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ஆண்டறிக்கை
ANNUAL REPORT **2019**



ජාතික ළමා ආරක්ෂක අධිකාරිය
தேசிய சிறுவர் பாதுகாப்பு அதிகாரசபை
National Child Protection Authority



කාන්තා හා ළමා සංවර්ධන, පෙර පාසැල් හා ප්‍රාථමික අධ්‍යාපන, පාසැල් යටිතල පහසුකම් හා අධ්‍යාපන සේවා රාජ්‍ය අමාත්‍යාංශය.

மகளிர் மற்றும் சிறுவர் அபிவிருத்தி, முன்பள்ளி மற்றும் ஆரம்பக் கல்வி, அறநெறிப் பாடசாலைகள் கல்விச் சேவைகள் மற்றும் பாடசாலைகள் உட்கட்டமைப்பு வசதிகள் இராஜாங்க அமைச்சு

State Ministry of Women and Child Development, Pre – School & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services



අධ්‍යාපන අමාත්‍යාංශය
கல்வி அமைச்சு
Ministry of Education

Annual Report

2019



National Child Protection Authority

Vision

To create a child friendly and safe environment for children.

Mission

To ensure that children are free from all
forms of abuse

Board of Directors of the National Child Protection Authority in 2019

Mr. H. M. Abayarathne, Attorney-at-Law (2018 - 2019)	Chairman National Child Protection Authority No.330, Thalawathugoda Road, Madiwela Sri Jayawardenepura
Mrs.Sujatha Kulathunga, Attorney-at-Law (2018 – 2019)	Deputy Chairperson National Child Protection Authority No.330, Thalawathugoda Road, Madiwela Sri Jayawardenepura
Professor Ashwini D. Fernando (2018 – 2019)	Senior Pediatrician Base Hospital Ragama
Dr. Mrs. Apeksha Hewageegana (2018 – 2019)	Psychiatrist Lady Ridgeway Children’s Hospital Borella
Dr. U. A.K. Tennakoon	Chief Forensic Medical Officer Institute of Toxicology and Forensic Medicine Borella, Colombo 8
Miss. Ayesha Jinasena, Attorney-at-Law (2018 – 2019)	Senior Additional Solicitor General Attorney General’s Department Colombo 12.
Dr. Mrs. Ayesha Lokubalasooriya (2018 – 2019)	Consultant Community Physician Family Health Bureau Colombo 08

Mr. M. R. Latheef (2017 – 2019)	Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police Special Task Force Headquarters Bauddhaloka Mawatha Colombo 07
Mrs. Chandima Sigeru	Commissioner Department of Probation and Childcare Services Stage II, Sethsiripaya Battaramulla.
Mr. A. Wimalaweera (2017 – 2020)	Commissioner General of Labour Department of Labour Narahenpita Colombo 5
Mrs. Sujeewa Palliyaguru (From 2018 up to now)	Director- Development Ministry of Women and Child Affairs Stage II, Sethsiripaya Battaramulla
Mr. R. M. A. Rathnayaka (2016 – 2019)	Additional Director General Treasury Operations Department Ministry of Finance Colombo 1
Mr.A.S.B.Bakmeewewa (2018 – 2019)	Senior Training Advisor, Member No. 138 Pinwalapitiya Watta Kurunegala

Mr. A. R. P. C. UdayaKumara Amarasinghe (2018)	Senior Lecturer in Criminology University of Sri Jayawardenepura
Miss.N.R.Anees (2019 – 2020)	Director General Department of Development Finance, Ministry of Finance, Colombo 01.

Panel Members of the National Child Protection Authority in 2019

Mrs.K.H.Roshinie (2017 – 2019)	Senior Assistant Secretary Ministry of Justice Supreme Court Complex Colombo 12
Dr. Mrs. Madhura M. Wehella (2017 – 2019)	Additional Secretary Ministry of Education Isurupaya Battaramulla
Mr.W. A. Kulasooriya (2017 – 2019)	Additional Secretary Ministry of Defence Baladaksha Mawatha Colombo 3
Mrs. P. J. D. Fernando (2016 – 2020)	Senior Assistant Secretary Ministry of Social Services and Social Welfare Sethsiripaya Battaramulla
Mr. A. H. L. D. Soyza (2017 – 2019)	Senior Assistant Secretary Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils No.330, Union Place Colombo 02
Mrs.R.L.S.P.Swarnalatha (2018 – 2019)	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs Stage II, Sethsiripaya Battaramulla
Mr.C.H.Gamage (2019 – 2020)	Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, York Street, Colombo 01.

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Introduction

Developing the National Policy on Child Protection is foremost among the functions of the National Child Protection Authority. Greater attention was paid within this year to the development of the national policy.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted on the 20th of November 1989 as a universal declaration. This convention consists of 54 Articles and the rights that every child in the world is entitled to and the duty of the state towards realizing those rights for children have been analyzed through the convention. In analyzing the social situation that prevailed those days in relation to child rights, child trafficking, child prostitution and using children for pornographic films and publications were targeted. Being deeply cognizant about the increase in international trafficking and citing child conscription or deployment of children in armed conflicts as an international crime, optional protocols were adopted to the Child Rights Convention in the year 2000 to protect children in armed conflict and to protect children from trafficking, prostitution and pornography.

With these trends that prevailed in the world, the government of Sri Lanka also signed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990. This Convention was ratified on 12th July 1991. A Presidential Task Force on Child Protection was established accordingly in December 1996 to recommend the measures required to safeguard child rights within Sri Lanka. The said Task Force having investigated matters, recommended the necessity of a public institution empowered as an authority to minimize child abuse. Accordingly, the National Child Protection Authority Bill was presented in Parliament by the Minister of Justice in August 1998. This Bill was unanimously passed in Parliament in November 1998. Accordingly, the National Child Protection Authority was established under the National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998. In June 1999, subsequent to the appointment of the Chairperson and the governing panel of the Authority, the Authority became operative. From the inception of the National Child Protection Authority up to now, it has been taking action to prevent child abuse, take proper steps relevant in incidents of child abuse and to reintegrate child victims into the society.

Action is taken for child protection under the provisions of the National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998 and the Authority has been empowered by the Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act No.16 of 2005 as well to see to the advancement of the child victims of the Tsunami that occurred on 26th December 2004. Further, the Authority may intervene as a third

party under the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act No.34 of 2005 when an incident of a child being subjected to domestic violence is reported.

1929 Child Line Sri Lanka , the 24 hour hotline , was established at the premises of the National Child Protection Authority on 22nd July 2010 for speedy and proper reporting of incidents of child abuse to act in the best interests of children. With the commencement of this telephone service, a gradual increase in reporting incidents of child abuse that had been hidden in society has been observed. By now, child abuse is reported from all districts of Sri Lanka and counseling services also can be obtained through this.

The National Child Protection Authority has performed activities relevant to the National Action Plans for Child Protection during this year as well.

Key functions

As per the National Child Protection Authority Act No. 50 of 1998, a comprehensive role has been assigned to the National Child Protection Authority.

