



காரீசயாபன வாரீனாவ
செயலாற்றுகை அறிக்கை
PERFORMANCE REPORT

2015

காசிகரீம அலாநாண்டை
கமத்தொழில் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Agriculture

PERFORMANCE REPORT 2015

Ministry of Agriculture

“Govijana Mandiraya”
80/5, Rajamalwatte Avenue,
Battaramulla,

Vision

“A vibrant and dynamic agricultural sector for food security and national prosperity”

Mission

“ To achieve globally competitive production, processing and marketing enterprises through socially acceptable, innovative and commercially – oriented agriculture, through sustainable management of natural resources of the country”

Message of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture

In a background where massive initiatives have been taken to bring about unprecedented advancement in the field of Agriculture, it is with many a hope that I refer to the progress achieved during the year 2015. The Ministry of Agriculture concentrated more on formulation of a National Policy on Agriculture during 2015. I am fortunate enough to give a leadership in my capacity as the Minister of Agriculture towards formulating this much needed National Policy on Agriculture.

It is our belief that the National Policy on Agriculture would be helpful towards regularizing country's crop production in a planned way to meet the requirements of consumption. Establishment of Agriculture beneficial both to the farmer and the consumer through a mechanism where supply may be adjustable to meet the demand will be another target. 2015 has been a year of blessing to commence the process of making the country self sufficient in food by implementing an integrated programme throughout the island based on short – term, mid-term and long-term approaches.

The Food Production National Programme, duration of which is 03 years from 2016 – 2018 was launched recently as an integral part of formulating a National Policy on Agriculture. In parallel to this undertaking “Wadduwa Declaration” was singed at the Provincial Agriculture Ministry Conference whereby it was agreed to adopt a common approach towards implementing Food Production National Programme.

During that year, the Ministry of Agriculture mainly concentrated on the possibility of applying modern technology in crop production. Accordingly state –of- the-art-technology is to be introduced in planting & harvesting of paddy with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture.

Establishment of chili cultivating villages to increase chili production is another important project under which facilities will be provided to undertake cultivation on commercial basis. Ministry of Agriculture has made arrangements to popularize traditional local paddy varieties as a welcome move towards leading a healthy life without falling pray to non communicable diseases. The Ministry has also taken measures to promote organic farming in Sri Lanka. This government has taken measures not only to continue the supply of fertilizer subsidy but also to increase the purchase of paddy on Treasury provisions.

The Ministry of Agriculture by stressing the need of having local food (Hela Bojun Concept) was able to add new meaning to the consumption pattern of the people. It is through this concept that the opportunity was made available to the people of this country to have indigenous food with genuine Sri Lankan taste.

The possibility of having international assistance for developing Agriculture in Sri Lanka is a special privilege granted to us . Furthermore by entering into bilateral agreements with

various countries including Korea, we were able to obtain international assistance and to a have benefits of modern technology of these countries.

At a time when allegations are leveled against various parties over chronic kidney disease being spared predominantly in agricultural areas, we were able to reach a decisive conclusion regarding the same for the sake of future generation by imposing total banned on the import of Glyph sate

. It is due to the utmost co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture and institutions officiated to it that we were able to play an exclusive role in 2015 towards uplifting agriculture while empowering the farmer community. Ministry expects to be operative in a planned way in 2016 in keeping with the new National Policy on Agriculture & I believe that you all would extend your co-operation to us, in the able Endeavour of making the country self sufficient in food by minimizing the import of food crops.

Duminda Dissanayake
Minister of Agriculture

Message of the Hon. State Minister of Agriculture

It is with great pleasure that I send this message to the publication which include the performance report 2015 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Institutions operating under its purview.

2015 is considered as a decisive period and we had to paid more attention on policy formulation during that year in view of the crucial changes experienced in the political sphere which required new policy formulation and planning in all aspects of the economy.

I thoroughly believe that policies, strategies and planning should be adjusted to enable for us to rescue the local farmer from the mentality of traditional subsistence agriculture by providing them with the opportunity of engaging in commercial agriculture towards producing quality products by targeting both local and foreign market associated with value addition. Non adhering to planned agricultural approach, and good agricultural practices based on requirements and taking no action to overcome marketing problems by adhering to advance marketing techniques are the common issues associated with the sector. It is expected that all these obstacles may be overcome through the Food Production National Programme being introduced with the participation of all parties concerned.

Furthermore, it is essential to view the research undertakings in the sector through wider perspective. Accordingly more attention should be paid on marketing & supply network. I firmly believe that a decisive change should be brought about in the research sector which makes higher contribution to the Food Production National Programme.

I am of the view that we all should be committed to achieve anticipated targets based on past experience and recent developments witnessed in the field during 2015. I would like to thank the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Secretary to the Ministry, State Secretary of Agriculture including all staff members of the of the Ministry, all Heads of Institutions operating under this Ministry and the entire staff for their utmost contribution towards achieving development targets during the year under review.

Wasantha Aluvihare
State Minister of Agriculture

Forward

I am very happy to send this preamble to the Performance Report 2015 detailing physical and financial progress achieved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Institutions operating under its purview during this period. Agriculture being the life blood of the country, our main priority is to increase agricultural sector's contribution to the Gross National Production (GDP) and include the same in National Accounts with a higher value.

I am of the view that the past year has been a decisive period during which we were able to realize many a expectation in the sector amidst various obstacles and difficulties. It was also during the same year that several policy changes and reforms were introduced in respect of the agricultural sector. Furthermore we were able to lay a solid foundation towards the formulation of a comprehensive agricultural policy by remedying short-comings in the existing policy. The another breakthrough in our forward march is to reach a consensus through mutual understanding on development activities relating to agriculture which goes on in a disorderly manner due to complicating structure of national, provincial and divisional administration. We signed the "Wadduwa Declaration" under the theme of "Tomorrow Today" with the objective of promoting long – term understanding, increased contribution and achieving reconciliation among all institutions and administrative structures in the sector.

It was during 2015 that foundation was laid for launching a Food Production National Programme and more attention was concentrated on planning the programme aimed at increasing the agriculture sector's contribution decisively. Accordingly attention was paid on the smallest administrative unit and obtained data and information at ground level while establishing specialized targets at all levels with the ultimate objective of gearing all parties while financial and physical reserve will be directly made available to the parties concerned.

I would like to remind with gratitude the guidance, assistance and leadership extended by Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, Minister of Agriculture & Hon. Wasantha Aluvihare, State Minister of Agriculture. I am also thankful to all Heads of Divisions Departments, Institutions and Companies for their utmost contribution and support extended by furnishing necessary data and information to prepare this report particularly to the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division which undertook the completion of this vital undertaking.

B.Wijyaratne
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture

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