

Valikamam North Pradeshiya Sabha - 2020

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Valikamam North Pradeshiya Sabha including the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 comprising the balance sheet as at 31 December 2020, Income and Expenditure Account, Cash Flow Statement for the year, significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information was carried out, under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (1) of the constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with SubSection 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 Valikamam North Pradeshiya Sabha as at 31 December 2020, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally accepted Accounting Practices.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercised professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism 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

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

- The financial statements of the Pradeshiya Sabha presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- The financial statements presented includes all recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirement of Section 06 (1) d (iv) of the Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.

1.6 Audit observations regarding the preparation of financial statements

1.6.1 Accounting Deficiencies

	Audit Observation	Comment of the Council	Recommendation
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(a)	Non-current assets account and accumulated fund account had been understated by Rs.6,808,145 each due to non-accounting of 07 capital projects completed during the year under review.	Assets are credited to the account when one component is completed.	Accounts should be prepared in accordance with the principles and policies of accounting.
(b)	Expenditure and current liabilities in the financial statements had been overstated by Rs.9,768,809 each due to the adjustment of repairing 02 machines that has not repaired and finishing projects that has not finished, to the sundry creditor account.	Sundry creditor account will be settled after payment receipts are received.	- Do -

2. Financial Review

2.1 Financial Result

According to the Financial Statements presented, excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure of the Sabha for the year ended 31 December 2020 amounted to Rs.21,680,809 as

compared with excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure amounted to Rs.37,326,758 in the preceding year.

2.2 Revenue Administration

2.2.1 Revenue Collection Performance

Audit Observation	Comment of the Council	Recommendation
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The amount of Rs.382,978 of arrears of assessment tax, Rs.7,872,823 for court fines and Rs.1,271,166 for stamp duty had been due.	Arrears of assessment tax will be fully recovered after completion of assessment work.	Revenue collection should be well managed.

3. Operational Review

Matters revealed with regard to fulfilling regulation and control and administration of public health, public utility services and public roads, generally with the protection and promotion of the comfort, convenience and welfare of the people and amenities by the Council under Section 3 of the Pradeshiya Sabha Act are shown below.

3.1 Operational Inefficiencies

Audit Observation	Comment of the Council	Recommendation
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Although Rs.10,262,245 was spent in the year 2018 to build a sewage treatment plant, the sewage treatment work had not been started until now.	The Indian technical officer has checked. But there was a delay due to the epidemic situation.	Necessary actions should be taken to obtain the benefits of the projects.