

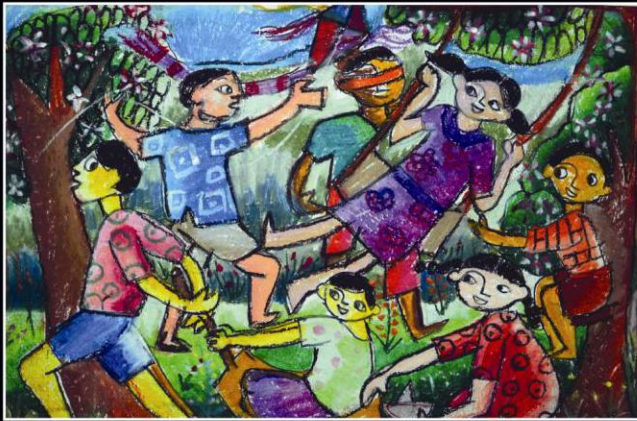


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ஆண்டறிக்கை
ANNUAL REPORT

2013



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தேசிய சிறுவர் பாதுகாப்பு அதிகாரசபை
National Child Protection Authority



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மகளிர் மற்றும் சிறுவர் அலுவல்கள் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Women & Child Affairs

Annual Report

2013



National Child Protection Authority

Vision

To create a child friendly and
protective environment for children

Mission

To ensure children are free from
all forms of abuse



**Message from the Hon. Minister Tissa Karalliyadda,
The Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs**

It is with great pleasure that I issue this message for the 2013 annual report of the National Child Protection Authority, an institute that renders invaluable service for protection, care and development of children.

Working towards guaranteeing child protection is indeed an extremely challenging process within today's complex society. Studying this report makes it evident that the National Child Protection Authority has fulfilled this responsibility with great dedication and commitment.

It is a pleasure to observe the recruitment of 360 graduates to the post of Divisional Child Protection Officer in to execute fill the vacancies that existed at the Divisional Secretariat level with the objective of executing the duties assigned to the Authority at an optimum level.

Further, the steps taken by the National Child Protection Authority to carry out a number of awareness programmes with the objective of eradicating child labour and taking legal action against the offenders of child abuse are indeed commendable.

It is most admirable to note the manner in which national responsibility is shouldered by the National Child Protection Authority by continuing the existing programmes for safety and protection of children while making arrangements to introduce brand new programmes from year to year.

Furthermore, I wish to emphasize on the fact that I am dedicated to fulfilling my responsibilities and providing unhesitating guidance in my capacity as the Minister in charge of the portfolio. I take this opportunity to convey the appreciation I feel towards the National Child Protection Authority for the support rendered by them and that I have my utmost confidence in the Chairperson and the entire staff of the National Child Protection Authority to continue their unparalleled dedication towards gifting the nation with a generation of children who are safe and secure.

12.09.2014

Tissa Karalliyadda (M.P.)

Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs

Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs



Message from the Secretary to the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs

It gives me immense pleasure to issue this message to the annual report, 2013 of the National Child Protection Authority which operates under the purview of the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs

It is the duty of us all to create a society and a culture devoid of all forms of child abuse. The National Child Protection Authority executes its mandate in an exemplary manner to fulfill this duty and its ability to render a pioneering service through a number of programmes at the grassroots level is deeply admired by me.

Securing child safety in a country is an extremely challenging task. Children who are victims of abuse are more likely to turn towards deviant social behavior as they are re-integrated into society. In order to minimise such tendencies, the National Child Protection Authority provides counselling that is essential to integrate child victims back into the society.

Using the 1929 Sri Lanka Child Helpline which is in operation during all 24 hours of the day in all three languages to accept complaints related to child abuse expeditiously is a special function carried out by the National Child Protection Authority.

In year 2013, the National Child Protection Authority has been successful in launching the 'national child protection policy', and 'the draft guidelines and standards for childcare institutions' which was aimed at ensuring optimum welfare for institutionalised children. Action taken by the National Child Protection Authority to launch these policies is a decisive factor on child safety.

The National Child Protection Authority and the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs continue to be dedicated to the grave responsibility of protecting all children of the nation and it is by earnest hope that the Chairperson and the staff of the National Child Protection Authority be granted the willpower, courage and energy for this purpose.

18.09.2014

Eric Ilayapparachchi

Secretary

Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs



Message from the Hon. Chairperson

Children are the most powerful and the most decisive factor that determines the future of a country. Ensuring safety of the children of our nation must run parallel to the journey towards the apex of development which Sri Lanka is making at present. Therefore, the National Child Protection Authority, the most prominent state entity that takes action to protect children from all forms of abuse, has continued its practice of protecting the children of the nation in a regular and efficient manner while facing this formidable challenge and introducing new programmes in year 2013.

Recruitment of 360 regional child protection officers at the Divisional Secretariat level in year 2013 marked a turning point in the history of child protection in Sri Lanka. 212 officers out of the total were recruited within the year itself. Furthermore, the Authority was successful in carrying out several researches related to child protection. The research study carried out with the objective of determining reasons for the inefficient implementation of laws against racketeering and the research on the quality standards of counselling services available in schools were prominent among them. A child protection center by the name of “Sureki Piyasa” was started in year 2013 with the involvement of H.E. the President Mahinda Rajapaksa with the objective of ensuring the best interest of victimised children. Further, it was a great victory to be able to launch ‘the draft child protection policy’ within this year. In addition, action was taken in 2013 to launch ‘the draft guidelines and standards for childcare institutions’ which is aimed at ensuring optimum welfare for institutionalised children. On the other hand, we were able to take steps to forward the recommendations on amending the Children and Young Persons Ordinance No. 48 of 1939 to relevant institutions. Furthermore, the 1929 child helpline continued to function, becoming closer to the public with the child friendly approach.

I wish to convey my respect and gratitude towards H.E. the President Mahinda Rajapaksa who continued to provide encouragement and guidance to make the functions of the National Child Protection Authority successful in year 2013 too, striving at all times to gift a child friendly and safe environment to the children of the nation in keeping with the concept that “children are like flowers” which is mentioned in the Mahinda Chinthana – Vision for the Future. I deeply admire the support extended by the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs, the Hon. Tissa Karalliyadda and the officers of his ministry including the Secretary to the Ministry, Mr.

Eric Illayapparachchi in the task of assuring the safety of children. Furthermore, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Board of Directors and the Panel of the National Child Protection Authority and the Deputy Chairperson Mrs. Sujatha Kulathunga, AAL. The contribution made by various governmental and non governmental institutions that work in the interest of children is indeed commendable. In addition, I highly appreciate the assistance rendered to us by various media organizations which gave coverage to the 1929 Child Helpline and publicised it without accepting any payment. I also wish to acknowledge the assistance provided by the staff of the National Child Protection Authority.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to join hands with the National Child Protection Authority to assure safety of children and eliminate all forms of abuse.

24.08.2014

Anoma Dissanayake, AAL

Chairperson

National Child Protection Authority



Message from the Deputy Chairperson

Taking proactive measures to prevent child abuse which is advancing at present as a serious social menace is not only a responsibility but also a duty to be executed by all of us. The National Child Protection Authority has carried out an immense workload towards the safety of the children of our nation in 2013 with a view of fulfilling this serious duty.

One method for the prevention of child abuse is the awareness about child abuse. Therefore, the National Child Protection Authority has taken action to implement awareness programmes from the grassroots level with the objective of protecting children from abuse. Especially, a background conducive to child friendly environment was promoted by educating the health professionals, the students of education collages and public officials that work closely with children. Further, school counsellors too were educated this year under the school security committees systematically.

Protecting and caring victims of child abuse is an essential responsibility of the society. For this purpose, the use of media for reporting cases of child abuse must be at an optimum level. With the objective of achieving this end, action was taken by the Authority to carry out media sensitisation workshops on child protection and was successful in launching a "guideline manual" for media personnel.

Arranging for foster parents and making arrangements related to other welfare measures for children who lost guardians as a result of the tsunami disaster were carried out expeditiously this year in keeping with the provisions of the Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act no. 16 of 2005.

I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to H.E. the President, Mahinda Rajapaksa who continued to encourage and instruct us at all times towards fulfilling the functions of the National Child Protection Authority in the most successful manner; to the Hon. Tissa Karalliyadda, the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs as well as the Secretary to the Ministry, Mr. Eric Illayapparachchi who guided us towards success in our endeavors; and to the Chairperson of the National Child Protection Authority, Ms. Anoma Dissanayake, AAL, who continues to direct the Authority down the correct path. Furthermore, I wish to recall with appreciation the support extended by the Board of Directors and the Panel of the National Child Protection Authority and also the commendable assistance rendered by the staff of the NCPA.

In conclusion I wish to invite all members of the society to collaborate with the National Child Protection Authority and extend their contribution since ensuring safety of the children of our nation is a mammoth task that cannot be executed by the NCPA alone.

