

Open Budget Survey 2019

Questionnaire

Sri Lanka

April 2020

Country Questionnaire: Sri Lanka

PBS-1. What is the fiscal year of the PBS evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2019

Source:

The upcoming budget is for the year 2019. Budget documents available at the Ministry of Finance website:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-archives> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-archives>)

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is produced internally and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

PBS-2. When is the PBS made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for a PBS to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature for consideration. If the PBS is not released to the public at least one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature for consideration, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the PBS.

Answer:

d. The PBS is not released to the public, or is released less than one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is introduced to the legislature

Source:

Link to Budget Call 2019 for the ministries (Please refer circular number 4/2018, date: 17-07-2018)

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars) or

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0)

Comment:

Researcher: The public authority does not make the PBS publicly available prior to the Executive Budget Proposal. However the 2019 Executive Budget Proposal is prepared in accordance with the Medium Term Macro Fiscal Framework 2019-2021. This is highlighted in the Budget Call where ministries and administrative units are advised to ensure that budget proposals are aligned with the framework. Hence, the PBS is an internal document.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: However, the government issued Budget Call 2019- Guidelines for the preparation of Annual Budget Estimates : PI. See

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0 This

document highlights the direction of the budget 2019 prepared in line with medium term macro fiscal framework and addressing current issues and

government objectives. This document is addressed to high ranking officers of the ministries and then it trickle down to budget preparation and implementing agencies. And the document is made available online of the website of the ministry. The Researcher should check the date of posting it on internet.

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

Researcher Response

National Budget Circular No. 4/2018: Budget Call- 2019 provides the medium-term macro-fiscal framework for the preparations of annual budget estimates. It states the envisioned outcomes in medium -term, key- performance indicators, capital expenditure utilization, resource allocation, process to submit proposals and the need to achieve SDGs and to reduce regional disparities during the upcoming fiscal year.

IBP Comment

The researcher's response is confirmed. The Circular does not contain information on fiscal estimates for the upcoming budget year - it does note some high-level fiscal targets for 2021, however, and gives a GDP forecast for 2019. Without the related medium-term macro fiscal framework, however, this document doesn't provide any information on the fiscal projections that will be used to formulate the 2019 budget. The score of D is confirmed.

PBS-3a. If the PBS is published, what is the date of publication of the PBS?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

Source:

n/a

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is an internal document and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

PBS-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the PBS.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

n/a

Source:

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is an internal document and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Please refer to my review of PBS 2

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

PBS-4. If the PBS is published, what is the URL or weblink of the PBS?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

Source:
n/a

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is an internal document and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

PBS-5. If the PBS is published, are the numerical data contained in the PBS available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the PBS is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

d. Not applicable

Source:

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is an internal document and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: Please refer to my review of PBS 2.

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

PBS-6a. If the PBS is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the PBS is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question PBS-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question PBS-2)

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

c. Produced for internal purposes/use only

Source:

Link to Budget Call 2019 for the ministries (Please refer circular number 4/2018, date: 17-07-2018)

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars

or http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0

Comment:

Researcher: The 2019 Executive Budget Proposal is prepared in accordance with the Medium Term Macro Fiscal Framework 2019-2021. This is highlighted in the Budget Call where ministries and administrative units are advised to ensure that budget proposals are aligned with the framework. Therefore the PBS is an internal document.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Please refer to my review to PBS 2. Researcher should check the date of internet posting.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

PBS-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question PBS-6a, please specify how you determined whether the PBS was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a", "b", or "e" was selected in question PBS-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

The Budget Call 2019 requests that all ministries to submit their budgets for the National Budget in accordance with the Medium Term Macro Fiscal Framework 2019-2021 which outlines the government's budgetary targets. However the Medium Term Macro Fiscal Framework is not made available to the public prior to the publication of the EBP but is published online after the EBP.

Source:

Link to Budget Call 2019 for the ministries (Please refer circular number 4/2018, date: 17-07-2018)

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars) or

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0)

Comment:

Researcher:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

PBS-7. If the PBS is produced, please write the full title of the PBS.

For example, a title for the Pre-Budget Statement could be "Proposed 2019 State Budget" or "Guidelines for the Preparation of Annual Plan and Budget for 2018/19."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

n/a

Source:

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is an internal document and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

PBS-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the PBS?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka's PBS is an internal document and is not publicly available. Please refer comment on question PBS- 2.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-1a. What is the fiscal year of the EBP evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2018

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

Comment:

The Department of National Budget of the Ministry of Finance compiles the Executive Budget Proposal in November of the year preceding the fiscal year (the Appropriation Bill, Budget Estimates (Draft), Budget Speech and the Fiscal Management Report).

However, due to the events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability the Budget Estimates (Draft), Budget Speech and the Fiscal Management report for FY 2019 were not published. In order to ensure the continued provision of public services and payment of international debt obligations, a Vote on Account was passed on 21-12-2018 to finance government activities till 30th April 2019.

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195)

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f

See <https://www.parliament.lk/news/view/1594>

Link to Order Paper <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/documents/orderpapers/1545302545020268.pdf>

Link to 'Authorization of Expenditure - Vote Account-2019' http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars

or http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/5-2018-NBD-eng_REV-2.1/a646f44a-0231-4549-b745-80dbc1d1cef6?version=1.0

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-1b. When is the EBP submitted to the legislature for consideration?

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

9/11/2017

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

Comment:

Researcher: The EBP is generally submitted to the legislature in November of the year preceding the fiscal year. For example, for FY2018, the Appropriation Bill 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th October 2017; the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th November 2017; the Budget Speech 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th November 2017; and the Fiscal Management Report 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th November 2017. Therefore 9th November 2017 is considered as the date EBP submitted to the legislature for consideration.

For FY2019, the Appropriation Bill for 2019 was presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018. However, due to the political instability that arose as a result of events on 26-10-2018, the Budget Speech, the Budget Estimates and the Fiscal Management Report were not published.

The Appropriation Bill is considered to be the first reading of the budget. For FY2019, the Appropriation Bill 2019 was presented to Parliament on 09/10/2018. However, this Appropriation Bill is no longer valid. The second reading of the budget contains the Budget Speech, Budget Estimates (Drafts) and Fiscal Management Report. However due to the political instability surrounding the events of 26/10/2018, the second reading of the budget was not held.

In order to continue the provisions of public services and meet international debts, a Vote on Account till April 2019 was passed on 21-12-2018. Post 26-10-2018, only the Budget Estimates for Vote on Account 2019 which covers four months of expenses until 30-04-2019 was published.- <https://www.parliament.lk/news/view/1594>

Link to Order Paper: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/documents/orderpapers/1545302545020268.pdf>

Link to 'Authorization of Expenditure - Vote on Account-2019': http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars

or http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/5-2018-NBD-eng_REV-2.1/a646f44a-0231-4549-b745-80dbc1d1cef6?version=1.0

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-2. When is the EBP made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an EBP to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public while the legislature is still considering it and before the legislature approves (enacts) it. If the EBP is not released to the public before the legislature approves it, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not

produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the EBP.

The OBS definition of an Executive's Budget Proposal is a document(s) that (i) the executive submits to the legislature as a formal part of the budget approval process and (ii) the legislature either approves or on which it approves proposed amendments.

The OBS will treat the Executive's Budget Proposal as "Not Produced," in the following cases:

- The executive does not submit the draft budget to the legislature; or
- The legislature receives the draft budget but does not approve it or does not approve recommendations on the draft budget;
- The legislature rejects the draft budget submitted by the executive, but the executive implements it without legislative approval; or
- There is no legislature, or the legislature has been dissolved.

Answer:

b. At least two months, but less than three months, in advance of the budget year, and in advance of the budget being approved by the legislature

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

Comment:

Researcher: The Appropriation Bill is the first document that is presented and it is available over two months prior to the budget year. Other documents that are submitted with the second reading of the budget are presented less than two months to the budget year. Due to the political instability in response to the events of 26-10-2018, only the Appropriation Bill and Budget Estimates for the Vote on Account for 2019 were published. Both Budget Speech and Fiscal Management Report for 2019 have not been made available to the public.

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>)

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>);

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>);

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>);

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account->

[VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f](http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f) (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-3a. If the EBP is published, what is the date of publication of the EBP?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

In the comment boxes below, researchers should also list any supporting documents to the EBP and their date of publication.

Answer:
9/10/2017

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

Comment:

Researcher: The Appropriation Bill 2018 was issued to public on 18-09-2017 and presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2017.

The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 09-11-2017 and was made available to the public on 15-11-2017.

The Budget Speech 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2017 and made available to the public on 09-10-2017.

Fiscal Management Report 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2017 and made available to the public on 09-10-2017.

The Appropriation Bill is the first document that is presented to Parliament and it is available over two months prior to the budget year. Other documents that are submitted with the Second reading of the budget are presented less than two months to the budget year. Due to the political events on 26-10-2018, only the Appropriation Bill and Budget Estimates- Vote on Account were published. Both the Budget Speech and Fiscal Management Report for 2019 were not presented or published.

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the EBP.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

The date that the documents presented to the Parliament was determined to be the date of publication. This date can be observed from the website of the Parliament of Sri Lanka which contains a link to the document or through the date on the document itself. The public availability of the document is based on the document's uploaded date (i.e. the last modified date)

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

Comment:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>)

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>)

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>);

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>);

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The document was released to the media also on the same day.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-4. If the EBP is published, what is the URL or weblink of the EBP?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

In the comment boxes below, researchers should also list any supporting documents to the EBP and their URL or weblink.

Answer:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>) Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>) Volume 1:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>) Volume 2:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>) Volume 3:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>) Link to Budget Speech- 2018:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>) Link to Fiscal Management

Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>)

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>)

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>)

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>)

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>)

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>)

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>)

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-5. If the EBP is published, are the numerical data contained in the EBP or its supporting documents available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>.

Option "d" applies if the EBP is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>)

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>)

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)
Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Researcher: The documents are in PDF format, which is not considered as a machine readable format for numerical data.

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>)

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>)

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>)

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>)

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The data are not given in machine readable format. Often pdf files are released by the government.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-6a. If the EBP is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the EBP is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question EBP-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question EBP-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>)

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>)
Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)
Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>)
Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)
Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>)
Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>)
Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>)
Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: It is publicly available.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question EBP-6a, please specify how you determined whether the EBP was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a,""b," or "e" was selected in question EBP-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-7. If the EBP is produced, please write the full title of the EBP.

For example, a title for the Executive's Budget Proposal could be "Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for BY 2018-19, produced by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development."

If there are any supporting documents to the EBP, please enter their full titles in the comment box below.

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Appropriation, A Bill, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Bill No. 210. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume I. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume II. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume III. Budget Speech 2018. Fiscal Management Report 2018.

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>)

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>)

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Appropriation, A Bill, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Bill No.267. Budget Estimates -Vote on Account 2019 (Spending Units, Ministries, Departments, Advance Accounts).

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2019 (presented to the Parliament on 09-10-2018) (invalid due to events surrounding 26/10/2018 which resulted in temporary political instability): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6118.pdf>)

Link to the Budget Estimates-Vote on Account 2019: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-vote-on-account-2019>)

Under Vote on Account: Estimates for Special Spending Units (Head 1- Head 25): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/special-spending-units-1-25>)

Estimates for Ministries(Head 101-Head 195): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/ministries-101-195>)

Estimates for Departments (Head 201-Head 333): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/departments-201-333>)

Estimates for Advance Accounts Activities: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f)

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/636830/Advans+Account-VoteOnAccount_2019/7ea9e60a-18ae-4c33-9990-28244b1f5e1f)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the EBP?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets>.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018' is a citizens's version of EBP.

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

There is a document that would qualify as a citizen's budget named "Budget at a Glance-Budget 2018".

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: This document is released for media for public consumption.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EB-1a. What is the fiscal year of the EB evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2018

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Comment:

Researcher: The EB for 2018 is considered, as the EB of 2019 is yet to be published. The Appropriation Act is the enacted budget, but the details of the budget are available in the finalised (approved) budget estimates. Therefore both these documents were considered for the survey.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EB-1b. When was the EB approved (enacted) by the legislature?

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

9/12/2017

Source:

Link to parliamentary confirmation of the approval of the budget: <https://www.parliament.lk/en/budget-2018/third-reading-division>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Normally the budget of the next fiscal year is approved by the legislature in December (first or second week)

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EB-2. When is the EB made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an EB to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public three months after the budget is approved by the legislature. If the EB is not released to the public at least three months after the budget is approved by the legislature, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the EB.

Answer:

b. Between two weeks and six weeks after the budget has been enacted

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Comment:

Researcher: The Appropriation Act was published in the gazette on 09-12-2017 but available online on 02-12-2018. The Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 was made available online on 08-01-2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But the comment given by researcher seems to be not correct it should be available on line before 02-12-2018.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

The peer reviewer is correct - the document are posted in January 2018. The date on the law (Appropriation Act) is Jan 2, 2018, and the date on the Approved Estimates is Jan 8, 2018. Therefore the score is B.

EB-3a. If the EB is published, what is the date of publication of the EB?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

2/1/2018

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Appropriation Act was published in the gazette on 09-12-2017 but available online on 02-01-2018. The Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 was made available online on 08-01-2018.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EB-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the EB.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

The date of the documents presented to the Parliament is observed from the website of the Parliament of Sri Lanka which contains a link to the document or through the date on the document itself. The public availability of the document is based on the document's uploaded date (i.e. the last modified date)

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EB-4. If the EB is published, what is the URL or weblink of the EB?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>

Budget Estimates 2018 Volume 1 (Approved) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Budget Estimate 2018 Volume 2 (Approved) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_02_Approved_E.pdf/0c832f1d-73b7-4fa7-8c31-641fe6e99ff3

Budget Estimates 2018 Volume 3 (Approved) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_03_Approved_E.pdf/a144f791-c8c1-4620-8ac9-518747bc3541

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Budget Estimates 2018 Volume 1 (Approved) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Budget Estimate 2018 Volume 2 (Approved) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_02_Approved_E.pdf/0c832f1d-73b7-4fa7-8c31-641fe6e99ff3

Budget Estimates 2018 Volume 3 (Approved) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_03_Approved_E.pdf/a144f791-c8c1-4620-8ac9-518747bc3541

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EB-5. If the EB is published, are the numerical data contained in the EB available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the EB is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Comment:

Researcher: The documents are in PDF format, which is not considered as a machine readable format for numerical data.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: Only pdf files are given

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EB-6a. If the EB is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the EB is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question EB-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question EB-2)

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: It is publicly available

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EB-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question EB-6a, please specify how you determined whether the EB was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question EB-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EB-7. If the EB is produced, please write the full title of the EB.

For example, a title for the Enacted Budget could be "Appropriation Act n. 10 of 2018."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017. EB supporting documents - Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume I, Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume II and Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume III.

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EB-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the EB?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Website of the Ministry of Finance: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/>)

Comment:

Researcher: The government includes graphical presentations for the EBP and not for the EB.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-1. What is the fiscal year of the CB evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, for each CB please indicate the document the CB simplifies/refers to, and the fiscal year.

Answer:

FY 2018

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Ministry of Finance has compiled a separate document named 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018' which can be considered a Citizens Budget.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-2a. For the fiscal year indicated in CB-1, what is the public availability status of the CB?

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document (Executive's Budget Proposal or Enacted Budget) you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its public availability status.

Remember that publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

*Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.*

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Published online on 01-12-2017 as per the Ministry of Finance website.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-2b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question CB-2a, please specify how you determined whether the CB was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question CB-2a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-3a. If the CB is published, what is the date of publication of the CB?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

If more than one Citizens Budget is published, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its dates of publication.

Answer:
1/12/2017

Source:
Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:
Date of publication on the document is 09-11-2017 and it has been published on the Ministry of Finance website on 01-12-2017.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

CB-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the CB.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
Date of published online as per the Ministry of Finance website.

Source:
Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

CB-4. If the CB is published, what is the URL or weblink of the CB?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

If more than one Citizens Budget is published, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its URL or weblink.

Answer:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-5. If the CB is produced, please write the full title of the CB.

For example, a title for the Citizens Budget could be "Budget 2018 People's Guide" or "2019 Proposed Budget in Brief: A People's Budget Publication."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, for the other CB, indicate the document the CB refers to and, next to it, its full title.

Answer:

Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-6. If the CB is produced, please indicate which budget document it corresponds to.

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and which budget document it simplifies.

Answer:

'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018' corresponds to the EBP.

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-1. What is the fiscal year of the IYRs evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY 2018

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-2. When are the IYRs made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for IYRs to be considered publicly available, IYRs must be made available to the public no later than three months after the reporting period ends. If at least seven of the last 12 monthly IYRs, or at least three of the last four quarterly IYRs are not released to the public at least three months after the reporting period ends, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the IYRs.

Answer:
c. At least every quarter, and within three months of the period covered

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Excel sheets are updated to reflect the latest data available by the Ministry of Finance. (For example, at September 2018, monthly date till June was available)

The quarterly report for the period ending June 2018 was publicly available online on 10 September 2018 at:
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5

The quarterly report for the period ending March 2018 was publicly available online on 23 May 2018, confirmed via an archived snapshot:
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180712222726/http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>

The quarterly report for November 2017 was publicly available online on 12 February 2018 confirmed via an online snapshot at:
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180212174738/http://www.treasury.gov.lk:80/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IYRs-3a. If the IYRs are published, what are the dates of publication of the IYRs?

Specifically: if quarterly In-Year Reports are published, indicate the dates of publication of at least three of the last four IYRs that were publicly available. If monthly IYRs are published, indicate the dates of publication of at least seven of the last 12 IYRs that were publicly available.

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document. Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD Month YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05 September 2018. If the document is not published or not produced, please mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

IYR are published quarterly giving monthly data for the preceding quarter. As per the information on the website, the last update is on 10-09-2018.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>

Comment:

As per the information on the website, the last update is on 10-09-2018. However, the last modified date identified through technical support is 14-04-2018.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IYRs-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the IYRs.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

IYR are published quarterly giving monthly data for the preceding quarter. As per the information on the website, the last update is on 10-09-2018. However, the last modified date identified through technical support is 14-04-2018.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

As per the information on the website, the last update is on 10-09-2018. However, the last modified date identified through technical support is 14-04-2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-4. If the IYRs are published, what is the URL or weblink of the IYRs?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Researchers should provide the weblink to the most recent In-Year Report in the space below, and – in the comment box underneath – the weblinks to older IYRs.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Ministry of Finance presents Annual and Monthly updates of key fiscal data on its website. This is available in MS Excel format that needs to be downloaded. Q1 and Q2 data sheets that were downloaded by the researcher is attached above.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-5. If the IYRs are published, are the numerical data contained in the IYRs available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the IYRs are not published or not produced, therefore their machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IYRs-6a. If the IYRs are not publicly available, are they still produced?

If the IYRs are not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question IYRs-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question IYRs-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IYRs-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question IYRs-6a, please specify how you determined whether the IYRs were produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a","b," or "e" was selected in question IYRs-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-7. If the IYRs are produced, please write the full title of the IYRs.

For example, a title for the In-Year Report could be "Budget Monitoring Report, Quarter 1" or "Budget Execution Report January-March 2018."

If In-Year Reports are not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Researchers should provide the full title of the most recent In-Year Report in the space below, and – in the comment box underneath – the full titles of older IYRs.

Answer:

Government Fiscal Operations, Government Debt

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Researcher: The title of the IYR is the title of the MS Excel sheet that can be downloaded.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the IYRs?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Ministry of Finance makes available the date for the provisional Government revenue, expenditure and debt figures in MS Excel sheets, without a Citizen's version of the details.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The government does not issued a citizen version of IYR.

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-1. What is the fiscal year of the MYR evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY 2018

Source:
n/a

Comment:

Sri Lanka currently does not publish a document that contains a summary of the first six months of the budget year. It does, however, publish the details of the first four months (January - April) in the 'Mid year Fiscal Position Report' published in June. However, the document has limited data on the first six months and thus cannot be considered a MYR. Link to Mid Year Fiscal Position Report 2018:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-2. When is the MYR made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an MYR to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than three months after the reporting period ends (i.e., three months after the midpoint of the fiscal year). If the MYR is not released to the public at least three months after the reporting period ends, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the MYR.

Answer:
d. The MYR is not released to the public, or is released more than three months after the midpoint

Source:
N/A

Comment:
Please refer Comment in MYR1.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The MYR is produced, but it may qualify the requirements of the OBS

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thank you for the Peer Reviewer's comment. As the researcher noted in MYR-1, because the 'Mid year Fiscal Position Report' doesn't have any forward-looking projections of fiscal estimates or the macroeconomic forecast for the remainder of the FY, it does not qualify as a MYR by OBS standards.

MYR-3a. If the MYR is published, what is the date of publication of the MYR?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

Source:
N/A

Comment:
N/A

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the MYR.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

n/a

Source:
n/a

Comment:
n/a

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-4. If the MYR is published, what is the URL or weblink of the MYR?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the

document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

Source:
n/a

Comment:
n/a

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-5. If the MYR is published, are the numerical data contained in the MYR available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>.

Option "d" applies if the MYR is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

d. Not applicable

Source:
n/a

Comment:
n/a

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-6a. If the MYR is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the MYR is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question MYR-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question MYR-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
d. Not produced at all

Source:
n/a

Comment:
Please refer Comment in MYR1.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question MYR-6a, please specify how you determined whether the MYR was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question MYR-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The Public Officials of Department of Fiscal Policy and Department of National Budget of Ministry of Finance confirmed that they only publish the Mid Year Fiscal Position Report for first four months of the year (January-April) by 30th June.

Source:
Sri Lanka currently does not publish a document that contains a summary of the first six months of the budget year. It does, however, publish the details of the first four months (January - April) in the 'Mid year Fiscal Position Report' published in June. However, the document has limited data on the first six months and thus cannot be considered a MYR. Link to Mid Year Fiscal Position Report 2018:
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: This document does not meet the MYR requirements of the OBS.

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-7. If the MYR is produced, please write the full title of the MYR.

For example, a title for the Mid-Year Review could be "Semi-annual Budget Performance Report, FY 2017/18" or "Mid-Year Report on the 2018 National Budget."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
n/a

Source:
n/a

Comment:
n/a

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

MYR-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the MYR?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:
b. No

Source:
n/a

Comment:
n/a

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

YER-1. What is the fiscal year of the YER evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY 2017

Source:
Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:
Researcher: The Ministry of Finance publishes the Annual Report that contains the financial accounts and fiscal information of the year in consideration

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

YER-2. When is the YER made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an YER to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than one year after the fiscal year to which it corresponds. If the YER is not released to the public within one year after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the YER.

Answer:

a. Six months or less after the end of the budget year

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-3a. If the YER is published, what is the date of publication of the YER?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

1/6/2018

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka was published on the Ministry of Finance Website on 01-06-2018. (Please refer Comment of YER-2.)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the YER.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

The YER's online PDF was checked for its 'last modified' date. The given date was 01-06-2018.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-4. If the YER is published, what is the URL or weblink of the YER?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-5. If the YER is published, are the numerical data contained in the YER available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the YER is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The documents are in PDF format, which is not considered machine readable format for numerical data.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-6a. If the YER is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the YER is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question YER-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question YER-2)

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question YER-6a, please specify how you determined whether the YER was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question YER-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

YER-7. If the YER is produced, please write the full title of the YER.

For example, a title for the Year-End Report could be "Consolidated Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2018" or "Annual Report 2017 Published by the Ministry of Finance and Planning." If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

YER-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the YER?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

AR-1. What is the fiscal year of the AR evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2017

Source:

Link to the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf);

Link to the Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the year ended 31st December 2017: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

The Auditor's statement is attached to the Annual Report of the Ministry of Finance, which is the YER, along with the financial statements. The Auditor General's Department publishes the individual reports of all state related entities (department, corporations etc.).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Basically the researcher refers here as AR to YER. It is not fully audit report but it contains the report of the Auditor General.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

Researcher Response

Sri Lanka's Annual Audit report is not qualified to be identified as the AR under the guidelines of OBS 2019. The only document that is qualified to be AR is the Auditor General's Statement in the YER.

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Reviewer for this clarification. During an IBP cross-country consistency check, the status of the Audit Report in Sri Lanka is being revised from not available to publicly available. The researcher's response is correct based on the previous OBS assessment Annual Report and the summary of the financial audit presented at the end of the YER. However, as financial audits are released for individual account heads in Sri Lanka, the combination of the Annual Report, the summary of the overall financial report, and the individual audits as presented on the website, together qualify as a full publication of the audit report of the financial statements of all government. The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017): https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc_-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAg&c=11Uvw6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5IUWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kjPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una_HxjZUjb5IRMbOjmmGqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLcIE3uBV0TiHnNsv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e=

AR-2. When is the AR made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an AR to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds. If the AR is not released to the public at least 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the AR.

Answer:

b. 12 months or less, but more than six months, after the end of the budget year

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>); <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)
Link to the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf)

Comment:

The Annual Report of Auditor General is not sufficient to be qualified as the Audit Report (AR) for OBS 2019 as it doesn't contain the audit of the accounts for 2017.
Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of the country for 2017 is available on pages 346 - 355 of the Ministry of Finance Annual report 2017. And this is considered as the Audit report (AR) as per the OBS 2019 guidelines.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

The researcher's response is correct based on the previous OBS assessment Annual Report and the summary of the financial audit presented at the end of the YER. However, as financial audits are released for individual account heads in Sri Lanka, the combination of the Annual Report, the summary of the overall financial report, and the individual audits as presented on the website, together qualify as a full publication of the audit report of the financial statements of all government. The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017): https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAg&c=1Uvw6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5IUWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kJPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una-HxjZUjb5IRMbOjJmGqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLclE3uBV0TiHNnSv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e= Thus, even though the initial opinion of the auditor is included in the YER on June 1, 2018, as most of the remaining individual audit reports of the account heads are not released until December 2018, the score for this question is assigned as the date for the Annual Report of the Auditor General on December 31, 2018. As this is less than 12 months after the end of the FY, the score is B.

AR-3a. If the AR is published, what is the date of publication of the AR?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

31/12/2018

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017 (Audited accounts Page 346-355) - Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>);
Link to the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017 (This is not qualified to be AR as per the OBS 2019 guidelines: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf)

Comment:

Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka (AR) was published on the Ministry of Finance Website on 01-06-2018.
Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017 was made available to the public on 31-12- 2018 (not qualified to be AR).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

The researcher's response is correct based on the previous OBS assessment Annual Report and the summary of the financial audit presented at the end of the YER. However, as financial audits are released for individual account heads in Sri Lanka, the combination of the Annual Report, the summary of the overall financial report, and the individual audits as presented on the website, together qualify as a full publication of the audit report of the financial statements of all government. The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017): https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc_-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAG&c=1IUvw6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5IUWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kjPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una_HxjZUjb5IRMbOjmgqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLclE3uBVoTiHNnSv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e= Thus, even though the initial opinion of the auditor is included in the YER on June 1, 2018, as most of the remaining individual audit reports of the account heads are not released until December 2018, the score for this question is assigned as the date for the Annual Report of the Auditor General on December 31, 2018.

AR-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the AR.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

The YER's online PDF was checked for its 'last modified' date. The given date was 01-06-2018. The report published on page 346-355 is considered as AR in OBS 2019.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>); Link to the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017 (not qualified to be AR): <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

See the responses to AR-1 and AR-2 The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017): https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc_-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAG&c=1IUvw6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5IUWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kjPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una_HxjZUjb5IRMbOjmgqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLclE3uBVoTiHNnSv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e= Thus, even though the initial opinion of the auditor is included in the YER on June 1, 2018, as most of the remaining individual audit reports of the account heads are not released until December 2018, the score for this question is assigned as the date for the Annual Report of the Auditor General on December 31, 2018. This qualifies for a B score (less than 12 months after the end of the reporting period) for this question.

