

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Lands, Irrigation and Fisheries

1. History and Background

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Lands, Irrigation and Fisheries presently carry out the functions and responsibilities defined under the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. After the de-merger of the North East Province presently this Ministry covers the entire Eastern Province. The policy adopted by the Ministry in respect of Agriculture Development, Livestock Development, Land Administration, and Irrigation and Fisheries Development falls within the frame work of the National Policy and the subject and functions assigned under List I, and List III of the 9th Schedule under the 13th Amendment to the Constitution.

The Ministry co-ordinates planning, implementation and monitoring of development programmes pertaining to the sub sectors of agriculture, livestock, irrigation and fisheries, with the objective of achieving agricultural growth in the Eastern Province (EP). The Ministry's task is to ensure that necessary services are provided to the farmers through the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Animal Production and Health, Land Administration and Irrigation.

In this context the planning capacity of the ministry is being strengthened through capacity building for preparation of appropriate work plans and installing of a monitoring and evaluation system. The provincial and district level planning system is being institutionalized through effective collaboration between the Ministry, Provincial Department and the following Central Ministries.

- Ministry of Agriculture Development and Agrarian Services.
- Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.
- Ministry of Irrigation and Water Management.
- Ministry of Land and Land Development.
- Ministry of Livestock Development.

The Ministry holds regular sectoral meetings with the provincial departments for effective co-ordination and monitoring of the progress of development activities. The ministry has built up good relationship with relevant line ministries, line departments, Govt. Agents/ District Secretaries, other relevant establishments of the Provincial Council and foreign funded projects, implemented in the Eastern Province.

1.1 Mission.

Create institutional arrangements to implement technically sound , economically viable and socially acceptable programmes to promote sustainable agricultural development with efficient utilization of resources in the Eastern Province.

1.2 Major Thrust Areas for Development -2007

1.2.1 Minor Irrigation

The minor irrigation provides major role for Agriculture sector. The paddy cultivation is to be extended through increasing the irrigation facilities to the farmer.

1.2.2 Inland Fisheries Activities

The inland fisheries activities provide better income and nutrition to the people in the rural areas by providing basic fishing equipment and creating awareness through training among the rural community.

1.2.3 Infrastructure Facilities

Basic infrastructure facilities are needed for the staff to motivate and smooth functioning of the administration of the ministry.

2. Human Resource

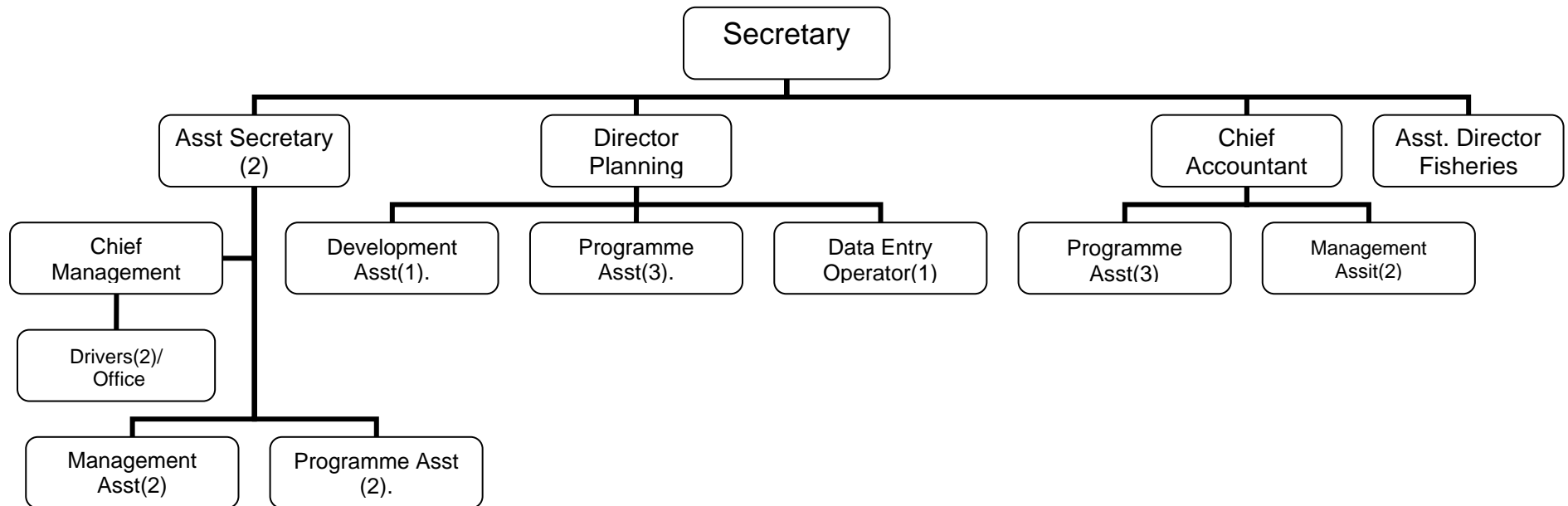
Service	Approved	Present Strength	Vacancies	Excess	Remarks
Secretary	1	1	0		
Assistant Secretary	1	2	0	1	
Director Planning	1	1	0		
Deputy Director Fisheries	1	0	1		
Assistant Director Planning	1	0	1		
Accountant	1	1	0		
Administrative Officer	1	0	1		
Development Assistant	1	1	0		
Provincial Aquaculture Development Officer	4	0	4		
Programme Assistant	11	9	2		
Management Assistant	10	9*+	1		
Management Assistant(Grade 3)-for fisheries)	4	0	4		
Data Entry Operator	1	0	1		
Translator	1	0	1		
Driver	4	3	1		
Driver(Fisheries)	1	0	1		
Office Employee	4	4			
Watcher	2	0	2		2-Relief
Sanitary Labour	1	0	1		1-Contract
Labour		4#		4	
Labour (Fisheries)	1	0	1		
Total	52	35	22	5	