24.08.2014

Sujatha Kulathunga, AAL

Deputy Chairperson

National Child Protection Authority

Board of Directors of the National Child Protection Authority in year 2013

Ms. Anoma Dissanayake, AAL	Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority, No. 330, Thalawathugoda Road, Madiwela, Sri Jayawardenapura
Ms. Sujatha Kulathinga, AAL	Deputy Chairperson, National Child Protection Authority, No. 330, Thalawathugoda Road, Madiwela, Sri Jayawardenapura
Prof. (Mrs.) Samudra Kathriarachchi	Consultant Psychiatric, Faculty of Medical Science, University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Sri Jayawardenapura
Prof. (Mrs.) Manori Senanayake	Senior Paediatrician, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Colombo 07
Dr. P.B. Dasanayaka	Judicial Medical Officer, Institute of Legal Medicine and Toxicology, 111, Francis Road, Colombo 10
Dr. T. Suveendran	Psychologist, No 06, Perera Lane, Colombo 10
Mr B.P.Aluvihare	Deputy Solicitor General, Attorney General's Department, Colombo 12
Mrs. M. Yamuna Perera	Commissioner, Department of Probation & Childcare Service, No. 150 A, LHP Building, Nawala
Mrs. Pearl Weerasinghe	Commissioner General of Labour, Department of Labour, Colombo 05
Mrs. R. K. G. D. K. Wijesinghe	Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Planning, The Secretariat Building, Colombo 01
Mrs. Shiromi Masakorala	Member, 4/10, Welikada Watta, Nawala Road, Rajagiriya
Mrs. B. M. Abeykoon	Member, 304, Baudhaloka Mw, Colombo 07

Mr. Asoka Wijethilaka	Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police, DIG Office, Kurunegala
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Panel Members of the National Child Protection Authority in 2013

Mrs. Anusha A. Munasinghe	Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Colombo 12
Mrs. R. M. I. Rathnayake	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03
Mrs K.B.T.N.Amaratunga	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mass Media and Information, No. 163, Kirulapana Mawatha, Polhengoda, Colombo 05
Mrs. M.A.M.Arifa	Commissioner, Women and Children's Affairs Division, Department of Labour, Colombo 05
Mrs. Hema Dharmawardene	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Economic Development, No.4 64,T.B.Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10
Mrs U.S. K..Denawatta	Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Local Government And Provincial Council, No.330, Union Place, Colombo 02
Mrs. D.S Wijesekara	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Child Development and Women Affairs, 175/A, Nawala Road, Nugegoda
Mr. K.V.D.C. Wimalasiri	Senior Assistant Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Health and Nutrition, No. 385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Road, Colombo 10
Mr. M.C.L. Fernando	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Social Services and Social Welfare, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla
Mr. H.U. Prematilake	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Social Services and Social Welfare, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla

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Introduction

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted as a universal declaration on 20 November 1989 as a result of the collaboration of many different organizations and states with the objective of protecting the rights of the child. This Convention consists of 54 clauses which affirm the rights to which every child is universally entitled to every child regardless of any difference and further analyses the binding nature of these rights upon the state. Upon analysis of the prevalent social environment pertaining to child rights, it was evident that the use of child labour for armed conflicts, child trafficking, child prostitution and use of children in pornographic films and other publications had become widespread phenomena that affect child development at length. In response to these realities, prevention of the use of child labour in armed conflicts and prevention of child trafficking, prostitution and the use of children in pornographic films were incorporated into the Convention as optional protocols in year 2000.

Sri Lanka ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in year 1991. Accordingly, a Presidential Taskforce on Child Protection was established in year 1996 with a view to recommending measures required for the protection of child rights in Sri Lanka. After investigations, this body recommended the establishment of a governmental institution to implement measures to minimise child abuse. Thus, the National Child Protection Authority was established under the National Child Protection Authority Act No. 50 of 1998. From its very inception to the present, the National Child Protection Authority has been committed to implementing actions that prevent child abuse, taking suitable and necessary action against child abuse and making necessary arrangements to integrate victims of child abuse back into the society.

While the National Child Protection Authority is empowered by the National Child Protection Authority Act No. 50 of 1998 to take action necessary for the protection of the children of the nation, further power has been vested in the Authority through the Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act No. 16 of 2005 to act in welfare of children victimised by the tsunami disaster which struck the island on 26 December 2004. Furthermore, Prevention of Domestic Violence Act No. 34 of 2005 enables the involvement of the Authority as a third party in the event of a child being subject to domestic violence.

On 22 July 2010, the 24 hour Child Helpline '1929' was established in the National Child Protection Authority premises with the objective of ensuring optimum welfare of children

and recording cases of child abuse in an expeditious and systematic manner. The Child Helpline became a turning point in the child protection methodology adopted in Sri Lanka and it soon turned into a prominent child helpline that is in operation in the South Asian region. With the launching of the Child Helpline, cases of child abuse which were hidden deep in the society came to light with many cases being reported. Besides, the provision of counselling services too is facilitated through the Helpline. Today, the Child Helpline continues to operate, getting closer to the people of the country.

Functions of the National Child Protection Authority

- Advise the Government in the formulation of a national policy on the prevention of child abuse and the protection and treatment of children who are victims of such abuse.
- Advise the Government on measures for the prevention of child abuse.
- Advise the Government on measures for the protection of the victims of such abuse.
- Create an awareness, of the right of a child to be protected from abuse and the methods of preventing child abuse.
- Consult the relevant ministries, Provincial Councils, local authorities, District and Divisional Secretaries, public and private sector organizations and recommend all such measures as are necessary, for the purpose of preventing child abuse and for protecting and safeguarding the interests of the victims of such abuse.
- Recommend legal, administrative or other reforms required for the effective implementation of the national policy for the prevention of child abuse.
- Monitor the implementation of laws relating to all forms of child abuse.
- Monitor the progress of all investigations and criminal proceedings relating to child abuse.
- Recommend measures to address the humanitarian concerns relating to children affected by armed conflict and the protection of such children, including measures for their mental and physical well-being and their re-integration into society.
- Take appropriate steps where necessary for securing the safety and protection of children involved in criminal investigations and criminal proceedings.
- Receive complaints from the public relating to child abuse and where necessary, to refer such complaints to the appropriate authorities.
- Advise and assist Provincial Councils and local authorities, and nongovernmental organizations to co-ordinate campaigns against child abuse.
- Prepare and maintain a national data base on child abuse.

- Consultation with the relevant ministries and other authorities to supervise and monitor all religious and charitable institutions which provide child care services to children.
- Conduct, promote and co-ordinate, research in relation to child abuse and child protection.
- Provide information and education to the public regarding the safety of children and the protection of the interests of children.
- Engage in dialogue with all sections connected with tourism with a view to minimizing the opportunities for child abuse.
- Organize and facilitate workshops, seminars and discussions, relating to child abuse.
- Liaise and exchange information with foreign Governments and international organizations, with respect to detection and prevention of all forms of child abuse.

Sub-Units of the National Child Protection Authority

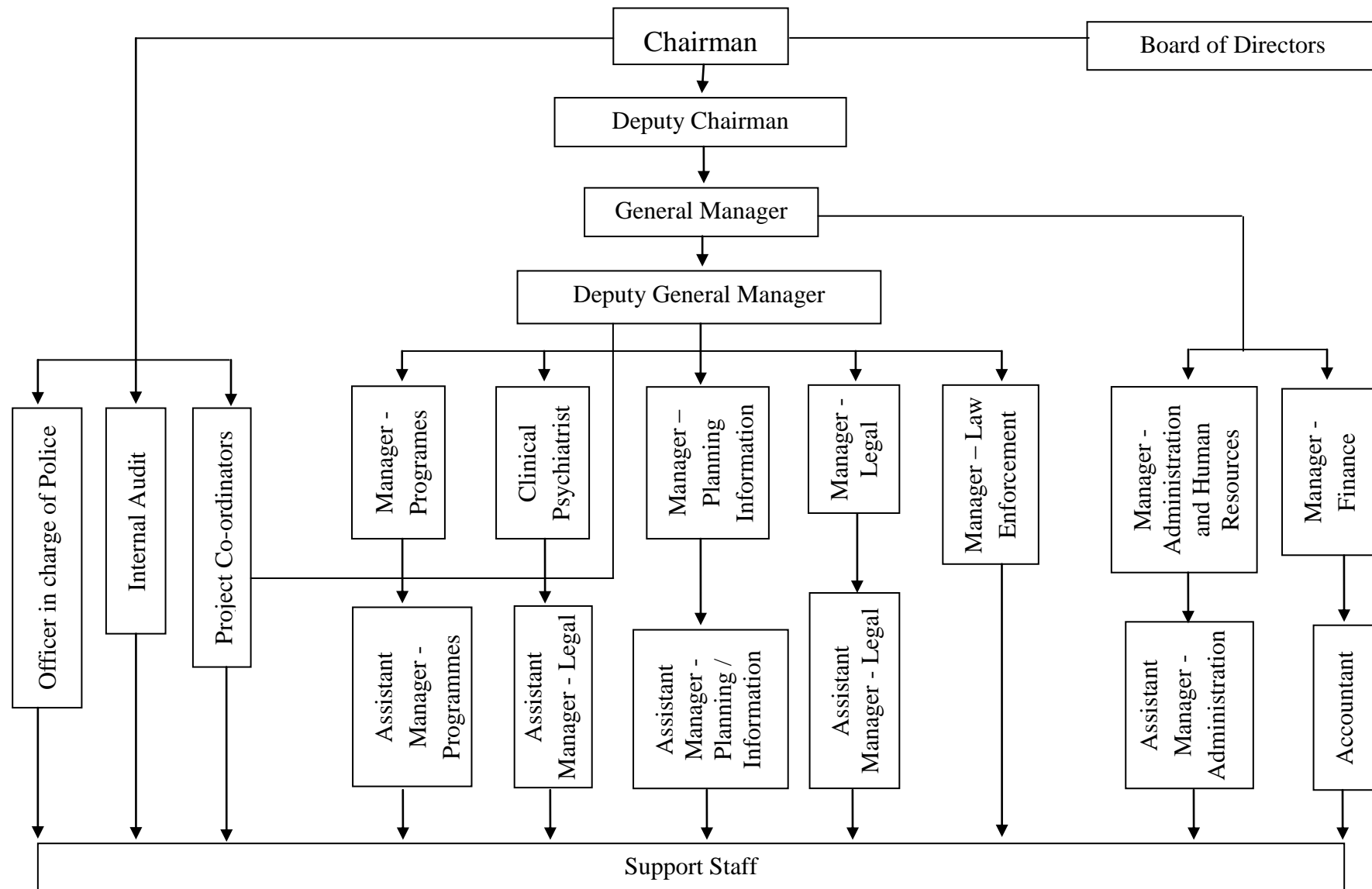
The following sub-units function under the National Child Protection Authority, rendering distinctive tasks aimed at child protection.

