

Annual Report

2022

The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

Eventhough legal aid has not been introduced as a fundamental right under Chapter 3 of the 1978 Constitution, Articles 12 (1) and 13 (3) of the Constitution have drawn attention towards this matter.

Article 12(1) of the Constitution - All persons are equal before the law and are entitled to the equal protection of the law.

Article 13(3) of the Constitution - Any person charged with an offence shall be entitled to be heard, in person or by an attorney-at-law, at a fair trial by a competent court.

It has further been confirmed by the Rule No.44 of the Supreme Court Rules of Law of Sri Lanka in 1990.

Message of the Chairman

The Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission, which has passed forty-three years since it started the space for the public to access justice, is passing this time in a background where the country and the people have faced severe challenges.

At a time when socio-economic and political crises, including the Covid-19 pandemic, the economic crisis and political instability, are further marginalizing people, protecting and expanding their access to justice is extremely important. 85 Legal Aid Centers scattered across the country and a Bar Council are working to fulfill their role in the midst of many challenges.



Lack of adequate funds and infrastructure to run legal aid services has become a major problem. The lack of even the required staff and the limitations in their recruitment have also made it challenging to maintain the existing legal aid centers. But at this time when the demand for legal aid services is increasing, our responsibility is very high.

Our staff should be appreciated for their diligent and responsible services despite facing all kinds of challenges that may be faced in the society or as a nation.

As in the previous years, this year also I gratefully recall the support and full sponsorship of the Ministry of Justice for all the activities of the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission. It was instrumental in the advancement of the legal aid sector. I am happy to say that the support received from all parties including the staff in this regard is very commendable.

Sgd. Illegibly

PC Rohan Sahabandu

Chairman

Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

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Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka incorporated by the Legal Aid Act No 27 of 1978

The most provable feature of the Legal Aid Act No 27 of 1978 was to prepare a policy framework of legal aid facilitation to be launched within the country through a formal mechanism for the implementation of legal aid programme.

The establishment and setting up the operation of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the above objectives is the principal function of this Act.

Vision :-

**To facilitate an easy access to equity that would enable
administration of justice to all Sri Lankans.**

Mission :-

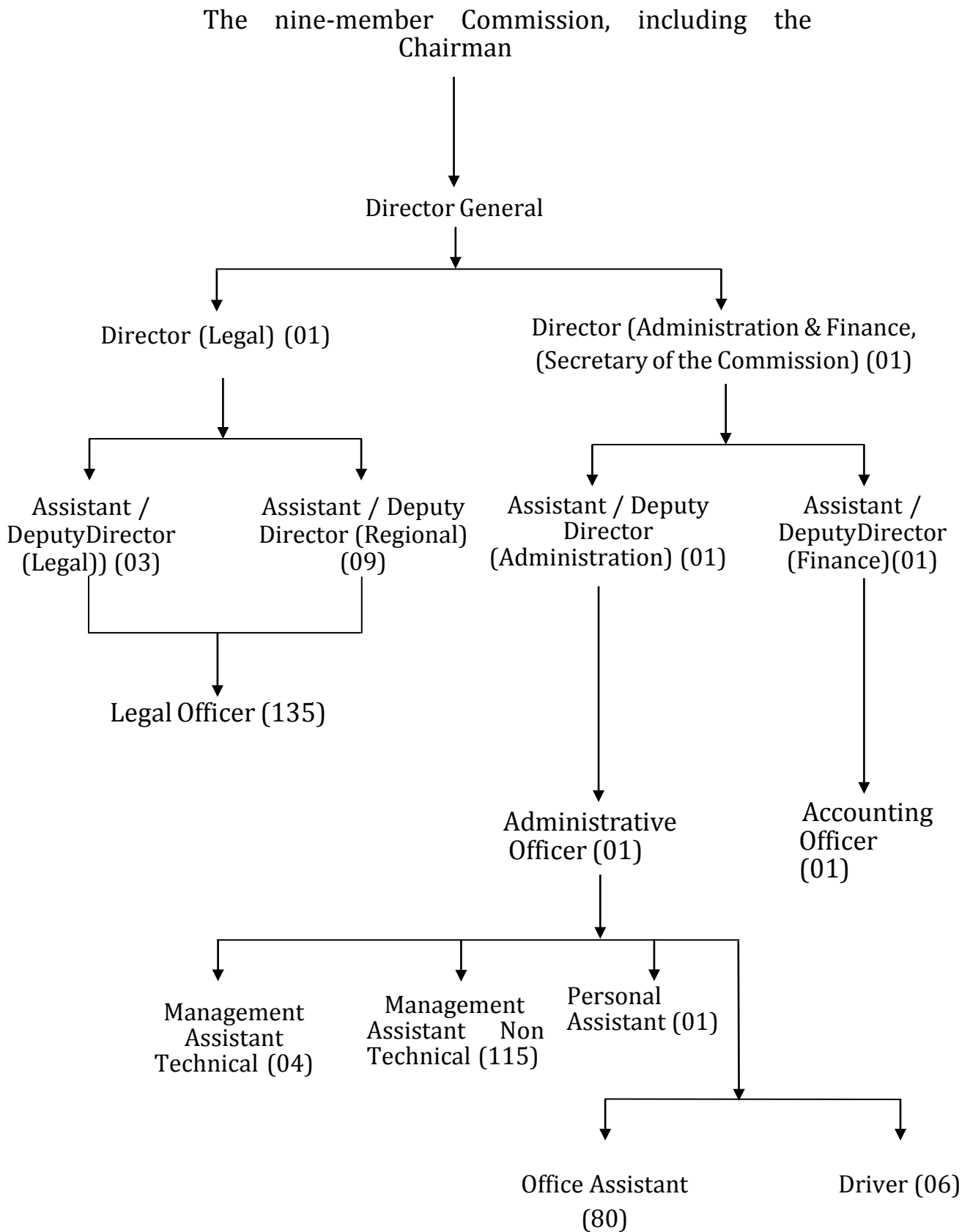
Providing legal aid for the impoverished communities in Sri Lanka who are unable to obtain justice due to poverty, providing free legal assistance to low income people, educating the entire society about the law, engaging in counselling services to the government during legislation of new laws and legal reforms, etc. in order to lead the public towards an easy access to justice.

Objectives of the Legal Aid Act No. 27 of 1978

Sections 3 and 4 of the Act No. 27 of 1978.

1. Providing legal advice to any person of any economic level who deserves assistance.
2. Providing services of attorneys for legal proceedings in the lower income tax tribunal.
3. Establishment of regional offices upto a certain amount that the Commission considers necessary to enable as many persons as possible to obtain legal aid.
4. To decide for which matters or types of cases that legal aid can be provided and determine such matters or types of cases.
5. Determining the outline procedures to follow in relation to the payment of fees and expenses by persons assisted, by taking into account the funds available at the time of which the cases have been resolved or settled and taking all relevant recommendations into consideration.
6. To take necessary action to expand the legal aid scheme through inquiry of the community-based professional, social and other groups that are involved in some aspect of providing government institutions and legal aid.
7. Promote, establish, finance and supervise research related to legal aid.
8. With the intention of raising awareness,
 - i. Educating the members of the legal profession regarding the need for a legal aid scheme and their responsibilities, duties and role in the maintenance and participation thereof.
 - ii. Commencement and implementation of educational programs for the people with special needs regarding their rights, powers, privileges and role, and entire community in general under the prevalent laws of Sri Lanka.
9. Employing the staff required for the establishment, development, implementation of research based programmes, problem solving centers and/or projects regarding a special division or divisions on legal aid provision.
10. Obtaining suggestions from the public for new programs and projects and encouraging them in that respect.
11. To cooperate with educational institutions and boards regarding the education and training of those who provide legal aid.
12. To provide information to the public on the ability to obtain legal aid.
13. Submission of information to legal reforms agencies in Sri Lanka and abroad and the government.

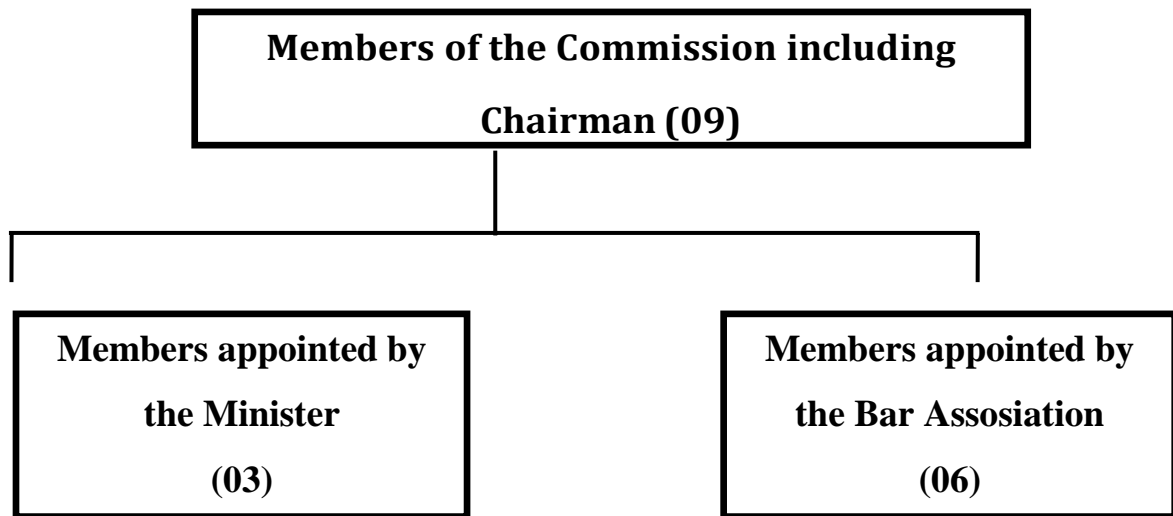
The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka Organization plan



Staff of the Legal Aid Commission as at 31.12.2022

Employee Category Level	Designation	Approved Cadre	Existing Cadre
Senior Level	Director General	01	01
	Counsel	-	01
	Director (Legal)	01	-
	Director (Administration & Finance, Secretary, Commission)	01	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Legal)	03	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Regional)	09	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Administration)	01	-
	Assistant / Deputy Director (Finance)	01	-
	Chief Accountant	-	01
	Secretary of the Commission	-	01
	Legal Officers I and II	135	123
Accountant	-	01	
Tertiary Level	Accounting Officer	01	-
	Assistant Accountant	-	01
	Administrative Officer	01	-
	Secretary to the Chairman	-	01
Secondary Level	Management Assistant (Technical)	04	03
	Management Assistant (Non-Technical)	115	97
	Personal Assistant	01	-
Primary Level	Driver	06	02
	Office Assistant	80	53
Total		360	285

Composition of the Members of the Legal Aid Commission



Members of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka in year 2022



PC, Mr. Rohan Sahabandu
(Chairman)



PC, Mr. Manohara De Silva



PC, Mr. Uditha Igalahewa



PC, Mr. Puvidaran



Mr. J.M. Gunathilake
Senior Attorney-at-Law



Mr. Priyantha Gamage
Attorney-at-Law



Mr. Sanjaya Gamage
Senior Lawyer



Mr. Binara Gunasekara
Attorney-at-Law
(Administration)



Ms. Hiranya Perera
Attorney-at-Law
(Assistant Secretary -
Legal, Ministry of Justice)

The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka consists of three members appointed by the minister of justice and six members nominated by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka, each of them will be appointed for a period of three years. A member may be re-appointed as a member after the expiration of three years' service period. Also, the work of the Commission is monitored by the Legal Aid Board, which is headed by the Chief Justice. The Advisory Board consists of 30 members constituted by 09 members of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka, three members nominated by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka, 06 members to represent the Courts nominated by the Chief Justice, and 12 members nominated by the Minister of Justice to be involved in community, neighborhood, professional, social and other groups, which have a connection to the government, provincial bodies, educational institutions and legal aid sections.

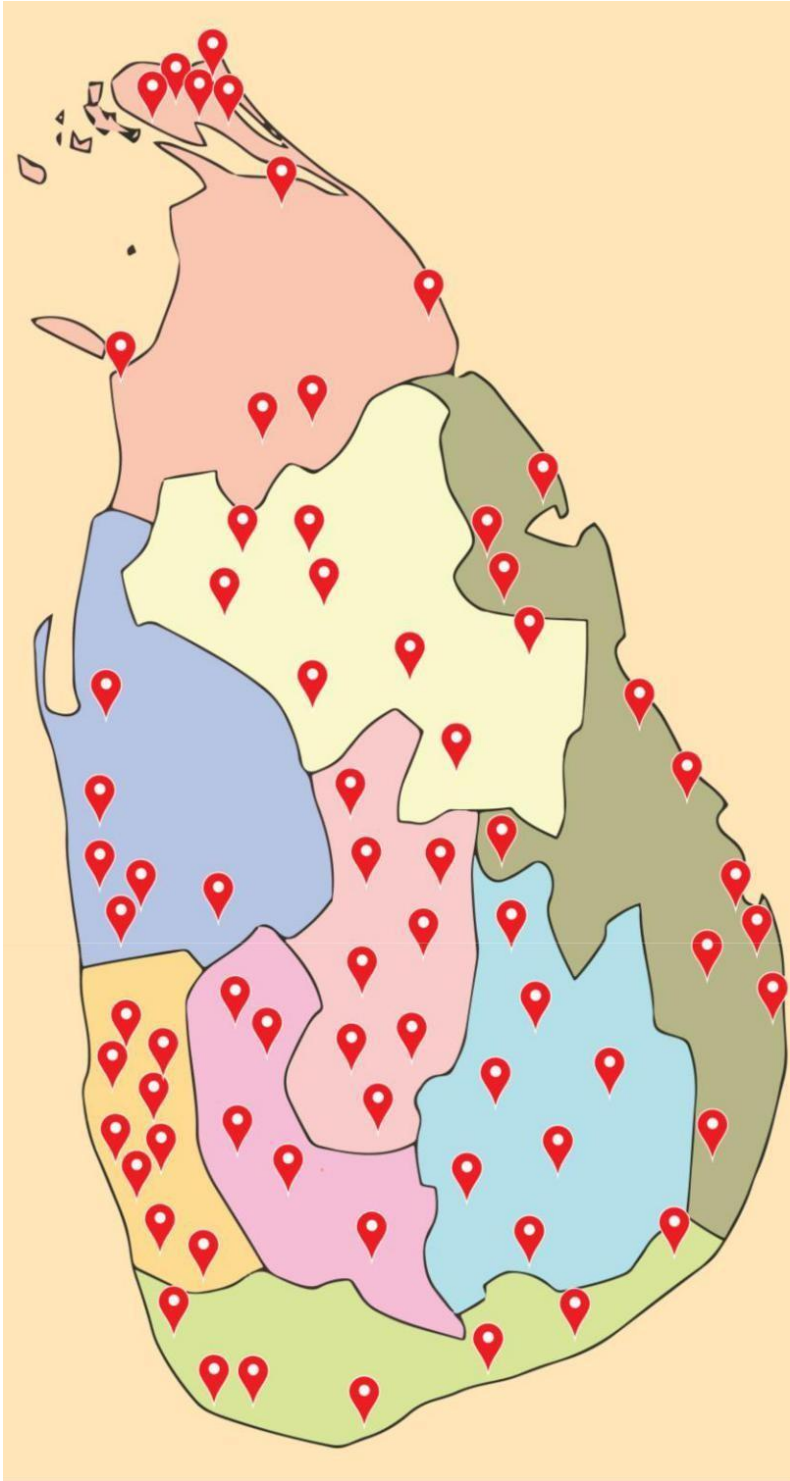
Establishment of Legal Aid Centres

Sri Lanka's Legal Aid Commission completes its 44th year by 2022. During the past 44 years, the work was carried out by a network of 84 Regional Offices centered upon Colombo but without being limited to Colombo to achieve the desired objectives of the Commission. During this entire period (1978-2022) the commencement of the regional offices is as follows.

Year	Regional centres established during the period	Total number of regional centres
1978	1	1
1994	3	4
1996	1	5
2003	5	10
2005	2	12
2006	19	31
2007	9	40
2008	6	46
2009	8	54
2010	6	60
2011	7	67
2012	7	74
2013	2	76
2014	0	76
2015	0	76
2016	2	78
2017	4	82
2018	1	83
2019	1	84
2020	-	84
2021	-	84
2022	1	85

Total number of regional offices is 85 as at 31/12/2022.

Expansion of Centers of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka (Map & Regional Centers)



1	Head Office	44	Kurunegala
2	Akkareipattu	45	Mahiyanganaya
3	Ampara	46	Mahawa
4	Anuradhapura	47	Mannar
5	Attanagalla	48	Marawila
6	Awissawella	49	Matale
7	Baddegama	50	Matara
8	Badulla	51	Matugama
9	Balangoda	52	Mawanella
10	Balapaitiya	53	Minuwangoda
11	Bandarawela	54	Monaragala
12	Battaramulla	55	Mulathiwu
13	Borella	56	Mallakkam
14	Batticaloa	57	Muttoor
15	Chawakachcheri	58	Nawalapitiya
16	Chillaw	59	Negambo
17	Dambulla	60	Nikaweratiya
18	Deyiyandara	61	Nugegoda
19	Deniyaya	62	Nuwaraeliya
20	Dehiaththakandiya	63	Panadura
21	Ambilipitiya	64	Puttalam
22	Galgamuwa	65	Poogoda
23	Gampaha	66	Point Pedro
24	Galagedara	67	Polgahawela
25	Mount Lavinia	68	Polonnaruwa
26	Galle	69	Pottuwil
27	Hambanthota	70	Ratnapura
28	Hatton	71	Thambuththegama
29	Higurakgoda	72	Tangalle
30	Homagama	73	Tissamaharama
31	Horana	74	Trincomalee
32	Jaffna	75	Siyambalanduwa
33	Kadawatha	76	Walachchenei
34	Kaduwela	77	Vavuniya
35	Kalmunei	78	Walasmulla
36	Kalutara	79	Warakapola
37	Kandy	80	Wariyapola
38	Kantale	81	Welimada
39	Kebithigollewa	82	Wellawaya
40	Kegalle	83	Wattala
41	Kekirawa	84	Hettipola
42	Kilinochchi	85	Theldeniya
43	Kuliyapitiya		

Opening of Regional Offices of the Legal Aid Commission, Staff and Courts covered.

The courts that are covered by the Regional Offices established to provide the service of the commission on a regional basis are as follows.

