



2023

புதிதான வார்த்தை முன்னேற்ற அறிக்கை Progress Report



வெவ்வேறு, வாணிக மற்றும் உணவு பாதுகாப்பு அமைச்சு
MINISTRY OF TRADE, COMMERCE AND FOOD SECURITY

Progress Report -2023

Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

Message of the Hon. Minister...



The opportunity opened for me after assuming duties as the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security in May 2022 to ensure that efficient, people friendly and effective services are delivered to the people of the country for their satisfaction by the institutes under the Ministry is one of the most valuable opportunities I had during the past period.

Lanka Sathosa Pvt Ltd, which is managed under this Ministry, provides its continuous contribution to maintain the prices of consumer items, specially the essential commodities, without allowing to increase their prices. Such measure paves way immensely to control the inflation of the country and action is taken constantly to give the benefit of the price to the customer in considering the prices of essential food items. Due to the work done by the Lanka Sathosa network, we are now able to manage the cost of living of the people and ensure food security within the country by way of contributing to control the prices of essential food items in the market.

Lanka Sathosa has been maintained up to July 2023 as an institute run at a loss but now it has been transformed to a profit earning entity as a result of the directions and guidelines given for the business changing the management and ensuring constant reviews on its functions.

Further, necessary measures have been taken to direct the functions of the Consumer Affairs Authority in order to ensure the security of customers avoiding the dearth of goods in the markets, which causes due to the imbalances in the market. In the meantime, the activities carried out to make the consumers and trading community aware of the customer security were also been extended.

With a view to make the investigation process for conducting inquiries received by the Consumer Affairs Authority more efficient as per the provisions of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act, the functions of the Authority have been decentralized up to the district level and further necessary guidance has also been given to conduct inquiries establishing a committee of investigation consists of three persons including a representative of the Legal Aids Commission and an Assistant Provincial Director of Consumer Affairs Authority, which is chaired by Assistant District Secretary/Assistant Government Agent

Mahapola Education and Trade Exhibition, which was commenced under a concept of Late Hon. Lalith Athulathmudali, has not been held for more than 10 years. Therefore necessary steps were taken to conduct it again from year 2023. I take this opportunity to highlight that the capacity gained through that measure to strengthen the Mahapola Fund whilst providing financial assistance increasing the amount of Mahapola monthly scholarship to a large number of students, who look for their higher education, is a great achievement.

Further, the programmes conducted by the Department of Measurement Units Standards and Services to ensure the rights of consumers are now continued making the process more effective and giving it a new appearance. In the meantime, it is expected to establish the National Operations Center promptly, which is to be introduced with a view to carry out the special raids by a combined process.

Consumer Services Committees, which were established in the third quarter of 2022 centering all Divisional Secretaries Divisions, are now in operation successfully. This is a community committee maintained fully on voluntary basis. It is expected mainly to ensure the contribution of the committee in works such as identifying the agro products in excess at rural level, assisting to the purchasing process through the Lak Sathosa and Cooperative Societies network, making consumers aware of the fluctuation of commodity prices, identifying vulnerable families, who are in need of essential food items and other consumer items, assisting to introduce a systematic methodology to distribute essential food items and other goods and services, which are not at sufficient level, assisting to introduce methodologies for protection and preservation of harvest and publicizing market information for the benefit of consumers etc.

In the face of the current economic crisis, all the employees of Cooperative Wholesale Establishment managed under the Ministry have been sent on retirement on 30.09.2023 applying the policies of the new government as per the cabinet decision taken to restructure the government institute, semi government and statutory institutions, which are run at a loss.

The approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to the cabinet memorandum submitted by me under the title 'Restructuring the line institutions connected to National Co-operatives Movement' by way of allowing to cooperatives movement to run as self-governing entities in order to achieve the main objectives of the restructuring programme of cooperatives movement. Accordingly, necessary directions have been given to restructure the Co-operatives Development Department and to dissolve Co-operative Employees Commission and further to continue the functions of the above institutions shifting them to the main building of Sri Lanka National Co-operative Board situated at Galle Road, Colombo 03 in order to make the such functions more efficient.

Therefore, I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Hon. State Minister, the Secretary and the staff of the Ministry, Heads of Departments and Chairmen and staff of Statutory Institutions for their valuable contribution in the performance of special tasks mentioned above.

Nalin Fernando (M.P)
Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

Message of the Secretary..



The main tasks of the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security is to ensure higher contribution for uplifting the living standards of the citizens of Sri Lanka in line with the policies of the present government. Accordingly, the rights of manufacturers, business community, and consumers will be secured actively participating in regulatory and service processes whilst providing leadership in the trade sector. Our goal is to build a sustainable as well as developed Sri Lanka by way of fulfilling the mission of enhancing the living standard of Sri Lankans through the establishment, maintenance and regulation of a national trade policy which ensures rights in trades and commerce fields in line with the local and international standards.

Even in the face of the current economic crisis, it is expected to make opportunities to gain equal benefits to all communities by way of taking action to easy access for consumers especially to essential food items whilst protecting both consumer as well as trader. Accordingly, the network of consumers services Committee has been established covering all Divisional Secretariat Divisions with a view to identifying issues of consumers and providing solutions to such issues.

Action has been taken to keep the fine balance of goods in the market by way of importing consumer items in order to control the unusual price escalation of consumer items. Accordingly' the prices of eggs could be control in the local market by importing eggs and further the supply of eggs in the market could also be ensured without shortage.

During this year, action has been taken to commence again the Mahapola education and trade exhibition introduced by Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Fund, which was not held for the past 10 years period. It is expected to issue scholarships to a large number of students who look for higher education and also to increase the installment of the scholarship. In the meantime, the increase of the whole fund is also in the goals. This exhibition will make the arena to popularize the productions of local manufacturers, expand market opportunities, direct them to apply modern technology, introduce new opportunities in higher education to school children and who are at the threshold of university and especially to make opportunities to enhance knowledge and skills in technology.

The contribution of both the Ministry and the institutions under the Ministry was ensured in achieving the main objectives such as avoiding the instability in prices of goods due to shortages occur as a result of the imbalances in the markets, expansion of market opportunities for local agro products, expansion of space for standard items in the market, assisting to increase foreign exchange through exports etc.

We had the opportunity to expand the spaces in foreign markets for exporters in the export sector, who make direct contribution to enhance foreign exchange reserves, intervene to settle the disputes in international trade affairs and increase the exports making intervention in legal issues and it should be highlighted as a valuable opportunity we had in the field.

Therefore, I take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to Hon. Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security and Hon. State Minister for their directions and guidance in the performance of our tasks and further to the staff of the Ministry and heads and the staff of the institutions affiliated to the Ministry for their dedication in making the vision and mission of the Ministry a success.

A.M.P.M.B.Athapaththu
Secretary

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Chapter One

Vision, Mission and Functions

01. Vision, Mission and Functions

1.1. Vision

“Sustainably Developed Sri Lanka”

1.2. Mission

“Establishing, maintaining, and monitoring a national trade policy in line with local as well as international standards, which ensures the equality and rights of manufacturers, traders, suppliers of measurement services or other services, whilst ensuring leadership in the trade sector, performing service and monitoring activities, obtaining new market opportunities entering in to bilateral, multilateral, and regional trade agreements, contributing to ensure a higher life standard enhancing the quality of consumer items and services of Sri Lankans.’

1.3. Objectives

- i. Applying custom tariff policy as a tool for controlling the market behavior so as to secure the rights of local producers and consumers through a National Trade Policy and encouraging exports by way of granting tax concessions to local producers in order to induce productions.
- ii. Maintaining the cost of living at the minimum possible level maintaining the prices of essential items at such occasions where the prices of goods at the markets are escalating
- iii. Providing necessary guidance to implement relief programmes for the benefit of consumers through the government institutions such as Lanka Sathosa, Co-operative Development Department, Co-operative Societies and Associations etc. at national level in an open market environment
- iv. Ensuring the application of measurement standards for the benefit of trading community as well as consumers.
- v. Enhancing legal framework with infrastructure facilities to maintain buffer stocks of essential items within the country to assure food security.
- vi. Preparing mechanism to maintain a data base relevant to the institutions under the Ministry, update such data bases, and make links with external information providers.
- vii. Providing guidance to implement the measures relevant to protect the proper standards of local products and export items.
- viii. Making contribution to maintain welfare processes to encourage children for higher education.
- ix. Making directions to implement conservation process for the protection of national intellectual properties.
- x. Guiding for accreditation services conforming to the national and international standards

- xi. Establishment of the institutional background and encouragement of connected institutions in order to protect and promote the economic and commercial interests of Sri Lanka and encourage the exporters for opportunities in international market.
- xii. Providing necessary facilities and coordination in signing multilateral and bilateral trade agreements with various countries in the export activities of Sri Lanka.
- xiii. Providing necessary directions for legal coordination in relation to Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), Non Mutual Trade Agreements (NMTA), Free Trade Agreements (FTA) and Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) of Sri Lanka.

1.4. Functions

- i. Formulation of policies in relation to the subject of trade in line with the policy manifesto 'Vistas of prosperity and splendor' and based on other national policies to be implemented by the government.
- ii. Formulation, implementation of subjects , functions and related policies of the Departments, State Corporations and Statutory Institutions under the Ministry and carrying out follow up actions and evaluation in this regard.
- iii. Formulation of National Trade Policy and taking action to coordinate the institutes relevant to the implementation of such policy.
- iv. Provision of legal measures required for the implementation of price control methods for the protection of local consumers.
- v. Performing the role of mediator in order to control the escalation of prices in the local market.
- vi. Encouraging institutions for exploring opportunities to make new bilateral, multilateral and regional agreements and also to find new opportunities for exports in the global market and providing necessary facilities
- vii. Updating laws, acts and regulations which are relevant to ensure more protection to the consumer.

1.5. Institutions under the Ministry

- i. Food Commissioner's Department
- ii. Department of Measurement Units Standards and Services
- iii. Department of Commerce
- iv. Department of Co-Operative Development
- v. Lanka Sathosa Limited
- vi. The Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment
- vii. Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Scholarships Trust Fund

- viii. Consumer Affairs Authority
- ix. Co-Operative Employees' Commission
- x. National Co-Operative Development Institute
- xi. National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka
- xii. Cooperative Wholesale Establishment

Chapter Two

Highlights

02. Highlights

- 2.1** Wheat flour is a main and essential food item which is used for domestic as well as industrial consumption and the annual requirement of wheat flour in the country is 720,000 MT. So far this requirement has been satisfied by way of producing wheat flour within the country using imported wheat grain. However, more opportunities were granted to import wheat flour directly. Accordingly, the total amount of wheat flour imported to the country in year 2021 was 11,456 MT and it was 233,092 MT in year 2022 and it has reported the highest volume in the history of wheat flour imports. However as a result of this situation, the market price of wheat flour in the country could be maintained within a price range, which could be borne by consumers. Up to 30.09.2023 the amount of wheat flour was 140,170 MT.
- 2.2** As a measure for managing cost of living through enhancing nutrition level and income of low income community by way of strengthening domestic economy with a view to emerge from the economic crises in the country, a programme has been introduced for promoting entrepreneurs utilizing the balance of provisions, which were allocated to the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security. Under this programme, action was taken to provide chicks, goat and piglets in order to enhance the production of eggs, meat and milk as a long term measure for enhancing nutrition level of pregnant mothers. Further, arrangements have also been made to provide equipment required for entrepreneurs, especially for women entrepreneurs, who are unable to find capital for self-employment, through Sri Lanka State Trading Corporation along with the recommendation of Divisional Secretariates. This programme was basically launched in Gampaha district and it has been planned to extend it to Puttalam, Batticaloa, and Kurunegala districts within this year. The Ministry has spent Rs. 89.4 million for this programme.
- 2.3** The first of the series of workshops introduced under the title Economic and trade affairs' as per the concept of Hon. Minister for the benefit of students, who study in commerce stream, was conducted at the premises of Christhuraja College, Thudella. During these workshops the students were made aware of the importance of exports for the economic development of the country, free trade agreements, future plans, the role of Consumer Affairs Authority in the protection of consumers, basic export process of Export Development Board, introducing export market, entering in to export market, legal requirements and trade opportunities and the role of the Accreditation Board for the economic, social and environmental stability of Sri Lanka.
- 2.4** The Consumer Affairs Authority is empowered under section 13 and 32 of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act No. 09 of 2003 to conduct investigations for complaints made by people. Further, when the section 2 (1) is read along with section 3 of the Act, it has been prescribed that the Consumer Affairs Authority should consist of the members of the Authority. Accordingly, the Chairman and the full time members of the Authority conduct investigations as per the provisions of the Act and issue relevant orders under section 13 and 32.

- 2.5** It is required to expedite the inquiries in response to the complaints by consumers. Therefore, it was proposed by a cabinet memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security to establish a Board of Inquiry consists of District Secretary, Legal Officers of Legal Aids Commission, and Senior Investigation Officers of Consumer Affairs Authority in order to decentralize the method for conducting complaints of consumers.
- 2.6** Making a convenient environment to the consumer by the process followed at present to conduct inquiries on complaints received from all over the country by Consumer Affairs Authority, which is decentralized at present.
- 2.7 Commencing again the Mahapola Education and Trade Exhibition**
- At the time, when Mahapola Fund and the concept were established, the education and trade exhibition was also commenced by Late. Hon. Lalith Athulathmudali, the creator of Mahapola in 1981/82 and the exhibition has not been conducted for a period of 10 years. However, the Board of Trustees has granted approval to commence again the trade exhibition from year 2023 and accordingly steps have been taken to conduct trade exhibition in the second week of December 2023. It is expected to earn an additional income to strengthen Mahapola Fund.
- 2.8** As a measure to check the quality of coconut oil supplied to local market and oil supplied without packing, it was instructed to introduce methods to make the declaring of the institute, which issue coconut oil to the market, compulsory. Further instructions were given to Consumer Affairs Authority to make steps to establish methods to carry out follow up action on the oil issued to market and to take action accordingly.
- 2.9** A discussion has been conducted with the representatives of Sri Lanka Association for Software and Service Companies (SLASSCOM) regarding the market requirements to be identified during official missions launched by the Department of Commerce, usage of different export and creating competitions in the market through high quality products. During this discussion, views were expressed on the importance of working closely with state sector identifying it as a sector with many possibilities in information technology. This programme chaired by Hon. Prime Minister has been conducted with the participation of the officers of the Department of Commerce.
- 2.10** In terms of the decision taken by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 10.07.2023 in response to the Cabinet Memorandum No. CP/23/1208/627/018 dated 26.06.2023 on 'Restructuring the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment', which was submitted by Hon. Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security, all the employees of the institute have been sent on retirement on 30.09.2023. Compensations have been paid to all the employees of Cooperative Wholesale Establishment based on compensation formula prepared by the Committee of Officers appointed as per the approval of the cabinet and further a committee of higher officers has also been appointed to obtain recommendations on the measures to be taken regarding the assets and liabilities of Cooperative Wholesale Establishment. Accordingly, action has been taken to carry out

asset management of Cooperative Wholesale Establishment by Lanka Sathosa Limited until action is taken as mentioned above.