AR-4. If the AR is published, what is the URL or weblink of the AR?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka (Page 346-355): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>);
Link to the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017 (not qualified to be AR): <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017):
https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc_-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAg&c=1UvW6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5IUWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kjPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una-HxjZUjb5IRMbOijmGqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLclE3uBVoTiHnNsv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e=

AR-5. If the AR is published, are the numerical data contained in the AR available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the AR is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka (Page 346-355): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The documents are in PDF format, which is not considered machine readable format for numerical data.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

AR-6a. If the AR is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the AR is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question AR-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question AR-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in

soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka (Page 346-355): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

There is short summary of the audit of the financial statement in the Annual Audit Report, but the full Audit of the Financial Statements is not released to the public.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

See the response to AR-2 - the response for this question is revised to E.

AR-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question AR-6a, please specify how you determined whether the AR was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question AR-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

AR-7. If the AR is produced, please write the full title of the AR.

For example, a title for the Audit Report could be "Annual General Reports of the Controller and Auditor General." If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka (Page 346-355): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Link to the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017 (not qualified to be AR): <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf)

There is short summary of the audit of the financial statement in the Annual Audit Report, but the full Audit of the Financial Statements is not released to the public.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But AR 2018 is also available on the Ministry's website.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

See the responses to AR-1 and AR-2. The combined Annual Report and individual financial audit reports for unit heads, when combined, are considered the audit report for this question. The researcher's response is confirmed.

AR-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the AR?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

n/a

Comment:

n/a

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

There is no CB of the Audit Report(s) produced. The researcher's response is confirmed.

GQ-1a. Are there one or more websites or web portals for disseminating government fiscal information? If yes, please provide the necessary links in the comment/citation.

GQ-1a asks the researcher to list any government websites or portals where fiscal information can be found. For example, in New Zealand the Treasury website (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/>) hosts important budget-related information, including the Pre-Budget Statement, the Executive's Budget Proposal, the Citizens Budget, In-Year Reports, the Mid-Year Review, and the Year-End Report. In addition, New Zealand's Parliamentary Counsel Office

[\(http://www.legislation.govt.nz/\)](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/) posts the Enacted Budget while the Controller and Auditor-General website (<http://www.oag.govt.nz/>) publishes the annual Audit Report. The New Zealand researcher would provide the links to each of these sites. Other countries have developed portals that include fiscal information, though not in the "documents" format. For example, these portals have been created by Mexico (<https://www.transparenciapresupuestaria.gob.mx/>) and Brazil (<http://www.portaltransparencia.gov.br/>). Some countries have both a website and a portal. The Brazilian government, for example, apart from the Transparency Portal, has a dedicated website for the federal budget, where all key documents and other information can be found (www.orcamentofederal.gov.br). Researchers should include details about all of the relevant websites and/or portals that they can be used to access budget information.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Links to Ministry of Finance Website:- Budget Estimates: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates>); Budget Speech: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>); Fiscal Management Report: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management>); DATA AND STATISTICS: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Mid Year Fiscal Position Report: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position>); Annual Report: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>); Budget at a Glance 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>) & <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/budget/2018/budget-at-a-glance.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/budget/2018/budget-at-a-glance.pdf>) - Links to the Parliamentary website:- Appropriation Bills: <https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current> (<https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current>); Appropriation Acts: <https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current> (<https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current>); Budget related documents: <https://www.parliament.lk> (<https://www.parliament.lk>) - Links to the Auditor General's Department/ National Audit Office:- <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) - Links on Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL): Data on government revenue, expenditure and debt (incorporated in the Monthly Bulletin of the CBSL): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin>)

Comment:

Researcher: The primary source of budget documents is the Ministry of Finance website. The Parliamentary website is the official website which disseminates the Appropriation Bills and Appropriation Acts. The Annual Audit reports are available on the Auditor General's Department/ National Audit Office website. In addition, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka publishes summarised data on Government Finance (Revenue, Expenditure and Debts) in its Monthly Bulletin.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

GQ-1b. On these websites/portals, can revenue and/or expenditure data for the current fiscal year be downloaded as a consolidated file (or set of files)? If yes, please provide the necessary links in the comment/citation.

GQ-1b, GQ-1c, and GQ-1d ask about whether governments publish specific types of content on their websites/portals: (a) consolidated files that contain revenue and/or expenditure information for the current fiscal year; (b) consolidated files that contain revenue and/or expenditure information for multiple years in consistent formats; and (c) infographics/visualizations or other similar tools used to simplify data access and analysis. Researchers should provide the links to relevant webpages and some explanations of what they contain.

Answer:

a. Yes, both revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded as a consolidated file

Source:

Ministry of Finance website: - Data and Statistics published by the Ministry of Finance includes summarised monthly and annual data for revenue, expenditure and debt: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>) - Budget speech (after 2014 and 2016 onward): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>); previous speeches can be found in the Parliamentary website: <https://www.parliament.lk/index.php> (<https://www.parliament.lk/index.php>) - Budget Estimate from 2013 onwards (The Budget Estimates contain data from FY-2 to FY+2): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates>) - News on Budget highlights: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-highlights> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-highlights>) - Mid year fiscal position reports contains a comparison of FY-1 and FY: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position>) - Fiscal Management reports contains a comparison of FY-1 and FY:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management>) - Annual reports contains a comparison of previous fiscal year and future estimates: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> - Acts, circulars, gazettes regarding budgets (as and when presented): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/circulars-gazettes-acts> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/circulars-gazettes-acts>) - Data on government revenue, expenditure and debt (incorporated in the Monthly Bulletin of the CBSL- from 2012 onwards): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin>), The monthly Indicators (2015 onwards): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-indicators> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-indicators>) and The weekly Indicators (2013 onwards): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/weekly-indicators> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/weekly-indicators>) - Auditor General's Department/National Audit Office: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

GQ-1c. On these websites/portals, can consolidated revenue and/or expenditure data be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats? If yes, please provide the necessary links and details in the comment/citation.

Answer:

d. No, neither expenditure or revenue data can be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats

Source:

Ministry of Finance website: - Data and Statistics published by the Ministry of Finance includes summarised monthly and annual data for revenue, expenditure and debt: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>) - Budget speech (after 2014 and 2016 onward): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>); previous speeches can be found in the Parliamentary website: <https://www.parliament.lk/index.php> (<https://www.parliament.lk/index.php>) - Budget Estimate from 2013 onwards (The Budget Estimates contain data from FY-2 to FY+2): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates>) - News on Budget highlights: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-highlights> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-highlights>) - Mid year fiscal position reports contains a comparison of FY-1 and FY: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position>) - Fiscal Management reports contains a comparison of FY-1 and FY: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management>) - Annual reports contains a comparison of previous fiscal year and future estimates: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) - Acts, circulars, gazettes regarding budgets (as and when presented): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/circulars-gazettes-acts> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/circulars-gazettes-acts>) - Data on government revenue, expenditure and debt (incorporated in the Monthly Bulletin of the CBSL- from 2012 onwards): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin>), The monthly Indicators (2015 onwards): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-indicators> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-indicators>) and The weekly Indicators (2013 onwards): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/weekly-indicators> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/weekly-indicators>) - Auditor General's Department/National Audit Office: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>)

Comment:

Researcher: The content of the Budget estimates, Mid year fiscal position report and Fiscal management reports have been consistent throughout the years. All these documents provide additional information, graphs and charts for further clarity. However, due to changes in ministry portfolios, changes to the number of ministries, integration of ministries have resulted in difficulties to compare previous documents with each other. The response 'd' is selected because as per OBS 2019 guidelines the documents should be in machine readable format.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

GQ-1d. On these websites/portals, are infographics/visualizations or other similar tools used to simplify data access and analysis? If yes, please provide the necessary links and details in the comment/citation.

Answer:
b. No

Source:

Links to Ministry of Finance Website:- Budget Estimates: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates>); Budget Speech: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>); Fiscal Management Report: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/fiscal-management>); DATA AND STATISTICS: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Mid Year Fiscal Position Report: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/mid-year-fiscal-position>); Annual Report: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>); Budget at a Glance 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>) & <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/budget/2018/budget-at-a-glance.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/budget/2018/budget-at-a-glance.pdf>) - Links to the Parliamentary website:- Appropriation Bills: <https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current> (<https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current>); Appropriation Acts: <https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current> (<https://parliament.lk/business-of-parliament/acts-bills?view=actsandbills#current>); Budget related documents: <https://www.parliament.lk> (<https://www.parliament.lk>) - Links to the Auditor General's Department/ National Audit Office:- <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) - Links on Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL): Data on government revenue, expenditure and debt (incorporated in the Monthly Bulletin of the CBSL): <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin> (<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/statistics/economic-indicators/monthly-bulletin>)

Comment:

Researcher: The websites do not contain any data visualisation. However, documents such as the Mid Year Fiscal Position Report, Fiscal Management Report, Annual Report and Monthly reports of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka contain graphs and charts on expenditure, revenue and debt information.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

GQ-2. Are there laws in place guiding public financial management and/or auditing? If yes, please provide the necessary details and links in the comment/citation, and specify whether and where the law(s) contains specific provisions for budget transparency and/or participation.

GQ-2 asks about the existence of any national laws governing public financial management and auditing. These may include a public finance act, a section of the constitution, or an organic budget law. In some countries, fiscal responsibility legislation may also be relevant. For example, the Kenya researcher may include the link to its Public Finance Management Act, 2012 (<http://www.kenyalaw.org/lex/actview.xql?actid=No.%2018%20of%202012>), and the Macedonian researcher may include a link to its State Audit Law (<https://www.finance.gov.mk/files/u11/Audit%20law.pdf>). Researchers should provide links to websites where such laws are published, if possible, or an electronic copy of the law itself. They should also indicate if and where (e.g. which article) these laws include specific provisions for budget transparency and citizen participation in budget processes.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:

The primary laws and regulating the budget are as follows: - the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Articles related to budgets: Article 148 – Control of Parliament over Public Finance, Article 149 – Consolidated Fund (CF), Article 150 - Withdrawal of funds from CF Link: <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>) - Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act No 03 of 2003 Includes the fiscal framework that sets a basic standard for the fiscal framework and lists documents that must be disclosed for the purpose of public finance disclosure, their contents, responsible parties and publication periods. Link: <http://www.documents.gov.lk/en/acts.php> (<http://www.documents.gov.lk/en/acts.php>) http://www.documents.gov.lk/files/act/2003/1/03-2003_E.pdf (http://www.documents.gov.lk/files/act/2003/1/03-2003_E.pdf), Fiscal Management (Responsibility) (Amendment) Act, No. 15 of 2013 <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/21079/15-2013-Fiscal+Management+%28Responsibility%29+%28Amendment%29.pdf/769aa02e-7ef2-4139-9204-d9dfe34baa13?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/21079/15-2013->

Fiscal+Management+%28Responsibility%29+%28Amendment%29+%28E%29.pdf/769aa02e-7ef2-4139-9204-d9dfe34baa13?version=1.0), Fiscal Management (Responsibility) (Amendment) Act, No. 13 of 2016: <http://www.documents.gov.lk/en/acts.php> (<http://www.documents.gov.lk/en/acts.php>) http://www.documents.gov.lk/files/act/2016/8/13-2016_E.pdf (http://www.documents.gov.lk/files/act/2016/8/13-2016_E.pdf) Appropriation Act No. 30 of 2017: The approved revenue and expenditure for the budget of the following year along with borrowing limits and treasury miscellaneous vote. Link: (Budget 2018) <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>) - Circulars from the Government of Sri Lanka Link: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/circulars_departments (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/circulars_departments) - National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/news-and-events/188-national-audit-act-2018> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/news-and-events/188-national-audit-act-2018>) - Through the Budget Speech 2018 Paragraph Number 297, an Implementation Unit was established at the Ministry of Finance to monitor the execution of Budget Proposals: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

The National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 was passed in Parliament on 17 July 2018. The Budget Implementation Unit was established at the MOF through the Budget Speech 2018 (Paragraph No. 297).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

GQ-3. Are there additional laws regulating: (1) access to information; (2) government transparency; or (3) citizens participation? If yes, please provide the necessary details and links in the comment/citation, and specify whether and where these laws contain specific provisions for budget transparency and/or participation.

The third and last question asks researchers to list any additional laws regulating access to information, transparency, or citizens' participation that are relevant for the promotion of budget transparency and citizen participation in budget processes. These might include legislation related to access to information, to planning processes, or to public administration more generally. India's Right to Information Act of 2005 (<https://www.ncess.gov.in/facilities/central-public-information-officer/rti-act-details.html>) is an example of this type of law. More information on access to information legislation (constitutional provisions, laws, and regulations), including examples of model laws, can be found here: <http://www.right2info.org/laws/constitutional-provisions-laws-and-regulations#section-1>.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Link to Right to Information Act No. 12 of 2016: <http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6007.pdf> (<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6007.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: Right to Information Act No. 12 of 2016 was passed on the 4th of August 2016 allowing citizens the right to access any information that is in possession of a public authority.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

1. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 1 addresses the presentation of expenditure by administrative unit. This information indicates which government entity (ministry, department, or agency, or MDAs) will be responsible for spending the funds and, ultimately, held accountable for their use.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all administrative units, accounting for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the administrative units shown individually, in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation, must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures in the budget year. In other words, the sum of the expenditures assigned to the individual MDAs (education, health, infrastructure, interior, defense, etc.) must account for at least two-thirds of the total expenditure budgeted for that particular year. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents administrative units that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by administrative unit.

Answer:

a. Yes, administrative units accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018- First Schedule-Page 7-59: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I-Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit- Page XXXV: (PDF p. 35-39) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Comment:

Researcher: The main form of budget classification in Sri Lanka is administrative classification based on ministries and departments.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

2. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year by functional classification?

GUIDELINES:

Question 2 addresses the presentation of expenditure by functional classification. This classification indicates the programmatic purpose, sector, or objective for which the funds will be used, such as health, education, or defense. Administrative units are not necessarily aligned with functional classifications. For instance, in one country all functions connected with water supply (which fall into the "Housing" function) may be undertaken by a single government agency, while in another country they may be distributed across the Ministries of Environment, Housing, and Industrial Development. In the latter case, three ministries have programs addressing water supply, so three ministries contribute to one function. Similarly, some administrative units may conduct activities that cut across more than one function. For instance, in the example above, some programs of the Ministry of Environment would also be classified in the "environmental protection" function.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for the budget year organized by functional classification.

Answer:

b. No, expenditures are not presented by functional classification.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: EBPs of Sri Lanka doesn't present expenditure for budget year by functional classification.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

3. If the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation presents expenditures for the budget year by functional classification, is the

functional classification compatible with international standards?

GUIDELINES:

Question 3 asks whether a country's functional classification meets international standards. To answer "a," a country's functional classification must be aligned with the OECD and the UN's Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG), or provide a cross-walk between the national functional presentation and COFOG.

The OECD Best Practices for Budget Transparency can be viewed at <http://www.oecd.org/gov/budgeting/Best%20Practices%20Budget%20Transparency%20-%20complete%20with%20cover%20page.pdf>

COFOG can be viewed at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM_84E.pdf or at <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/qfs/manual/pdf/ch6ann.pdf>.

Answer:

b. No, the functional classification is not compatible with international standards, or expenditures are not presented by functional classification.

Source:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I:
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Link to Budget Speech 2018:
<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The classification adopted in the Budget Speech 2018 is incompatible with the international standards on functional classification (Functional classification of COFOG: <https://www.oecd.org/gov/48250728.pdf> (<https://www.oecd.org/gov/48250728.pdf>))
The project presentation presented in the Budget Speech 2018 could not be considered as a functional classification according to the international standards.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

4. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year by economic classification?

GUIDELINES:

Question 4 asks whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents expenditures for the budget year organized by economic classification. Economic classification provides information on the nature of the expenditure, such as whether funds are being used to pay for wages and salaries, capital projects, or social assistance benefits.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for the budget year organized by economic classification.

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditures are presented by economic classification.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: Volume I: Page XL (PDF p. 40-42)- Table 4.5: Summary Of Expenditure By Category And Object Code:
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Link to Budget Speech 2018- Page 105: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Comment:

Researcher: Both the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 and the Budget Speech 2018 has used the economic classification when reporting the expenditure estimates for 2018.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

5. If the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation presents expenditures for the budget year by economic classification, is the economic classification compatible with international standards?

GUIDELINES:

Question 5 asks whether a country's economic classification meets international standards. To answer "a," a country's economic classification must be consistent with the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) 2001 Government Finance Statistics (GFS). The GFS economic classification is presented here: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf>. To learn more about Government Finance Statistics also refer to the entire IMF 2001 GFS manual (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/all.pdf>).

Answer:

a. Yes, the economic classification is compatible with international standards.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: Volume I: Page XL- Table 4.5: Summary Of Expenditure By Category And Object Code:
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Link to Budget Speech 2018- Page 105: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Comment:

Researcher: The classification of expenditure for the FY 2018 is in line with the Government Finance Statistics (GFS) Page 179:
<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf> (<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf>)

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

6. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 6 asks whether expenditures are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should treat the term "program" as meaning any level of detail below an administrative unit – that is, any programmatic grouping that is below the ministry, department, or agency level. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures in the budget year. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Budget decisions for the upcoming year can also affect the parameters of future budgets. It is therefore useful to estimate revenues and expenditures for multi-year periods, understanding that these estimates might be revised as circumstances change. Sometimes referred to as a Medium Term Expenditure

Framework (MTEF), a three-year period – that is, the budget year plus two more years – is generally considered an appropriate horizon for budgeting and planning.

Answer:

a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 4.2: Summary of Expenditure by Programme -Refer Page XXXIII:
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Comment:

Researcher: As per the OBS 2019 guidelines, 'Program' could be any level of detail below an administrative unit. Budget Estimates (Draft) Volume I, II and III present the levels of estimated expenditure under the administrative unit. Example: Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine has expenditure heads such as, Head 111 - Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine and Head 220 - Department of Ayurveda. Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) Volume 1 (Page 339-381) : <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Further Each administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Development Activities' which includes allocations for major new projects for 2018 which can be considered as programmes of the budget year. This has been considered as the programmes as of OBS 2017. The overall development activities account for 31.45% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization and 22.37% of the total budget including public debt amortization. Operational and Development Activities are defined in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 (Page XII) as, recurrent and capital expenditure incurring in the nature of operational purposes are categorised as operational activities and the expenditure related to development in nature are categorised as development activities.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

7. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditure estimates for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 7 asks if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications for at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "b," multi-year expenditure estimates must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:

b. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

Expenditure estimates for multi-year (2016 actual, 2017 revised estimates and 2018 estimates, projections for 2019 and 2020) are presented in Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I by two of the three classifications.

1- Administrative classification- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit- Page XXXV: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

2- Economic classification- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Page XL- Table 4.5: Summary Of Expenditure By Category And Object Code: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Link to Budget Speech 2018- Page 105: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Comment:

Researcher: The main form of budget classification in Sri Lanka is administrative classification which means classifying based on ministries and departments. Apart from that, both the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 and the Budget Speech 2018 has used the economic classification when reporting the expenditure estimates for 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

7b. Based on the response to Question 7, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications have estimates for a multi-year period in the Executive's Budget Proposal?

Answer:

Administrative classification

Economic classification

Source:

Expenditure estimates for multi-year (2016 actual, 2017 revised estimates and 2018 estimates, projections for 2019 and 2020) are presented in Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I by two of the three classifications. 1- Administrative classification- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit- Page XXXV:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>) 2- Economic classification- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Page XL- Table 4.5: Summary Of Expenditure By Category And Object Code:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Link to Budget Speech 2018- Page 105: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>).

Comment:

Researcher: The main form of budget classification in Sri Lanka is administrative classification which means classifying based on ministries and departments. Apart from that both the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 and the Budget Speech 2018 has used the economic classification when reporting the expenditure estimates for 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

8. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditure estimates for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year) by program?

GUIDELINES:

Question 8 asks if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures over the multi-year period. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents multi-year estimates for programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if multi-year estimates are not presented by program.

Revenues generally are separated into two major categories: "tax" and "non-tax" revenues. Taxes are compulsory transfers that result from government exercising its sovereign power. The largest sources of tax revenue in some countries are taxes on personal and business income and taxes on goods and services, such as sales or value-added taxes. The category of non-tax revenues is more diverse, ranging from grants from international institutions and foreign governments to funds raised through the sale of government-provided goods and services. Note that some forms of revenue, such as contributions to social security funds, can be considered either a tax or non-tax revenue depending on the nature of the approach to these contributions. Particularly because different revenues have different characteristics, including who bears the burden of paying the tax and how collections are affected by economic conditions, it is helpful when estimates for revenues are disaggregated and displayed based on their sources.

For more information, please refer to the 2001 GFS manual, in particular Appendix 4 (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf>).

Answer:

a. Yes, multi-year estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 4.2: Summary of Expenditure by Programme -Refer Page XXXIII: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>; Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: As per the OBS 2019 guidelines, 'Program' could be any level of detail below an administrative unit. Budget Estimates (Draft) Volume I, II and III present the levels of all estimated expenditure under the administrative unit for multi-year period.

Further each Administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Programme Summary' which contain 'Development Activities', allocations for major new projects for 2018 which can be considered as programmes of the budget year. This has been considered as the programmes as of OBS 2017. The overall development activities account for 31.45% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization and 22.37% of the total budget including public debt amortization. Administrative units do not present all expenditure estimates by programme. Eg: Given expenditure estimates of Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs (Budget Estimates Volume 1: Page 235) accounts for 80.91% of it's total expenditure. Whereas Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine has present expenditure by programmes (Budget Estimates Volume 1: Page 347) for 27.63% estimates and Ministry of Defence (Budget Estimates Volume 1: Page 185) only accounts for 2.09% of total expenditure programmes. Further multiyear expenditure estimates are presented in the Budget Estimates (Draft) including two years beyond the budget year (Eg: projections for 2019 and 2020).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

9. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present the individual sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 9 assesses the degree to which the individual sources of "tax" revenue are disaggregated in the budget. The largest sources of tax revenue in some countries are taxes on personal and business income and taxes on goods and services, such as sales or value-added taxes.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all individual sources of tax revenue for the budget year, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all tax revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present individual sources of tax revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all tax revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents individual sources of tax revenue that account for less than two-thirds of tax revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of tax revenue are not presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of tax revenue accounting for all tax revenue are presented.

Source:

Link to the Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue- Page XXIV-XXV: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>; Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 provides all individuals revenue sources accounting for all tax and non-tax revenue. Refer Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII). Other Tax revenue account only for 1.4% of tax revenue for 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

10. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present the individual sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of government-produced goods and services) for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 10 assesses the degree to which the individual sources of "non-tax" revenue are disaggregated in the budget. The category of non-tax revenues is diverse, and can include revenue ranging from grants from international institutions and foreign governments to funds raised through the sale of government-provided goods and services.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all individual sources of non-tax revenue for the budget year, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all non-tax revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present individual sources of non-tax revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all non-tax revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents individual sources of non-tax revenue that account for less than two-thirds of non-tax revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of non-tax revenue are not presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, individual sources of non-tax revenue accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenues are presented.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 provides all individuals revenue sources accounting for all tax and non-tax revenue. Refer Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non-Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII). However, Other Non-Tax revenue account for 7.76% of non-tax revenue for 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of non-tax revenue accounting for all non-tax revenue are presented.

Comments: Please refer to tables of tax and non tax revenue (pages XXV-XXVI) of the EBP.

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

Researcher Response

The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue presents Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII) for 2018. However, it the table does not provide all non-tax revenue sources. The 'Other Non-Tax revenue' account for 7.76% of non-tax revenue for 2018.

11. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax) for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 11 evaluates whether revenue estimates are presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year) by "category," that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of revenues classified by category for at least two years following the budget year in question.

Answer:

a. Yes, multi-year estimates of revenue are presented by category.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non-Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) presents revenue classification (tax and non-tax) for multi year period (2016 actual, 2017 revised estimates, 2018 estimates and projections for 2019 and 2020).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

12. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates for individual sources of revenue presented for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 12 evaluates whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year). The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents multi-year estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented for a multi-year period.

Answer:

a. Yes, multi-year estimates for individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I - Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non-Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) presents individual sources of revenue (both tax and non-tax) for multi year period (2016 actual, 2017 revised estimates, 2018 estimates and projections for 2019 and 2020).

For all revenue, other categories account for less than 1% of total revenue.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

13. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 13 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt that the budget should include:

- the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;
- the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and
- the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens and banks and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies no information on borrowing and debt is presented for the budget year.

Answer:

b. Yes, two of the three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

1-Borrowings required for fiscal year 2018- Annexure III- Gross Borrowings Requirement - 2018 (Provisioning for Accounting Transactions) (Page 69)- Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
Figures for the budget deficit, which is a proxy for net new borrowing, are also shown in nominal values for 2018 on Page 70.

2- Total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year: is not presented in EBPs.

3- Interest Payments for Domestic and Foreign Debt: Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I (Page XLI)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Interests Payments and Repayments- Table (ii) Government Debt Service (Page 100): Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

Comment:

Researcher: Budget Speech 2018 (Page 106-107): Graph on Government Borrowings, Debt Servicing, and Outstanding Debt.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

13b. Based on the response to Question 13, check the box(es) below to identify which estimates of government borrowing and debt are presented in the

Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year
The interest payments on outstanding debt for the budget year

Source:

1-Borrowings required for fiscal year 2018- Annexure III- Gross Borrowings Requirement - 2018 (Provisioning for Accounting Transactions) (Page 69)- Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)
Figures for the budget deficit, which is a proxy for net new borrowing, are also shown in nominal values for 2018 on Page 70.

2- Total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year: is not presented in EBPs.

3- Interest Payments for Domestic and Foreign Debt: Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I (Page XLI)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>);

Interests Payments and Repayments- Table (ii) Government Debt Service (Page 100): Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: Budget Speech 2018 (Page 106-107): Graph on Government Borrowings, Debt Servicing, and Outstanding Debt. The net borrowing is not directly mentioned but the Annexure III- Gross Borrowings Requirement - 2018 (Provisioning for Accounting Transactions) in Budget Speech 2018 (Page 69) provides information on gross borrowings and debt repayments which can be used to calculate net borrowings.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

14. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the composition of the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year?"

(The core information must include interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 14 focuses on the composition of government debt at the end of the budget year, asking whether "core" information related to its composition is presented. These core components include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

The interest rates affect the amount of interest that must be paid to creditors. The maturity profile indicates the final payment date of the loan, at which point the principal (and all remaining interest) is due to be paid; government borrowing typically includes a mix of short-term and long-term debt. As discussed in Question 13, domestic debt is held by a country's citizens, banks, and businesses, while external debt is held by foreigners. These factors related to the composition of the debt give an indication of the potential vulnerability of the country's debt position, and ultimately whether the cost of servicing the accumulated debt is affordable.

Beyond these core elements, a government may also provide additional information related to the composition of its debt, including for instance: whether interest rates are fixed or variable; whether debt is callable; the currency of the debt; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); an analysis of the risk associated with the debt; and where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to the composition of government debt at the end of the budget year as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the composition of government debt is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the composition of the debt outstanding at the end of the budget year.

Answer:

d. No, information related to composition of total debt outstanding is not presented.

Source:

- 1- Information on Interest rates on debt for 2018 is unavailable.
- 2- Information on maturity profiles of the debt are unavailable.
- 3- Information on Total Debt outstanding (domestic/external) at the end of budget year 2018 is unavailable.

Type of the debt (Total Foreign Financing and Total Domestic Financing is included) for 2018- Annexure IV-Summary of the Budget (2014- 2018) (Page 70): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Comment:

1- Interest rates on debt: The EBPs (Appropriation Bill 2018, Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, Budget Speech 2018 and Fiscal Management Report 2018) does not present any information on interest rates on debts for 2018. However, the Fiscal Management Report 2018 present annual interest rates on debt for the period of January to August 2017 in Table 3.1: Foreign Financing Development Commitments and Market Borrowings with Terms - from 1st January to 31st August 2017 (Page 47-50)-Link to the Fiscal Magement Report 2018:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>).