- Advising the government for the formulation of a national policy to prevent child abuse and to protect and treat child victims of such abuse.
- Advising the government regarding the measures to be taken to prevent child abuse.
- Advising the government regarding the measures to be taken to protect victims of such abuse.
- Raising awareness about the children's right to be protected from abuse and the methods of preventing child abuse.
- Taking all necessary measures to prevent child abuse and to protect the victims of abuse and their rights and consulting the relevant Ministries, Provincial Councils, Local Government Institutions, District and Divisional Secretaries and public and private organizations for that purpose where appropriate.
- Recommending the legal, administrative or other amendments required for productive implementation of the National Policy for the Prevention of Child Abuse.
- Monitoring the implementation of laws relevant to all forms of child abuse.
- Monitoring the progress of all investigations and criminal proceedings related to child abuse.

- Recommending measures to address humanitarian concerns of child victims of armed conflicts and their protection and reintegration into society including taking steps for their mental and physical well-being.
- Taking appropriate steps where necessary for the care and protection of children connected to criminal investigations and criminal proceedings.
- Receiving complaints from the public regarding child abuse and referring those to the competent authorities where necessary.
- Advising and assisting provincial councils, local government institutions and non-governmental organizations in relation to coordinating advocacy campaigns against child abuse.
- Developing a national database on child abuse and maintaining it.
- Monitoring and regulating all religious institutions and charities that provide child care services in consultation with the relevant Ministries and other institutions.
- Promoting and coordinating the conduct of research in relation to child abuse and child protection.
- Providing information and education to the public regarding the safety of children and protection of child rights.
- Engaging in dialogue with all sectors involved in tourism to minimize the opportunities for child abuse.
- Organizing and facilitating workshops, conferences and discussions on child abuse.
- Coordinating with foreign governments and international organizations in relation to disclosure and prevention of all forms of child abuse and exchange of information with them.

Structure of the Authority

The following divisions operate at the Head Office of the National Child Protection Authority

- Administration and Human Resources Division
- Finance Division
- Planning and Information Division

1. Planning and Monitoring Unit

2. Information and Media Unit

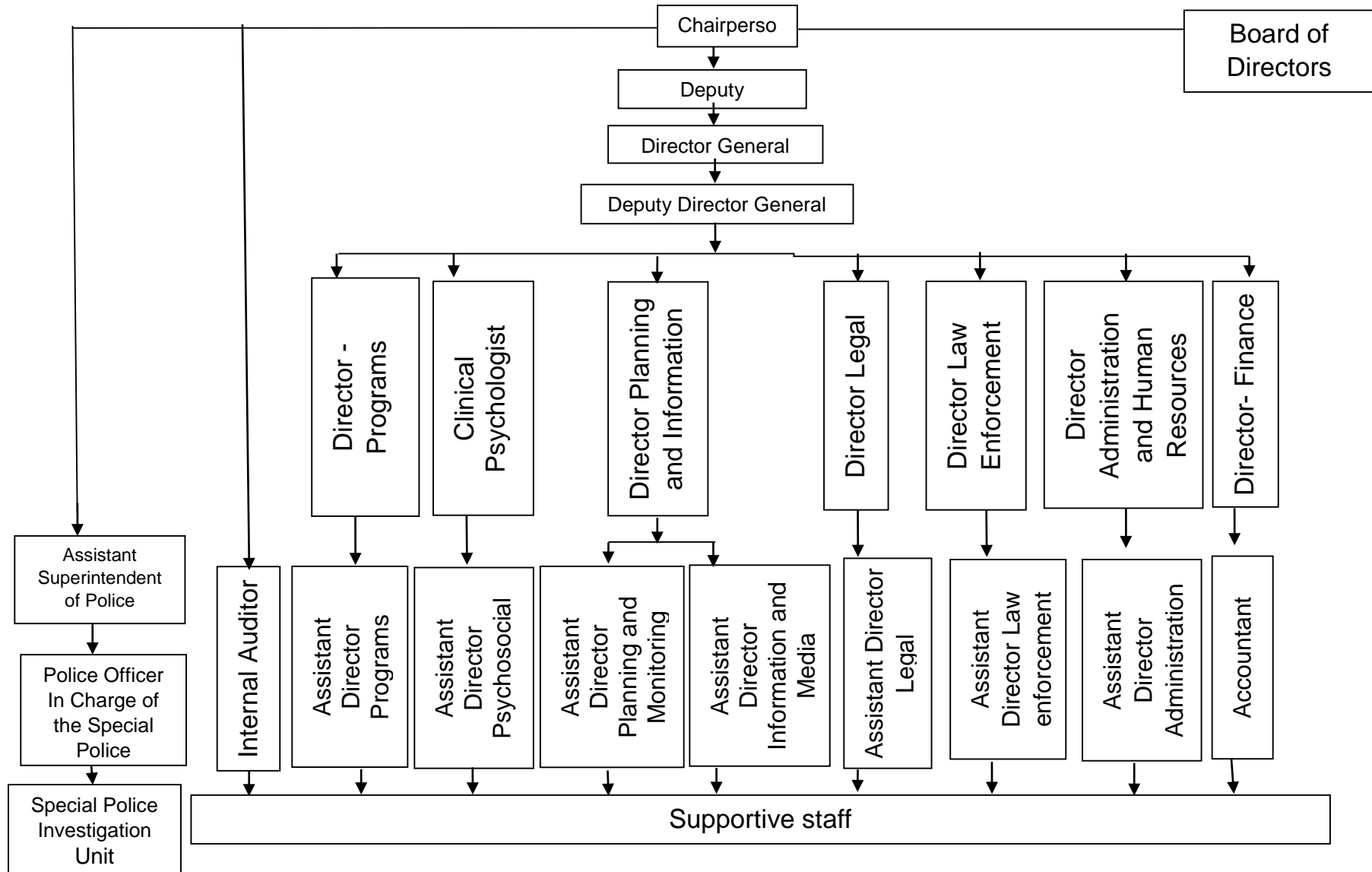
- Library

- Program Division
- Psychosocial Division
- Legal Division

Video recording evidence unit

- Law Enforcement Divisions
 - 1929 Child Line Sri Lanka
 - Investigation unit
 - Central Record Room
 - Investigation and Cyber Surveillance Unit
- Internal Audit Division
- Special Police Investigations Unit

Organizational Structure of the National Child Protection Authority in 2019



**Approved Cadre, staff employed and vacancies in National Child Protection
Authority in 2019**

No.	Designation	Salary Code	Approved Cadre	No. employed	Vacancies
01	Director General	HM -2-1	01	01	-
02	Deputy Director General	HM -1-3	01	-	01
03	Director Administration & Human Resources	HM -1-1	01	01	-
04	Director- Finance	HM -1-1	01	-	01
05	Director – Legal	HM -1-1	01	-	01
06	Clinical Psychologist	HM -1-1	01	-	01
07	Director Planning and Information	HM -1-1	01	01	-
08	Director Programs	HM -1-1	01	01	-
09	Director- Law Enforcement	HM -1-1	01	-	01
10	Asst. Director Administration	MM -1-1	01	01	-
11	Asst. Director Legal	MM -1-1	01	01	-
12	Asst. Director Programs	MM -1-1	01	01	-
13	Assistant Director- Psychology	MM -1-1	01	01	-
14	Asst. Director Planning and Monitoring	MM -1-1	01	01	-
15	Asst. Director Information and Media	MM -1-1	01	-	01
16	Asst. Director Law Enforcement	MM -1-1	01	-	01
17	Accountant	MM -1-1	01	01	-