- Administration Unit
- Finance Unit
- Planning and Information Unit
 - Library
- Programmes Unit
- Psychosocial Unit
- Legal Unit
- Law Enforcement Unit
 - 1929 Sri Lanka Child Helpline
 - Investigation Unit
 - Central archives
- Internal Audit Unit
- Special Police Investigation Unit
- Projects Unit

Our Island-wide service dedicated to children...

In order to execute the mandate of the National Child Protection Authority island-wide, two officers each are deployed at District Secretariat level while one officer each is deployed at Divisional Secretariat level. Their main duty is to collaborate with the Head Office of the National Child Protection Authority to implement all measures required to ensure child protection at district and divisional secretariat levels.

Organizational Structure of the National Child Protection Authority in 2013



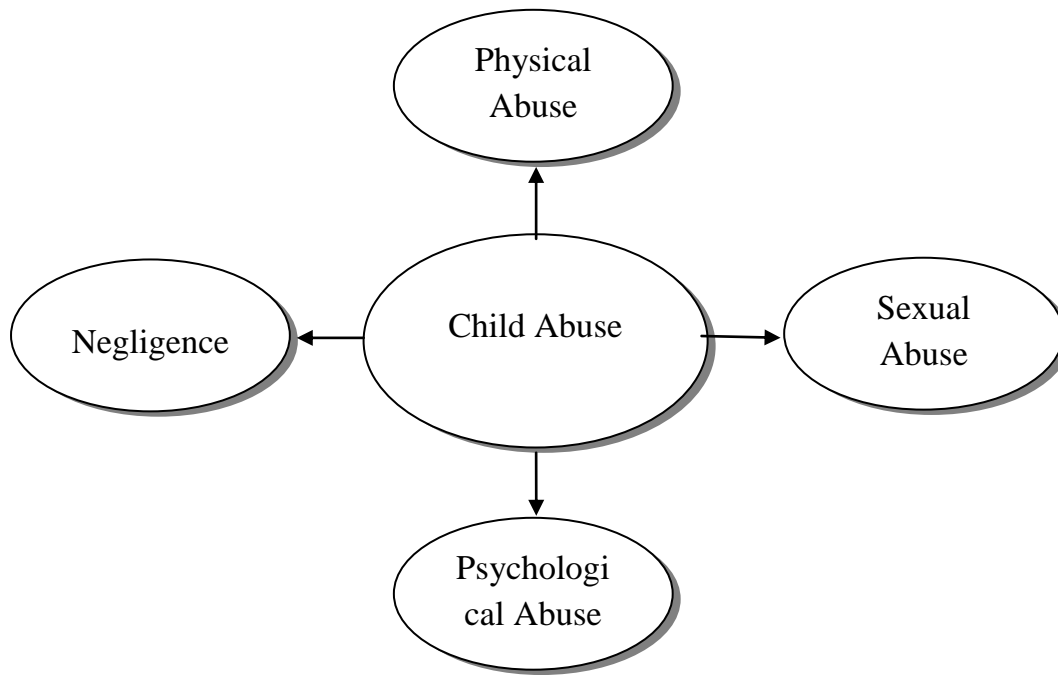
Every effort we make is in the name of protecting children

Child protection is the prevention of all forms of abuse against children and responding against such acts of child abuse. Simply put, child abuse is the use of children for wrongful acts by adults. The detrimental effects of child abuse are immense. It can cause

- Shock
- Trauma
- Decline of self confidence
- Disruption of education
- Lack of proper sleep
- Pessimism towards the future
- Tendency to engage in unwholesome acts
- Tendency to engage in criminal acts
- Display of adult behaviour
- Display of unusual or inappropriate sexual understanding

We must all act in unison to prevent our children from reaching such levels.

There are four main ways through which the innocent lives of children can be destroyed:



Physical abuse:

Any harm inflicted on a child or any physical action carried out by a person to harm a child.

Sexual abuse:

Involving a child in any sexual activity.

Psychological abuse:

Any activity that causes harm to the psychological development of the child.

Negligence:

Parents or guardians of a child not looking into the basic needs of a child

Let us prevent abusers from getting close to the child...

Let us protect children from abusers...

- Discuss matters openly with your children
- Love your children in ways that they can feel
- Listen to your children attentively
- Get a good understanding of the day-to-day activities and behaviour of the child
- Educate your children on 'good' and 'bad' touching
- Explain how 'bad' touching makes you feel uncomfortable and distressed
- Teach your children to object when undue influence is exerted on them
- Teach children that people living in society can be different and that they can influence children at any time
- Teach them to leave a place which is unsafe
- Explain them that abusers may come in the guise of a friend and try to establish a relationship by giving them gifts
- Educate children not to stay in deserted areas
- Instruct children to scream loudly or run when a person tries to hurt them
- Explain to children that violence can occur easily when they are alone
- Get a good understanding about who your child's friends are
- Try to accompany your children on their way to school, to the tuition class and back whenever possible
- Instruct the child not to leave the school during school hours and not to leave the tuition class before the class ends
- Explain to children that even the people who are close to them can abuse them
- Monitor the use of internet by children

Activities carried out by us to achieve the vision of a delightful childhood

A number of programmes are carried out island-wide by the National Child Protection Authority with a view of gifting a delightful childhood to all children. The objective of these programmes is to protect the children of the nation from all forms of abuse and to endow them with a safe environment. The greatest service we can render to our nation is to protect children who are the future of our country and bestow them with a childhood with personality and dignity that they can be proud of. Many programmes were carried out by the National Child Protection Authority to achieve this end.

Development Programmes

1929 Sri Lanka Child Helpline

“1929” is the only helpline operating in Sri Lanka which is committed to working towards the maximum benefit of the children of this nation. The National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998 stipulates that receiving complaints from the public relating to child abuse is function of the National Child Protection Authority. Sri Lanka Child Helpline, which was established at the Child Protection Authority in year 2010 with a view to facilitating the effective and efficient fulfillment of this role, functions as the foremost mechanism of the Authority for receiving complaints related to incidents of child abuse and responding to them promptly. This helpline which functions in all the three languages, Sinhala, Tamil and English within 24 hours of the day can be accessed free of charge through any mobile or fixed telephone connection.

Not only any child, even an adult can access this child helpline to provide information. This helpline has obtained the live membership of Child Helpline International, too, and is functioning with the objective of responding efficiently and effectively in a child friendly approach to incidents of abuse to which the children may be subject to. Presently complaints are being received from children, parents and other members of community covering all parts of the country consequent to which even certain hidden cases of child abuse have been able to be brought to light.

Moreover, with the establishment of “1929” helpline, the Department of Police, on request of the National Child Protection Authority, has implemented a unique mechanism to immediately investigate into the complaints received by this helpline. On the request of the National Child Protection Authority and with the intervention of the present Inspector

General of Police who was a member of the then Board of Directors of the Authority, the Department of Police issued an internal circular to all the police stations in the country giving instructions on how to take action with regard to the complaints that “1929” child helpline receives. Instructions have been issued through this circular that, when the “1929” complaints have been referred to the relevant police station by the National Child Protection Authority, investigations into such complaints should be initiated immediately and a progress report regarding the same should be sent to the Child Protection Authority within a period of 48 hours. This co-ordination was of immense importance in responding immediately to the large number of complaints received by the Child Protection Authority via “1929” child helpline.



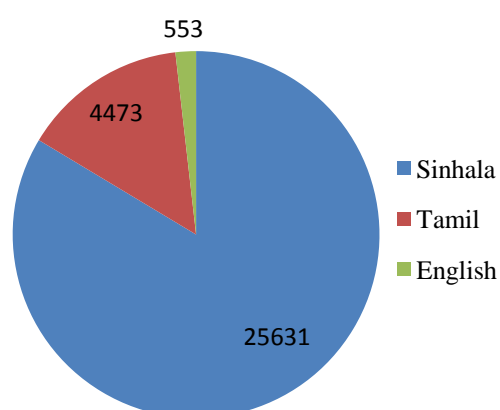
While a strong, systematic mechanism of this nature has been put into effect with regard to implementation of law against child abuse, the National Child Protection Authority also takes measures to provide the victimized children with necessary counselling, to ensure their schooling, to integrate victimized children into society, to provide necessary support with regard

to risk management, and to provide legal advice and such other support as required. National Child Protection Authority has paid special attention towards providing the victimized children with psycho-social support particularly including necessary counselling. Accordingly, psycho-social support to the victimized children is provided through the District

Psycho-social Officers deployed island-wide. Further, the necessary co-ordination for the recovery of the victimized children in order to ensure their protection is provided by the District Child Protection Officers.