2 - Maturity profile of the debt: The EBPs (Appropriation Bill 2018, Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, Budget Speech 2018 and Fiscal Management Report 2018) doesn't present any information on maturity profile of the debts. However, the Fiscal Management report 2018 present maturity/availability period from the date of signing (years) of the debt for the period of January to August 2017 in Table 3.1: Foreign Financing Development Commitments and Market Borrowings with Terms - from 1st January to 31st August 2017 (Page 47-50)-Link to the Fiscal Magement Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>). Apart from the core components under OBS guidelines, the Budget Speech 2018 contains graphical presentations on Government Borrowings, Debt Servicing, and Outstanding Debt (Page 106-107)- Debt repayments and interest payments.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

14b. Based on the response to Question 14, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the composition of the total debt outstanding are are presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

- 1- Information on Interest rates on debt for 2018 is unavailable.
- 2- Information on maturity profiles of the debt are unavailable.
- 3- Information on Total debt outstanding (domestic/external) at the end of the budget year is unavailable.

Type of the debt (Total Foreign Financing and Total Domestic Financing is included) for 2018- Annexure IV-Summary of the Budget (2014- 2018) (Page 70)- Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Information beyond the core elements: graphical presentations on Government Borrowings, Debt Servicing, and Outstanding Debt (Page 106-107), Debt repayments and interest payments.

1- Interest rates on debt: The EBPs (Appropriation Bill 2018, Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, Budget Speech 2018 and Fiscal Management Report 2018) doesn't present any information on interest rates on debts for 2018. However, the Fiscal Management report 2018 present annual interest rates on debt for the period of January to August 2017 in Table 3.1: Foreign Financing Development Commitments and Market Borrowings with Terms - from 1st January to 31st August 2017 (Page 47-50)-Link to thr Fiscal Magement Report 2018:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>).

2- Maturity profile of the debt: The EBPs (Appropriation Bill 2018, Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, Budget Speech 2018 and Fiscal

Management Report 2018) doesn't present any information on maturity profile of the debts. However, the Fiscal Management report 2018 present maturity /availability period from the date of signing (years) of the debt for the period of January to August 2017 in Table 3.1: Foreign Financing Development Commitments and Market Borrowings with Terms - from 1st January to 31st August 2017 (Page 47-50)-Link to thr Fiscal Magement Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>). Apart from the core components under OBS guidelines, the Budget Speech 2018 contains graphical presentations on Government Borrowings, Debt Servicing, and Outstanding Debt (Page 106-107)- Debt repayments and interest payments.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

15. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?"

(The core information must include a discussion of the economic outlook with estimates of nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 15 focuses on the macroeconomic forecast that underlies the budget's revenue and expenditure estimates, asking whether "core" information related to the economic assumptions is presented. These core components include a discussion of the economic outlook as well as estimates of the following:

- nominal GDP level;
- inflation rate;
- real GDP growth; and
- interest rates.

While the core macroeconomic information should be a standard feature of the Executive's Budget Proposal, the importance of some types of macroeconomic assumptions may vary from country to country. For example, the budget estimates of some countries are particularly affected by changes in the price of oil and other commodities.

Beyond these core elements, some governments also provide additional information related to the economic outlook, including for instance: short and long-term interest rates; rate of employment and unemployment; GDP deflator; price of oil and other commodities; current account; exchange rate; and composition of GDP growth.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to the macroeconomic forecast as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the macroeconomic forecast is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the macroeconomic forecast is presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, the core information is presented for the macroeconomic forecast.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 230): Table- Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework 2017-2020 (Projection):
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Table- Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework 2017-2020 (Projection) provides three core elements namely; nominal GDP level, inflation rate and real GDP growth. However, no document considered under the EBPs provide information in interest rates. The Table- Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework 2017-2020 (Projection) provides additional information such as, per capita GDP, Total investment, Domestic Savings and National Savings and Trade Gap.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: However,details about the forecasts are not given.

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

15b. Based on the response to Question 15, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the macroeconomic forecast are included in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

Nominal GDP level

Inflation rate

Real GDP growth

Information beyond the core elements (please specify)

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 230): Table- Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework 2017-2020 (Projection):

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: Information beyond the core elements: GDP per capita, Total investment, Domestic Savings and National Savings and Trade Gap.

The Table- Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework 2017-2020 (Projection) provides three core elements namely; nominal GDP level, inflation rate and real GDP growth. However, no document considered under the EBPs provide information in interest rates. The Table- Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework 2017-2020 (Projection) provides additional information such as, GDP per capita, Total investment, Domestic Savings and National Savings and Trade Gap.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

16. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions (i.e., sensitivity analysis) on the budget?

(The core information must include estimates of the impact on expenditures, revenue, and debt of different assumptions for the inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 16 focuses on the issue of whether the Executive's Budget Proposal shows how different macroeconomic assumptions affect the budget estimates (known as a "sensitivity analysis"). It asks whether "core" information related to a sensitivity analysis is presented, estimating the impact on expenditures, revenue, and debt of different assumptions for:

- *inflation rate;*
- *real GDP growth; and*
- *interest rates.*

A sensitivity analysis shows the effect on the budget of possible changes in some macroeconomic assumptions, and is important for understanding the impact of the economy on the budget; for instance, what would happen to revenue collections if GDP growth were slower than what is assumed in the budget proposal? Or what would happen to expenditure if inflation were higher than estimated? Or how will revenue be affected by a decrease in the price of oil?

As noted for Question 15, changes in certain macroeconomic assumptions, such as the price of oil and other commodities, can have a significant impact on the budget estimates. As a result, some sensitivity analyses may also examine the impact on the budget estimates of changes in assumptions such as the price of oil that are beyond the core elements of the inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to a "sensitivity analysis" as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to a "sensitivity analysis" is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on "sensitivity analysis" is presented.

Answer:

d. No, information related to different macroeconomic assumptions is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researchers: The EBPs or any supporting document don't present a sensitivity analysis based on the assumed real and nominal GDP, inflation rates and interest rates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

17. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how new policy proposals, as distinct from existing policies, affect expenditures?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 17 and 18 ask about new policy proposals in the budget. In any given year, most of the expenditures and revenues in the budget reflect the continuation of existing policies. However, much of the attention during the budget debate is focused on new proposals – whether they call for eliminating an existing program, introducing a new one, or changing an existing program at the margins. Typically, these new proposals are accompanied by an increase, a decrease, or a shift in expenditures or revenues. Because these changes may have different impacts on people's lives, the budget proposal should present sufficient detail about new policies and their budgetary impact.

Question 17 asks about new expenditure policies, and Question 18 asks about new revenue policies. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how all new policy proposals affect expenditures (for Question 17) or revenues (for Question 18) and a narrative discussion of the impact of these new policies. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show the impact of all new policy proposals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show the impact of only some, but not all, policy proposals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the impact of new policy proposals.

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates that show how all new policy proposals affect expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Speech 2018 includes a narrative description on the impact of the new policy proposals along with the budget allocation to initiate the specific budget proposal. However, it does not show how all expenditure proposals can impact total expenditure of the FY 2018. Further the new proposals are tabulated on page 55-68- Annexure II- Expenditure Proposals of the Budget Speech 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, estimates that show how all new policy proposals affect expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Comments: A detailed discussion on new budget proposals and additional expenditure requirements are given in the EBP. The reviewer should read the Budget speech.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP cross-country consistency check, this response is revised from C to A. There is a detailed narrative discussing new policy proposals from PDF pages 10-51, and a comprehensive table with new policy proposals listed as Annex 2 on pages 59-72. As compared to other countries, this amount of detail qualifies for an A score.

18. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how new policy proposals, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 17 and 18 ask about new policy proposals in the budget. In any given year, most of the expenditures and revenues in the budget reflect the continuation of existing policies. However, much of the attention during the budget debate is focused on new proposals – whether they call for eliminating an existing program, introducing a new one, or changing an existing program at the margins. Typically, these new proposals are accompanied by an increase, a decrease, or a shift in expenditures or revenues. Because these changes may have different impacts on people's lives, the budget proposal should present sufficient detail about new policies and their budgetary impact.

Question 17 asks about new expenditure policies, and Question 18 asks about new revenue policies. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how all new policy proposals affect expenditures (for Question 17) or revenues (for Question 18) and a narrative discussion of the impact of these new policies. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show the impact of all new policy proposals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show the impact of only some, but not all, policy proposals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the impact of new policy proposals.

Prior-year information constitutes an important benchmark for assessing the proposals for the upcoming budget year. Estimates of prior years should be presented in the same formats (in terms of classification) as the budget year to ensure that year-to-year comparisons are meaningful. For example, if the budget proposes shifting responsibility for a particular program from one administrative unit to another – such as shifting responsibility for the training of nurses from the health department to the education department – the prior-year figures must be adjusted before year-to-year comparisons of administrative budgets can be made.

Typically, when the budget proposal is submitted, the year prior to the budget year (BY-1), also known as the current year, has not ended, so the executive will provide estimates of the anticipated outcome for BY-1. The soundness of these estimates is directly related to the degree to which they have been updated to reflect actual expenditures to date, legislative changes that have occurred, and anticipated changes in macroeconomic, caseload, and other relevant factors for the remainder of the year.

The first year that can reflect actual outcomes, therefore, is generally two years before the budget year (BY-2). Thus the OECD recommends that data covering at least two years before the budget year (along with two years of projections beyond the budget year) are provided in order to assess fully the trends in the budget.

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates that show how all new policy proposals affect revenues are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Speech 2018 includes new revenue proposals, Annexure I- Revenue proposals - 2018 (Page 54) and Annexure VIII- Technical Notes- Part I – Taxation (Page 78-87) provides the impact of some but not all revenue proposals in a narrative form under the technical note. The Budget Speech 2018 provides a graphical representation of Government Revenue on Page 104.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP cross-country consistency check, this response is revised from C to A. There is a detailed narrative discussing new policy proposals from PDF pages 51-56, and a comprehensive table with new policy proposals listed as Annex 1 on PDF p. 58. As compared to other countries, this amount of detail qualifies for an A score.

19. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 19 asks if expenditure estimates for the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) are presented by one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends

the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. (See Questions 1-5 above.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates for BY-1 by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates for BY-1 must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates for BY-1 are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:

b. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

1-Administrative unit classification- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I-Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit- Page XXXV: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>).

2- Economic Classification- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: Volume I: Page XL- Table 4.5: Summary Of Expenditure By Category And Object Code: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Link to Budget Speech 2018- Page 105: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

3- Functional Classification of expenditures for the year preceding the budget year is not presented in any document.

Comment:

Researcher: The administrative classification and economic classification of expenditures are included in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018. It contains actuals for 2016, revised estimates for 2017, 2018 estimates and projections for 2019 & 2020.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

20. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 20 asks if expenditure estimates for the year before the budget year (BY-1) are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as *le plan comptable* or *le plan comptable detaillé*. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for BY-1. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for BY-1. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Answer:

a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-1.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: : As per the OBS 2019 guidelines, 'Program' could be any level of detail below an administrative unit. Budget Estimates (Draft) Volume I, II and III present the levels of all estimated expenditure under the administrative unit.

Further, each Administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Programme Summary' which contain 'Development Activities', allocations for major new projects which can be considered as programmes. This has been considered as the programmes as of OBS 2017. The overall development activities account for 31.45% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization and 22.37% of the total budget including public debt amortization. Further, the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I includes actual expenditure for 2016 (BY-2) and revised estimates for 2017 (BY-1).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

21. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, have expenditure estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditures?

GUIDELINES:

Question 21 asks whether the expenditure estimates for the year before the budget year (BY-1) have been updated from the original enacted levels. Updates can reflect actual experience to date; revised estimates due to shifting of funds by the executive, as permitted under the law; enactment of supplemental budgets; and revised assumptions regarding macroeconomic conditions, caseload, and other relevant factors for the remainder of the year.

Answer "a" applies if the estimates have been updated; answer "b" applies if the original estimates are still being used.

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the actual expenditure estimates for 2016 (BY-2) and the revised estimates (updates from the enacted levels) for 2017 (BY-1). The Table 4.4- Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit (Page XXXV -XXXIX)

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

22. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of expenditure for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 22 asks if expenditure estimates for more than one year prior to the budget year (BY-2 and prior years) are presented by any of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. (See Questions 1-5 above.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are not presented by any of the three classifications

Answer:

b. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the actual expenditure estimates for 2016 (BY-2) and the revised estimates (updates from the enacted levels) for 2017 (BY-1). The Table 4.4- Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit (Page XXXV -XXXIX).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

22b. Based on the response to Question 22, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications have estimates for more than one year prior to the budget year in the Executive Budget Proposal:

Answer:

Administrative classification

Economic classification

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the actual expenditure estimates for 2016 (BY-2) and the revised estimates (updates from the enacted levels) for 2017 (BY-1). The Table 4.4- Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit (Page XXXV -XXXIX).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

23. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for more than one year preceding the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 23 asks if expenditure estimates for more than one year before the budget year (BY-2 and prior years) are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for BY-2 and prior years. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for BY-2 and prior years. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Answer:

a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-2 and prior years.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume II: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume III:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccb71ae582>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccb71ae582>)

Comment:

Researcher: As per the OBS 2019 guidelines, 'Program' could be any level of detail below an administrative unit. Budget Estimates (Approved) Volume I, II and III present the levels of estimated expenditure under the administrative unit. Example: Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine has expenditure heads such as, Head 111 - Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine and Head 220 - Department of Ayurveda. Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) Volume 1 (Page 341-383): http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c09 ; Each Administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Programme Summary' which contain 'Development Activities', allocations for major new projects which can be considered as programmes. This has been considered as the programmes as of OBS 2017. The overall development activities account for 31.45% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization and 22.37% of the total budget including public debt amortization. Further, the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I includes actual expenditure for 2016 (BY-2) and revised estimates for 2017 (BY-1).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

24. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:

Question 24 asks for which year the actual outcomes for expenditures are shown. In most cases, the most recent year for which budget data on actual outcomes are available will be BY-2, as BY-1 is generally not yet finished when the budget proposal is drafted. So a government that has updated all its expenditure data for BY-2 to reflect what actually occurred, as opposed to estimating the outcome for that year, shows good public financial management practice.

For an "a" answer, a country must meet the good practice of having the figures for BY-2 reflect actual outcomes.

Answer:

a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>).

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the all actual expenditure estimates for 2016 (BY-2) and the all revised estimates (updates from the enacted levels) for 2017 (BY-1). The Table 4.4- Government Expenditure by Ministry / Special Spending Unit (Page XXXV -XXXIX).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

25. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue by category (such as tax and non-tax) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 are presented by category.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I- Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV- XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the all revenue estimates by category (tax and non-tax) for 2016 (BY-2) and for 2017 (BY-1).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

26. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present individual sources of revenue for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-1.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I- Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV- XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the all individual sources of revenue estimates by category (tax and non-tax) for 2016 (BY-2) and for 2017 (BY-1).

"Other" categories in all revenue account for less than 1% of total revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

27. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, have the original estimates of revenue for the year prior to the budget year

(BY-1) been updated to reflect actual revenue collections?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I- Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV- XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents all actual revenue estimates for 2016 (BY-2) and the all revised estimates (updates from the enacted levels) for 2017 (BY-1).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

28. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax) for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by category.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I- Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV- XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the all revenue estimates by category (tax and non-tax) for 2016 (BY-2) and for 2017 (BY-1).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

29. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present individual sources of revenue for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-2 and prior years.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I- Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV- XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents the all individual sources of revenue for more than one year prior to the budget year. It covers 2016 (BY-2) and 2017 (BY-1).

"Other" categories in all revenue account for less than 1% of total revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

30. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all revenues reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I- Table 3.2.1 Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV- XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI- XXVII): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents actual revenue outcomes for 2016 (BY-2).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

31. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?"

(The core information must include the total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1; the amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1; interest payments on the debt; interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 31 focuses on prior-year debt information, rather than on prior-year expenditures or revenues, asking whether "core" information is provided on government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1).

The "core" information includes:

- total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1;

- amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1;
- interest payments on the debt;
- interest rates on the debt instruments;
- maturity profile of the debt; and
- whether it is domestic or external debt.

This core information for BY-1 is consistent with the budget year information for borrowing and debt, which is examined in Questions 13 and 14.

In addition, some governments provide information beyond the core elements, such as gross new borrowing required during BY-1; currency of the debt; whether the debt carries a fixed or variable interest rate; whether it is callable; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for BY-1 as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to government borrowing and debt, including its composition, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on government borrowing and debt for BY-1.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

1-Information on Total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1 is not presented in EBPs or any supporting document.

However, Public Debt Repayment (Domestic and Foreign Debt) for 2017 (BY-1) is present: Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I (Page XLII) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Fiscal Management Report 2018 (Page 53)- 3.4 External Debt Stock and External Debt Service Payments: Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

2- Amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1: The Budget Speech doesn't provide the gross borrowing requirement for 2017 (BY-1)

3- Interest payments on the debt: Interest Payments for Domestic and Foreign Debt-Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I (Page XLI): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Interests Payments and Repayments- Table (ii) Government Debt Service (Page 100)- Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018- Volume I <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Budget Speech 2018 (Page 106-107): Graph on Government Borrowings, Debt Servicing, and Outstanding Debt- Link to the Budget Speech 2108: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

4-Interest rates on the debt instruments are not presented in the EBPs or in any supporting document (Appropriation, A Bill, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Bill No. 210. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume I. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume II. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume III. Budget Speech 2018. Fiscal Management Report 2018.)

5-Maturity profiles of the debt instruments are not presented in the EBPs or in any supporting document (Appropriation, A Bill, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Bill No. 210. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume I. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume II. Budget Estimates 2018 (Draft) Volume III. Budget Speech 2018. Fiscal Management Report 2018.)

6- Type of the debt (Total Foreign Financing and Total Domestic Financing is included) Annexure IV-Summary of the Budget (2014- 2018) (Page 70)- Link to the Budget Speech 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Fiscal Management Report 2018 presents information on foreign financing and market borrowings for 2017 including their currency, maturity profile and interest rates- Table 3.1. Foreign Financing Development Commitments and Market Borrowings with Terms - from 1st January to 31st August 2017 (Page 47-50) and information on treasury bill and bond rates from 2016- August 2017 (Page 38) Table 1.15. Behavior of Yield Rates on Government Securities and Exchange Rate: 2016-2017. However, the information does not cover the 12 months of 2017 (BY-1) it only covers 8 months of 2017. Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

32. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:

Question 32 asks for which year the actual outcome for debt is shown. In most cases, the most recent year for which budget data on actual outcomes are available will be BY-2, as BY-1 is generally not yet finished when the budget proposal is drafted. So a government that has updated its debt data for BY-2 to reflect what actually occurred, as opposed to estimating the outcome for that year, shows good public financial management practice.

For an "a" answer, a country must meet the good practice of having the figures for BY-2 reflect actual outcomes.

It is essential that all government activities that may have an impact on the budget – in the current budget year or in future budget years – be fully disclosed to the legislature and the public in budget documents. In some countries, for instance, entities outside central government (such as public corporations) undertake fiscal activities that could affect current and future budgets. Similarly, activities that can have a significant impact on the budget, such as payment arrears and contingent liabilities, sometimes are not properly captured by the regular presentations of expenditure, revenue, and debt.

Answer:

a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

Government debt as a percentage of GDP- Table 1. Medium Term Macro Fiscal Framework: 2017-2021 (As a percent of GDP)- Link to Fiscal Management Report (Page 6): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>); Type of the debt (Total Foreign Financing and Total Domestic Financing is included) Annexure IV-Summary of the Budget (2014- 2018) (Page 70)- Link to the Budget Speech 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>); Domestic and Foreign Financing- Table 4.3 National Level Financing- Link to the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 (Page XXXIV): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

While government debt is presented as a percentage of GDP (and not a nominal value), nominal GDP for the same fiscal year is presented in the same document on p. 74.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

33. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on extra-budgetary funds for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the extra-budgetary fund; and complete income, expenditure, and financing data on a gross basis.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 33 focuses on extra-budgetary funds, asking whether "core" information related to these funds, which exist outside the budget, are presented. These core components include:

- *a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the extra-budgetary fund (i.e., why was a particular fund set up? what is it used for?); and*
- *estimates of its income, expenditure, and financing. (These estimates should be presented on a gross basis so that it is possible to tell how much money flows through each extra-budgetary fund.)*

In most countries, governments engage in certain budgetary activities that are not included in the central government's budget. Known as extra-budgetary funds, they can range in size and scope. For example, countries frequently set up pension and social security programs as extra-budgetary funds, where the revenues collected and the benefits paid are recorded in a separate fund outside the budget. Another example of an extra-budgetary fund can be found in countries dependent on hydrocarbon/mineral resources, where revenues from producing and selling those resources are channeled through systems outside the annual budget.

In some cases, the separation engendered by an extra-budgetary fund serves a legitimate political purpose, and the finances and activities of these funds are well documented. In other cases, however, this structure is used for obfuscation, and little or nothing is known about a fund's finances and activities.

The availability of information related to extra-budgetary funds is essential for a comprehensive understanding of the government's true fiscal position. In addition to the core information, other information about extra-budgetary funds is also desirable. Such information includes a discussion of the risks associated with the extra-budgetary fund; expenditures classified by economic, functional, or administrative unit; and the rules and procedures that govern the operations and management of the extra-budgetary fund.

For more information about extra-budgetary funds, see the Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>) and Principle 2.1.1 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to extra-budgetary funds as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. A "b" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation presents all of the core information. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to extra-budgetary funds is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on extra-budgetary funds.

Answer:

d. No, information related to extra-budgetary funds is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Information on extra-budgetary funds is not available. The Director of the National Budget Department stated that there are no extra-budgetary funds apart from Consolidated Fund.

SBTM: There is no extrabudgetary fund, to fund certain health expenditures in Sri Lanka according to the Director of the National Budget Department. Money for all expenditures, are allocated through Consolidated Fund.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some extra-budgetary funds.

Comments: Schedule 2 gives some expenditures which does not require Parliament approval. These are actually extra-budgetary funds. See 2.1 Expenditure that can be charged to the Consolidated Fund without obtaining Parliamentary approval through the Appropriation Bill provisions made for the year 2018 Page XVIII <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> Also there are many funds operate by various ministries and government departments. See the following web link also. <http://www.sundaytimes.lk/190707/business-times/parliament-control-over-210-state-funds-13-shut-down-356841.html>

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP review, this question is confirmed as D. As the peer reviewer correctly notes, and confirms with the media report on the State Funds, there are some funds operated by Ministries and Departments that are not on-budget. The expenditure on p. XVIII (Section 2.1 of Volume 1E) however is not related to those State Funds, but rather on expenditure for core functions of the state that are automatically appropriated without legislative approval. While State Funds are considered extra-budgetary funds by OBS methodology, they are not reported in budget documents, therefore the correct score on this question is D.

34. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present central government finances (both budgetary and extra-budgetary) on a consolidated basis for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 34 asks whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documents present the finances of the central government on a consolidated basis, showing both its budgetary and extra-budgetary activities. Virtually all of the questions in the OBS questionnaire focus on budgetary central government – the activities of the ministries, departments, or agencies of central government. In addition, Question 33 asks about extra-budgetary funds, such as social security funds that are not included in the budget.

Coverage is an important aspect of fiscal reporting. Budget documents should cover the full scope of government's financial activity. In many countries, extra-budgetary activities are substantial, and can represent a sizable share of the central government's activities. To get a full picture of the central government's finances, therefore, it is necessary to examine both activities that are included in the budget and those that are extra-budgetary. This question asks whether such a consolidated presentation of central government finances is provided.

The central government is only one component of the overall public sector. The public sector also includes other levels of government, such as state and local

government, and public corporations. (See Box 2.1 under Principle 1.1.1 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018): <https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>). For the purpose of answering this question, please consider only the central government level.

In order to answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present central government finances (both budgetary and extra-budgetary) on a consolidated basis for at least the budget year.

Answer:

b. No, central government finances are not presented on a consolidated basis.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) provides the Consolidated Budget and this includes both provincial council (subnational level) revenue and expenditure estimates for 2018. However, Sri Lanka does not present extrabudgetary funds in its EBPs or in supporting documents. Further, the Director of National Budget Department confirmed that Sri Lanka does not have an extra budgetary funds. The Revenue of the provincial councils is recorded in Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page XXVII): Table 3.2.3 Provincial Council Revenue:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); The Expenditure estimates for each Administrative unit is provided in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume III:

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, central government finances are presented on a consolidated basis.

Comments: See review of Q 33. See the following link <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> Pages XXXV - XXXIX

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP review, this question is confirmed as B. As the peer reviewer correctly notes, and confirms with the media report on the State Funds, there are some funds operated by Ministries and Departments that are not on-budget. The expenditure on p. XVIII (Section 2.1 of Volume 1E) however is not related to those State Funds, but rather on expenditure for core functions of the state that are automatically appropriated without legislative approval. While State Funds are considered extra-budgetary funds by OBS methodology, they are not reported in budget documents, therefore the correct score on this question is B.

35. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of intergovernmental transfers for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 35 asks about intergovernmental transfers. In many cases, the central government supports the provision of a good or service by a lower level of government through an intergovernmental transfer of funds. This is necessary because, independent from the level of administrative decentralization that exists in a given country, the capacity for revenue collection of a local government is unlikely to be sufficient to pay for all its expenses. However, because the activity is not being undertaken by an administrative unit of the central government, it is unlikely to receive the same level of review in the budget. Thus it is important to include in the budget proposal a statement that explicitly indicates the amount and purposes of these transfers.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all intergovernmental transfers and a narrative discussing these transfers. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all intergovernmental transfers are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, intergovernmental transfers (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of intergovernmental transfers are presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, estimates of all intergovernmental transfers are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Source:

1-Intergovernmental transfers for 2018- Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>).

2-Allocations to Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government transfers, capital transfers and capital expenditure on Provincial Councils (2016-2020) Table 4.4 Government Expenditure By Ministry / Special Spending Unit Estimate (Page XXXV-XXXIX): Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018) Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Expenditure estimates of Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government- Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018) Volume III (Page 29-70): <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>).

3- Annexure I- Allocations Provided from the Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liability Project (01st January to 30th September 2017) (Page 127-127)-Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Researcher:

1-Appropriation, A Bill, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Bill No. 210 presents allocations for Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government including the classification of recurrent and capital expenditure (Page 29-31). Allocations for each provincial council and Minister are broken down to allocation for Operational Activities and Development Activities.

3- Fiscal Management Report provides a narrative description on the purpose of the recurrent and capital expenditure allocations for 8 months of 2017. However, EBPs or any other supporting document don't provide a narrative description on the intergovernmental transfers.

SBTM:

1-There has been a grant to Provincial Councils from the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine in 2016 (actual value) of Rs. 68 mn as per the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 351) for 02-Administration and Establishment Services which falls under Operational Activities. In addition, 1508-Other, presents expenditure estimates (2016 actual, 2017 revised estimates, 2018 estimates and projections for 2019 and 2020) for 'Grants to the Provincial Hospitals'. Under Development Activities, 13 - Hospital Development Projects (Page 360), the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine has an allocation for 'Strengthening Patient Care Services by Establishing Clinical Waste Management Systems in the Needy Hospitals comes under the Provincial Councils in Sri Lanka (GOSL- Australia)'

2- The Fiscal Management Report 2018: Annexure I- Allocations Provided from the Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liability Project (01st January to 30th September 2017): The North Western Provincial Council has received a budgetary allocation for the new appointments in Health Service made in 2016 & 2017and special allowance for principals (Page 128).

SBTM- Sources: 1-Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018) Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>). 2- Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

36. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present alternative displays of expenditures (such as by gender, by age, by income, or by region) to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens, for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 36 asks about "alternative displays" of expenditures that highlight the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens. As discussed above, expenditures are typically presented by at least one of three classifications – administrative, functional, and economic classifications (see Questions 1-5) – and by individual program (Question 6). In addition, governments can provide alternative displays to emphasize different aspects of expenditure policies and to show who benefits from these expenditures.

