

Performance Report - 2nd Quarter
April to June 2016

Introduction

The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka was established by Act No. 21 of 1996. Appointments of the Chairperson and 4 Commissioners are made in compliance with the 19th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution.

The Commission functions with 159 staff members. The Commission has four (4) divisions namely Inquiries and Investigations, Education & Special Programmes, Research & Monitoring and Administration and Finance, and 10 Regional Offices located in Ampara, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kalmunai, Kandy, Matara, Trincomalee and Vavuniya to carry out its functions. The Chairperson and /or a Commissioner/ Commissioners supervise each Division and Regional Offices.

Main Activities during the Quarter

- A. To strengthen the institutional mechanism of the Commission a policy on capacity development of staff of HRCSL and a HRCSL policy on information technology were introduced.
- B. New formats and guidelines were introduced to accept and conduct inquiries into complaints.
- C. The Commission also facilitated the work of the Consultation Task Force on Reconciliation Mechanisms by appointing a focal point at the Commission to look into complaints regarding threats and harassment of those participating in the consultation process.
- D. The Commission printed booklets on the mandate and functions of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka with the support of UN funding.

Recommendations to the Government

- The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka presented its proposals for Constitutional Reforms to the Hon. Prime Minister, Hon. Speaker and to the Public Representation Committee on Constitutional Reforms.
- The Human Rights Commission issued directives on arrest and detention of persons arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act No. 48 of 1979.

Public Statements

The Human Rights Commission welcomed the Directives issued by His Excellency President on arrest and detention of persons under Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 48 of 1979 by a public statement.

Press Conference

A press conference was conducted on 29.06.2016 to brief on Anti-Torture Campaign of the Commission to commemorate International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

Summary of Complaints

Head Office

No. of Complaints Received			1035
No. of Complaints within the mandate of HRCSL			882
No. of Complaints not within the mandate of HRC (Cannot Proceed)			371
Complaints pending for more information			231
Categorization of the concluded cases	No of Concluded Cases – those registered in 2106	No of Concluded Cases – those registered before 2016	Total
No FR Violation	-	09	09
Not Interested	01	04	05
Recommendation	01	06	07
Settlement	03	03	06
Relief Granted	01	05	06
Withdrawn	03	27	30
Refer to other Authorities	-	20	20
Directives given	01	01	02
Pending Court Cases	02	03	05
Not within mandate	01	07	08
Total	13	85	98

Regional Offices

Description	Ampara	Anuradhapura	Badulla	Batticaloa	Jaffna	Kalmunai	Kandy	Matara	Trincomalee	Vavuniya
No. of Complaints received	42	181	74	76	86	70	193	162	49	91
No. of Complaints within the mandate	38	171	51	74	84	70	163	145	44	75
No. of Complaints not within the mandate	4	10	23	2	2		30	17	5	16
No. of Complaints settled	38	17	4	32	83	68	141	200	27	73

No. of Complaints refer to Head office for recommendations	4	10	0	2	7	4	13	11	0	-
Number of clients to get our advice	220	2	81	81	86	79	409	272	6	347

Summary of Visits to places of Detention

Head Office	No. of Visits to Police Stations	No. of Visits to Prisons	No. of Visits to Terrorist Investigation Division	No. of Visits to other
	55	02	03	12 – Children’s Homes

Description	Ampara	Anuradhapura	Badulla	Batticaloa	Jaffna	Kalmunai	Kandy	Matara	Trincomalee	Vavuniya
Police Station Visits	36	75	36	36	49	24	47	135	25	59
Prisons Visits	-	01	-	05	-	-	-	01	-	02
TID Visits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	04	-	04
Child Care Homes Visits	-	-	04	01	-	04	01	-	02	-
Elders Home visits	-	01	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rehabilitation Centres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	01

Fact Finding Missions

08.05.2016	On garbage and environmental pollution issue in Ambuluwawa, Kandy
24.05.2016	On flood affected persons in Karuwalagaswewa area

Research and Monitoring Activities

Date	Activity
01.04.2016	Field Visit to Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Negombo
20/21.04.2016	Monitored bad weather/flood situation and relief programmes in Gampaha and Colombo Districts.
May 2016	Victims of landslide in Aranayake and Meeriyabedda.
06.05.2016 to 05.06.2016	Conducted multidisciplinary Study of Children deprived of Liberty after making visits to 12 Children’s Homes island wide
20/21.05.2016	Monitored bad weather/flood situation and relief programmes in Gampaha and Colombo Districts.

20.06.2016	Surprise visit to Mirihana National Holding Centre
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Meetings (Internal)

Meetings	April	May	June
Board Meetings	25 th	16 th	20 th
Commissioners Meeting	04 th	09 th	13 th
Meeting with Regional Co-ordinators		30 th	
Staff Meetings	08 th	20 th	
Senior Managers Meetings	05 th	24 th	22 th
Audit & Management Committee Meetings	08 th		