No.	Office	Commencement	No. of employees				Courts covered
			Legal Officers	Management Assistants	Office Assistants	Driver	
01	Colombo	1978	09	08	05	02	Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Colombo District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Courts, Labour Tribunal. Workmen's Compensation Commission. Fort Magistrate's court Maligakanda Magistrate's Court Loan Relief Board.
02	Kandy	1994	03	02	-	-	Kandy District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Gampola District, Magistrate's Court. Teldeniya District, Magistrate's Court. Walapane District, Magistrate's Court
03	Anuradhapura	1994	03	02	01	-	Anuradhapura District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Medawachchiya Magistrate's Court Kahatagasdigiliya Magistrate's Court
04	Galle	1994	02	01	01	-	Galle District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court Labour Tribunal.
05	Kurunegala	1996	04	02	02	-	Kurunegala District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court Labour Tribunal. Wellawa Magistrate's Court Pilessa Magistrate's Court. Rambadagalla Magistrate's Court
06	Hambantota	2003	02	01	01	-	District Court, Magistrates Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Angunakola Pelassa Magistrate's Court
07	Monaragala	2003	01	01	01	-	Moneragala District, Magistrate's Court High Court Civil Appellate Court. Bibile Magistrate's Court
08	Ampara	2003	01	01	-	-	Ampara District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.

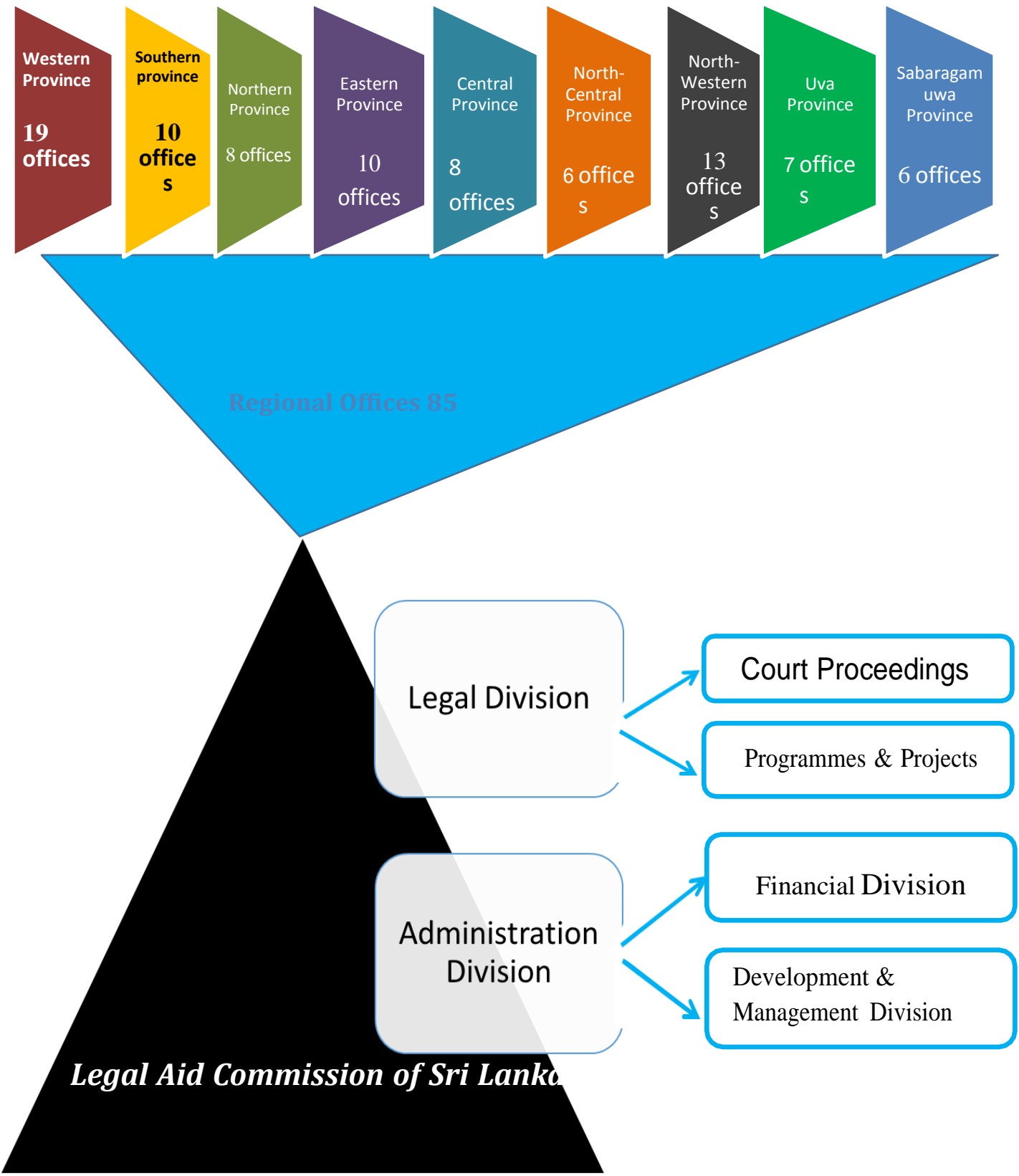
09	Nuwara Eliya	2003	01	01	-	-	Nuwara Eliya District, Magistrate's Court , High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal Walapane District, Magistrate's Court
10	Kegalle	2003	02	01	-	-	Kegalle District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal
11	Balapitiya	2003	02	01	01	-	Balapitiya District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Elpitiya District, Magistrate's Court.
12	Matara	2005	02	01	01	-	Matara District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
13	Vavuniya	2005	03	01	01	-	Vavuniya District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
							Akkaraipattu District, Magistrate Court The Quazi Court.
15	Trincomalee	2005	02	01	01	-	Trincomalee District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court.
16	Batticaloa	2005	02	01	01	-	Batticaloa District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court. Eravur Magistrate's Court Kaluwanchikudi Magistrate's Court
17	Chilaw	2005	02	01	01	-	Chilaw District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal.
18	Kalmunei	2005	01	01	01	-	Kalmunai District, Magistrate's Court High Court. Sammanthurei Magistrate's Court The Quazi Court.
19	Ratnapura	2006	02	01	01	-	Ratnapura District, Magistrate's Court High Court and Civil Appellate Court. Pelmadulla District, Magistrate's Court, Labour Tribunal. Kalawana Magistrate's Court.
20	Awissawella	2006	02	01	-	-	Awissawella District Court, High Court Judge, Civil Appellate Court, Labour Tribunal. Ruwanwella District Court, Magistrate.
21	Bandarawela	2006	01	01	01	-	Bandarawela District, Magistrate's Court, Labour Tribunal.
22	Gampaha	2006	02	01	01	-	Gampaha District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal.
23	Jaffna	2006	02	01	-	-	Jaffna District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal. Kayts District, Magistrate's Court.
24	Kalutara	2006	02	01	01	-	Kalutara, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal

25	Matale	2006	01	01	01	-	Matale District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Labor Tribunal. Naula Magistrate's Court
26	Polonnaruwa	2006	02	01	01	-	Polonnaruwa District, Magistrate's Court. High Court
27	Panadura	2006	02	01	01	-	Panadura District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court. Kesbewa District, Magistrate's Court.
28	Mahiyanganaya	2006	01	01	01	-	Mahiyangana District, Magistrate's Court.
29	Kuliyapitiya	2006	02	02	01	-	Kuliyapitiya District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Labor Tribunal. Narammala Magistrate's Court
30	Mahawa	2006	01	01	01	-	Mahawa District, Magistrate's Court
31	Negombo	2006	01	01	-	-	Negombo District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal. Kanuwana Magistrate's
32	Horana	2007	01	01	01	-	Horana District, Magistrate's Court.
33	Matugama	2007	01	01	-	-	Mathugama District, Magistrate's.
34	Marawila	2007	01	01	-	-	Marawila District, Magistrate's Court.
35	Mawanella	2007	01	01	-	-	Mawanella District, Magistrate's Court. Aranayaka Magistrate's Court.
36	Warakapola	2007	01	01	-	-	Warakapola District, Magistrate's Court
37	Battaramulla	2007	02	01	-	-	Battaramulla Children's Magistrate's Court
38	Dambulla	2007	01	01	-	-	Dambulla District, Magistrate's Court. Kimbissa Magistrate's Court.
39	Attanagalla	2007	01	02	01	-	Attanagalla District, Magistrate's.
40	Deniyaya	2007	01	01	-	-	Deniyaya District, Magistrate's Court.
41	Welimada	2008	01	01	-	-	Welimada District, Magistrate's Court.
42	Nugegoda	2008	01	01	-	-	Nugegoda District, Magistrate's Court.
43	Tissamaharama	2008	01	01	01	-	Tissamaharama District, Magistrate's Court
44	Thambuththegama	2008	01	01	01	-	Thambuththegama Magistrate's Court.
45	Mt. Lavinia	2008	02	01	-	-	Mount Lavinia District, Magistrate's Court, Civil Appellate Court. Moratuwa District, Magistrate's Court
46	Kantale	2008	01	01	-	-	Kantale District, Magistrate's Court.
47	Baddegama	2009	01	01	-	-	Baddegama Magistrate's Court.
48	Badulla	2009	01	01	-	-	Badulla District, Magistrate's Court, High Court, Civil Appellate Court, Labor Tribunal.
49	Embilipitiya	2009	02	01	01	-	Embilipitiya District, Magistrate's Court High Court.

50	Hatton	2009	01	01	01	-	Hatton District, Magistrate's Court, Labor Tribunal.
51	Hingurakgoda	2009	01	01	-	-	Hingurakgoda District, Magistrate's Court. Bakamuna Magistrate's Court.
52	Nawalapitiya	2009	01	01	-	-	Nawalapitiya District, Magistrate's Court
53	Wellawaya	2009	01	01	01	-	Wellawaya District, Magistrate's Court.
54	Kaduwela	2010	01	01	01	-	Kaduwela District, Magistrate's Court.
55	Mannar	2010	02	01	01	-	Mannar District, Magistrate's Court.
56	Muttur	2010	02	01	-	-	Muttur District, Magistrate's Court.
57	Mullaitivu	2010	03	01	01	-	Mullaitivu District, Magistrate's Court.
58	Tangalle	2010	01	01	-	-	Tangalle District, Magistrate's Court. High Court.
59	Valachchenai	2010	01	01	-	-	Valachchenai District, Magistrate's Court.
60	Walasmulla	2010	01	01	01	-	Walasmulla District, Magistrate's Court.
61	Wariyapola	2011	01	01	01	-	Wariyapola District, Magistrate's Court,
62	Point Pedro	2011	01	01	01	-	Point Pedro District, Magistrate's Court,
63	Pottuvil	2011	02	01	-	-	Pottuvil District, Magistrate's Court,
64	Kadawatha	2011	01	01	01	-	Kadawatha Magistrate's Court
65	Kekirawa	2011	01	01	-	-	Kekirawa District, Magistrate's Court
66	Kilinochchi	2011	03	01	01	-	Kilinochchi District, Magistrate's Court
67	Chavakacheri	2011	01	01	-	-	Chavakacheri District, Magistrate's Court.
68	Balangoda	2011	01	01	-	-	Balangoda District, Magistrate's Court.
69	Pugoda	2012	01	01	-	-	Pugoda District, Magistrate's Court,
70	Polgahawela	2012	01	01	-	-	Polgahawela Magistrate's Court
71	Kebithigollewa	2012	01	01	-	-	Kebithigollewa District, Magistrate's Court, Padaviya Magistrate's Court
72	Galgamuwa	2012	01	01	-	-	Galgamuwa Magistrate's Court,
73	Homagama	2012	01	01	01	-	Homagama District, Magistrate's Court
74	Deiyandara	2012	01	01	-	-	Deiyandara Magistrate's Court.`
75	Minuwangoda	2013	01	01	-	-	Minuwangoda District, Magistrate's.
76	Nikaweratiya	2013	01	01	-	-	Nikaweratiya District, Magistrate's.
77	Mallakam	2016	01	01	-	-	Mallakkam District, Magistrate's Court
78	Puttalam	2016	01	01	-	-	Puttalam District, Magistrate's Court High Court, Kalpitiya Magistrate's Court Anamaduwa Magistrate's Court
79	Siyambalanduwa	2017	01	01	01	-	Siyambalanduwa Magistrate's Court
80	Dehiaththakandiya	2017	01	01	01	-	Dehiaththakandiya Magistrate's Court

81	Borella	2017	01	01	01	-	Labour Tribunal, Borella, Labour Tribunal, Battaramulla, Debt Conciliation Board
82	Galagedara	2017	01	01	01	-	Galagedara Magistrate's Court
83	Wattala	2018	01	01	01	-	Magistrate's Court, Wattala Labour Tribunal, Wattala
84	Hettipola	2019	01	01	01	-	Hettipola Magistrate's Court
85	Theldeniya	2022	01				Magistrate's Court Theldeniya Magistrate's Court Panwila Magistrate's Court Rangala District Court Theldeniya

Organizational Composition of the Legal Aid Commission



Legal Division

Legal Division

1. Role

Mainly the role of the Legal Division is twofold.

- 1.1 Conducting legal counselling.
- 1.2 Providing free legal assistance for cases of those with low income and incapacity.

Legal Counseling

Legal counseling is done in several ways. Clients who seek this do not necessarily need to come to our offices in person, but still they can turn to the counselling activities.

1. Issues encountered by clients who come in person to the locally established Legal Aid offices will be discussed and clarified and, where necessary, advice will be given on further action as well.
2. Similarly, when various villages or settlements are visited to conduct legal clinics, the legal counseling work is opportunely carried out to the public who reach us.
3. Further, the legal issues of Sinhala readers are answered through Lankadeepa newspaper under the column, "Neethi Sarana", whereas, those of English readers are answered through Daily News newspaper once every two weeks.
4. Legal issues referred through mail by clients will also be replied by the post.
5. Clients who connect through the Legal Aid Commission Hot Line are responded via telephone.

In providing this service, the Legal Aid Commission will not consider the income or the citizenship of the clients. Our legal officers will carry out the necessary legal counselling work regardless of the rank of any person who comes to our office or mobile clinic or anyone who contacts us through phone or postal mail. Hence, this is not an exclusive privilege to be obtained by just one group of individuals based on the economic disparity. This is a service that anyone can obtain.

1.1.1 (A) The number of clients referred to legal advice in 2022

Se.No.	Centre	Number referred for first consultation	Number of consultations returned	Total
1	Anuradhapura	609	2887	3496
2	Ampara	468	1941	2409
3	Avissawella	668	1360	2028
4	Attanagalla	275	742	1017
5	Akkareipattu	208	3	211
6	Bandarawela	230	1590	1820
7	Battaramulla	580	1082	1662
8	Baddegama	157	1104	1261
9	Badulla	312	2004	2316
10	Balapitiya	335	762	1097
11	Batticaloa	945	64	1009
12	Balangoda	328	86	414
13	Colombo	1330	760	2090
14	Chilaw	468	644	1112
15	Chavakachcheri	249	586	835
16	Dambulla	278	632	910
17	Deniyaya	215	877	1092
18	Deyyandara	154	6231	6385
19	Embilipitiya	494	3848	4342
20	Gampaha	273	14	287
21	Galle	383	985	1368
22	Galgamuwa	241	1164	1405
23	Horana	875	2474	3349
24	Hatton	159	1575	1734
25	Hingurakgoda	289	1505	1794
26	Hambantota	600	1561	2161
27	Homagama	349	747	1096
28	Jaffna	309	211	520
29	Kandy	971	372	1343
30	Kurunegala	617	0	617
31	Kegalle	240	380	620
32	Kuliyapitiya	754	3323	4077
33	Kantale	210	1084	1294
34	Kaduwela	451	478	929
35	Kalmunei	240	201	441
36	Kalutara	1516	708	2224
37	Kekirawa	514	987	1501
38	Kadawatha	323	1311	1634
39	Kebithigollewa	87	340	427
40	Kilinochchi	455	3098	3553
41	Matale	313	452	765
42	Mahiyanganaya	367	1680	2047
43	Matugama	396	2158	2554
44	Mahawa	218	942	1160
45	Marawila	199	1202	1401
46	Mawanella	268	989	1257
47	Mallakam	310	1026	1336
48	Mt. Lavinia	313	562	875
49	Mannar	193	250	443
50	Monaragala	1054	1841	2895
51	Muttur	130	0	130

52	Mullaitivu	249	117	366
53	Matara	471	2613	3084
54	Minuwangoda	232	1582	1814
55	Nikaweratiya	218	1733	1951
56	Nuwara Eliya	264	745	1009
57	Negombo	369	1333	1702
58	Nugegoda	238	973	1211
59	Nawalapitiya	255	2430	2685
60	Polonnaruwa	281	1384	1665
61	Panadura	649	1862	2511
62	Pottuwil	221	992	1213
63	Point Pedro	135	871	1006
64	Polgahawela	124	444	568
65	Pugoda	185	460	645
66	Puttalam	138	1026	1164
67	Rathnapura	451	1142	1593
68	Tissamaharama	311	709	1020
69	Thambuttegama	287	492	779
70	Tangalle	227	965	1192
71	Trincomalee	300	234	534
72	Vavuniya	337	125	462
73	Valaichchenai	594	266	860
74	Warakapola	176	866	1042
75	Welimada	303	1368	1671
76	Walasmulla	377	2061	2438
77	Wariyapola	177	505	682
78	Wellawaya	156	1208	1364
79	Dehiaththakandiya	256	1080	1336
80	Siyambalanduwa	351	916	1267
81	Borella	192	911	1103
82	Galagedara	121	469	590
83	Wattala	237	524	761
84	Hettipola	170	968	1138
85	Theldeniya	162	185	347
Total		31134	88602	119736

1.1.1 (B) Number of clients seeking legal advice for the first time in 2022 by gender

Se.No.	Centre	Female	Male	Total
1	Anuradhapura	511	98	609
2	Ampara	116	352	468
3	Avissawella	485	183	668
4	Attanagalla	219	56	275
5	Akkareipattu	192	11	203
6	Bandarawela	182	48	230
7	Battaramulla	390	190	580
8	Baddegama	129	28	157
9	Badulla	244	68	312
10	Balapitiya	270	65	335
11	Batticaloa	824	121	945
12	Balangoda	246	82	328
13	Colombo	749	581	1330
14	Chilaw	272	196	468
15	Chavakachcheri	203	46	249
16	Dambulla	241	37	278
17	Deniyaya	201	14	215
18	Deyyandara	91	63	154
19	Embilipitiya	454	40	494
20	Gampaha	200	73	273
21	Galle	247	136	383
22	Galgamuwa	168	73	241
23	Horana	791	84	875
24	Hatton	135	24	159
25	Hingurakgoda	236	53	289
26	Hambantota	338	262	600
27	Homagama	268	81	349
28	Jaffna	221	88	309
29	Kandy	652	319	971
30	Kurunegala	440	177	617
31	Kegalle	165	75	240
32	Kuliyapitiya	527	227	754
33	Kantale	176	34	210
34	Kaduwela	332	119	451
35	Kalmunei	208	32	240
36	Kalutara	923	593	1516
37	Kekirawa	421	93	514
38	Kadawatha	277	46	323
39	Kebithigollewa	87	0	87
40	Kilinochchi	276	179	455
41	Matale	240	73	313
42	Mahiyanganaya	313	54	367
43	Matugama	321	75	396
44	Mahawa	133	85	218
45	Marawila	193	6	199
46	Mawanella	231	37	268
47	Mallakam	253	57	310
48	Mt. Lavinia	225	88	313
49	Mannar	164	29	193
50	Monaragala	843	211	1054
51	Muttur	128	2	130