For the purpose of answering this question, the alternative presentation must differ from the presentations (such as administrative, functional, or economic classifications or presentation by program) used to answer other questions. The alternative display can cover all expenditures or only a portion of expenditures. For instance, it can show how all expenditures are distributed according to geographic region or it can show how selected expenditures (such as the health budget or the agriculture budget) are distributed to different regions. But such a geographic display must be something different than the presentation of intergovernmental transfers used to answer question 35. One exception is when a country includes a special presentation of all policies intended to benefit the most impoverished populations (and is used to answer Question 52) then that can be considered an alternative display for purposes of answering this question as well. Finally, brief fact sheets showing how proposals in the budget benefit particular groups would be insufficient; only more detailed presentations would be considered.

The IBP Budget Brief, "How Transparent are Governments When it Comes to Their Budget's Impact on Poverty and Inequality?" (<https://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/government-transparency-of-budgets-impact-on-poverty-inequality-ibp-2019.pdf>) includes a discussion of the importance of alternative displays of budget information and provides a number of examples. For instance,

- Bangladesh in its 2017-18 Budget included a detailed supplementary Gender Budgeting Report, which presents the spending dedicated to advancing women across various departments. (<https://mof.portal.gov.bd/site/page/3bb14732-b5b1-44df-9921-efedf1496295>).
- The UK's 2017 budget included a supplementary analysis that provided a distributional analysis of the budget by households in different income groups (see https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/661465/distributional_analysis_autumn_budget_2017.pdf)
- South Africa's 2017 Budget Review goes beyond the standard presentation of intergovernmental transfers, discussing the redistribution that results from national revenue flowing to the provinces and municipalities and presenting the allocations on a per capita basis (see chapter 6, <http://www.treasury.gov.za/documents/national%20budget/2017/review/FullBR.pdf>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must include at least three different presentations that illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens for at least the budget year. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must include at least two different alternative displays of expenditures. A "c" applies if only one type of alternative display of expenditure is presented. Answer "d" applies if no alternative display of expenditure is presented.

Answer:

d. No, alternative displays of expenditures are not presented to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The documents which qualify to be considered as Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation do not present alternative displays of expenditures (such as by gender, by age, by income, or by region) to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

36b. Based on the response to Question 36, select the box(es) below to identify which types of alternative displays are included in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The documents qualify to be considered as Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation do not present alternative displays of expenditures (such as by gender, by age, by income, or by region) to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

37. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of transfers to public corporations for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 37 asks about transfers to public corporations. It is often the case that governments have a stake in enterprises that manage resources that are particularly relevant for the public good (such as electricity, water, and oil). While these public corporations can operate independently, in some cases the government will provide direct support by making transfers to these corporations, including to subsidize capital investment and operating expenses.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all transfers to public corporations and a narrative discussing the purposes of these transfers. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all transfers to public corporations are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, transfers to public corporations (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "c" also applies if estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented as a single line item. Answer "d" applies if no estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, estimates of all transfers to public corporations are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Source:

1-Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

2-Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

3-Link to the Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Researcher: 1- Each head of expenditure (Ministries/ Departments) in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, contain a component named 'Transfers' which consist of transfers to public institutions. Eg: HEAD 112 Minister of Foreign Affairs - 02 Development Activities - 02 Administration & Establishment Services (Page 394) has transfers to Lakshman Kadiragamar Institute for International Relations and Strategic Studies and Secretariat for National Ocean Affairs.

2-Budget Speech 2018 comprises of allocations/transfers to public corporations/ institutions. Eg: Paragraph 20- 500 million is allocated to Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB) to introduce 50 electric busses into the SLTB bus fleet. Private bus operators will also be incentivized to go electric (Page 8).

3- Transfers to Public Corporations & Institutions during January 2017 to August 2017 are included in the Fiscal Management Report 2018, Table 1.2. Estimated and Actual Revenue and Expenditure: 2017 (Page 24).

SBTM: Expenditure Head- Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, contain a component named 'Transfers' which consist of transfers to public institutions (Page 345). This consist of transfers to Public Institutions by Head 111 - Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (Page 348) and Head 220 - Department of Ayurveda (Page 374).

SBTM- Sources: 1-Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

38. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on quasi-fiscal activities for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the quasi-fiscal activity and the intended beneficiaries.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 38 focuses on quasi-fiscal activities, asking whether "core" information related to such activities is presented. These core components include:

- A statement of purpose or policy rationale for the quasi-fiscal activity (i.e., what is the reason for engaging in this activity?);
- The identification of intended beneficiaries of the quasi-fiscal activity.

The term “quasi-fiscal activities” refers to a broad range of activities that are fiscal in character and could be carried out through the regular budget process but are not. For example, a quasi-fiscal activity could take place if, instead of providing a direct subsidy through the budget for a particular activity, a public financial institution provides an indirect subsidy by offering loans at below-market rates for that activity. Similarly, it is a quasi-fiscal activity when an enterprise provides goods or services at prices below commercial rates to certain individuals or groups to support the government’s policy goals.

The above examples are policy choices that may be approved by the government and legislature. However, quasi-fiscal activities can also involve activities that violate or circumvent a country’s budget process laws or are not subject to the regular legislative approval process for expenditures. For example, the executive may issue an informal order to a government entity, such as a public commercial enterprise, to provide the executive with goods and services that normally would have to be purchased with funding authorized by the legislature. All quasi-fiscal activities should be disclosed to the public and subject to public scrutiny.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about quasi-fiscal activities, including for example: the anticipated duration of the quasi-fiscal activity; a quantification of the activity and the assumptions that support these estimates; and a discussion of the fiscal significance and potential risks associated with the activity, including the impact on the entity carrying out the activity. Principle 3.3.2 of the IMF’s Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>) provides examples of quasi-fiscal activities that can be consulted as needed. And more details on quasi-fiscal activities can be found in the Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>).

To answer “a,” the Executive’s Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to all quasi-fiscal activities for at least the budget year as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer “b,” the Executive’s Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer “b” is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A “c” answer applies if some information related to quasi-fiscal activities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer “d” applies if no information is presented on quasi-fiscal activities.

If quasi-fiscal activities do not represent a significant problem in your country, please mark “e.” However, please exercise caution in answering this question.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some quasi-fiscal activities.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Speech 2018 Paragraphs provide detailed information on quasi fiscal activities including the core elements such as the purpose of the introduced policy and the targeted beneficiaries. Apart from the core elements the Budget Speech 2018 presents additional information such as maximum loan amount, interest subsidy from the government, interest rate to the customer and etc, under Part II – Explanatory Notes (Page 90-97).

Eg: 1- Budget Speech 2018, Paragraph 18-The loan to value ratio for the electric busses and three wheelers will be revised to 90/10. This will be extended for domestically assembled electric three wheelers, cars and busses, as well. Paragraph 267- The Government will support by way of provision of grants and the introduction of a low interest loan scheme to facilitate those indebted and to move out the debt trap through Co-operative Rural Banks and the Thrift and Credit Co-operative Societies. This will be implemented on a pilot basis in the North and the North Central Provinces (Allocation- 1000 mn).
2- Annexure II- Expenditure Proposals 2018 (Page 55-68): Concessional loans scheme to companies in agriculture, agro processing including drip irrigation, poultry, canning, plantation and Hotel industry, to generate electricity from solar power for their own use (already allocated 800); Responsible agency- Ministry of Finance and Mass Media (Allocation-5200 mn). 3- Part II – Explanatory Notes on quasi fiscal activities (Page 90-97).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

d. No, information related to quasi-fiscal activities is not presented.

Comments: In the EBP and budget speech, the citizen version, a narrative discussion is given on quasi fiscal activities such as salary increases for non-public sector employees, granting loans for specific groups through market mechanisms with some assistance from the government. But no detail estimates are provided.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

Researcher Response

As per the definition quasi-fiscal should not be fiscal (on-budget)activities, if so Sri Lanka doesn't have many such quasi fiscal activities. The example I have given (refer below) does not have an budget allocation rather it announces a policy which should be initiated. Eg: 1- Budget Speech 2018, Paragraph 18-The loan to value ratio for the electric busses and three wheelers will be revised to 90/10. This will be extended for domestically assembled electric three wheelers, cars and busses, as well. Therefore I agree to switch the answer to 'C'.

39. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on financial assets held by the government for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a listing of the assets, and an estimate of their value.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 39 focuses on financial assets held by the government, asking whether "core" information related to these assets is presented. These core components include:

- A listing of the financial assets; and
- An estimate of their value.

Governments own financial assets such as cash, bonds, or equities. Unlike private sector businesses, however, few governments maintain balance sheets that show the value of their assets and liabilities.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about financial assets, including for example: a discussion of their purpose; historical information on defaults; differences between reported values and market values; and a summary of financial assets as part of the government's balance sheet.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year all of the core information related to all financial assets held by the government as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to financial assets is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on financial assets held by the government.

Answer:

d. No, information related to financial assets is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The documents that qualify to be considered as the EBPs and the supporting documents do not contain a list of financial assets and their estimated values. However, the Fiscal Management Report 2018 provides actuals of Direct Investment: Assets, Other Investment: Assets (Currency and deposits, Trade credits and advances, Other accounts receivable) and Reserve Assets for quarter 1 and 2 of 2017 in Table 6-Balance of Payments- 2017 (Page 143). Link to the Fiscal Management Report 2018:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

40. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on nonfinancial assets held by the government for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a listing of the assets by category.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 40 focuses on nonfinancial assets held by the government, asking whether "core" information related to these assets is presented. The core information is a listing of nonfinancial assets, grouped by the type (or category) of asset.

Nonfinancial assets are things of value that the government owns or controls (excluding financial assets) such as land, buildings, and machinery. The valuation of public nonfinancial assets can be problematic, particularly in cases where the asset is not typically available on the open market (such as a government monument). In these cases, it is considered acceptable to provide summary information in budget documents from a country's register of assets. But, in some cases, governments are able to value their nonfinancial assets; some present a summary of nonfinancial assets as part of their balance sheets. For an example of how nonfinancial assets are presented in one of the many supporting documents to the New Zealand Executive's Budget Proposal, see the Forecast Financial Statement 2011, Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued), Note 14, accessible here: <https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2011-05/befu11-pt6of8.pdf>.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year a listing by category of all nonfinancial assets held by the government as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to nonfinancial assets is presented, but some

nonfinancial assets are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on nonfinancial assets held by the government.

Answer:

d. No, information related to nonfinancial assets is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The documents qualify to be considered as the EBP and the supporting documents do not contain a list of non-financial assets by category. However, the Fiscal Management report 2018 states that the government is taking steps to develop a 'National Asset Registry' of non-financial assets. Title- Public Financial Management (Page 10-11), Adopted from FMR 2018- "the government has created a new position of Comptroller General to manage public assets and develop a 'National Asset Registry' of non-financial assets. In addition, Public Finance Act will provide the basis for the sound budget formulation, public debt management, financial management and financial reporting." Link to the Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

41. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of expenditure arrears for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 41 asks about estimates of expenditure arrears, which arise when government has entered into a commitment to spend funds but has not made the payment when it is due. (For more information see sections 3.49-3.50 of the IMF's GFS Manual 2001, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/all.pdf> (page 29)). Though equivalent to borrowing, this liability is often not recorded in the budget, making it difficult to assess fully a government's financial position. Moreover, the obligation to repay this debt affects the government's ability to pay for other activities.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all expenditure arrears and a narrative discussing the arrears. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all expenditure arrears are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, expenditure arrears (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of expenditure arrears are presented.

If expenditure arrears do not represent a significant problem in your country, please mark "e." However, please exercise caution in answering this question. Public expenditure management laws and regulations often will allow for reasonable delays, perhaps 30 or 60 days, in the routine payment of invoices due. Expenditure arrears impacting a small percentage of expenditure that are due to contractual disputes should not be considered a significant problem for the purpose of answering this question.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of expenditure arrears are not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The documents that qualify to be considered as the EBP and the supporting documents do not contain estimates of expenditure arrears. However, Annexure I- Allocations Provided from the Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liability Project (01st January to 30th September 2017), of Fiscal Management Report 2018 provides information on some expenditure arrears which are paid off using allocations, but it does not provide the amount used to settle the arrears.

Eg: Ministry of Education- Salary arrears of teachers and principals, Ministry of Plantation Industries- Payment of arrears of EPF to employees of the Tea Research Institute, Central Provincial Council- , special allowance for principals and teachers salary arrears, North Central Provincial Council- Settle the bills of 2016 and salary arrears, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment- salary arrears of the Managers of Central Environment Authority. Link to the Fiscal Management Report 2018:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

42. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on contingent liabilities, such as government loan guarantees or insurance programs, for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability; the new guarantees or insurance commitments proposed for the budget year; and the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments (the gross exposure) at the end of the budget year.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 42 focuses on contingent liabilities, asking whether "core" information related to these liabilities is presented. These core components include:

- a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability;
- the new contingent liabilities for the budget year, such as new guarantees or insurance commitments proposed for the budget year; and
- the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments at the end of the budget year. This reflects the gross exposure of the government in the case that all guarantees or commitments come due (even though that may be unlikely to occur).

Contingent liabilities are recognized under a cash accounting method only when the contingent event occurs and the payment is made. An example of such liabilities is the case of loans guaranteed by the central government, which can include loans to state-owned banks and other state-owned commercial enterprises, subnational governments, or private enterprises. Under such guarantees, government will only make a payment if the borrower defaults. Thus a key issue for making quantitative estimates of these liabilities is assessing the likelihood of the contingency occurring.

In the budget, according to the OECD, "[w]here feasible, the total amount of contingent liabilities should be disclosed and classified by major category reflecting their nature; historical information on defaults for each category should be disclosed where available. In cases where contingent liabilities cannot be quantified, they should be listed and described."

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about contingent liabilities, including for example: historical default rates for each program, and likely default rates in the future; the maximum guarantee that is authorized by law; any special financing associated with the guarantee (e.g., whether fees are charged, whether a reserve fund exists for the purpose of paying off guarantees, etc.); the duration of each guarantee; and an estimate of the fiscal significance and potential risks associated with the guarantees.

For more details on contingent liabilities, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>) and page 59 (Box 11) and Principle 3.2.3 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year all of the core information related to contingent liabilities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to contingent liabilities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on contingent liabilities.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some contingent liabilities.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

Link to the Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Speech 2018 provides two core elements out of three on the contingent liabilities (government loan guarantees and insurance programmes) namely the purpose of the contingent liability and the new contingent liabilities proposed for the budget year.

Eg. for government loan guarantees: Paragraph 80- We will also establish a SME Guarantee Fund which will further augment the SMEs' capacity to borrow given that it will be considered as collateral (Allocation-500 million). Paragraph 84- The SME Guarantee Fund will be extended to the "IT Initiative" and the exporters who require support, as well. Paragraph 92- The proposed SME Guarantee Fund will enable SME Exporters who are in the CRIB but have the potential to export, yet has no access to finance its operations, to access financing from Banks utilizing the SME guarantees. Paragraph 81- We will also continue the "Erumbuma Credit Scheme" which supports the startups with a credit facility of Rs. 1.5 million per annum per idea per person with a Government Guarantee (Allocation- 25 million);

Eg. for insurance programmes: Paragraph 52- Farmers are constantly at the mercy of the weather Gods and successive Governments have been doling out funds to the farmers whenever there has been a drought or floods in an indiscriminate manner. It is in this context that the weather indexed insurance scheme has been designed. The insurance cover will be a minimum of Rs. 40,000 per acre for 6 crops including paddy and other 5 emerging crops such as Maize, Soya, Big Onion, Potato, and Chilli. This will be a contributory scheme with the premium being borne by both the farmer and the Government. (Allocation 3000 million). Paragraph 248- The accident and medical insurance scheme for artists supported by the President's Welfare Fund and the Tower Hall Foundation will be introduced (10 million). Though two out of three core elements are presented there are no additional information and thereby 'c' is selected.

In addition, the Fiscal Management Report 2018 discloses Contingent Liabilities on Treasury Guarantees (Page 139)-'The List of Treasury Guarantees Issued by the General Treasury up to 30. 09 .2017' and Annexure I (Page 138) presents, 'Allocations Provided from the Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liability Project (01st January to 30th September 2017).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

43. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present projections that assess the government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer term?

(The core information must cover a period of at least 10 years and include the macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used and a discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 43 focuses on government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer-term, asking whether "core" information related to these issues is presented. These core components must include:

- *Projections that cover a period of at least 10 years.*
- *The macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used in making the projections.*
- *A discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections. Good public financial management calls for budgets to include fiscal sustainability analyses.*

The IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>) recommends that governments regularly publish the projected evolution of the public finances over the longer term (see Principle 3.1.3.). Future liabilities are a particularly important element when assessing the sustainability of public finances over the long term. Future liabilities are the result of government commitments that, unlike contingent liabilities, are virtually certain to occur at some future point and result in an expenditure. A typical example consists of government obligations to pay pension benefits or cover health care costs of future retirees. Under a cash accounting system, only current payments associated with such obligations are recognized in the budget. To capture the future impact on the budget of these liabilities, a separate statement is required.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about the sustainability of their finances, including for example: projections that cover 20 or 30 years; multiple scenarios with different sets of assumptions; assumptions about other factors (such as the depletion of natural resources) that go beyond just the core macroeconomic and demographic data; and a detailed presentation of particular programs that have long time horizons, such as civil service pensions.

For more details on future liabilities, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to future liabilities and the sustainability of government finances over the longer term as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to future liabilities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on future liabilities and the sustainability of government's finances

Answer:

d. No, information related to future liabilities and the sustainability of finances over the longer term is not presented.

Source:
N/A.

Link to the Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report+-+2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Researcher: The documents that qualify to be considered as the EBPs and the supporting documents do not contain projections that assess the government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer term. However, the Fiscal Management Report 2018 presents a table titled- 'Table 3.1: Foreign Financing Development Commitments and Market Borrowings with Terms - from 1st January to 31st August 2017', (Page 47-50) which does not qualify as a list of future liabilities due to not fulfilling the requirements on core elements (1- Projections that cover a period of at least 10 years. 2- The macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used in making the projections. 3- A discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

44. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of the sources of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind, for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 44 asks about estimates of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind assistance. Such assistance is considered non-tax revenue, and the sources of this assistance should be explicitly identified. In terms of in-kind assistance, the concern is primarily with the provision of goods (particularly those for which there is a market that would allow goods received as in-kind aid to be sold, thereby converting them into cash) rather than with in-kind aid like advisors from a donor country providing technical assistance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all donor assistance and a narrative discussing the assistance. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all donor assistance are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, donor assistance (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "c" also applies if the sources of donor assistance are not presented, but the total amount of donor assistance is presented as a single line item. Answer "d" applies if no estimates of donor assistance are presented. Select answer "e" if your country does not receive donor assistance.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of some but not all sources of donor assistance are presented.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Table- Loans Disbursement of Foreign Funded Projects 2008 – 2016 (Page 230)

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I, presents a table titled, 'Loans Disbursement of Foreign Funded Projects 2008 – 2016' (Page 230). This contains amount of loan lent by lenders such as World Bank, Asian Development Bank and countries such as China, India and United Kingdom. However, this table contain information only from 2008-2016 and it doesn't cover the Budget Year. Donor funded major projects for the budget year are mentioned under tables titled, 'Major projects' under administrative classification. Each Expenditure Head, in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 states the mode of financing (Domestic/Foreign) at the end to show how they are planning to finance that specific Expenditure Head.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

45. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on tax expenditures for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each tax expenditure, the intended beneficiaries, and an estimate of the revenue foregone.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 45 focuses on tax expenditures, asking whether “core” information related to these tax preferences is presented. These core components must include for both new and existing tax expenditures:

- a statement of purpose or policy rationale;
- a listing of the intended beneficiaries; and
- an estimate of the revenue foregone.

Tax expenditures arise as a result of exceptions or other preferences in the tax code provided for specified entities, individuals, or activities. Tax expenditures often have the same impact on public policy and budgets as providing direct subsidies, benefits, or goods and services. For example, encouraging a company to engage in more research through a special tax break can have the same effect as subsidizing it directly through the expenditure side of the budget, as it still constitutes a cost in terms of foregone revenues. However, expenditure items that require annual authorization are likely to receive more scrutiny than tax breaks that are a permanent feature of the tax code.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about tax expenditures, including for example: the intended beneficiaries by sector and income class (distributional impact); a statement of the estimating assumptions, including the definition of the benchmark against which the foregone revenue is measured; and a discussion of tax expenditures as part of a general discussion of expenditures for those program areas that receive both types of government support (in order to better inform policy choices). For more details on tax expenditures, see *Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget* (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>) and Principle 1.1.4 of the IMF’s *Fiscal Transparency Handbook* (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

To answer “a,” the Executive’s Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, all of the core information related to tax expenditures as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer “b,” the Executive’s Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer “b” is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A “c” answer applies if some information related to tax expenditures is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer “d” applies if no information is presented on tax expenditures.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some tax expenditures.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The estimate of the revenue forgone (one core element) due to tax expenditure on Income Tax and VAT are given under the Annexure VI: Tax Expenditure statement (Page 72-74) in Budget Speech 2018. However, it does not provide two core elements namely, a statement of the purpose and listing of the intended beneficiaries.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

46. Does the Executive’s Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of earmarked revenues for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 46 asks about estimates of earmarked revenues, which are revenues that may only be used for a specific purpose (for example, revenues from a tax on fuel that can only be used for building roads). This information is important in determining which revenues are available to fund the government’s general expenses, and which revenues are reserved for particular purposes.

To answer “a,” the Executive’s Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all earmarked revenues and a narrative discussing the earmarks. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all earmarked revenues are presented, then a “b” answer is appropriate. A “c” response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, earmarked revenues (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer “d” applies if no estimates of earmarked revenues are presented. An “e” response applies if revenue is not earmarked or the practice is disallowed by law or regulation.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of earmarked revenues are not presented.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Table- Loans Disbursement of Foreign Funded Projects 2008 – 2016 (Page 230)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: EBPs or any other supporting documents do not present estimates of earmarked revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

47. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on how the proposed budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 47 and 48 ask about information that shows how the budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to the government's policy goals. The budget is the executive's main policy document, the culmination of the executive's planning and budgeting processes. Therefore, it should include a clear description of the link between policy goals and the budget – that is, an explicit explanation of how the government's policy goals are reflected in its budget choices. For an example of a discussion of a government's policy goals in the budget, see pages 13-18 of New Zealand's 2011 Statement of Intent (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/abouttreasury/soi/2011-16>), one of the many documents supporting its budget.

In some countries the government prepares strategic/development plans. These plans include all the policies the government is planning to implement for the budget year and very often cover a multi-year perspective. In some cases, these plans do not match the budget documentation, and it is possible that they are completely disconnected from the Executive's Budget Proposal. So the question is examining whether government policy plans are "translated" into revenue and expenditure figures in the actual budget documents.

Question 47 asks about the information covering the budget year, and Question 48 asks about the period at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how the budget is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year (for Question 47) or for a multi-year period beyond the budget year (for Question 48) and a narrative discussion of how these policy goals are reflected in the budget. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show how the budget is linked to government's policy goals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show how the budget is linked to some, but not all, of the government's policy goals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on how the budget is linked to government's policy goals.

Answer:

c. Yes, information that shows how the proposed budget is linked to some but not all of the government's policy goals for the budget year is presented.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

The Budget Speech 2018 has presented few policy goals related to budget proposals in the speech. However, all proposed proposals are not linked to the policy goals in Budget Speech 2018.

Eg: 1- The Paragraph 15 (Page 6) states the government policy on creating a Blue-Green Economy (Sustainable economy) and the Budget Speech 2018 has provided (Page 6-10) budget proposals to promote green economy with the estimated allocations.

2-Government Strategies for education (Page 29-30) : 13 years of Education; World Class University Education; Market Oriented Vocational Training. The Budget Speech 2018 provides proposals to achieve these policies in the document (Page 29-34).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, estimates that show how the proposed budget is linked to all the government's policy goals for the budget year are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Comments: The budget speech (CITIZEN Version) gives a narrative discussion of all new proposals and continuation of expenditure programmes.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thank you to the peer reviewer for the comment. While the budget speech has extensive information on new policy goals, it does not cover all existing policies as well. Therefore the researcher's score of C is confirmed. Note that the Budget Speech is also not considered a Citizens Budget as

per OBS methodology.

48. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on how the proposed budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to government's policy goals for a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 47 and 48 ask about information that shows how the budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to the government's policy goals. The budget is the executive's main policy document, the culmination of the executive's planning and budgeting processes. Therefore, it should include a clear description of the link between policy goals and the budget – that is, an explicit explanation of how the government's policy goals are reflected in its budget choices. For an example of a discussion of a government's policy goals in the budget, see pages 13-18 of New Zealand's 2011 Statement of Intent (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/abouttreasury/soi/2011-16>), one of the many documents supporting its budget.

In some countries the government prepares strategic/development plans. These plans include all the policies the government is planning to implement for the budget year and very often cover a multi-year perspective. In some cases, these plans do not match the budget documentation, and it is possible that they are completely disconnected from the Executive's Budget Proposal. So the question is examining whether government policy plans are "translated" into revenue and expenditure figures in the actual budget documents.

Question 47 asks about the information covering the budget year, and Question 48 asks about the period at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how the budget is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year (for Question 47) or for a multi-year period beyond the budget year (for Question 48) and a narrative discussion of how these policy goals are reflected in the budget. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show how the budget is linked to government's policy goals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show how the budget is linked to some, but not all, of the government's policy goals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on how the budget is linked to government's policy goals.

Answer:

c. Yes, information that shows how the proposed budget is linked to some but not all of the government's policy goals for a multi-year period is presented.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Table- Loans Disbursement of Foreign Funded Projects 2008 – 2016 (Page 230)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Link to Budget Speech 2018:
<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: As explained in question 47 (Refer the comment), the Budget Speech 2018 provides policy goals and expenditure estimates with allocations for the upcoming budget year. Further, the expenditure estimates for the budget year consist of operational and development expenditure. Development expenditure estimates consist of expenditure for long term capital investment projects. The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 provides estimates for multi year period. However, neither these proposals are linked to policy goals nor a narrative description is provided. Eg: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I presents, Hospital Development Projects (Page 358-365). Further, the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 provides major development project under each administrative unit (Ministries) with the provision for 2018, target for 2018 and the key policy goal expected to achieve. Eg: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I - Health Sector major development projects (Page 342-343).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

49. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present nonfinancial data on inputs to be acquired for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 49 asks about the availability of nonfinancial data on inputs for the budget year. (Nonfinancial data on outputs and outcomes are addressed in Question 50.)

The budget should disclose not only the amount of money that is being allocated on a program but also any information needed to analyze that expenditure. Nonfinancial data and performance targets associated with budget proposals are used to assess the success of a given policy. For example, even when

allocated funds are spent according to plan, there remains the question of whether the policy delivered the results that it aimed to achieve.

Nonfinancial data can include information on:

Inputs - These are the resources assigned to achieve results. For example, in regards to education, nonfinancial data on inputs could include the number of books to be provided to each school or the materials to be used to build or refurbish a school.

Outputs - These are products and services delivered as a result of inputs. For example, the number of pupils taught every year; the number of children that received vaccines; or the number of beneficiaries of a social security program.

Outcomes - These are the intended impact or policy goals achieved. For example, an increase in literacy rates among children under 10, or a reduction in rates of maternal mortality.

In addition, governments that set performance targets must use nonfinancial data for outputs and outcomes to determine if these targets have been met.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, nonfinancial data on inputs for each individual program within all administrative units (ministries, departments, and agencies). It is also acceptable if nonfinancial data on inputs for each individual program is organized by functions. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present nonfinancial data on inputs for all administrative units or all functions, but not for each individual program (or even for any programs) within those administrative units or functions. A "c" response applies if nonfinancial data on inputs are presented only for some programs and/or some administrative units or some functions. Answer "d" applies if no nonfinancial data on inputs is presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, nonfinancial data on inputs are presented for some programs and/or some administrative units (or functions).

