Head 105 – Ministry of Mass Media

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Ministry of Mass Media for the year ended 31 December 2022 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2022 and the statement of financial performance and cash flow statement for the year then ended 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 provisions of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018. The summery report containing my comments and observations on the financial statements of the Ministry of Mass Media was issued to the Chief Accounting Officer on 29 May 2023 in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018. The Annual Detailed Management Audit Report relevant to the Ministry was issued to the Chief Accounting Officer on 29 May 2023 in terms of Section 11(2) of the Audit Act. This report will be tabled in Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to be read in conjunction with Section 10 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Ministry of Mass Media as at 31 December 2022 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

My opinion is qualified based 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 for the financial statements are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities Section. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

1.3 Responsibilities of the Chief Accounting Officer for the Financial Statements

The Chief Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and provisions in Section 38 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 and for the determination of the internal control that is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

In terms of Sub-section 38(1)(c) of the National Audit Act, the Chief Accounting Officer and the Accounting Officer shall ensure that an effective internal control system for the financial control exists

in the Ministry and carry out periodic reviews to monitor the effectiveness of such systems and accordingly make any alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out.

1.4 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 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 summary 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 and its materiality depends on the influence on economic decisions taken by users on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Appropriate audit procedures were designed and performed to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement in financial statements whether due to fraud or errors in providing a basis for the expressed audit 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.
- An understanding of internal control relevant to the audit was obtained in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Ministry's internal control.
- Evaluate the 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.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements including disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Chief Accounting Officer regarding, among other matters significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

1.5 Report on Other Legal Requirements

I express the following matters in terms of Section 6 (1) (d) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

- (a) Except for the observation of paragraph 1.6.1 of this report, the financial statements are consistent with the preceding year,
- (b) The recommendations made by me on the financial statements of the preceding year had been implemented.

1.6 **Comments on Financial Statements**

1.6.1 **Accounting Deficiencies**

(a) Statement of Financial position

Audit Observation

Although the Ministry had paid Rs.809,421 on the purchase of furniture and Rs.167,999 on the purchase of machinery during the year, the treasury note SA 82 disclosed that figure as an adjustment to the opening balance.

Comments of the chief Recommendation Accounting officer

An inquiry has been made to the Public Accounts Department regarding such inclusion in the Treasury note. Accordingly, relevant corrections have been noted.

Correct values should be specified

(b) Reconciliation Statement on the Advances to Public Officers Account

Audit Observation	Comments of the chief Accounting officer	Recommendation
There was no action was taken until February 28, 2023 to recover the outstanding balance of Rs.269,096 due from	write off the loan balance	to settled Debt balances
three retired officers. There was a loan balance of Rs.22,588 more than 05 years	than 5 years. To be charged from the remaining two officers who have left the service Rs. 246,508 has been notified to settle the loan amount.	

(c) Non-maintenance of Registers and Books

The ministry has not maintained following documents.

Audit Observation		Comments of the chief	Recommendation		
		Accounting officer			
(i)	According to the Financial Regulation	According to the	Action should be taken		
	891- Security Register	Financial Regulations	as the Financial		
		No.891, Security register	Regulations		
		is being prepared.			
(ii)	According to the Financial	Instructions have been	Action should be taken		
	Regulation No.447(5)-Deferred	given to the concerned	as the Financial		
	Commitments (liabilities)	officials to start and	Regulations		
		maintain the Deferred			
		Commitments (liabilities)			

2. **Financial Review**

2.1 **Revenue Management**

Audit Observation

Although the estimating tax revenue of producing teledrama, films and commercial programmers were Rs.262,000,000 , the ministry has earn net revenue of Rs.215,020.000 for the year 2022. Therefore it had been collected 18 present of less revenue.

Comments of the Accounting officer

As a result of rising value of the dollar and bad economic condition of the country, the imported programs were limited and the income earned from imported Tele dramas, films and commercial programs was limited due to the restriction of broadcasting imported programs by many television channels.

Chief Recommendation

Actions should be taken to prepare revenue estimates accurately and collect the expected income.

2.2 **Expenditure Management**

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation

The allocations which made for 04 (a) recurrent expenditure heads of Rs.12,961,918 was transferred to 08 recurrent expenditure heads by using F.R.66.

> And It was observed that realistic estimates were not prepared to meet the requirements of the financial regulation.

(b) The 100 percent of the net allocation of Rs. 525,000 which was made for 03 expenditure heads and Rs.149,009,721 out of the net allocation of Rs.181,525,000 for 21 other expenditure heads were remained unutilized. And that was range from 33 percent to 98 percent.