18	Internal Auditor	MM -1-1	01	01	-
19	Secretary to the Board of Directors	JM – 1-1	01	01	-
20	Administrative Officer	JM – 1-1	01	01	-
21	Programs Officer	JM – 1-1	01	-	01
22	Accounts Officer	JM – 1-1	01	01	-
23	Investigation Officer	JM – 1-1	01	01	-
24	Information and Media Officer	JM – 1-1	01	-	01
25	Planning and Monitoring Officer	JM – 1-1	01	01	-
26	Research and Welfare Officer	JM – 1-1	01	01	-
27	Translator (English)	MA - 4	01	-	01
28	Translator (Tamil)	MA - 4	01	-	01
29	District Child Protection Officer	MA - 3	25	18	07
30	District Psychosocial Officer	MA - 3	25	14	11
31	Divisional Child Protection Officer	MA - 3	360	248	112
32	Administrative Assistant	MA - 3	01	01	-
33	Accounts Assistant	MA - 3	03	02	01
34	Media Assistant	MA - 3	03	01	02
35	Librarian	MA - 3	01	-	01
36	Planning Assistant	MA - 3	01	01	-
37	Legal Assistant	MA - 3	03	01	02

38	Investigation Assistant	MA - 3	02	-	02
39	Counseling Assistant	MA - 3	04	03	01
40	Program Assistant	MA - 3	03	01	02
41	Video evidence recording Assistant	MA - 3	01	01	-
42	Cyber Watch Assistant	MA - 3	01	-	01
43	Therapist	MA - 3	03	01	02
44	Video Technical Assistant	MA – 2-1	01	01	-
45	Management Assistant (Technical)	MA – 2-1	15	09	06
46	Information Technology Assistant	MA – 2-1	02	02	-
47	Management Assistant (Non-Technical)	MA – 1-1	32	28	04
48	Driver	PL-3	07	06	01
49	Messenger	PL-1	01	-	01
50	KKS	PL-1	03	02	01
51	Office Labourer	PL-1	02	01	01
Total			527	359	168

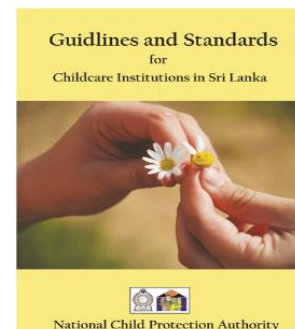
Main Development Programs implemented - 2019

National policy on child protection

Developing the National Policy on Child Protection is a key function of the National Child Protection Authority. It has been authorized for this purpose by Section (b) of the National Child Protection Authority. Accordingly, National Child Protection Authority has taken action from 2009 to formulate the National Policy on Child Protection. This policy was drafted in 2016 and 2017. After obtaining the final agreement and approval of the board of directors and the panel it was submitted for cabinet approval and it was approved by the cabinet on 29.10.2019. Two rounds of discussions have been held with the department of Planning regarding the implementation of this policy.

Guidelines and standards for child development centers in Sri Lanka

Working for the best interest of the children living in the child development centers in Sri Lanka is of utmost importance. For that, the National Child Protection Authority has compiled a set of guidelines and standards for the Child Development Centers in Sri Lanka. The objectives of this are to ensure the quality and standardized process at every Child Development Centre and to promote a safe and child friendly child development center service. It also aims at supervising and monitoring all Child Development Centers operating in Sri Lanka and improving the quality and productivity of the staff serving at those centers. In 2019, final recommendations have been obtained from a committee of the line ministry for the final draft of the guidelines and minimum standards.



Introducing matters related to life skills development and sex education into the school curriculum

Action has been taken by the National Child Protection Authority to introduce matters related to life skills development and sex education into the primary school curriculum. This was assisted by the Ministry of Education and National Institute of Education. The objective of this program is to create comprehensive understanding among the school children, teachers and officers about matters related to identifying one's body, protecting it and personality development and creating a child friendly school environment that ensures child protection and child rights. Under this, copies of the 03 videos created to be used as learning and teaching aid for training purposes of teachers' advisors of the primary sector were printed in 2019.

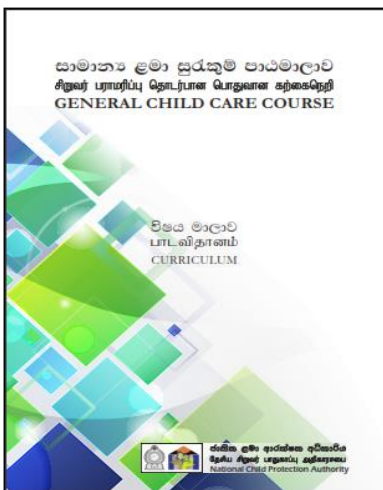
Preparation of a manual with guidelines for child protection in sudden disaster situations (psychological first aid for children)

Children fall into great difficulty in disaster situations that occur in Sri Lanka such as floods, cyclones, landslides, and tsunami. Protection of children should be done with special attention in a disaster situation. Taking that into consideration, the Psychosocial Unit of the National Child Protection Authority has prepared this manual. The objectives of this are protecting and improving the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of children affected by a disaster, identifying treatment required for psychological problems in child victims of disaster and carrying out psychosocial coordination, improving the knowledge, attitudes and skills related to mental health and psychological first aid in professionals, providing basic understanding to the children and the community regarding child protection, child abuse and protection from child abuse and providing proper guidance to government or non-government organizations or volunteer organizations. This manual was printed in 2019.



Trainers' guidelines for the general child care course

Child care certificate course (NVQ Level 4) was developed in line with the guidelines for day care centers. Accordingly, this course is conducted by the Vocational Training Authority (VTA) in 5 districts (Colombo, Kalutara, Kandy, Galle and Kilinochchi). Thus, this course has been commenced and conducted by the National Apprenticeship and Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) to cover all 25 districts. This course consists of 12 modules and a training handbook too has been prepared for that by the National Child Protection Authority. 500 copies of this handbook were printed in 2019.



Printing the national guidelines for child day care centers and awareness raising for officials in that regard

These guidelines for child day care centers were developed with the support of the ministry of planning, prime minister's office, children's secretariat and the department of child care and rotation, with the National Child Protection Authority taking the lead. The objectives of this are to ensure the quality and standardized process at every child day care center at national level and to promote a professional and safe day care service. Approval of parliament was received for this in 2017. 3500 Sinhala medium copies, 100 Tamil medium copies, 500 English copies and 5000 CDs were printed in 2019. Seven, one-day awareness programs were conducted in 07 districts and 415 public officers were made aware of this.



Updating the 2011/17

education circular

Circular No.17 of the ministry of education was issued in 2011 for the establishment of school child protection committees carried out by the National Child Protection Authority. Regularizing the island wide establishment of school child protection committees was done through this circular. Action has been taken to make this circular more systematic. The objective of this is to create the legal background required for establishing and activating school child protection committees. Views were obtained from the district officers and the divisional officers of the National Child Protection Authority in 2019 to update this circular. There it was proposed to introduce new trends into the handbook on school child protection committees instead of updating the circular.