* 2 Management Assistants has gone to foreign country on no pay leave

"+" 2 Management Assistants were Released to Projects

"+" 2 Labourers were released to Projects

3. Management Arrangement Char



4. General Administration

4.1. Appointments

Through these new appointments the shortage of Field officers has been overcome

Post	Number of Appointments	Through
Agriculture Instructors	13	An Examination Conducted By PPSC
Livestock Development Officers	13	An Examination Conducted By PPSC

4.2 Retirement

Name of the officer	Designation	Department
Mr. Gnansambanthan Varathakumar	Technical officer	Irrigation
Mrs. Valliyammi Ganeshanathan	Management Assistant	Irrigation
Mr. N. Nesarajah	Maintenance Labourer	Irrigation
Mr.N. Elalasingham	Maintenance Labourer	Irrigation
Mr. A.R. Illamsingham	Maintenance Labourer	Irrigation
Mr.S.Packyarajah	Irrigator	Irrigation
Mr.A.L.M. Careem	Colonization Officer	Land Administration
Mr.V. Paramasivam	Colonization Officer	Land Administration
Miss. Thilagamalar Ponnampalam	Management Assistant	Land Administration
Mr. V. Shanmugarajah	Colonization Officer	Land Administration
Santhikuamr	AI (Supra)	Agriculture

4.3 Re-Employment

The following officers were re-employed in their service in the year 2007

Name of officer	Designation	Department
Mr. W.B. Yattiwella	Assistant Director Agriculture	Agriculture
Mr. V. Thiagarajah	Agriculture Instructor	Agriculture
Mr. M. Raffeeek	Agriculture Instructor	Agriculture
Mr.P.Paramanantharasa	Agriculture Instructor	Agriculture
Mr. Mylvaganam	Agriculture Instructor	Agriculture
Mr. P. Kopalapillai	Livestock Development Officer	Animal Production and Health
Mr. K. Kaneshan	Technical Officer	Irrigation
Mr. P. Kanagaratnam	Management Assistant	Irrigation
Mr. M.S.I. Saiboo	Driver	Irrigation
Mr. N. Konamalai	Colonization Officer	Land Administration
Mr. S. Salihu	Colonization Officer	Land Administration

5. Management Organization Resource.

5.1 Land & Building

Institutions	Available Land	Square Occupied Sq.ft	Own Building Sq.ft/Nos	Rent Building Sq.ft/Nos	Additional Space Sq.ft	No. of other Quarters	Store Space
Ministry of Agriculture	20.55 purchases						

5.2 Vehicle

Institution	Car	Pick-up	Jeep	Three Wheeler	Lorry	Bicycle	Heavy Vehicle	Other
Ministry of Agriculture	1	2	-	1	-	2	-	-