Comments of the Chief Accounting officer

This situation was due to the amendments of treasury that take place during the approval of the draft estimates prepared by the Ministry and in addition due to the inadequacy of the existing allocations. Therefore allocations had been make by F.R 66.

Due to restrictions on of new purchases accordance with budget circulars to control expenditure and the project of DTTB was not achieve expected functional level due to the temporary suspension of funding for projects of JICA ,there had been Limit on utilization of funds.

Recommendation

Estimates should be done accurately as far as possible.

Estimates should be done accurately as far as possible

(c) By using F.R.66, Provisions of 04 expenditure heads was even after transfer to other expenditure heads, It was observed that 03 expenditure heads were save remained in a range of 21 to 84 percent. Due to the installation of solar panels in the ministry premises, electricity costs have dropped by a considerable amount, the state media awards ceremony was not held in compliance with the budget circulars for cost control, even after transferring them to other expenditure heads the allocation of the relevant expenditure heads were save. Estimates should be done accurately as far as possible

2.3 Incurring of Liabilities and Commitments

The following observations are made

Audit Observation

(a) In the financial statements of the Ministry for the year 2022, Rs.252,582 had been incurred in excess of the amount allocated from the expenditure heads 105-1-3-1402 in the liabilities.

Comments of the (Accounting officer

Ι agree with the audit observation. This situation has arisen due to the application of necessary and unavoidable facts. Instructions were given to the do not allowed to liabilities beyond the approved allocation limit for the upcoming year.

Chief Recommendation

Action should be taken as the Financial Regulations and circulars.

According to 3.3 of the guidance (b) relating to the preparation of financial statements in paragraph 10.1 in Public Finance Circular No 02/2020 at 28 August 2020, Although the Statement of Commitments and Liabilities under Annexure No. III of the Financial Statements shall be reconciled with the Statements of Commitments and Liabilities (SA 92) issued by the Treasury in respect of each head of expenditure, According to the Ministry's financial statements, the balance was Rs. 2,480,310, and according to the Treasury records, the balance was Rs. 1,233,641. The two balances were not reconciled with a difference of Rs.1,246,669.

I agree with the observation. There has been a delay in comparing the treasury reports due to weaknesses in the preparation of the statement of obligations and liabilities. I will check and compare treasury notes in the future.

audit Action should be taken as the ay in circulars.

2.4 Certification of Accounting Officer

According to the section 38 of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, Although as per provisions the Chief accounting officer should have given assurances regarding the following, action had not been taken.

Audit Observation	Comments of the Chief	Recommendation
	Accounting officer	
The Chief Accounting Officer shall	In future action should be done	Action should be done
ensure that an effective internal control	according to the section 38 of	according to the
system is developed and maintained	the National Audit Act No. 19	section 38 of the
for the financial control of the Ministry	of 2018	National Audit Act
and the effectiveness of that system		No. 19 of 2018
should be reviewed from time to time		
and necessary changes should be made		
accordingly to make the system		
effective.		
And those reviews should have been		
done in writing and a copy of it should		
have been submitted to the Auditor		
General. However the statements of		
that such reviews were not submitted		
to the audit.		

2.5 Non- compliance with laws, Rules and Regulations

Instances of non-compliance with the provisions in laws, rules and regulations observed in the sample audit test checks are analyzed below.

	Audit Observations			Comment of the Chief Accounting	Recommendation	
	Reference to	Amount	Non – Compliance	Officer		
	Laws, Rules	Rs				
	and					
	Regulations					
(a)	Financial					
	Regulations of					
	the Democratic					
	Socialist					
	Republic of Sri					
	Lanka					
	(i) F.R.104		03 vehicles which were own by the Ministry had	e		
			met with an accident at	investigation end of	the finance	
			during the year 2022.	2022 accidents are	regulation	
			And the action had not	ongoing. the		