School child protection committees programs

Establishing school child protection committees can be cited as one of the key programs implemented by the National Child Protection Authority. Creating an environment that protects each child attending school from all forms of abuse within the school and the catchment area, converting schools into child friendly environments, improving the relations between the children, parents and teachers, facilitating the identification of children victimized, vulnerable and marginalized owing to child abuse and increasing the participation of children are the objectives of this program. The handbook was drafted in 2019 and the content was compiled by a panel of editors.646 school child protection committees have been established this year under the establishment and strengthening of school child protection committees. 106 special school programs have been conducted.



"Janapawura" community based child protection program

This program is conducted at village, divisional secretariat division and district and national levels. Creation of volunteer public representative groups that can influence working for child protection is done through this. Developing and establishing a national data base containing all information about the children of Sri Lanka, building an abuse prevention mechanism at village level, protecting the children of parents who have gone abroad and providing solutions for the future safety of children by considering unique situations of each child discovered through the conduct of case studies on each child regarding reasons for school nonattendance, getting such children return to schools and providing vocational training to children who cannot be returned to schools are the objectives of this. Awareness raising for natural or legal guardians of these children, launching a practical follow up program on children returned to schools and children provided with vocational training, implementing child protection programs at village level in a productive manner and developing a mechanism to facilitate the flow of information from village level to make submissions to the government in relation to steps to be taken by the government and legal reforms and policies required for the wellbeing of children and child victims in each area are also objectives of this program.

“Jana Pawura” program was held very successfully on 01.07.2019 to cover all 22 Divisional Secretariat Divisions in Anuradhapura with the participation of 4,177 members of Jana Pawura in 694 Grama Niladhari Divisions. Parallel to this program, provisions have been allocated for wall paintings or creative sayings by children on parapet walls or selected walls of 555 schools depicting the value of positive discipline, specially the value of education on child protection and development and minimizing psychological and physical abuse of children.



Program to ensure the protection of children and the community in the plantation sector

the

This program is implemented by the National Child Protection Authority to improve the knowledge of the children and communities living in the estates regarding child protection. The objectives of this program are making children living in the estates a group living in happiness by converting those families into child safe families and creating a group of officers in the estates and a group of people in the estate sector who engage in child protection action. In 2019, 74 programs were conducted in the estates in the districts of Galle, Matara, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Matale, Ratnapura, Kegalle, Kurunegala, Badulla, Moneragala and Colombo and the number who benefitted from these programs was 2,895.

Project for child protection in the coastal areas of Sri Lanka (Siyapath Surekum)

A program implemented for the protection of the children living in the coastal areas of Sri Lanka. Identifying the challenges for child protection found in the coastal areas, creating village level vigilant groups for child protection, taking action to minimize the problems that exist in relation to child protection using the community participation method and empowering the village community for the creation of a safe environment for children are the objectives of this program. The project was implemented in 13 districts in 2019 and financial provisions were made available for 07 community projects submitted. 44 special psychosocial and child protection programs were conducted under this project.



Implementation of a district

level program for prevention of teenage pregnancy

The National Child Protection Authority implements a special program to prevent teenage pregnancies. The aims of this program are identifying the needs of vulnerable children to prevent teenage pregnancies and directing them towards education. 24 programs were conducted in 2019.

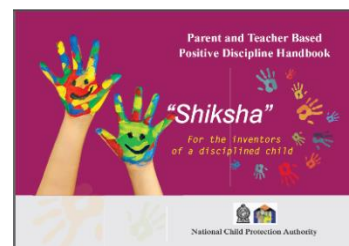
Training primary teachers in schools on positive discipline

The National Child Protection Authority commenced a program in 2019 to train primary teachers in relation to positive discipline. Creating an understanding about positive discipline in primary teachers, eliminating corporal punishment in schools and motivating children to attend school through the creation of a child friendly and safe school environment are the aims of this program. 35 programs were conducted in 34 divisional secretariat divisions in 2019 and 2,347 primary teachers were trained through them.



Handbook on positive discipline for parents and teachers (Shiksha)

This handbook has been prepared by the Psychosocial Unit of the National Child Protection Authority to provide the necessary guidance for skills development of parents and teachers. The handbook intends to provide an understanding to the parents, teachers and the entire community about positive discipline, provide the necessary awareness and guidance for prospective parents and teachers, liberate all children of Sri Lanka from psychological and physical harassment and create disciplined children with self-confidence, self-discipline and values. This handbook was printed in 2019.



Awareness program on child protection for teacher trainees and the academic staff of the colleges of education

Awareness programs on child protection are conducted for the teacher trainees and the academic staff of the national colleges of education. Empowerment in relation to child protection by providing the teachers and the academic staff the attitudes, knowledge and skills in various field related to child protection, providing guidance for early identification of vulnerable children and more productive management of such situations by informing the relevant parties about them and managing the issues of a child victim of abuse in the best interest of such child through awareness raising for these professionals about the most suitable steps to be taken and enabling them to carry out proper coordination are the expected outcomes of this program. 08 programs were conducted. There were 2,099 beneficiaries.

Awareness program for principals

An awareness program on child protection was commenced for principals in 2019. The aims of this program are to make the schools of those who participate in the program child abuse free zones, make the school environments child friendly, facilitate identification of vulnerable children and increase participation of children. 20 programs were conducted in 2019. 11.06 benefitted from this program



Awareness program on child protection for officers of the police training schools

Awareness programs on child protection are conducted for officers of the police training schools. Providing knowledge, attitudes and skills related to child protection to the police officers, encouraging police officers for necessary interventions through the provision of knowledge of the legislation relevant to child protection and providing guidance for early identification of vulnerable children for more productive management of such situations are the objectives of this program. 02 programs were conducted in 2019.

Program to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills related to child protection for health professionals and volunteer health workers

This program is conducted to raise awareness among professionals in the health sector and the volunteer health workers. This program aims at making all interventions in the best interests of the child by making the Administrative Family Health Officers, Public Health Nurse, Family Health Officers, Public Health Inspectors and volunteer health workers serving at the MOH offices professionals who are more sensitive towards child protection, encouraging these officers to engage in community level intervention to protect children from all forms of abuse, equipping them with knowledge and skills in various fields related to child protection and to develop proper knowledge,

skills and attitudes in relation to the manner in which they should operate as a public officer as well as a community member in case of a child abuse incident or in a situation where such a risk prevails and obtaining health service assistance giving priority to incidents involving children through the strengthening of the relations between those officers and the National Child Protection Authority. Accordingly, 27 awareness programs were conducted in 2019. The number of beneficiaries was 1,770.

Awareness program on child protection for doctors studying at the post graduate institute of medicine.

This program is implemented to make the doctors reading for their post graduate qualifications at the post graduate institute of medicine aware about child protection. The aims of this program are to create medical professionals who are sensitive about child protection and to obtain the necessary assistance to minimize child abuse through the strengthening of the relationship maintained with the Authority by the medical professionals. This program was conducted in June 2019 and 72 doctors participated in that.

Training for the administration and the staff of child development centers (Children homes)

Having identified awareness raising for the administration and the staff of Child Development Centers as an essential task, the National Child Protection Authority implemented this program within the year. Making child development centers child friendly and safe places, capacity building for wardens of these Homes for the wellbeing of institutionalized children and improving the psychosocial wellbeing of children are the aims of this program. Programs were implemented in the 25 districts in 2019.