5.3 Furniture

Institution	Table		Chairs		Almyrah		Available
	Available	Requirement	Available	Requirement	Available	Requirement	
Ministry of Agriculture	34	Computer Table-10	67	Rotating Chair-10	11		Filing Cabinet-17

5.4 Equipment & Machinery

Institution	Computer	Photo Copier	Printer/Roneo	Typewriter	Telephone	Fax	Generator	Any other
Ministry of Agriculture	11 Laptop-2	3	1	4	5	1	1	

6. Financial Performance.

6.1. Capital Expenditure

Source of Fund	Allocation	Expenditure	Percentage (%)
Criteria Base Grant (CBG)	21,421.00	21,418.99	99.99
Provincial Development Grant	3.5	3.5	100

6.2. Recurrent Expenditure.

Allocation (Rs)	Supplementary	Expenditure
11,383,000	435,000	11,189,241

7. Human Resource Development

7.1. Local Training

Skills through English for Public Servants (STEPS)

The following officers participated in the Skills through English for Public Servants (STEPS) training. It was organized by Performance Improvement Project (PIP) and conducted by British Council. The officers included to different bands according to the placement exams. This training helped the officers to improve their English Language Skill.

Details of officers participated in the STEPS Training Programme		
Name of officers	Designation	Band
S. Gajanthini	Programme Asst	3
N. Marino Annete	Programme Asst	3
P. Sathiyakala	Programme Asst	3
S. Prasanthi	Programme Asst	2
A. Ananthu	Programme Asst	2
S. Prasanthi	Management Asst	2
U. Nalini	Management Asst	2
Details of officers participated in the other training Programme		
Name of officers	Designation	Field & Conducted by
A.R.M. Mahrouf	Secretary	Workshop on performance Appraisal for staff grade officers-MDTD
Dr. S. Gnanachandran	Director Planning	Workshop on performance Appraisal for staff grade officers-MDTD
Dr. S. Gnanachandran	Director Planning	Project Monitoring and Evaluation-SLIDA
Dr. S. Gnanachandran	Director Planning	1-Day Introductory Course Town & Country Planning
U. Yasotha	Assistant Secretary	Workshop on Performance Appraisal for staff grade officers-MDTD
U. Yasotha	Assistant Secretary	Regional Administration Plan - SLIDA
C.A. Rangunathan	Chief Accountant	Workshop on Performance Appraisal for staff grade officers-MDTD
T. Kokila	Programme Asst	Training on Inland Fisheries
T. Kokila	Programme Asst	Short Course on Geo-information System-CIRM/WFO at PGIA
P. Sathiyakala	Programme Asst	CIGAS
S. Prasanthi	Programme Asst	Payroll
Ms. Marino Annete	Programme Asst	Basic Accounts for Programme Assists

7.2. Foreign Training

The following officers participated in training programmes in Sweden and Japan

Name of Officer	Designation	Department	Title of Training	Country	Funded by
S. Suthakaran	Assistant Director Fisheries	Ministry	Sustainable Coastal Development	Sweden	GOSL
A.L. Abdul Lathief	Livestock Development Officer	AP&H	Participatory Agricultural and Rural Development	Japan	JICA
Dr. M. Abdul Hathee	Veterinary Surgeon	AP&H	Poultry Production & Management Technology	Japan	JICA

7.3. Training Programme conducted to Departments

The Ministry had conducted the training programme for the officers working in the departments and the sub units in project management at DATC Uppuveli. Dr. S. Gnanachandran, Director Planning, conducted it.

8. Achievements

8.1 Rehabilitation of Minor Tanks

This Ministry implements rehabilitation of selected minor tanks through Provincial Irrigation Department. Although Rs: 20 million was originally allocated for this programme under PSDG only Rs 3.1 million was reallocated in the revised budget. But due to urgent need additional allocation Rs 226,400 was transferred from Inland Fisheries allocation..

8.2 Inland Fisheries Activities

The Ministry carries out Inland Fisheries activity by stocking of fingerlings in tanks, strengthening of fishermen co-operative societies and supply of fishing inputs. There are about 1200 minor tanks in the province that indicates a good potential for this sector. The fingerlings were stocked in the following tanks in year 2007.