The Child Protection Authority carries out follow up activities including the monitoring of the implementation of the law with regard to these complaints. “1929” Child Helpline received 30,657 calls during year 2013.

No. of calls received by 1929 Sri Lanka Child Helpline during year 2013



School Child Protection Committees

National Child Protection Authority identified the school as a place that can effect a change with regard to the protection of children and has launched a programme to establish School Child Protection Committees called “Surekum Pawwa” at all schools island-wide in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. This programme was initiated with a view to achieving the objectives of preventing all forms child abuse within as well as outside the schools, creating a child-friendly learning environment at schools, always protecting children from all forms of abuse, and creating a generation with strong personality. Circular No. 17 of 2011 of the Ministry of Education was issued giving instructions for the establishment of this programme which is a strategic approach for ensuring the protection of children through close co-ordination among teachers, pupils and parents. Special attention is paid to the following through this programme:

1. protecting children from all forms of abuse.
2. identifying very secretly the children, if there is any at school, who have been subject to various forms of abuse, ensuring care and protection to such children, and informing the National Child Protection Authority of such children for taking necessary action to implement law with regard to such cases of abuse.
3. taking measures to identify at class level the children who are backward in studies and to discover the socio-economic factors and family backgrounds that have contributed to such situations, providing the necessary counselling for such children, referring such children for necessary follow-up and for addressing the shortage of resources.
4. providing necessary support to children with special mental and physical needs.
5. implementing creative and clinical programmes which help minimizing the mental stress of children.
6. providing opportunity for children to express and share their feelings of happiness and sad experiences.
7. strengthening the relationships among children, parents and teachers.
8. listening to children.
9. continuously providing children with the service and co-ordination of the National Child Protection Authority in order to ensure the safety of children.
10. preventing pupils from smoking, consuming liquor or drugs, and committing sexual abuse and other forms of misconduct.

11. enlightening pupils on their responsibility in maintaining discipline and positively developing their personality.
12. creating a disciplined, child-friendly school environment.
13. creating citizens with full personality.



1,464 school counselling teachers were trained and awareness programmes were conducted for 1,108 principals in the Trincomalee, Moneragala, Ampara, Matale, Kandy, and Polonnaruwa Districts under the School Child Protection Committee Programme during year 2013. In addition to that, awareness programmes were also conducted for 2689 teachers (non-counselling teachers) and pupils under this programme.

A special feature included in the School Child Protection Committee Programme is to establish a box called “smiles and tears box” at schools for pupils to put notes of the problems they are faced with or their views so that information can be collected in order to identify their state of mentality and provide them with necessary support.



Educating counselling teachers under the School Child Protection Committee: (District basis)

District	No. of Counselling Teachers
Colombo	69
Galle	68
Matara	80
Hambantota	44
Moneragala	86
Badulla	117
Kandy	75
Nuwaraeliya	62
Matale	102
Anuradhapura	74
Polonnaruwa	73
Ratnapura	88
Kegalle	101
Kurunegala	162
Puttalam	91
Ampara	60
Batigolaha	66
Trincomalee	46
Total	1464

Educating Members of Civil Organizations and the Estate Communities

National Child Protection Authority has also implemented an island-wide programme to educate the members of civil organizations and the estate community at village level in order to enlighten the community on their responsibility in making the younger generation safe from all forms of abuse and to develop their knowledge, attitudes and skills. Accordingly, the members of civil organizations like Samurdhi Associations, women's societies, funeral aid societies, welfare societies, and village development societies, etc. which are functioning at village level in each district, and the estate sector communities are educated. The prime objective of this programme is to create a very safe environment for children at village level and in estate areas minimizing all forms child abuse taking place in those areas.

The number of beneficiaries of those programmes was 14,988.

District	No. of programmes conducted for educating members of civil organizations and esate communities
Colombo	534
Gampaha	698
Kalutara	503
Galle	418
Matara	791
Hambantota	1205
Moneragala	1170
Badulla	1363
Kandy	1227
Nuwaraeliya	905
Matale	198
Anuradhapura	669
Polonnaruwa	234
Ratnapura	1546
Kegalle	974
Puttalam	413
Ampara	189
Vavuniya	594
Killinochchi	901
Jaffna	231
Trincomalee	225
Total	14,988

Educating Police Officers

Police officers play an exclusive role in protecting children from all forms of abuse. It is very essential that law is implemented properly in case of an incidence of child abuse and the victimized children are provided with necessary legal support. The Department of Police has a huge responsibility in this regard.

Therefore it is vital that a proper methodology that is child-friendly and that safeguards the identity of the victimized child is adopted throughout the whole process of administering justice which commences with initial taking down of records of the statement made by the child. Having identified the importance of such a process, the National Child Protection Authority implemented a series of programmes in order to raise awareness among the officers of the Department of Police in this regard. The objective of these programmes were to educate the police officers on how their duties should be carried out with regard to children who become victims of abuse and who face the risk of being subject to abuse and also on new amendments to the existing laws. These awareness raising programmes were carried out in year 2013, too.



Developing the skills of health professionals and ancillary workers

The National Child Protection Authority conducts skill development programmes with a view to developing the skills of the health professionals and the ancillary workers of the health sector. These programmes are implemented with the objective of creating a child-friendly health service system, sensitizing health professionals with regard to matters relating to children, and imparting knowledge necessary for positively responding to matters pertaining to protection of children. Further, it is also expected that this programme would provide space for implementing joint measures related to the protection of children through further

strengthening of the relationship existing between health professionals and National Child Protection Authority. Accordingly 509 awareness raising programmes were conducted for health professionals and ancillary workers in the health sector including the doctors who are doing the postgraduate degree at the Post-graduate Institute of Medicine, nurses, Family Health Services Officers, and Public Health Inspectors.



Educating the Teacher Trainees of National Colleges of Education

The main objective of the programme on educating the teacher trainees of National Colleges of Education on the protection of children is to create a generation of teachers who are more sensitive to and conscious of children. It is expected through this programme to guide them on how to protect children from all forms of abuse and to effectively manage child abuse by identifying the children who are faced with the risk of being abused and by informing the relevant parties about such children. During these awareness programmes particular attention was paid to the following areas:

- ♦ identifying the rights of children, forms of child abuse and the legal background related to child abuse.
- ♦ the responsibility and the role of the teacher regarding the protection of the child, and identifying the action that should be taken against incidents of child abuse.
- ♦ identifying measures that can be taken to prevent child abuse.
- ♦ identifying the National Child Protection Authority and its role.
- ♦ identifying the mentality of the child and the methods of discipline them without inflicting any physical punishment
- ♦ identifying the children who have become victims of child abuse and those who are faced with the risk of being subject to abuse.

During year 2013, six (06) programmes were conducted to educate the teacher trainees of National Colleges of Eductaion and the number of beneficiaries of those programmes was 912.



Educating Pregnant Mothers

The objective of this programme is to raise awareness among mothers on the importance of protecting children from the prenatal stage itself, creating a child-friendly home environment for children and protecting children from all forms of abuse. Awareness programmes are also conducted on child development, appreciation of music, and stress management of pregnant mothers. This awareness programme is implemented island-wide with the participation of pregnant mothers who attend the local clinics operated under MOH offices and of the Family Health Officers, too. Accordingly, 128 programmes were conducted covering all districts to educate preganant mothers during year 2013.

District	No. of Programmes
Colombo	5
Kalutara	5
Gampaha	5
Kandy	5
Matale	6
Nuwaraliya	6
Galle	5
Matara	5

Hambantota	5
Jaffna	5
Mannar	5
Vavuniya	6
Kilinochchi	5
Batocaloa	5
Ampara	5
Trincomalee	5
Kurunegala	5
Puttalam	6
Anuradhapura	5
Badulla	5
Moneragala	5
Ratnapura	4
Kegalle	5
Polonnaruwa	5
Mullativu	5
Total	128

Awareness Programmes for School Development Societies

The programme to educate school development societies which is implemented with the objective of raising awareness among teachers and parents on their responsibility in creating a generation that is safe from all forms of abuse – physical, mental, sexual and neglect, etc. - and on developing their knowledge, attitudes and skills related to the protection of children was continued in year 2013, too.

Educating Parents

When analyzing the recent experiences of cases of child abuse, the salient fact that the National Child Protection Authority has found out is the ignorance of parents and their lack of proper knowledge about the mentality of children. Under these circumstances, a series of programmes were implemented islandwide in order to raise awareness among parents on their role in ensuring the protection of children and on what skills they should possess in doing so.



In working towards the protection, development and wellbeing of the child, the role of the family is exclusive; the role of the father and mother in this regard is crucial. Apart from providing the children with basic needs like education, food and clothes, the parents should also take measures to protect their children from child abuse. It is essential that every parent becomes fully aware of what is meant by child abuse, what action should be taken, and who should be informed on that regards.

A generation of children equipped with strong personalities can be created when extra attention is paid by parents towards their children. In order to enlighten parents in this regard, the NCPA implements awareness raising programmes and contributes in developing their knowledge about the protection of children. Such programmes covering the entire island were carried out in year 2013 too.