Psychosocial training for the children and the staff of detention homes and certified schools

This program was implemented in 2019 to provide psychosocial training for the children and the staff of detention homes and certified schools. The program expects to carry out psychosocial interventions

and management for peace of mind of children living in the child detention homes and certified schools belonging to the department of probation and child care services, improve the creativity of these children, develop the personality of these children and develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills of the members of the staff serving at the certified schools and detention homes. 06 programs were conducted in 2019.

Psychosocial training for school counsellor teachers

This psychosocial awareness program on child protection for school counsellor teachers was commenced in 2019. Objectives of the program are improving the knowledge, attitude and skills of school counsellor teachers in relation to providing psychosocial assistance and counselling to children with relevance to child protection, raising awareness of school counsellor teachers about psychosocial intervention skills required to minimize child abuse or potentially abusive situations in school and utilization of those skills, further strengthening the role of school counsellor teachers in relation to child protection within the school and making it effective and creating a child friendly environment that ensures child protection and child rights within the school. 02 programs were conducted in western and north western provinces in 2019. 110 teachers were provided awareness.



Electronic and print media program

National Child Protection Authority takes action to disseminate in community the information relevant to ensuring child protection in Sri Lanka in coordination with media institutions. Issuing press releases relevant to child protection to media and conducting press briefings are done to get the support of electronic and print media for child protection. The objectives of this program are to raise awareness of children, parents and adults about child protection and initiate a dialogue within community regarding child protection. Five (05) Sinhala medium programs on child protection for ‘Guruda

Pilisandara's series on Rangiri Sri Lanka Radio and 02 Tamil medium programs with Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation were conducted in 2019.

Creation of print Materials

Printed publications such as leaflets, posters, books and magazines are prepared using various themes for prevention of child abuse and they are used to minimize child abuse through community awareness raising.

Preparing publications for children with special needs was a special task carried out by the Information and media unit during this year. A leaflet was prepared using the braille system and distributed for visually impaired children. Preparing leaflets to minimize cybercrime against children was also done.

School media clubs program on child protection

The aim of the program is to disseminate information relevant to protection of children from child abuse through the school media clubs. Children are also provided a special training. Guidelines for school media clubs were prepared with the help of the Department of mass Communication of university of Kelaniya. Two (02) programs were conducted in 2019.



International Day against child labour

International day against child labour was commemorated this year too. Under the theme, 'Let's end child labour, Let's realize fresh dreams' with the aim of ensuring the right to education of children

who have become victimized, marginalized and vulnerable due to child abuse and various social, economic problems, minimizing secondary victimization of children and minimizing school drop outs, provision of assistance for education was done to mark this Day. In 2019, assistance for education was provided to 2,115 children selected from the 25 districts.

World children's day

Celebrating world children's day was done this year as well. The theme this year was "Let's make the children winners in a child friendly nation!". To mark this Day, packages of library books were distributed covering all the Child Development Centers in the island. Action was taken under this program to provide library books to 372 child development centers situated in the 25 districts of the island.

On 01.10.2019, the day on which world children's day was celebrated, awareness raising for the community was done by the Information and Media unit of the National Child Protection Authority through a press release.

International day of the girl child

The theme for celebrating the international day of the girl child was "The girl child is strong. She cannot be stopped." A press release for community awareness was issued by the Information and Media unit of the National Child Protection Authority on this day.

Exhibitions and Mobile Services

Educational exhibitions are organized by various organizations in Sri Lanka. To raise awareness about the role of the National Child Protection Authority, educational exhibition stalls are provided on requests received from such institutions. The Authority participated in six (06) exhibitions in 2019.



Tsunami foster parent evaluation boards

Welfare of every child and youth below 21 years of age who lost parents as a result of the Tsunami disaster that affected the island in 2004 is considered here. Every child who has lost both parents or one parent and whose surviving parent is unable to care for and protect the child, is provided protection under the Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act no.16 of 2005. Foster parent care matters, follow up and welfare affairs are handled on behalf of the child victims. Monthly assistance for education of 42 children was provided.

Providing assistance to develop mental health

Providing the necessary facilities to the children who come to the psychosocial division of the National Child Protection Authority and at district and divisional levels to obtain services and for children who seek psychosocial assistance, is done through this. Sets of school equipment have been provided under this to the children who come to the psychosocial division to obtain services as well as to the children who come for video recording of evidence. Within 2019 sets of school equipment were provided to 223 children. Providing counseling to children, preparing children for video recording of evidence and providing psychosocial intervention are done.

Providing psycho social assistance to victimized, marginalized and vulnerable children (Diriya Program)

This program to provide psychosocial assistance to children who are victimized, marginalized and vulnerable was commenced in 2019. Through this, the National Child Protection Authority intends to empower those children and their families through the provision of psychosocial assistance. 2,294 children of 229 Divisional Secretariat Divisions benefitted through this in 2019.

Program to monitor the religious and charity institutions that provide child care services

The National Child Protection Authority that has been established for ensuring child safety is achieving that goal through various measures by now. As per Section 14(n) of the National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998, supervision and monitoring of all religious and charity organizations that provide child care services have been assigned to the National Child Protection Authority. To ensure the best interests of the children living in Children's Homes, National Child Protection Authority implemented the supervision of children's homes island wide. Supervision of religious and charity organizations that provide child care services (Child Development Centers) and carrying out this task in a more efficient and productive manner through a consolidated monitoring approach with all institutions involved in finding relevant solutions, creating a safer institutional environment that ensures the wellbeing and protection of institutionalized children and developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes of the parties engaged in the service are the objectives of this program. Three hundred & seventy two (372) Child Development Centers were monitored this year and around 8,500 children have benefitted out of that.

Officer training on disaster management and disaster relief services

Protecting children in disaster situations by providing the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to the district and divisional officers of the Authority to act for child protection in disaster situations is the aim of this program. District and divisional officers and officers at the head office are trained. One (01) program was conducted in 2019.

Conducting monthly district progress review meetings

These meetings are held every month within the District itself by the District Officers. District Officers and the District Psychosocial Officers hold these meetings with all the Divisional Child Protection Officers. Proper and productive performance of duties at District and Divisional levels is expected through this. Hundred & ninety one (191) meetings were held in 2019.

Conducting quarterly progress review meetings for district officers

These meetings are held on a quarterly basis by summoning all the district child protection officers and district psychosocial officers to the head office. The aims of such meetings are monitoring the progress of the development action plans relevant to the year, supervising the performance of the district child protection officers and district psychosocial officers of the National Child Protection Authority and identifying the obstacles, problems and challenges faced in implementing the development programs. Two (02) meetings were held in 2019.

Planning, monitoring and evaluation workshops

Monitoring and evaluating the progress of the development action plans implemented by the National Child Protection Authority is done through this. Developing the skills of District and Divisional Officers of the Authority for development programs and project management and implementing pre and post evaluation methods are done. Monitoring and evaluation are conducted on a monthly basis through the monthly reports sent by the officers of the 09 provinces. Seven (07) programs were conducted in 2019.



Study on street children and beggars

Studying street children and beggars is an important task. Having identified this, the National Child Protection Authority commenced in this year the preliminary work for conducting the study. Action has been taken to collect information from the district and divisional officers through a questionnaire.

