

## **Samanthurai 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 Samanthurai 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 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 the provisions of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 and the Sub-Section 172 (1) of the Pradeshiya Sabha Act No. 15 of 1987. 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 Samanthurai 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**

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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 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)**

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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 and Regulatory 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
The payment for audit Fees of Rs. 330,509 had not been adjusted in the accounts.	Action will be taken to adjust in the next financial year accounts.	Accounts should be adjusted.

## 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. 8,394,875 as compared with the excess of revenue over expenditure amounted to Rs. 7,466,546 in the preceding year.

### 2.2 Revenue Administration

#### 2.2.1 Revenue Collection Performance

Performance of the collection of revenue of the Sabha is given below.

Audit Observation	Comment of the Council	Recommendation
(i) Rates and Taxes	Currently being charged.	Action should be taken to charge tax revenues

Rs.4,348,228 from 7,753 units during the year under review, still an amount of Rs, 3,563,456 was to be charge as at the end of the year under review.

immediately.

(ii) **Rent**

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Action had not been taken to recover the rent in arrears amounted to Rs. 5,440,696. Currently is in progress.

Action should be taken charge rent income immediately.

**3. Operational Review**

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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 Management inefficiencies**

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<b>Audit Observation</b>	<b>Comment of the Council</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
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As the amount Rs. 90,750 spent for the purchases of maize and cowpea seeds under the Saubhagya Vision' programme during the year under review had become fruitless as the seeds were not in a plantation situation, expected output could not be achieved.	Due to weather conditions, this programme could not achieve the desired result.	The action should be taken to implement the programme so as to achieve the desired benefits.

**3.2 Inactive and underutilized property, plant and equipment**

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<b>Audit Observation</b>	<b>Comment of the Council</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
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The digital notice board purchased at Rs.2,407,500 in 2019 for the usage of the Sabha had remained idle even as at the end of the year under review.	Legal action had been taken against that institution since the institute that installed the notice board could not operate it.	Prompt action should be taken to use the notice board.