

Karachchi Pradeshiya Sabha - 2020

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Karachchi Pradeshiya Sabha including the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 comprising the balance sheet as at 31 December 2020, Income and Expenditure Account, Cash Flow Statement for the year and significant accounting policies and other explanatory information was carried out, for the year then ended, under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (1) of the constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with Sub-Section 172 (1) of the Pradeshiya Sabha Act No. 15 of 1987 and provisions of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018. My comments and observations which I consider should be report to parliament appear in this report

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Karachchi Pradeshiya Sabha as at 31 December 2020, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Generally accepted Accounting Principles.

1.2 Basis for Qualified Opinion

My opinion is qualified on the matters described in paragraph 1.6 of this report.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). My responsibilities, under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

1.3 Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in 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.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Pradeshiya Sabha's financial reporting process.

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

1.4 Audit Scope (Responsibility of the Auditor for the audit of Financial Statements)

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

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of its internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

The scope of the audit also extended to examine as far as possible and as far as necessary the following;

- Whether the organization, systems, procedures, books, records and other documents have been properly and adequately designed from the point of view of the presentation of information to enable a continuous evaluation of the activities of the Pradeshiya Sabha, and whether such systems, procedures, books, records and other documents are in effective operation;
- Whether the Pradeshiya Sabha has complied with applicable written law, or other general or special directions issued by the governing body of the Pradeshiya Sabha;
- Whether it has performed according to its powers, functions and duties; and

- Whether the resources of the Pradeshiya Sabha had been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws

1.5 Report on Other Legal Requirements

The National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 contains special provisions regarding the following requirements.

- (a) Financial Statements of the Pradeshiya Sabha as per the requirement mentioned in Section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National audit Act No. 19 of 2018 corresponded with the Financial Statements of the previous year.
- (b) In accordance with the requirement referred to in Section 6 (1) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 recommendations made by me during the previous year are included in the submitted financial statements.

1.6 Audit Observations on the preparation of Financial Statements

1.6.1 Accounting Policies

Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Council -----	Recommendation -----
The accounting policies followed were not disclosed in the financial statements.	Could not be included in the financial statements by omission.	The accounting policies followed should be disclosed.

1.6.2 Accounting Deficiencies

Audit Observation -----	Comments of the Council -----	Recommendation -----
(a) A sum of Rs.3,359,725 of solid waste charges and tree-wheel stand rent due for the year under review were not presented as income in the financial statements. Also, Rs. 55,800 arrears of garbage tax of the previous year had been stated as income of the year under review.	These will be documented in future.	Income related to a particular year should be accounted for in that year itself.
(b) Garbage tax receivable of Rs.318,000 for the year under review was not accounted for as income in the financial statements.	These will be documented in future.	Arrears should be disclosed in the financial statements as income.

1.7 Non-compliance

1.7.1 Non-compliance with Laws, Rules, Regulations and Management Decisions etc

Reference to Laws, Rules Regulations etc.	Non-compliance	Comments of the Council	Recommendation
Section 52 of the Provincial Councils Act No. 15 of 1987	169 unauthorized shops had not been removed from the land on Kanagapuram Road, which was given by the Karachi Divisional Secretariat for the purpose of settling the people.	There is a situation where building approval cannot be given when shops are constructed on the lands given for settlement.	Actions should be taken as per the provisions of the Act.

2. Financial Review

2.1 Financial Result

According to the Financial Statements presented, excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure of the Sabha for the year ended 31 December 2020 amounted to Rs.129,257,227 as compared with excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure amounted to Rs.50,583,351 in the preceding year.

2.2 Revenue Administration

2.2.1 Performance in Revenue Collection

Audit Observation

No steps were taken to collect Rs.11,740,658 in outstanding tax and rents between 01 and 05 years.

Comments of the Council

Legal action is being taken.

Recommendation

Adequate steps should be taken to recover arrears of rent and tax.

3. Operational Review

Matters revealed with regard to fulfilling regulation and control and administration of public health, public utility services and public roads, generally with the protection and promotion of the comfort, convenience and welfare of the people and amenities by the Council under Section 3 of the Pradeshiya Sabha Act are shown below

3.1 Idle and Under Utilized Property, Plant and Equipment

Audit Observation

02 gardens and organic fertilizer processing building owned by the Sabha valued at Rs.11,238,788 remained unused for more than 03 years.

Comments of the Council

Actions are being taken to use it.

Recommendation

Effective measures should be taken to utilize the assets of the Sabha.