Meetings of district stakeholders

Coordination between the government and non-government organizations that operate at district level is done through this program. This is a new program commenced in 2019. The aims of this program are seeing to the best interests of children as per the National Child Protection Authority Act in proper

coordination with non-government organizations and developing collaboration among government, non-government and community based organizations.

Developing the official website of the National Child Protection Authority and developing the information website.

Developing the official website of the National Child Protection Authority www.childprotection.gov.lk and the website containing information about child protection, www.youthink.lk are done.

Information relevant to creating a safe environment for children while protecting them from child abuse is made available in a child friendly manner on that website. Updating those websites is done by the Information and Media unit of the National Child Protection Authority. The official website is being updated.

Developing the library of the National Child Protection Authority

Preliminary work necessary for the creation of a reference library relevant to the subject of child protection was done.

Building a new library specially for the purpose of providing easy access to information for persons who come to the Authority was planned in 2018. The floor plan was drawn by the central engineering consultancy bureau and it has been planned to build the library premises in the next few years.

The main objective of establishing this reference library is to create a conducive environment for research on child protection by providing information services and information sources of the highest quality.

Providing information on child protection and opportunity to use the reference library on the same to the researchers, officers and other persons from educational institutions and provision of information to the academics and school children who come to the National Child Protection Authority are done. A program to promote reading was conducted in 2019 for the officers of the Authority to mark the reading month.

Media coordination

As per Sections 14 (d) and (m) of the National Child Protection Authority Act No.50 of 1998, coordinating the dissemination of the messages of the National Child Protection Authority among the people through mass media which plays the most important role in providing information to the public is done by the Information and Media Division. Accordingly, 09 press releases were issued under various themes in 2019.

Video recording the evidence of victims of child abuse

A special unit is operational within the National Child Protection Authority for video recording evidence given by child victims of abuse. As per Evidence (Special Provisions) Act No. 32 of 1999, video recording evidence given by a child victim of abuse and producing it in court is possible through this. The National Child Protection Authority has carried out seventy three (73) video recordings of evidence. Fifty seven (57) copies of recorded evidence have been released to the courts that requested such evidence.

1929 Sri Lanka child line

To carry out receiving of public complaints on child abuse and referring them to proper authorities when necessary in a more productive and efficient manner as required by the National Child Protection Authority Act, 1929 Sri Lanka Child Help Hotline was established within the premises of the National Child Protection Authority on 22nd July 2010. This is the key mechanism for receiving complaints on child abuse and responding to them speedily. It is observed that incidents of child abuse that had been hidden in society earlier are getting reported now as a result of this.

By calling this service that is operated free of charge all 24 hours, any person can make complaints regarding issues that emerge in relation to children or child abuse. It provides the opportunity to obtain counselling services too. Even though this service is basically for children, adults such as teachers, parents and child care services providers can use this service to discuss the problems they face and practices in bringing up children. 126,095 calls were received by this number in 2019 and 7,949 out of those were received as complaints.

Complaints on child abuse

Complaints on child abuse are received by the National Child Protection Authority through several modes. Those modes are given below.

01. Complaints received over 1929 child line Sri Lanka
02. Verbal complaints made by coming to the Authority.
03. Complaints received by post.
04. Information received through E - mail or cyber surveillance.

All these complaints received are speedily taken up for investigation and they are categorized based on the nature of the complaint. The total number of complaints received by the National Child Protection Authority within this year is 8,558.

No. of complaints received by the National Child Protection Authority in 2019 (According to the districts)

Serial No.	District	No. of Complaints
01	Colombo	1 167
02	Kalutara	478
03	Gampaha	888
04	Kandy	390
05	Matale	140
06	Nuwara Eliya	177
07	Galle	537
08	Matara	301

09	Hambanthota	335
10	Jaffna	175
11	Mannar	80
12	Vavuniya	106
13	Mulativu	122
14	Kilinochchi	141
15	Batticaloa	166
16	Ampara	201
17	Trincomalee	133
18	Kurunegala	726
19	Puttlam	375
20	Anuradhapura	487
21	Polonnaruwa	229
22	Badulla	224
23	Moneragala	221
24	Ratnapura	471
25	Kegalle	288
	Total No.	8558

Classification of the complaints received by the National Child Protection Authority in 2019 according to the nature of the complaints

Serial No.	Nature of the complaint	No. of complaints
01	27A. ACO - Unlawful Custody	4
02	286A. Pornographic publications and exhibitions relevant to children	23
03	288. Causing or procuring children to beg.	299
04	288B. Hiring or employing children to traffic in restricted articles.	29
05	308.	2

06	308A. Cruelty to children	2342
07	Sexual harassment	594
08	35. CYPO – Children and youth in need of care and protection.	7
09	Abduction from legal custody	109
10	352. Kidnapping	44
11	360B Sexual exploitation of children	4
12	360C Trafficking	119
13	360E Soliciting a child	14
14	363. Rape	294
15	364A Incest	1
16	365. Unnatural offences	1
17	365A. Acts of gross indecency between persons	1
18	365B. Grave sexual abuse	288
19	71.CYPO – Neglect	906
20	76. CYPO –Selling tobacco	1
21	Child domestic workers	265
22	Compulsory education	1290
23	Domestic violence	79
24	Child abuse	337
25	Other	1505
Total		8558

Legal functions

Protecting child victims of abuse, taking measures to safeguard their rights, recommending legislative, administrative or other amendments for preventing child abuse, providing legal advice and monitoring the progress of all investigations and criminal proceedings related to child abuse and appearing in court in that regard are activities performed by the legal division. In addition to the Authority Act, its functions are relevant the following Acts as well.

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

In 2019, 593 service recipients were provided legal advice over the phone by the legal division operative at the National Child Protection Authority while 138 came to the Authority to get legal advice. At the same time, it has appeared in court for cases on 24 instances. It has participated in 99 meetings.

The Number of cases under the Tsunami (Special Provisions) Act No. 16 of 2005

Court	No. of cases
Ampara	11
Batticaloa	14
Colombo	04
Galle	09
Hambanthota	28
Kalutara	03
Matara	11
<i>Total</i>	80

The Number of cases that the legal division appeared in courts

Serial No.	Court	No. of Cases
01	Supreme Court	02
02	Juvenile Court, Battaramulla	09
03	Magistrate Court, Gangodawila	08
04	Magistrate Court, Kuliypitiya	01
	Total	20

Special police investigations

The Special Police investigations Unit of the National Child Protection Authority is taking action to speedily investigate the complaints on child abuse received from the public by the Authority over 1929 Child Line Sri Lanka and through other methods and to take legal action in relation to them. Action has been taken to employ officers of the Special Police Investigations Unit to function all 24 hours of the day for this task.