Educating Pupils

It is absolutely essential that children are educated on keeping themselves safe from all forms of abuse. National Child Protection Authority conducts programmes islandwide to educate children in this regard. While it is the key responsibility of the adults to ensure the protection of children, the children themselves have a great responsibility to work towards ensuring their own safety.

A child may become the victim of abuse at any time in any place. Therefore every child should be well aware of ways of getting away from such forms of abuse and on steps to be taken on the regard. In year 2013, programmes were conducted throughout the country to educate pupils on the protection of children.



Educating the Youth

This programme is implemented with a view of transferring the required knowledge, attitudes and skills to the youth for taking measures at the grassroot level to minimize the occurrence of child abuse. The programme is implemented focusing on small groups of youths in order to enlighten them on preventing child abuse with the expectation of obtaining their co-operation in that regard considering it to be a social service that should be rendered by them. During year 2013, such programmes were conducted islandwide to educate the youth on the protection of children.

Childrens' Home Supervision Programme

It is very essential that all the institutes which provide childcare facilities are maintained in proper standards in a child-friendly manner and maximum well-being of the children are ensured in such institutes. However, during the recent past, the National Child Protection Authority discovered that there is a gravely problematic situation with regard to the

protection of institutionalized children. Especially, although resorting to institutionalize a child should be done only when there is no other alternative, the situation in Sri Lanka is that a large number of children have been institutionalized despite that both of their parents are living. This is really a problematic situation. In terms of Article 25 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, too, after a child has been institutionalized, there should be constant supervision on care and protection of the child and on the conduct of the relevant institute. Hence, the National Child Protection Authority implements programmes to supervise and regulate such in terms of Clause 14(n) of the National Child Protection Authority Act No. 50 of 1998 in order to ensure maximum well-being of the institutionalized children. The National Child Protection Authority conducted these programmes successfully during year 2013.

This programme was implemented under the co-ordination of District Officers and Divisional Officers of the National Child Protection Authority. Under this programme, information on all the children's homes maintained by religious and charitable organizations all over the country was collected and a comprehensive supervision on a wide range of areas including physical and mental health of the children, their sanitation, education and protection etc. was carried out by a multi-sectoral committee consisted of professionals from various fields related to the protection of children. In addition, psycho-social activities were conducted for the children and they were also provided with the opportunity of expressing their views freely. The objective of this programme was to provide necessary guidance for ensuring the well-being of children who are under the protection of institutions as per accepted standards. Further, a special discussion on proper maintenance of children's homes was held on 04 January 2013 at Sri Lanka Foundation Institute with the participation of Provincial Probation Commissioners. The objective of conducting this discussion was to act with a collaborative approach in ensuring the protection of institutionalized children.

329 children's homes covering the following districts were supervised during year 2013.

Children's home supervision programme in year 2013 (on per district basis)

District	No. of Children's Homes Supervised
Colombo	15
Kalutara	12
Gampaha	49
Kandy	21
Matale	07
Nuwaraeliya	09
Galle	21
Matara	15
Hambantota	04
Jaffna	23
Mannar	05
Vavuniya	12
Killinochchi	07
Bataloa	37
Ampara	13
Kurunegala	20
Puttalam	11
Anuradhapura	07
Badulla	10
Moneragala	08
Ratnapura	08
Kegalle	08
Polonnaruwa	03
Mulativu	04
Total	329

Implementing Rehabilitation and Welfare Programmes for Children who became Victims of Tsunami

In terms of Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act No.16 of 2005, protection is provided to every child below 18 years and every youth below 21 years who have lost parents and to every child and youth who have lost one of their parents and the living parent is not capable of protecting and looking after them consequent to the tsunami disaster of 26th December 2004. Moreover, subject to the absolute guardianship of the court, the National Child Protection Authority acts as the guardian of every child who has lost both parents, and of every child who has been kept under the protection of foster parents. Accordingly, welfare activities, follow-up action and foster parent protection are provided to the children who became victims of tsunami. During 2012, welfare activities were done for 202 children who became victims of the tsunami disaster. In addition, the Authority has also implemented a programme to provide financial assistance to these children for their studies as a welfare measure. In year 2013, the National Child Protection Authority has provided welfare service for 227 children while financial assistance was provided to 160 children. Apart from that, a special welfare camp was held on 05.08.2013 for 59 children in the Hambantota District.



Surakna Foster Care Programme

Surakna Foster Care Programme has been implemented as a foster parent scheme. Accordingly, the children who have lost their beloved parents due to the three-decade long war and were facing the risk of being handed over to children's homes were given the opportunity of living in a family environment with the protection of foster parents without being institutionalized.

The objective of this programme is to ensure maximum well-being of the children by keeping them in a family environment under the protection of a close relative without

institutionalizing them. This is in compliance with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. In support of the fulfillment of the educational needs of such children, the National Child Protection Authority provides some financial assistance monthly to such guardians who provide protection to these children under various hardships. Both local and foreign donors too make their contributions to this fund for the provision of this assistance.

By year 2013, the protection of 53 children from the Killinochchi District, 52 children from the Mullativu District, and 84 children from the Mannar District in the Northern Province was ensured through “Surakna” Foster Care Programme. Under supervision of National Child Protection Authority.

Workshop for Sensitizing Media on the Protection of Children

The National Child Protection Authority regulates all the news items on incidents of child abuse as well as all the articles concerning children that are published in daily newspapers and websites. It was discovered that the use of media is not sometimes effective in reporting such incidents of child abuse. Therefore, 02 workshops were conducted during this year to educate media personnel on using media for reporting incidents of child abuse and also, a handbook for media personnel was issued during this year.



National Day on Violence against Children

Gazette extraordinary No.1581/21 of 26 December 2008 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka was issued by the then Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs, Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena, declaring January 04th of every year as the National Day on Violence against Children. The year 2013 National Day on Violence against Children was held at Sri Lanka Foundation Institute headed by Hon. Tissa Karalliyadda, Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs, under the theme 'A Smile through

Affection’. This event was attended by over 1000 participants including pupils, parents, teachers and state officials. During this programme the participants were enlightened on preventing violence against children and a cultural show, too, was staged by school children.

World Day against Child Labour

The World Day against Child Labour falls on 12 June. This year, this Day was celebrated in Nuwara Eliya City by the National Child Protection Authority under the theme ‘An End to Child Labour’. It was attended by about 1500 pupils from 24 schools. A workshop was held to educate the community on child labour and child protection, and a cultural show was staged with the participation of pupils and teachers. Under this programme, T-shirts and caps with the child helpline number “1929” and the message on preventing child labour printed on them, together with awareness raising leaflets, were distributed among all the children who attended this function.



Providing Information

The National Child Protection Authority provides information necessary for the public with regard to the protection of children, child abuse and the rights of children. Information is



provided through posters, leaflets, books, stickers printed publications and pictorial documentaries as required. During year 2013, the National Child Protection Authority distributed 124,957 publications on child protection among the public.

Disseminating Information Related to Child Protection among the Public through Media.

The National Child Protection Authority, through its co-ordination with media institutes, implements measures to disseminate information among the public with regard to ensuring the protection of children within the country. The cooperation of both electronic and the printed media is obtained in this regard. News and announcements related to child protection are issued to the media and conducting news discussions, advertising on television and radio, and publishing newspaper advertisements are also done under this programme. Two television advertisements were produced by the National Child Protection Authority in year 2013. In addition, resource contribution is provided for radio and television programmes as well.



Holding Exhibitions and Conducting Mobile Services

For educational exhibitions organized by various organizations, the National Child Protection Authority, on request of such organizations, provides educational exhibition stalls for raising awareness on child protection. Apart from that, the National Child Protection Authority also makes its contribution for the mobile services that are conducted at regional level.

The National Child Protection Authority implemented measures to educate the public by making its



contribution in holding a number of educational exhibitions including ‘Deyata Kirula’ national development exhibition that was held in the Ampara District in year 2013.

‘Labendi’ Newsletter.

The National Child Protection Authority quarterly publishes its official newsletter named ‘Labendi’ which is produced under the theme ‘more than a newsLetter’. This is published in a novel form that is different from a traditional newsletter. The prime objective of publishing this newsletter is to educate the community on the protection of children specially focusing teachers, parents and children. ‘Labendi’ newsletter is produced selecting a theme that is currently important. In year 2013, this newsletter was published under themes like ‘1929 child helpline’, let’s prevent child labour’ and ‘role of parents in protecting children’ etc.



All-island Painting Competition for Children 2013

The National Child Protection Authority launched an island-wide painting competition with a view to promoting the concept of child protection among children. This painting competition was held on 04 themes under 04 categories of age and a large number of children from all over the country participated in it. Medals, prizes and certificates were awarded at district level to the winners.



Psycho-social Programmes.

A large number of programmes, training sessions, workshops, discussions, meetings and projects of various types were launched by the Psycho-social Division of the National Child Protection Authority during year 2013 for the maximum well-being of the children. During year 2013, the Child Protection Authority provided 2836 psycho-social services and 567 mentality assessments, psychological counselling, and psychological clinical services. Apart from that, the victimized children who come for video recording of evidence are mentally prepared for that recording by the Psycho-social Division of the Authority. 152 such mental preparations were done in year 2013. Especially, the Psycho-social Division provides psycho-social relief services through the District Psycho-social Officers, District Child Protection Officers and Divisional Child Protection Officers with regard to cases of child abuse that were reported directly to the Authority and through the 1929 child helpline.