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90) Volume II: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3> (http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3) Volume III: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582> (http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I,II and III present non-financial data for inputs, only for some administrative units (Ministries) but not for all. Eg: Ministry of Higher Education and Highways provide inputs for education Sector (Page 433): number of universities and faculties, number of undergraduates and the intake, number of academic and non-academic staff. However, ministries such as Ministry of Defence doesn't provide information on non-financial inputs.

SBTM: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 340-343) presents non-financial inputs for health sector such as (iii) Strengthen of Government Hospital, (iv) Health Staff and (e) Employment profile

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

50. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present nonfinancial data on results (in terms of outputs or outcomes) for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 50 asks about the availability of nonfinancial data on results for the budget year. Nonfinancial data on results can include data on both outputs and outcomes, but not on inputs (which are addressed in Question 49).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, nonfinancial data on results for each individual program within all administrative units (ministries, departments, and agencies). It is also acceptable if nonfinancial data on results for each individual program is organized by functional classification. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present nonfinancial data on results for all administrative units or all functional classifications, but not for each individual program (or even for any programs) within those administrative units or functions. A "c" response applies if nonfinancial data on results are presented only for some programs and/or some administrative units or some functions. Answer "d" applies if no nonfinancial data on results is presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, nonfinancial data on results are presented for some programs and/or some administrative units (or functions).

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>) Volume II: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>) Volume III: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>) ; Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I,II and III present non-financial data for outputs, only for some administrative units (Ministries) but not for all.

Eg: Ministry of Higher Education and Highways provide outputs for education Sector (Page 433): Graduate output- number of first degree holders and postgraduates . However, ministries such as Ministry of Defence doesn't provide information on non-financial information on outputs. The Budget Speech 2018 also provides non-financial outputs for some components. Eg: Paragraph 76- The proposal is intended to address the regional issues (Page 16).

SBTM: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 340) presents non-financial outputs for health sector such as (ii)National Level Profile (number of live births, number of deaths, mortality rates and etc). However these 'general' statistics on p. 340 are also not necessarily linked to any expenditures- only the KPIs on p. 342-343

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

51. Are performance targets assigned to nonfinancial data on results in the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation?

GUIDELINES:

Question 51 asks about performance targets assigned to nonfinancial data on results for the budget year. The question applies to those nonfinancial results shown in the budget, and that were identified for purposes of Question 50.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must assign performance targets to all nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget for at least the budget year. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must assign performance targets to a majority (but not all) of the nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget. A "c" response applies performance targets are assigned only to less than half of the nonfinancial data on results. Answer "d" applies if no performance targets are assigned to nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget, or the budget does not present nonfinancial results.

Answer:

b. Yes, performance targets are assigned to most nonfinancial data on results.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>) Volume II: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>) Volume III: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>)

Comment:

Researcher: Performance targets for 2020 are assigned to most of the non-financial data in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018. Eg: (1) Ministry of Education has set performance targets for 2020 (Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume II, Page 235) such as literacy rates, G.C.E. O/L pass rates and enrollment rates for G.C.E. A/L Technology, Commerce and Arts Streams. (2) Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training provides information on Target Intake in 2018- Table (II) Student Intake to the Tertiary & Vocational Education Training Institutes in Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume III (Page 408). (3) Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management provides, targets for 2018, Table (iii) Targets of Irrigation Schemes in Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume III (Page 432).

SBTM: Performance targets are not assigned to non-financial data of health sector in the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018. (Page 340-343)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

52. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of policies (both new proposals and existing policies) that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations in at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 52 asks whether the budget highlight policies, both new and existing, that benefit the poorest segments of society. This question is intended to assess only those programs that directly address the immediate needs of the poor, such as through cash assistance programs or the provision of housing, rather than indirectly, such as through a stronger national defense. This information is of particular interest to those seeking to bolster government's commitment to anti-poverty efforts. For purposes of answering this question, a departmental budget (such for the Department of Social Welfare) would not be considered acceptable. In general, this question is asking whether the EBP includes a special presentation that pulls together estimates of all the relevant policies in one place. However, if the country uses "program budgeting," where programs are presented as expenditure categories with specific and identified objectives, and it identifies anti-poverty programs within each administrative unit, then that is also acceptable for this question.

The IBP Budget Brief, "How Transparent are Governments When it Comes to Their Budget's Impact on Poverty and Inequality?"

(<https://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/government-transparency-of-budgets-impact-on-poverty-inequality-ibp-2019.pdf>) includes a discussion of countries that have provided information on how its policies affect the poor.

For instance, Pakistan provides a detailed breakdown of pro-poor expenditure as part of its 2017-18 budget proposal. In one document, the government sets out policy priorities, expected outputs, and estimates of past and future spending for several programs aimed at poverty alleviation. Another supporting document provides a comprehensive overview of ongoing policies, including a chapter on social safety nets, covering both financial and performance information of poverty alleviation schemes over a period of eight years. (http://www.finance.gov.pk/budget/mtbf_2018_21.pdf and http://www.finance.gov.pk/survey_1718.html).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must for at least the budget year both present estimates covering all policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations and include a narrative discussion that specifically addresses these policies. (For countries using program budgeting that breaks out individual anti-poverty programs, there should be a separate narrative associated with each such program.) Answer "b" if a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations are presented. Answer "c" if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" if no estimates of policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations are presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, estimates of all policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>); Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: 1-The Budget Speech 2018, has listed the budget proposals that would benefit the people in the war affected areas under 'Reconciliation' (Page 46-50). Eg: Paragraph 263- On an initiative of the President, 50,000 brick and mortar type houses will be constructed in the North and the East. This is in addition to the allocations already provided to other Ministries (Rs. 750 mn). Paragraph 265- We will strengthen reconciliation focused livelihood development, economic empowerment and social infrastructure development. This will also include the construction of a special home for differently abled women in the North (Rs. 2,750 mn).

2- The Budget Speech 2018, has listed the budget proposals that would benefit university students under policy goal 'World Class University Education' (Page 33-34). Eg: Paragraph 184- We will also finance a health insurance scheme for all university students (Rs. 100 mn).

3-The Budget Speech 2018, has listed the budget proposals that would benefit the people who are vulnerable to health issues under 'A Healthy Nation' (Page 36-38).Eg: Paragraph 197- To tackle the rising threat of Non Communicable Diseases (NCD), especially amongst children, we will strengthen the Health Education Bureau's (HEB)activities. As such, the HEB will collaborate with the Ministry of Education in addressing the threat of NCDs such as juvenile Diabetes, Asthma etc. The screening process for CKDu, Thalassemia and HIV/AIDS will also be strengthened (Rs. 100 mn).

4- Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I present allocations for welfare programmes such as samurdhi, fertilizer subsidy, bursary and many more programmes which accounts for 130 billion approximately.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

53. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal (that is, a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 53 asks about the budget timetable. An internal timetable is particularly important for the executive's management of the budget preparation process, in order to ensure that the executive accounts for the views of the different departments and agencies in the proposed budget. The timetable would, for instance, set deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation. So that civil society is aware of the various steps in the budget formulation process, and when opportunities may exist to engage the executive, it is essential that this timetable be made available to the public.

To answer "a," the executive must prepare a detailed budget timetable and release it to the public. A "b" answer applies if the timetable is made public, but some details are not included. A "c" response applies if the timetable is made public, but many important details are excluded, reducing its value for those outside government. Answer "d" applies if no timetable is made available to the public. As long as a timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal is released, answer "a," "b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Executive's Budget Proposal is not made publicly available.

Answer:

a. Yes, a detailed timetable is released to the public.

Source:

1- Link to the Parliament Calendar: https://www.parliament.lk/parliament-calendar?option=com_jtagcalendar&date=2017-11-01&viewMode=list&Itemid=249 (https://www.parliament.lk/parliament-calendar?option=com_jtagcalendar&date=2017-11-01&viewMode=list&Itemid=249)

2- Link to the Budget Call: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0)

Comment:

Researcher: 1-Parliament Calendar keeps a record of all incidences/ activities when the Paliament convenes. It also has a brief description on the activity. Eg: 21st November 2017- 4th day of the 18 allotted days for the Committee Stage Debate.

2- The Budget Call provides a guide to preparation of proposals for the upcoming budget as well as the submission dates under 8.Submission of Expenditure Estimates (Budget Call-2019). Though the Budget Call doesn't provide a comprehensive timeline it provides the most important dates at formulation stage.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

54. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?

(The core information must include a discussion of the economic outlook with estimates of nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 54 focuses on the macroeconomic forecast that underlies the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to the economic assumptions is presented. These core components include a discussion of the economic outlook as well as estimates of the following:

- *nominal GDP level;*
- *inflation rate;*
- *real GDP growth; and*
- *interest rates.*

Beyond these core elements, some governments also provide additional information related to the economic outlook, including for instance: short- and long-term interest rates; the rate of employment and unemployment; GDP deflator; price of oil and other commodities; current account; exchange rate; and composition of GDP growth.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core information related to the macroeconomic forecast as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some

information related to the macroeconomic forecast is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the macroeconomic forecast is presented.

Answer:

d. No, information related to the macroeconomic forecast is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka produces a Pre-Budget Statement but only for internal use, it is not published and available for general public. The guidelines of the question 54 has listed down four core components to be included in the PBS. Though Sri Lanka does not publish the PBS for general public, it publishes a Budget Call for each fiscal year as an invitation to budget proposals which couldn't not be considered as a PBS (Please refer PBS-1 and PBS-2). This Budget Call (Budget Call: National Budget Circular No. 4/2018) includes three of the four core elements and additional information. The three core elements are stated to be achieved through performances of additional information mentioned below. The three core elements are (Page 2): medium term economic growth around 6%-7%, inflation to stay at mid-single digit level and real GDP growth 5.5%. The Budget Call includes outcomes envisioned by 2021 which can be counted as additional information (Page 1): government revenue at 17% of GDP, government recurrent expenditure at 15% of GDP, government public investment at 5.5% of GDP, budget deficit 3.5% of GDP, outstanding government debt to maintain at around 70% of GDP. Apart from these the Budget call states that the primary surplus is expected to be 2% of GDP and overall budget deficit to be 3.9% of GDP. Budget Call: National Budget Circular No. 4/2018 Link to Budget Call 2019 for the ministries (Please refer circular number 4/2018, date: 17-07-2018) http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/national_budget_circulars) or http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/budgetcall2019E-1_1.pdf/a3ecbcc9-f2ec-49d3-9b29-c1d80edd9aa5?version=1.0)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

55. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the government's expenditure policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?

(The core information must include a discussion of expenditure policies and priorities and an estimate of total expenditures.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 55 focuses on the government's expenditure policies and priorities in the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to these policies is presented. These core components include:

- a discussion of expenditure policies and priorities; and
- an estimate of total expenditures.

Although a Pre-Budget Statement is unlikely to include detailed programmatic proposals (such detailed information is typically only presented in the budget itself), it should include a discussion of broad policy priorities and a projection of at least total expenditures associated with these policies for the budget year. The Pre-Budget Statement can include some detail, for instance, estimates provided by any of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present for the upcoming budget year all of the core information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above for the upcoming budget year. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the government's expenditure policies and priorities is presented.

Answer:

d. No, information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka produces a Pre-Budget Statement but only for internal use, it is not published and available for general public.

Though Sri Lanka does not publish the PBS for general public, it publishes a Budget Call for each fiscal year as an invitation to budget proposals which cannot be considered as a PBS (Please refer PBS-1 and PBS-2). The Budget Call outlines the policy priorities to be considered when submitting expenditure proposals. For example, the Budget Call 2019 (Page3) advises government agencies to propose development activities which help to achieve the SDG goals.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

56. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the government's revenue policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?

(The core information must include a discussion of revenue policies and priorities and an estimate of total revenues.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 56 focuses on the government's revenue policies and priorities in the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to these policies is presented. These core components include:

- a discussion of revenue policies and priorities; and
- an estimate of total revenue.

Although a Pre-Budget Statement is unlikely to include detailed revenue proposals, it should include a discussion of broad policy priorities and a projection of at least the total revenue associated with these policies for the budget year. The Pre-Budget Statement can also include more detail, for instance, with estimates provided by revenue category – tax and non-tax – or some of the major individual sources of revenue, such as the Value Added Tax or the income tax.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present for the upcoming budget year all of the core information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above for the upcoming budget year. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the government's revenue policies and priorities is presented.

Answer:

d. No, information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities is not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka produces a Pre-Budget Statement but only for internal use, it is not published and available for general public. Though Sri Lanka does not publish the PBS for general public, it publishes a Budget Call for each fiscal year as an invitation to budget proposals which cannot be considered a PBS. The Budget Call states expectations of revenue for 2021 under 'Medium- Term Macro- Fiscal Framework'. Eg: Government revenue is expected to be 17% of GDP BY 2021.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

57. Does Pre-Budget Statement present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 57 asks whether the Pre-Budget Statement includes three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- the amount of net new borrowing needed in the upcoming budget year;
- the central government's total debt burden at the end of the upcoming budget year; and
- the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the upcoming budget year.

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens, banks, and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt for at least the upcoming budget year. For a "b" answer, the Pre-Budget Statement must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the PBS must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in the PBS.

Answer:

d. No, none of the three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka produces a Pre-Budget Statement but only for internal use, it is not published and available for general public.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

58. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present estimates of total expenditures for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 58 asks about multi-year expenditure estimates in the Pre-Budget Statement.

To answer "a," expenditure estimates for at least two years beyond the upcoming budget year must be presented. The estimates must be for at least total expenditures, but could include more detail than just the aggregate total.

Answer:

b. No, multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka produces a Pre-Budget Statement but only for internal use, it is not published and available for general public.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

59. Does the Enacted Budget present expenditure estimates by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 59 asks if expenditure estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates must be presented by two of the three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:

b. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents expenditure estimates by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Volume II: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_02_Approved_E.pdf/0c832f1d-73b7-4fa7-8c31-641fe6e99ff3

Volume III: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_03_Approved_E.pdf/a144f791-c8c1-4620-8ac9-518747bc3541

Comment:

Researcher: The main form of budget classification in Sri Lanka is administrative classification which is based on ministries and departments. The Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 presents the expenditure estimates with both administrative classification and economic classification. The Appropriation Act, No.30 of 2017 presents the expenditure estimates using the administrative classification (Page 7-59).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

59b. Based on the response to Question 59, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Enacted Budget:

Answer:

Administrative classification
Economic classification

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Link to EB Supporting documents- Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0); Volume II:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_02_Approved_E.pdf/0c832f1d-73b7-4fa7-8c31-641fe6e99ff3

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_02_Approved_E.pdf/0c832f1d-73b7-4fa7-8c31-641fe6e99ff3); Volume III:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_03_Approved_E.pdf/a144f791-c8c1-4620-8ac9-518747bc3541

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/490927/V_03_Approved_E.pdf/a144f791-c8c1-4620-8ac9-518747bc3541)

Comment:

Researcher: The main form of budget classification in Sri Lanka is administrative classification which is based on ministries and departments. The Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 presents the expenditure estimates with both administrative classification and economic classification. The Appropriation Act, No.30 of 2017 presents the expenditure estimates using the administrative classification (Page 7-59).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

60. Does the Enacted Budget present expenditure estimates for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 60 asks if expenditure estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as *le plan comptable* or *le plan comptable detaillé*. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all programs, which account for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the Enacted Budget must present expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if the Enacted Budget presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program in the Enacted Budget.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures.

Source:

Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I- Table 4.2. Summary of Expenditure by Programme (Page XXXIII):
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I, Volume II and Volume III contains expenditure on each program.

Comment:

Researcher: As per the OBS 2019 guidelines, 'Program' could be any level of detail below an administrative unit. Budget Estimates (Approved) Volume I, II and III present the levels of estimated expenditure under the administrative unit. Example: Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine has expenditure heads such as, Head 111 - Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine and Head 220 - Department of Ayurveda. Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) Volume 1 (Page 341-383):
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0
Further, each Administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Development Activities' which includes allocations for major new projects for 2018 which can be considered as programmes of the budget year. This has been considered as the programmes as of OBS 2017. The overall development activities account for 35.23% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization and 25.46% of the total budget including public debt amortization.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

61. Does the Enacted Budget present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 61 asks whether revenue estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents revenue estimates by category.

Source:

Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I- Table 3.2.1. Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI-XXVII): http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9 http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Comment:

Researcher: Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I presents the revenue estimates as both tax revenue and non-tax revenue. Refer Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume I- Table 3.2.1. Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI-XXVII)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

62. Does the Enacted Budget present individual sources of revenue?

GUIDELINES:

Question 62 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Enacted Budget. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all individual sources of revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Enacted Budget must present individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue that account for less than two-thirds of revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Source:

Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I- Table 3.2.1. Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non Tax Revenue (Page XXVI-XXVII): http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9 http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume I presents individual sources of revenue (both tax and non-tax). Refer Budget Estimates 2018 (Approved) Volume I- Table 3.2.1. Government Revenue - Tax Revenue (Page XXIV-XXV) and Table 3.2.2 Government Revenue - Non-Tax Revenue (Page XXVI-XXVII).

'Other' non-classified revenues account for less than 1% of total revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

63. Does the Enacted Budget present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 63 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;
- the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year;
- the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens, banks, and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, the Enacted Budget must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the Enacted Budget must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in the Enacted Budget.

Answer:

b. Yes, two of the three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

1-Borrowings required for fiscal year 2018- Table 4.3-National Level Financing (Page XXXIV): Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume I:
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

2- Information on Total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year is unavailable.

However, Table (ii) Government Debt Service (Page 100): Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018- Volume I
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0; Public Debt Repayment (Domestic and Foreign Debt): Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018- Volume I (Page XLII):
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 are there.

3- Interest Payments for Domestic and Foreign Debt: Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018- Volume I (Page XLI)
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0; Interests Payments and Repayments- Table (ii) Government Debt Service (Page 100): Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018- Volume I
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 9
http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0

Comment:

Researcher: Net borrowings are not presented in the EB.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

64. What information is provided in the Citizens Budget?

(The core information must include expenditure and revenue totals, the main policy initiatives in the budget, the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based, and contact information for follow-up by citizens.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 64 focuses on the content of the Citizens Budget, asking whether "core" information is presented. These core components include:

- expenditure and revenue totals;
- the main policy initiatives in the budget;
- the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based; and
- contact information for follow-up by citizens.

To answer "a," the Citizens Budget or supporting documentation must present all of the above core information as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Citizens Budget must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if the Citizens Budget includes some of the core components above, but other core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if a Citizens Budget is not published.

Answer:

c. The Citizens Budget provides information, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Researcher: The CB has provided three key elements in the document.

1. Expenditure and revenue total-Provided (Page 2)
2. Main policy initiatives in the budget- Provided (Page 3-9).
3. Macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based:- Page 2 of the 'Budget at a Glance' present few macroeconomic forecasts such as Current Account Balance, Primary Balance, Budget Deficit and Budget Deficit as a % of GDP, but not sufficient. Since this information is insufficient the researcher has not considered this as presented (Expectations-nominal GDP, real GDP growth, inflation rate, interest rates)
4. Contact information for follow-up by citizens- Provided (Page 10)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

65. How is the Citizens Budget disseminated to the public?

GUIDELINES:

Question 65 asks how the Citizens Budget is disseminated to the public. Citizens Budgets should be made available to a variety of audiences. Therefore paper versions and an Internet posting of a document might not be sufficient.

To answer "a," the executive must use three or more different types of creative media tools to reach the largest possible share of the population, including those who otherwise would not normally have access to budget documents or information. Dissemination would also be pursued at the very local level, so that the coverage is targeted both by geographic area and population group (e.g., women, elderly, low income, urban, rural, etc.). Option "b" applies if significant dissemination efforts are made through a combination of two means of communications, for instance, both posting the Citizens Budget on the executive's official website and distributing printed copies of it. Option "c" applies if the Citizens Budget is disseminated through only posting on the executive's official website. Option "d" applies when the executive does not publish a Citizens Budget.

Answer:

c. A Citizens Budget is disseminated only by using one means of dissemination.

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>); Interview with the Director of National Budget Department.

Comment:

Researcher: The 'Budget at a Glance' (CB) is disseminated only through the Ministry of Finance's (executive) (Link: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>) and Parliament's (legislature) (Link: <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/budget/2018/budget-at-a-glance.pdf>) official website. Though they have a hard copy it is not printed to disseminate among general public.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. A Citizens Budget is disseminated widely through a combination of at least three different appropriate tools and media (such as the Internet, billboards, radio programs, newspapers, etc.).

Comments: The the full version of the budget speech is disseminated widely through Radio and TV programs, internet, newspapers

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks for the note about the budget speech. However, for this question the Budget at a Glance is considered the Citizens Budget, as it is the simplified non-technical version of the budget, not the Budget Speech. The researcher's score is confirmed as C.

66. Has the executive established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information prior to publishing the Citizens Budget?

GUIDELINES:

Question 66 asks whether the executive has established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information before publishing a Citizens Budget. What the public wants to know about the budget might differ from the information the executive includes in technical documents that comprise the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget; similarly, different perspectives might exist on how the budget should be presented, and this may vary depending on the context. For this reason the executive should consult with the public on the content and presentation of the Citizens Budget.

To answer "a," the executive must have established mechanisms to consult with the public, and these mechanisms for consultation are both accessible and widely used by the public. Such mechanisms can include focus groups, social networks, surveys, hotlines, and meetings/events in universities or other locations where people gather to discuss public issues. In countries where Citizens Budgets are consistently produced and released, it may be sufficient for the government to provide the public with contact information and feedback opportunities, and subsequently use the feedback to improve its management of public resources.

Option "b" applies if the executive has established mechanisms for consultation that are accessible to the public, but that the public nonetheless does not use frequently. That is, the public does not typically engage with the executive on the content of the Citizens Budget, even though the executive has created opportunities for such consultation. Option "c" applies if the executive has established mechanism for consultation with the public, but they are poorly designed and thus not accessible to the public. Option "d" applies if the executive has not created any mechanisms to seek feedback from the public on the content of the Citizens Budget.

Answer:

d. No, the executive has not established any mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information in the Citizen's Budget.

Source:

Interview with the Director of National Budget Department; Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

n/a

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

67. Are "citizens" versions of budget documents published throughout the budget process?

GUIDELINES:

Question 67 asks if "citizens" versions of budget documents are published throughout the budget process. While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle.

To answer "a," a citizens version of at least one budget document is published for each of the four stages of the budget process (budget formulation, enactment, execution, and audit) – for a total of at least four citizens budget documents throughout the process. Option "b" applies if a citizens version of a budget document is published for at least two of the four stages of the budget process. Option "c" applies if a citizens version of a budget document is published for at least one of the four stages of the budget process. Select option "d" if no "citizens" version of budget documents is published.

Answer:

c. A citizens version of budget documents is published for at least one stage of the budget process.

Source:

Link to the 'Budget at a Glance - Budget 2018': <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/budget-2018>)
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/478976/Budget+at+a+Glance+2018+En.pdf/bc702f37-434c-40c9-98b7-2cce3a52d587>)

Comment:

Researcher: The 'Budget at a Glance' (CB) is produced at the formulation stage. This could be identified as the citizen's version of EBPs.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

68. Do the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 68 asks if expenditure estimates in In-Year Reports are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above.

Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," actual expenditures must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if actual expenditures are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if actual expenditures are not presented by any of the three classifications in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

c. Yes, the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by only one of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Researcher: Data & Statistics published by Ministry of Finance has only provided data till June 2018. The excel sheet (Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet) does not provide actual expenditure in two of three expenditure classifications (administrative and functional classification). However, it includes a summary of the expenditure such as recurrent and capital lending and as per OBS 2019 guideline this could be considered as an economic classification.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

68b. Based on the response to Question 68, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the In-Year Reports:

Answer:
Economic classification

Source:
Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:
Researcher: Data & Statistics published by Ministry of Finance has only provided data till June 2018. The excel sheet (Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet) does not provide actual expenditure in two of three expenditure classifications (administrative and functional classification). However, it includes a summary of the expenditure such as recurrent and capital lending and as per OBS 2019 guideline this could be considered as an economic classification.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

69. Do the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 69 asks if expenditure estimates in In-Year Reports are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if actual expenditures are not presented by program in In-Year Reports.

Answer:
d. No, the In-Year Reports do not present actual expenditures by program.

Source:
Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Researcher: The Data and Statistics Excel sheets (Monthly Government Fiscal Operations) published by Ministry of Finance (MOF) doesn't include actual expenditure by individual programme.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

70. Do the In-Year Reports compare actual year-to-date expenditures with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 70 asks whether In-Year Reports compare actual expenditures to-date with either the enacted levels or actual expenditures for the same period in the previous year.

The OECD recommends that the reports contain the total year-to-date expenditures in a format that allows for a comparison with the budget's forecast expenditures (based on enacted levels) for the same period.

To answer "a," comparisons must be made for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports

Answer:

b. No, comparisons are not made for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Researcher: The Data and Statistics excel sheets (Monthly Government Fiscal Operations) published by MOF (IYR) contain the actual or provisional data without any comparison with budgeted/estimated or enacted budget figures.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But comparison is given for some sectors See Tables 3.14 and 3.15 in Mid Year Report.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Reviewer for the comment. As the Mid Year Report is only published once in the year, it is not considered as an IYR by OBS standards, however.

71. Do In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 71 asks whether In-Year Reports present actual revenues by "category" – that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

a. Yes, In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Researcher: The Data and Statistics excel sheets 9Monthly Government Fiscal Operations) published by MOF (IYR) present actual revenue by categories such as tax revenue, non-tax revenue and grants.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

72. Do In-Year Reports present the individual sources of revenue for actual revenues collected?

GUIDELINES:

Question 72 asks whether In-Year Reports present actual collections of individual sources of revenue (such as income taxes, VAT, etc.). The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual collections for all individual sources of revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present actual collections for individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue collected, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue that account for less than two-thirds of all revenue collected. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of actual revenue are not presented.

Answer:

d. No, In-Year Reports do not present individual sources of actual revenue.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Researcher: The excel sheet with monthly government fiscal operations (till June 2018) contain the categories of (However this is not in line with the Budget Estimates.) and the excel sheet with annual government fiscal operations (till 2017) does not present the individuals sources of revenue. The individual sources are mentioned as types of revenues only for tax revenue (in the monthly government fiscal operations excel sheet) and they are, income tax, taxes on goods and services, taxes on external trade

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

73. Do the In-Year Reports compare actual year-to-date revenues with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 73 asks whether In-Year Reports compare actual revenues to-date with either the enacted levels or actual revenues for the same period in the previous year.

The OECD recommends that the reports contain the total year-to-date revenues in a format that allows for a comparison with the budget's forecast revenues (based on enacted levels) for the same period.

To answer "a," comparisons must be made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports.

Answer:

b. No, comparisons are not made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Researcher: The Data and Statistics excel sheets (Monthly Government Fiscal Operations) published by MOF (IYR) present only the actual (or provisional) data for the year/month and it does not provide a comparison between the actual revenue and the original estimate (enacted).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

74. Do In-Year Reports present three estimates related to actual government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing; the total debt outstanding; and interest payments?

GUIDELINES:

Question 74 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- the amount of net new borrowing so far during the year;
- the central government's total debt burden at that point in the year; and
- the interest payments to-date on the outstanding debt.

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens and banks and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, In-Year Reports must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, IYRs must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by->

ministry-of-finance (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>);

Link to Quarterly Government Debt excel sheet:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8);

Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Comment:

Data and Statistics Excel sheets (IYR) published by Ministry of Finance (Executive) presents all three core elements related to actual government borrowing and debt.