2.11 A policy approval has been granted by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 23.10.2023 in response to the Cabinet Memorandum No. CP 23/1626/627/020 dated 24.08.2023 submitted by Hon. Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security under the title 'Restructuring line institutions, which are connected to national co-operative movement'. Accordingly action has been taken as per the provisions of Revisions to 13th amendment to the Constitution Act to bring the Head Offices of primary Co-operative societies maintained under the supervision of Line Department of Co-operative Development, under the supervision of Provincial Department of Co-operative Development, where the above Head Offices are situated, to release the remaining officers on their option to the Provincial Department of Co-operative Development whilst retaining a limited number of officers serving in the departmental posts of the Department of Co-operative Development, to dissolve Co-operative Employees Commission established under line Ministry as per the provision of Co-operative Employees Commission (Amendment) Act No 51 of 1992, to give effect to the powers of the institute, which are mentioned in section 3 of National Co-operative Development Institute (Incorporation) Act No 01 of 2001, and to establish the said institution at the main building of the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka situated at Galle Road, Colombo 03 in order to make the role of the institute mentioned in the section 4 thereon and to maintain its functions in the same way.

2.12 Ensuring food security by way of taking action to import eggs

In order to ensure food security, approval has been granted to import eggs through State Trading Corporation and accordingly 109.6 million eggs have been imported and distributed by 09.10.2023.

2.13 Importing 10 essential food items under Open Accounts Payment Term

With a view to supply essential food items to consumers without any shortage, approval has been granted to import 10 essential food items from 01.07.2022 under Open Accounts Payment Term. Accordingly, recommendations have been given to 1170 importers to import 411,375 MT of food items.

2.14 Importing 15 essential food items under Indian Credit Line

Action has been taken to grant a credit facility of 100 USD million in addition to the credit facility of 200 USD, which has been granted to import 15 essential food items under Indian Credit Line. Accordingly the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security has made recommendations for 185 importers to import 350,588 mt of food items and approval of the office of the High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka has been granted to import 346,787 MT out of the above.

2.15 Commencing again the works of Temperature Controlled Stores

Construction works of the temperature controlled stores complex with the capacity to store 5000 MT of fresh fruits and vegetable at Dambulla area, which was launched as a

joint project of government of Sri Lanka and the government of India, has again been started in year 2023.

2.16 Distribution of food items, which were received from foreign countries as aids

The adverse effect of COVID 19 pandemic, which hit the country in year 2020, was seen in year 2022 also and accordingly distribution of food, which were sent by foreign countries as aids for distribution among families affected by the economic hardships, were distributed by the Department of the Commissioner of Food in year 2023 receiving them on behalf of the government and clearing them from the harbour. Accordingly, rice, sugar, dhal and other items received from Thailand and Taiwan were accepted on behalf of the government of Sri Lanka and they were distributed after clearing process. Further the distribution of aids, which were sent by World Food Programme, has also made during year 2023.

2.17 Lanka Sathosa could increase the profit from operations from January 2023 and net profit from July by way of introducing many internal processes for enhancing the efficiency in operations.

The loss of Lanka Sathosa, which has been recorded as Rs. 51 million from January to June 2023, has been converted to a profit of Rs. 61 million by September.

2.18 Concluding all basic works to sign for Madrid Agreement.

Amendments, which should be made to the Intellectual Property Act in order to have the access to Madrid Agreement administered by World Intellectual Property Organization, which provide facilities to register local trademarks internationally, are now being made.

The observations of the consultants of the Intellectual Property Organization have been submitted for the draft and it is expected to submit them along with the observations of the Intellectual Property Organization for the approval of the Legal Draftsman and then to submit it to the Parliament for approval before December 2023 for amending Intellectual Property Act by way of establishing an easy process to register trademarks internationally.

2.19 Providing facilities for registration of geographical indicators

A geographical indication is applied for the purpose of to show the consumers and traders that the origin of a certain material or production is in a specific geographical area and the specific qualities and features and goodwill depend on such geographical origin. No specific method was available in Sri Lanka so far to register geographical indicators and the registration under trademarks as a certified sign was the only method applied in this regard.

It is expected to open a foreign market for Sri Lankan productions with geographical importance such as tea and cinnamon, of Sri Lanka by way of registering them under geographical indicators.

In the early part of year 2022, amendment no 08 of 2022 has been made to the Intellectual Property Act. During this year it was able to prepare regulations required to

implement that law and to submit them for the approval of the Legal Draftsman. Accordingly it is expected to submit regulations of registering under geographical indicators for the approval of the Parliament.

2.20 Conducting awareness programmes on intellectual properties for the benefit of general public

During this year, it was able to conduct 50 programmes as radio as well as physical/online programmes with the assistance of officers of Intellectual Property Office as resource providers to make the awareness of general public on intellectual properties and its application. In addition to the above, 07 programmes under online programmes have been conducted during this year with the coordination of Divisional Secretariats.

2.21 Under the phase one of the programme for distributing rice among school children by the Department of Co-operative Development under Chinese Aid, 5000 MT of rice have been distributed and again 5800 MT of rice have been distributed under phase two.

2.22 70% from the total requirement of uniforms of school children has been granted by the Government of China in year 2023 as an aid and the Department intervened in clearance process at the harbour and then handed over them to Regional Offices of Education storing them in safe manner.

2.23 Department of Co-operative Development has coordinated the distribution of rice received under World Food Programme among school children in all provinces under first, second and third phases.

2.24 The Consumer Affairs Authority has conducted 255 awareness programmes from January to September 2023 for the benefit of consumers and along with them 41, and 93 awareness programmes have been conducted for the benefit of traders and schools respectively and further 7 exhibitions, 393 mobile awareness programmes (for traders and general public) and 20 special awareness programmes during this period.

2.25 Awareness programmes have conducted at district level by the Department of Commerce for manufacturers, innovators and entrepreneurs , in order to direct various productions and services to the export market which are currently made at district level.

2.26 In Gampaha and Colombo districts, certain manufacturers were directed to trade exhibitions held in china.

Chapter Three

Progress- 2023

03. Progress of year 2023 (From 01.01.2023 up to 30.09.2023)

3.1. Ministry of Trade Commerce and Food Security

i. Financial Progress up to 30.09.2023.

Table No 3. 1 Progress of the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

Description of expenditure	Revised provisions for 2023 (Rs. Mn.)	Financial Progress up to 30.09.2023.	
		(Rs. Mn.)	%
Recurrent expenditure	1,094.3	632.16	57.77
Capital expenditure	22.2	4.13	18.62
Capital projects	3,943	2,899.47	73.53

Source- Ministry of Trade , Commerce and Food Security

ii. Progress in the formulation of National Trade Policy.

The tasks for the formulation of a National Trade Policy has again been commenced in March 2023 in order to make guidance for the decision making process on trade with a more progressive vision under a background, where a higher priority has been given for the fields of trade and investments in the economic framework, which was prepared on the basis of implementing internal and international trade affairs more systematically.

- Formulation of the first draft of the National Trade Policy, which is prepared aiming at year 2048 based on the National Trade Policy approved in 2017 by the Cabinet of Ministers.
- Appointment of a new committee for reviewing the National Trade Policy prepared aiming at year 2048 as per the instructions of Hon. Minister of trade, Commerce and Food Security.
- Preparation of the second draft of the National Trade Policy by 11.08.2023 based on the instructions given by the Reviewing Committee 2023.08.11.
- Second draft of the National Trade Policy has been referred to the Trade Division of the President's Secretariat. The new draft edited based on the views and suggestions made by the Division will be sent to National Planning Committee. Then action is to be taken to submit it for the approval of the Cabinet based on the comments of the Committee.

iii. Directing officers of the Ministry and the institutions under the Ministry for foreign training courses

Table No 3. 2 Directing officers for foreign training courses

Serial No.	Name of the training course	Donor institute/ Country	Number of the officers participated
01	First Trade Facilitation Capacity Building Programme, 07-23 May 2023	BIMSTEC Secretariat, Dhaka	01
02	SCP: Public Private Partnerships: Infrastructure Projects Development From 06-10 March 2023 (E-Learning)	Singapore Cooperation Programme	01
03	Seminar on Negotiation Capacity Building of Free Trade Agreement for Sri Lanka from 17 to 30 May 2023 – China – In person	Shandong Foreign Trade Vocational College, China	05
04	Seminar on Cross border E-commerce for Sri Lanka from 07 to 20 August 2023 – China – In person	Free Trade Development Board of Zhejiang Province, China	03
05	Sixth Session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation Geneva, 30-31 October 2023	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	01
06	Seminar on International Management Capability of Enterprises for Developing Countries, 12 October 01 November 2023	Shanghai Business School, China	01

Source- Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

iv. Necessary directions have been given to the Ministry and institutions affiliated to the Ministry by way of conducting 3 meetings of Audit Management Committee with the participation of the members of the Ministry of Finance and National Audit Office.

3.2. Department of the Commissioner of Foods

i. Granting provisions to uplift middle scale and small scale rice mills

In terms of the decision made by the Cabinet in response to the Cabinet Memorandum No. 20/0722/218/010 dated 14.04.2020 submitted for the enhancement of small scale and middle scale rice mills, a grant of Rs. 50 million has been given to the Food Commissioner's Department also in year 2023 and Rs. 20 million and Rs. 05 million out of the above amount have been granted to Gampaha District Rice Producers' Co-operative Society Ltd and Rathnapura District Rice Producers' Co-operative Society Ltd respectively under an agreement for a period of six months.

ii. Commencing again the works of Temperature Controlled Stores

Development activities of this project have been commenced again on 19.03.2023 and at present ground preparation works are in progress. 90% of wiring process has now been completed. Further fixing of machines has been completed by 80% and the total progress of the construction is 70%.

In order to complete pre cooling and post heating requirements of the project, a Cabinet Memorandum has been submitted for obtaining an additional provision of Rs. 38,607,975.00.

3.3. Department of Measurement Units Standards and Services

i. Income generating projects/ activities

Table No 3. 3 Income Granting Project/ activities of the Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

Month	Income from revision of numbers (Rs. Mn.)	Income from granting approval for brands (Rs. Mn.)	Income from verification (Rs. Mn.)
January	1.23	0.21	32.22
February	0.34	0.18	39.01
March	0.57	0.12	41.90
April	0.20	0.12	21.01
May	0.53	0.11	31.65
June	0.44	0.21	28.24
July	0.78	0.04	28.94
August	0.35	0.04	29.09
Total	4.44	1.03	252.06

Source: Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

ii. Progress of the institute

Table No 3. 4 Progress of the Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

Sources of income		Physical progress		Income (Rs.Mn.)	
Calibration Services		Target	Amount performed	Target	Actual income
01	No. of units received calibration services provided by national measurement laboratory	1000	914	2.96	4.44
Issuance of Registration Certificates					
02	No. of registration certificates issued to manufacturers, importers, sellers and repairers.	400	120	0.96	0.38
Pattern approvals					
03	No. of pattern approvals granted	40	20	0.32	1.03
Verification programmes					
05	No. of weighing and measuring instruments verified	400,000	280,631	297.00	252.06
Raid programmes					
06	No. of raids conducted	110,64	19,151	-	-
08	No. of awareness programmes conducted for public	600	612	-	-
	Total	413,104	301,448	301.24	257.91

Source: Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

iii. Obtaining international recognition for the National Measurement Laboratory of Sri Lanka

- Physikalish Technische Bundesnalt (PTB) – Sri lanka bilateral project
Development of national quality infrastructure facilities- phase two
Strengthening quality infrastructures in Sri Lanka.
- Physikalish Technische Bundesnalt (PTB) National quality infrastructure facilities development is made by the second phase of Sri Lanka bilateral project. Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services serves as a partner at National level of the main project. This project provides benefits for National Measurement Laboratory for the training consultancy services and development of measurement units.
- UNIDO –
Main streaming Standard based best practice for agro-food for Sector Development.

- UNIDO New project of the organization takes action by providing qualitative infrastructure facilities in order to strengthen the food security and safety of Sri Lanka. Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services works as a main partner of this project. By this project, equipment are provided to the Measurement Laboratory as training and consultancy services, and foreign aids.

Table No 3. 5 Inter comparison of the Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

Laboratory	Measurements	Inter comparison
Mass Laboratory	Measurements on masses (Class F1)	Technological collaboration for inter comparison for calibration laboratories under PTB project.
Pressure Laboratory	Liquid pressure (700 bar)	Intervention as the leading laboratory for inter comparison with National Measurement Institute (NMI) located in Central and South Asian region under PTB- Sri Lanka project and providing relevant reference values. Nepal, Usbekistan and Kirgiztan will participate.
Volumetric Laboratory	Volume equipment (100 ml and 20L)	Inter comparison of Asia Pacific Measurement programme : APMP-M-FF-K 4.1-2022

Source: Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

3.4. Department of Commerce

i. Coordination and participation in National Trade Facilities Committees (NTFC), and contributing to implement Trade Facilities Agreement (TFA) in Sri Lanka.