Recruiting Divisional Child Protection and Psycho-social Officers

The recruitment of 360 Nos. of Divisional Child Protection and Psycho-social Officers during year 2013 is a landmark event in the history of the field of child protection in Sri Lanka and measures were implemented to provide a more efficient service through the deployment of the newly recruited officers.



Conducting Studies by the National Child Protection Authority on Various Topics Related to Child Protection

National Child Protection Authority has undertaken studies related the following 03 topics during year 2013:

- the study to verify causes for ineffective implementation of laws against child trafficking.
- the quality of the counselling services offered at schools.
- study on the present situation of safe and secure education.

Making recommendations on implementing the laws against child trafficking more effectively, making recommendations for taking measures to enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes of pupils, teachers and parents on safety education, identifying the quality of the counselling services offered at schools and making recommendations on measures that can be taken to improve the school counselling services can be cited as the primary objectives of conducting these studies.

“Diridaru Surekum Piyasa” Resource Centres

Diridaru Surekum Piyasa Resource Centres provide the children of this country an invaluable service. These centres have been established with the prime objective of providing protection to the children who become unsafe especially due to reasons like migration of parents for employment and when both parents are employed. Activities like conducting awareness programmes on preventing child abuse and taking safety measures for children, psycho-social activities, personality development programmes, activities for enhancing children’s aesthetic skills and appreciation, and programmes based on examination activities are also implemented by these centres.



These centres have been established in the following areas:

- in Kimbulwanaoya Colony in Ibbagamuwa Divisional Secretary's Division in the Kurunegala District for the children whose parents have migrated for employment.
- Vijayapura Colony in the Anuradhapura district.
- in Thabbowa Buddhi fishing village in the Puttalam District.
- at Islamabad Tsunami Housing Scheme in Kalmunai in Ampara District.

Child-centred Centres

The main functions of these centres are co-ordinating the government and non-governmental organizations which work for the protection of children and providing counselling services for children. The National Child Protection Authority commenced the programme of establishing Child-centered Centres at District Secretariats with the establishment of the first centre at Vavuniya District Secretariat in year 2009. In year 2013, another Centre was established in the Mullativu District and by now Child-centered Centres have been established in Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Hambanthota and Mannar Districts.

Sureki Piyasa Child Protection Centre

The National Child Protection Authority maintains a separate centre to provide protection for victimized children with the objective of ensuring the maximum safety of such children in terms of Section 14(e) and (j) of the National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998. At this centre, the protection of victimized children and their rights are ensured, while they are provided with psycho-social support. During year 2013, Sureki Piyasa has provided protection for 95 children. Further, the National Child Protection Authority especially takes measures to look into the educational needs of the victimized children and takes necessary action accordingly.



Launching the Draft National Child Protection Policy

The draft national child protection policy was launched in year 2013 with the prime objective of realizing the importance of the children and providing them with a happy childhood filled with pride. Having recognized the need for a policy to provide proper guidance that is necessary for all the parties that are engaged in the task of ensuring the protection of children, the National Child Protection Authority drafted this policy in order to cater to that requirement. New standards related to the areas of preventing child abuse, responding positively to incidents of child abuse, ensuring the protection of children in the mechanism for serving justice, ensuring the protection of the victimized children and integrating them into society, and the protection of children have been included in this draft.

Launching the Draft Containing Guidelines and Standards for Childcare Centres.

Year 2013 marked the launching of the draft containing guidelines and standards for childcare centres, which was drawn up with the contribution of a committee of experts under the guidance of the National Child Protection Authority in order to ensure the maximum well-being of the institutionalized children as well as to provide protection for all the children of the country equally well.



Amendment of Children and Young Persons Ordinance No.48 of 1939.

In year 2013, the National Protection Authority amended the new draft that had been prepared earlier so as to bring relevant changes for ensuring care and protection of the children who come before the courts. The amendment which is in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and which suits the need of the time was presented to the government.

Special Police Investigations

On request of the National Child Protection Authority in terms of the powers vested by National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998, the Inspector General of Police attached a police officer of the inspector grade and another officer from the Department of Police in year 2001 for the purpose of carrying out special investigations into incidence of child abuse. Conducting investigations in terms of the powers vested with the Authority by the National Child Protection Authority Act was very effective, and child abusers, both local and foreign, were caught very successfully and law was implemented by filing cases against them before courts of law not only within, but in foreign countries, too.

In order to expand the investigations mechanism, a special police investigations unit consisting of 15 police offices was established under the National Child Protection Authority on 01 October 2002. This unit speedily investigates the complaints about incidence of child abuse received by the Authority from the public via '1929' Sri Lanka Child Helpline and by other means and due legal action is taken after carrying out independent investigations into such incidents.

A special function carried out by the Special Police Investigations Unit of the Authority is to take immediate action regarding the complaints received through '1929' Sri Lanka Child Helpline by referring such cases to the relevant police stations speedily. For this purpose, a group of officers have been deployed by this Unit to provide its service all 24 hours of the day.

The police officers attached to the Special Police Investigations Unit also extend their co-operation in video recording of the evidence of victimized children, which is a function of the legal unit of the National Child Protection Authority. During year 2013, the Special Police Investigations Unit alone had received 198 complaints. 33 officers had been attached to the Special Police Investigations Unit of the Authority by December 2013 and they were engaged in investigation activities covering the whole country.

Video Recording of Evidence of the Victims of Child Abuse

There is a special unit functioning at the National Child Protection Authority for video recording the evidence of the children who become victims of child abuse.

In terms of Evidence (Special Provisions) Act No.32 of 1999, the Authority has been vested with the power to video record and produce before the court the evidence of a child who become victim of child abuse. 159 video recordings of evidence were done during year 2013.

Testing of Genes for Judicial Action against Child Abuse

Testing of genes is a special task carried out by the National Child Protection Authority. The Authority provides finances for testing of genes in order to verify the identity of the suspects of the cases of child abuse on requests made to the Authority by the police stations islandwide and on court orders.

Legal Affairs

The Legal Affairs Division of the Authority implements various activities in terms of the National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998 including taking measures to ensure the protection of the rights of victimized children, recommending legal, administrative or other amendments necessary for preventing child abuse, monitoring the implementation of the laws related to incidence of child abuse, providing legal advice, and monitoring the progress of all investigations and affairs of criminal cases related to incidence of child abuse and appearing before courts of law for to such cases. Power has been vested to the Authority by the following acts in addition to the National Child Protection Authority Act:

- Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act No.16 of 2006
- Domestic Violence Prevention Act No.34 of 2005

The Legal Affairs Division of National Child Protection Authority has provided legal advice for 2856 cases during the year. Apart from that, the officers of this Division have appeared before courts on 248 occasions in year 2013. They have also made their contribution in taking part in 36 meetings that were conducted outside the Authority and in conducting 41 lectures.

**Contribution of the Legal Affairs Division (In terms of Tsunami (Special Provisions)
Act No.16 of 2005)**

Court	No. of Cases
Children's Court – Battaramulla	23
Magistrate Court – Galle	34
Magistrate Court – Kalmunai	59
Magistrate Court – Balapitiya	13
Magistrate Court – Matara	25
Magistrate Court – Hambantota	72
Magistrate Court – Kalutara	01
Total	227

Contribution of the Legal Affairs Division (For cases of child abuse)

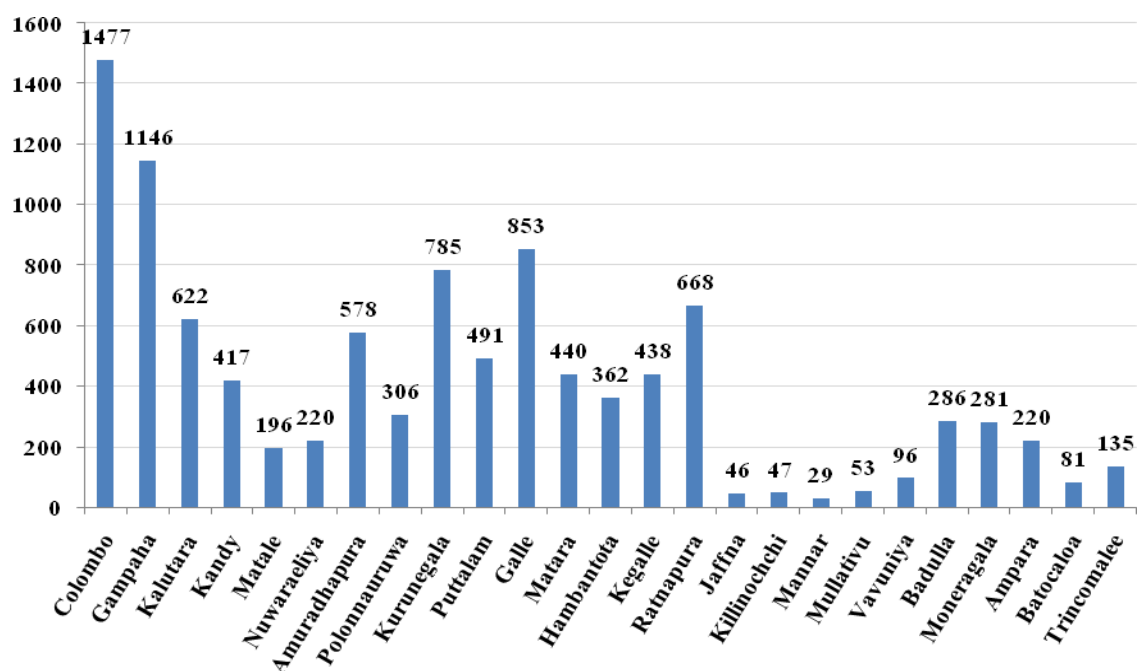
Court	No. of Cases
Supreme Court	05
High Court – Colombo	01
High Court - Galle	01
Magistrate Court – Colombo	02
Magistrate Court – Elpitiya	01
Magistrate Court – Kuliyaipitiya	01
Magistrate Court – Gangodawela	06
Magistrate Court – Kesbewa	02
Magistrate Court – Kandy	01
Total	21