Report on the complaints investigated by the special police investigations unit in 2019

Serial No.	Offence	No. Reported	No. being investigated	No. with investigation completed	False	No. referred to the court	No. taken up in court	Referred to external police stations for investigation
01	Petty Crimes	09	-	09	-	09	09	-

02	Miscellaneous complaints	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
03	Juvenile crimes	36	-	36	04	36	36	-
Total		45	-	45	04	45	45	-

Training workshops conducted in 2019 for the officers of the National Child Protection Authority

	Name of the Training Program	Date	Venue	No. of participants	Training period
01	Positive Psychology and Stress Management	28.11.2019		9	One day
02	Workshop on Public Sector Office Methodology	09.12.2019 and 10.12.2019		5	Two days
03	Workshop on store management, annual Boards of Survey and asset disposal	28.11.2019 and 29.11.2019		2	Two days
04	Disciplinary Procedure	25.11.2019 and 26.11.2019		3	Two days
05	Evaluation of skills and providing knowledge on K.P.I.	25.11.2019		2	One day
06	Information Technology Procurement Management Workshop	09.12.2019 and 10.12.2019		1	Two days
07	Two day workshop on transport management	09.12.2019 and 10.12.2019		1	Two days
08	Two day workshop on consumer services	21.11.2019 and 22.11.2019		1	Two days

09	Effective presentation skills	21.11.2019 and 22.11.2019	Sri Lanka Foundation Institute	11	Two days
10	Information Technology for Management Assistant	05.12.2019 and 06.12.2019		4	Two days
11	Basics of computer networking	16.12.2019, 17.12.2019 and 18.12.2019		2	Three days

**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31,
DECEMBER 2019**

DESCRIPTION	NOTE	Rs.	Rs.
		2019	2018
REVENUE			
Recurrent Grant -Treasury		257,512,685.29	236,480,000.00
-Other Agencies	1A	-	68,494.88
Other Income	1B	24,027,617.79	23,503,171.77
Treasury Grant for Implementation of NPA		54,449,445.60	45,078,475.70
Receipts for National Child Protection Fund	1C	-	1,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE		335,989,748.68	305,131,142.35

EXPENSES			
Administration Expenses	2	234,119,826.14	218,712,109.88
Other Operating Expenses	3	98,969,835.79	93,776,458.60
Project Expenses	4	-	68,494.88
National Child Protection Fund Expenses	5	-	-
Finance Cost	6	-	12,967.08
TOTAL EXPENSES		333,089,661.93	312,570,030.44
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	7	2,900,086.75	(7,438,888.09)

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31, DECEMBER 2019

		Rs.	Rs.
DESCRIPTION	NOTE	2019	2018
ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipments	8	67,929,606.03	86,302,081.19
Work - in Progress - Vauniya Building		3,982,463.55	3,026,148.14
Lease Hold Land		20,928,865.41	21,707,906.51
Investments & Savings	9	7,694,089.44	7,982,626.65
Long Term Receivables	10	131,147.25	501,043.36
		100,666,171.68	119,519,805.85
CURRENT ASSETS			

Inventory - Stationery		364,096.06	487,502.77
Distress Loan Repayment		470,734.14	470,734.14
Accounts Receivable	11	8,889,325.37	21,053,750.23
Prepayments	12	639,557.47	666,726.54
Cash & Cash Equivalents	13	5,250,317.18	3,387,629.91
		15,614,030.22	26,066,343.59
TOTAL ASSETS		116,280,201.90	145,586,149.44
LIABILITIES			
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Gratuity Provision		44,749,353.50	35,394,403.00
Project Surplus / (Deficit)	14-A	2,720,160.33	1,601,668.55
National Child Protection Fund	14-B	584,997.27	(321,549.73)
		48,054,511.10	36,674,521.82
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued Expenses	15	5,876,289.91	18,672,035.08
Short Term Provisions	16	916,094.14	1,782,034.14
		6,792,384.05	20,454,069.22
TOTAL LIABILITIES		54,846,895.15	57,128,591.04
NET ASSETS		61,433,306.75	88,457,558.40
FINANCED BY			
Capital Grants	17	40,929,636.38	61,247,752.69
Revaluation Reserve		1,941,600.05	1,930,000.00
Retained Earnings		18,562,070.32	25,279,805.71
		61,433,306.75	88,457,558.40

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITY

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,2019

		Rs.	Rs.
PARTICULARS	NOTE	2019	2018
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITES			
Surplus / (Deficit) from ordinary activities		2,900,086.75	(7,438,888.09)
<u>Prior Year Adjustments</u>			
Gratuity Provision		-	17,779,419.00
Capital Grant - Lease Land		-	17,096,573.27
Retained Earnings		(9,617,822.14)	(39,195,626.39)
National Child Protection Fund		906,547.00	
Non Cash Movements			
Depreciation	8	21,123,948.16	21,432,928.78

Amortization of Lease Land	779,041.10	779,041.10
Amortization of Tsunami Grants	-	-
Amortization of Capital Grant	(20,683,630.31)	(21,246,969.88)
Amortization of Project Funds	1,118,491.78	9,555.12
Amortization of Capital Reserve	-	-
Amortization of Revaluation Reserves	11,600.05	(965,000.00)
Capital Grant - Equipments	-	-
Increase / (Decrease) in Retained Earnings	-	-
Increase/Decrease in Payables	(12,795,745.17)	7,427,925.10
Increase/Decrease in Short term provision	(865,940.00)	740,184.00
Increase/Decrease in Inventories	123,406.71	(27,582.96)
Increase/Decrease in Receivables	12,164,424.86	3,081,518.08
Increase/Decrease in Prepayment	27,169.07	(59,164.54)
Gratuity Contribution	10,067,119.50	6,137,143.00
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	5,258,697.36	5,551,055.59
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITES		
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(2,751,473.00)	(4,358,002.89)
Fixed Asset Removals	-	7,527.96
Lease Hold Land	-	-
Work-in Progress - Vauniya Building	(956,315.41)	(3,026,148.14)
Increase/Decrease in Long term Receivables	369,896.11	519,736.63
Proceeds from Investment	288,537.21	57,722.00
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(3,049,355.09)	(6,799,164.44)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITES		
Gratuity Payment	(712,169.00)	(372,404.00)
Increase / Decrease in Restricted Funds	-	-
Proceeds from Capital Grant	365,514.00	751,412.77
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(346,655.00)	379,008.77
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalentents	1,862,687.27	(869,100.08)

Cash and Cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		3,387,629.91	4,256,729.99
Cash and Cash equivalents at the end of the period	13	5,250,317.18	3,387,629.91

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31, DECEMBER 2019

Rs.

	Capital Grant	Revaluation Reserve	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
Restated balance at 1 January 2018	81,743,309.80	2,895,000.00	32,719,693.80	117,358,003.60
Comprehensive Income				
Profit for the year	-	-	(7,439,888.09)	(7,439,888.09)
Total Other Comprehensive Income / Expenses	(20,495,557.11)	(965,000.00)	-	(21,460,557.11)
Balance at 31 December 2018	61,247,752.69	1,930,000.00	25,279,805.71	88,457,558.40
Correction of prior period error	-	-	(9,617,822.14)	(9,617,822.14)
Restated balance at 1 January 2019	61,247,752.69	1,930,000.00	15,661,983.57	78,839,736.26
Comprehensive Income				
Profit for the year	-	-	2,900,086.75	2,900,086.75
Total Other Comprehensive Income / Expenses	(20,318,116.31)	11,600.05	-	(20,306,516.26)
Balance at 31 December 2019	40,929,636.38	1,941,600.05	18,562,070.32	61,433,306.75

Chairman,
National Child Protection Authority.

