

Mannar Urban Council - 2021

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Qualified Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the Mannar Urban Council including the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 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 Subsection 181(1) of the Municipal Councils Ordinance (255 Authority) and provisions 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 Mannar Urban Council as at 31 December 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows 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 Generally accepted Accounting Principles, 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 Urban Council's financial reporting process.

As per Section 16(1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Urban Council 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 Urban Council 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 Urban Council 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 Urban Council 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 (i) (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 Preparation of Financial Statements

1.6.1 Accounting defficiencies

Audit observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
(a) Considering 22 contract works which were not completed during the year under review as completed works and adjusting the various creditors account, the expenses and current liabilities of the year were overstated by Rs. 36,586,095.	On the basis of accrual accounting followed by the local government bodies, the tasks you have indicated are included in the various creditors account in the final accounts.	Accounts should be prepared in accordance with accounting principles and policies.
(b) Rs.40,000 and Rs.125,100 to be credited to bid deposits and deposits in the name of the Government respectively had been credited to the various deposit account.	Included in various deposits by mistake. It will be correct in the future.	-do-

1.6.2 Unreconciled control account or Reports

Audit observation	Comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
(a) There was a difference of Rs.25,085,135 in the balance of Accumulated Funds and Development Reserves shown in the statement of financial position compared to the same balance in the statement of change of Rights.	The variance was not added by an error.	Account balances should be reconciled with source documents.
(b) According to the financial statements, there was a difference of Rs.17,480 between the advance balance and the balance in the advance ledger.	Advance ledger had been updated.	-do-
(c) There was a difference of Rs.105,512,681 between the balance of fixed assets stated in the statement of financial position and the balance in the statement of assets.	A committee will be established to identify and settle the relevant differences and steps will be taken to settle the existing differences.	-do -

1.7 Non-compliances

1.7.1 Non-compliance with Laws, Rules, Regulations and Management decisions

Reference to laws rules regulations	Non compliance	Comment of the Council	Recommendation
FR 104(1) of Financial Regulation of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	There was no investigation had been done as per the Financial Regulations regarding the damage of Rs.964,530 due to a vehicle accident in the year 2020.	The investigation is at the final stage and appropriate action will be taken after receiving the reports.	The action should be taken in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

2. Financial Review

2.1 Financial Result

According to the Financial Statements presented excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure of the Council for the year ended 31 December 2021 amounted to Rs. 59,992,135 as compared with excess of revenue over recurrent expenditure amounted to Rs. 43,985,873 in the preceding year.

2.2 Performance of collection of Revenue

Audit Observation	The comment of the Sabha	Recommendation
(a) The sum of arrears of assessment and tax due on the properties in the Municipality area is Rs. 28,437,773 had not been collected.	Steps have been taken to recover this money.	As per the provisions of the Local Councils Act, the councils should take steps to collect the revenue without delay.
(b) The arrears of Rs. 2,263,000 due from 43 shops had not been collected up to now.	The actions have been taken to recover Rs.390,000 to be recovered for 43 shops before 06 July 2022.	-do-