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தேசிய கணக்காய்வு அலுவலகம்

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE



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எனது இல.
My No.

BAN/A/NSB/FA/2024/01

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல.
Your No.

දිනය
திகதி
Date

28 February 2025

Chairman

National Savings Bank

Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements and Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements of the National Savings Bank and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2024 in terms of Section 12 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

1. Financial Statements

1.1 Opinion

The audit of the Financial Statements of the National Savings Bank (the “Bank”) and the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Bank and its subsidiaries (the “Group”) for the year ended 31 December 2024 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024 and the income statement, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the Financial Statements, including material accounting policy information, 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 Finance Act No.38 of 1971. My report to parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (6) of the Constitution will be tabled in due course.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Bank and the Group give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Bank and the Group as at 31 December 2024 and of their financial performance and their cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards.



1.2 Basis for Opinion

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 opinion.

1.3 Other information included in the Bank's 2024 Annual Report

The other information comprises the information included in the Bank's 2024 Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon, which is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report. Management is responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

When I read the Bank's 2024 Annual Report, if I conclude that there are material misstatements therein, I am required to communicate that matter to those charged with governance for correction. If further material uncorrected misstatements are existed those will be included in my report to Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154 (6) of the Constitution that will be tabled in due course.

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 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 Group'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 intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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

1.5 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 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.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control of the Bank and the Group.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude 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 Group'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. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. I am responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. I remain solely responsible for my audit opinion.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

2. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

2.1 The Section 39 of the Banking Act No. 30 of 1988 (as amended by Banking Act No.24 of 2024) includes specific provisions for following requirement.

2.1.1 The disclosures made in the accompanying financial statements are in accordance with the requirements of Circular No.05 of 2024 issued by Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

2.2 National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018 includes specific provisions for following requirements;

2.2.1 I have obtained all the information and explanation that required for the audit and as far as appears from my examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Bank as per the requirement of section 12 (a) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

2.2.2 The Financial Statements presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

2.2.3 The Financial Statements presented includes all the recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

2.3 Based on the procedures performed and evidences obtained were limited to matters that are material, nothing has come to my attention;

2.3.1 to state that any member of the governing body of the Bank has any direct or indirect interest in any contract entered into by the Bank which are out of the normal course of business as per the requirement of section 12 (d) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

- 2.3.2 to state that the Bank has not complied with any applicable written law, general and special directions issued by the governing body of the Bank as per the requirement of section 12 (f) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- 2.3.3 to state that the Bank has not performed according to its powers, functions and duties as per the requirement of section 12 (g) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- 2.3.4 to state that the resources of the Bank had not been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws as per the requirement of section 12 (h) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.



W.P.C. Wickramaratne

Auditor General