Meetings held with External Stakeholders

Date	Meetings with ;
05.04.2016	H E Ambassador of Switzerland
06.04.2016	Special Co-ordinator for the Office of Global Criminal Justice
07.04.2016	Discussion on Evaluation of the Implementation of the National Action Plan on the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Strengthening the implementation of the Act
26.04.2016	High Commissioner of Canada
27.04.2016	Deputy Ambassador of Germany
02.05.2016	The UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges & Lawyers and the Special Rapporteur on Torture & other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment of Punishment.
03.05.2016	H E Ambassador of Japan
04.05.2016	Consultation Task Force on reconciliation mechanisms
04.05.2016	Engage in dialogue with Participants of the German Federal Foreign Office Human Rights seminar in Colombo
06.05.2016	His Excellency the President
09.05.2016	The debriefing meeting on Office of Missing Persons at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
10.05.2016	H E High Commissioner of Australia
13.05.2016	Special Task Force for Prevention of Gender Based Violence- University of Kelaniya
17.05.2016	Preparation of an action plan on how we work together – Right to Life
24.05.2016	Head, Human Rights Unit of the Commonwealth Secretariat
24.05.2016	Development of the Strategic Action Plan on Legal Aid – Min. of Justice
24.05.2016	Meeting at the Min of Foreign Affairs to discuss the Preliminary observations of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
30.05.2016	Prof .Chris Sidoti - Consultant Asia Pacific Forum, Australia

06.06.2016	Meeting with Interns
08.06.2016	Representatives of the UN
14.06.2016	Panel discussion organised by the Economic, Social & Cultural Rights Programme of Law and Society Trust on the right to information
20.06.2016	Open Government Partnership at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
16.06.2016	Refugee Advocacy meeting
21.06.2016	Close door round table discussion on GSP + organized by the European chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka and Democracy Reporting International
27.06.2016	Right to Life – Commemorating International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
28.06.2016	Workshop on police modernisation organized by the National Police Commission in collaboration with the Ministry of Law and Order

Media Programmes

Date	HRCSL Programme	TV / Radio Programme & Paper Article	Channel/ Paper	HRCSL Participation
24.04.2016		Interview on Independent Commissions	Ravaya	Dr. Deepika Udagama Chairperson
29.06.2016	Commemoration of International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	Ayubowan Suba Dawasak	Rupavahini	Dr. Deepika Udagama, Chairperson and Mr. Saliya Pieris, Commissioner
		News Line	News 1 st /MTV	Ms. Ambika Satkunanathan, Commissioner
		Pathikada	Sirasa	Dr. Deepika Udagama, Chairperson
		Radio Programme	SLBC	Ms. Ambika Satkunanathan, Commissioner

Foreign Seminars & Trainings

Name of the Participant	Nature of the Programme
Mr. M A N Chandrasiri, Acting Director (Research & Monitoring)	Asia Pacific Forum National Human Rights Institutions Communications Network Collaboration Workshop in Nepal from 26 – 28 April 2016
Mr. N L A Kalam, Investigating Officer	Asia Pacific Forum National Human Rights Institutions Blended Learning Course on Investigate allegations on Torture in Malaysia from 6 – 10 June 2016.

Mr. Saliya Pieris, Commissioner	World Congress on the Death Penalty in Norway from 21 – 23 June 2016.
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Capacity Building of Institution and Staff

Date	Program	Resource person
31.05.2016/ 01.06.2016	Commissioners, Senior Managers of the Head office and Regional Officers participated in the Strategic Planning workshop	Consultant from Asia Pacific Forum Prof. Chris Sidoti
11.05.2016	Special Lecture - Use of Aesthetics to Promote Human Rights Values	Mr. Chandraguptha Thenuwara-Head, Department of History and Theory of Arts, Uni. Of Visual and Performing Arts
26.05.2016	Four Investigation Officers participated in the training on international refugees protection organized by UNHCR	Experts identified by UNHCR

Special Programs

Date	Program	Activity
30 June 2016	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture on the theme “Stop Torture”.	Celebrated at independence square with a public march under the patronage of H E the President and the participation of the Hon. Minister of Law & Order. The event at Independence Square included a drama by students of the University of Kelaniya and speeches by torture victims and civil society activists. As a part of the celebration media programmes were also conducted.
06 June 2016	Internship program	To receive feedback from the interns on the learning they obtained from the programme and discussion on how the programme could be strengthened.

Education and awareness programs

Date	Nature of the program	Target group
04 April 2016	Minority rights workshop at HRCSL Head Office	Police Officers(OICs) of Western Province

29 & 30 May 2016	Residential Study conference on Human Rights, Nuwara Eliya	Parliamentarians
20 & 21 May 2016	Training program on Human Rights	Journalists in Kilinochchi and Jaffna districts

Number of Human Rights awareness programs conducted and lecture assistance provided by Regional offices

Ampara	07
Anuradapura	02
Badulla	-
Batticloa	13
Jaffna	04
Kandy	02
Kalmunai	09
Matara	01
Trincomalee	01
Vavuniya	-

Participation of the Officials of HRCSL Head Office as Resource Persons

Date	Target group	Topic	organizers
29.04.2016	Army personnel	Minority rights	Directorate of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Sri Lanka Army
26.05.2016	Army personnel	Human Rights /Historical development/International Human rights frame work	Directorate of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Sri Lanka Army
08.06.2016	Investigation officers of Postal management training college, Colombo	Human Rights and fundamental rights	Postal Management training College

Financial Report - (01.04.2016 - 30.06.2016)

Imprest Received from Treasury	
Recurrent	39,916,000.00
Capital	

Total	39,916,000.00
Expenditure	
PERSONNEL EMOLUMENTS	25,403,296.73
TRAVELING EXPENSES	94,368.50
SUPPLIES	1,057,648.88
MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE	779,503.41
SERVICES	8,606,750.72
TRANFERS	
REHAB. & IMPR. OF CAPITAL ASSETS	
ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSETS	
CAPACITY BUILDING	224,047.58
OTHER CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (Other Investments - HR Programs) 811,893.90	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	36,977,509.72