- The meeting of the first quarter has been held on 10 March 2023 and the meeting of the second quarter has been held on 15 June 2023 with the participation of all members of NTFC.
- 20 proposals were called for capacity building programmes and technological assistance from agencies for implementing TFA and they have been shared with contributing institutes.
- With a view to obtain the assistance of more donors to implement TFA within Sri Lanka promptly, meetings were conducted with World Bank and International Trade Center.

- As per the instructions given the meeting held at President's Secretariat on 07 June 2023, action was taken to gazette NTFC under the Ministry of Finance and to restructure the composition of NTFC office..

ii. Tool for reporting the progress of National Trade Facilities Committees

- The software has been developed with the assistance of International Trade Centre (ITC) and German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) organization and it was launched on 08 August 2022.
- Training has been given to all institutes, which implement TFA, for uploading their progress in the tool. .
- This tool has been introduced to World Trade Organization at the meeting of TFA.
- This tool will be used as the main store for data relevant to the future activities of NTFC.

iii. Ensuring coordination with NTFC for the implementation of the provisions of TFA, which have been named under category A and B, and TFA Provisions named under category C of which the period of implementation falls within 2023/2024¹

- The delayed activities in the technical assistance list were highlighted and shared with donors.
- Coordination Risk Management for four institutes, which implement TFA, by World Bank on 20 and 21 September 2023 on behalf of NTFC. A session has been organized for building technological capacity on investigation and conformity tests and developed control methods.
- The Head of NTFC has participated in the annual TFA meeting held at World Bank and action was taken with donors in order to fulfill the commitment in category c with a view to obtain assistance of donors through World Bank.

iv. Organizing national workshops with the participation of specialists of World Trade Organization

- Action is being taken to organize appropriate workshops for Sri Lanka in 2023 with the participation of the specialists of World Trade Organization.

v. South Asian Preferential Trading Agreement/ South Asian Free Trade Area (SAPTA/SAFTA)

• South Asian Preferential Trading Agreement (SAPTA)

¹ Provisions to be satisfied in trade facilitation agreements 2017 are categorized as A,B,C .

A :- Provisions satisfied by Sri Lanka in 2017 when signing this agreement.

B :- Provisions to be satisfied in next years

C :- Date for satisfying each provision.

The income from exports under SAPTA within first six months of 2023 has been reported as USD 0.60 million. Main items exported under SAPTA during the period from January to June 2023 were vulcanizing rubber items except solid rubber. Sri Lanka's imports under SAPTA were recorded at USD 0.26 million during 2022 while it was around 0.10 first six months in this year.

- **South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)**

Sri Lanka has already implemented 5 out of 6 installments reducing custom import duties (CID) agreed on phase basis under phase II which was implemented from 21.12.2012. Even though Sri Lanka was due to complete it by 31.12.2018, Sri Lanka could not conclude phase II of trade liberalization programme under SAFTA as a result of a decision taken by the government to review it. However follow up action has been taken with the Ministry of Finance of Sri Lanka. This process is still in process.

All member countries except Sri Lanka have agreed to reduce their sensitive lists by 20% but Sri Lanka has agreed to reduce only by 10% under phase III of Trade Liberalization Agreement of SAFTA. On consultation with relevant stakeholders, Department of Commerce has requested from the Ministry of Finance to identify the number of custom duties which are required to satisfy the commitment of reducing 10% by Sri Lanka and follow-up action has also been made with the Ministry of Finance.

The trade under SAFTA is not important; more trade opportunities are open under two trade agreements with India and Pakistan, who are the main partners in trade in SAARC region. The income from trade of Sri Lanka under SAFTA was reported as 29.69 USD within the first six months of 2023. Pepper, dried coconut, cardamom, aluminum containers are among the main export items, which enjoy custom duty benefits under SAFTA. Amount of imports of Sri Lanka under SAFTA from January to June was USD 2.59 million.

Issuance of Tariff Rate Quota Certificates (**TRQC**) under India Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (**ISFTA**)

Table No 3. 6 Issuance of tariff rate quota certificates (TRQC) under India Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA)

Month	No of requests made by registered companies	No of certificates issued	No of quota issued
January	247	247	450,499
February	330	330	675,786
March	322	322	675,344
April	225	225	533,249
May	273	273	704,483
June	279	279	973,604
July	417	417	1,045,490
August	238	238	703,441
September	189	189	839,718
Total	2520	2520	6,601,614

Source: Department of Commerce

vi. 6,001,733 shares have been issued through 1554 TRQC for 49 companies.

Table No 3. 7 Issuance of tariff rate quota certificates (TRQC)

Month	No of requests made by registered companies	No of certificates issued	No of shares issued
January	140	140	631,501
February	208	208	871,485
March	156	156	735,288
April	103	103	469,672
May	187	187	512,483
June	224	224	624,095
July	191	191	634,416
August	195	195	798,754
September	150	150	724,039
Total	1,554	1,554	6,001,733

Source- Department of Commerce

vii. Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)

The amount of export of Sri Lanka under APTA has been recorded as 108.65 million UDS within the first six months of the year 2023. Main items exported under APTA were tea, active carbon, coconut related productions and garments. The amount of exports of Sri Lanka under APTA has been recorded as 3.01 million USD within the last six months of this year.

Exports and progress of the imports under Asia Pacific Trade Agreement

Table No 3. 8 Exports and progress of the imports under Asia Pacific Trade Agreement

Trade	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	January- July 2023
Exports under APTA (USD million.)	155.85	179.27	204.67	238.61	225.16	108.65
Imports under APTA (USD million.)	18.00	19.88	20.51	24.22	8.09	3.01

Source: Department of Commerce

viii. Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

Sri Lanka participated in 21st and 22nd meetings of the working group (WGTT) -IORA on trade and investment held on 23 May and 5 September 2023.

Working Group conducted a discussion on the future journey of working group on trade and investment and accordingly two strategic discussions have been conducted on ‘establishing economic progress in the region through supply chains which can be forecasted and resisted’ and reducing obstacles for digitalized trade system’.

ix. Representing in foreign commercial spaces with a view to open foreign market opportunities

The group of the Department of Commerce, who represent Sri Lanka in commercial missions paying special attention to trade, investment and tourism industry, promotion and securing commercial and economic expectations of Sri Lanka in host countries, consists of 33 officers representing 31 foreign missions of Sri Lanka.

Table No 3. 9 Tasks performed by commercial officers serving in foreign missions

Serial No	Task	Number of activities
1	Organizing business matching meetings (B to B meetings)	197
2	Conducting sessions of business networks	44
3	Conducting trade programmes to promote Sri Lanka trades in foreign countries (Business symposiums, seminars etc)	19
4	Directing Sri Lankans to participate in exhibitions/ fairs conducted in foreign countries	48
5	Organizing internal purchasing operations for participating in exhibitions/ trade exhibitions of Sri Lanka	12

Serial No	Task	Number of activities
6	Organizing tours of trade representatives from Sri Lanka to host countries	13
7	Taking action to settle complaints on trade	21
8	Taking action on inquiries made on export trade	113
9	Provision of market reports	13
10	Enhancing exhibitions of Sri Lanka in host/ accredited countries	19
11	Meetings with future business partners and traders	81
12	Intervention in matters related to market approaches	16
13	Conducting seminars on investments	16
14	Taking action on proposals pertaining to investments	11
15	Organizing investment promotion programmes	8
16	Organizing/ facilitating tourism promotion programmes	56
17	Organizing the participation of Sri Lanka in exhibitions on tourism held in other countries	13
18	Other activities on tourism (E.G. inquiries of tourists)	244

Source : Department of Commerce

x. Issuance of residence visas

With a view to obtain the services of foreigners for the Sri Lankan trading and service providing Companies, the Department has issued recommendations to 49 foreigners and 38 dependents for residence visas.

xi. Issuance of the certificate of origin

A system has been prepared to issue certificates of origin online and the supportive services including registration of companies have been performed continuously.

Issuance of the certificates of origin to exporters and other supportive service from 01.01.2023 to 30.09.2023

Table No 3. 10 Issuance of the certificates of origin and other supportive service from 01.01.2023 to 30.09.2023

Serial No	Services supplied	Demand for services	Supply of services
01	Certificates of origin which were issued (Under ISFTA, PSFTA, APTA, SAFTA, SAPTA, GSTP, Japan GSP, USA GSP, Australian GSP, Turkey GSP, EAEU GSP, Europa Union GSP, U.K. GSP	20,164	20,164
02	Allocating quotas under ISFTA	1,554	1,554
03	New registrations under preferential schemes	150	150
04	Registration of the declarations of exporters (EU-REX)	55	55
05	Approving cost statements	5,090	5,090
06	Affidavits	2,748	2,748
07	Verification certificates	342	342
08	Clarification/ description services to exporters	9,827	9,827

Source- Department of Commerce

xii. Taking action on trade inquiries

During the period under review, 113 trade inquiries have been made to Commercial Officers and proper replies / directions have been provided with a view to promote productions of Sri Lanka in foreign markets.

xiii. Assisting for the settlement of trade disputes

Normally the trade complaints are sent to the Department through the foreign missions of Sri Lanka / Embassies or such complaints are made directly to the Department. Therefore Department of Commerce intervenes as a mediator/ facilitator to settle trade disputes among relevant parties on import export affairs in a cordial manner. During the period 21 disputes have been submitted to Commercial Officers and 18 trade disputes have been submitted to the Department. Accordingly necessary action has been taken in this regard with the collaboration of Commercial Officers attached to foreign missions.

xiv. Preparations for the meeting of Ministers of World Trade Organization and participating in the 13th summit of Ministers (MC- 13)

- MC 13 has been held in February 2023 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates and the Minister of Trade Commerce and Food Security has participated as the head of the group of representatives of Sri Lanka for MC13.
- The meeting of the senior officers (SOM), who act as predecessors of MC 13 has been held on 23-24 October 2023 and stakeholders' consultancy meetings have been held for SOM in September 2023.

- Consultancy meetings of stakeholders on agriculture have been held on 14 September 2023 and at the meeting stakeholders held unanimously the view that they should maintain the present impartial stance of the World Trade Organization.
- The consultation of stakeholders on the agreement on investments was held on 15 September 2023 and accordingly stakeholders decided that Sri Lanka needs more time to study further the agreement and also to determine our stance on facilitating for investments.
- Consultancy of stakeholders (E- Commerce Moratorium) on the prohibition of custom duties for electronic transmission of World Trade Organization (WTO) has been held on 19 September and accordingly stakeholders decided not to make any obstacles if any agreement is made among several members of WTO and extend their support keeping this stance temporarily. Further it was decided to use these meetings of stakeholders as a stage continuously and to continue the discourse and accordingly the issues of Sri Lanka will be discussed meeting with all the stakeholders. All the stakeholders requested from Department of Commerce to take the leadership to organize these meetings and further promised to extend their fullest support for future discussions.
- Meetings of stakeholders including the Secretaries of Fisheries and Trade have been held to discuss on the decision of Sri Lanka for not acting as a stakeholder of Agreement on Fishermen Subsidiaries (AFS) of the World Trade Organization.
- If necessary, we, as a country, can request any clarification in order to take the most suitable decision for the country and further we can request for assistance of specialists from World Trade Organization..

xv. Implementation of Trade Remedy Act

- In order to get further clearance for the regulations for the implementation of Trade Remedy Act, they sent to the Department of Attorney General. A meeting of stakeholders has been held on 26 April 2023 to discuss the issues arisen in the implementation of laws. .
- Then several rounds of meeting have been held to review the progress during the period in attention.

xvi. Trade discussions conducted under Free Trade Agreements (FTA)/ Preferential Trade Agreements (PTA)/ Joint Committees (JC)

Two Free Trade Agreements of Sri Lanka are now in force with India and Pakistan. A task force has been established with India in order to conclude the procedures of operations certification (OCP) under Free Trade Agreement. In respect of the free trade agreement signed with Singapore, the removal of custom duties of productions under category 15 has been gazetted.

A free trade agreement with Thailand and Preferential trade agreement with Bangladesh are on the discussion table and the discussions on Economic and Technological Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) with India are to be commenced again. In the meantime a discussion on free trade agreement is to be commenced with China again. Discussions are to be commenced with Malaysia on preferential trade agreement either after finishing basic studies on preferential trade agreement or exchanging official minute requested in relation to the subject.

Officers of the Department of Commerce provide technological assistance for the discussions on free trade agreements as the chair persons / members of technological committees for SL-Thailand FTA, SL-India FTA, SL-China FTA. In addition to the above, the Department of Commerce assists to conduct discussions with the authorities of India on the removal of garment quota under India Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement. (ISFTA).

Sri Lanka has applied for the membership of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

The quarterly review of the 3rd Combined Trade and Investment Committee meeting and framework agreement between Sri Lanka and Australia have been made and the agreement for extending the term has been signed on 12.

The meeting of Annual Economic and Technological Collaboration Group with European Union has been held and matters important in the improvement of bilateral trade and collaboration were discussed.

xvii. Making facilities to internal trade and investment representative group

Hon. Consul of Georgia for Sri Lanka arrived to Sri Lanka for a visit from 25 May to 6 June 2023 and the welcome ceremony has been organized by Sri Lanka embassy in Turkey and the Department of Commerce. During this visit, Hon. Consul has conducted bilateral discussions on tourism and investment with the Minister of Tourism and Lands, Minister of Urban Development and Housing, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, State Minister of Urban Development and Minister of Tourism and Housing.

xviii. Coordinating the groups of trade representatives, business investment forums going abroad , road shows and B to B meetings in foreign markets

Hon. Minister of Trade Commerce and Food Security has gone to Abudabi, United Arab Emirates from 08 to 10 May and there he participated in the annual investment meeting with a group of representatives at higher level in Colombo Port City. During this tour, Hon. Minister met Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeoudi, State Minister of Foreign Trade Affairs of United Arab Emirates.

xix. Workshops on approaching to export market for the benefit of small and medium entrepreneurs

Nearly 250 small and medium entrepreneurs have participated in the workshop on approaching to export market held in Gampaha district by the trade promotion unit of the Department of Commerce representing various fields of export such as spices, coconut related productions, tea, batik, garments, various flowers etc.