52	Mullaitivu	233	16	249
53	Matara	339	132	471
54	Minuwangoda	204	28	232
55	Nikaweratiya	162	56	218
56	Nuwara Eliya	200	64	264
57	Negombo	271	98	369
58	Nugegoda	168	70	238
59	Nawalapitiya	204	51	255
60	Polonnaruwa	205	76	281
61	Panadura	489	160	649
62	Pottuwil	209	12	221
63	Point Pedro	121	14	135
64	Polgahawela	111	13	124
65	Pugoda	163	22	185
66	Puttalam	106	32	138
67	Rathnapura	328	123	451
68	Tissamaharama	224	87	311
69	Thambuttegama	265	22	287
70	Tangalle	196	31	227
71	Trincomalee	165	135	300
72	Vavuniya	19	318	337
73	Valaichchenai	510	84	594
74	Warakapola	151	25	176
75	Welimada	218	85	303
76	Walasmulla	229	148	377
77	Wariyapola	131	46	177
78	Wellawaya	138	18	156
79	Dehiaththakandiya	214	42	256
80	Siyambalanduwa	295	56	351
81	Borella	50	142	192
82	Galagedara	117	4	121
83	Wattala	173	64	237
84	Hettipola	142	28	170
85	Theldeniya	137	25	162
Total		23038	8091	31129

Legal counselling by the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka from 2008 to 2019 as a number

No.	Year	No. of persons given legal counselling
01	2008	30216
02	2009	30545
03	2010	30906
04	2011	38051
05	2012	41213
06	2013	45169
07	2014	99484
08	2015	76779
09	2016	92725
10	2017	98369
11	2018	121197
12	2019	125895
13	2020	90058
14	2021	81926
15	2022	119736

One of the main points found in the study of the attendance of clients to legal consultations is that the number of consultations which were 90058 in the year 2020 has decreased to 81926 in the year 2021. This situation seems to have happened due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

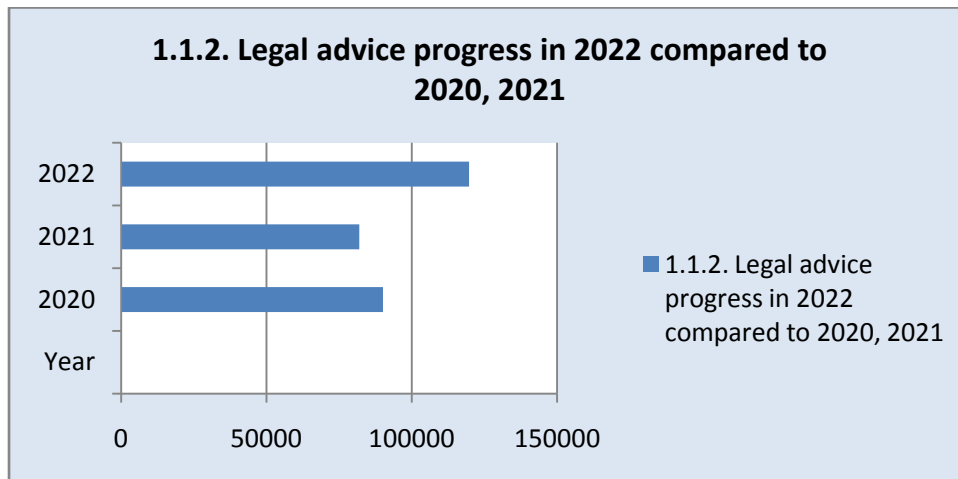
The number of legal consultations in the year 2022 is 119736. Accordingly, compared to the years 2020 and 2021, there has been a clear deviation in the number of clients who came to legal aid centers expecting advice.

Accordingly, when the situation in the country is good, it seems that the growth of the clients who came to get the service has increased remarkably.

1.1.2. Legal Counseling Progress in 2022 Compared to 2020, 2021

Se.No.	Year	Amount	Percentage
01	2020	90058	31%
02	2021	81926	28%
03	2022	119736	41%
Total		291,720	100%

1.1.2. Legal advice progress in 2022 compared to 2020, 2021



1.1.3. Public Grievance Handling

In this regard, a mandate was given to implement the Public Grievance Management Program implemented by the Presidential Secretariat. Apart from this, public grievances have also been forwarded to the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Attorney General's Department and the Chairman of the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission and counseling work has been done by mail for a total of 312 public issues.

1.2. Judicial Activities

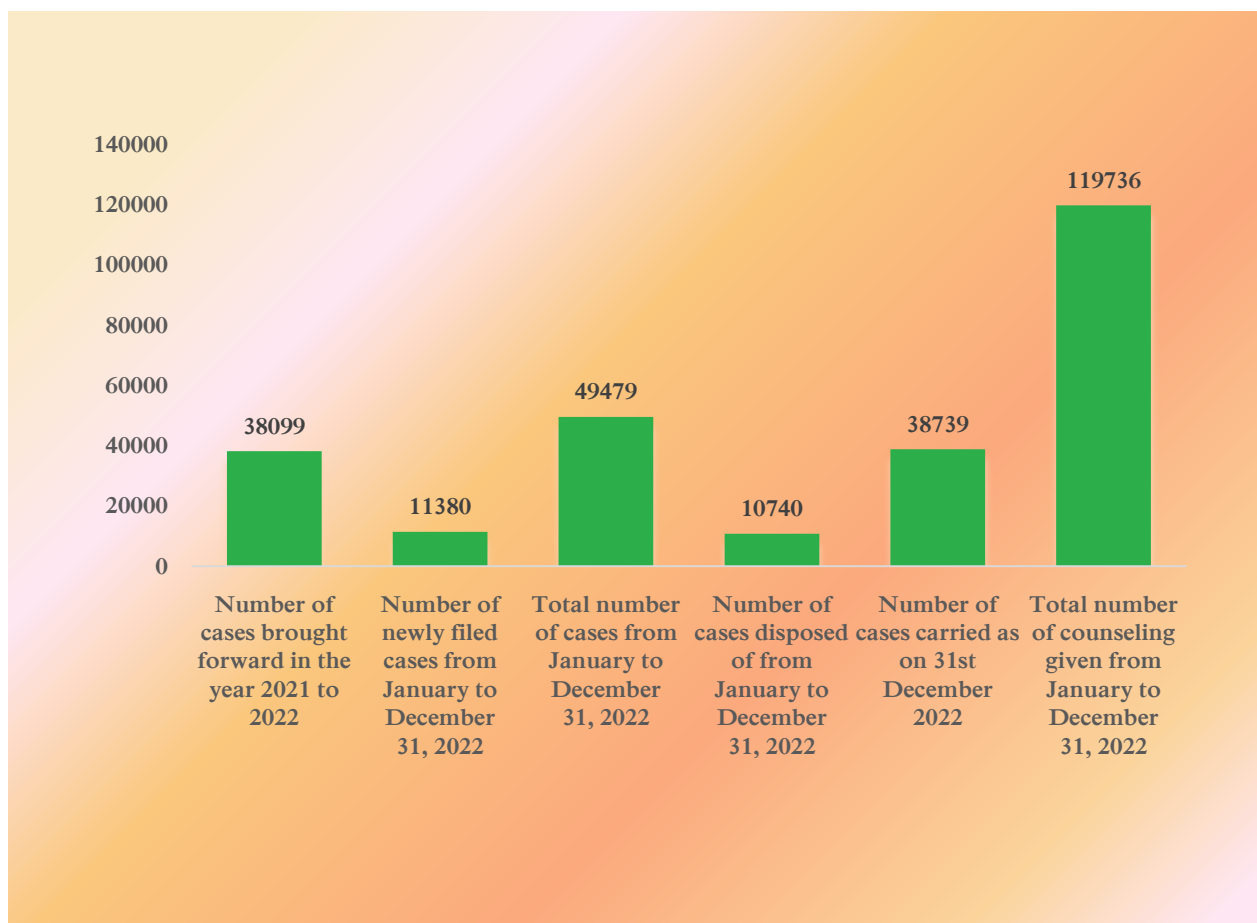
Providing legal assistance for judicial activities of individuals is the most vital part of the Legal Division. It is first examined whether legal aid can be provided for a person at a time when a case needs to proceed in a Court for a legal matter of a person. Through legal counselling, an access to the said purpose can be obtained. In the maintenance of legal aid cases, we first find out whether it is justifiable to provide free legal assistance for this client, and for this, his economic situation will be determined. Accordingly, initially, a report of Grama Niladhari on the monthly income of a person will be summoned.

In this respect,

- 1 The fact whether the relevant person is a low-income person according to the report on his monthly income which is obtained by the Grama Niladhari and countersigned by the Divisional Secretary, will be firstly checked. In such case, if he is proven to be a low income earner as per these reports, he will be provided with free legal assistance in terms of legal aid policies for court proceedings of such persons.
- 2 Is it possible to get the support of any attorney for the case of a person who earns a sufficient income? Will a lawyer be a party to a case? Would a party of one case influence the attorneys and prevent a lawyer representing the other party? At such juncture, the Legal Aid Commission pays constant attention to cooperate with the judiciary as necessary in assisting the administration of justice. In such case as this, the Legal Aid Commission acts in order to offer legal representation irrespective of the income of the party.
- 3 Similarly, even if a person has been in remand for more than one year but will not be able to obtain legal assistance, legal assistance of the Legal Aid Commission will be provided on behalf of such persons.
- 4 For the rights of the child, in cases involving children,
- 5 Action will be taken to grant legal assistance free of charge irrespective of the income of the applicant, for a litigation proceeded under the Maintenance Act and Elders' Rights Act.
- 6 Samurdhi Beneficiaries
- 7 War heroes

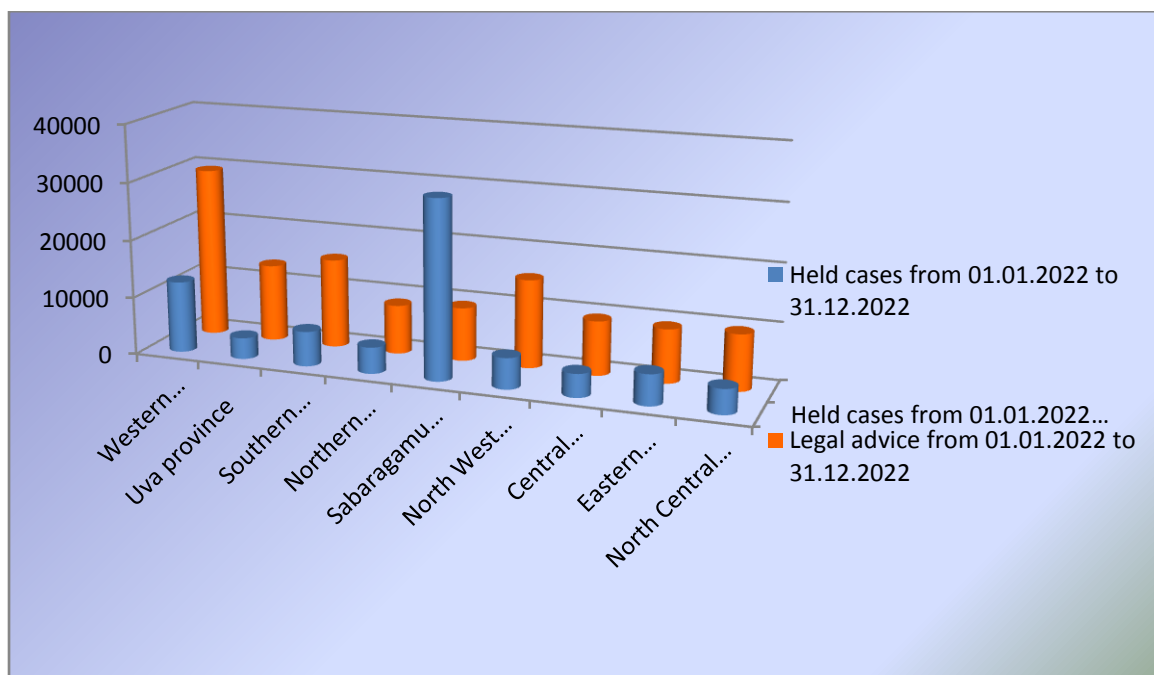
Progress of Legal Division of Legal Aid Commission in 2022

No. of cases carried forward from 2021 to 2022	38099
No. of new cases filed from January to 31 st December 2022	11380
Total No. of cases prevailed from January to 31 st December 2022	49479
No. of cases closed from January to 31 st December 2022	10740
No. of cases carried forward to 31 st December 2022	38739
Total No. of counselling conducted from January to 31 st December 2022	119736
The service done from January to 31 st December 2022 as a whole	49479 + 119736 = <u>169215</u>



1.2.2. Services provided by the Legal Aid Commission at the provincial level in the year 2022

Province	Held cases from 01.01.2022 to 31.12.2022	Legal advice from 01.01.2022 to 31.12.2022	Total legal services provided in 2022
Western Province	12392	29492	41884
Uva Province	3671	13389	17060
Southern Province	6030	15490	21520
Northern Province	4560	8521	13081
Sabaragamuwa Province	30806	9268	40074
North Western Province	5362	15275	20637
Central Province	4030	9383	13413
Eastern Province	5331	9256	14587
North Central Province	4297	9662	13959
Total	49479	119736	169215
Total service provided = Total number of cases handled + Total number of counseling provided			
	169,215	= 49,479	+ 119,736



1.2.3. Number of cases held between 01.01.2022 to 31.12.2022

No.	Centre	Staffs			Cases held on 01.01.2022	Cases filed (Jan-Dec-2021)	Total	Dismissed cases	Cases filed	Cases brought forward (31.12.2021)	Total Legal Advices
		Legal Officer	Management Assistant	Office Assistant							
1	Anuradhapura	2	2	1	1469	310	1779	27	438	1214	3496
2	Ampara	1	1	-	315	155	470	80	25	365	2409
3	Avissawella	2	1	-	580	144	72	45	72	607	2028
4	Attanagalla	1	1	1	967	19	1106	25	107	974	1017
5	Akkareipattu	1	1	1	61	145	706	73	24	609	211
6	Bandarawela	1	1	1	317	127	444	51	48	345	1829
7	Battaramulla	2	1	-	563	115	678	78		600	1662
8	Baddegama	1	1	-	416	121	537	71	21	445	1261
9	Badulla	1		-	336	161	47	94	7	330	2316
10	Balapitiya	2	2	1	886	108	99	53		941	1097
11	Batticaloa	2	1	1	201	101	302	121		81	1009
12	Balangoda	1	1	-	215	129	344	77	40	227	414
13	Colombo	8	10	3	1652	319	1971	50	0	1921	2990
14	Chilaw	2	1	1	850	124	94	138	63	77	1112
15	Chavakachcheri	1	1	-	206	64	270	13	34	22	835
16	Dambulla	1	1	1	227	100	327	34	39	254	910
17	Deniyaya	1	1	-	176	94	20	60	47	163	1092
18	Deyyandara	1	1	-	160	109	269	34	18	217	777
19	Embilipitiya	2	1	1	478	24	802	9	181	23	432
20	Gampaha	1	1	1	322	106	428	55	72	301	287
21	Galle	2	1	1	528	111	639	46	68	525	1368
22	Galgamuwa	1	1	-	125	3	198	44	2	131	1405
23	Horana	2	1	1	708	210	918	141	11	666	3349
24	Hatton	1	1	1	212	96	308	138		170	1734
25	Hingurakgoda	1	1		764	149	913	208	112	593	1794
26	Hambantota	1	1	1	1068	133	1201	151		1050	2161
27	Homagama	1	-	1	38	113	41	82	21	318	1096
28	Jaffna	2	1	1	232	117	349	74	6	269	520
29	Kandy	3	1	-	90	223	1126	62	19	1045	1343
30	Kurunegala	3	2	1	158	196	1354	196		1158	617
31	Kegalle		1	-	695	100	795	52	16	727	620
32	Kuliyapitiya	1	1	1	368	3	591	19	122	320	4077
33	Kantale	1	1	-	324	73	397	19	11	367	1294
34	Kaduwela	1	1	-	325	85	410	60	6	44	920
35	Kalmunei	1		1	667	196	863	152	335	376	260
36	Kalutara	1	1	1	124	144	1393	108		1285	2224
37	Kekirawa	1	1		371	144	515	9	2	404	1501
38	Kadawatha	1	1	1	298	127	425	39	64	322	1634
39	Kebithigollewa	1	1	-	448	84	532	5	12	515	427
40	Kilinochchi	1	1	1	54	183	29	2	5	695	3553