Name of Tank	District	DS Division
Mahamarkulam	Trincomalee	Kinniya
Kalyanapurawewa	Trincomalee	Gomarankadawala
Villukulam	Batticaloa	Paddipalai
Periyakulam	Ampara	Kalmunai
Muravodai Tank	Ampara	Akkaraipattu

8.3 Large Scale maize cultivation

The Ministry coordinated large-scale cultivation of maize in the province during the yala 2007. Hybrid seeds and contract growing system was introduced in all three districts. About 20,000 acres will be cultivated during Maha 2007/08. The main aim is to produce at least 25% of national requirement of maize in the Eastern Province

8.4 Resettled Area Activities

In resettled areas of Batticaloa and Trincomalee district, assistance for paddy, maize and home garden cultivation and necessary tools were rendered with the support of the NGO/INGOs. The Ministry of Resettlement provided two tractors to farmers at Eachalampattu and Serunuwara to facilitate land preparation. At present 140 acres of maize has been planted in this area. To promote additional income, month old backyard poultry were also issued.

8.5 Retrieval of Abandoned Animals

Due to the war situation and displacement of the people the animals moved towards jungle areas in the resettled areas. These animals were recovered through the Department of Animal Production of Health with the help of security forces in the respective areas.

8.6 Divisional Secretary wise Exhibitions

This Ministry conducted mobile service in collaboration with departments in the following Divisional Secretaries. The Public benefited through these exhibitions.

District	Divisional Secretary	Location	Date
Ampara	Mahaoya	Mahaoya Maha Vidiyalayam	07.10.2007
Ampara	Lahugala	Lahugala Maha Vidiyalayam	21.10.2007
Batticaloa		Bt/ Kawathamunai Al Ameen Vidiyalalayam	09.09.2007
Batticaloa		Bt/ Kawathamunai Al-Ameen Vidiyalayam-Oddamavadai	13.09.2007
Batticaloa		Bt/ Kandala Vidiyalayam -Vaharai	15.09.2007
Trincomalee	Kinniya	Tharul Mahavidyalayam Kinniya	1 st & 2 nd Sept 2007
Trincomalee	Morawewa	Mahadivulwewa Maha Vidiyalayam	4/09/2007
Trincomalee	Kuchaveli	Anrah Vidiyalayam, Irrakakandy	6/09/2007

8.7 Let's Cultivate and Uplift the Nation Programme

Under the National Campaign to motivate Domestic Food Production (2007-2010) inaugurated by H.E. The President on 03.09.2007 in order to make awareness to the government officers several sessions of follow-up trainings on Promotion of Home gardening was conducted at DATC Trincomalee and seeds and planting materials were issued as per their requirement.

8.8 Private Public Donor Programme

The Private Public Donor Programme Workshop was conducted in order to coordinate the agriculture development activities within public, private and donors in this workshop most of the NGOs, INGOs and agriculture related entrepreneurs participated. The Hon. Governor was the chief guest for this programme.

8.9 Constraints and Issues

Staff capacity is very low in the ministry and departments due to de-merge process of the provincial council especially in the technical field. It is affecting implementation of the project activities especially in the agriculture sector.

9. Strength and Weakness

9.1 Problem and Constraints

This Ministry faced problems in the field level due to the lack of technical staff especially in Agriculture, Animal Production Health, Irrigation and Fisheries sector, Due to this problem implementations of development activities are being delayed. A full time accountant for Department of Agriculture is needed and Administrative officer cadre should be filled in this ministry.

9.2 Special Training given on capacity strengthening

STEPS (Skills Through English for Public Servants). This training programme was arranged by Performance Improvement Project (PIP) and conducted by British Council. 7 officers from the Ministry participated in the programme.

Geographical Information System (GIS). 20 nos. of staff from the Ministry and the Departments were trained in the ArcGIS package. This Programme was funded by NECORD and conducted by Post Graduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya.

10. Motivation given to the staff

The basic infrastructure facilities, necessary training programme for career development were rendered to the staff.

11. Research made and Publication released.

The development plans for Agriculture and Livestock for each district in the Eastern Province is being prepared.

12. Innovative actions introduced and experience gained.

The maize cultivation was commercially introduced in the Eastern Province on pilot basis by this ministry. High returns were achieved by the beneficiaries.