		been taken these accidents according to the financial regulations.	relevant information will be entered when investigation will complete soon.	
	(ii) F.R.880	15 ministry officers were not post security According to the Security ordinance of Public Officers,	The security registers of ministry officers is being prepared	Action should be taken according to the finance regulation
(b)	Paragraph 5.1 of section II of Public Finance Circular No 01/2020 at 28 August 2020 and Public Finance Circular No 01/2020(11) at 20 December 2022	Although all government organization are required to review and revise the fees charged by their organization for services in every three years with subject to a maximum of 15 percent. However the Ministry had not acted accordingly	Thefinalamendmentsweredonebytheextraordinarygazette of MinistryofFinanceNo.2044/21at07.11.2017.11	Attention should be paid to actions which taken as per the circular
(c)	 3.1 section of Public Administration Circular No. 30/2016 at 29 December 2016. 	The fuel consumption test was not done on 32 vehicles which own by ministry.	Fuel consumption testing is difficult due to current fuel restrictions. And Fuel testing was done for selected vehicles on 12.10.2022.	
(d)	(F.R. 371 (5) 684,195 amended by 9 of part (i) I of the Public Finance Circular No. 01/2020 at August 28, 2020	The sub imprest should be settled within 10 days after the completion of the work by the staff officer who receives the interim advance, but the sum is Rs. 684,195 were settled with a delay ranging from 04 days to 7.5 months.	The relevant officers have been instructed to settle the advances within 10 days after the completion of the relevant service or work while obtaining the sub imprest and performing the relevant tasks.	Action should be taken according to the circular.

(ii)I Part, 11.1	The physical verification		
amended by	of the reviewed year	verification for the	taken according to
F.R. Paragraph	should be done and its	year 2022 is	the circular.
756(6)	report should be	currently in its final	
	submitted to the Auditor	stage. The report	
General before March		will be submitted to	
31 of the next fiscal		the audit as soon as	
year, but the physical		it is completed.	
	verification report was		
	not submitted for audit		
	even on April 12, 2023.		

3. **Operating Review**

3.1 Planning

The following observations are made

According to PED/RED/01/01/2020/02 and (a) State Finance Circular No. 02/2020 dated August 28. 2020. all government organization must prepare the annual action plan for the implementation of the approved budget estimates for each year for their organization.

> And although the annual action plan should be prepared and submitted to the Chief Accounts Officer before December 15 of the conversion year, accordance it was not done.

(b) According to PED/RED/01/01/2020/02 and guideline No.12 of public Finance Circular dated August 28, 2020 Information such as the implementation time frame and output/outcome, expected the imprest requirement plan of annual activity, internal audit plan, etc., which should be included in the action plan, were not presented.

Comments of the Chief Recommendation Accounting officer

Due to the problems related to the allocations and activities of the National Center for Media Development and the project digitize to terrestrial television broadcasting in Sri Lanka the and delay in approving the relevant action plans the ministry's action plan could not be submitted in on time frame.

Action should be taken according to the circular

Time frame of activity implementation, expected outputs, output results are presented quarterly. Given the role assigned to this ministry, it is convenient to present the time frame quarterly. Expected output and

results of monthly activities will be prepared as presented in the future public Finance Circular.

Action should be taken according to the circular

3.2. Non- performance of Functions

3.3

The following observations are made

Au	dit Observation	Comments of the Chief Accounting officer	Recommendation
(a)	The 38 activities included in the action plan of the Ministry were not implemented	e	The action plan should be done to the best of its ability
(b)	Although the purpose of establishing the National Center for Media Development was to accurately communicate the progress of government policy and development projects to the people, no evidence was submitted to the audit that such work was done.	I will post the answers later	Action should be taken as per the objective of center initiation
Non a	chieving of Expected Targets		
The	e following observations are made		
Au	dit Observation	Comments of the Chief Accounting officer	Recommendation
(a)	Physical progress in 10 activities w less than 50 percent	_	Best action should be taken to achieve the expected progress.
(b)	For the year 2022, 1382 clearance certificates had been issued for imported TV dramas, movies and commercial programs, for which R	or value of the dollar and the nd bad economic situation in	to increase income
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215,020,000 was charged as tax and the income in the year 2021 was Rs. 438,470,000. Accordingly, the income had decreased by 51 percent. imported programs was limited, and the income earned from imported TV dramas, films and commercial programs was limited due to the restriction of broadcasting imported programs by many television channels.

(c) The project to digitize the terrestrial television broadcast in Sri Lanka was started in 2014 but was not implemented, so it was updated again in 2021 according to a cabinet decision, and it was approved to be implemented with the technology.

Through that, 16 broadcasting stations scattered all over the country are to be established, but by June 30, 2023, even one broadcasting station could not be established.

For the year 2022, Rs.119.50 million had been received, but Rs.8.67 million had been utilized. Accordingly, Rs. 110.83 million remained underutilized.

3.4 Procurement

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation

(a) According to 4.2 of the Government Procurement Guidelines, the main procurement plan should be prepared by listing the expected procurement activities for a period of at least 03 years and the procurement activities for the next year should be prepared in detail. But the procurement plan prepared by the Ministry was only for the year 2022 and the procurement plan was not updated every 06 months as per 4.2.2(e).