41	Matale	1	1	-	563	17	737	105	203	429	765
42	Mahiyanganaya	-	1	1	563	168	731	65		585	2112
43	Matugama	2	1	-	151	114	265	52	76	137	2554
44	Mahawa	1	1	-	207	92	299	79	39	1 1	1160
45	Marawila	1	1	-	41	86	497	1 5	1	361	14 1
46	Mawanella	1	1	-	400	114	14	101	35	378	1257
47	Mallakam	1	1	1	613	129	742	5	63	621	1336
48	Mt. Lavinia	2	1	-	570	100	670	85	16	569	875
49	Mannar	2	1	1	437	78	515	27		488	443
50	Monaragala	2	2	-	513	219	73	11	122	97	2895
51	Muttur	1	1	-	501	85	586	12		574	1300
52	Mullaitivu	1	1	1	492	117	609	111	23	475	366
53	Matara	2		1	626	27	903	200		703	3084
54	Minuwangoda	1	1	-	553	125	678	38	5	635	1814
55	Nikaweratiya	1	1	1	229	83	312	57	38	21	1551
56	Nuwara Eliya	1	1	-	500	139	639	68		571	1009
57	Negombo	1	1	1	351	130	481	98	30	353	17 2
58	Nugegoda	1	1		465	8	563	45	29	489	1211
59	Nawalapitiya	1	1	-	552	165	717	74	33	610	2685
60	Polonnaruwa	1	1	-	202	97	99	51		248	166
61	Panadura	2	-	2	451	118	569	130	21	418	2511
62	Pottuwil	1	1	-	205	152	357	176	60	121	1213
63	Point Pedro	1	1	1	574	95	6 9	2		643	1006
64	Polgahawela	1	1	-	196	76	272	66	121	85	568
65	Pugoda	1		-	142	109	251	1 4		127	645
66	Puttalam	1	-	-	407	6	453	52	25	376	1164
67	Rathnapura	2	2	-	7 6	245	981	239	27	715	1593
68	Tissamaharama	1	1	1	25	1 7	48	64	174	210	1020
69	Thambuttegama	1	1	1	144	115	259	45	112	102	779
70	Tangalle	1		-	181	125	306	2	38	240	1192
71	Trincomalee	2	1	1	4 1	127	528	10	1	517	534
72	Vavuniya	2	1		563	114	677	30	83	564	462
73	Valaichchenai	1	1		454	47	801	2 3	63	525	860
74	Warakapola	1	1	-	295	75	370	82	36	252	042
75	Welimada	1	1	1	40	151	552	211	2	316	1671
76	Walasmulla	1		1	310	153	463	44	82	337	2438
77	Wariyapola	1	2	-	143	96	239	40	53	146	682
78	Wellawaya	1	1	1	334	28	46			39	1364
79	Dehiaththakandiya	1	1	-	237	84	321	43	0	278	1336
80	Siyambalanduwa	1	1	1	134	11	253		33	176	1267
81	Borella	2	1		175	82	257	93		64	1103
82	Galagedara	1	2	-	54	42	96	14	24	8	590
83	Wattala	1	1		116	68	184	4	3	157	1932
84	Hettipola	1	1	1	102	71	173	33	1	139	1138
85	Theldeniya	1	-	-	0	80	80	1		79	347
	Total	116	7	48	38099	11380	49 79	6 59	40	38739	119736

1.2.4. Classification of newly filed cases in the year 2022

No.	Centre	Divorce	Maintainance	Land	Partition	Money	High Court cases	Appeal Court cases	Accidents	Bail	Other	Child Rights	Labour	Criminal	Supreme Courts cases	Victim of crimes	Special Guardians	Custody	Domestic Violence	Total
1	Anuradhapura	94	176	2		2		2	13		3	2	13				3			310
2	Ampara	29	76			2	1	2	4				31	3			1		6	155
3	Avissawella	23	95			9	3	3			2		2			5	2			144
4	Attanagalla	24	82	8		9			6		4					6				139
5	Akkareipattu	12	124			2					1						5		1	145
6	Bandarawela	26	79			6		1	1		6		1			7				127
7	Battaramulla											115								115
8	Baddegama	37	45			1			7							26	2	0	3	121
9	Badulla	24	109			4		2	6	1	2	2	5				1	4	1	161
10	Balapitiya	13	83			2	1		1		6								2	108
11	Batticaloa	25	72	2		1					1									101
12	Balangoda	25	96	3		4											1			129
13	Colombo	74	95	21			1	26	2	3	34		10	2	51					319
14	Chilaw	17	51			1	1						50			1	1	2		124
15	Chavakachcheri	8	52	1															3	64
16	Dambulla	16	81			2								1						100
17	Deniyaya	26	56	1												4			7	94
18	Deyyandara	0	57								40					11			1	109
19	Embilipitiya	68	229	2		8	1		10				1	1			4			324
20	Gampaha	20	50	5		3	18		3	5							1		1	106
21	Galle	19	78			2			1		3	1	6						1	111
22	Galgamuwa		66						3		2			2						73
23	Horana	46	100	1					5	27	18							1	12	210
24	Hatton	21	68													7				96
25	Hingurakgoda	41	48			3				16	3			35					3	149
26	Hambantota	45	40				5		1	3				38			1			133
27	Homagama	30	33	3		6		4		1	2		24	3		7				113
28	Jaffna	28	49	8		3	8	2		1	4		8	2				1	3	117
29	Kandy	39	125	2		8	5			2	21		20						1	223
30	Kurunegala	61	70		1	15	5		11		16		1			11	4	1		196
31	Kegalle	30	33	5	1	4	1	1			21		2						2	100
32	Kuliyapitiya	43	114	3		7	1		15	1	7		7	1		15	7	1	1	223
33	Kantale	17	34			5					1			11				1	4	73
34	Kaduwela	21	23	6		7			2	2	5		7			9	1		2	85
35	Kalmunei	9	177	2		2											3	1	2	196
36	Kalutara	28	64	2		3	9			1	13		5			13	3		3	144
37	Kekirawa	32	107	1													1		3	144
38	Kadawatha	24	91	2		1			1		4			3					1	127
39	Kebithigollewa	24	45	2		8					3	1							1	84
40	Kilinochchi	7	111	2		10			1		14			26				2	10	183
41	Matale	40	116	4		1			2		2		9							174
42	Mahiyanganaya	62	85	1		6										8	4		2	168
43	Matugama	19	76	2		8				3	3								3	114
44	Mahawa	40	41	1		5			2		1			2						92
45	Marawila	13	62	2		1					5			1				2		86
46	Mawanella	43	58							1	1			7			1		3	114

47	Mallakam	33	77	8		3				1	6						1		129	
48	Mt. Lavinia	18	29	3		8		9	7		4		11	7			2		2	100
49	Mannar	6	43	3		3			4		1			13				1	4	78
50	Monaragala	82	116	3		1	3		5	1	5			1			2			219
51	Muttur	4	81																	85
52	Mullaitivu	28	71			7					1						3		7	117
53	Matara	55	125	3		8	1		9		9		6			57	3		1	277
54	Minuwangoda	26	48	6		7			3		5	3		5		20			2	125
55	Nikaweratiya	24	35			4			4		5					7	2		2	83
56	Nuwara Eliya	9	56				1	1			1			67			4			139
57	Negombo	41	52	7		10	1	1	3		6		9							130
58	Nugegoda	25	46	1		10					3					6	4		3	98
59	Nawalapitiya	28	90	2		4					34		5	2						165
60	Polonnaruwa	28	45	4			9			4	1	4							2	97
61	Panadura	20	57	2		3	2		4		5		8	2		8	2		5	118
62	Pottuwil	2	145			2										2	1			152
63	Point Pedro	26	48	4	1	5				2	7							2		95
64	Polgahawela		67								3								6	76
65	Pugoda	18	84	1		4											2			109
66	Puttalam	8	33	3		2														46
67	Rathnapura	69	135	2			9	2	5	2	2		2			9		1	7	245
68	Tissamaharama	35	141			1			3	1	2			5			2		7	197
69	Thambuttegama		115																	115
70	Tangalle	27	71					4		3						18	2			125
71	Trincomalee	15	64	5		12					1		28	1				1		127
72	Vavuniya	18	94			1											1			114
73	Valaichchenai	6	329			11													1	347
74	Warakapola	12	36			5			2	7	9								4	75
75	Welimada	23	73	2	1	2			4		17			13		6		3	7	151
76	Walasmulla	41	105			4			1		2									153
77	Wariyapola	22	32	1					2		34			4				1		96
78	Wellawaya	28	91						6								3			128
79	Dehiaththakandiya	30	28			1					1	2		1		12			9	84
80	Siyambalanduwa										12		70							82
81	Borella		49						7		4		9			46			4	119
82	Galagedara		38													2			2	42
83	Wattala	10	22			1			13		2		15	4				1		68
84	Hettipola		51								5					12			3	71
85	Theldeniya	26	43	2		3								1		3			2	80
	Total	218 6	648 7	156	4	283	86	60	179	88	435	130	356	264	51	341	77	35	162	11380

1.2.5. Classification of cases concluded in the year 2022

No.	Centre	Divorce	Maintainance	Land	Partition	Money	High Court cases	Appeal Court cases	Accidents	Bail	Other	Child Rights	Labour	Criminal	Supreme Courts cases	Victim of crimes	Special Guardians	Domestic Violence	Total	
1	Anuradhapura	80	430	1		4		2	37	0	2	1	8						565	
2	Ampara	21	40			9	1	1	1				28			1		3	105	
3	Avissawella	14	87			5		1			2		7		1				117	
4	Attanagalla	9	109	3											10	1			132	
5	Akkareipattu		90			3					2					2			97	
6	Bandarawela	14	67	1	2	3		1			6		2		1	2			99	
7	Battaramulla											78							78	
8	Baddegama	37	30			3			2						14	3		3	92	
9	Badulla	26	113	2		1	4	2	3		6		4	1		4	1		167	
10	Balapitiya	2	46			5													53	
11	Batticaloa	16	87	6		6					5					1			121	
12	Balangoda	46	65			2					1					1	2		117	
13	Colombo	10	2	8				4	12	5	4			5					50	
14	Chilaw	14	89			1	2				7				26	3	1	1	201	
15	Chavakachcheri	3	37			3			1									3	47	
16	Dambulla	17	45			4								5				1	73	
17	Deniyaya	32	63						3						5			4	107	
18	Deyyandara		24						2		20				6				52	
19	Embilipitiya	36	202	1					21		1		10	3	1	4			279	
20	Gampaha	34	71	1		1	6	1	1		2		9			1			127	
21	Galle	18	80			6		1	3		2	1	2					1	114	
22	Galgamuwa		59						1					3	3				67	
23	Horana	28	143	2		3			20	3	19						1	33	252	
24	Hatton	44	87						2						4			1	138	
25	Hinguragoda	82	108			11			63					43	8			5	320	
26	Hambantota	3	4	1			18		18	3	41			56		7			151	
27	Homagama	34	34	1		2				2	3		20		6	1			103	
28	Jaffna	17	22	6		5	6	3			3		12	4				2	80	
29	Kandy	9	63			3							5					1	81	
30	Kurunegala	99	25	6		10			7	5	23		8		4	5	2	2	196	
31	Kegalle	17	34			12			1		2		2						68	
32	Kuliyapitiya	60	139	7		9			24		6		10	1	5	3	2	5	271	
33	Kantale	5	13			1							9					2	30	
34	Kaduwela	13	9	2		12			12				5	2	10	1			66	
35	Kalmunei	6	472	1												8			487	
36	Kalutara	17	58	2		6		2		2	7		8		4	2			108	
37	Kekirawa	27	84			3								2		3		2	121	
38	Kadawatha		81						5		3	1		2			1	10	103	
39	Kebithigollewa		12			5													17	
40	Kilinochchi	12	15	2		1			1		1						1	1	34	
41	Matale	34	246	2		4			1		1		15					5	308	
42	Mahiyanganaya	32	107			1									3	3			146	
43	Matugama	27	88	1		2				3	3					1		3	128	
44	Mahawa	48	54	1		7			3	1	1		4						118	
45	Marawila	7	117						8		4								136	
46	Mawanella	59	66	2		1								8					136	
47	Mallakam	23	86	3		3					3						3		121	
48	Mt. Lavinia	20	23	3		6		7	6		4		28	2	2				101	
49	Mannar	8	14			2					1			1				1	27	
50	Monaragala	63	156	1		2	1		2		7			2		1			235	
51	Muttur		12																12	
52	Mullaitivu	31	74	2		8										6		13	134	
53	Matara	37	105	6	1	7	2	3	9	1	4		12		13				200	
54	Minuwangoda	14	11	2		8			1		7								43	
55	Nikaweratiya	17	64			7					2	1			3		1		95	
56	Nuwara Eliya	5	20						2					39				2	68	
57	Negombo	51	50	3		7			5	1	4		3		1	1	1	1	128	
58	Nugegoda	19	36	2		6					3		1		4	1	1	1	74	
59	Nawalapitiya	23	63	1		4					15		1						107	
60	Polonnaruwa	23	12			5	1	1	7	1	1								51	
61	Panadura	25	52	4		5	18		3	3	7		6	1	16	3		8	151	
62	Pottuwil	3	225			2									1	5			236	
63	Point Pedro	1	13	3		7					2								26	
64	Polgahawela	3	128			3			4		37	1						14	187	
65	Pugoda	12	107						1										124	
66	Puttalam	27	42	2		5									1				77	
67	Rathnapura	69	96	13		10	8	6	11	7	4		8		5	7	8	14	266	
68	Tissamaharama	52	158			1			2	1	1			11		6	0	6	238	
69	Thambuttegama		157																157	
70	Tangalle	20	37						3		2					4			66	
71	Trincomalee	2	1	2		3							3						11	
72	Vavuniya	5	107			1													113	
73	Valaichchenai	2	271			3													276	
74	Warakapola	19	47	2		21			3	3	20					2		1	118	
75	Welimada	37	152			11			1		20	1		4	4			6	236	
76	Walasmulla	37	80			5			2		1			1					126	
77	Wariyapola	13	25						4		37			8	5	1			93	
78	Wellawaya	23	35	1					9							4			72	
79	Dehliathakandiya	2	13								2	4		1	21				43	
80	Siyambalanduwa		38						3		2				29		3	2	77	
81	Borella		31								28		65						93	
82	Galagedara		25												6				38	
83	Wattala		25											3			1	1	27	
84	Hettipola		30															1	34	
85	Theldeniya		1																1	
	Total	1796	6513	109	3	296	67	36	330	40	391	88	337	223	0	222	99	29	161	10740

1.2.6. Goods brought forward on 31.12.2022

No.	Centre	Divorce	Maintainance	Land	Partition	Money	High Court cases	Appeal Court cases	Accidents	Bail	Other	Child Rights	Labour	Criminal	Supreme Courts cases	Victim of crimes	Special Guardians	Domestic Violence	Total	
1	Anuradhapura	308	707	21	0	23	0	4	77	2	23	8	24			17			1214	
2	Ampara	79	200	12		7	1	2	13				38	4		1		8	365	
3	Avissawella	108	360	20		48	4	8		7		5	3		37	4	1	2	607	
4	Attanagalla	187	641	36	0	40			45		14				11				974	
5	Akkareipattu	37	515	7		29				3						15	2	1	609	
6	Bandarawela	71	197	7	3	12		1	25	8			6		14			1	345	
7	Battaramulla											600							600	
8	Baddegama	70	302	2	1	12			20						36	1		1	445	
9	Badulla	50	226	6		7	15	4	13	1			3	3	1	1			330	
10	Balapitiya	152	430	15	12	87	26		37	1	118		2		2	34	6	12	7	941
11	Batticaloa	54	74	34		15					1		2						1	181
12	Balangoda	62	129	13		15					4						3	1		227
13	Colombo	369	594	123		23	5	97	165	6	283	27	33	17	120	57			2	1921
14	Chilaw	30	443	3		2	2		4				285			2			2	773
15	Chavakachcheri	25	168	11	1	5			5		8									223
16	Dambulla	61	180	1		11								1						254
17	Deniyaya	46	103	2					3							4			5	163
18	Deyyandara		121						1		60				30				5	217
19	Embilipitiya	114	349	6		17	1		30	1	2		1				1		1	523
20	Gampaha	96	53	25	1	19	17	7	48	4	20		3		4	2			2	301
21	Galle	83	269			13	1	2	30	3	55	3	45	1	10				10	525
22	Galgamuwa		118			2			3		4			3					1	131
23	Horana	121	395	3		7	10	25	26	58					3	5			13	666
24	Hatton	39	95	2					6						28					170
25	Hingurakgoda	84	303	6		34				43	2			110					11	593
26	Hambantota	225	613				5		30	10	33			133		1				1050
27	Homagama	63	98	9	1	19	2	5			8		38		68	2	1		4	318
28	Jaffna	63	121	13		23	9	3			20		11	1				1	4	269
29	Kandy	210	475	59		128	33				75	1	54		8				2	1045
30	Kurunegala	208	644	15	4	86	17		71		37		34		23	15	2	2		1158
31	Kegalle	115	307	36	14	67	23	6	5	5	84		29		29	1			6	727
32	Kuliyapitiya	60	129	16	2	19	1	0	44	1	2		13	1	23	7	1	1		320
33	Kantale	61	218	2		17	1				2			54			2	10		367
34	Kaduwela	97	71	22	2	84			12	2	9		23		16	3		3		344
35	Kalmunei	14	325	3		1			2	6						22	1	2		376
36	Kalutara	179	637	7		47	54		36	1	23	0	153		124	21		3		1285
37	Kekirawa	138	166	7		2			27		4	2		38	2	4		4		394
38	Kadawatha	24	283	2		1			2		4			5					1	322
39	Kebithigollewa	158	253	11		48					40	1							4	515
40	Kilinochchi	57	441	8		41			3		34			74			1	36		695
41	Matale	103	250	14		12			13		12		25							429

42	Mahiyanganaya	127	391	8		36									17	4		2	585	
43	Matugama	38	72	6		19										1	1		137	
44	Mahawa	56	95	6	3	12			3						5	1			181	
45	Marawila	63	250	6					7		4		29				2		361	
46	Mawanella	122	220	3		14					2		10			2		5	378	
47	Mallakam	97	420	36	1	32		3	2	2	18				4		5	1	621	
48	Mt. Lavinia	116	232	31		45		11	26		2		61	21	13	4	1	6	569	
49	Mannar	22	217	34		19			20		23			135			4	14	488	
50	Monaragala	207	234	9		10	4		21	4	1			1		6			497	
51	Muttur	23	455	4	30								7	2	1		52		574	
52	Mullaitivu	60	354	13		26					5					5	1	11	475	
53	Matara	156	179	24		44	131	1	75		12		35		24	12	7	3	703	
54	Minuwangoda	98	236	28	4	82			13	2	32	7		37	90			6	635	
55	Nikaweratiya	46	137	1		10			6		3				9	2	1	2	217	
56	Nuwara Eliya	37	443	4		7	1							73		6			571	
57	Negombo	130	99	23		49	2	2	6		7		26		7		1	1	353	
58	Nugegoda	89	245	7		57					4		7		60	6		14	489	
59	Nawalapitiya	88	407	7		12			1	12	71	2	6					4	610	
60	Polonnaruwa	32	167	7		11			24		4							3	248	
61	Panadura	59	202	11	1	6	5		33		9	2	26	8	32	7		17	418	
62	Pottuwil	1	116	1		2										1			121	
63	Point Pedro	122	391	19	3	43	1		6		38						5	15	643	
64	Polgahawela		66	1					2		15	1							85	
65	Pugoda	47	61	6		10									1	2			127	
66	Puttalam	115	186	18		25	4		4	1	6		15			1		1	376	
67	Rathnapura	177	388	15		9	19	1	32	6	13		10		26	10	3	6	715	
68	Tissamaharama	72	79	1		1			11		2		20			16		8	210	
69	Thambuttegama		101										1						102	
70	Tangalle	66	133	1			8	2	18	1	3				5	3			240	
71	Trincomalee	80	238	27		89					5		74	1			3		517	
72	Vavuniya	72	477	4		4			5							2			564	
73	Valaichchenai	5	508			11												1	525	
74	Warakapola	39	152	4		29			8	13					3		4		252	
75	Welimada	69	126	3		18			6		42	4	23		13		5	7	316	
76	Walasmulla	101	183			32			13		4		4						337	
77	Wariyapola	41	73	5		3			11		4		3			5	1		146	
78	Wellawaya	56	292	11		1			26							4			390	
79	Dehiaththakandiya	50	162			7					1	2		1		28		27	278	
80	Siyambalanduwa										25		139						164	
81	Borella		97						8		1				59		7	4	176	
82	Galagedara		57															1	58	
83	Wattala	10	71			1			20		6	1	40	7				1	157	
84	Hettipola		104						1		10				24				139	
85	Theldeniya	25	43	2		3							1		3			2	79	
	Total	6835	21162	965	83	1802	402	184	1204	185	1371	814	1091	852	183	927	235	124	320	38739