1-Amount of net new borrowing so far during the year- The 'Quarterly Government Debt_2018Q2' excel sheet on 'Data & Statistics Published by Ministry of Finance' webpage (Link: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>) provides information on the borrowing from domestic and foreign sources (Total Government outstanding debt=Domestic debt (Treasury Bills and Bonds) + Foreign Debts) until quarter 2 of 2018. Link to Quarterly Government Debt excel sheet:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8).

Further, 'Government Fiscal Operations_Annual' excel sheet provides 'Financing of Budget Deficit' (Net Foreign Financing + Net Domestic Financing).

2. Central government's total debt burden at that point in the year- The 'Quarterly Government Debt_2018Q2' excel sheet on 'Data & Statistics Published by Ministry of Finance' webpage (Link: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>) provides information on the total debt outstanding until quarter 2 of 2018. Link to Quarterly Government Debt excel sheet:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8).

3. Interest payments to-date on the outstanding debt-The 'Government Fiscal Operations_Monthly (Jan-June 2018)' excel sheet on 'Data & Statistics Published by Ministry of Finance' webpage (Link: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>) provides monthly data on the interest payments on outstanding debt under recurrent expenditure from January 2018 to June 2018. Link to the Monthly Government Fiscal Operations excel sheet: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5

(http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202376/Government+Fiscal+Operations_Monthly+%28Jan-June+2018%29/19b3d1b0-df18-4813-8ecf-2dbe72db29f5)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

75. Do In-Year Reports present information related to the composition of the total actual debt outstanding?

(The core information must include interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 75 focuses on the composition of government debt, asking whether "core" information related to its composition is presented. These core components include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

The interest rates affect the amount of interest that must be paid to creditors. The maturity profile indicates the final payment date of the loan, at which point the principal (and all remaining interest) is due to be paid; government borrowing typically includes a mix of short-term and long-term debt. As discussed in Question 74, domestic debt is held by a country's citizens and banks and businesses, while external debt is held by foreigners. These factors related to the composition of the debt give an indication of the potential vulnerability of the country's debt position, and ultimately whether the cost of servicing the accumulated debt is affordable.

Beyond these core elements, a government may also provide additional information related to the composition of its debt, including for instance: whether interest rates are fixed or variable; whether debt is callable; the currency of the debt; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); an analysis of the risk associated with the debt; and where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present all of the core information related to the composition of government debt to-date as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the composition of government debt is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the composition of the debt outstanding in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

Link to the website containing MS Excel sheets with data: DATA & STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>); Link to Quarterly Government Debt excel sheet:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8)

Comment:

Researcher: Data and Statistics Excel sheets (IYR) published by Ministry of Finance (Executive) present only one out of all three core elements related to the composition of the total actual debt outstanding.

1. Interest rates on the debt- Not provided.

2. Maturity profile of the debt- Not provided.

3. Whether the debt is domestic or external- The 'Quarterly Government Debt_2018Q2' excel sheet on 'Data & Statistics Published by Ministry of Finance' webpage (Link: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/data-statistics-published-by-ministry-of-finance>) provides information on the borrowings from domestic and foreign sources (Total Government outstanding debt=Domestic debt (Treasury Bills and Bonds) + Foreign Debts) until quarter 2 of 2018. Link to Quarterly Government Debt excel sheet:

http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/202446/Quarterly+Government+Debt_2018Q2+%281%29.xlsx/ddf1c372-4aba-400f-8cc6-3b505bb204e8)

In addition to these core elements this excel sheet provides the breakdown of domestic debts (Treasury bills and bonds) which provides a clue on the maturity profile of the debts.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

76. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include an updated macroeconomic forecast for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 76 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes an updated macroeconomic forecast for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

Refer to Question 15 for the components of the macroeconomic forecast presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include an updated macroeconomic forecast and explain all of the differences between the initial forecast presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and the updated forecast. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the macroeconomic forecast must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated forecasts are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes an updated macroeconomic forecast, but does not provide an explanation for the revisions. A "d" response applies if the macroeconomic forecast has not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, the estimates for macroeconomic forecast have not been updated.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide, updated macroeconomic forecasts for the budget year underway but it contains socio-economic data (not forecasts). Link to Mid-

Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But some Key variables are updated as provisional . See Key Indicators

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Reviewer for the comment. The 'Provisional' information in the MYR also shows the relevant period, and none of the indicators are projections for the remainder of the fiscal year (either the first quarter or first half). This does not meet the requirement for a MYR.

77. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 77 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of expenditure for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include updated expenditure estimates and explain all of the differences between the initial levels presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or the Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. The expenditure estimates must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated expenditure estimates, but does not provide an explanation for the revisions. A "d" response applies if the expenditure estimates have not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, expenditure estimates have not been updated.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway but it contains expenditure (provisional) for 2018. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, expenditure estimates have been updated, but an explanation of the differences between the original and updated expenditure estimates is not presented.

Comments: See pages 34 and on wards. Some of expenditure components updated.

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> Only problem here is whether the documents satisfies requirements of MYR

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Page 34 only shows provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as D.

78. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present expenditure estimates for the budget year underway by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 78 asks if expenditure estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present expenditure estimates by any expenditure classification.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway by any of the three classifications (administrative, economic and functional). However the report presents the additional allocations to Ministries (not for all) as of 30.02.2018. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, the Mid-Year Review presents expenditure estimates by only one of the three expenditure classifications.

Comments: Reviewer should refer to expenditure section of the report.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Expenditure estimates only show provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as D.

78b. Based on the response to Question 78, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Mid-Year Review:

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway by any of the three classifications (administrative, economic and functional). However the report presents the additional allocations to Ministries (not for all) as of 30.02.2018. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: Economic classification

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Page 34 only shows provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as none of the above.

79. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present expenditure estimates for the budget year underway for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 79 asks if expenditure estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. To answer "b," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if the Mid-Year Review presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present expenditure estimates by program.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide expenditure estimates for individual programmes underway. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

80. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 80 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of revenue for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include updated revenue estimates and explain all of the differences between the initial levels presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or the Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the revenue estimates must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated revenue estimates, but no explanation for the revisions is provided. A "d" response applies if the revenue estimates have not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, revenue estimates have not been updated.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway but it contains revenue (provisional) for 2018. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, revenue estimates have been updated, but an explanation of the differences between the original and updated revenue estimates is not presented.

Comments: See Table 3.3 of Mid year report <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Revenue estimates in Table 3.3 only show provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as D.

81. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present revenue estimates for the budget year underway by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 81 asks whether revenue estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

b. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present revenue estimates by category.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide revenue estimates by category (tax and non-tax revenue) for the budget year underway but it contains tax and non tax revenue (provisional) for 2018. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, the Mid-Year Review presents revenue estimates by category.

Comments: See Table 3.4 of Mid year report <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Revenue estimates in Table 3.4 only show provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as B.

82. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present individual sources of revenue for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 82 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Mid-Year Review. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenues, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Mid-Year Review must present individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Mid-Year Review presents estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present individual sources of revenue.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide individual sources of revenue estimates for the budget year underway. Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>

(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, the Mid-Year Review presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Comments: See the review comment for Q82

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Revenue estimates in Table 3.3 only show provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as D.

83. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 83 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

Refer to Question 13 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal of borrowing and debt. Key estimates related to borrowing and debt include:

- The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;
- The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and
- The interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.

Refer to Question 14 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the composition of the debt. Core information related to the composition of government debt include:

- interest rates on the debt;
- maturity profile of the debt; and
- whether the debt is domestic or external.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include an updated estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, and explain all of the differences between the initial estimates presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the

estimates of borrowing and debt must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates, but no explanation for the revisions is provided. A "d" response applies if the estimates of borrowing and debt have not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of government borrowing and debt have not been updated.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher- Sri Lanka does not produce a Mid-Year Review (MYR) which covers six months of the fiscal year. However, Sri Lanka produce 'Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report' which covers first four months of the fiscal year, fulfilling the requirements of the 'Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act, No. 3 of 2003'. This report is not considered as the MYR as per the guidelines of the OBS 2019. Further the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018 does not provide updated estimates of government borrowing and debt for the budget year underway. However, it provides sources of financing (foreign and domestic) including repayments, during the period of January to April 2018 (Page 18). Link to Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12882/2018.pdf/f918c0da-f6ed-40aa-b41c-82cbfee16016>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of government borrowing and debt have been updated, but information on the differences between the original and updated estimates is not presented.

Comments: See Tables 3.22-3.24 of the mid year report 2018, pages 62,63,64

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thanks to the Peer Review for the comment. Debt and borrowing estimates in Table 3.3 only show provisional information from January - April 2018, and not projections out to the remainder of the FY (December 2018) which is required for this question. The response is confirmed as D.

84. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for expenditures?

GUIDELINES:

Question 84 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and actual expenditures for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures, along with a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if estimates of the differences for all expenditures are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences are presented for some, but not all expenditures, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. Answer "d" if no estimates of the differences are presented in the Year-End Report

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 presents a comparison on enacted levels and the actual outcome in Part IV- Financial Statements, Table: Comparisons of the Budgets and Actuals for the year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233). The table contains original estimate, revised estimates, actuals and difference in performances. In addition, the Statement of Financial Performance for the period ended 31st December 2017 presents budget estimates and actuals of expenditure (Page 229). A narrative description on the deviations are provided in Chapter four- Government Expenditure. Page 68 provides the total expenditure performance (deviations): " The government total actual expenditure in year 2017 has increased by Rs. 364 billion to Rs. 3,470 billion compared to Rs 3,106 billion in 2016. This was against the estimated expenditure of Rs. 3,628 billion and the same was Rs.158 billion lower than the estimated expenditure. The total utilization ratio of budgetary provisions in 2017 was 96 percent and that was 12 percent higher than the performance in year 2016, of 84 percent. Out of the provisions authorized under clause 2 (1) of the Appropriation Act

(Expenditure on supply services) only 87 percent was utilized during the year, an increase of from 69 percent in 2016. " Further all the additional allocations to Ministries are reasoned in the Table 4.4 | Ministry - wise Summary of Additional Allocations as at 31.12.2017 (Page71-88).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

85. Does the Year-End Report present expenditure estimates by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 85 asks if expenditure estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. Answer "b" if expenditure estimates are presented by two of these three classifications. Answer "c" if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents expenditure estimates by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:

All three expenditure classifications (administrative, economic and functional classification) are presented in the Annual Report 2017.
1. Administrative classification- Schedule III - HEAD-WISE SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY PROVISION AND EXPENDITURE – 2017 (Page 339-344).
2. Economic classification- Table 5.1 | Government Treasury Cash Flow Operations -2017 presents economic classification of expenditure (Page 106). Table 9 | Economic Classification of Government Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments (Page 368).
3. Functional classification- Table 10 | Functional Classification of Government Expenditure (Page 369). Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

85b. Based on the response to Question 85, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Year-End Report:

Answer:

Administrative classification
Economic classification
Functional classification

Source:

All three expenditure classifications (administrative, economic and functional classification) are presented in the Annual Report 2017.

1. Administrative classification- Schedule III - HEAD-WISE SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY PROVISION AND EXPENDITURE – 2017 (Page 339-344).
2. Economic classification- Table 5.1 | Government Treasury Cash Flow Operations -2017 presents economic classification of expenditure (Page 106). Table 9 | Economic Classification of Government Expenditure and Lending Minus Repayments (Page 368).
3. Functional classification- Table 10 | Functional Classification of Government Expenditure (Page 369). Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

86. Does the Year-End Report present expenditure estimates for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 86 asks if expenditure estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present expenditure estimates for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. Answer "c" if the Year-End Report presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" if expenditures are not presented by program in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

c. Yes, the Year-End Report presents estimates for programs accounting for less than two-thirds of expenditures.

Source:

The Annual Report 2017 presents major projects implemented in 2017. Refer Table 4.16 (Page 97), Table 4.18 (Page 98), Table 4.19 (Page 99), Table 4.21 (Page 101), Table 4.23 (Page 102), Table 4.24 (Page 102), Table 4.25 (Page 103), Table 4.26 (Page 103), Table 4.27 (Page 103) and Table 4.28 (Page 103). Part IV-Financial Statements: Schedule II - STATEMENT OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS -2017 presents (Page 327-338) 9.80% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization. Link to the Annual Report 2017: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

87. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?

GUIDELINES:

Question 87 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and actual revenues for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues, along with a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if estimates of the differences for all revenues are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences are presented for some, but not all revenues, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. Answer "d" if no estimates of the differences are presented in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

Table 3.2 | Estimated and Actual Revenue - 2017 (Page 51); Comparison of Budgets and Actuals for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233). Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 provides a comparison between the enacted levels and actual revenue- Table 3.2 | Estimated and Actual Revenue - 2017 (Page 51); Comparison of Budgets and Actuals for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233). The narratives on revenue are presented in Chapter 3 (Page 49- 65) Eg: "The revenue from the corporate and noncorporate income tax declined by 7.0 percent to Rs. 143.6 billion in 2017 mainly due to the impact of the increase in revenue collected from ESC by 118.6 percent to Rs. 44.7 billion which can be deductible from income tax computations. The increase in revenue collected from ESC was mainly due to the imposition of ESC at the point of importation of motor vehicles coupled with the reduction of ESC threshold to Rs. 12.5 million per quarter from Rs. 50 million per quarter with effect from 1st April 2017." (Page 54)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

88. Does the Year-End Report present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 88 asks whether revenue estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents revenue estimates by category.

Source:

Table 3.2 | Estimated and Actual Revenue - 2017 (Page 51); Table 3.3 | Government Revenue (Page 53); Comparison of Budgets and Actuals for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233). Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

89. Does the Year-End Report present individual sources of revenue?

GUIDELINES:

Question 89 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Year-End Report. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. Answer "c" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" if individual sources of revenue are not presented in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Source:

Table 3.3 | Government Revenue (Page 53) provides the Sources of both tax and non-tax revenue and Table 3.4 | Government Tax Revenue - By Source provides all tax revenue sources (Page 53). Table 3.13 | Non Tax Revenue provides all non-tax revenue by sources (Page 59). Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>). Additional tables which also provides sources if revenue: Table 3.2 | Estimated and Actual Revenue - 2017 (Page 51); Comparison of Budgets and Actuals for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233).

Comment:

'Other' categories of revenue are less than 1% of total revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

90. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 90 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates and the actual outcome for the fiscal year for borrowing and debt, including its composition, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 13 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal of borrowing and debt. Key estimates related to borrowing and debt include:

- *the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Refer to Question 14 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the composition of the debt. Core information related to the composition of government debt include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of government borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Narrative discussion is not provided for all the core elements. Further, information on interest rates is not available in the Annual Report 2017.

1. Amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year- Narrative (Page 107): 5.3 Government Borrowing Programme– 2017- “The Parliament approved a borrowing limit of Rs.1,579 billion under the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016 for financing the resource gap in the Budget 2017. Subsequently, the borrowing limit for the year 2017 was enhanced to Rs.1,629 billion by the Appropriation (Amendment) Act No. 32 of 2017. Actual gross borrowing in 2017 was Rs. 1,620 billion.” This narrative is further extended to explain; 5.4 Financing the Budget- 5.4.1 Domestic Financing (Net Domestic Financing (NDF)), 5.4.2 Foreign Financing.

2. Central government’s total debt burden at the end of the budget year (Information unavailable for the whole budget year) - Domestic debt burden- Table 5.9 | Central Government Domestic Debt(a) (Page 117-118); Foreign Borrowing commitments 2017- 5.5.2. Outstanding Foreign Debt (a narrative on foreign debt burden, Page 110).

3. Interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year-The interest payments for borrowings are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 231) and Table-Comparison of Budgets and Actuals for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233).

4. Interest rates on the debt- Information is unavailable.

5. Maturity profile of the debt- Chart 5.9 | Domestic Debt Maturity Profile (Page 117); Chart 5.15 | Maturity Structure of Existing Debt Stock as of End of 2017 (US\$ million) (Page 119); Narrative description- 5.5.2.2 Maturity Structure of External Debt as of end 2017 (Page 119).

6. Whether the debt is domestic or external- Page 116 says: “The total debt included domestic debt of Rs. 5,594.4 billion and foreign debt of Rs. 4,718.6 billion.”

Option 'c' is selected since the Annual Report 2017 presents deviations (between actual and enacted levels) only one borrowing and debt estimates but not all for the fiscal year - interest payments for the year.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

90b. Based on the response to Question 90, check the box(es) to identify which estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, have the differences between the original forecast and the actual outcome for the year presented in the Year-End Report:

Answer:

The interest payments on outstanding debt for the budget year

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: Narrative discussion on all core elements are not provided and information on interest rates are not on the Annual Report 2017.

1. Amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year- Narrative (Page 107): 5.3 Government Borrowing Programme– 2017- “The Parliament approved a borrowing limit of Rs.1,579 billion under the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016 for financing the resource gap in the Budget 2017. Subsequently, the borrowing limit for the year 2017 was enhanced to Rs.1,629 billion by the Appropriation (Amendment) Act No. 32 of 2017. Actual gross borrowing in 2017 was Rs. 1,620 billion.” This narrative is further extended to explain; 5.4 Financing the Budget- 5.4.1 Domestic Financing (Net Domestic Financing (NDF)), 5.4.2 Foreign Financing. Table 5.3 | List of ODA Grants committed in 2017 (Page 110), Table 5.4 | List of

ODA Loans and Market Borrowing Instruments Committed in 2017, along with Financial Terms (Page 111-113).

2. Central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year- Domestic debt burden-Table 5.9 | Central Government Domestic Debt(a) (Page 117-118); Foreign Borrowing commitments 2017- Table 5.3 | List of ODA Grants committed in 2017 (page 110), Table 5.4 | List of ODA Loans and Market Borrowing Instruments Committed in 2017, along with Financial Terms (Page 111-113), 5.5.2. Outstanding Foreign Debt (a narrative on foreign debt burden, Page 110).

3. Interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year-The interest payments for borrowings are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 231) and Table-Comparison of Budgets and Actuals for the Year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233).

4. Interest rates on the debt- Available information is insufficient and incomplete. Interest Rates are provided for ODA Loans and Market Borrowings: Table 5.4 | List of ODA Loans and Market Borrowing Instruments Committed in 2017, along with Financial Terms (Page 111-113).

5. Maturity profile of the debt- Chart 5.9 | Domestic Debt Maturity Profile (Page 117); Chart 5.15 | Maturity Structure of Existing Debt Stock as of End of 2017 (US\$ million) (Page 119); Narrative description- 5.5.2.2 Maturity Structure of External Debt as of end 2017 (Page 119).

6. Whether the debt is domestic or external- Table 1.1 | Government Fiscal Operations (a) (Page 5) presents both net foreign financing and net domestic financing. Narrative discussion on. 5.4 Financing the Budget (Page 107-108). Statement of Financial Performance for the Period ended 31st December 2017 (Page 229) presents total financing with the breakup- total foreign financing (net foreign + foreign grants) and net domestic borrowings (domestic borrowings + domestic debt repayments). Option 'c' is selected since the Annual Report 2017 presents deviations (between actual and enacted levels) of some borrowing and debt estimates but not all for the fiscal year.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

91. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 91 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 15 for the components of the macroeconomic forecast in the Executive's Budget Proposal. Core components include estimates of the nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates, although the importance of other macroeconomic assumptions, such as the price of oil, can vary from country to country.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year is not presented.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 includes the socio and macroeconomic data for the past years in the table titled 'Sri Lanka At A Glance 2015 – 2017' (Before part I) but does not provide a comparison between forecast and actual macroeconomic indicators.

1. Nominal GDP- Actual is presented in the table titled ' Sri Lanka At A Glance 2015 – 2017'
2. Inflation- Actual is presented in the table titled ' Sri Lanka At A Glance 2015 – 2017' and narrative is presented in Page 36.
3. Real GDP Growth-2017 (Provisional) Real GDP growth: Table 3 | Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Inflation and Exchange Rate (Page 360).
4. Interest rates- International Sovereign Bonds (ISB) interest rates are presented (Page 114) which cannot be considered as interest rates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

91b. Based on the response to Question 91, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the macroeconomic forecast have the differences between the original forecast and the outcome for the year presented in the Year-End Report:

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 includes the socio and macroeconomic data for the past years in the table titled 'Sri Lanka At A Glance 2015 – 2017' (Before part I) but does not provide a comparison between forecast and actual macroeconomic indicators.

1. Nominal GDP- Actual is presented in the table titled ' Sri Lanka At A Glance 2015 – 2017'
2. Inflation- Actual is presented in the table titled ' Sri Lanka At A Glance 2015 – 2017' and narrative is presented in Page 36.
3. Real GDP Growth-2017 (Provisional) Real GDP growth: Table 3 | Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Inflation and Exchange Rate (Page 360).
4. Interest rates- International Sovereign Bonds (ISB) interest rates are presented (Page 114) which cannot be considered as interest rates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

92. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 92 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 49 for the nonfinancial data on inputs included in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are not presented.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 (YER) provides non-financial data on inputs such as data on education (Number of government/private/pirivenas schools, teachers and students), women participation women population, employed women, women participation in the labour force, women in the public service, unemployed women), health, capital market, print and electronic media, Installed Capacity (energy) and poverty. However it does not provide a comparison between actual outcomes and estimates. Hence, option 'd' has been selected.

SBTM:

The Annual Report 2017 (YER) provides non-financial data on inputs to health sector such as: 1. Health Sector Physical Infrastructure: Public Hospitals, Private Hospitals, Primary Medical Care Units, Government Hospital Beds. 2. Health Sector Human capital (Professionals): Government Doctors and Nurses, Public Health Inspectors (PHI), Attendants, Midwives However, it doesn't provide a comparison between actual outcomes and estimates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

93. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 93 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion. Nonfinancial data on results can include data on both outputs and outcomes, but not on inputs (which are addressed in Question 92).

Refer to Question 50 for the nonfinancial data on results included in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are not presented.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

The Year-End Report doesn't provide the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome. The Annual Report 2017 (YER) provides some non-financial data on results of education, health, telecommunication, access to basic infrastructure.

Eg:

1. Health: Mid-Year Growth of Population, Life Expectancy at Birth, Infant Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births), Maternal Mortality Rate (Per 100,000 Live Births), Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 persons), Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 persons).
2. Access to Basic infrastructure Electricity to Households, Pipe-borne Water (% of Population), Access to Safe Drinking Water (% of Population).
3. Telecommunication: Fixed Access Services, Cellular Phones (No. of Subscribers), Internet and email Subscribers (Including mobile internet services).
4. Education: Literacy Rate, Computer Literacy Rate (%)

SBTM:

The Annual Report 2017 (YER) provides some non-financial data on results of health sector such as, mid-year growth of population, life expectancy at birth, infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births), maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births), crude birth rate (per 1,000 persons), crude death rate (per 1,000 persons).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

94. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted level of funds for policies (both new proposals and existing policies) that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 94 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted level of funds for policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 52 for assistance to the most impoverished populations in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between the enacted level for some but not all of the policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted level for some but not all of the policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The YER doesn't present the differences between the enacted level for policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome. The Annual Report 2017 includes both narratives and comparison of enacted and actual expenditure of some sectors.

Eg: 4.8.1.1 Investment in Healthcare (Page 91)- "Government increased its total investment on healthcare by 6 percent in 2017 to Rs. 204 billion in comparison to the year 2016. Capital investment increased by 21 percent due to the increase of equipment purchasing and building construction activities, while the recurrent expenditure increased by only 3 percent. The major share of the increased total investment was into national level healthcare development which grew by 7.5 percent in 2017 over the year 2016. The capital investment on provincial healthcare investment increased significantly by 26 percent due to the government initiations of improving provincial level health infrastructure, while recurrent expenses narrowed by 1.6 percent." Welfare Programmes: Table 4.11 | Expenditure on Welfare Programs (Page94), Table 4.12 | Students Benefited by Welfare Programs (Page 94) and Table 4.13 | Expenditure on Mahapola & Bursaries (Page 95). Examples of information and data: Table 32 | Welfare Payments and Development Subsidies (Page 393)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP cross-country consistency check, this score is revised from D to C. The information presented in the YER on p. 94 and 393-394 relating to expenditures on the Welfare Program for students, including scholarships and school feeding programs, while not comprehensive, is enough to qualify for a C on this question.

95. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 95 asks whether the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 33 for estimates of extra-budgetary funds in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented

Answer:

d. No, estimates of the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome is not presented.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka does not have extrabudgetary funds.

SBTM:

Sri Lanka doesn't have extrabudgetary funds for health sector.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: b. Yes, estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Comments: See the annual report page 318-322

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/Finance+Ministry+Annual+Report+2018+English+updated.pdf/fa11483d-1999-448c-a825-cd170e207b45>

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP review, this question is confirmed as D. As the peer reviewer correctly notes, and confirms with the media report on the State Funds in Q33, there are some funds operated by Ministries and Departments that are not on-budget. The Head-Wise expenditure in p. 318-322 of the YER however is not related to those State Funds, but rather on expenditure for pn-budget ministries and departments. While State Funds are considered extra-budgetary funds by OBS methodology, they are not reported in budget documents, including the YER, therefore the correct score on this question is D.

96. Is a financial statement included as part of the Year-End Report or released as a separate report?

GUIDELINES:

Question 96 asks whether a financial statement is included as part of the Year-End Report, or whether it is released as a separate report. The financial statement can include some or all of the following elements: a cash flow statement, an operating statement, a balance sheet, and notes on accounting. For purposes of responding to this question, the financial statement in question does not need to be audited. For an example of a financial statement, see the document "Financial Statements of the Government of New Zealand 2013" (<https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2013-10/fsgnz-year-jun13.pdf>)

To answer "a," a financial statement must either be included in the Year-End Report or must be released as a separate report. Answer "a" applies if a financial statement is released as a separate report, even if the Year-End Report is not publicly available. Answer "b" applies if no financial statement is released either as part of the Year-End Report or as a separate report.

Answer:

a. Yes, a financial statement is part of the Year-End Report or is released as a separate report.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 present financial statements with notes to the financial statements (Page 227-355).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

97. What type of audits (compliance, financial, or performance) has the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) conducted and made available to the public?

GUIDELINES:

Question 97 asks about the types of audits conducted by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). There are three basic types of audits:

- Financial audits are intended to determine if an entity's financial information is accurate (free from errors or fraud) and presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting and regulatory framework. See ISSAI 200 (<http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-principles.htm>) for more detail.
- Compliance audits look at the extent to which the relevant regulations and procedures have been followed. See ISSAI 400 (<http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-principles.htm>) for more details.
- Performance audits assess whether activities are adhering to the principles of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. See ISSAI 300 (<http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-principles.htm>) for more details. ≈

Financial and compliance audits are more common than performance audits, which usually occur only once a performance framework has been agreed upon. In some countries, the SAI's mandate limits the type of audit it can conduct.

To answer "a," the SAI must have conducted all three types of audit – financial, compliance, and performance – and made all of them available to the public. A "b" response applies if the SAI has conducted two of the three audit types, and a "c" applies if it has conducted only one type of audit. Answers "b" and "c" may be selected even if the Audit Report is not publicly available, as long as the SAI has conducted compliance or performance audits and made them available to the public. A "d" response applies if the SAI has not conducted any of the three types of audits, or has not made them available to the public.

Answer:

b. The SAI has conducted two of the three types of audits, and made them available to the public.

Source:

1. Performance Audit of the Auditor General (Page 23-31),
2. Investigation Audit (Page 32-48)
3. Financial Audits (Financial Statements) (Page 49-61)

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: National Audit Office has not published a document on the Compliance Audit. However, the Deputy Auditor General stated that the NAOSL produces all 03 types of audits and reports are submitted to the Parliament then they are made available through the official website. (Please note that the website does not contain Compliance Audit reports)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

IBP confirms that there are publicly available full audit reports on the NAO's office. Performance:
http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/component/pdfdoc/?keywords=&years=10&audit_types=3&or=&task=pdfdoc&option=com_pdfdoc Financial:
http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/component/pdfdoc/?keywords=&years=10&audit_types=2&or=2&task=pdfdoc&option=com_pdfdoc

98. What percentage of expenditures within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited?

GUIDELINES:

Question 98 focuses on the coverage of audits by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), asking what percentage of expenditures within the SAI's mandate has been audited.

