

## Financial Performance of Commercial Public Enterprises - 2003

### 1 Name & Address of the Enterprise:

**The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited**  
No.35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,  
Colombo 10.

### 2 Mission:

To be the leader in providing high quality products and services related to information knowledge and entertainment based on state of the art technology in print and electronic media in the Sri Lanka markets we serve.

### 3 Major Activities:

Printing & Publishing Newspapers

### 4 Brief comments on financial performance

Despite substantial increase in total revenue and gross margins the net profits have declined during the year 2003.

Although there has been a continuous increase in the total revenue the profits have been fluctuating including a substantial amount of loss in the year 2001.

During the year there has been a substantial build up of total assets, equity and liabilities.

Despite the embargo on recruitment the number of employees have increased substantially coupled with an increase in the cost of employment.

During the year the company has invested heavily on capital assets.

Return on total assets and the equity have dropped substantially.

Although the Company has been making substantial profits the dividends declared has been very marginal.

### 5 Performance Trend

ABSOLUTE VALUES		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004B
1	Total Non-Current Assets (WDV) as at end of yr.	(Rs.' 000) 316,307	260,465	243,074	288,500	400,122
2	Total Current Assets as at end of year	(Rs.' 000) 1,124,735	1,012,163	838,285	969,711	892,941
3	Total Equity as at end of year	(Rs.' 000) 791,587	689,625	529,155	615,499	644,606
4	Total Non-Current Liabilities as at end of year	(Rs.' 000) 251,765	266,561	287,740	310,738	312,854
5	Total Current Liabilities as at end of year	(Rs.' 000) 397,690	316,442	264,464	331,974	335,603
6	Total Revenue for the year	(Rs.' 000) 1,654,494	1,600,999	1,719,411	2,039,074	2,294,802
7	Gross Profit for the year	(Rs.' 000) 842,616	543,224	811,979	938,298	957,245
8	Net Profit bef. Tax for the year	(Rs.' 000) 82,157	(101,962)	150,636	140,425	100,587
9	Financial Charges for the year	(Rs.' 000) 2,595	8,608	6,987	5,235	6,486
10	Total Capital Expenditure for the year	(Rs.' 000) 21,657	18,341	14,313	58,625	131,672
11	Total Cost of Employment for the year	(Rs.' 000) 762,143	657,032	755,745	840,023	881,064
12	Total Number of Employees as at end of year	(Nos.) 2,650	2,757	2,657	2,820	2,842
RATIOS						
a)	Net Profit bef. Tax to total Equity	(%) 10.38%	-14.79%	28.47%	22.81%	15.60%
b)	Net Profit before tax & Fin. Charges to Tot. Assets	(%) 5.88%	-7.34%	14.58%	11.58%	8.28%
c)	Total Cost of Employment per employee	(Rs.' 000) 287.60	238.31	284.44	297.88	310.02

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