1.2.7. Court-wise classification of cases held in the year 2022

No.	Centre	Supreme Courts	Appeal Court	Civil Appeal Court	High Court	District Court	Magistrate Court	Labour Court	Others	Total
1	Anuradhapura				2	477	707	24		1210
2	Ampara			2	01	111	213	38		365
3	Avissawella			8	4	190	400	5		607
4	Attanagalla					265	709			974
5	Akkareipattu					81	528			609
6	Bandarawela			1		120	218	6		345
7	Battaramulla						600			600
8	Baddegama					106	339			445
9	Badulla			4	20	77	226	3		330
10	Balapitiya				64	296	576	2	3	941
11	Batticaloa					104	75	2		181
12	Balangoda					98	129			227
13	Colombo	110	97	2	21	790	785	33	83	1921
14	Chilaw				2	39	447	285		773
15	Chavakachcheri					55	168			223
16	Dambulla					73	181			254
17	Deniyaya					51	112			163
18	Deyyandara						217			217
19	Embilipitiya				2	170	350	1		523
20	Gampaha			7	21	194	59	3	17	301
21	Galle				4	102	332	37	50	525
22	Galgamuwa						131			131
23	Horana			10		161	495			666
24	Hatton					47	123			170
25	Hingurakgoda					126	467			593
26	Hambantota				15	256	779			1050
27	Homagama			5	2	103	171	37		318
28	Jaffna			3	9	120	126	11		269
29	Kandy				33	397	486	54	75	1045
30	Kurunegala			15	44	411	654	34		1158
31	Kegalle			6	33	233	426	29		727
32	Kuliyapitiya				14	150	143	13		320
33	Kantale				1	82	282		2	367
34	Kaduwela					214	107	23		344
35	Kalmunei					43	333			376
36	Kalutara				55	290	764	153	23	1285
37	Kekirawa					178	212		4	394
38	Kadawatha					25	296	1		322
39	Kebithigollewa					218	297			515
40	Kilinochchi					205	456		34	695

41	Matale				142	250	25	12	429	
42	Mahiyanganaya				175	410			585	
43	Matugama				65	72			137	
44	Mahawa				81	100			181	
45	Marawila				78	283			361	
46	Mawanella				142	235			377	
47	Mallakam		3	2	189	427			621	
48	Mt. Lavinia		11		199	298	61		569	
49	Mannar				60	428			488	
50	Monaragala			8	253	236			497	
51	Muttur				57	517			574	
52	Mullaitivu				84	391			475	
53	Matara		1	131	318	218	35		703	
54	Minuwangoda				234	396		5	635	
55	Nikaweratiya				60	157			217	
56	Nuwara Eliya			1	54	516			571	
57	Negombo		2	2	209	107	26	7	353	
58	Nugegoda				163	326			489	
59	Nawalapitiya				100	501	9		610	
60	Polonnaruwa				78	170			248	
61	Panadura			5	117	261	26	9	418	
62	Pottuwil				4	117			121	
63	Point Pedro		1		228	414			643	
64	Polgahawela					85			85	
65	Pugoda				65	62			127	
66	Puttalam			4	185	187			376	
67	Rathnapura		3	23	257	422	10		715	
68	Tissamaharama				103	106			209	
69	Thambuttegama					102			102	
70	Tangalle		2	9	91	138			240	
71	Trincomalee				199	239	74	5	517	
72	Vavuniya				91	473			564	
73	Valaichchenai				17	508			525	
74	Warakapola				80	172			252	
75	Welimada				98	218			316	
76	Walasmulla				137	200			337	
77	Wariyapola				66	80			146	
78	Wellawaya				98	292			390	
79	Dehiaththakandiya				60	218			278	
80	Siyambalanduwa					176			176	
81	Borella						139	25	164	
82	Galagedara					58			58	
83	Wattala				20	97	40		157	
84	Hettipola					139			139	
85	Theldeniya				27	52			79	
	Total	110	97	82	474	10361	23265	999	324	38739

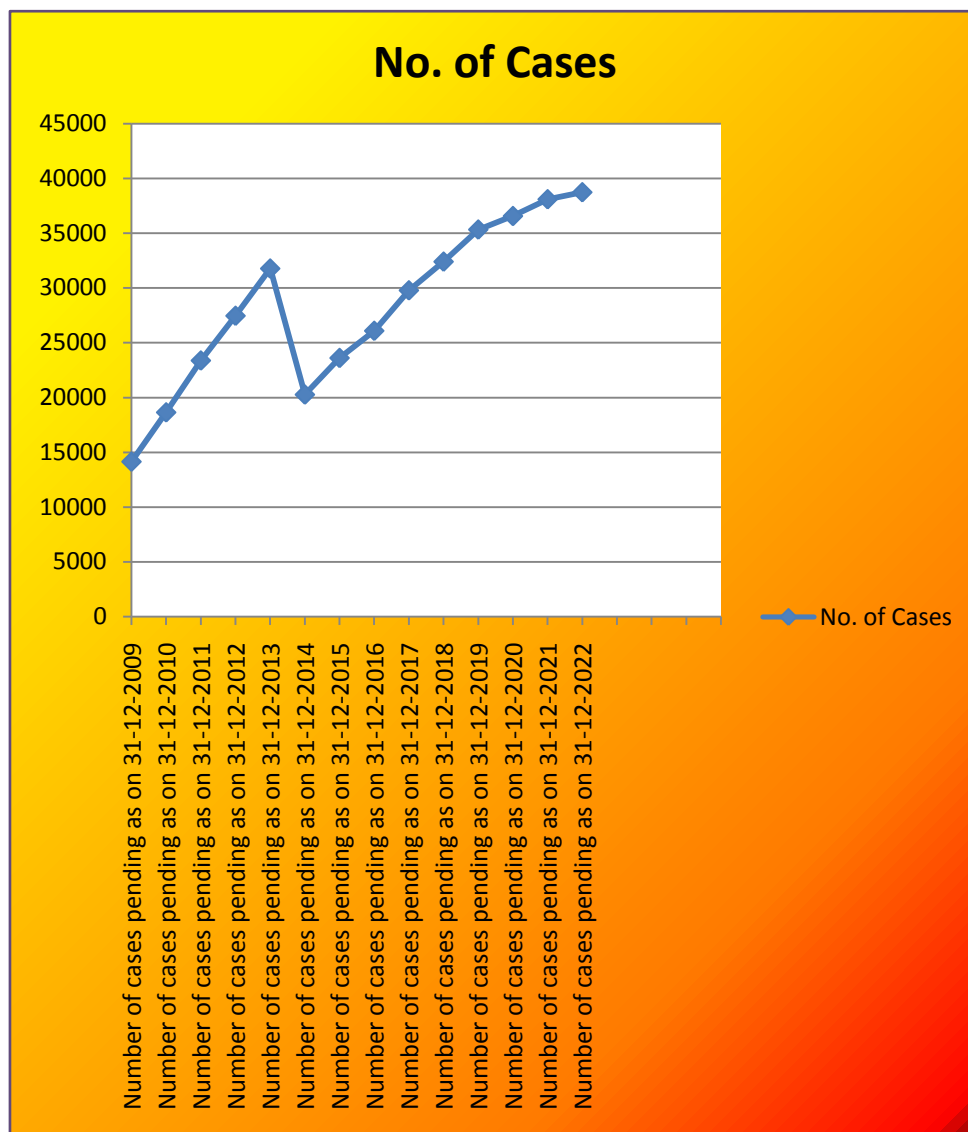
1.2.8. 2022 classification according to support for cases

No.	Centre	Lawyers at the Legal Aid Commission	Lawyers of the Board belonging to the Legal Aid Commission	Total
1	Anuradhapura	801	413	1214
2	Ampara	309	56	365
3	Avissawella	512	95	607
4	Attanagalla	681	293	974
5	Akkareipattu	609		609
6	Bandarawela	281	64	345
7	Battaramulla	600		600
8	Baddegama	394	51	445
9	Badulla	287	43	330
10	Balapitiya	760	181	941
11	Batticaloa	179	2	181
12	Balangoda	155	72	227
13	Colombo	1206	715	1921
14	Chilaw	769	4	773
15	Chavakachcheri	223	0	223
16	Dambulla	252	2	254
17	Deniyaya	162	1	163
18	Deyyandara	217	0	217
19	Embilipitiya	498	25	523
20	Gampaha	144	157	301
21	Galle	488	37	525
22	Galgamuwa	131		131
23	Horana	561	105	666
24	Hatton	168	2	170
25	Hingurakgoda	568	25	593
26	Hambantota	593	457	1050
27	Homagama	171	147	318
28	Jaffna	227	42	269
29	Kandy	477	568	1045
30	Kurunegala	687	471	1158
31	Kegalle	501	226	727
32	Kuliyapitiya	235	85	320
33	Kantale	346	21	367
34	Kaduwela	93	251	344
35	Kalmunei	331	45	376
36	Kalutara	1091	194	1285
37	Kekirawa	392	2	394
38	Kadawatha	318	4	322
39	Kebithigollewa	515	0	515
40	Kilinochchi	695	0	695
41	Matale	268	161	429
42	Mahiyanganaya	578	7	585
43	Matugama	133	4	137
44	Mahawa	155	26	181
45	Marawila	356	5	361
46	Mawanella	347	31	378
47	Mallakam	621		621
48	Mt. Lavinia	335	234	569
49	Mannar	488	0	488

50	Monaragala	353	144	497
51	Muttur	574		574
52	Mullaitivu	475		475
53	Matara	446	257	703
54	Minuwangoda	463	172	635
55	Nikaweratiya	210	7	217
56	Nuwara Eliya	437	134	571
57	Negombo	295	58	353
58	Nugegoda	369	120	489
59	Nawalapitiya	445	165	610
60	Polonnaruwa	237	11	248
61	Panadura	271	147	418
62	Pottuwil	121	0	121
63	Point Pedro	643	0	643
64	Polgahawela	11	74	85
65	Pugoda	67	60	127
66	Puttalam	250	126	376
67	Rathnapura	462	253	715
68	Tissamaharama	210	0	210
69	Thambuttegama	56	46	102
70	Tangalle	184	56	240
71	Trincomalee	517	0	517
72	Vavuniya	561	3	564
73	Valaichchenai	525		525
74	Warakapola	38	214	252
75	Welimada	216	100	316
76	Walasmulla	329	8	337
77	Wariyapola	114	32	146
78	Wellawaya	369	21	390
79	Dehiaththakandiya	269	9	278
80	Siyambalanduwa	176		176
81	Borella	150	14	164
82	Galagedara	54	4	58
83	Wattala	44	113	157
84	Hettipola	139	0	139
85	Theldeniya	29	50	79
	Total	31017	7722	38739

1.2.8. From the year 2009 to 2022.12.31 the number of cases brought forward annually

Period	Case Nos.
Number of cases held on 31.12.2009	14143
Number of cases held on 31.12.2010	18642
Number of cases held on 31.12.2011	23376
Number of cases held on 31.12.2012	27458
Number of cases held on 31.12.2013	31775
Number of cases held on 31.12.2014	20265
Number of cases held on 31.12.2015	23609
Number of cases held on 31.12.2016	26088
Number of cases held on 31.12.2017	29783
Number of cases held on 31.12.2018	32403
Number of cases held on 31.12.2019	35332
Number of cases held on 31.12.2020	36567
Number of cases held on 31.12.2021	38099
Number of cases held on 31.12.2022	38739



1.2.9. Progress in the number of cases completed in 2022 compared to 2021

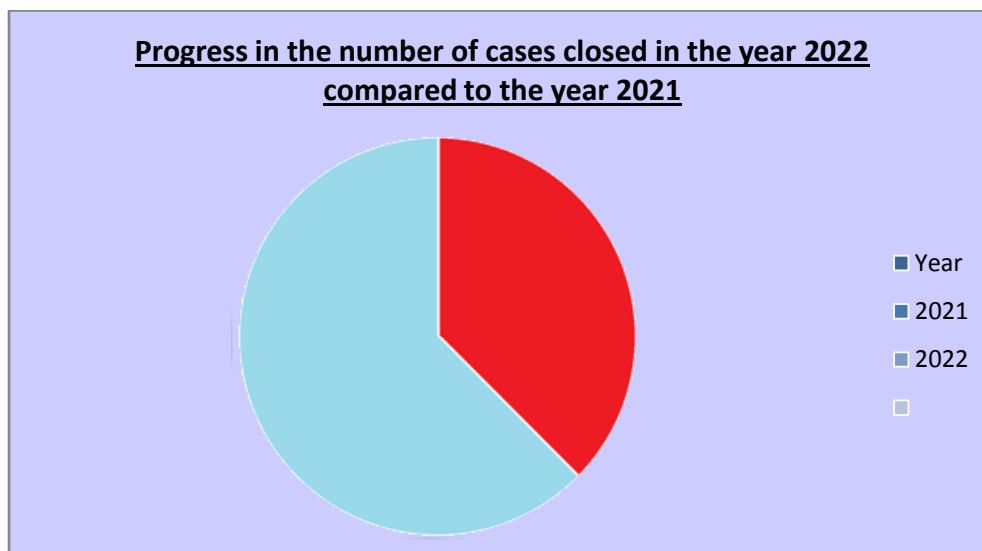
The number of cases completed in 2021 is 65 43 and in 2022 the number is 10740. Accordingly, a relative growth in the number of cases concluded in 2018 is seen.

Accordingly, the number of cases closed in 2022 compared to 2021 is 24.2%.

In the year 2021, compared to the year 2020, there is a clear decrease in the risk, but in the year 2022, it is seen that there is a very clear growth value. Accordingly, compared to the growth of the number of clients seeking justice, there is clearly a progress in the number of clients who have taken recourse to justice.

1.2.10. Progress in the number of cases completed in 2022 compared to 2021 - graphical representation

No.	Year	Amount	Progress
1	2021	6543	38%
2	2022	10740	62%
		17283	100%



2.1. National Policy on Legal Aid in Sri Lanka

With the establishment of the Legal Aid Act number 27 of 1978 and the establishment and running of the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission, it became apparent that the provision of legal aid should be made more formal and effective. The compilers wanted to prepare public policies that would be able to supervise these activities in order to reduce the problems arising in the various activities of the government as well as other non-governmental organizations in the country regarding the provision of legal aid and to get an effective service that is more important to the public.

Attention was paid to the way legal aid should be provided in Sri Lanka, the mechanism for facilitating it, monitoring and reforming the existing legal aid system. Legal aid is a universal fundamental right of all citizens and its provision should be equitable to all. To create an efficient and effective professional mechanism by working to provide an easy access to justice so that all Sri Lankans can do justice and thus to make the state legal aid program more formal in the civil society, gender, disability, age, nationality, It is a revolutionary act in the field of law to bring out a national precedent for legal aid, which would treat all situations equally regardless of religion, caste, geographical location or other socially sensitive influences. The Cabinet of Ministers has approved the preparation of the said national plan. This National Action Plan is being developed and is currently in its final stages.

In the year 2023, it is expected to popularize the national pride and implement the proposed programs as per the action plan.

2.2. Networking of Judicial Affairs (Google Sheet)

In order to maintain an efficient and formal legal aid mechanism, the Legal Aid Commission has strongly felt the need for some reasonable arrangement for the necessary supervision of the legal department. For that, it was decided that the most effective and appropriate way of doing the coordination and monitoring activities by networking the regional central points was to start and maintain the Google Sheet system in this year.

In the initial phase, the complete case file of each center was prepared as a data system and the maintenance of the system was carried out. This is expected to be more developed in the future.

Programmes & Projects

1.2 Programmes & Projects

During the period of 26 years since 1978 until 2004, the main focus of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka has been the concept of granting legal aid to maintain litigation. But since around 2004, the Commission has taken a number of steps to experiment with new methods of granting legal aid, hoping there is a possibility to grant the public an access to legal justice by instilling legal literacy into the public, going beyond this level.

Objective

Focusing on the parties involved in issues and helping to find solutions is an extremely significant task, whereas similarly, counselling on minimizing issues and maintaining living standards is a necessary part of it as well. If you act carefully and safely, the adverse consequences caused by many actions can be prevented. In order to function practically and intelligently in the course of everyday life, everybody should be enlightened of the feeling of the subtle knowledge required to act with knowledge and broad understanding. Comprehending this matter carefully, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka continues to initiate programmes and projects under the supervision of the Legal Division, in order to safeguard the security, protection and the rights of the people. Under this, planning, implementation and organization of legal knowledge and education programs are carried out.

1. In dispute resolution, a mediation without issues is more advantageous.
2. As it is a vain effort to apologise for an act committed on ignorance of law, for the purpose of protecting yourself from the consequences of any wrongdoing occurred or committed, "ignorance of law is not an excuse". Therefore, the socialization of legal knowledge is a matter with timely importance.
3. Further, contributing to the qualitative development, and increasing social inclusion for sustainable development by developing the lawfulness of society,
4. Examining the timely requirements and proposals that need to be made when imposing new laws
5. Advancement of personal legal literacy

are key objectives that are focused on, during the formulation and implementation of programmes and projects.

These programs are organized in collaboration with the Legal Division of the Legal Aid Commission, the staff of the local Legal Aid offices, various government institutions and NGOs, and the community participation. The programs were implemented with the cooperation of the government funds and various aid and assistance. We were able to implement some programs without any financial costs.

Ex. :- Media programs

1.3.1 Various programmes

- A. Mass media programmes
- B. Social participation programs for awareness creation
- C. Developmental legal aid programmes
 - Units for prison detainees, indigenous people, overseas labor force.
 - Law education programs
 - Dialogues and discourse among scholars and various communities
 - Preparation of leaflets, posters and publications to socialize the knowledge on law.
 - Conducting research and survey required to obtain the views and suggestions necessary for the new legislation.

A. Massmedia Programmes

In the year 2022, the legal knowledge socialization programs were also carried out to educate the public through various television channels, radio channels and newspapers.