Complaints about Incidence of Child Abuse

The National Child Protection Authority receives complaints on child abuse in a number of ways. A large number of complaints are received via 1929 child helpline and complaints are also made orally by being present at the NCPA while written complaints, too, are sent in the form of letters. All these complaints are sorted out based on the nature of the complaint and are dealt with immediately. The number of cases of child abuse that were reported during year 2013 was 10,273 and most of those cases were related to violence against children, which amounted 2030. There were 1263 complaints on not providing compulsory education and 1101 complaints on neglect in terms of the Children and Young Persons Ordinance. 691 complaints of raping of women, 681 complaints of grave sexual abuse and 400 complaints of sexual harassment were received by the Authority during year 2013. It should be noted that, out of the 10,273 complaints, 9427 were received via on '1929' Sri Lanka Child Helpline. Only 846 complaints were received by other means.

Sometimes, there also are occasions where certain complaints are not accurate and certain complaints are proved to be false at the preliminary investigation itself.

The number complaints related to children received by the NCPA during year 2013 (District-wise)



National Child Protection Authority
Statement of Financial Performance for the Year Ended – 31st December 2013

(In Rupees)

Description	2013	2012
Revenue		
Recurrent Grant -Treasury	89,651,116.00	49,362,000.00
-Other Agencies	20,132,398.18	12,953,345.55
Other Income	6,968,432.76	1,264,617.87
Treasury Grant for Implementation of NPA	23,400,000.00	7,190,000.00
Receipts for National Child Protection Fund	4,170,642.69	1,681,263.14
Total Revenue	144,322,589.63	72,451,226.56
Expenses		
Personal Emoluments	69,882,714.01	39,941,739.65
Travelling	1,782,381.54	997,104.98
Supplies and Consumables	3,818,999.76	2,630,004.07
Maintenance	3,654,490.46	2,376,196.00
Contractual Services	9,095,417.70	6,710,020.02
Depreciation	7,386,630.87	6,896,720.34
Other Operating Expenses	4,461,531.45	316,472.07
Implementation of National Plan of Action	18,192,725.29	6,436,898.56
Project Expenses	23,769,207.01	15,343,497.00
Tsunami Donor Project - Expenses	158,076.00	158,076.00
National Child Protection Fund - Expenses	3,568,542.48	2,066,360.00
Finance Cost	12,805.07	6,740.00
Total Expenses	145,783,521.64	83,879,828.69
Net Surplus / (deficit) for the Period	(1,460,932.01)	(11,428,602.13)

National Child Protection Authority
Statement of Financial Position as at – 31st December 2013

(In Rupees)

Description	2013	2012
Assets		
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	854,581.58	6,190,049.88
Accounts Receivable	22,936,740.80	14,598,419.30
Inventory - Stationery	184,990.37	91,104.06
Prepayments	627,708.05	550,960.72
Distress Loan Repayment	470,734.14	340,010.57
	25,074,754.94	21,770,544.53
<u>Non Current Assets</u>		
Distress loan Receivable	239,789.88	370,513.45
Investments & Savings	24,233,527.05	22,367,914.84
Property, Plant & Equipments	92,320,831.86	94,996,317.63
	116,794,148.79	117,734,745.92
Total Assets	141,868,903.73	139,505,290.45
Liabilities		
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Accrued Expenses	11,501,776.82	5,406,372.93
Short Term Provisions	962,327.14	815,608.57
	12,464,103.96	6,221,981.50
<u>Non Current Liabilities</u>		
Gratuity Provision	2,619,501.87	2,031,945.00
Restricted Funds	528,404.00	1,762,904.00
Project Surplus / (Deficit)	11,638,386.35	16,270,219.24
National Child Protection Fund	144,157.69	940,829.48
	14,930,449.91	21,005,897.72
Total Liabilities	27,394,553.87	27,227,879.22
Net Assets	114,474,349.86	112,277,411.23
Financed by		
Surplus / (Deficit) B/F	(32,832,134.31)	(24,336,856.49)
Prior Year adjustments	(3,834,913.98)	
Surplus / (Deficit) - 2013	1,731,852.61	(8,495,277.82)
Surplus / (Deficit) - C/F	(34,935,195.68)	
Capital Grants	134,256,426.54	129,956,426.54
Capital Reserves	2,153,119.00	2,153,119.00
Revaluation Reserve	13,000,000.00	13,000,000.00
	114,474,349.86	112,277,411.23

National Child Protection Authority
Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended - 31st December 2013

(In Rupees)

Particulars	2013	2012
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Surplus / (Deficit) from ordinary activities	(1,460,932.01)	(11,428,602.13)
Non Cash Movements		
Depreciation	7,714,034.67	7,668,381.89
Increase in Payables	6,095,403.89	4,095,174.72
Increase in Short term provision	146,718.57	571,305.98
Increase in Inventories	(93,886.31)	57,346.01
Increase in Receivables	(8,338,321.50)	(8,832,333.51)
Increase in Prepayment	(76,747.33)	(259,528.99)
Increase in Distress loan Repayment	(130,723.57)	(125,355.98)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	3,855,546.41	(8,253,612.01)
Cash Flows from Investing activities		
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(5,038,548.90)	(30,388,474.00)
Decrease in Long term Receivables	130,723.57	125,355.98
Increase in Revaluation Reserves	-	13,000,000.00
Proceeds from Investment	(1,865,612.21)	(1,066,672.05)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(6,773,437.54)	(18,329,790.07)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Increase in Provision for Gratuity	587,556.87	449,205.00
Increase / Decrease in Restricted Funds	(1,234,500.00)	(250,000.00)
Proceeds from Capital Grant	4,300,000.00	21,360,000.00
Increase / (Decrease) in Retained Earnings	(6,070,634.04)	3,470,829.81
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(2,417,577.17)	25,030,034.81
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(5,335,468.30)	(1,553,367.27)
Cash and Cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	6,190,049.88	7,743,417.15
Cash and Cash equivalents at the end of the period	854,581.58	6,190,049.88



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கணக்காய்வாளர் தலைமை அபிபதி திணைக்களம்
AUDITOR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT



මගේ අංකය
எனது இல.
My No.

YS/E/NCPA/2013/1/05

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல.
Your No.

දිනය
திகதி
Date

24 August 2015

The Chairperson

National Child Protection Authority

Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of the National Child Protection Authority for the year ended 31 December 2013 in terms of Section 14 (2)(c) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971

The audit of financial statements of the National Child Protection Authority for the year ended 31 December 2013 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2013 and the statement of financial performance and cash flow statement for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with Section 13(1) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971 and Section 22(2) of the National Child Protection Authority Act. My comments and observations which I consider should be published with the Annual Report of the Authority in terms of Section 14(2) (c) of the Finance Act appear in this report. A detailed report in terms of Section 13(7) (a) of the Finance Act was issued to the Chairperson of the Authority on 12 November 2014.

1.2 Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards and for such internal control as the management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

අංක 306/72, පොල්දූව පාර, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව. - இல. 306/72, பொல்துறவு வீதி, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை. - No. 306/72, Polduwa Road, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka

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1.3 Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit conducted in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards consistent with International Auditing Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI 1000-1810).

1.4 Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

As a result of the matters described in paragraph 2.2 of this report, I am unable to determine whether any adjustments might have been found necessary in respect of recorded or unrecorded items, and the elements making up the statement of financial position, statement of financial performance and cash flow statement.

2. Financial Statements

2.1 Disclaimer of Opinion

Because of the significance of the matters described in paragraph 2.2 of this report, I have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on these financial statements.

2.2 Comments on Financial Statements

2.2.1 Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards

The following observations are made.

(a) Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 01

- (i) A statement of changes in net assets / equity had not been presented along with the financial statements.
- (ii) Net result of the accounting errors of Rs. 4,908,996, Rs. 1,398,772 and Rs. 714,024 respectively occurred during the preceding year in the Child Protection Funds and Projects of the Authority had been adjusted to the income of the year under review brought forward, instead of being corrected the errors retrospectively by restating the comparative amounts.



(b) Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 07

The fully depreciated assets costing Rs. 25,893,649 and that are still in use had not been revalued in order to reflect the fair value of the assets in the accounts.

2.2.2 Accounting Policies

The Authority had purchased fixed assets utilizing Government Grants and the Government Grants amounting to Rs. 134 million and Fixed Assets amounting to Rs. 92 million existed at the end of the year under review. However, the Authority had not introduced an Accounting Policy for amortization of assets.