Further a workshop for the enhancement of the market approach of leading and medium level exporters in Colombo district has been organized at the auditorium of the District Secretariat, Colombo on 25.09.2023. Nearly 200 leading, small scale and medium entrepreneurs spread within Colombo district have participated in this event representing different sectors of export. In this workshop, they were made aware of different sectors such as the services which can be obtained by exporters from the Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security and Department of Commerce, bilateral and multilateral and regional free trade agreements and issuance of GSP+ certificates of origin, preparing small and medium entrepreneurs to export market, services which can be obtained from the Commissioners of Trade of the Department of Commerce serving attached to the embassies in foreign countries, identifying foreign market opportunities, qualifications required for exporting, export procedure, trade portal, and introducing step by step the export process prepared online, introducing the websites of the Department of Commerce, introducing the system for electronic certificate of origin. Officers of the Department of Commerce and Export Development Board of Sri Lanka served as resource providers.

Table No 3. 11 Exports of Sri Lanka under Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP)

HS code	Description	U.S.\$
Total Export under GSTP		37.26
090611	Cinnamon and cinnamon-tree flowers	34.67
230690	Oil-cake and other solid residues	0.99
090710	Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems).	0.78
761290	Aluminum casks, drums, cans, boxes and similar containers	0.32
151311	Coconut (copra), palm kernel	0.20
090620	Cinnamon and cinnamon-tree flowers	0.09
530500	Coconut, abaca (manila hemp or musa textile tree),	0.06
380210	Activated carbon; activated natural mineral products; animal black, including spent animal black.	0.05
330190	Essential oils (terpeneless or not)	0.04
170290	Other sugars, including chemically pure lactose maltose, glucose and fructose, in solid form	0.02
080111	Coconuts, Brazil nuts and cashew nuts, fresh or dried, whether or not shelled or peeled.	0.01
300490	Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06)	0.01
960310	Brooms, brushes	0.01

Source: Department of Commerce

xx. Conducting online meetings (Zoom) on the promotion of Sri Lankan products

Online meeting has been organized with the Commercial Officers of United Kingdom, Canada, and United State of America, Australia, and Pakistan on 16 August 2022 to find buyers. An interactive discussion was made by Swisstec Aluminium Pvt Limited with the commercial officers of each country on quality standards and other trade measurement requirements and then presentations were made on their production profiles for export market and their quality certificate.

Commercial officers serving attached to foreign missions in Indonesia and South Africa have organized a business matching meeting in June with ICTA for the benefit of small and middle scale entrepreneurs in information technology field. Further, a discussion on the future collaboration in the information and communication technology industry has been held on 03.10.2023 with JETRO institute and online discussion has been organized by the Department of Commerce with ICTA and Trade Commissioners concurrently to the Digital Investment Summit.

xxi. Conducting international trade exhibitions and meetings

A discussion has been held online for the awareness of Trade Commissioners with a view to get the participation of foreign trade representatives for Profood Propack and Agbis 2023 exhibition held at BMICH from 04-06 August 2023 and Industrial exhibition organized from 22-25 June 2023 by Industrial Development Board and Ministry of Industries..

Joining with the Embassy of Sri Lanka in China, the Department of Commerce has organized to ensure participation of Sri Lankan Business representatives in Sri Lankan Section of 27th Chinese (Kunming) Import and Export Exhibition and 7th Chinese-Southern exhibition from 16-20 August 2023. At the event the Companies promoted a series of productions such as gems and jewelries, Lanka Tea, confectioneries, processed food, cashew, spices, coconut kernel, batik and handicrafts etc. Sri Lanka considers the Chinese- South Asian exhibition as a symbolic one and Sri Lankan export community has accepted it cordially from the beginning. This is a valuable opportunity for Sri Lankan companies to find new buyers and to exhibit their productions in the market of China. Further, it was also an opportunity to get an understanding on dynamic E-commerce and social media marketing tools applied in Chinese market. Hon. Nalin Fernando, Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security went to the Kunming exhibition and chaired as the head of Sri Lanka the bilateral meeting held with Department of Commerce in Yunan province. At the event Sri Lanka declared its close collaboration with Yunan province.

3.5. Department of Co-operative Development

i. Financial/ physical progress of the development programmes implemented

Table No 3. 12 Financial/ physical progress of the development programmes implemented

Serial No	Name of the project	Financial progress as at 30.09.2023 (Rs. Mn.)	Physical progress as at 30.09.2023	Physical progress %
1	Ornamental Plants and Orchid Co-operative Society Limited- Lakmal Uyana Project (Budget provisions- Rs. 23 Mn.)	-	Tissue culture laboratory has been constructed and necessary equipment have been purchased. Plant sales center of the society has been developed and plants have been purchased.	50

Source: Department of Co-operative Development

ii. Progress of the audit of the society

Table No 3. 13 Progress of the audit of the society of the Department of Co-operative Development

Serial No	Number of audits planned	Number of audits concluded as at 30.09.2023	Physical progress %
1	65	43	66.15

Source: Department of Co-operative Development

iii. Progress in the registration of societies

Table No 3. 14 Progress in the registration of societies at Department of Co-operative Development

Serial No	Target amount	Number of registrations made as at 30.09.2023	Physical progress (Name of the society)	Physical progress %
1	3	1	All Ceylon Animal Productions and Animal Husbandry Farmers' Co-operative Society	33.33%

*Registration has been suspended on 01.02.2023.

Source: Department of Co-operative Development

iv. Loans granted to societies

Table No 3. 15 Loans granted to societies by Department of Co-operative Development

Serial No	Name of the society	Value of provisions issued for loans (Rs. Million)	Amount of loans issued as at 30.09.2023 (Rs. Million)
1	Sanasa Society limited of Samurdhi Development and Agriculture Research Assistant Officers	100	15
2	Posts and Telecom Services Co-operative Banks Society Limited		50

Source: Department of Co-operative Development

3.6. Lanka Sathosa Limited

i. Introduction of several internal actions to enhance the efficiency of operations of the Lanka Sathosa Limited

- Enhancing the efficiency of the management of sales items.
- Arrangements have been made to issue old stocks before issuing new stocks. Applying “First In First Out” method.
- Enhancing the efficiency in operations by way of giving more responsibilities to Regional Managers or reviewing the responsibilities.
- Implementing new procedures to follow procurement guidelines and re-registration of suppliers.
- Control over payment overtime allowances.
- Minimizing the cost of maintenance.
- Minimizing the expenses for transportation.
- Closing the shops which are continuously run at a loss.
- Strengthening the internal audit.

ii. The daily activities as well as their efficiency of the institution have been enhanced due to methods and changes made so far from August 2022 and the institute could gain a profit in operation from January 2023 and net profit from July 2023. Particulars in this regard are as follows.

Table No 3. 16 Net profit/ (net loss) of Lanka Sathosa Limited from 01/2023 to 09/2023

Month	Profit /(loss) before Tax (Rs. Mn.)	Expenses for income tax (Rs. Mn.)	Profit after Tax for the period (Rs. Mn.)
January	(121,487,550)	-	(121,487,550)
February	(117,702,792)	-	(117,702,792)
March	(4,593,385)	-	(4,593,385)
April	173,479,063	-	173,479,063
May	(73,783,138)	-	(73,783,138)
June	(51,036,701)	-	(51,036,701)
July	9,564,302	-	9,564,302
August	61,986,750	-	61,986,750
September	61,476,200	-	61,476,200

Source: Lanka Sathosa Limited

iii. **Sales centres which were opened from January to September 2023 and sales centres proposed at present**

Table No 3. 17 Sales centres which were opened from January to September 2023 and sales centres proposed at present

Region	No of sales centers	Estimated amount (Rs. Mn.)
Anuradhapura	1	27
Badulla	1	65
Kandy	1	70
Rathnapura	1	50
No of sales centers to be developed in next six months at the rate of 2 in one region	46	258

Source: Lanka Sathosa Limited

3.7. Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

- In order to get the international recognition for the testing reports and certificates issued by institutes, which get accreditation from Sri Lanka Accreditation Board, it is compulsory for our institute to obtain and maintain the membership of international accreditation institutes whilst ensuring active participation. Institutes which granted accreditation under International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and International Laboratory Accreditation Collaboration under mutual recognition are as follows..

Table No 3. 18 Progress in granting accreditation under IAF and ILAC

Scope	Second range	Third range	No of accreditations granted
IAF mutual recognition	Certification of goods.	ISO/IEC 17065	09
	Valuation and certification institutes	ISO/IEC 17029	03
	Green house air valuation and certification institutes	ISO/IEC 14065	01
	Food security management systems	ISO/IEC22000 (FSMS)	05
	Quality management systems certifications	ISO 9001 (QMS)	04
	Environmental management systems certifications	ISO 14001 (EMS)	03
ILAC mutual recognition©	Testing laboratories	ISO/IEC 17025	114
	Medical laboratories	ISO 15189	23
	Calibration laboratories	ISO/IEC 17025	15
	Testing institutes	ISO/IEC 17020	07

Source: Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

ii. New accreditations granted from 01.01.2023 to 30.09.2023 2023.01.01

Table No 3. 19 New accreditations granted from 01.01.2023 to 30.09.2023 2023.01.01 by Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

No	Name of the institute	Scope
Medical Laboratories		
01	Medihelp Hospitals Laboratory	Clinical Biochemistry/ Chemical Pathology, Clinical Pathology, Hematology
02	Asiri Laboratories, Asiri Hospital Kandy	Clinical Biochemistry/Chemical Pathology, Hematology and Clinical Pathology
Testing laboratories and Calibration laboratories		
03	MUSSD -Volume Laboratory	Mechanical Calibration (Volume calibration)
04	Laugfs Gas Terminals – LPG Testing Laboratory	Chemical Testing on LP Gas Testing
05	Kelun Life Science	Chemical & Biological Testing on pharmaceutical products
06	Microbiology Laboratory of NIHS -Kalutara	Biological Testing on Food & Agro cultural products
07	MTS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Chemical & Mechanical Testing on Textile & textile products
08	Calibration Laboratory – Bureau Veritas Consumer products Services Ltd	Mechanical, Thermal & time & Frequency
09	Gross Alpha Beta Counting Laboratory	Performing Chemical Testing on Water/Waste Water and Solid/Other Solids
10	LTL Transformers (Pvt) Ltd	Performing electrical testing on transformers and low voltage switch gear
11	Hydromax Services (Pvt) Ltd	Performing Chemical testing on Water as per APHA test methods
12	Laboratory of Cotecna Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.	Performing Chemical Testing on Tea & Fly Ash

No	Name of the institute	Scope
13	Meter Testing and Verification Laboratory-LECO	Performing Electrical Testing on Electricity Meters
14	Regional Centre for Lighting -CEB	Performing Electrical & Photometric on Self ballasted Lamps/Integral type compact Fluorescent Lamp & LED Lamps
15	Laboratory of Central Environment Testing and Consultancy (Pvt) Ltd	Performing Chemical Testing on Water
16	Vinshu Enterprises Ltd	Performing Calibrations on Force
Inspection Institutes		
17	S G S Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd.	Food and Agriculture product inspections on Import and Export Purposes
Production Certification Institutes		
18	Bamber and Bruce (Pvt) Ltd	Scope: Friend of the Sea Certification Scheme FOS 0001 – Certification procedure - Aqua, FOS-Wild, FOS-FF, FOS-FM, FOS-FO, FOS-O3 and CoC General requirements, v 9.3 2019-09-10 FOS standard – Wild sustainable fishing requirements, v 3.1, 2017-10-18 & v 4, 2020-03-18 for wild catch fisheries FOS standard – Chain of custody criteria and indicators for the certification of the traceability of Friend of the Sea products & Criteria and Indicators for the certification of sustainable Fish feed (FF), Fish meal (FM), Fish oil (FO) and Omega 3 (O3), v 5, 2016-10-24
19	Product Certification Division Sri Lanka Standards Institution	SLS 1324: 2018 - Unprocessed agricultural crop livestock, aquaculture and apiculture products, excluding tobacco and any other material restricted by government laws - Processed Agricultural crop livestock, aquaculture and apiculture products intended for human consumption containing one or more ingredient(s) derived from 1 above.