Massmedia Programmes in 2022 - 51

No.	Programme	Number of programmes
01	TV Programmes	9
02	Radio Programmes	1
03	News Paper Programmes	42

A.1. Television & Radio Programmes

Most of these programs are invitational programs. The Commission has not made any financial expenditure for this. During the period from January to December, 31st of 2022, TV programs have been conducted by National Television, Siyatha TV, Haritha TV, Colombo TV, Jaya TV, Aksharaya TV.

No.	Programme	Number of programmes
01	Siyatha TV	04
02	National Television	01
03	Haritha TV	01
04	Colombo TV	01
05	Jaya TV	01
06	Aksharaya TV	01

Resource contribution for the above programs has been given by legal officers working in the head office of the Legal Aid Commission as well as in various regional offices. A system has also been developed to provide answers.

A.2. By newspapers

The project of the Legal Aid Commission started in the year 2006 with the aim of providing answers to the public's problems through weekly newspapers and creating a readership among readers who want to acquire legal knowledge. Initially, this program was started by Lankadeepa newspaper in Sinhala media and then the Daily News newspaper of United Professional Paper Company Limited (Lake House) has been sponsored to continue this program in English media.

On the agreement of Lankadeepa newspaper and Daily News newspaper to provide their sponsorship free of charge, in the year 2022, once a fortnight on Tuesdays in Lankadeepa newspaper as "Legal refuge" to answer readers' problems, once a fortnight on Mondays in Daily News newspaper to answer problems for English readers. Apart from this, the society has been penetrated through Sirikatha, Dinamina, Tharuni and Diyaniya newspapers.

It appears that these programs have become extremely popular and appreciated among readers all over the island, regardless of age, in checking the daily telephone calls and mails received by the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission.

In the year 2022, in the year 2022, the "Guilt line right" of Maw Bima newspaper and "fight" for 38 issues and "Law check" for four issues of the Ceylon today newspaper, the Legal Aid Commission media unit has provided editorial contribution. Also, the Commission published a News Letter for the first time with the financial support of UNODC.

A.2.1. Contribution of resources for print media.

No.	Programme	Number of programmes
01	Mawbima	38
02	Ceylon Today	04
03	News Letter	01
Total		43

B. Social Participatory programs for raising awareness

The main objective is to focus on the empowerment of children, women and elderly people, who are generally considered vulnerable parties of society, and to safeguard their legal protection and security.

Further, government field officers, police officers and medical health officers have been identified as target groups in order to provide legal literacy to create a strong and efficient state mechanism.

In addition, as a welfare state, prison detainees, indigenous communities, migrant workers have been identified as distinct portions to be focused on.

B.1. School Programmes

The best age and group for socializing any kind of knowledge is the school children. It is quite easy to educate the adult society through the child, by motivating the curiosity, the thirst for knowledge and the interest within them to find new knowledge. Programmes were launched in several forms which were broadcast through this concept by the School Programme Division of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka.

Similarly, children's right to education, the right to love and care and giving the children the knowledge needed to protect themselves from crimes were covered during these programmes. The programmes were implemented in remote schools in different parts of the country.

The Special Unit for Children of the Sri Lanka Legal Aid Commission has focused on 27675 maintenance cases for children.

B.2. Programs for Women

These programs are centered around almost all rural women, semi-urban and urban women. The programs are focused on laws that protect women's rights as well as all forms of violence against her, and they are given legal protection when necessary.

A separate legal aid unit for women operates in the Legal Aid Commission. The unit provided legal advice to 23038 women in 2022.

Various programs have been implemented in several parts of Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, whereas special emphasis has been placed on the conditions of law affecting the day-to-day life and the Laws, Maintenance, Domestic Violence, Divorce, Fundamental Rights, Labor Laws related to the protection of property. Programmes imparting legal knowledge, various discourses and guidance for access to legal assistance as well have been carried out.

Likewise, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka was able to represent the National Committee on Women this year.

Providing legal aid in courts for helpless women in the face of oppression against women based on gender.

No.	Type	Amount
01	Divorce	8631
02	Domestic violence	481
03	Total	90112
As a Percentage from the Total Cases		18%

B.3. Programs for Senior Citizens

Sri Lanka, one of the countries with a rapidly aging population amongst the developing countries in the world, is experiencing a very significant demographic change. Demographers predict that the adult population, which is about 1/10 of the country's overall population, will double by 2050. Even though the increase of life expectancy of a country or increase of the aging population is one of the characteristics of a developed country, on the other hand, lack of improvement in other welfare facilities in comparison to the growing elderly population is a challenge.

It is practically proven that, just as being very strong in manpower, proven results can be obtained by empowering them with experience and knowledge.

In Sri Lanka, where there was a 30-year war, the number of senior citizens has increased significantly, and the security and protection of senior citizens must be guaranteed for the enforcement of the social welfare concept and the administration of justice. The senior citizen community, which constitutes 11% of the total population, constitutes 20% of the electorate. In that context, the Parliament of Sri Lanka has enacted the Protection of the Rights of Elders Act No. 9 of 2000, and thereby establishing this value.

In such backdrop, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka has carried out the affairs its Senior Citizen's Law Division in collaboration with the National Elders Secretariat. The Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka is in the process of helping the members of the Elders' Associations at the local level to obtain free solutions to their legal issues and to enforce the orders issued by the National Elders Secretariat regarding the claim of maintenance by elders, through the Magistrate's Court. Further, legal awareness programmes are also implemented for the members of the locally set up grassroots elders' societies. In the year 2022, 04 senior citizen awareness programs have been conducted and 286 senior citizens have participated in it.

B.4. Programs for Public Officers

In general, the programs offered on legal knowledge are focused on all government officials, while providing legal knowledge for officers engaged in other specific fields as well. This is done as a task of the Legal Aid Commission for developing the professional capacity of public officers, forming an efficient state mechanism and creating a lawful, honest and contented public servant.

The project division of the Commission and the Regional Legal Aid Commission offices in collaboration with each other have conducted these programmes in various government, semi government, and provincial offices throughout the country. The areas covered in this respect are administrative law, human rights law, laws on lands, bribery and corruption law, labor law and family law. Arrangements have been made to conduct programs through lectures and transfer knowledge through training courses and tutorials.

As a whole, Grama Niladharis, Samurdhi officers, Agricultural Research and Production Assistants, Family Health Officers and field officers from Divisional Secretariats have been identified as targeted groups.

Accordingly, 25 programs were conducted through joint funds and 36 invited programs.

B.5. Programs for Police Officers

The police service is the statecraft who performs a major role in defending law and order. All officers who are engaged in the police service should have a good understanding and knowledge of the judiciary and legal field. Although an insight on the legal field is given at the recruitment of officers to the police service, the knowledge they gain on the legal changes made at different occasions and the new laws and regulations after the recruitment is rudimentary. The opportunity for gathering information is also rare.

Therefore, programs that provide an understanding on law should be carried out, in order to build professional skills of the police officers. An awareness and training programme on legal knowledge is being implemented jointly by the Legal Aid Commission and the Sri Lanka Police Department for the officers serving in various police stations island wide in this regard for a long while. Just as Criminal Law, the police officers will be given knowledge in civil and administrative fields as well.

One program was conducted for 51 police officers.

B.6. Programs for Medical Officers

Medical officers are a group of public officers who have little opportunity to gain legal knowledge when compared to other government officials, although they have to deal with law at all times in their profession. Even though on certain occasions, medical officers have to cooperate in Court procedures, only a few doctors are able to have a formal training on how to cooperate in such actions. It is a morbid question that many medico-legal officers are confronted with.

Medico-legal officers face serious challenges during autopsy, when appearing before Courts to give evidence regarding the same, on occasions where they obtain expertise evidence required for Court proceedings and, in collecting, presenting and analyzing the production of cases.

Similarly, although Medical Health Officers often need to assist in judicial work in their professional field, they lack knowledge in the legal field as well. Therefore, educating medical practitioners on law means improving their professionalism as well as an immense help in strengthening the process of administering social justice, welfare and equity.

Just as awareness programmes on the subject of law for medical practitioners are conducted, a special service has been done to the public through legal medical clinics. Officers from the centers of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka Island wide have joined hands with Medical Professionals in community health service on the prevention of non communicable diseases.

B.7. Mobile Legal Clinics

The Mobile Legal Aid Clinic is one of the most important projects when the realization of goals and objectives of the establishment of the Legal Aid Commission. This will help to broaden the legal aid program among grassroot communities and identify problems, enabling the general public to have an easy access to justice. This program is implemented at a grassroot level through the local legal aid offices in the country. It is made easier to identify suitable persons to provide free legal assistance for low-income people. 78 mobile legal clinics will be conducted. A mobile clinic is conducted at the end of each program.

1.3.2 Social participation programs for awareness held - 298. The programs conducted during this year and its distribution are as follows.

	Programmes	Amount of Programmes
1	Programs conducted focusing on children, women, elderly and disabled people to provide legal knowledge, protect rights, and support them in obtaining benefits.	20
2	By preparing a quality and efficient government mechanism through the provision of legal knowledge, programs to inform the public officials of the expectation of easy access to justice for the public.	25
3	Programs contributed resources through guest lectures and legal consultations	137
4	Programs aimed at plantation workers, fishermen, slum and shanty dwellers (done with Urban Development Authority)	01
5	Prison programs	13
6	Rural education awareness	10
7	Training workshops for novice lawyers	78
8	These programs were launched to university students, young professionals and junior lawyers.	03
9	In conjunction with Women's Day, awareness programs for women on law during the month of March	05
10	Legal Aid Clinics	01
11	Law Student Internship Notes	01
12	Supplementary Legal Education Course	01
13	Programs for sex workers	03
	Total	298

C. Developmental legal aid programs

C.1. Program for Prison Inmates

Prisoners are human beings. Since 2002, the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka has focused on this concept. Accordingly, the key objective of this program is to provide legal aid to the detainees who have been without bail or are unable to satisfy the bail conditions for a long period of time in jail. Accordingly, the Prisons Department and the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka are conducting legal aid clinics for prison inmates throughout the country and collecting necessary information. After obtaining information, the inmates chosen for legal assistance will be given free attorneys' assistance for their cases. In the year 2022, 10 legal clinics have been conducted in prisons.

C.2. Program for Indigenous People

Aboriginal communities who inherit a history of many years live in different parts of the world. Notable among them are the Red Indians of America, the Pygmies of Africa, the Aborigines of Australia, and the Veddas of Sri Lanka.

Representing the earliest part of Sri Lankan history, these people are in the early stages of all kinds of conditions such as education, economic, health, employment and habitat. It is imperative that they develop legal literacy and provide them with legal aid to improve their living conditions in line with the new world. Further, the protection of the indigenous community is also a part of fulfilling the responsibility of protecting the historical heritage of our country.

The focus of the government should be on empowering the mechanism to facilitate easy and equal access to justice for the protection of indigenous peoples' heritage and the privileges granted to the public by the Constitution of Sri Lanka, and to make more flexible and effective legal reforms. The opportunity should be broadened for all communities to enjoy the rights of justice and equality. The main objective of this project is to draw the government's attention on these issues and make legal reforms.

One of the main objectives of this project is to meet the indigenous people living in different parts of Sri Lanka and to identify the current challenges associated with their homeland, traditional customs, their lives, livelihoods, educational levels and habitats. Accordingly, creating a discourse on legal issues affecting the everyday life of indigenous people takes a predominant place among the objectives of this project.

C.3. Program for Migrant Workers

Special security and protection of job security, safety of lives of migrant workers who contribute to the economy of Sri Lanka by bringing foreign exchange to the country should be ensured. The number of Sri Lankan migrant workers is increasing day by day, and new legal provisions have been established to ensure their safety and protection so that it prevents illegal migration and thereby the protection and security of migrant workers is strengthened. Most of our migrant workers are Sri Lankan women and this is due to their poverty and low- income level. Most of them in the Middle East are unskilled workers, housemaids and semi- skilled workers. The Middle East region has an opportune market and demand for most of those who are temporarily moving abroad. The market for skilled and qualified foreign workers has expanded to East Asia and West Asia.

Many Sri Lankan migrant women work as housemaids in the Middle East region. Most of these housemaids are victims of human rights violations, such as loss of labor rights, abuse, physical and mental harassment at their workplace, due to lack of skills and

efficiency. Likewise, some migrant women are embarrassed when they are faced with crimes and offenses abroad. Most people are ignorant about law enforcement in those countries.

This section provides self-service for expatriate workers who have faced problems. After providing the counseling service, the person will be referred to the consular section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or to the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau or, in necessary cases, for judicial purposes. This unit is working in conjunction with the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau to supervise the community initiative called "Gami Sansadaya" at the Divisional Secretary level to raise awareness programs for expatriate labor families, to collect their information.

C.4. Legal Education Programme

I. The formal legal education program

This is jointly operated with the Sri Lanka Law College. The aim is to train apprentice lawyers who will be sworn in as lawyers for a year. During the period from January to December this year, 650 apprentice lawyers have been trained in one group and for that the commission has obtained the external services of resource persons including senior expert presidential lawyers.

II. The informal legal education program

A program that has been conducted as a course to educate the public about the law. Here, people of different age levels who are engaged in different fields will study a 04-month academic course followed by an examination and a certificate. This legal education course has been conducted for a group of 30 people during this year.

C.5. Programmes focused on slum and shanty dwellers.

These programmes are conducted to raise awareness among the community which is required in order to seek compensation from the government by instituting court cases at the Honorable Court on behalf of the community who are unable to produce clear evidence on their rights on occasions where the houses and property of the urban community in Colombo are acquired by the government and a compensation is awarded on its behalf as a result of the project carried out by the Urban Development Authority.

1.3.5. Providing financial investment for programs

No.	Financial support	Amount
01	Consolidated Fund	78
	Total	

1.3.6 Participation of the Legal Aid Commission in invitational programmes

The invitation received by various institutions and social organizations to the officers of the Legal Aid Commission to participate in the programs led by them is a great honor received by us in the legal profession and at the corporate level. In addition to their judicial duties, the contribution of the legal officers of the Legal Aid Commission as preachers in the awareness campaigns of various social organizations and institutions, as legal advisors in mobile clinics, and as workshop leaders is a great mission that they have done. Also, the institutions that gave these invitations appreciate the honor given to the Legal Aid Commission.

Services provided by the Legal Aid Commission cover sexual assault, fundamental rights, child abuse, women's rights, sexual violence, laws for the majority, human trafficking, labor laws, land laws and civil documents, social issues of daily life. Resources have been provided on the basis of legal status, family law, war-affected women, Muslim women, foreign married women.

1.3.7 Participation of the Legal Aid Commission in invited programmes

Legal Aid Commission invited and resourced programs for awareness of law – 137

	Center	Date	Location	Participants	Participation No.
1	Kadawatha	22.03.2022	Regional Secretariat - Biyagama	Women	100
2	Jaffna	16.03.2022	Regional Secretariat	Government officials	75
3	Jaffna	19.03.2022	Regional Secretariat	Lawyers	200
4	Jaffna	20.03.2022	Regional Secretariat	Lawyers	200
5	Vavuniya	26.01.2022	Regional Secretariat	Government officials	100
6	Vavuniya	20.03.2022	the prison	Prison inmates	50
7	Kaluthara	29.03.2022	Regional Secretariat - Kalutara	Government officials	100
8	Matara	25.02.2022	Shanaya Mansion - Matara	Women Government Officials	45
9	Matara	23.03.2022	Regional Secretariat Matara	Prosperity Development Officers	650
10	Tissamaharama	08.03.2022	Weerawila Oral Original Apparel Garment	Government officials	71
11	Kuliypitiya	15.02.2022	Regional Secretariat, Kuliypitiya	Government officials	100
12	Kuliypitiya	31.03.2022	Galpola Sridhamimamananda Vidyalaya	School students	50
13	Kanthale	16.03.2022	Regional Secretariat	Members of Women's Associations	50
14	Embilipitiya	08.03.2022	Ority Apparel Institute	Employees of Ority Apparel	100
15	Kalmunai	10.02.2022	Primary Hospital - Kalmune	Law Clinic	100
16	Kalmunai	23.02.2022	Regional Secretariat - Karaithivu	Committee meeting	100
17	Kalmunai	23.03.2022	Regional Secretariat - Karaithivu	Committee meeting	100
18	Kalmunai	17.03.2022	Institute of DVTA	Students	75
19	Head office	08.02.2022	Conducted through Zoom technology	United Nations Women's Programme	50
20	Head office	11.02.2022	Conducted through Zoom technology.	Discussion on Sustainable Development Sustainable Development	30
21	Head office	25.02.2022	Conducted through Zoom technology	University of Colombo Lions Club	20
22	Head office	25.02.2022	Conducted through Zoom technology	Discussion on the Law of Cyber Law	30
23	Head office	08.03.2022	BMICH	Women's Day National Program and Exhibition	Open
24	Head office	09.03.2022	BMICH	Women's Day National Program and Exhibition	Open
25	Head office	11.03.2022	Midas Safety - Biyagama Investment Zone	Awareness program and legal clinic	75
26	Head office	15.03.2022	Hotel Janaki	Sustainable Development Progress Review Meeting	50
27	Head office	15.03.2022	A legal clinic conducted through Zoom technology - Matale District Secretariat	Matale District Development Officers and the program to inform the beneficiaries	75
28	Head office	22.03.2022	Conducted through Zoom technology	Review meeting on the importance of sustainable development of the Ministry of Justice	30
29	Head office	24.03.2022	Gampaha Bandaranayake College	School students of Gampaha Bandaranayak Vidyanala	75
30	Head office	26.03.2022	Legal clinic conducted through Zoom technology -Kandy District Secretariat	Awareness Program for Kandy District Welfare Officers and Aspirants	75
31	Head office	2022.03.30	Legal clinic held through Zoom technology - Nuwara Eliya District Secretariat	Awareness program for Kegalle District Samurdhi officers and recipients	75
32	Head office	2022.03.31	Legal clinic held through Zoom technology - Nuwara Eliya District Secretariat	Nuwara Eliya District Samurdhi officers and awardees awareness program	75
33	Head office	2022.03.31	Legal clinic held through Zoom	Nuwara Eliya District	75