Report of the Auditor General on the financial statements and other legal and regulatory requirements of the National Child Protection Authority for the year ended 31st December, 2019 in terms of Section 12 of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the Financial statements of the National Child Protection Authority for the year ended 31st December 2019 comprising of the statement of financial position, as at 31st December, 2019, statement of changes in equity and of cash flow statement for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements and a summary of significant accounting policies, was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 and Finance Act No. 38 of 1971.

My report to Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(b) of the Constitution will be tabled in due course.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section, the financial position of the Authority as at 31st December 2019 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended give a true and fair view in accordance with the Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

- (a) Even though assets and liabilities shall not be set off other than when required or permitted as per paragraph 48 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard 01, Rs. 602,509, total of debit balances of three project funds and Rs. 3,322,669 total of credit balances of six funds that had existed for a long time as a result of accounting errors, were set off against each other without settlement and the net

credit balance of Rs. 2,720,160 was stated under non-current liabilities in the financial position.

- (b) Even though fixed assets at a cost of Rs. 11,192,030 have been fully depreciated as a result of failing to review the useful life of non-current assets annually in terms of paragraph 65 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard 07, they continued to be in use. Action had not been taken as per Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard 03 to revise the estimated error caused accordingly.
- (c) Even though the total of gratuity amounting to Rs. 1,502,528 that had to be paid for the year under review has to be stated as current liabilities as per paragraph 80(d) of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard, it was stated to non-current liabilities.
- (d) Instead of capitalizing Rs. 3,635,654 spent as total cost of construction a new boundary wall to replace the old boundary wall in front of the Authority. It was written off to income as revenue expenditure and the amount of Rs. 1,741,535 that remained to be paid in that regard was not stated in the financial statement as a liability. At the same time, action had not been taken to recognize the value of the old boundary wall and write it off.
- (e) A sum of Rs. 470,734 was stated as repayment of distress loans under current assets in the statement of financial position of the year under review, and though the said value had existed for over 5 years, relevant information to confirm the said balance was not submitted to the audit.
- (f) In preparing the cash flow statements, Rs. 1,230,959, the revalued amount of fixed assets, was incorrectly stated as Purchase of Fixed Assets under Investment Activities and it was adjusted also under Non cash adjustments under Operating Activities.

1.3 Management and related parties responsibility for the Financial statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the Authority or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternate but to do so.

These charged with governance are responsible for the Authority's financial reporting process.

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

1.4 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements.

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

reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Financial Statements, or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the Financial Statements

represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

2. Report on other Legal and Regulatory Requirements.

National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 includes specific provisions for following requirements.

- I have obtained all the information and explanation required for the audit and as far as appears from my examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Authority as per the requirement of section 12(a) of National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- The Financial statements presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirement of Section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.
- The Financial Statements presented include all the recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirement of section 6(1) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018.
- To state that any member of the governing body of the Authority has any direct or indirect interest in any contract entered into by the Authority which are out of the normal course of business as per the requirement of section 12(d) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018;
- To state that the Authority has not performed according to its powers, functions and duties as per the requirement of section 12(g) of the National Audit Act No, 19 of 2018 other than the observations mentioned below;

Powers, functions and duties.	Observations
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<p>National Child Protection Act No. 58 of 1998</p> <p>(a) As per section 14(g) and (h) of the Act, taking steps to monitor the implementation of laws relating to all forms of child abuse and monitor the progress of all investigations and criminal proceedings related to child abuse.</p>	<p>Out of the 48,631 complaints received by the police division of the National Child Protection Authority from 2010 to 2019 investigation relating to 413 complaints had been completed they had been referred to the Attorney General for filing indictments at the High Court. Cases had not been filed at the High Court for 228 files.</p>
<p>(b) As per section 14(f) of the Act, taking appropriate steps where necessary for securing the safety and protection of children involved in criminal investigations and criminal proceedings</p>	<p>Provisions had been allocated as Rs.250,000 for providing facilities for victims of child abuse and Rs.1,500,000 for video recording of evidence and maintenance . Only Rs.51,000 and Rs.27,000 respectively out of the said amounts had been spent.</p> <p>461 requests had been received for video recording of evidence from 2017 to 2019 and only 331 out of them had been recorded. Only one officer is employed for that purpose and having to attend High Court to give evidence in relation to recordings was observed as the reason for this delay.</p>
<p>(c) As per section 14(m) of the Act developing and maintaining a national data base on child abuse.</p>	<p>Even though developing a data base on complaint resolution by the Authority had been commenced in 2014, that data base had not been completed in line with the aims of the Act even by 30th June 2020, the date of the audit.</p>
<p>(d) As per section 14 (k) of the Act, receiving complaints from the public regarding child abuse and referring</p>	<p>Due to weaknesses in complaint resolving, out of the 81,259 complaint received by the Authority up to 2019, 41,142 had been brought forward without resolving even by</p>

<p>them to the relevant officers when necessary.</p>	<p>the end of the year and that was 50% of the total number of complaints.</p>
<p>(e) As per section (o) of the Act, providing information and education to the public regarding safety of children and protecting child rights.</p>	<p>Sufficient work had not been done in this regard and the amount of Rs. 6,577,000 allocated for this purpose within the year under review had been spent only for conducting awareness programs in 22 Divisional Secretariat Divisions in Anuradhapura district and for identifying rural civil society activists.</p>
<p>(f) As per sections 16 and 17 of the Act, there should be a panel for the Authority, officers of the panel should participate in all meetings of the Authority and they should assist the Authority to implement decisions.</p>	<p>Offices of the panel had not acted to contribute to the function of the Authority actively and implement the decisions of the Authority accordingly.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the resources of the Authority have not been procured in line with the relevant rules and regulations or requirement and used prudently, efficiently and productively within the relevant period. 	

3. Other audit observations:

- (a) The land obtained in 2016 on lease at a lease value of Rs. 18,317,757 to construct a building for the Authority remained useless without being utilized for the relevant purpose even by 30th June 2020.
- (b) Out of the provisions amounting to Rs. 8,075,000 allocated to the National Child Protection Authority for implementation of social protection action plans under the Social Protection Project, Rs. 1,975,000 had been allocated for conducting 25 awareness and training programs for officers on the National Guidelines for Day Care Centers in Sri Lanka. In the year under review, only 7 programs had been held for 415 officers of 7 districts by spending Rs. 478,000. By the end of the year under review, Rs. 4,805,000 that is 59 percent, out of the total provisions amounting to Rs. 4,805,000 allocated for implementation of social protection action plans had been spent.
- (c) Provisions amounting to Rs. 4,250,000 had been allocated to implement the action plan on the 24 hour toll free child line, and out of the activities that had to be carried out using Rs. 2,900,000 out of the said amount, establishing the server room, building racks for officers and purchasing chairs for the 1929 call center had not been carried out.

W.P.C. Wickramarathna

Auditor General.



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අංක 330, තලවතුගොඩ පාර, මාදිවෙල, ශ්‍රී ජයවර්ධනපුර, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.
தேசிய சிறுவர் பாதுகாப்பு அதிகாரசபை
இல.330, தலவதுகொட வீதி, மாதிவெல, ஸ்ரீ ஜயவர்தனபுர, இலங்கை.
National Child Protection Authority
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