No	Name of the institute	Scope
20	Ceycert (Private) Ltd.	SLS 1324: 2018 Unprocessed agricultural crop livestock, aquaculture and apiculture products, excluding tobacco and any other material restricted by government laws
Validation and certification institutes		
21	Sri Lanka Climate Fund	ISO 14064-1: 2018, - Organizational level verification Manufacturing -Manufacturing of Food and Food Processing Manufacturing of Textile and Wearing Apparel Manufacturing of Chemical, Petroleum, rubber and plastic product, Manufacturing of Electric and electronic equipment Manufacturing of Paper and Paper product Transport - Transportation General - Facility based Services (Banking and Financial Services, Hospital, Hotel, Facility Management, Education) Power Generation and Power transactions - Renewable energy systems and purchased electricity Pulp, Paper and Print Mining and mineral production-(Manufacturing of cement clinker and production of lime or calcination of dolomite or magnetite ,glass and ceramic, mineral wool)

Source: Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

iii. Income generation (From 01.01.2023 to 30.09.2023)

Table No 3. 20 Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Income generation from 01.01.2023 to 30 .09. 2023

Classification of income	Income through Local Accreditation Assessment Institute (Rs. Mn.)	Income through Foreign Accreditation Assessment Institute (Rs. Mn.)
Accreditations		
Laboratory tests	28.56	
Calibration laboratories	6.00	
Medical laboratories	6.88	
Testing institutes	1.81	
Production Certification Institutes	2.98	76.68 (USD 242,405.5)
System certification institutes	4.75	
Individual certifications	1.44	
Validation and certification institutes	1.64	2.60 (USD 8,838.35)
Skill testing institutes	0.70	
Training programmes	7.47	
Total income	62.23	79.28 (USD 251,243.85)
Local money and dollar income as a percentage of total income	43.98%	56.02%

Source: Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

3.8. Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Fund

i. Particulars on the payment of scholarships 2023 (Universities and other institutes)

Table No 3. 21Particulars on the payment of Mahapola higher education scholarship (Universities and other institutes)

Month	No of students who receive scholarship of Rs. 5000 for universities	No of students who receive scholarship of Rs. 2500vfor other institutes	Contribution of Mahapola Trust Fund (Rs.)	Contribution of General Treasury (Rs.)	Total amount paid monthly for Mahapola scholarship (Rs.)
January	188,744,400	2,863,500	99,218,400	92,389,500	191,607,900
February	180,173,400	1,778,500	93,761,700	88,190,200	181,951,900
March	185,125,100	2,616,000	97,122,950	90,618,150	187,741,100
April	123,169,800	3,966,000	66,824,150	60,311,650	127,135,800
May	172,607,150	7,470,650	95,592,000	84,485,800	180,077,800
June	152,906,900	3,318,896	81,385,646	74,840,150	156,225,796
July	154,934,350	-	79.131,350	75,803,000	154,934,350
Total	1,157,661,100	22,013,546	613,036,196	566,638,450	1,179,674,646

Source: Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Trust Fund

ii. Awarding scholarships

Table No 3. 22 Particulars on awarding Mahapola Higher Education Scholarships

Enrolling students	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	No of Students
University students	14,984	15,001	16,000	16,000	61,985
Students of Higher Technological Education Institutes	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
Students of other institutes	1,000	1,151	1,000	1,000	4,151
Total	17,484	17,652	18,500	18,500	72,136

Source: Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Trust Fund

iii. Comparison between total number of students who enter the universities and receivers of Mahapola Scholarships

Table No 3. 23 Comparison between total number of students who enter the universities and receivers of Mahapola scholarships

Year	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Total number of students who enter the university	30,000	31,158	34,161	35,000	40,111
No of students who were qualified due to remaining in the income limit of less than Rs. 5 lakhs	15,000	20,000	17,890	20,000	26,000
No of scholarship holders	14,500	14,984	15,001	,16000	16,000
Total no of students qualified as per income limit as a percentage of total no of students	50%	64.1%	52%	57.1%	64.88%
Scholarship holders as a percentage of total no of students	48%	48.%	44%	%45.71	39.88%
Students receiving Mahapola scholarship out of students, who were qualified as per income limit	96%	75%	84%	%86	61.5%

Source: Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Trust Fund

3.9. Consumer Affairs Authority

i. Progress of the institute from January to September 2023

Table No 3. 24 Progress of the activities of Consumer Affairs Authority from January 2023 to September

Description	Amount
Consumer security and relief services	
Market raids	18,015
Filing cases at courts	16,397
Raids of Super Markets	540
Fines (Rs.)	200,761,400.00
Consumer Awareness Programmes	
Awareness for General Public	255
Awareness for traders	41
Awareness for schools	93
Exhibitions	7
Mobile awareness programmes (Trade and Public)	393
Special awareness	20
Complaints mad by consumers in writing	
Receipt of new complaints	1,100
Complaints to which intervention can be made as per the Consumer Affairs Act	491
Complaints to which intervention cannot be made as per the Consumer Affairs Act	609
Complaints referred to District Secretariat by Head Office	45
Complaints of which the works have been concluded	246
Complaints referred to other institutes	247
Complaints referred to compliance and empowering division	114
Complaints referred to other divisions of Head Office.	4
Complaints for which concessions cannot be made or action cannot be taken. (rejections/copied/filed)	300
Complaints made for raids (1977)	66
Complaints to which action is to be taken on the last day of month	78

Description	Amount
Value of complaints to which intervention made for settling	25,694,645.80
Complaints for relief, which are made in writing – District offices as at 30.09.2023 (As per Google data system)	
Total number of complaints	414
Number of complaints settled	146
Complaints of which activities are completed.	124
Complaints referred to Head Office/ Compliances and empowerment division	21
Complaints to which action is to be taken on the last day of the month.	32
1977 -Consumer Hotline for complaints	
Total number of complaints	5,528
Total number of complaints	3,022
which are in process	1,361
Unsuccessful raids	652
Closing of sales shops	124
Complaints not fallen under the Consumer Affairs Authority	181
Warnings/ information	571
Non identification of places	133
No of complaints on which action is to be taken	2,506
Complaints received to 1977 (Voice Mail)	
Total number of voice messages received within the month	6,838
No of messages with complaints	681
Written complaints made by consumers to Regional Affairs Division	
Total no of complaints made during the month	27
No of complaints referred to District Secretariat by Regional Affairs Division	27
Appeals	
Receipt of appeals	520
Cases to be filed at courts	209

Description	Amount
Decisions for warning	126
Appeals to be referred to Board of appeal for decisions	185
Sample testing	
Samples tested	119
Food Samples	58
Nonfood samples	61
Non complying samples	57
Non complying samples	32
Samples for which reports are to be issued	30
Samples referred to take legal actions	32
Samples which cannot be tested	-
Reference on maximum retail prices of selected imported items	
No of applications received from competitive promotion division	62
No of applications referred to the District Secretariat	62

Source : Consumer Affairs Authority

ii. **Conducting promptly the investigations on complaints regarding the items with defects and taking legal action on such cases.**

• New complaints received for investigations	254
• Inquiries made on the complaints made by consumers	640
• Settling complaints at investigations	101
• Issuance of orders	62
• Cases files at the court under section 11,30,31,57 of the act	79
• Amount of fines imposed by the court	Rs. 637,000

iii. **Intervention to make the trade more convenient through items selected under the provisions 14, 18 and 19 of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act**

Table No 3. 25 Intervention of Consumer Affairs Authority to make the trade more convenient through selected items

Serial No	Item	Result
1	Cement	Reducing the price of a cement bag from Rs. 2,950/= up to Rs. 1,920/= -1,950/=
2	Iron	From Rs..320,000/= to Rs.. 245,000/=
3	Cables and wires	Companies have agreed to reduce the prices of certain wires

Serial No	Item	Result
4	Milk powder with fat	Prices per kilo from Rs. 3,100/- to Rs. 2,375/= - Rs. 2700/-
5	Footwear	Prices have been reduced from 10% to 15%
6	School bags	It was rejected due to inadequate data
7	Aluminum	Margin should be controlled.
8	Chicken	Reduced price from Rs. 1,350 to Rs.1,150/=
9	Bread	Reduced prices from Rs. 170/= to Rs.150/=
10	Salt	Margin should be controlled.
11	Wheat Flour	Prices have been reduced from time to time
12	Spices (Chili powder)	Prices vary depending on the amount and quality.
13	Wheat flour, Mung bean, and Corn	Matter was referred to the Department of Customs for formulation of policies
14	Local milk powder, local sugar; undu and fertilizers	Efficiency should be enhanced and prices of local milk powder have been reduced by a small percentage
15	Laboratory charges	Studies more than 25 laboratory charges.
16	Soap, canned fish, spices (Curry powder and turmeric)	It is now in process
17	Fat, soap and canned fish special. (Curry leaves and turmeric)	It is now in process
18	Prices of fish	The committee of specialists is studying on the structure for determining fish prices so as to be able to submit a report to the Minister.
19	Exercise books	Recommendation of the Authority have been handed over to the President's Secretariat
20	Testing on Nonstructural protein (NS 01) and dengue antibody test in full blood volume	To reconsider the gazette
21	Estimated cost for a chicken	Market mechanism has been allowed to determine the price
22	Prices of the essential food items such as milk with full fat, wheat flour, sugar, dried sprats, dhal	Submitting information to the line Ministry for policy decisions and discussions of stakeholders

Source: Consumer Affairs Authority

iv. Making facilities for the trade by way of disseminating information to Ministries and stakeholders through the Consumer Affairs Authority

Table No 3. 26 disseminating information to Ministries and stakeholders through the Consumer Affairs Authority

Serial No	Description
1	Submission of the report of daily price collection - 173
2	Retail price variance - 18
3	Importation of essential goods - 18
4	Report of survey which can be obtained - Production and forecasting
5	Balance sheet for sugar
6	Conducting marker surveys and circulating information
7	Updating the application received under stores registration and submitting them to the banks on requests for confirmation
8	Submitting information pertaining to the cases filed at courts

Source: Consumer Affairs Authority

v. Enhancing and securing the interest of consumers through the provisions and practices of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act

- Identifying new food items and consumer items connected to health - 04
- Settling complaints / issuing orders - 01

vi. Conducting investigations by Consumer Affairs Authority Act and making interventions on complaints made on incidents against competitions and unfair trade practices

- No of investigations conducted - 15
- Complaints received from the previous period - 06
- Complaints made within the period - 33
- Settling disputes - 24

vii. Conducting consultation sessions for traders in order to promote competition by Consumer Affairs Authority

- Number of programmes conducted - 08

viii. Implementing regulations by the Consumer Affairs No 87. (5 HS Codes)

- Reference numbers issued against the applications received - 67

ix. Trade names of productions observed and identified in the open market by Consumer Affairs Authority

- Number of productions observed and identified - 10

x. Conducting research and development studies by the Consumer Affairs Authority in order to promote healthy society

- Conducting market intelligence researches
- Number of the researches conducted - 11
- Number of the reports submitted - 02

3.10. Co-operative Employees' Commission

- Necessary investigations have been conducted on 24 appeals made to the Commission up to now in 2023 and the decision of the Commission in such cases have also been communicated
- Under the provision of consultancy services in the field of Co-operatives, the Co-operative Employees Commission has given consultation at 47 occasions.
- The decision of the Commission on 76 requests , which have been made up to now in year 2023 pertaining to recruitment and promotion of employees of Co-operatives Societies, has been communicated to relevant Co-operative Societies/ Associations.
- Co-operative Employees Commission has been evaluated by way of awarding a certificate under financial and performance evaluation process conducted in 2019 by the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament of Sri Lanka.
- With a view to enhance the human resources development and management in the field of Co-operatives, 05 workshops have been conducted for the awareness of the employees in the field.

Table No 3. 27 awareness workshops for employees of the Co-operative field in order to develop and manage human resource in the field

Society/ association for which the workshop was held	Participation
Posts and Telecom Employees Co-operative Bank Society Limited	36
Co-operative and Loan Transactions Co-operative Society Limited of the Department of Health	162
National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka	31
Association of the Thrift and Credit Cooperative Societies of Sri Lanka	26
Public Service Co-operative Lending and Savings Society Limited	44

Source: Co-operative Employees Commission

3.11. National Institute of Co-operative Development

i. Progress of the courses in academic division

Table No 3. 28 Progress in conducting courses by National Institute of Co-operative Development

Serial No	Type of course	Number of the targeted courses	Number of courses actually conducted	Target participation	Actual participation	Actual income collected (Rs.)
1	Permanent courses	01	01	67	67	1,115,040.00
2	Diploma courses	07	06	30	214	3,763,000.00
3	Certificate courses	03	04	30	78	1,563,250.00
4	Short term courses	22	14	40	455	1,826,650.00
	On request of external parties	-	16	-	583	4,007,298.43
	Short term courses (Free of charge)	38	04	40	112	-

Source: National Institute of Co-operative Development

ii. Progress of the Establishments Division

Table No 3. 29 Progress of the Establishments Division of the National Co-operative Development Institute

Role	Progress
Programme of the institute for celebration of International Co-operative Day	An exhibition in the name of 'COOP Sahana Saturday' has been held in Sahas Uyana, Kandy on 01.07.2023.
Annual certificate awarding ceremony	This event took place on 28.07.2023 at Mahinda Rajapaksha Theater. 476 diploma holders and 512 certificate holders have become qualified at the event.
Conducting annual discourse on Co-operatives	A discussion for enhancing links with line and provincial Co-operative Employees Commissions has been held on 22.09.2023 with the sponsorship of the Chairmen and Secretaries of Co-operative Employees Commissions, Provincial Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners

Role	Progress												
Conducting programmes with International Co-operative Organizations	These programmes have been concluded successfully with the participation of local and foreign trainees and resource providers.. <table><tr><th>Program me</th><th>Date</th><th>Grant received (Rs)</th><th>Excess after paying all expenses (Rs.)</th></tr><tr><td>01</td><td>Up to 23-26.01. 2023.</td><td>878,000.00</td><td>97,498.97</td></tr><tr><td>02</td><td>Up to 27-29.03 2023.</td><td>699,529.78</td><td>68,846.78</td></tr></table>	Program me	Date	Grant received (Rs)	Excess after paying all expenses (Rs.)	01	Up to 23-26.01. 2023.	878,000.00	97,498.97	02	Up to 27-29.03 2023.	699,529.78	68,846.78
Program me	Date	Grant received (Rs)	Excess after paying all expenses (Rs.)										
01	Up to 23-26.01. 2023.	878,000.00	97,498.97										
02	Up to 27-29.03 2023.	699,529.78	68,846.78										
Conducting a trade exhibition within the premises of the institute	Concurrently to the “COOP Sahana Saturday” trade exhibition, which was held for the benefit of consumers, it is due to maintain a sales outlet in Sahas Uyana , Kandy every Saturday through the Welfare Society and further to maintain a sales outlet at Industrial Exhibition of Central Province..												
Performing the role connected to social responsibilities	Under the theme of this time international environment day ‘ Avoid pollution by plastics’ various programmes have been organized for the awareness of outside parties, who visit the premises of the institute and a shramadana programme has also been organized with the participation of the staff. Accordingly action has been taken to collect plastic within the premises and then send them to Pradeshiya Sabha for recycle process. With a view to use at maximum level the limited resources of government in the face of economic crisis, it was decided at the 157th meeting of the Board of Management to maintain existing coconut plants in the premises applying fertilizers and to plant more coconut plants finding spaces. Further, initiatives are being taken to identify short time crops and to plant them in the premises in order to utilize it cultivating various crops.												
Enhancing the quality of the service delivery (Productivity programme)	Action has been taken to establish Productivity Circles with the participation of the officers of institute and to identify activities which can be carried out by them.												
Implementing sustainable development goals	In line with the theme of Co-operative day of 2023, <i>Nava Pivisuma</i> magazine has been launched concurrently to 101 st international co-operative day -2023 under the theme ‘sustainable development for the enhancement of Co-operative movement’.												