Answers will be provided later.

The activities of the projects should be done as per the relevant.

Comments of the Chief Recommendation Accounting officer

Agreed

Action should be done as per the Procurement guidelines

(b)	The following observations are made about the procurement activities carried out by the Ministry in the years 2021 and 2022.		
	 (i) Purchase of furniture and interior decoration contracts were awarded to a private company on October 28, 2021 at a price of Rs.39,262,200 including 10 percent contingent costs (excluding tax), but by August 29, 2022, Rs.40,475,229 had been paid. Accordingly, even on that day, Rs. 1,213,029 had been paid more than the estimate. 	Answers will be provided later	Action should be done as per the Procurement guidelines
	(ii) By accepting an estimate of Rs.8,093,410 regardless of the estimate of Rs.5,923,727 for the renovation of the auditorium, the Ministry had to bear an additional cost of Rs.2,169,683.	Answers will be provided later	Action should be done as per the Procurement guidelines
	(iii) The procurement committee had recommended to get the prices from the contracting firm carrying out the modernization contract and refer it to the consulting firm to get recommendations for the construction of an additional place to get office space for the development and planning department of the ministry. Accordingly, the contracting firm had submitted an estimate of Rs. 6,745,492 without tax and the consulting firm had recommended an amount of Rs.	Answers will be provided later	Actions should be taken according to the Procurement Guideline.

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5,621,511. For that, the award of the contract worth Rs. 5,621,511 was made on the decision of the procurement committee without

calling for bids.

(iv) (a)In the procurement of Answers will be provided Action should be done Ministry Premises Rehabilitation later as per the Procurement and Improvement, the lowest bid guidelines was rejected by the consulting firm due to non-submission of bid security/bid security statements as per 7.8.4 of the Government Procurement Guidelines Code, and the second bid was recommended by the consulting firm. But the technical evaluation committee came to an informal decision recommending the contractor rejected the by consultancy firm and awarded the procurement, so the government had to pay Rs. 5,492,939 more. (b) It was observed that additional Answers will be provided Preparation of expenses of Rs. 4,489,873 have estimates should later to be initiation for the internal be done properly network system and telephone connections due to the failure to properly identify the needs while preparing the preliminary estimates. (v)The Central Consultant Bureau of Action should be Answers will be provided Engineering Works was appointed taken as per the the later to provide consultancy services for consulting purchase of furniture and interior agreement decoration at a fee of 08 percent of the contract amount. But it was observed that their supervision has

not been done properly.

3.5. Uneconomic Transactions

Give audit observations revealed in this connection.

Audit Observation

Comments of the Chief Recommendation Accounting Officer/Accounting Officer

- For allocation of rooms and other (a) improvement works for conducting the National Center for Media Development in a part of the "Visumpaya" building belonging to the Urban Development Authority, although in December 2021, Government Printing Department had received Rs.1,373,862 In June 2022, the office was removed from that location and set up in the Ministry premises, accordingly the above expenditure incurred for a short period of 06 months had become a useless.
- (b) The car number CAR 1977 belonging to the Ministry of Electricity was given for the use of the Ministry of Mass Media and due to a technical fault on May 20, 2022, it was handed over to the concerned agency on the same day. Also Rs.111,290 had been paid to the agency as tests, other expenses and fees and the estimate given at Rs.101,691 was later revised to Rs.1,232,362. Later, the repair of this vehicle was agreed upon for Rs.427,500 and handed over to a private company, but until now, the vehicle's existence was at risk because the ministry did not accept the vehicle and settle the liability with the Ministry of Electricity.

Due to non-payment of dues from the army headquarters, the electricity has been cut off, and the army headquarters has informed that the electricity bills will be settled in the future after receiving provisions for paying the electricity bills.

Due to the inability to maintain the office without electricity, the officials of National Center for Media Development have been brought to the Government Information Department.

According to the estimate presented bv the repair company, the car was sent for repair and its value was Rs. 427,500. After the repair of the car, the payment was observed by the engineer, and other defects as were observed in the car, until it checked, worth was Rs.427,500 has not been given to that company.

It should be done so that there is a benefit for the cost.

Timely exchange of assets between ministries, incurring expenses, settlement of assets should be done with well control.

3.6 Management Inefficiencies

The following observations are made.