			technology - Nuwara Eliya District Secretariat	Prosperity Officers and Candidates Awareness Program	
34	Head office	2022.02.08	Ministry of Justice	Debate on National Integration	75
35	Head office	2022.02.21	National Child Protection Authority	Discussion on Five Year National Strategic Plan for Child Protection	100
36	Head office	2022.03.10	BMICH	Technology abuses against women and girls in Sri Lanka	75
37	Head office	2022.03.10	Timbirigasaya District Secretariat	Children born in Thimbirigasaya district secretary's office	75
38	Head office	2022.01.28	Vaviniya Prisons	Discussion on the protection of prison inmates	75
39	Head office	2022.01.30	Jaffna Jail	Prison inmates	75
40	Head office	2022.01.27/28	Kilinochchi College	Ministry of Justice's National Integrated Mobile Programme	Open
41	Head office	2022.01.29/30	Jaffna Maha Vidyalaya	Ministry of Justice's National Integrated Mobile Programme	Open
42	Head office	2022.03.25/ 26	Conducted through Zoom technology	A two-day dialogue on Human Rights and Security for All, organized by the UN Women Programme	75
43	Head office	2022.03.29	Conducted through Zoom technology.	Development of National Action Plan on Women for All and Security Organized by UN Women Program Organized by UN Women Program	75
44	Nugegoda	2022/04/02	Kotte Municipal Council	Government officials	30
45	Kilinochchi	2022/06/23	District Secretariat	Committee meeting	75
46	Warakapola	2022/05/26	Mass Active Linia Institute	Employees of Mass Active Linia	50
47	Warakapola	2022/06/23	Mass Sports Methlia Institute	Employees of Mass Sports Methlia Institute	50
48	Homagama	2022/06/17	Regional Secretariat Homagama	Committee meeting	40
49	Polonnaruwa	2022/04/05	Regional Secretariat Polonnaruwa	Committee meeting	75
50	Matara	2022/04/06	Regional Secretariat Thihagoda	Committee meeting	50
51	Matara	2022/05/26	Informing medical officials	Medical officers	50
52	Matara	2022/05/27	Informing medical officials	Medical officers	150
53	Mahiyanganaya	2022/04/08	Regional Secretariat Mahiangana	Committee meeting	50
54	Mahiyanganaya	2022/06/23	Mahianganaya Gamunupura Shedline Guarantee	Shedyline Garment employees	150
55	Gampaha	2022/06/16	Regional Secretariat Gampaha	Committee meeting	100
56	Kilinochchi	2022/07/19	Jayantinagar	Women's programme	30
57	Kekirawa	2022/07/27	Senaka Hotel Kekirawa	Women's programme	120
58	Head office	2022/07/27	Marshal's Office	Appropriation meeting	50
59	Kekirawa	2022/07/27	Senaka Hotel, Kekirawa	Women's programme	130
60	Kaluthara	2022/08/15	Traffic Police Headquarters	Jail officers	120
61	Kilinochchi	2022/08/17	Cooperative Hall	Informing the public	28
62	Mahiangana	2022/06/23	Mahianganaya Gamunupura Shedline Guarantee	Shedyline Garment employees	100
63	Kekirawa	2022/08/25	Kekirawa Central University	School students	200
64	Headquarters	2022/08/27	Marshal's Office	Procurement meeting	100
65	Mulathivu	2022/08/29	Maritemipattu District Secretary Office	Government officials	50
66	Head office	2022/08/29	Zoom technology was hosted by UNDP	Sustainable Development Goal 16 meeting	50
67	Head office	2022/08/29	The Zoom technology was held in UNDP	Electronic procurement system	30
68	Polonnaruwa	2022/08/31	Polonnarewa Prison	Prison inmates	38
69	Siyambalanduwa	2022/09/05	Thissapura Senior College	School children and teachers	160
70	Dehiattakandiya	2022/09/05	Dehi Attakandia navamadagamuwa School	School children and teachers	100

71	Balangoda	2022/09/06	Mass Active Institute	Officers of MassActive	100
72	Head office	2022/09/06	Marshal's Office	Evaluation meeting	100
73	Head office	2022/09/09	Committee Meeting (Regarding Children)	District Secretary Office Narahenpita	100
74	Dehiattakandiya	2022/09/10	Kadirapura Temple	The public	100
75	Headquarters	2022,09,10,11	Golf Course Hotel	Lawyers	100
76	Matugama	2022,09,10,11	Golf Course Hotel	Lawyers	100
77	Welimada	2022/09/10	Boralanda	Public awareness	100
78	Kaluthara	2022/09/10	Golf Course Hotel	Lawyers	100
79	Kilinochichi	2022/09/14	District Secretary Office	District Secretary Office Officers	30
80	Mulathivu	2022/09/14	Odidusudan District Secretary Office	Public officials	50
81	Head office	2022/09/15	Waters Age Hotel	SGBT awareness programs	100
82	Kaluthara	2022/09/21	District A Secretary Office Kalutara	Government officials	100
83	Kaluthara	2022/09/22	District A Secretary Office Kalutara	Government officials	100
84	Head office	2022/09/22	BMICH	RTI meeting	50
85	Polonnaruwa	2022/09/23	District Secretary Office Tamankaduwa	The public	30
86	Head office	2022/09/24	Cyber bullying	The public was held using Zoom technology	50
87	Welimada	2022/09/25	You are Paranagama	Public awareness	90
88	Kaluthara	2022/09/27	Development Committee Meeting	Government officials	50
89	Head office	2022/09/26 2022/09/27	Ramada Hotel	Women's Program organized by the United Nations Women's Programme	100
90	Kekirawa	2022/11/24	MOH	Government officials	50
91	Kekirawa	2022/12/13	Anuradhapura	Government officials	50
92	Kekirawa	2022/12/14	Polonnaruwa	Government officials	100
93	Trincomalee	2022/11/02	Cinnamon Hotel	Government officials	100
94	Trincomalee	2022/11/03	Cinnamon Hotel	Government officials	100
95	Kalmunai	2022/10/19	Pasikuda	Government officials	50
96	Kalmunai	2022/11/02,03	Pasikuda	Government officials	50
97	Kalmunai	2022/12/01	Safe House, Kalmunai	Committee meeting	100
98	Kalmunai	2022/12/15	Probation Office, Kalmunai	Government officials	50
99	Kalmunai	2022/12/16	Probation Office, Samanthurai	Government officials	100
100	Mahawa	2022/11/18	Epitoma Hotel Kuranegala	Women and children	100
101	Galgamuwa	2022/11/18	Epitoma Hotel Kuranegala	Women and children	50
102	Mount Lavinia	2022/11/20	Parama Dhamma Chethiya Pirivena, Rathmalana	The public	50
103	Warakapola	2022/10/05	Mass Methlia Institute	Government officials	100
104	Warakapola	2022/12/13	Mass Methlia Institute	Government officials	50
105	Batticaloa	2022/12/09	Probation Office - Batticaloa	Probation Officers	100
106	Batticaloa	2022/12/21	Probation Office-Eraur	Probation Officers	100
107	Muthur	2022/12/29	Probation Office -Eraur	Probation Officers	75
108	Mahiyanganaya	2022/12/06	FID Line Guarantee	women	60
109	Avissawella	2022/11/15	Linea Aqua Guarantee	Office workers	50
110	Avissawella	2022/12/10,11	Amagi Ariya Hotel	Lawyers	100
111	Kanthale	2022/12/09	Probation Office	Government officials	75
112	Dehiattakandiya	2022/12/30	Probation Office	Government officials	75
113	Homagama	2022/12/10,11	Amagi Aria Hotel	Lawyers	100
114	Horana	2022/12/03,04	Avani Hotel, Kalutara	Lawyers	75
115	Horana	2022/12/10,11	Avani Hotel, Kalutara	Lawyers	75
116	Polonnaruwa	2022/10/01	Polonnaruwa Primary Hospital	Government officials	100
117	Pottuvil	2022/11/24	District Secretary Office Kalutara	Government officials	60
118	Pottuvil	2022/12/14	Probation Office	Government officials	60
119	Valachchenai	2022/12/08	Probation Office	Government officials	70
120	Valachchenai	2022/12/09	Probation Office	Government officials	100

121	Kaduwela	2022/10/20	Mass Intimo Institute	Office workers	100
122	Kaduwela	2022/12/15	Mass Intimo Institute	Office workers	100
123	Kaduwela	2022/12/16	Mass Intimo Institute	Office workers	100
124	Jaffna	2022/12/10	University of Jaffna	University students	75
125	Kilinochchi	2022/10/13	Punagari Kirinch	The public	75
126	Kilinochchi	2022/11/08	Punagari Kirinch	The public	100
127	Kilinochchi	2022/11/09	Punagari Kirinch	The public	75
128	Kilinochchi	2022/12/05	Punagari Kirinch	The public	60
129	Kilinochchi	2022/12/08	Punagari Kirinch	The public	75
130	Kilinochchi	2022/12/29	Jayapuram	Field officers	100
131	Headquarters	2022/10/03	Kanta Committee Officers	Women's Committee	75
132	Headquarters	2022/10/20	UNDP Institute	meeting	30
133	Headquarters	2022/10/25	APPIT Institute	meeting	30
134	Headquarters	2022/10/21	District Secretary Office Narahenpita	Women's committee meeting	75
135	Headquarters	2022/11/23	District Secretary Office Narahenpita	Women's committee meeting	75
136	Headquarters	2022/12/16	District Secretary Office Narahenpita	Women's committee meeting	75
137	Headquarters	2022/11/15/	Ramada Hotel	UN Women Programme	100

Development and Management Division

2. Development and Management Division

2.1. Recruitment Procedure of Legal Aid Commission

In the year 2019, the Department of Management Services approved the recruitment procedure of the Legal Aid Commission. Accordingly, the program of restructuring the Legal Aid Commission was implemented.

2.2 Infrastructure

2.2.1 Office equipment

Necessary arrangements have been made to provide new office equipment with the intention of developing the infrastructure of regional centers.

No.	Type	Centre
1	Law books	For all centers
2	Furniture and office equipment	Point Pedro, Badulla, Matara, Panadura, Embilipitiya, Wariyapola, Kuliapitiya, Jaffna, Kadawatha, Dambulla, Theldeniya, Higurakgoda, Borella, Hettipola,
3	Computer accessories and copiers	Kandy, Mawanella, Kalutara, Colombo Head Office, Ratnapura, Welimada, Monaragala, Ampara, Deiyandara, Matara, Mount Lavinia, Kaduwela, Trincomalee, Point Pedro, Chawakachicheri, Borella, Minuwangoda, Panadura, Pugoda, Nugegoda, Matugama, Gampaha, Kalutara, Attanagalla, Tissamaharamaya, Wattala, Kalmunai

2.2.2 Building renovation

The floor of Puttalam center was cemented. The ceiling in the center of Hettipola has been restored.

2.2.2.1 Building renovation works - 2022

No.	Project	Consultant	Cost incurred as on 31.12.2022 (Rs.)
1	Refurbishment of ceiling at Hettipola Centre	Technical Officer, Hettipola Court	204,600
2	Renovation of Puttalam center by laying cement on the floor	Technical Officer, Puttalam Court	3,490,350
3	Floor tiling in Balangoda center	Technical Officer, Balangoda Court	1,675,40

2.3. Establishment of new legal aid centers

Teldeniya Legal Aid Center was established as the 85th Legal Aid Center in January 2022.

2.4 Monitoring of regional centers

In the year 2021, assistant/deputy directors were appointed for all provinces and it was possible to monitor regional constitutions more easily and efficiently compared to previous years. Accordingly, it was possible to maintain and supervise the Regional Offices at a positive level despite the limited resources available in the face of the Covid-19 epidemic situation, economic and political crises.

2.5 Staff Training.

Participation of Officers in Training Courses - 2022

No.	Date	Training Programme	Officer's Name
1	2022.08.24 & 25	Accounting role and practical use	Kumari Kularatne, Accounts Officer
2	2022.09.29	Audit under Damages Money Regulation 104	Dhulika Senani, Managment Assistant
3	2022.10.12	Filing	Samantha Perera, Managment Assistant
4	2022.09.28	Role and Responsibilities of Duty Officer of Leave Officer	Rasika Darshani, Managment Assistant

To conduct a training program for all legal officers through the UNDP program. Conducting training programs for 25 legal officers related to environmental law by Environmental Justice Center.

2.6 New Enrollment.

The new recruitments made by the Legal Aid Commission in the year 2022 are as follows.

No.	Designation	Officer Nos.
1	Legal Officers	03
2	Posting of Development Officers	08
3	Management Asst	0
4	Office work assistant	0
5	Posting of multi-tasking assistants	01
Total		12

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

2.1 Management Activities

2.2 Financial Activities

2.1 Management Activities

2.1.1 Infrastructure

2.1.1.1 Office Equipment

Several essential office equipment was purchased during the year 2022. Repairs and maintenance of computers, photocopy machines etc. in the Head Office and regional centers were carried out as usual.

No.	Centre	Description	Total Cost
1	Matara	Furniture	45,585.00
2	Jaffna	Finger Print Machine	14,850.00
3	Badulla	Furniture	113,900.00
4	Deyyandara	Monitor	28,500.00
5	Theldeniya	Board	23,800.00
6	Borella	Chairs	6,980.00
7	Head Office	Printer	2,003,400.00
8	Head Office	S.T.C.	187,920.00
9	Hettipola	Table	16,700.00
10	Theldeniya	Monitor	30,000.00
11	Kalmunai	Monitor	16,500.00
13	Hingurakgoda	Furniture	60,500.00
14	Kadawatha	Furniture	383,192.50
15	Mawanella	Printer	33,500.50
16	Dambulla	Furniture	163,889.25
17	Matara	Office Cupboard	57,599.00
18	Wariyapola	Office Cupboard	28,200
19	Kuliyapitiya	Office Cupboard	45,000.00

2.1.1.2.1. Building Renovating 2022

No.	Project	Initiated Date	Total Cost (Rs.)	Allocations for 2022	Expenses for 2022
1	Balangoda	2021.06.08	367,540.00	Rs.951,490.00	367,540.00
2	Hettipola	2022.12.05	204,600.00		204,600.00
3	Puttalam	2022.11.10	349,350.00		349,350.00

2.2. Financial Activities

2.2.1. Financial Statement - 2022

2.2.1 (A) Statement of Financial Position as at 31st December 2022

Item	Note	As at 31.12.2022 (Rs.)	As at 31.12.2021 (Rs.)
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Fixed assets	2	55,878,989.46	53,962,959.38
Current assets			
Shares			
Prepaid and Debtors	9	3,460,788.96	6,645,357.93
Fixed deposits	10	7,447,774.72	7,080,452.23
Bank balance	10	0	1,882,325.78
Total Assets		<u>66,787,553.14</u>	<u>69,571,095.32</u>
Rights and Liabilities represented			
Accumulated Fund	3	(82,174,743.29)	(68,282,549.84)
Settlement of expenses		58,326,894.70	51,655,282.62
Revenue reserve		5,800,252.11	5,086,415.52
Non-Current Liabilities	5	82,528,824.10	78,881,740.62
Current Liabilities			
Accrued expenses	4	2,306,052.52	2,220,206.40
Overall shares and liabilities		<u>66,787,553.14</u>	<u>69,571,095.32</u>

2.2.2. Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka- Legal Aid Fund

2.2.2 (A) Cash Flow Statement for the year ended from 31st December 2022

Item	2021 (Rs.)	2021 (Rs.)
Net income on expenditure	(13,906,980.42)	(15,754,041.55)
Adjustments	14,787.15	26,855.00
Depreciation	13,029,426.96	11,219,689.55
Gratuity Provision	8,031,095.98	9,101,816.49
Interest income	(3,736,472.14)	(3,454,679.51)
Cash flow from operations	<u>3,431,857.53</u>	<u>1,139,639.98</u>
Variation of Working capital		
Increase/decrease on current assets	3,184,569	(3,121,731.65)
Increasing accrued expenses	85,846.12	(5,653,249.81)
Payment of gratuity	(4,384,012.50)	(1,221,292.00)
Net cash flow from operations	<u>(1,113,597)</u>	<u>(9,996,273.46)</u>
Cash flow from investment activities		
Purchasing of furniture	(945,345.75)	(1,166,556.12)
Purchasing of office equipment	(3,058.500)	(252,695.88)
Purchasing of computers	(3,112.800)	(234,680.00)
Purchasing of books	(4,383,871)	(7,660.00)
Increases for buildings		(952,441.22)
Transfer of fixed deposits		(500,000.00)
Net cash flow from investment activities	<u>(11,500,566.49)</u>	<u>(3,114,033.22)</u>
Cash flow from financial activities		
Capital Allowances Receipts	7,300,000	7,163,728.84
The increase or decrease of cash equivalents in the year	(1,882,306)	(4,806,937.86)
Cash or cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,882,306	6,689,243.86
Cash or cash equivalents at the end of the year	=	<u>1,882,306.00</u>

2.2.2 (B) Statement of Change in Equity as at 31st December 2021

Item	General Reserve	Capital	Accumulated Earnings	Total
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year			(61,518,527.00)	(61,518,527.00)
Adjustments in the Year			26,855.00	26,855.00
Capital Grants		7,163,728.84		
Recovery of fixed assets purchases		(7,115,361.44)		
Balance of capital fund		48,367.40		48,367.40
Accumulated adjustment of fixed asset purchases			8,913,061.60	8,913,062
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year				(15,754,041.55)
Profit/Loss brought forward 31.12.2021				(68,284,284)

2.2.2 (C) Statement of Change in Equity as at 31st December 2022

Item	General Reserve	Capital	Accumulated Earnings	Total
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year	-	-	(68,282,549.84)	(68,282,549.84)
Balance at the beginning	-	-	-	-
Adjustments in the Year	-	-	14,787.15	14,787.15
Capital Grants	-	7,300,000.00	-	-
Recovery of fixed assets purchases	-	7,300,000.00	-	-
Balance of capital fund	-	-	(2,830,521.21)	(2,830,521.21)
Accumulated adjustment of fixed asset purchases	-	-	47,227,983.15	47,227,983.15
Profit/Loss for the Financial Year	-	-	-	(13,906,980)
Profit/Loss brought forward 31.12.2021	-	-	-	(82,174,743)

2.2.2 (D) Total Income Statement for the year ended from 31st December 2022

Item	Notes	As at 31.12.2022 (Rs.)	As at 31.12.2021 (Rs.)
Government Imprest receipts, Case registration etc.	6	282,490,537.39	253,006,942.99
Administration Expenses	7	296,361,017.81	268,730,784.54
		(13,870,480.42)	(15,723,842)
Activity Excess or (Deficit)		36,500.00	30,200.00
Financial expenses	8		
Net surplus or deficit for the year		(13,906,980.42)	<u>(15,754,042)</u>

2.2.2 (E) Notes on the Financial Statement of the Year Ended on 31st December 2022

Item	2021 (Rs.)	2021 (Rs.)
2. Fixed Assets		
Cost		
Balance brought forward	124,770,864.60	126,990,187.23
Additions during the year	12,889,566.49	7,430,760.37
Exclusions during the year	500,000.00	9,650,083.00
Final Balance	137,160,431.09	124,770,864.60
Provision for depreciation	70,807,905.22	67,338,298.67
Balance brought forward	13,029,426.96	13,119,689.55
Depreciation for the year	2,360,000.00	9,650,083.00
Exclusions during the year		
Final Balance	81,281,441.77	70,807,905.22
Final balance of fixed assets	137,160,431.09	124,770,864.60
	81,281,441.77	70,807,905.22
Accumulated depreciation	55,878,989.32	53,962,959.38
Net assets value		

	2022	2021
3. Accumulated Fund		
Balance brought forward		
Equity and Capital	(68,282,549.84)	(61,518,527.07)
Prior year adjustments	14,787.15	8,941,651.38
Income retained		
Receipt of capital funds during the year	(68,267,762.69)	(52,576,875.69)
Excess or deficiency during the year	(13,906,980.42)	48,367.40
		(15,754,041.55)
	(82,174,743.11)	<u>(68,282,549.84)</u>

2.2.2 (F) Notes for the Financial Statement of the year ending on 31st December 2021.