Role	Progress
Training to staff	Instructions have been given to direct officers only to highly essential training opportunities under control of government expenses. (Accordingly 22 officers have been directed for training workshops and 06 officers have completed training programme) Since this is an education institute, it is highly necessary to update the knowledge of academic staff. Under such circumstance, a letter dated 15.09.2023 has been sent to the Director of Budget requesting approval for granting training opportunities to the staff.
Evaluation of staff	Mid-term activities have now been concluded.
Staff welfare	Arrangements are being made to conduct a medical clinic for the benefit of the officers and a written request has also been made for making required facilities. Once a reply is received, it has been planned to take necessary action. Under the control of the expenses of government, provision of financial allocations has been limited to the tasks such as training needs of the staff, motivation workshops for staff, including measures for minimizing the tension of the staff etc. Providing certain contribution for employees' motivation programmes by way of implementing an arrangement for provision of services through welfare societies has been submitted as an alternative proposal for the issue. This proposal has been submitted to the meeting of the Board of management of the Institution, which is to be held on 27.09.2023.
Insurance coverage for staff	Since the insurance company has informed at the time of making an inquiry that there is an obstacle to obtain insurance coverage further as per the decision taken at the 149 th meeting of the Board of Management, action is now being taken to find whether it is possible to obtain an insurance coverage to the staff either from another government insurance institution or from an insurance company which provides more benefits to the staff.
Conducting efficiency bar examinations for officers	This has been held on 05 August. 14 officers in salary code AR-1, MM 1-2, JM 1-1, MA-4, MA 1-1 have appeared.
Activities of the Board of management	By now, 08 meetings of the Board of management have been conducted.
Activities of the academic boards	By now, 02 meetings of the Academic Board have been held.
Annual Report	The annual report for year 2022 is due to be sent for printing.
Office equipment, furniture, audio visual equipment and other appliances	Under this, 06 UPSs have been purchased.

Source: National Institute of Co-operative Development

iii. Progress of the residential division

Table No 3. 30 Progress of the residential division of National Institute of Co-operative Development

Strategic objectives	No f the programmes conducted	Participation	Sub activities	Income (Rs.)
Provision of services for outside organizations and development	30	16253	Auditorium, meetings and lecture halls	6,366,640.00
	390			3,496,050.00
			Residential facilities	6,558,976.00
			Canteen facilities	1,815,452.80
			Printing, audio visual facilities	777,100.00
			Other	325,461.00

Source: National Institute of Co-operative Development

iv. Income generation programmes and their progress

Table No 3. 31 Income generation programmes of National Institute of Co-operative Development and their progress

Description	Estimated income (Rs.)	For September 2023			For the period ending from 30.09.2023		
		Estimated income (Rs.)	Actual income (Rs.)	Achievement (%)	Estimated income (Rs.)	Actual income (Rs.)	Achievement (%)
Income from courses	21,984,792	1,786,321	2,458,018	138	15,067,308	16,111,558	107
Hall facilities, residential facilities, income earned on rental basis	19,266,445	1,605,537	4,068,320	253	14,449,834	16,670,501	115
Income from interest	2,100,000	175,000	421,332	241	1,575,000	4,443,256	282
Other income	3,745,000	299,583	616,905	206	2,667,917	5,083,036	191

Source: National Institute of Co-operative Development

3.12. National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka

i. Patents

Table No 3. 32 Progress of issuing patents by Sri Lanka Intellectual Property Office

Description	National	International	Patent Collaboration Agreement (PCT)	Total
No of applications received	139	14	167	320
No of applications accepted for registration after secondary test	48	22	76	146
No of cases of which defects have been sent after secondary test and no of cases rejected	26	1	118	145
No of applications published	270	7	262	539
No of applications registered	37	7	108	153

Source Sri Lanka national Intellectual Property Office

ii. Technical Plans

Table No 3. 33 Progress of providing technical plans by Sri Lanka National Intellectual Property Office

Description	National	International	Total
No of applications received	80	36	116
No of applications accepted for registration after secondary test	121	15	136
No of applications rejected after secondary test	30	9	39
No of applications published	34	4	38
No of applications registered	45	13	58

Source Sri Lanka national Intellectual Property Office

iii. Trade Marks

Table No 3. 34 Progress of issuing trade marks by Sri Lanka National Intellectual Property Office

Description	National	International	Total
No of applications	5678	2239	7917
No of applications subjected to secondary test	3823	2282	6105
No of applications accepted	2383	1995	4378
No of applications rejected	1028	261	1289
No of applications published	1912	1922	3834
No of applications registered	1760	1331	3091

Source Sri Lanka national Intellectual Property Office

Chapter Four

Future Plans- 2024

04. Future Plans -2024

4.1. Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

- i. It is expected to implement the works of the construction project of Co-operative Square at Makan Makar Mawatha.
- ii. Future activities of the project for distributing chicks and piglets as the phase 2 of 2024.
- iii. Implementing the programme on empowerment of rural low income women entrepreneurs for year 2024.

4.2. Department of Food Commissioner

Commencing the operations of the temperature and humidity controlled stores complex at Dambulla in year 2024.

4.3. Department of Measurement Units, Standards and Services

- i. Expansion of the role of National Measurement Laboratory by way of establishing new measurement standards.
- ii. Expansion of the role of National Measurement Laboratories for 5 fields of measurement.
- iii. Enhancing the courses of the training division of the Department up to the level of awarding recognized vocational training. – Estimated amount is Rs. 9 million.
- iv. Taking action to include Measurement Science in the syllabus in University education.
- v. Updating Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act and regulations. Accordingly, it is aimed at formalizing the service delivery of the Department whilst increasing the income of the Government through the income earned by the Department by its service delivery.
- vi. Facilitating to obtain international recognition for institutes which provide national quality infrastructure facilities.
- vii. Establishment of an automated network system. Estimated amount for the project is Rs. 70 million. It is expected by this measure to link 25 district offices with the Head Office and to ensure a credible and accurate weighing and measurement service to the people through the preparation of trade data system.

4.4. Department of Co-operative Development

Projects/programmes to be implemented in year 2024

Table No 4. 1 Projects/ programmes to be implemented by the Department of Co-operative Development in year 2024

Serial No	Name of the Project	Objectives of the project
01	Obtaining contribution of women entrepreneurs to make products enriched with protein in order to minimize the lack of protein (Chicken farming for egg and meat)	Selecting stable societies by way of identifying them
02	Directing for solar power	Granting a loan of Rs. i million per each society at national level
03	Granting laptops to school children	Introducing a loan scheme
04	Launching development projects to encourage small scale producers	Making basic identifications
05	Commencing Smart Elders Homes, smart Daycare centers	Making basic identifications

Source: Department of Co-operative Development

4.5. Lanka Sathosa Limited

- i. It is proposed to open 05 Lanka Sathosa Mega shops and 10 Sathosa sales centres during the year 2024 and accordingly it will be able to increase the network of sales centres up to 465 for making opportunity to the consumer to purchase their goods at a concessionary price without facing a shortage.
- ii. It is expected to increase the income from operation of Lanka Sathosa sales centres network up to Rs. 4.8 billion and also to increase the profit and net profit from operations up to Rs. 708 million and Rs. 26 million respectively.

4.6. Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB)

i. Programme for digitalizing accreditation process

Implementing the fully digitalizing programme for every accreditation programmes. By way of introducing the payment platform, which is implemented through the website of the institute, consumers will have the ability to make their payments online.

ii. Introducing promotion and branding to Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB)

It has been planned to launch programmes in the next year to popularize accreditation of SLAB targeting at main export destinations (India, Dubai etc.). For this purpose, action

will be taken to identify the issues in investigation reports and certifications, if any, communicating with the Custom, Accreditation Institutes and other officers with the assistance of the foreign missions in other countries and commercial officers. Further it is expected to provide assistance to exporters of Sri Lanka by way of settling such issues.

iii. Taking action to expand further the accreditation services provided by the institute through the introduction of new accreditation programmes

It is expected to obtain international recognition in year 2024 for the accreditation programme for competency investigation providers, accreditation for institutes which certify individuals, accreditation programme for energy management systems, vocational health and security management systems implemented at present by our institute through international peer evaluation process conducted in year 2023.

Accordingly, it is expected to expand these accreditations further in year 2024. In addition to the above, Reference Material Programme (RMP) (ISO17034) is also due to be established as a new accreditation programmes in year 2024. In the meantime it is expected to introduce Bio babhy (ISO20387), Compliance Management System, (ISO/IEC 37301) and Education Management System as new accreditation programmes.

4.7. Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Fund

i. Programme for promoting the fund by way of preparing data systems for the awardees of scholarships.

The number of the persons, who are employing in various occupations within and outside the country on completion of their University education, is nearly three hundred thousand and a data base has been prepared with the inclusion of the particulars of such persons. It is expected to make a request from those persons using these data to provide certain contribution to the Mahapola scholarship fund. For this purpose, online payment portal has been obtained from the Peoples Bank to ensure direct payments and it is expected to launch a face book page and YouTube channel in the name of Mahapola, and further action has also been taken to implement fund promotion programe using newspaper advertisements and electronic media. In the meantime it is expected to collect a sum of Rs. 200 million by way of promoting the fund in year 2024.

ii. Implementing the online Mahapola lottery again.

Re-launching of online Mahapola lottery - Procurement activities in this regard have been concluded in the year 2023 and it is expected to launch the lottery in year 2024. The income expected to be collected is Rs. 300 million.

iii. Commencing again the Mahapola Education and Trade Exhibition

Approval of the Board of Trustees has been given to commence that trade exhibition again from year 2023 and accordingly, arrangements are being made to hold first trade exhibition in December 2023. It is expected to earn an additional income by this measure to strengthen Mahapola Fund.

4.8. Consumer Affairs Authority

i. Taking action to obstruct the ways for the consumer items in the market , which are harmful to the health

It is prohibited under the Food Act No 26 of 1986 the production, importation, selling and distribution of food items, which are harmful to the health. Director General of Health Services is the competent authority for giving effect to the provisions of this Act. Therefore action is taken to avoid the supply of foods in the market, which are harmful to health, with the coordination of the Ministry of Health and other institutes.

Consumer Affairs Authority expects to take every possible step to obstruct non-food consumer items in the market, which are harmful to health.

Measure proposed in this regard

- Preparation of a data base with the inclusion of particulars of the institutes, which regulate the quality and the standards of the items, which are imported and produced locally..
- Making the standardization of foods and consumer items related to health compulsory.
- Encouraging certification and branding.
- Ensuring coordination with the Ministry of Health and other institutes in respect of foods and non-food items.
- Ensuring coordination with National Medicines Regulatory Authority on drugs and maintaining reports.
- Providing guidelines for trade transactions made through internet and registration.

ii. Establishment of proper standardization for consumer items including health security

Nearly 1500 standards have so far been prepared for various consumer items by Sri Lanka Standards Institute and they are categorized as standards for goods, standards for process and guidelines. 47 standards selected out of them have been made compulsory to follow. Accordingly, Sri Lanka Standards Institute encourages further the preparation of standards and it ensures full assistance as well as contribution. Further action is taken to make the selected standards compulsory and to make the application of specifications indicated in standards compulsory. In order to confirm the quality of the consumer items, certification of consumer items, grading and branding of consumer items are also encouraged. It is expected to take legal actions against the low quality items and punish the responsible persons. .

Tasks proposed for this purpose

- Encouraging the formulation of standards.

- Making the standards compulsory and gazetting them.
- Conducting laboratory tests to verify whether the items are produced following standards.
- Referring the research papers issued by Universities and other research institutes and getting researches conducted.
- Identifying methods for finding low quality items and preserving foods and submitting them.
- Conducting investigations promptly on the complaints made for items with defects and taking legal actions accordingly.
- Certifying selected goods and services and encouraging the grading system.
- Encouraging the branding system.
- Making the consumer aware on standards.
- Making co-ordination with other institutes which confirm the quality of goods and maintaining records.

iii. In addition to the above mentioned special priorities, another special measure taken for the protection of consumer is the establishment of a fair price for a good. Following activities are to be made in this regard.

- Preparation of price formulas on the cost depending on the demand, their updating and making business community aware of such action.
- Entering into agreements with traders and associations, their implementation and follow up actions.
- Analyzing the customs data on imported items and facilitating to make decisions through fair prices.
- Creating and maintaining a combined computerized data system with necessary updating.
- Observing the tendencies of each item and its price and forecasting them and submitting for decisions.
- Observing the production, storing and distribution of selected items.
- Implementing awareness programmes for traders
- Establishment of special committees on price and the quality, and making and implementing relevant decisions.
- Conducting Island wide awareness programmes
- Decentralizing the activities for supervising the complaints at district level.
- Activating and implementing the committees of consumers at regional level.
- Planning a management information system in order to maintain an active institutional practice.

4.9. Co-operative Employees Commission

Conducting awareness programmes with a view to enhance the awareness of Co-operative employees on the labour law and Co-operative law applied to them and conducting awareness programmes to enhance their efficiency and productivity. Accordingly it has been planned to conduct 08 training workshops for the employees of Co-operative services.