Audit Observation Comments of the **Chief Recommendation** Accounting officer It was observed that although the Due to non-availability of Action should be taken (a) need should have been correctly to provide advances as suitable goods in the market, identified and sufficient amount cancellation of travel. per requirement and to given as an advance, the advances cancellation of discussion settle immediately as given to 05 officers on 08 times were etc., the money received as per changing advance had to be withheld circumstances. held for several days without being used and were fully settled .. and settled again in full. (b) 09 cases of re- imprest were Because there is a limited Imprest delivery should observed after one imprest was given number of managerial staff be done with proper before it was settled officers in the ministry, it was control. necessary to give interim imprest again. However, instructions have been given to the officers to avoid such situations. The Broadcasting Authority Act for The Cabinet Sub-Committee Actions should be taken (c) Electronic Media had not been is in the process of drafting a complete to the prepared till the date of audit with Broadcasting Act. preparation of the Act the objective of ensuring optimum Arrangements are being made immediately. mediaism while securing maximum to incorporate the mechanism freedom of speech and expression. for regulating the mechanism Also, the system for regulating the of issuing television and radio mechanism for issuing television and broadcasting licenses add to radio broadcasting licenses was not this proposed Act. completed. The Ministry of Mass Media A system should be 2022, the government had lost a lot has already obtained approval developed for of revenue that could be obtained as through Cabinet determining license a fees and license

(d) For 34 licenses issued in the year 2022, the government had lost a lot of revenue that could be obtained as license fees and license renewal fees due to not preparing the formal system for license renewal and annual or periodic license renewal. Further, a common model for unanimity in radio and television broadcasting licenses had not been introduced till the date of audit.

The Ministry of Mass Media has already obtained approval through a Cabinet Memorandum to collect the fees. And also, the common form has been drafted and forwarded to the Attorney General's Department, but no reply has been received so far

issuance fees

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- (e) The website operated under the comment will be provided Websites should be domain name factchecker.lk was not later updated. updated after 19 January 2022 in Sinhala and 10 November 2021 in Tamil and English.
- (f) For the National Center for Media Development since February 02, 2021, staff recruitment and service extensions have been done from time to time, but the approval for the staff has not been obtained from the Department of Management Services.

The staff of the National Center for Media Development is in the process of being approved by the Department of Management Services

of

the

Staff must be approved by the Management Services Department.

4. Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals

Audit observation

There was no focus on identifying the risk of not being able to continuously obtain the resources and capacities needed to achieve the sustainable development goals and the steps to be taken to minimize them, preparing a proper procurement plan, informing officers and appointing a committee to implement the necessary solutions and decisions. Furthermore, 02 sustainable development goals were identified, of which the first indicator of the first goal was 20 percent, the first indicator of the second goal was 30 percent, and the second indicator was 06 percent.

The Act related to the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Media Professionals has been drafted and forwarded to the Law Drafting Department on 18.08.2022 and approval is expected. Therefore its progress is 20%.

Accounting officer

Comments

Inability to achieve the desired results of the planned activities due to lack of government allocations, prevailing conditions in the country and adherence to expenditure limitation circulars. Maximum attention should be paid to achieve sustainable development goals even under various obstacles.

Recommendation

5. Good Governance

5.1 Internal Audit

Audit observation

According to the Section 40 (I) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018, Although the accounting Officer should have appointed an internal auditor for the department, no internal auditor had been appointed for the department till 31 March 2023

Comments of the Accounting Recommendation officer

The Ministry of Public Administration has forwarded the notice to the Public Service Commission which regarding to filling up of internal Auditor vacancies

Actions should be taken according to the National Audit Act

6. Human Resources Management

Audit Observation

- .(a) At the end of the year under present review, the of 36 vacancies in the form of 08 senior level vacancies, 04 lower level vacancies, 07 secondary level vacancies and 17 primary level vacancies had a negative impact on maintaining an effective service level.
- The 03 officers who get the salary (b) from Mass Media were assigned to the Right to Information Commission (RTI), 04 officers to the Public Performance Board, 02 officers to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial and Local Government assigned. were And Rs. 1,559,255 had been paid by the Ministry without receiving any service from the above three officials of assigned to the Right to Information Commission.

Comments	of	the	chief	Recom	mene	datio	n
Accounting of	office	r					
Vacancies are	e curr	ently b	eing filled	Vacanc	ies	affec	ting
				the per	rform	nance	of
				the	org	aniza	tion
				should	be	prom	ptly
				filled	and	i t	staff
				reorgan	izatio	on	if

3 Development Officers have been appointed for the vacant posts in the Right to Information Commission. 04 Development Officers have been appointed for the Public Performance Board. Those 04 officials were transferred from the Ministry of Culture to this Ministry and are currently assigned to that division.

The staff of the Ministry should focus on achieving the objectives of the Ministry.

necessary.