

## **Elpitiya Pradeshiya Sabha - 2020**

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### **1. Financial Statements**

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#### **1.1 Qualified Opinion**

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The audit of the financial statements of the Elpitiya Pradeshiya Sabha including the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 comprising the Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, Statement of Financial Operations, Cash Flow Statement for the year and significant accounting policies and other explanatory information was carried out, for the year then ended, under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (1) of the constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with Sub-Section 172 (1) of the Pradeshiya Sabha Act No. 15 of 1987 and the Provisions of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018. My comments and observations which I consider should be report to parliament appear in this report.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Elpitiya Pradeshiya Sabha as at 31 December 2020, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

#### **1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion**

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My opinion is qualified on the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report.

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

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

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

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

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

#### 1.4 **Audit Scope (Responsibility of the Auditor for the audit of Financial Statements)**

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

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercised professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

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

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

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

- Whether the resources of the Pradeshiya Sabha had been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws.

## 1.5 Report on Other Legal Requirements

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The National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 contains special provisions regarding the following requirements.

- (a) Financial Statements of the Pradeshiya Sabha as per the requirement mentioned in Section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 corresponded with the Financial Statements of the previous year.
- (b) In accordance with the requirement referred to in Section 6 (1) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, recommendations made by me during the previous year are included in the submitted financial statements.

## 1.6 Audit observations regarding the preparation of financial statements

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### 1.6.1 Accounting Deficiencies

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Audit Observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
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(i) The fixed deposit interest income of Rs. 39,320 had not been adjusted in the cash flow statement.		
(ii) The agreements for 14 industries aggregated valued at Rs. 6,134,142 had been signed as at the year under review, however the provision had not been made in the accounts for them.	Actions will be taken to correct in future.	Should be accounted correctly.
(iii) In identifying Court fines and Stamp fees, court fine of Rs. 7,059,084 and stamp fees of Rs. 2,646,592 had been less identified in the receivables balance.		

## 1.6.2 Non reconcile Control Account or Report

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### Audit Observation

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There was a difference sum of Rs. 830,795 in between the balance value of 03 accounting items in the financial statements and balance value in relevant utility registers and sub registers as at 31 December of the year under review.

### Comment of the Sabha

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Actions will be taken to correct in future.

### Recommendation

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Action should be taken to reconcile the discrepancies between the financial statements and the balances shown in the relevant schedules.

## 1.6.3 Lack of Documentary Evidence for Audit

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### Audit Observation

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The information required for the audit had not been submitted in relation to 03 accounting items amounting to Rs. 4,452,437.

### Comment of the Sabha

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Actions will be taken to correct in future.

### Recommendation

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Written evidence should be submitted for audit.

## 1.7 Receivable and Payable accounts

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### Audit Observation

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It was observed that the balance of compensation of Rs. 684,000 for land and the balance of backhoe machine revenue of Rs.940,836 had not been settled for 04 years as at 31 December of the year under review.

### Comment of the Sabha

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Compensation for lands and income from backhoes are being settled.

### Recommendation

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Action should be taken to recover the balances due.

## 2. Financial Review

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### 2.1 Financial Result

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According to the Financial Statements presented, revenue over recurrent expenditure of the Sabha for the year ended 31 December 2020 amounted to Rs. 32,263,236 as compared with against the revenue over recurrent expenditure amounted to Rs. 31,493,028 in the preceding year.

## 2.2 Revenue Administration

### 2.2.1 Performance of Revenue Collection

<b>Audit Observation</b>	<b>Comment of the Sabha</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<b>(a) Rates and Tax</b>		
Action had not been taken to recover the arrears of assessment amounting to Rs. 14,258,215.	Actions will be taken to recover in future.	Tax collection should be done.
<b>(b) Rates</b>		
Action had not been taken to recover the arrears of rates amounting to Rs. 4,103,362.	The files are ready to take forward action.	Collection should be done.
<b>(c) Court fines and stamp Fees</b>		
As at 31st December of the year under review, Rs. 27,895,754 should have been received for Stamp Fees and Rs. 836,567 for Court fines and the requests had been made however, the Chief Secretary had not pay the court fines and stamp duty to the Sabha.	The requests have been made to the Chief Secretary of the Southern Province and other authorities.	Collection should be done.