals in all religions with the participation of students of multiple religions and cultures.

Performance Indicators

(a) Number of programmes launched
(b) Number of students participated
(c) Number of schools participated

Physical Progress

- 133 multi-cultural celebrations were held for Thaipongal, Sinhala Tamil New Year, Poson, Ramadan and Christmas with the participation of 47,514 students of 1009 schools in 21 dstricts around the Island.

Allocations for the year 2016:Rs. Million14.94

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 14.94









Multi-religious programme to celebrate Ramadan, Sinhala Tamil New year, and Poson festival

05. Project: Psychosocial Assistance

Expected Outcome

(a) facilitating the conflict affected communities with speedy psycho-social assistance through the establishment of a task force that co-ordinates such assistance.
(b) developing long term strategies to deal with psycho-social requirements.

Performance Indicators

(a) the task force is established and it functions properly.
(b) long term strategies have been developed for psycho-social counselling.

Physical Progress

- Task force for psycho-social assistance has been established.
- National level and district level co-ordinating mechanisms for mental health and psycho-social assistance have been put in place.
- A workshop on Trauma & Psychotherapy was held in Jaffna for 65 advisors and medical practitioners
- An introductory session on "orientation and communication skills" was held with the participation of 543 psycho-social activists in Mullathivu district.(nurses, health service attendants, police officers, counseling assistants in Divisional Secretariats and community support activists.).

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 1.10

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 1.10





06. Project: Art and culture for reconciliation

Expected outcome: using art and culture as a tool to foster the existing reconciliation process

Performance Indicators

(a) number of productions (movies, drama, theatre, art) and creations related to art

Physical Progress:

- Production of documenteries by Mr. Ashoka Handagama, Mr. Vimukthi Jayasundara and Mr. Prasanna Vithanage
- A cartoon competition has been held and the best cartoons selected has been prepared for exhibition.
- A booklet on multi- religious and multi-cultural festivals has been compiled with the contribution of an expert council of basic workshops.
- WINGS regional ceremonies of Nothern, Eastern and Western provinces were held along with institutional conferences, food festivals and performing items.
- The inaugural show of the play 'Dear Loving Children' was staged.
- The agreement for a radio drama series on reconciliation was ended.

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 18.73

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 18.73





Discussion with artistes and press conference on WINGS

07. Project: Public awareness and effect

Expected outcome: communication strategies utilized for national peace and reconciliation along with various Ministries and institutions and public references.

Performance Indicators

(a) promoting comprehensive strategic communication plan
(b) number of other Ministries connected with the strategy
(c) setting up interactive web sites and social media platforms.
(d) number of programmes and activities implemented to promote national peace and reconciliation.

Physical Progress:

- The official web site of the Office of National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR);www.onur.gov.lk was launched.
- Terminals/ accounts of social media like Twitter and Facebook were regulated.
- Launching'Sikka Team' Sinhala teledrama series (based on peace and reconciliation) as a programme certified by The official web site of the Office of National Unity and Reconciliation.
- Media society on reconciliation was established
- Inter-ministerial pilot committee on communication was launched
- Providing to watch documentary on Thaipongal (Siyatha Rupavahini) and Sinhala-Tamil New Year programme related to the ONUR (ITN)especially produced by the ONUR as television clips and the programmes on harvesting rain water and district development planning (Sri Lanka Red Cross) in Nothern Province.
- Co-ordinating records and speeches related to the activities launched with the "Brother school"programme with Department of Government Information through News.lk reports, speeches

- A workshop and a counselling session facilitated by the ONUR aimed at a paradigm shift and formulation of an awareness raising programme on Sri Lankan values were conducted.
- Three major press briefings and six media conferences were held in addition to the 23 press releases/ announcements connected with the ONUR.
- Launch of the official news journal of the ONUR"Sanhinda"
- "Sanhinda" facebook group was created and it is being updated.(1300 members so far)
- While updating and maintaining "Sanhinda" news journal planning to distribute news items related to the ONUR, summoning members, linking the facebook page with other local and foreign facebook pages(State, non State INGOs, intellectual delegations and media) (400 members up to now)

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million1.18

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 1.18





Television clips



Launch of "Sikka" teledrama



Media Society on Reconciliation



co-ordination with Department of Government Information *via* www.news.lk



workshop and counseling session facilitated by the ONUR

08. Project:Women for Reconciliation

Expected outcome: launching a special project planned to ensure social security for the women affected by conflict.

Performance Indicators

(a) A framework on 'Women for Reconciliation' was created
(b) Gap Analysis
(c) number of mobile services held
(d) number of problems attended to in relation to personal and social security
(e) number of requirements identified in relation to the personal and social security.