2.2.3 Accounting Deficiencies

The following observations are made.

- (a) The Authority should maintain a proper Accounting System for the purpose of preparation of financial statements. However, the following weaknesses were observed relating to the adjustments made in the Ledger through the Journal Entries. As such, the accuracy of the Ledger Accounts could not be satisfied in audit.
 - (i) The Current Asset Accounts and Expenditure Accounts relating to 12 accounts had been erased and changed by Rs. 593,522 and Rs. 223,892 respectively for rectification without an approval.
 - (ii) Entries had been made in the Ledger relating to settlement of advances amounting to Rs. 9,991,399 without Journal Entries.
 - (iii) Even though 107 Journal Entries valued at Rs. 391,914,146 had been made entering the transactions of the Authority, a proper approval had not been obtained and Journal Vouchers had not been prepared thereon.

- (b) The Recurrent Grants receivable amounting to Rs. 3,541,000 for a long period had been brought to account as a prior year adjustment in the year under review, instead of being adjusted it retrospectively. However, a proper approval had not been obtained for this write off.

2.2.4 Lack of Evidence for Audit

Evidence whatsoever had not been made available to audit to confirm the accuracy of the stock valued at Rs. 184,900 which remained at the end of the year under review.

2.3 Non-compliance with Laws, Rules and Regulations and Management Decisions

Non-compliances with the following laws, rules and regulations were observed.

Reference to Laws, Rules and Regulations	Non-compliance
(a) Inland Revenue Act, No. 10 of 2006	The Pay As You Earn Tax amounting to Rs. 16,805 had not been charged from four officers and remitted to the Commissioner of Inland Revenue.
(b) Establishments Code of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.	
(i) Section 10 of Chapter II	Eight officers had not submitted the medical report on Form Health 169 at the audit test check.
(ii) Section 2.3 of Chapter VI	The Employees' Provident Fund Number and the commencement date of the contribution had not been shown in the personal files.



(c) Financial Regulations of the
Democratic Socialist
Republic of Sri Lanka

(i) Financial Regulation
165(2)

Receipt of cheques and cash had not been
entered in a Register of Money Orders.

(ii) Financial Regulation 184

Receipts had not been issued for cash receipts
valued at Rs. 5,326,984.

(iii) Financial Regulation 267

The signature of the payee or a receipt had not
been obtained by the Authority in the payment
of salaries and wages.

(iv) Financial Regulation
323(1)

Even though the public money should not be
lodged in the Private Accounts, the ad-hoc
advances aggregating Rs. 521,300 had been
lodged in 12 Private Accounts.

(v) Financial Regulation
1(2)(c)

Advances amounting to Rs. 2,279,733 granted
in the year 2012 had not been settled even by
the end of the year under review.

(vi) Financial Regulation
371(2)(c)

Even though the approval of the Board of
Directors had been obtained to increase the
limit of advances from Rs. 20,000 to
Rs. 100,000 which could be obtained for each
case by an officer, the approval of the Treasury
had not been obtained thereon and the
advances totalling Rs. 364,320 had been paid
in 03 instances exceeding Rs. 100,000.

(vii) Financial Regulation
1646

Motor Vehicle Log Books for 07 motor
vehicles had not been presented to audit.



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|---|---|
| (d) Treasury Circular No. 842 of 19 December 1978 | The Register of Fixed Assets had not been updated and balanced. |
| (e) Paragraph 6.5.1 of the Public Enterprises Circular No. PED/12 of 02 June 2003 | A copy of the Draft Annual Report had not been presented along with the financial statements. |
| (f) Public Finance Circular No. 441 of 09 December 2009 | Annual Boards of Survey had not been conducted and those reports had not been presented to the Auditor General. |

3. Financial Review

3.1 Financial Results

According to the accounts presented, the operations of the Authority for the year under review had resulted in a deficit of Rs.1,460,932 as compared with the corresponding deficit of Rs.11,428,602 for the preceding year. As compared with the preceding year, an improvement of Rs.9,967,670 in the financial result was observed. The increase in provisions received from the General Treasury by Rs. 16,210,000 for the year under review had mainly attributed to this improvement.

3.2 Analytical Financial Review

According to the financial statements presented, the value of net assets amounted to Rs.114,474,350 and that as compared with the net assets of the preceding year amounting to Rs.112,277,411 indicated an increase of Rs.2,196,939 or 1.9 per cent. The working capital for the year under review amounted to Rs.12,610,651 and that as compared with the working capital of the preceding year amounting to Rs.15,548,563 indicated an decrease of Rs.2,937,912 or 18 per cent.



4. **Operating Review**

4.1 **Performance**

The following observations are made.

- (a) According to the Action Plan and the Performance Report of the Authority, expected targets of the following programmes had not been achieved.
 - (i) Even though a sum of Rs. 0.80 million had been allocated to conduct 05 Capacity Building Programmes for the officers of the Authority, only 03 programmes had been conducted by spending a sum of Rs. 0.42 million.
 - (ii) Out of Rs. 01 million allocated for 80 exhibitions and mobile service programmes, only 20 programmes had been conducted by spending a sum of Rs. 0.93 million.
 - (iii) Even though a sum of Rs. 02 million had been allocated to establish 02 Children's Centres, such centres had not been established.
- (b) The number of complaints received by the Authority in the year under review had been 23,767 and out of those 8,130 complaints had been solved and the number of complaints unsolved and brought forward was 15,637. It is indicated that the number of unsolved complaints had increased rapidly due to the solving of quite a limited number of complaints during the same year out of the complaints received annually to the Authority. It was observed that such a situation had arisen due to lack of attention of the Management for the preparation of a proper arrangement in solving complaints received annually to the Authority.
- (c) A sum of Rs.4.8 million had been allocated for research and educational activities carried out in the year under review and out of that, a sum of Rs.3.45 million had been spent for 03 researches and obtained reports. However, those reports had not been used for the future activities of the Authority.



4.2 Weaknesses in Project Management

A total of Rs. 11,638,386 had remained by the end of the year under review due to failure in spending the money received in the preceding years for relevant purposes of 09 Projects of the Authority. As such, it was observed that the Management of Projects had been at a weak level.

4.3 Management Inefficiencies

- (a) The balance of Rs. 3,541,000 in the receivable Recurrent Grant Account had been written off by debiting to the Surplus and Deficit Account without being examined.
- (b) A sum of Rs.1,113,736 had to be incurred for repairs of a motor vehicle due to an accident and out of the repairing cost, only sum of Rs. 834,912 had been reimbursed by the Insurance Company. However, action had not been taken to recover the deficit of Rs. 278,824 from the responsible persons.

4.4 Unidentified Losses

In publishing newspaper advertisements for the recruitment of officers, it had to be published twice as a result of an error, thus indicating a loss of Rs. 29,568.

4.5 Staff Administration

The following observations are made.

- (a) The approved cadre and the actual cadre of the Authority were 510 and 331 respectively and 179 vacancies were existed.
- (b) According to the Financial Regulation 453 (h), the complete cadre control records should be correctly maintained by the Establishment Division. However, the number of officers of the Accounts Division who had actually obtained the salaries had not been tallied with the monthly details of the staff in the year 2013 submitted by the Establishment Division.



4.6 Administration of Motor Vehicles

Three motor vehicles had met with accidents in the year under review and the following observations are made in that connection.

- (a) Even though preliminary inquiries should be held in respect of motor vehicle accidents and submitted the preliminary report and the full report according to the Financial Regulation 104 (1), (3), (4), it had not been so done.
- (b) A Record of Losses should be maintained according to Financial Regulation 110 and the details of the accident/losses should be included therein. However, the Authority had not taken action in terms of Financial Regulation 110 in respect of accidents occurred up to now and 03 accidents occurred in the year under review.

5. Accountability and Good Governance

5.1 Presentation of Financial Statements

Even though the Draft Annual Report and the financial statements should be presented to the Auditor General by the Authority within 60 days of the closure of the accounting year in terms of Public Enterprises Circular No. PED/12 of 02 June 2003, the Authority had presented the financial statements for the year under review to the Auditor General on 01 April 2015 with a delay of 12 months.

5.2 Corporate Plan

Even though the Corporate Plan had been prepared from the year 2012 – 2017 in respect of the functions of the Authority, it could not be compared with the Action Plan as specific periods could not be identified for the achievement of the goals in obtaining benefits of each programme in the Corporate Plan in terms of the Public Enterprises Circular No. PED/12 of 02 June 2003.

5.3 **Unresolved Audit Paragraphs**

Attention had not been paid in respect of the following matters shown by the audit report presented in the preceding year.

- (a) Revaluation and accounting the assets that are 100 per cent depreciated and in use, valued at Rs. 2,510,672 under two Projects.
- (b) A long delay in settling the advances granted to the officers of the Authority and not taking action to settle them.
- (c) Rectification of weaknesses in the maintenance of Accounts Books

6. **Systems and Controls**

Deficiencies in systems and controls observed during the course of audit were brought to the notice of Chairman of the Authority from time to time. Special attention is needed in respect of the following areas of control.

- (a) Financial Control
- (b) Accounting
- (c) Settlement of Advances
- (d) Assets Management

W. P. C. Wickramaratne
Acting Auditor General



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අංක 330, තලවතුගොඩ පාර, මාදිවෙල, ශ්‍රී ජයවර්ධනපුර, කෝට්ටේ.

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National Child Protection Authority

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