Description	2022 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)
4. Accrued Expenditure		
Payable Salaries	(0.94)	(0.54)
Payable Employees' Provident Funds	96,342.19	358.24
Payable Employees' Trust Funds	3,612.08	
Payable Audit Fees	365,000.00	313,000.00
Payable Other or Miscellaneous Expenditure	963,059.94	644,280.39
Temporary Salaries		1,014,309.59
Fees payable regarding programmes	676,353.34	
Printing of Annual Reports		197,560.00
Payment of payable Cost of Living Allowances	21,605.00	(3,375.00)
Payable Honorary Allowances	525.00	
Payable Insurance Claims	929.24	22,579.24
Fees payable to the Staff	178,626	3,210.38
	2,306,052.52	2,191,922.30

2.2.2 (G) Notes for the Financial Statement of the year ending on 31st December 2022.

Description	2021 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)
9. Pre-payments and Debtors		
	30.65	10.83
Advances for the reconstruction of buildings	1,217,630.66	5,080,011.40
Imprest	77,145.00	30,029.33
Deposits	290,500.00	287,000.00
Debtors (For Floods)	982,608.93	1,139,725.37
Payments of debtors	-	-
	-	-
Insurance payments		
Payment of the rent for the stores rooms Pre-payment of the balance of Programmes	892,873.72	108,572.05
	<u>3,460,788.96</u>	<u>6,645,357.93</u>

	2022 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)
10. Cash and cash equivalent		
Cash Balance	- 7,447,774.72	1,882,325.78 7,080,452.23
Fixed deposit	<u>7,447,774.72</u>	<u>8,962,778.01</u>

2.2.2 (H) Receipts for the Legal Aid Fund from the year 2017 to 2022 (Recurrent)

Description	2017 (Rs)	2018 (Rs)	2019 (Rs)	2020 (Ts)	2021 (Rs)	2022 (Rs)
Recurrent Fund	193,925,423	198,975,000	220,000,000	225,400,000	249,000,000	282,490,537.39
Other Grants	321,718	2,903,214	2,409,400	12,239,179.7		3,252,192.41
Registration fees	549,200	510,600	596,400	468,000.00	359,750.00	294,600.00
Course fees of Apprentice Lawyers	1,163,000	878,000	798,000	100,000.00		1,208,000.00
Presidential Fund	-	-	140,500	-		500,000.00
Supplementary Legal Aid Course Fees	-	-	-	-		410,000
Interest revenue	316,396	405,188	750,263	816,762.91	68,273.09	767,311.54
Miscellaneous revenue	-	-	-	37,393.10	3,491,346.90	3,252,192.41
Selling books	105,410	4,270	200	400.00	100.00	-
Library Revenue	274,172	298,655	304,033	164,139.00	87,473.00	270,743.00
Total	196,655,319	205,195,697	226,198,895	250,314,686	253,006,943	282,490,537.39

2.2.2 (I) Statement of Expenditure- From 2017 to 2022

Description	2017 (Rs.)	2018 (Rs.)	2019 (Rs.)	2020 (Rs.)	2021 (Rs.)	2016 (Rs.)
Salaries	172,802,472	168,489,215	200,700,727	214,670,169	235,052,875	149,738,011
Payments for Board of Lawyers	7,106,874	8,359,574	6,661,616	3,704,941	2,856,775	5,846,335
Telephone	4,266,397	4,117,343	3,975,290	3,280,405	3,477,368	4,709,898.26
Electricity	1,278,647	1,470,149	1,528,048	1,086,187	1,092,823	1,142,808.46
Water	1,769,178	1,567,468	1,676,938	1,644,956	1,842,822	3,257,028.63
Stationery	769,296	734,728	903,914	805,352	928,582	1,209,006.76
Printing	5,109,879	2,686,825	3,049,897	2,597,284	2,861,521	1,936,034.50
Postal charges	1,034,000	1,820,917	1,898,875	1,414,500	1,394,875	1,593,740.00
Maintenance and repair	631,544	679,018	685,793	359,552	-	715,419.00
Rent	-	-	-	-	320,342	-
Batta and Transport Expenses	9,756,142	6,284,911	8,267,711	471,339	163,214	-
Foreign Travelling Expenses	197,215	278,001	369,517	197,478	488,965	16,589,603.65
Program Expenditure	1,380,686	1,335,222	928,069	380,640	1,466,321	-
Fuel for vehicles	1,008,500	-	1,266,811	1,169,989	23,820	467,610.00
Vehicle insurance and repair	89,727	474,859	69,108	61,491	351,189	-
Medical Insurance of the staff	34,500	117,645	95,979	129,411	-	1,404,405.00
Lawyer Fees	274,287	216,412	201,572	336,526	242,357	-
Propaganda Expenditure	168,119	93,267	69,000	54,000	-	457,474.20
Employee Welfare	24,663	-	-	-	-	4,059,579.00
Training Expenditure for the staff	9,538	59,665	40,100	9,538	-	-
Professional Charges	15,050	31,550	7,375	67,980	9,639	-
Assessment Account	186,747	-	16,150	12,250	-	-
Translation fees	58,880	79,679	186,562	-	-	-
Account Meeting Expenditure	718,357	2,283,232	2,966,203	2,256,015	33,344	66,193.54
Library Expenditure	200,468	-	332,147	262,855	-	490.00
Miscellaneous Expenditure	-	-	47,516	12,495	2,398,897	-
Sanitary Expenditure	55,570	73,411	-	-	30,200	42,060.95
Observation and opening of centers	-	9,929,381	50,761	-29,500	-	-
Annual Report Expenditure Bank Fees	3,952,310	6,615,843	14,589,142	15,275,416	9,101,816	36,500.00
Provisions Gratuity Depreciation	7,092,145	200,000	10,496,940	9,992,209	11,219,690	8,031,095.98
Audit Fees	125,000	219,034,366	500,000	500,000	500,000	-
Total	220,193,634	219,034,366	261,617,435	271,608,285	268,730,785	296,885,291.36

Recurrent Receipts and Expenditure for the Legal Aid Fund from 2017 to 2022

Description	2017 (Rs)	2018 (Rs)	2019 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)	2022 (Rs)
Receipts	196,655,319	204,472,427	220,000,000	225,400,000	249,000.000	275,787,690.44
Expenditure	220,193,634	219,034,366	261,617,435	271,637,785	248,409.279	296,885,291.00

Capital Fund from 2017 to 2022

Description	2017 (Rs)	2018 (Rs)	2019 (Rs)	2020 (Rs)	2021 (Rs)	2022 (Rs)
Recurrent Receipts	11,500,000	18,092,806	13,000,000	8,000,000	7,163,728	7,300,000
Recurrent Expenditure	11,800,000	15,079,607	10,566,858	8,800,000	7,115.361	7,838,185.75

AUDIT REPORT

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

The Chairman
Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements and Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31 December 2022 in terms of the Section 12 of the National Audit Act No: 19 of 2018

The said report is submitted herewith.

Sgd./ W.P.C.Wickramarathna
Auditor General

Copies: (1) Secretary - Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization & National Policies
(2) Secretary - Ministry of Ministry of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

The Chairman,
Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements and Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31 December 2022 in terms of the 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 Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31 December 2022 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2022 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended and the notes in relation with the financial statements, including 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 the provisions in the Finance Act No. 38 of 1971. My report in terms of the Article 154(6) of the Constitution will be tabled in the House of Parliament in due course.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in Basis for Qualified Opinion of this report, the financial statements prepared give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Commission as at 31 December 2022 and its financial performance and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standards.

1.2 Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

- (a) The Commission did not use the financial position statement form mentioned in Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 01 in preparing the financial position statement.
- (b) According to the format of the statement of mass change mentioned in Sectoral Accounting Standard No. 01 to the State of Sri Lanka, the excess on the property inventory should be shown separately, but in the year 2012, the value of Rs.1,550,000, which is the surplus of the inventory of 03 vehicles, was not shown in the inventory.
- (c) Although the residual value and useful life of an asset should be reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period in accordance with Section 65 of Sri Lanka Government Sectoral Accounting Standard No. 07, the commission's fully depreciated assets worth Rs. 31,822,859 on December 31, 2021 had not been reviewed. Accordingly, the estimated error had not been rectified according to Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 03.
- (d) According to paragraph 47 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 07, property, plant and equipment items that have only insignificant changes in fair value should be recalculated every three to five classes. The commission has not done the inventory of other property, equipment and equipment worth Rs. 92,137,572 except motor vehicles on 31st December 2022 in the last 5 years.
- (e) According to Section 49 of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 07, when accounting for an item of property, plant and equipment, the class of property, plant and equipment to which the asset belongs must be fully accounted for, but only 03 motor vehicles with a value of Rs.1,220,000 for a value of Rs.1,550,000 02 vehicles costing Rs. 950,000 had not been audited.
- (f) According to paragraph 44 of Sri Lanka Public Accounting Standards No. 11, the grants made by the government should be recognized as assets and liabilities, but the

grant receipts of Rs. 7,300,000 were not recognized in accordance with this accounting standard.

- (g) Pursuant to paragraph 80 (d) of Sri Lanka Public Sector Accounting Standard No. 01, the liabilities to be settled within 12 months from the reporting date should be recognized as current liabilities, but the Commission has recognized the total value related to gratuity allocations of Rs. 82,528,824 had been identified as non-current liabilities only.
- (h) The fixed deposit interest income receivable was not stated under current assets in the financial statements, and according to the calculations of the audit, the fixed deposit interest income and interest income related to the year were Rs. 533,292 and Rs. 357,079, respectively, which is Rs. 767,312 and Rs. 399,989, the interest income of the year is Rs. 234,020 more and the interest income receivable was Rs.42,910 more.
- (i) Schedules or other documents were not submitted for audit confirming the balances related to the assets of Rs. 15,619,085 computers, office equipment and furniture and books of Rs. 36,950 before 2014 included in the fixed assets mentioned in the financial status statement.

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 Other information included in Annual Report-2022 of the Commission

Other information means the information that is included in the 2020 Annual Report of the Authority which was obtained by me before the date of this Audit report, but is not included in the financial statements and my audit report regarding it. The management is responsible for this other information.

Other information is not disclosed through my opinion on financial statements and, I do not express any assurance or opinion on that.

In relation to my audit of financial statements, it is my responsibility to read the other information identified above when available and, to consider whether other information in accordance with my knowledge obtained with the financial statements or in the audit or otherwise, is quantitatively inconsistent.

Based on the other information obtained by me and tasks performed by me before the date of this audit report, if it is concluded by me that it contains quantitative errors, those matters should be communicated to the governing parties for correction. I have nothing to report in this relation

1.4 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Commission'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 Commission or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

As per Section 16 (1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Commission 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.

1.5. Auditor's Responsibility in Auditing 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.
- Obtained 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 the internal control.
- Evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Concluded 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 Commission'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. However, future events or conditions may cause to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluated the 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.

I would inform the ruling parties about significant audit findings, key internal controlling weaknesses and other matters identified during my audit.

2. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

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

2.1.1 I have obtained all the information and explanation that were required for the Audit, and as it is disclosed by my audit, proper accounting records have been kept by the authority, as per the requirements of Section 12 (a) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.1.2 The financial statements presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirements of Section 6 (i) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.1.3 The financial statements presented includes all the recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirements of Section 6 (i) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.2 Based on the procedures performed and evidence obtained were limited to matters that were material nothing has come to my attention to make the following statements.

2.2.1 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 cause of business as per the requirements of Section 12 (d) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.2.2 that the Authority has not compiled any applicable written law, general and special directions issued by the governing body of the authority , as per the requirements of Section 12(f) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018, except for following observations.

Reference to Laws/Direction

Observation

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Section 40 (1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018 | An internal audit had not been done for the year 2022 of the Commission, and the Ministry of Justice had done the internal audit. |
| (b) Section 11 of the Finance Act No. 38 of 1971 | The relevant approvals had not been taken for the fixed deposits of Rs. 7,447,775 invested in state banks. |
| (c) Code of Currency Regulations of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Currency Regulations 395 | Bank reconciliation statements were prepared by the officer who maintains the cash book against the cash regulations. |
| (d) State Monetary Circular No. 01/2020 dated 18 August 2020 9.1 (b) | Even though the staff officer who receives an ad hoc interim agreement should settle the ad hoc interim agreement as soon as the work is completed, it took 29 days to 06 months to settle the advances worth Rs.815,225 given on 21 occasions. |
| (e) Section 6.6 of State Business Circular No. 01/2021 dated 16 November 2021 | According to the circular, the 2021 annual report was not tabled in the parliament. |
| (f) Public Business Circular No. 01/2021 dated 16 November 2021 (Guidelines on Public Business)
i. Paragraph No. 03 of Schedule 1 of Act No. 2.3
ii. Paragraph No. 01 of Schedule 1 of Paragraph No. 2.3 | The budget was not prepared as per the guidelines.
The Commission had not prepared a strategic plan as per the guidelines. |
| (g) State Currency Circular No. 01/2020 dated 28 August 2020 and Currency Regulations 315(1) 880 | In accordance with the Bail Ordinance, no arrangements had been made to obtain bail from the officers who were required to post bail. |

2.2.3 That actions have been taken in a way that is not complied with the powers, duties and functions of the Authority, as per the requirements of Section 12(g) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018

2.2.4. That the resources of the Authority have not been procured and utilized sparingly, efficiently and effectively in a timely manner in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, as per the requirements of Section 12(h) of the National Audit Act No.19 of 2018.

2.3 Other Facts

- (a) According to Section 4.2.2 of the Procurement Guidelines, a procurement schedule showing the steps of each procurement process should be prepared by the procurement agency, but the agency did not prepare a procurement schedule.
- (b) According to the Commission's 2022 draft annual report, the number of cases brought forward for providing legal aid on January 01, 2022 was 38,099. From January to December 2022, the number of newly filed cases was 11,380, making the total number of cases to be dealt with during that period 49,470. Of these, 10,740 cases had been settled by December 31, and 38,739 cases were to be settled on that day. It was 78 percent of the total number of cases to be served.
- (c) An officer who worked in the commission had gone abroad for 5 years but had not reported back to work. Due to the violation of the terms of the agreement, although the officer should have taken steps to recover the amount due according to the agreement, although a period of 5 years has passed, an amount of Rs. 220,251 has not been recovered.
- (d) Although advances of Rs.1,217,830 were given to the contractors for the repair of buildings in the constituencies of Kalutara, Bibila and Negombo, although between 01 and 04 years had passed since the advance was given, the commission had not taken steps to recover this advance.
- (e) A budget document was prepared to show the total expenditure of the return year and an amount of Rs. 22,352,376 was spent on the 23 expenditure items included in the expenditure, but the expenditure was not estimated by the budget document.
- (f) There were vacancies for the three main posts of Director General, Director (Legal) and Director (Administration and Finance) as on 31st December 2022, and 29 vacancies as on 31st December 2022 for the post of Legal Officer belonging to the "Management" service category.

Telephone Numbers of Regional Centers of Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka

1	Head Office	0112433618	43	Mahawa	0372275075
2	Akkaraipattu	0672279462	44	Mannar	0232222045
3	Ampara	0632223496	45	Marawila	0322254443
4	Anuradhapura	0252224465	46	Matale	0662224828
5	Aththanagalla	0332297020	47	Matara	0412233815
6	Avissawella	0362233857	48	Matugama	0342249262
7	Baddegama	0912292051	49	Mawanella	0352247272
8	Badulla	0552225759	50	Minuwangoda	0112297790
9	Balangoda	0452289099	51	Monaragala	0552276891
10	Balapitiya	0912255753	52	Mullaitivu	0212290077
11	Bandarawela	0572224733	53	Mutur	0262238777
12	Battaramulla	0112877687	54	Nawalapitiya	0542224227
13	Batticaloa	0652225399	55	Negombo	0313321476
14	Chavakachcheri	0212270882	56	Nikaweratiya	0372260203
15	Chilaw	0322222175	57	Nugegoda	0112809068
16	Dambulla	0662284551	58	Nuwara Eliya	0522235260
17	Deiyandara	0412268077	59	Panadura	0382244822
18	Deniyaya	0412271128	60	Pugoda	0112405333
19	Embilipitiya	0472230299	61	Point Pedro	0212260212
20	Galgamuwa	0372253290	62	Polgahawela	0372243039
21	Galle	0912226124	63	Polonnaruwa	0272226572
22	Gampaha	0332248804	64	Pottuvil	0632248485
23	Hambantota	0472221092	65	Rathnapura	0452226899
24	Hatton	0512222390	66	Thabuththegama	0252276259
25	Hingurakgoda	0272245521	67	Tangalle	0472240122
26	Homagama	0112748813	68	Tissamaharama	0472239611
27	Horana	0342265244	69	Trincomalee	0262226328
28	Jaffna	0212224545	70	Valaichchenai	0652258349
29	Kadawatha	0112922440	71	Vavuniya	0242221863
30	Kaduwela	0112548150	72	Walasmulla	0472245566
31	Kalmunei	0672223710	73	Warakapola	0372277075
32	Kalutara	0342222017	74	Wariyapola	037268199
33	Kandy	0812388978	75	Welimada	0572244860
34	Kantale	0262234521	76	Wellawaya	0552274466
35	Kebithigollewa	0252298101	77	Mallakam	0212059170
36	Kegalle	0352231790	78	Puttalam	0322266636
37	Kekirawa	0252263536	79	Borella	0112698003
38	Kilinochchi	0212285618	80	Dehiaththakandiya	0272250700
39	Kuliyapitiya	0372284611	81	Siyambalanduwa	0552279250
40	Kurunegala	0372229641	82	Galagedara	0812061025
41	Mt. Lavinia	0112718708	83	Wattala	0112935907
42	Mahiyangana	0552258332	84	Hettipola	0372291915
			85	Theldeniya	0812054470