4.10. National Institute of Co-operative Development

i. Courses to be conducted in year 2024

Table No 4. 2 Courses to be conducted by National Institute of Co-operative Development in year 2024

Serial No	Target Course	No of courses/ programmes	Expected Participation
1	Building co-operative societies as a sustainable unit		
	• Consultation for multi-purpose co-operative societies	04	200
	• Consultation for Sanasa Societies	04	200
	• Programmes on consultations for accounting	04	200
2	Permanent training courses	01	40
3	Higher Diploma Courses	01	20
4	Diploma Courses	11	330
5	Certificate Courses	09	270
6	Short Term Courses	42	1,680

Source: National Institute of Co-operative Development

- ii. Obtaining Sri Lanka Qualification Framework level by way of reviewing the subject content of all the diploma courses conducted by the institute depending on the requirement of co-operative movement and commencing a higher diploma at SLQF-4 level.
- iii. Commencing courses in Tamil medium with a view to enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes and correlations of the members of Co-operatives in North and East provinces.
- iv. Establishment of Learning Management System (LMS) of the institute and conducting online registration of students whilst establishing online learning process and issuing results of examinations.
- v. Organizing joint courses with private/foreign universities, which have been identified by the National Institute of Co-operative Development..
- vi. Organizing vocational training courses joining with National Vocational Training Authority.
- vii. Organizing programmes for exchanging experiences of Co-operative societies which prove a significant progress in different field, with other societies.

- viii. Digitalizing the library of National Institute of Co-operative Development, which is the knowledge hub of the Co-operative field.
- ix. Organizing English learning camps with a view to transform future generation as a group with entrepreneurial qualities and suitable to the job market.
- x. Organizing distance courses of National Institute of Co-operative Development covering Western, Sabaragamuwa, North Central, North Western and Southern provinces.

4.11. National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka

- Developing the Industrial Properties Administration System (IPAS) of the National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka to level 4, which is the software of the office. .
- Implementing the files digitalizing project with the assistance of World Intellectual Property Organization.
- Conducting active programmes within Sri Lanka by World Intellectual Property Organization with a view to popularise the subject of “intellectual properties”.
- Conducting Island-wide programmes on the subject of intellectual properties by way of coordinating Divisional Secretariats.
- Establishment of an online payment system for Intellectual Property Office.



කුරක්කන්, කවිපි, මුංඇට ඇතුළු ක්ෂේත්‍ර බෝගයන් (Field Crops) සහ කුළු බඩු නිෂ්පාදන ආශ්‍රිත වභාවන්හි ඵලදායීතාවය ඉහළ නැංවීම හා ඵලදාවට සහතික මිලක් ලබා දීම සඳහා ගොවීන් හා රාජ්‍ය නිලධාරීන් සමඟ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව.

மாண்புமிகு வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கௌபி, பயறு, குரக்கன், மற்றும் மசாலா உற்பத்தி உள்ளிட்ட வயல் பயிர்களின் உற்பத்தித்திறனை அதிகரிக்கவும், பயிருக்கு உத்தரவாத விலையை வழங்கவும் விவசாயிகள் மற்றும் அரசு அதிகாரிகளுடன் கலந்துரையாடல் ஒன்றை அமைச்சில் நடத்தினார்.

The discussion held at the Ministry with farmers and government officials to increase the productivity of fields related to field crops including cowpea, cowpea, mung bean and spice products and to provide a guaranteed price for the crop.



பெருசு ராசாயசே ஓன்ரீடி, மெலாடேடி, தைபா லா
 டிராண்டி தாநாபகி ஈன்ட்ரெ ஈடி. ரிசெலிசுகி மஹா
 ஈநுட் ராசா தாந்நிக திசெய்ரீதனன் ரிசெ ஈமெ
 ஈலாநாடசேரீ ஈலுன்ட் ஈரீபார்லி ஈகலிஈல.
 கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் இந்திய, பங்களாதேஷ்
 நேபாளம் மற்றும் இலங்கை ஆகிய நாடுகளின்
 தூதுவர் Mr. Andrei I Rzhevssky உள்ளிட்ட
 இராஜதந்திரப் பிரதிநிதிகளுடன் அமைச்சில்
 இருதரப்பு கலந்துரையாடலை மேற்கொண்டார்.

Discussion held Mr. Andrei I Rzhnevsky
Ambassador of State Belarus for India, Bangladesh,
Nepal and Sri Lanka

லோ-ஸெர்லியாநு ராபாயுடே ஓன்ரீயே கானாபநி ஓன்ரெர்லீமி
 டுமீசு மஹா சமஹ ஈயாபன, வேலேட ஸா ஸாபார்க ஸா
 ஸ்ஹேயுன் ஈாஹிவ டேரெ ஈநர டீலார்கீவஹ ஸஈடா
 வர்ஓய கர் ஸூகீம ஸமீஓன்ஓயேன் ஸஹிசு கர்ன லீ.
 கல்வி, வர்த்தகம் மற்றும் சுற்றுலா ஆகிய துறைகளில்
 இரு நாடுகளுக்கும் இடையிலான இருதரப்பு
 உறவுகளை மேம்படுத்துவது தொடர்பாக மாண்புமிகு
 வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் மங்கோலிய மாநிலத்திற்கான
 இந்தியத் தூதரவர் திரு. கன்போட் தன்பஜவ
 அவர்களுடன் கலந்துரையாடினர்.

Discussions held with Mr. Ganbold Dambajav, Ambassador of Mongolia for India, regarding the development of bilateral relations between the two countries in the fields of education, trade and tourism.



පාරිභෝගිකයාට ගුණාත්මක තත්ත්වයෙන් යුතු නිෂ්පාදනයක් ලබා දීම සඳහා පොල්තෙල් නිෂ්පාදකයින් සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව

நுகர்வோருக்கு தரமான பொருட்களை வழங்குவது தொடர்பில் வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் வர்த்தக அமைச்சில் தேங்காய் எண்ணெய் உற்பத்தியாளர்களுடன் கலந்துரையாடலை மேற்கொண்டார்.

Discussion held at Ministry of trade with coconut oil producers to provide quality products to consumers



වාණිජ දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව මගින් තල් ආශ්‍රිත නිෂ්පාදන අපනයනය ප්‍රවර්ධනය සඳහා තල් කර්මාන්ත සංවර්ධන මණ්ඩලය හා අපනයනකරුවන් සමඟ පැවැත්වූ වැඩසටහන පහත තොර්පාන පොරුදුකளை ඉற்றுමති සේයවතෙ ණුක්කුවිප්පත්තෑක පහත කෑත්තොමුල් අපිවිඳුත්ති ජෛප මර්ණුම ඉර්ණුමතියාලෑරුකුණ් ඔනෑණ්තු වර්ත්ත තිණෑක්කෑත්තිනාල් ඳුත්තප්ප්ඳු ඳිකුප්ප්ඳු.

The program conducted by the Department of Commerce with the Palm Industry Development Board and exporters to promote the export of palm related products.



ශ්‍රී ලාංකාචේ බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය මහකොමසාරිස් සාරා හුල්ටන් මහත්මිය හා රාජ්‍ය තාන්ත්‍රික නියෝජිතයන් පිරිසක් සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ ද්විපාර්ශ්වීය සාකච්ඡාව

කෙලරව වර්ත්තක අමෑමප්පර් ඔලඳුකෑක්කෑකෑන පිරිත්තෑනිය උයර්ස්තෑනිකර් තිඳුමති සාරා ඹර්ල්ඳ්න් මර්ණුම ඔරෑඔතත්තිර් පිරිතිඳිතිකෑන් කුඳුචුඳ්න් වර්ත්තක අමෑමප්ප්ඳු ඔරුතර්පු කලත්තුරෑයාඳලෑ මෑර්කොණ්ඳාර්.

Discussion held on Mrs. Sara Hulton, High Commissioner of British in Sri Lanka and a group of diplomatic representatives at the Ministry of Trade



ජපන් බාහිර වෙළෙඳ සංවිධානයේ (JETRO), නේවාසික නියෝජිත හිරෝකි ඔයි මහතා හා ශ්‍රී ලංකා මෘදුකාංග සේවා සංගමයේ (SLASSCOM) නියෝජිතයන් සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව මාණ්පුමිකු වර්ත්තක අමෑමප්පර්, ඔප්පාණ් වෙළිඳාඳු වර්ත්තක අමෑමප්පු (JETRO) වතිවිඳ්ප් පිරිතිඳිති තිඳු. ඹර්ඳුරෑකි ඔය් මර්ණුම ඔලඳුකෑ මෙණ්පොරුණ් ජෑවෑ සෑඳුත්තිණ් (SLASSCOM) පිරිතිඳිතිකෑණ්ඳ්න් වර්ත්තක අමෑමප්ප්ඳු කලත්තුරෑයාඳලෑ මෑර්කොණ්ඳාර්.

The discussion held on Mr. Hiroki Oi, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Resident Representative with the representatives of and Sri Lanka Software Services Association (SLASSCOM) at the Ministry of Trade



පොල්ගහවෙල, රිදියගම, වැලිමඩ හා සියඹලාපේ සතොස ශාඛා විවෘත කිරීමේ අවස්ථාවන්ට සහභාගී වූ අවස්ථාව. පොල්කුඹුවෙල, රිතියකම, වෙලිමඳෑ මර්ණුම සියම්පලාපේ ඹූතිය ඔඳුකෑණිල් සතොස කිණෑකෑන තිර්ණු වෑක්කුම ඳිකුප්විල් කෙලරව වර්ත්තක අමෑමප්පර් කලත්තු කොණ්ඳා පොතු.

Participated in the opening ceremony of Sathosa branches in Polgahawela, Ridhiagama, Welimada and Siambalape.



ගීතයක නෛතික අයිතිය සම්බන්ධයෙන් ගායන ශිල්පීන්ට පවතින ගැටළු සම්බන්ධයෙන් සාකච්ඡා කිරීම සඳහා කළාකරුවන්, බුද්ධිමය දේපළ කාර්යාලයේ නිලධාරීන් සමඟ පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව
 කෙළරව වර්තමාන අමාත්‍යවරයා ඇතුළත් වූ පාලකයන්ගේ සම්මන්ත්‍රණයක් පිළිබඳව කෙළරව වර්තමාන අමාත්‍යවරයා
 මගින් පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව. The discussion held with the artists, and officials of the Intellectual Property Office to discuss the concerns
 faced by the singers regarding the legal rights of a song.



අපනයන ප්‍රවේශන සහතිකය ලබා දීමේ ක්‍රියාවලිය ඩිජිටල්කරණය කිරීම වෙනුවෙන් ජාත්‍යන්තර වෙළෙඳ
 මධ්‍යස්ථානයේ ව්‍යාපෘති කළමනාකරු රාගදී ඇල්ටාලි මහත්මිය ඇතුළු පිරිස සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී
 පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව.
 මාණ්ඩලික වර්තමාන අමාත්‍යවරයා ඇතුළත් වූ පාලකයන්ගේ සම්මන්ත්‍රණයක් පිළිබඳව කෙළරව වර්තමාන අමාත්‍යවරයා
 මගින් පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව. Discussion held Mrs. Ragad Altali, Project Manager of the International Trade Center for the digitalization
 of the process of providing Certificates of Origin at the Ministry of trade



මුසිලයෙන් මෙරටට ආනයනය කෙරෙන සීනි තොග ආරක්ෂිතව හා කඩිනමින් ලබා ගැනීමට රාජ්‍ය නිලධාරීන් හා
 සීනි ආනයනකරුවන් සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව
 පිරිසිල්ලේ මුහුණ දෙන ලෙසට සීනි මිලදී ගැනීමට සිදුවීම හේතු වූ පිළිගැනීමට සාකච්ඡාව. Meeting with government officers and sugar importers to get the sugar stock imported from Brazil to Sri
 Lanka safely and quickly



රුපවාහිනී හා ගුවන් විදුලි මාධ්‍යයන් ඇතුළු විද්‍යුත් මාධ්‍ය මගින් ප්‍රචාරය කෙරෙන ගීත සඳහා කතෘභාගය ලබා දීමේ ක්‍රියාවලිය සම්බන්ධයෙන් කළාකරුවන්, බුද්ධිමය දේපළ කාර්යාලයේ නිලධාරීන් සමඟ දෙවනවර වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව
 தொலைகாட்சி, வானொலி உள்ளிட்ட இலத்திரனியல் ஊடகங்கள் ஊடாக ஒலிபரப்பப்படும் பாடல்களுக்கு காப்புரிமை வழங்குவது தொடர்பில் வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் நளின் பெர்னாண்டோ புலமை சொத்துரிமை அலுவலக அதிகாரிகளுடன் இரண்டாவது கலந்துரையாடலை வர்த்தக அமைச்சில் நடத்தினார்.

The discussion held at the Ministry of Commerce for the second time with the officials of the Intellectual Property Office regarding the process of granting copyright for songs broadcasted by electronic media including television and radio media.



පාන් ආඥා පනත අවලංගු කිරීමට ඉදිරිපත් කළ යෝජනාවට කැබිනට් යෝජනාවට අනුමැතිය හිමිවීම හා සමස්ත ලංකා බේකරි නිෂ්පාදන හිමියන්ගේ සංගමය සමඟ බේකරි ආශ්‍රිත නිෂ්පාදනයන්හි මිල ගණන් පහත හෙළීම සම්බන්ධයෙන් වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව

மாண்புமிகு வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் பாண்ட் கட்டளைச் சட்டத்தை நீக்குவதற்கான யோசனைக்கு அமைச்சரவை அங்கீகாரம் வழங்கியுள்ளதுடன், பேக்கரி தொடர்பான பொருட்களின் விலைகளை குறைப்பது தொடர்பாக அகில இலங்கை பேக்கரி உற்பத்தி உரிமையாளர்கள் சங்கத்துடன் வர்த்தக அமைச்சில் நடைபெற்ற கலந்துரையாடல்.