Physical Progress

- A workshop was held to develop the framework on 'Women for Reconciliation'
- Having a meeting with the development partners who are the activists involved in women's affairs.
- Completing gap analysis and submitting the report to the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs.
- 4 women empowerment programmes (mobile services) were held in Kilinochchi district and 2594 persons were provided access to obtain their basic documents (1101 birth certificates, 178 police reports,15 immigration documents and 975 national identity cards) there and connecting to the other common services (59 on pension related matters, 618 requirements on livelihood assistance) was also done.
- A programme was held by the Industrial Development Board in Kilinochchi to draw up business plans for the 99 persons who demanded livelihood assistance at the mobile service. 92 out of them have refered their completed business plans to the Industrial Development Board.

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 1.18

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 1.18





Mobile service held in Kilinochchi District.





Participants of the mobile service held at Punagari Devisional Secretariat





Programme on preparing business development plans

09. Project: Language programme

Expected outcome: setting up a district level data base of resource persons who are equipped with bi-lingual and tri-lingual skills.

Performance Indicators

(a) district level data base of resource persons who are equipped with bi-lingual and tri-lingual skills has been set up.

Physical Progress

- A Cabinet Memorandum under the heading "Setting up a data base of resource persons with bi-lingual/tri-lingual competencies district-wise by the ONUR"was presented to the Cabinet of Ministers by His Excellency the President and it has been given Cabinet approval along with the observations made by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages on March 30, 2016.
- 301 applicants out of 1426 representing all 25 districts in the Island were selected as bi-lingual / tri-lingual competent through a written test and a viva voce conducted by the Official Languages Department.

- The web site, www.bashawa.lk was launched in order to facilitate finding a suitable translator.
- Public Administration Circular No. 26 / 2016 has been issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs and it contains the information of providing such facilities

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 3.62

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 3.62



registration for the written test



Written language programme



Viva voce conducted by the Official Languages Department



Launch of a pool of bi-lingual/tri-lingual facilitators



Meeting held between the Commissioner of Official Languages and the ONUR



Web site -www.bashawa.lk

10. Project: Rain Water Harvesting

Expected Outcome

(a) Setting up 500 rain water harvesting units in Kilinochchi and Jaffna districts as an interim solution for the acute shortage of potable water in Northern area.

Performance Indicators

(a) number of set up

Physical Progress

- 491 rain water harvesting units have been set up

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 9.61

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 9.61





Before and after the set up of rain water harvesting units in Kilinochchi and Jaffna

11. Project: Programme for orientation towards economy in Northern and Eastern provinces.

Expected Outcome

(a) Formulation of Joint for eight districts in Nothern and Eastern provinces.
(b) Uplifting the living standards of the people in the district through the development of lively-hoods and essential infrastructure.

Performance Indicators

(a) number of District Development Plans (DDPs) completed
(b) number of Livelihood Development Plans implemented
(c) number of Livelihood Development Plans completed
(d) number of families benefited

Physical Progress

- 08 District Development Plans have been completed for each district in Northern and Eastern provinces.
- Village Based Enterprise Development Project (VBEDP) has been launched in 34 villages under the purview of 34 Divisional Secretariats in the Northern Province.Training programme for Development Officers of all five districts in Northern Province has been completed. 34 committees related to the economy have been set up. 600 individual business plans have been drawn up for loan facilities.
- 42 livelyhood development projects, 101 community water distribution projects and 18 infrastructure development projects have been launched.

Allocations for the year 2016: Rs. Million 199.00

Financial Progress: Rs. Million 199.00





Programme for Training Development Officers for implementing economic orientation in Northern Province and the pilot project of cultivating pineapple in Jaffna District

The Presidential Commissions of Inquiries

Introduction

This commission was established in terms of the Gazette Extraordinary Notification No. 1904/57 dated 06.03.2015 for investigation of serious fraud, corruption and misuse of public resources, privileges, power and authority

The commission had received 1599 petitions by March 24, 2016 and a decision was reached by the commission to stop accepting any more from the said date onwards.
These petitions were reviewed in terms of the directions of the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1904/57 of 06.03.2015

- A decision was taken not to proceed with 1180 petitions since such petition do not disclose any incidence of loss or damage to State Properties or revenue in terms of the mandate of the commission.
- Number of complaints referred to the investigation officers of the commission for investigation is 400.
- There are 11 more complaints pending investigation by the commission.
- Eight petitions have not been investigated into by the commission.