The SAI's mandate is typically defined in statute. Only expenditures related to budgetary central government (ministries, departments, and agencies) that are within the SAI's mandate should be considered for this question. (Question 99 addresses audits of extra-budgetary funds.) Further, the question does not apply to "secret programs" (for example, security-related expenditures that are confidential). Further, if the mandate gives the SAI the authority to outsource some audits, then those audits count for purposes of this question.

Only the Audit Report identified in Section 1 should be used to answer this question. Financial audits and compliance audits, or a hybrid of the two, can be taken into account to answer this question. Performance audits should not be considered for this question.

To answer "a," all expenditures within the SAI's mandate must be audited. A "b" response applies if at least two-thirds, but not all, expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "c" response is appropriate when less than two-thirds of expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "d" response applies when no expenditures have been audited.

Answer:

a. All expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited.

Source:

Link to National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018:

http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/public_news_agdsl/2018_news/Natinal_Audit_Act/Nationa-Audot-Act_E.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/public_news_agdsl/2018_news/Natinal_Audit_Act/Nationa-Audot-Act_E.pdf); Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Section 3(1)(a) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018, section titled 'Scope of audit in relation to auditee entitie' states that, "The Auditor-General shall- audit all income received to the Consolidated Fund and all expenditure from the Consolidated Fund;" However, Sri Lanka doesn't produce an Audit Report that complies with the international standards.

The Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017, is not qualified to be AR as per the OBS 2019 guidelines (Link to the repoer:

<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/annual-reports>) http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf (http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/audit-reports/upload/2017/annual_report-2017/FinalAnnualReport2017English.pdf)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

The researcher's response is correct based on the previous OBS assessment Annual Report and the summary of the financial audit presented at the end of the YER. However, as financial audits are released for individual account heads in Sri Lanka, the combination of the Annual Report, the summary of the overall financial report, and the individual audits as presented on the website, together qualify as a full publication of the audit report of the financial statements of all government. The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017): https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc_-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAg&c=1IUvw6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5IUWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kjPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una-HxjZUjb5IRMbOjmmGqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLcIE3uBVoTiHnNsv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e= Based on the coverage of the audit findings presented as the appendix to the YER, along with the individual head audits and the Annual Report, this question is revised to A.

99. What percentage of extra-budgetary funds within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited?

GUIDELINES:

Question 99 focuses on audits of extra-budgetary funds, asking what percentage of extra-budgetary funds within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited. These funds, although technically outside the budget, are governmental in nature and thus should be subject to the same audit requirement as other government programs.

The SAI's mandate is typically defined in statute. Only expenditures related to extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate should be considered for this question. (Question 98 addresses audits of budgetary central government.) Further, if the mandate gives the SAI the authority to outsource some audits, then those audits count for purposes of this question.

To answer "a," all extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate must be audited. A "b" response applies if extra-budgetary funds accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures associated with extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "c" response applies if extra-budgetary funds accounting for less than two-thirds of expenditures associated with extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "d" response applies if extra-budgetary funds have not been audited.

Answer:

d. No extra-budgetary funds have been audited.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka does not have extrabudgetary funds.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IBP Comment
During an IBP review, the response to this question is confirmed as D. Sri Lanka does have extra-budgetary funds, which are the funds outside of the Consolidated Fund, but there are no audits of these funds that are publicly available.

100. Does the annual Audit Report(s) prepared by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) include an executive summary?

GUIDELINES:

Question 100 asks whether the annual Audit Report includes an executive summary. Only the Audit Report identified in Section 1 should be used to answer this question. The Audit Report can be a fairly technical document, and an executive summary of the report's findings can help make it more accessible to the media and the public.

To answer "a," the Audit Report must include at least one executive summary summarizing the report's content. Answer "b" applies if the Audit Report does not include an executive summary, or the Audit Report is not made publicly available.

Answer:

b. No, the annual Audit Report(s) does not include an executive summary.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka does not present an executive summary. As per OBS 2019 guidelines the Annual Report of the Auditor General 2017 is not considered as AR.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: The audit report contains very minimum information.

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IBP Comment

The researcher's response is correct based on the previous OBS assessment Annual Report and the summary of the financial audit presented at the end of the YER. However, as financial audits are released for individual account heads in Sri Lanka, the combination of the Annual Report, the summary of the overall financial report, and the individual audits as presented on the website, together qualify as a full publication of the audit report of the financial statements of all government. The individual audit reports can be found on the website here (for 193 Ministries and Departments for FY 2017): https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk_web_index.php_en_component_pdfdoc-3Fkeywords-3D-26years-3D8-26audit-5Ftypes-3D2-26sector-3D2-26task-3Dpdfdoc-26option-3Dcom-5Fpdfdoc&d=DwMFAg&c=1IUvw6fBZaO6DQT7_qzSfw&r=4_Q1JFZw_5UWFwpuPN_HZsP2yq5kjPWsUnyTicjC2k&m=una_HxjZUjb5lRmbOjmmGqVZ8eID2gdERLWHD9J8kME&s=vvdBOLcIE3uBVoTiHNNsv5yI0Z4xkPUhREhYIMKB3G8&e= However, as there is no executive summary of the findings of all of these reports, the score for this question remains B.

101. Does the executive make available to the public a report on what steps it has taken to address audit recommendations or findings that indicate a need for remedial action?

GUIDELINES:

Question 101 asks whether the executive reports to the public on the steps it has taken to address audit recommendations made by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). The ultimate purpose of audits is to verify that the budget was executed in a manner consistent with existing law, and to hold the government

accountable for this execution and its future improvement. The extent to which audits achieve the latter depends on whether there is adequate and timely follow-up on the recommendations provided in the SAI's audit reports.

To answer "a," the executive must report publicly on the steps it has taken to address all audit findings. A "b" response applies if the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address most, but not all, audit findings. A "c" response applies if the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address only some audit findings. As long as the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address audit finding, answer "a," "b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Audit Report is not made publicly available. A "d" response applies if the executive does not report at all on its steps to address audit findings.

Answer:

d. No, the executive does not report on steps it has taken to address audit findings.

Source:

Comment:

There is no publicly available document prepared by Ministry of Finance (executive) on the steps it has taken to address audit findings and due to that, response 'd' is selected.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

102. Does either the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations?

GUIDELINES:

Question 102 asks whether the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or the legislature track actions by the executive to address audit recommendations. After audit results and recommendations are discussed and validated by the legislature, the executive is normally asked to take certain actions to address the audit findings. For accountability purposes, the public needs to be informed about the status of those actions, and steps the executive has taken to address audit recommendations. In addition to the executive reporting on its actions (see Question 101), the SAI and legislature – as the key oversight institutions – have a responsibility to keep the public informed by tracking the executive's progress in addressing audit recommendations.

To answer "a," the SAI or legislature must report publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address all audit findings. A "b" response applies if the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address most, but not all, audit findings. A "c" response applies if the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address only some audit findings. As long as the SAI or legislature reports publicly on the steps the executive has taken, answer "a," "b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Audit Report is not made publicly available. A "d" response applies if neither the SAI nor the legislature reports on the executive's steps to address audit findings.

Answer:

d. No, neither the SAI nor legislature reports on steps the executive has taken to address audit recommendations.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Deputy Auditor General stated that neither the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) nor legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations. However, the Auditor General's reports includes the paragraphs on unresolved audit findings highlighted in the previous years.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

103. Is there an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) that conducts budget analyses for the budget formulation and/or approval process?

GUIDELINES:

Question 103 examines whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) exists that contributes budget analyses to the budget formulation and/or approval process. According to the Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions, adopted by the OECD Council in 2014, "independent fiscal institutions are publicly funded, independent bodies under the statutory authority of the executive or the legislature which provide non-partisan oversight and analysis of, and in some cases advice on, fiscal policy and performance", and with "a forward-looking ex ante diagnostic task". In practice, they come in two main forms:

- Parliamentary budget offices (also known as PBOs) such as the Congressional Budget Office in the United States (<https://www.cbo.gov/>), the Parliamentary Budget Office in South Africa (<https://www.parliament.gov.za/parliamentary-budget-office>), and the Center for Public Finance Studies in Mexico (Centro de Estudios de las Finanzas Públicas, <http://www.cefp.gob.mx/>); or
- Fiscal councils such as the Office for Budget Responsibility in the United Kingdom (<https://obr.uk/>), the Fiscal Policy Council in Sweden (Finanspolitiska Rådet, <http://www.finanspolitiskaradet.com/>), and the High Council for Public Finances in France (Haut Conseil des finances publiques, <https://www.hcfp.fr/>).

For more information, see von Trapp et al. 'Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions and Case Studies', OECD Journal on Budgeting 15:2 (special issue, 2016), <https://doi.org/10.1787/budget-15-5jm2795tv625>.

To answer "a," there must be an IFI, and its independence must be set in law. In addition, it must have sufficient staffing and resources, including funding, to carry out its tasks. Answer "b" applies if an IFI exists, but either its independence is not set in law or its staffing and resources are insufficient to carry out its tasks. Answer "c" applies if an IFI exists, but its independence is not set in law and it lacks sufficient staffing and resources. Answer "d" applies if no IFI exists.

If the answer is "a," "b," or "c," please specify in the comments the name and type of IFI that exists (e.g., parliamentary budget office or fiscal council). If the answer is "a" or "b," identify the law that guarantees its independence, and provide evidence in support of the assessment of the adequacy of its staffing and resources. This can include the IFI's total budget allocation over recent years, any press reports that discuss perceived funding shortfalls, assessments by international organizations, and/or information from interviews with staff of the IFI.

Answer:

d. No, there is no IFI.

Source:

Link to Hansard Volume 245- No.11 (Column No. 1495) <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/documents/hansard/1472617515065468.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/documents/hansard/1472617515065468.pdf>); Link to newspaper/media articles on setting up a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO): 23.08.2016 - <https://www.newsfirst.lk/2016/08/23/parliamentary-budget-office-will-not-established-budget/> (<https://www.newsfirst.lk/2016/08/23/parliamentary-budget-office-will-not-established-budget/>); 22.01.2017- <http://www.sundaytimes.lk/170122/business-times/parliamentary-budget-office-soon-225333.html> (<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/170122/business-times/parliamentary-budget-office-soon-225333.html>); 15.11.2017- <http://www.dailynews.lk/2017/11/15/business/134496/budget-office-open-parliament-next-year> (<http://www.dailynews.lk/2017/11/15/business/134496/budget-office-open-parliament-next-year>). ; Link to Hansard with COPF mandate 19.12.2015 (Volume 241 No. 15) Column No. 3211-3212: <http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/documents/hansard/1452146022015089.pdf> (<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/documents/hansard/1452146022015089.pdf>) ; Link to COPF Budget Report: <http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf#page=1> (<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf#page=1>)

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lanka currently does not have an independent body that can be classified as an IFI. The current Prime Minister suggested the establishment of a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) which can be classified as an IFI, on 23rd August 2016 in the Parliament (Hansard Volume 245- No.11 [Column No. 1495]). Further, media reports state that the necessary legislation to establish a PBO were in the process of finalisation in 2017 (Source [22.01.2017]: <http://www.sundaytimes.lk/170122/business-times/parliamentary-budget-office-soon-225333.html>). However, it has not been established till 31/12/2018. The Parliament has established a Committee on Public Finance (COPF) (Standing Order 121) that has the mandate to question public finance activities and release documents when necessary. The latest COPF report was on FY 2017 (Please refer link to COPF budget report). After FY 2017 COPF has tabled two reports which were not made public by 31-12-2018. Since the COPF only examines the implementation stage of the budget process it cannot be considered as an IFI.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

104. Does the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) publish macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts?

GUIDELINES:

Question 104 assesses whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) has a role in producing the macroeconomic forecast (e.g., GDP growth, inflation, interest rates, etc.) and/or the fiscal forecast (revenues, expenditure, deficits, and debt), and if so, what kind of role it has. Macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasting is a typical core function across IFIs, but their role in forecasting takes several forms (von Trapp et al. 2016, p. 17 and Table 2). Some IFIs produce just a macroeconomic forecast, while others produce a complete fiscal forecast (which also typically requires an underlying macroeconomic forecast). In some cases, the fiscal forecast reflects continuation of current budget policies; such forecasts can be used by the legislature, the media, or the public to assess the projections in the executive's budget reflecting the government's policy proposals.

Some IFIs produce the official macroeconomic and fiscal forecasts used in the executive's budget. In other cases, IFIs do not prepare their own independent forecasts, but rather produce an assessment of the official estimates, or provide an opinion on, or endorsement of, the government's forecasts. Some others have no role at all in forecasting.

To answer "a", there must be an IFI that publishes both its own macroeconomic AND fiscal forecasts. Answer "b" applies if an IFI publishes its own macroeconomic OR fiscal forecast (but not both). Answer "c" applies if the IFI does not publish a macroeconomic or fiscal forecast, but rather publishes an assessment of the official forecasts produced by the executive and used in the budget. Choose option "d" if there is no IFI; or if there is an IFI that neither publishes its own macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts, nor a commentary on the official forecasts for the budget.

Macroeconomic forecasts may include indicators relating to economic output and economic growth, inflation, and the labor market, amongst others. Fiscal forecasts may include estimates of revenues, expenditures, the budget balance, and debt. If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify which indicators and estimates are included in the forecasts and whether the forecast is used by government as the official forecast. If the answer is "c," please describe the nature and depth of the assessment (e.g., the length of the commentary, or whether it covers both economic and fiscal issues).

Answer:

d. No, there is no IFI; or the IFI neither publishes its own macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts, nor a commentary on the official forecasts produced by the executive.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: Please Refer the comment on question 103.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

105. Does the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) publish its own costings of new policy proposals, to assess their impact on the budget?

GUIDELINES:

Question 105 assesses whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) has a costing function that involves assessing the budgetary implications of new policy proposals for both revenues and expenditures, and if so, what kind of role it has. Many IFIs have a costing role, but with substantial diversity in the nature and extent of this work (von Trapp et al 2016, pp. 17-18 and Table 2). Some assess virtually all new policy proposals, while others cost only a selection of new policy proposals. Others only publish opinions on, or scrutinize the costings of, budget measures produced by the executive.

To answer "a," the IFI must publish its own costings of all (or virtually all) new policy proposals. Answer "b" applies if the IFI publishes its own costings, but only for major new policy proposals – for instance, only those proposals that cost or save above a certain amount. Answer "c" applies if the IFI publishes its own costings, but only on a limited number of proposals. This could occur, for instance, if the IFI lacked the capacity to assess proposals dealing with certain sectors. Instead of producing a cost estimate, it can also publish an assessment of the estimates produced by the executive. Answer "d" applies if there is no IFI; or if the IFI does not publish its own costings of new policy proposals or provide an assessment of the official costings of new policy proposals.

Answer:

d. No, there is no IFI; or the IFI does not publish its own costings of new policy proposals.

Source:

Link to the COPF budget analysis published online on 25/11/2016 FOR fy 2017:
<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf#page=1>
(<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf#page=1>)

Comment:

Researcher: Please Refer the comment on question 103. Though Sri Lanka doesn't has an IFI, the Committee on Public Finance (COPF) has released its assessment of the budget.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

106. In the past 12 months, how frequently did the head or a senior staff member of the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) take part and testify in hearings of a committee of the legislature?

GUIDELINES:

Question 106 concerns the interaction between two important oversight actors and assesses how frequently the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) made high-level inputs to the work of legislative committees. Almost all IFIs interact with the legislature in some form (von Trapp et al 2016, p. 18), but the intensity of the interaction varies. This question assesses this aspect by asking, with reference to the past 12 months, how frequently the head or a senior staff member of the IFI took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature. The intent is to assess the extent to which the IFI staff member in question was not only present at a meeting of a legislative committee, but was an active participant (as opposed to a passive observer, serving only as a resource when called upon). As evidence to support your answer, you can refer to official records of legislative committees, websites and annual reports of the IFI, press releases and media coverage, for example. Choose answer "a" if this occurred five times or more; "b" for three times or more, but less than five times; and "c" for once or twice. Answer "d" should be selected if the head or a senior staff member of the IFI never took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature, or if there is no IFI.

Answer:

d. Never, or there is no IFI.

Source:

Links to COPF Reports published till 31/12/2018: <http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1479285175081348.pdf#page=1> (<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1479285175081348.pdf#page=1>); <http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1479285259081036.pdf#page=1> (<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1479285259081036.pdf#page=1>) and <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: Please Refer the comment on question 103. However the Committee on Public Finance (COPF) has called to question several fiscal decisions and held hearings (refer link to the COPF reports) since they examine the implementation stage of the budget process.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

107. Does the full legislature and/or a legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 107 asks whether the legislature debates budget policies prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal. In general, prior to discussing the Executive's Budget Proposal for the coming year, the legislature should have an opportunity to review the government's broad budget priorities and fiscal parameters. Often times this information is laid out in a Pre-Budget Statement, which the executive presents to the legislature for debate. (See Questions 54-58.)

A number of countries conduct a pre-budget debate in the legislature around six months before the start of the budget year. In some cases, they adopt laws that guide the upcoming budget, for example the Budget Guidelines Law in Brazil and the Spring Fiscal Policy Bill in Sweden. A pre-budget debate can serve two main purposes: 1) to allow the executive to inform the legislature of its fiscal policy intentions by presenting updated reports on its annual and medium-term budget strategy and policy priorities; and 2) to establish "hard" multi-year fiscal targets or spending ceilings, which the government must adhere to when preparing its detailed spending estimates for the upcoming budget year.

To answer "a," the full legislature must debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal and approve recommendations for the upcoming budget.

Answer "b" applies if a legislative committee (but not the full legislature) debates budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal, and approves recommendations for the budget. Option "b" also applies if, in addition to the action by the committee, the full legislature also debates budget policy

in advance of the budget, but does not approve recommendations.

Answer "c" applies if the full legislature and/or a legislative committee debates budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal, but does not approve recommendations for the budget. Answer "d" applies if neither the full legislature nor any legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal.

In your comment, please indicate the dates of the budget debate, and if both the full legislature and a legislative committee held a debate. Note that a debate does not need to be open to the public, but a public record of the meeting or a public notice that the meeting occurred is required. In addition, please indicate whether the budget debate was focused on a Pre-Budget Statement published by the Executive. If the Executive did not publish a Pre-Budget Statement, then please indicate what served as the focus of the legislature's debate (for instance, a report released by an IFI or some other institution).

Answer:

d. No, neither the full legislature nor any legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Source:

Responses received from the Secretary of COPF.

Comment:

Researcher: The Secretary of the COPF confirmed that a parliamentary committee does not debate the budget prior to tabling EBPs in the Parliament. As per the interview with the Director of National Budget Department, the Executive's Budget Proposals are examined by the Committee on Public Finance (COPF) prior to the Committee Stage at the Parliament. The COPF examines the estimates drafted by the Ministry of Finance and all the Bills related to Finance.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

108. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 108 examines how far in advance of the start of the budget year the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal. International good practice recommends that the Executive's Budget Proposal should be submitted to the legislature far enough in advance to allow the legislature time to review it properly, or at least three months prior to the start of the fiscal year. (See, for instance, Principle 2.2.2 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

For the purposes of responding to this question, if – and only if – the most recent budget submission occurred later than usual as a result of a particular event, such as an election, please use a more normal year as the basis for the response. If, however, delays have been observed for more than one budget year, and the legislature has not received the Executive's Budget Proposal in a timely manner on more than one occasion in the last three years, then "d" will be the appropriate answer.

To answer "a," the legislature must receive the Executive's Budget Proposal at least three months in advance of the start of the budget year. Answer "b" applies if the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least two months, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year. Answer "c" applies if the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month, but less than two months, before the start of the budget year. Answer "d" applies if the legislature does not receive the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month prior to the start of the budget year, or does not receive it at all.

Answer:

c. The legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month, but less than two months, before the start of the budget year.

Source:

Link to Appropriation Bill 2018: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6064.pdf>)

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2018>)

Volume 1: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Volume 2: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume2E.pdf/4fe1e9c3-495c-4b29-8ad7-1013bd34aab3>)

Volume 3: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume3E.pdf/ac8189be-1463-4fdd-9534-8ccbd71ae582>)

Link to Budget Speech- 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)
Link to Fiscal Management Report 2018: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>
(<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/publications/fiscal-management>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12876/Fiscal+Management+Report++2018+English.pdf/71375d9b-4984-4d78-b7f7-075c55734c52>)

Comment:

Researcher: The EBP submitted to the legislature for consideration on 9/11/2017 (Refer EBP1b).

The EBP is generally submitted to the legislature in November of the year preceding the fiscal year. For example, for FY2018, the Appropriation Bill 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th October 2017; the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th November 2017; the Budget Speech 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th November 2017; and the Fiscal Management Report 2018 was presented to the Parliament on 9th November 2017. Therefore 9th November 2017 is considered as the date EBP submitted to the legislature for consideration.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

109. When does the legislature approve the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 109 examines when the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal. International good practice recommends that the Executive's Budget Proposal should be approved by the legislature before the start of the fiscal year the budget proposal refers to. This gives the executive time to implement the budget in its entirety, particularly new programs and policies.

In some countries, the expenditure and revenue estimates of the Executive's Budget Proposal are approved separately; for purposes of this question, at least the expenditure estimates must be approved. Further, approval of the budget implies approval of the full-year budget, not just a short-term continuation of spending and revenue authority.

To answer "a," the legislature must approve the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month before the start of the budget year. Answer "b" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal less than one month in advance of the start of the budget year, but at least by the start of the budget year. Answer "c" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal less than one month after the start of the budget year. Answer "d" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal more than one month after the start of the budget year, or does not approve the budget.

Answer:

b. The legislature approves the budget less than one month in advance of the start of the budget year, but at least by the start of the budget year.

Source:

Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Link to News on Parliamentary website: <https://www.parliament.lk/budget-2018>
(<https://www.parliament.lk/budget-2018>)

Comment:

Researcher: The EBP for 2018 was approved on 09th December 2017, and available on the 15th December 2017 as a gazette supplement for the budget year 2018 (FY 2018).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

110. Does the legislature have the authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 110 examines the legislature's power to amend—as opposed to simply accept or reject—the budget proposal presented by the executive. This question is about legal authority rather than actions the legislature takes in practice. The legislature's powers to amend the budget can vary substantially across countries.

The "a" response is appropriate only if there are no restrictions on the right of the legislature to modify the Executive's Budget Proposal, including its right to change the size of the proposed deficit or surplus. The "b" response would be appropriate if, for instance, the legislature is restricted from changing the deficit or surplus, but it still has the power to increase or decrease funding and revenue levels. The more limited "c" response would apply if, for instance, the legislature can only re-allocate spending within the totals set in the Executive's Budget Proposal or can only decrease funding levels or increase revenues. Finally, response "d" would apply if the legislature may not make any changes (or only small technical changes), or if amendments must first be approved by the executive. In these cases, the legislature is essentially only able to approve or reject the budget as a whole. If the answer is "b" or "c", please indicate the nature of the amendment powers available to the Parliament and how they are limited.

Answer:

a. Yes, the legislature has unlimited authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Source:

The Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII -Finance:
<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>); Link to Standing Orders of the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka: <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/standing-orders-en.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/standing-orders-en.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: Chapter XVII - Finance, Article 148 of the Constitution of Sri Lanka gives the Parliament the full control over public finance. It states that authority to pass laws and amend laws rests with the Parliament. Standing Order No 131 outlines the protocol and the guidelines to follow in order for Parliament to amend the Appropriation Bill (EBPs).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

111. During the most recent budget approval process, did the legislature use its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 111 assesses whether any formal authority of the legislature to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal is used in practice. The responses to this question should be determined based on action by the legislature related to the Enacted Budget used in the OBS. Choose answer "a" if the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal during the most recent budget approval process, and amendments were adopted (all, or at least some of them). Answer "a" also applies if the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, but the amendments were rejected by executive veto. Answer "b" applies if the legislature used its authority in law to propose amendments to the Executive's Budget Proposal, but none of these amendments were adopted. Answer "c" applies if the legislature has the authority in law to amend the budget, but no amendments were proposed during its consideration. Answer "d" applies when the legislature does not have any authority to amend the budget (that is, Question 110 is answered "d").

If the answer is "a" or "b", please specify in the comments the number of amendments introduced by the legislature (and in the case of an "a" response, the number adopted, or if applicable, information about an executive veto) and describe their nature. For example, did the amendments result in an increase or decrease of the deficit? What were the most significant amendments to revenues and to expenditures in terms of the sums involved? How did amendments affect the composition of expenditures? If the answer is "a," please specify which amendments were adopted, and provide evidence for it.

Answer:

a. Yes, the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, and (at least some of) its amendments were adopted.

Source:

Hansard Volume 257- No. 18, Column 3836 onwards: Parliamentary Debates-Official report on 09th December 2017 (Hansard on the date of the third and final reading of the budget). Link: <https://parliament.lk/uploads/documents/hansard/1515039267002735.pdf> (<https://parliament.lk/uploads/documents/hansard/1515039267002735.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: As per the Hansard Volume 257- No. 18, (Column 3836 onward), several amendments took place during the committee stage of the budget discussion to the proposals published in the EBPs and presented in the budget speech. The Hansard on 09th December 2017 (on date of the third and final reading of the budget) includes the amendments that were finalised during the committee stages.

E.g.: A question was raised to amend the allocation under HEAD 241.- DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES Programme 01.- Operational Activities - Recurrent Expenditure, Rs. 1,078,920,000 was considered and agreed by the legislature.

The question raised is, "That the sum of Rs.1,078,920,000, for Head 241, Programme 01, Recurrent Expenditure, be inserted in the Schedule".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

112. During the last budget approval process, did a specialized budget or finance committee in the legislature examine the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 112 assesses the role of a specialized budget or finance committee during the budget approval stage. Effective committee involvement is an essential condition for legislative influence in the budget process. Specialized committees provide opportunities for individual legislators to gain relevant expertise, and to examine budgets and policy in depth. Yet, the involvement of committees differs across legislatures. Some legislatures have separate committees to examine spending and tax proposals, while others have a single finance committee. Not all legislatures have a specialized budget or finance committee to examine the budget. In addition, there can be differences in the time available for the committee's analysis of the budget.

A report with the committee's findings and recommendations is intended to inform the debate in the full legislature, therefore it must be published before the legislature has adopted the budget.

Response "a" requires that, in the last budget approval process, a specialized budget or finance committee had one month or more to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and it published a report with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted. Response "b" applies where such a committee examined the draft budget and published a report, but within a shorter timeframe of less than one month. Response "c" applies if a committee examined the budget (without regard to the time period), but did not publish a report prior to the adoption of the budget. Response "d" applies where a specialized budget or finance committee did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Please specify in your comment the name of the committee and the number of days it had available to examine the budget and to publish a report. For bicameral legislatures where one house or chamber has greater constitutional authority in budgetary matters, the question applies to the house or chamber (usually the upper or second one) that is decisive. For bicameral legislatures with co-equal houses or chambers, the question should be answered with reference to the one that achieves the higher score for this question. In the case of bicameral legislatures, please note the relevant arrangements in each house or chamber. If applicable, provide a copy of the report. Please note also if a report is published, but only after the budget has been adopted.

Answer:

c. Yes, a specialized budget or finance committee examined the Executive's Budget Proposal, but it did not publish a report with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted.