The discussion held at the Ministry regarding the approval of the Cabinet proposal for the repeal of the Bread Ordinance and the reduction of prices of bakery-related products with the All Ceylon Bakery Product Owners' Association



සිමෙන්ති වෙළෙඳපොළේ සිමෙන්ති කොට්ටයක උපරිම සිල්ලර මිල රු 2300ක් දක්වා අඩු කිරීම සම්බන්ධයෙන් සිමෙන්ති නිෂ්පාදකයන් සමඟ පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව

சீமெந்து சந்தையில் மூட்டை ஒன்றின் அதிகபட்ச சில்லறை விலையை 2300 ரூபாவாக குறைப்பது தொடர்பில் கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் சீமெந்து உற்பத்தியாளர்களுடன் கலந்துரையாடினார்.

The discussion held with the cement manufacturers regarding reducing the maximum retail price of a bag of cement to Rs. 2300 in the cement market.



ඩිස්ට්‍රිලියානු මහා කොමසාරිස් ජෝල් ස්ටෙෆන්ස් මහතා සමඟ වෙළෙඳ, ආර්ථික හා වාණිජ කටයුතු පිළිබඳ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ ද්විපාර්ශ්වීය සාකච්ඡාව.

கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவுஸ்திரேலிய உயர்ஸ்தானிகர் திரு. போல் ஸ்டீபன்ஸுடன் அவர்களுடன் வர்த்தகம், பொருளாதாரம் மற்றும் வர்த்தகம் தொடர்பாக வர்த்தக அமைச்சில் இருதரப்பு கலந்துரையாடலை மேற்கொண்டார்.

Discussion held Mr. Paul Stephens, Australian High Commissioner about Trade, Economic and Commercial Affairs at the Ministry of Trade





වාණිජ දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව සංවිධානය කළ කුඩා හා මධ්‍ය පරිමාණ ව්‍යවසායකයන් අපනයන වෙළෙඳපොළ වෙත ප්‍රවිශ්‍ය කිරීමේ වැඩමුළුවට සහභාගී වෙමින් වර්තමාන තිணைக்கලාத்தිනාල් ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்ட சிறிய மற்றும் நடுத்தர தொழில் நிறுவனங்களுக்கான ஏற்றுமதி சந்தையில் நுழைவது தொடர்பான செயலம்வில் கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கலந்துகொண்டார்.

Participating in the workshop on entry of small and medium enterprises into the export market organized by the Department of Commerce



නීතීන් හා ටයිල් මිල ගණන් අඩු කිරීම සඳහා එම කර්මාන්ත ආශ්‍රිත සමාගම්හි විධායක නිලධාරීන් සමඟ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව.

கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்கள், பெயின்ட் மற்றும் டைல்ஸ் விலைகளை குறைப்பது தொடர்பாக தொழில்துறையுடன் தொடர்புடைய நிறுவனங்களின் நிர்வாகிகளுடன் கலந்துரையாடல் ஒன்றை அமைச்சில் நடத்தினார்.

The discussion held at the Ministry with the executives of the related companies in the industry to reduce the prices of paint and tiles



සිමෙන්ති, යකඩ ඇතුළු අමුද්‍රව්‍ය මිල ගණන් පහත හෙළීම වෙනුවෙන් හා ඉදිකිරීම් ක්ෂේත්‍රයේ ප්‍රගමනය වෙනුවෙන් රජයට ගත හැකි ඉදිරි ක්‍රියාමාර්ග සම්බන්ධයෙන් ඉදිකිරීම් කර්මාන්තය ආශ්‍රිත සංගම් සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ සාකච්ඡාව

சீமெந்து, இரும்பு உள்ளிட்ட மூலப்பொருட்களின் விலைகளை குறைப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் மேற்கொள்ளும் எதிர்கால நடவடிக்கைகள் குறித்தும், அதன் முன்னேற்றம் குறித்தும் நிர்மாணத்துறை தொடர்பான சங்கங்களுடன் வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் கலந்துரையாடினார்.

The discussion held at the Ministry with the associations related to the construction industry regarding the further steps that the government can take to bring down the prices of raw materials including cement and iron and for the advancement of the construction sector.



2023 දෙසැම්බර් මස 13 වනදා සිට 17 වනදා දක්වා ජා-ඇළ නගරසභා ත්‍රිධාංගණයේදී පැවැත්වීමට නියමිත “මහපොළ අධ්‍යාපනික හා වෙළෙඳ ප්‍රදර්ශනය” වෙනුවෙන් ජා-ඇළ ප්‍රාදේශීය ලේකම් කාර්යාලයේදී පැවැත්වූ විශේෂ සාකච්ඡාව සඳහා සහභාගී වෙමින්.

மாண்புமிகு வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் நளின் பெர்னாண்டோ 2023 டிசம்பர் 13 முதல் 17 வரை ஜா-எல மாநகர விளையாட்டு மைதானத்தில். ஜா-எல பிரதேச செயலகத்தில் “மஹாபொல கல்வி மற்றும் வர்த்தக கண்காட்சிக்காக நடைபெற்ற விசேட கலந்துரையாடலில் கலந்து கொண்ட போது.

Participating in the special discussion held at the Ja-Ala Divisional Secretariat for the “Mahapola Educational and Trade Fair” to be held from 13th to 17th December 2023 at the Ja-Ala Municipal Stadium.



බ්‍රිතාන්‍ය මහා කොමසාරිස් ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සමීප මිතුරියි රාජ්‍යයක් වන බ්‍රිතාන්‍යය නව මහකොමසාරිස් ඇන්ඩෲ පැට්‍රික් මහතා සමඟ වෙළෙඳ අමාත්‍යාංශයේදී පැවැත්වූ ද්වි පාර්ශ්වීය සාකච්ඡාව

கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் பிரித்தானிய உயர்ஸ்தானிகர், இலங்கையின் நெருங்கிய நட்பு நாடு, பிரித்தானியாவின் புதிய உயர்ஸ்தானிகர் திரு. அன்ட்ரூ பேட்ரிக், வர்த்தக அமைச்சில் இருதரப்பு கலந்துரையாடலை மேற்கொண்டார்.

Discussion held Mr. Andrew Patrick, new British High Commissioner for Sri Lanka at the Ministry of Trade





බිත්තර කර්මාන්තය ස්ථාවර කොට බිත්තර නිෂ්පාදනය ඉහළ නැංවීම වෙනුවෙන් මේ වන විටත් බිත්තර නිෂ්පාදනය කරන කුඩා හා මධ්‍ය පරිමාණ කර්මාන්තකරුවන් සඳහා ගම්පහ දිස්ත්‍රික් ලේකම් කාර්යාල පරිශ්‍රයේ පැවැති කුකුළු පැටවු බෙදාදීමේ දීප්වාජන වැඩසටහනේ සමාරම්භක අවස්ථාව සඳහා සහභාගී වෙමින්. (මුද්‍රා කෙතත්තොම්බල ස්තීර්වත්වීමට නොහැකිවූයේ ඉතිරි කළ මුද්‍රා උපකරණ නිසාය.)

මුද්‍රා කෙතත්තොම්බල ස්තීර්වත්වීමට නොහැකිවූයේ ඉතිරි කළ මුද්‍රා උපකරණ නිසාය.

Participating in the inaugural event of the country-wide program for the distribution of chicks held at the Gampaha District Secretariat premises for the small and medium-scale industrialists who are already producing eggs, in order to stabilize the egg industry and increase the production of eggs



කොළඹ 07 රාජකීය විද්‍යාලීය නව රහනලේදී ගරු අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය දිනේෂ් ගුණවර්ධන මහතාගේ ප්‍රධානත්වයෙන් පැවැත්වුණු “සමූපකාර දිනය- 'නිරසාර සංවර්ධනය සඳහා සමූපකාර’ යන තේමාව පදනම් කරගනිමින් 101 වෙනි ජාත්‍යන්තර සමූපකාර දින සැමරුම් උත්සවය සඳහා සහභාගී වූ අවස්ථාව

මාණ්ඩුමිත වර්තමාන අවස්ථාවේදී, කොළඹ 07 රාජකීය විද්‍යාලීය නව රහනලේදී ගරු අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය දිනේෂ් ගුණවර්ධන මහතාගේ ප්‍රධානත්වයෙන් පැවැත්වුණු “සමූපකාර දිනය- 'නිරසාර සංවර්ධනය සඳහා සමූපකාර’ යන තේමාව පදනම් කරගනිමින් 101 වෙනි ජාත්‍යන්තර සමූපකාර දින සැමරුම් උත්සවය සඳහා සහභාගී වූ අවස්ථාව

Participate in the 101st International Cooperative Day celebration based on the theme "Cooperatives for Sustainable Development" which was held at the New Theater of the Royal College, Colombo 07 and the Honorable Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena served as the chief guest of this event.



පාරිභෝගිකයන් හට නිසි ප්‍රමිතියකින් යුතු භාණ්ඩ හා සේවා ලැබෙනවාද යන්න සොයා බැලීම සඳහා වැලිසර හා නාරාහේන්පිට විශේෂිත ආර්ථික මධ්‍යස්ථානයන්හි නිරීක්ෂණ වාරිකාවක නිරත වූ අවස්ථාව.

කෙළවර වර්තමාන අවස්ථාවේදී, කොළඹ 07 රාජකීය විද්‍යාලීය නව රහනලේදී ගරු අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය දිනේෂ් ගුණවර්ධන මහතාගේ ප්‍රධානත්වයෙන් පැවැත්වුණු “සමූපකාර දිනය- 'නිරසාර සංවර්ධනය සඳහා සමූපකාර’ යන තේමාව පදනම් කරගනිමින් 101 වෙනි ජාත්‍යන්තර සමූපකාර දින සැමරුම් උත්සවය සඳහා සහභාගී වූ අවස්ථාව

An observation tour was conducted in Welisara and Narahenpita special economic centers to find out whether the customers are getting quality goods and services



"සදාචාරාත්මක ව්‍යාපාරික පරිසරයක්" මැයෙන් පාරිභෝගික කටයුතු පිළිබඳ අධිකාරිය මගින් සිදු කරනු ලබන දීප ව්‍යාප්ත වෙළෙඳ ව්‍යාපාරිකයන් දැනුවත් කිරීමේ වැඩසටහන් මාලාවෙහි සමාරම්භක වැඩසටහන සඳහා සහභාගී වෙමින්.

நுகர்வோர் அதிகாரசபையினால் "நெறிமுறை வர்த்தக சூழல்" தொடர்பான விழிப்புணர்வு நிகழ்ச்சித் தொடர் ஆரம்ப நிகழ்வில் கலந்துகொண்ட கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர். Participating in the inaugural program of the series of awareness programs - "Ethical Business Environment" - for traders throughout the island conducted by the Consumer Affairs Authority.



"සදාචාරාත්මක ව්‍යාපාරික පරිසරයක්" මැයෙන් පාරිභෝගික කටයුතු පිළිබඳ අධිකාරිය මගින් මීගමුවේදී පැවැත්වූ දීප ව්‍යාප්ත වෙළෙඳ ව්‍යාපාරිකයන් දැනුවත් කිරීමේ වැඩසටහන් මාලාවෙහි දෙවන වැඩසටහන සඳහා සහභාගී වෙමින්.

நுகர்வோர் அதிகாரசபையினால் "நெறிமுறை வர்த்தக சூழல்" தொடர்பான விழிப்புணர்வு நிகழ்ச்சித் தொடர் ஆரம்ப நிகழ்வில் கலந்துகொண்ட கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர். Participating in the second program in the series of awareness programs - "Ethical Business Environment" - for traders throughout the island held by the Consumer Affairs Authority in Negombo



"පාරිභෝගිකයන් විසින් යොමුකරන සහන පැමිණිලි විමර්ශනය විමධ්‍යගත ක්‍රියාවලියක් ඔස්සේ විධිමත් කිරීමේ වැඩසටහන" සඳහා සහභාගී වෙමින්. மாண்புமிகு வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்கள், "பரவலாக்கப்பட்ட செயல்முறையின் மூலம் நுகர்வோரால் குறிப்பிடப்படும் நிவாரண முறைப்பாடுகளின் விசாரணையை முறைப்படுத்துவதற்கான வேலைத்திட்டத்தில்" கலந்துகொண்டார்.

Participating in "Programme to Streamline Investigation of Relief Complaints Referred by Consumers through a Decentralized Process".



ව්‍යවසායකයන් දිරිමත් කිරීම වෙනුවෙන් සීමාසහිත සමස්ත ලංකා ව්‍යවසායක සංවර්ධන සමුපකාර සමිතියේ ජා ඇළ ශබ්ව විවෘත කිරීම සඳහා සහභාගී වෙමින්. தோழில் முயற்சியாளர்களை ஊக்குவிப்பதற்காக வரையறுக்கப்பட்ட அகில இலங்கை தொழில் முயற்சியாளர் அபிவிருத்தி கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கத்தின் ஜா அல கிளையை திறந்து வைக்கும் நிகழ்வில் கௌரவ வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கலந்துகொண்டார்.

Opening ceremony of the All Ceylon Entrepreneur Development Cooperative Society Limited Ja-Ala Branch



වෙළෙඳපොළේ කුකුළු මස් මිල ගණන් අඩු කිරීම සම්බන්ධයෙන් එම නිෂ්පාදකයින් සමඟ පැවති සාකච්ඡාව. சந்தையில் கோழி இறைச்சி விலை குறைப்பு தொடர்பில் உற்பத்தியாளர்களுடன் கலந்துரையாடல் வர்த்தக அமைச்சர் அவர்களால் நடத்தப்பட்டது.

The discussion held with the producers regarding the reduction of chicken prices in the market.



වෙළෙඳ, වාණිජ හා ආහාර සුරක්ෂිතතා අමාත්‍යාංශය

අංක 492, ආර්. ඒ. දී. මැල් මාවත, කොළඹ 03. දුරකථනය: 0112435511 ෆැක්ස්: 0112432255 විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල: info@trademin.gov.lk

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