Source:

Link to the COPF budget analysis report published online on 25/11/2016 for FY 2017:
<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf#page=1>
(<http://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1480050705091323.pdf#page=1>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Committee on Public Finance (COPF) issued a report on the Budget Estimates (EBP) and proposals for FY 2017 which is publicly available. However two more reports were tabled after FY 2017 in the Parliament and they are not publicly available.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

113. During the last approval process, did legislative committees, responsible for particular sectors (e.g., health, education, defense, etc.), examine spending in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the sector for which they are responsible?

GUIDELINES:

Question 113 assesses the role of committees of the legislature that are responsible for particular sectors (e.g., health, education, defense, etc.) during the budget approval stage. The role of sectoral committees differs across legislatures. Some legislatures do not involve them in the budget approval process, while others do. In addition, the time available for committee analysis differs.

A report with the committee's findings and recommendations is intended to inform the debate in the full legislature, so therefore must be published before the legislature has adopted the budget. Response "a" requires that sector committees had one month or more to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and

published a report with findings and recommendations prior the budget being adopted. Response "b" applies where such committees examined the draft budget and published a report, but within a shorter timeframe of less than one month. Response "c" applies if sectoral committees examined the budget (without regard to the time period), but did not publish a report prior to the adoption of the budget. Response "d" applies where sectoral committees did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Please provide in the comments a brief overview of the committee structure and specify the number of days that sectoral committees had available to examine the budget and to publish their reports. For bicameral legislatures where one house or chamber has greater constitutional authority in budgetary matters, the question applies to the house or chamber (usually the upper or second one) that is decisive. For bicameral legislatures with co-equal houses or chambers, the question should be answered with reference to the one that achieves the higher score for this question. In the case of bicameral legislatures, please note the relevant arrangements in each house or chamber. If applicable, provide a sample copy of at least one of the reports. Please note if a report is published, but only after the budget has been adopted.

For purposes of responding to this question, use those sectoral committees that are best performing – that is, the ones that examine the budget the longest and that publish reports.

Answer:

d. No, sector committees did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Source:

Responses received from the Secretary of COPF; Link to the resolution (as amended) passed in the Parliament on 19/12/2015 : <https://parliament.lk/files/committees/docs/soc-pfc-resolution.pdf> (: <https://parliament.lk/files/committees/docs/soc-pfc-resolution.pdf>); Link to the list of Sectoral Oversight Committees: <https://parliament.lk/en/component/committees/committee?id=6&type=category&Itemid=106> (<https://parliament.lk/en/component/committees/committee?id=6&type=category&Itemid=106>) Eg: Link to thr reports of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce: https://parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=6&committee=178&search_status=1 (https://parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=6&committee=178&search_status=1)

Comment:

Researcher: As per the resolution (as amended) passed in the Parliament on 19/12/2015 (Link: <https://www.parliament.lk/sectoral-oversight-committees>), the Sectoral Oversight committees have the jurisdiction to examine the bills, resolutions, treaties, reports and matters relating to subjects within their jurisdiction. Link to the resolution: <https://parliament.lk/files/committees/docs/soc-pfc-resolution.pdf> (<https://parliament.lk/files/committees/docs/soc-pfc-resolution.pdf>). Although they have the authority to examine EBPs, at present they are not doing so and only examine special circumstances and proposed bills excluding the EBPs. The Parliament conducts 'committee stage meetings' (the third and the final reading of the budget) where the committee discusses on the budgetary allocations to ministries, departments and other government agencies. These deliberations are not published but the discussions are recorded in Hansards in all three languages (Sinhala, Tamil and English). However, 'committee stage meetings' are not standard parliamentary committees.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

114. In the past 12 months, did a committee of the legislature examine in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget during the relevant budget execution period?

GUIDELINES:

Question 114 is about legislative oversight of budget execution. It assesses whether and how often a committee examined the implementation of the budget during the budget execution period (i.e., financial year) for which it was approved, and whether this resulted in an official report with findings and recommendations. This question does not apply to the ex post review of implementation following the end of the budget year as part of the audit stage, which is assessed separately. Nor does it apply to the legislature's review of the budget that it may undertake as part of the process of considering a supplemental budget during the year. In-year monitoring by the legislature will be affected by the frequency that the executive publishes In-Year Reports.

To answer "a," a committee must have examined in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget at least three times during the course of the relevant budget year and published reports with findings and recommendations. Answer "b" applies where this occurred only once or twice during the year.

Exception: If a legislature is in session only twice during the year, and it examines the implementation of the budget during both sessions, then it would be eligible for an "a" response.

Choose "c" if a committee examined in-year implementation (without regard to frequency), but did not publish any report with findings and recommendations. Answer "d" applies where no committee examined in-year implementation.

If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation, and provide a copy of its report(s). If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation.

For purposes of responding to this question, if more than one committee holds in-year reviews of the budget, use the committee that is best performing – that

is, the one that examines in-year implementation the most times and that publishes a report.

Answer:

d. No, a committee did not examine in-year implementation.

Source:

Link to COPA report: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1536555495079408.pdf#page=1> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1536555495079408.pdf#page=1>) ; Link to COPA: <https://www.parliament.lk/component/committees/committee/showCommittee?id=8&lang=en> (<https://www.parliament.lk/component/committees/committee/showCommittee?id=8&lang=en>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) is the parliamentary committee that examines the accounts on parliamentary grants through the budget to meet the public expenditure. COPA looks into the accounting and administrative sections of all state institutions. The Committee on Public Finance (COPF) tracks budget finances. However, the purpose of the report is not to inspect the operationalisation of the EB. COPA examines post implementation of the budget not in-year implementation.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

115. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units that receive explicit funding in the Enacted Budget, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:

Question 115 examines whether the executive seeks approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units, and whether it is legally required to do so.

In some countries, the executive has the power in law to adjust funding levels for specific appropriations during the execution of the budget. This question examines rules around shifting funds between administrative units (ministries, departments, or agencies) or whatever funding unit (or "vote") is specified in the Enacted Budget.

The conditions under which the executive may exercise its discretion to shift funds should be clearly defined in publicly available regulations or law. In addition, the amount of funds that the executive is allowed to transfer between administrative units should not be so excessive as to undermine the accountability of the executive to the legislature.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before shifting funds between administrative units, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive obtains legislative approval before shifting funds between administrative units, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to receive legislative approval before shifting funds, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to shift funds between administrative units and the executive does not obtain legislative approval in practice. Answer "d" also applies if the executive is authorized to shift an amount considered so excessive as to undermine accountability (roughly equal to 3 percent of total budgeted expenditures). A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the shifting of funds after it has already occurred.

In the comments, please indicate any law or regulation that provides the executive with standing authority to shift funds between administrative units and, if so, describe that authority. Similarly, legislative approval for shifting funds between administrative units typically occurs with the adoption of legislation such as a supplemental budget. But if other formal procedures for gaining approval from the legislature exist, then please provide information about that approval process.

Answer:

d. There is no law or regulation requiring the executive to obtain approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units, and in practice the executive shifts funds between administrative units before obtaining approval from the legislature.

Source:

Interview with Director at with Director at the Department of National Budget; The Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII -Finance: <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>); Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Link to Appropriation Act (Amendment), No.24 of 2016 (for FY 2017): <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6074.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/bills/gbills/english/6074.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Constitution of D.S.R. Sri Lanka, Chapter XVII Finance, Article 150: Withdrawal of sums from Consolidated Fund, states that

unallocated money in the Consolidated Fund can be only withdrawn under the approval of the Minister of Finance ("no sum shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund except under the authority of a warrant under the hand of the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance"). As per the interview with the Director of National Budget Department, the Ministry of Finance (executive) has a set aside an amount (reserve) out of practice to face unforeseen expenditures. This is around 2% of the budget and currently the NBD is working to reduce this amount to below 1%. The Appropriation Act No.30 2017, section 6(1) outlines that, any money allocated under "Development Activities" Programme under the Head "Department of National Budget", can be transferred by Ministry of Finance, subject to guidelines stipulated in printed Budget Estimates approved by Parliament for the relevant year, to any other Programme under any other Head in that Schedule. A report including the amount transferred and the reason of transfer should be submitted to the Parliament within two months of the date of the said transfer. Yet, the budget ceilings set by the Appropriation Act No. 30 2017 cannot be changed by the Ministry of Finance (executive). In such incidents where the allocations are amended, the Appropriation Act is also amended by the Parliament.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But there are discussions in the legislature when shifting funds from one vote to another.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

116. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenue (that is, amounts higher than originally anticipated) that may become available during the budget execution period, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:

Question 116 examines whether the executive receives approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenue, and whether it is legally required to do so. Good practice requires the legislature to approve changes in revenue or expenditure relative to the Enacted Budget. For example, if additional revenue is collected unexpectedly during the year, which often happens in oil/mineral-dependent countries, and it was not accounted for in the Enacted Budget, there should be a procedure in place to ensure that the legislature approves any proposed use of these "new" funds. If such requirements are not in place, the executive might deliberately underestimate revenue in the budget proposal it submits to the legislature, in order to have additional resources to spend at the executive's discretion, with no legislative control.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before spending any funds resulting from higher-than-expected revenues, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive obtains legislative approval before spending excess revenue, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to receive legislative approval before spending excess revenue, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if prior legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to spend excess revenue and the executive does not obtain legislative approval in practice. A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the additional spending after it has already occurred.

Typically, legislative approval of additional spending beyond what was reflected in the Enacted Budget would occur with the adoption of a supplemental budget. But other formal procedures for getting approval from the legislature in advance of it adopting the supplemental budget may exist. If that is the case, then please provide information about that approval process.

Answer:

c. The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenues, but in practice the executive spends these funds before obtaining approval from the legislature.

Source:

Responses received from the Secretary of COPF; Link to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII – Finance, Article 148- 150: <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>); Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>); Interview with the Director of National Budget Department.

Comment:

Researcher: The Constitution has not specifically indicated the procedure to adopt when spending excess revenue. It requires the Minister of Finance to operate within the said limits of the law when allocating from the Consolidated Fund. The Parliament is given the power to authorize any withdrawal of revenue from the Consolidated Fund from the Constitution (Article 148-150). Further the Appropriation Act No.30 2017 states that if there is a net surplus of activities in Column I of the Third Schedule to this Act, then it should be credited to the Consolidated Fund within six months after the end of FY 2018. In practice, parliamentary oversight on excess spending is weak and at times permission for excess spending occur after funds have been allocated.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

117. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to reducing spending below the levels in the Enacted Budget in response to revenue shortfalls (that is, revenues lower than originally anticipated) or other reasons during the budget execution period, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:

Question 117 examines whether the executive receives approval from the legislature prior to cutting spending below the levels in the Enacted Budget in response to revenue shortfalls or for any other reason, and whether it is legally required to do so. Good practice requires the legislature to approve changes in revenue or expenditure relative to the Enacted Budget. For example, if less revenue is collected unexpectedly during the year, the legislature should approve or reject any proposed reductions in expenditures that are implemented as a result. If such requirements are not in place, the executive might substantially change the composition of the budget at the executive's discretion, with no legislative control.

Typically, legislative approval of proposals to reduce spending below the levels reflected in the Enacted Budget would occur as part of the supplemental budget. But other formal procedures for getting approval from the legislature in advance of it adopting the supplemental budget may exist. If that is the case, then please provide information about that approval process.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before implementing spending cuts in response to revenue shortfalls or for other reasons, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive received legislative approval before implementing such cuts, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to obtain legislative approval before implementing such cuts, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to implement such cuts and the executive does not obtain such approval in practice. A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the spending cuts after they have already occurred.

Answer:

c. The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to reducing spending below enacted levels, but in practice the executive implements these cuts before seeking approval from the legislature.

Source:

Link to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII – Finance, Article 148- 150: <https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>); Link to Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/acts/gbills/english/6064.pdf>) ; Interview with the Director of National Budget Department.

Comment:

Researcher: The Constitution has not specifically indicated the procedure to adopt when reducing spendings below the approved levels due to a revenue shortfall. It requires the Minister of Finance to operate within the said limits of the law when reducing spending below the enacted levels. The Parliament is given the power to authorize any withdrawal of revenue from the Consolidated Fund from the Constitution (Article 148-150). However, the Constitution doesn't specify the authority/role of Parliament (Legislature) and executive (MOF) in reducing the enacted spendings due to revenue shortfalls.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Comments: The better answer would be the executive does not reduce spending if tax revenue is less than expected and tends to borrow more to maintain spending programs

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

Thank you for the peer reviewer's comment. A score of 'c' is given as the oversight and clarity is low with this regard. This is the same score as OBS 2017 as well.

118. Did a committee of the legislature examine the Audit Report on the annual budget produced by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 118 is about ex post oversight following the implementation of the budget. It probes whether a committee examined the Audit Report on the annual budget produced by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), and whether this resulted in an official report with findings and recommendations. A key issue is how soon after the SAI releases the report does it legislature review it. This question does not apply to the legislative scrutiny of in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget during the relevant budget execution period, which is assessed separately. Also, the question is asking specifically about the SAI's annual report on the execution of the budget, not about other audit reports that the SAI may produce. (This is the Audit Report used for responding to Question 98.)

To answer "a," a legislative committee must have examined the annual Audit Report within three months of it being released by the SAI, and then published a report (or reports) with findings and recommendations. (Note that the three-month period should only take into account time when the legislature is in

session.)

Answer "b" applies when the committee examines it within six months of it being released (but more than three months), and then published a report with its findings and recommendations. Choose "c" if a committee examined the annual Audit Report more than six months after it became available or it did not publish any report with findings and recommendations. Answer "d" applies where no committee examined the annual Audit Report.

If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed the Audit Report, and provide a copy of its report(s). If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation. Answers "a," "b," or "c" may be selected if the Audit Report is produced by the SAI but not made publicly available.

Answer:

c. Yes, a committee examined the Audit Report on the annual budget, but it did so after the report had been available for more than six months or it did not publish any report with findings and recommendations.

Source:

Response of the Deputy Auditor General; Link to information on authority of Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE):

<https://www.parliament.lk/component/committees/committee/showCommittee?id=9&type=committee&Itemid=106&lang=en>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/component/committees/committee/showCommittee?id=9&type=committee&Itemid=106&lang=en>); Link to COPE

Reports: [https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?](https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=9&search_status=1)

[type=committee&category=3&committee=9&search_status=1](https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=9&search_status=1) ([https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?](https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=9&search_status=1)

[type=committee&category=3&committee=9&search_status=1](https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=9&search_status=1)); Link to information on authority of Committee on Public Accounts (COPA):

<https://www.parliament.lk/component/committees/committee/showCommittee?id=8&lang=en>

(<https://www.parliament.lk/component/committees/committee/showCommittee?id=8&lang=en>); Link to COPA reports:

https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=8&search_status=1

([https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?](https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=8&search_status=1)

[type=committee&category=3&committee=8&search_status=1](https://www.parliament.lk/en/business-of-parliament/committees/committee-reports?type=committee&category=3&committee=8&search_status=1))

Comment:

Researcher: COPE and COPA are the two Parliamentary committees which examine the Audit Report prepared by the SAI on the annual budget process. The Secretary of the COPE stated that once the report is tabled in the Parliament they can start their examinations. The Parliamentary website (www.parliament.lk) indicates that the duty of COPE is to examine the accounts of all Public Enterprises. As per the website, COPE has the authority to "summon before them and question any person, call for and examine any paper, book, record or other documents and to have access to stores and property". Further, the committee conducts investigation based on the audited accounts by the Auditor General. The recommendations are presented to Parliament and directed to the respective public enterprise for due compliance. COPA examines "the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by Parliament to meet the public expenditure". Further, they examine the enacted sums along with the Audit reports. The audit report is prepared according to administrative heads and the COPE and COPA) examine the areas and administrative units under their mandate.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP review of the reports published by the Parliament, IBP notes that the only reports released in 2018 discussing the auditor's findings did not relate to audit reports, but instead the results from a "computer network system that is operated under the supervision of all respective CAO's and AO's and with the supervision and the certification of the Auditor General and his staff, covering all the institutions that should be scrutinized pertaining to the year 2016 accounts together with the observations and recommendations." This report was published in September 2018 and can be viewed directly here: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/153655495079408.pdf#page=1> As this report does not count as a report of the committee's findings after reviewing the audit report, this report cannot be used to score A for this question. However, as there is evidence that meetings were held in 2018 discussing the audit report (see <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1554354345090678.pdf#page=1>) the score for this question is revised from A to C.

119. Was the process of appointing (or re-appointing) the current head of the SAI carried out in a way that ensures his or her independence?

GUIDELINES:

Question 119 concerns the appointment process of the current head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). Appointment procedures vary greatly across countries, as well as across different types of SAIs. Moreover, conventions and informal practices can greatly affect the de facto independence of the head of the SAI. While these factors make it difficult to devise a single metric against which all SAIs can be assessed with regard to this particular aspect, this question focuses on whether the legislature or judiciary must appoint or approve the appointment of the head of the SAI as a way to ensure the SAI's independence from the executive. However, if the appointment is carried out in another way that nonetheless ensures the independence of the SAI head, then that approach could be also considered.

To answer "a," the legislature or judiciary must appoint (or re-appoint) the head of the SAI, or approve the recommendation of the executive, as a way that ensure his or her independence from the executive. (As noted above, alternative approaches may also be acceptable.) Choose "b" if the appointment process

does not ensure the independence of the head of the SAI, e.g. the executive may appoint the head of the SAI without the final consent of the legislature or judiciary.

Irrespective of which answer you selected, provide a description of how the head of the SAI is appointed.

Answer:

b. No, the executive may appoint the head of the SAI without the final consent of the legislature or judiciary.

Source:

Link to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII – Finance, Article 153:
<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: Article 153 (1) in the Constitution states that the Auditor General is appointed by the Executive President of Sri Lanka subject to the approval of the Constitutional Council. However in practice the President has the authority to take the final decision. Further, Article 153(2) states the instances in which the President can re-appoint an Auditor General. Article 41 A explains the composition of the Constitutional Council. The Constitutional Council consist of Prime Minister, Speaker, Leader of Opposition, selected MPs and non-MP members.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But the nomination made by the executive should be ratified by the Constitutional Council before the appointment.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

120. Must a branch of government other than the executive (such as the legislature or the judiciary) give final consent before the head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) can be removed from office?

GUIDELINES:

Question 120 covers the manner in which the head or senior members of the SAI may be removed from office. This question draws on best practices identified in the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LimaDeclaration.pdf>), including measures intended to guarantee the office's independence from the executive.

To answer "a," the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before the head of the SAI is removed. For example, the legislature or judiciary may give final consent following a certain external process, such as a criminal proceeding. So while the executive may initiate a criminal proceeding, the final consent of a member of the judiciary – or a judge – is necessary to render a verdict of wrongdoing that may lead to the removal from office of the head of the SAI. Answer "b" applies if the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.

Answer:

a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before he or she is removed.

Source:

Link to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII – Finance, Article 153 (3)(e):
<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>)

Comment:

Researcher: Article 153 (3) states the instance in which the President can re-appoint or remove the Auditor General. As per the Article 153 (3)(e), the President can remove the Auditor General upon an address of the Parliament (legislature).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

121. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 121 asks who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). To ensure objective audits of government budgets, another important component of the SAI's independence from the executive is the extent to which the SAI's budget is determined by a body other than the executive, and whether the SAI has adequate resources to fulfill its mandate.

Answer "a" applies if the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate, AND either the SAI determines its own budget and then submits it to the executive (which accepts it with little or no change) or directly to the legislature, or the budget of the SAI is determined directly by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body). Answer "b" applies if the SAI's budget is determined by the executive (absent a recommendation from the SAI), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Answer "c" applies if the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body) determines the SAI's budget, but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Answer "d" applies if the executive determines the SAI's budget, and the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Please provide evidence in support of the assessment that the funding level is or is not broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.

Answer:

a. The SAI determines its own budget (i.e., submits it to the executive, which accepts it with little or no change, or directly to the legislature), or the budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.

Source:

Response of the Deputy Auditor General on 14th March 2019.

Comment:

Researcher: Response of the Deputy Auditor General: According to the Section 34 of the National Audit Act, No.19 of 2018, the annual budget of the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka (NAOSL) is prepared by the National Audit Commission (NAC) and submitted to the Speaker of the Parliament. After receiving the observations of the Minister of Finance, the annual budget of the National Audit Office (NAO) is tabled in the Parliament for reviewing purposes. Then the Speaker takes action to submit the annual budget with the amendments proposed by the Parliament to the Minister of Finance to include it in the National Budget.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: But SAI always complains that they were not given sufficient resources (including human resources) under take comprehensive audits.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

Researcher Response

Thanks for the comment.

IBP Comment

Thank you for the comment - cross-country consistency purposes the NAO's ideal budget may be limited for overall fiscal constraints in the government, but as long as they are given sufficient resources to fulfill their mandate, this question is scored A. The researcher's response is confirmed.

122. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have the discretion in law to undertake those audits it may wish to?

GUIDELINES:

Question 122 explores the scope of the investigative powers of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) as prescribed in law.

Question 97 asks which of the three types of audits – financial, compliance, and performance – the SAI conducts. This question asks if the SAI is constrained by law (rather than by a lack of capacity or an inadequate budget) from undertaking any form of audit or investigating irregularities in any program or activity.

There are numerous examples of limitations. For instance, some SAIs are not permitted by their legal mandate to audit joint ventures or other public-private arrangements. Others are only allowed to undertake financial audits, precluded from conducting performance or value-for-money audits. The SAIs in some countries do not have the legal mandate to review arrangements involving oil or stabilization funds, or other types of special or extra-budgetary funds. The SAI may also not have the ability to audit commercial projects involving the public and private sector.

To answer "a," the SAI must have full discretion in law to decide which audits to undertake. Answer "b" applies if some limitations exist, but the SAI enjoys significant discretion to undertake those audits it wishes to. Answer "c" applies if the SAI has some discretion, but significant legal limitations exist. Answer "d" applies if the SAI has no power at all to choose which audits to undertake

Consulting the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LimaDeclaration.pdf>) may be useful in answering this question as its provisions serve to define the appropriate scope of a SAI's legal mandate and jurisdiction.

Answer:

a. The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.

Source:

Link to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Revised Edition 2015) CHAPTER XVII – Finance:
<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf> (<https://www.parliament.lk/files/pdf/constitution.pdf>); Response of the Deputy Auditor General

Comment:

Researcher: Article 154 of the Constitution states the duties and the functions of the Auditor General. Further it elaborates that “the Auditor-General shall audit all departments of the Government, the Office of the Secretary to the President, the Office of the Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Offices of the Cabinet of Ministers, the Judicial Services Commission, the Constitutional Council, the Commissions referred to in the Schedule to Article 41B, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, the Secretary-General of Parliament, local authorities, public corporations, business and other undertakings vested in the Government under any written law and companies registered or deemed to be registered under the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007 in which the Government or a public corporation or local authority holds fifty per centum or more of the shares of that company including the accounts thereof.” Response of Deputy Auditor General: The Article 154 (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka permits the Auditor General to use discretionary powers to undertake audits for financial allocations made by the Parliament through Annual Appropriation Act and determine the scope of audit thereon.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

123. Are the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) reviewed by an independent agency?

GUIDELINES:

Question 123 assesses whether and to what extent the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) are subject to review by an independent agency. The latter could be a peer SAI, an international organization, an academic institution with relevant expertise, or an independent domestic agency with quality assurance functions in the area of financial reporting.

To answer “a,” an independent agency must conduct and publish a review of the audit processes of the SAI on an annual basis. Answer “b” applies if a review was carried out within the past five years, and published, but it is not conducted annually, but. Choose answer “c” if the SAI has an internal unit that reviews the audit processes of the SAI on a regular basis, but an independent agency does not conduct such a review. Answer “d” applies if the audit processes of the SAI are reviewed neither by an independent agency nor by a unit within the SAI.

If the answer is either “a” or “b,” please specify the name of the independent agency and when last it conducted such a review, and provide a copy of the published report. If the answer is “c,” please specify the name of the unit within the SAI that is tasked with conducting such reviews.

Answer:

b. Yes, an independent agency conducts and publishes a review of the audit processes of the SAI at least once in the past five years, but not annually.

Source:

Response of the Deputy Auditor General on 14th March 2019.

Sources: SAI Performance Report- Auditor General's Department of the Republic of Sri Lanka
Final 27 June 2018
Available online on- 23rd October 2018

Link: http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/images/public_news_agdsl/SAI-PMF-Assesment-INTOSAI/SAI-PMF-assessment-of-SAI-Sri-Lanka-FINAL-with-IR-27-June-2018.pdf

Comment:

Researcher: Response of the Deputy Auditor General: The audit process of the SAI is reviewed by peer groups of other SAIs. For example Netherland Court of Audit reviews in 2004 and reviews by the independent group of auditors appointed by the International Development Initiatives (IDI) of the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) in 2017 under the Supreme Audit Institutions Performance Measurement Framework (SAI PMF). Further, the Parliament is required to appoint an independent auditor to review the audit process of National Audit Office under the Section 36(1) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

124. In the past 12 months, how frequently did the head or a senior staff member of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) take part and testify in hearings of a committee of the legislature?

GUIDELINES:

Question 124 concerns the interaction between two important oversight actors and assesses how frequently the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) made high-level inputs to the work of legislative committees. Many SAIs interact with the legislature in some form, but the nature and intensity of the interaction varies. This question probes this aspect by asking, with reference to the past 12 months, how frequently the head or a senior staff member of the SAI took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature. The intent is to assess the extent to which the SAI representative in question was not only present at a meeting of a legislative committee, but was an active participant (as opposed to a passive observer, serving only as a resource when called upon). You can refer to official records of legislative committees, websites and annual reports of the SAI, press releases and media coverage, for example. Choose answer "a" if this occurred five times or more; "b" for three times or more, but less than five times; "c" for once or twice, and "d" for never.

Answer:

a. Frequently (i.e., five times or more).

Source:

Response of the Deputy Auditor General; Link to COPA Report: <https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1536555495079408.pdf#page=1> (<https://www.parliament.lk/uploads/comreports/1536555495079408.pdf#page=1>)

As per COPA report, 837 institutes were examined by the Committee on Public Accounts in year 2016 (Page 11).

Comment:

Researcher: The Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) has involved the Department of the Auditor General in its inquiries several times during the year. The COPA report for FY 2016 submitted on 19th June 2018 states shortcomings in specified expenditure units of the Government, Ministries, Departments, District Secretariats, Provincial Councils, specified expenditure units of the Provincial Councils, Ministries, and Departments, Institutions established by Provincial Council statutes, Municipal Councils, Urban Councils and Pradeshiya Sabhas. The report also includes inquiries made to the Auditor General & responses received with regards to these shortcomings. For further details please refer the report published by COPA (pages 27-411) for January 9th to April 7th 2016. In this report the Auditor General has made comments based on the inquiry. Response of Deputy Auditor General: The Head of the SAI and its senior staff members regularly assist oversight committees of the Parliament and attend its meeting throughout the year.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

125. Does the executive use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during the formulation of the annual budget (prior to the budget being tabled in parliament)?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf.

Please consider only participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency designated by the government to implement participation mechanisms ("the executive") is currently using to allow the public to participate in the formulation of the annual budget, including annual pre-budget discussions. Participation mechanisms used only by line ministries should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by the executive, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the formulation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as spending and tax policy, funding and revenue levels, and macro-fiscal planning.

To answer "a," the executive must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the formulation of the annual budget. This means that a public

process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government officials. Examples include public meetings and online deliberative exchanges.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input in the formulation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which the executive seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include surveys, focus groups, report cards, published policy consultation exercises, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if the executive has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to participate in the budget formulation phase, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured and happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) The executive consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the executive determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", there should be some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that the all CSOs and individual members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

Examples of mechanisms that might qualify as a "c" response include hotlines, Facebook announcements, and one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

c. Yes, the executive uses participation mechanisms during the budget formulation phase, but either these mechanisms capture only some ad-hoc views, or the executive invites specific individuals or groups for budget discussions (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Source:

All three mechanisms considered under OBS 2017 have been continued: Interview with the Director of National Budget Department. 1-Citizen's Engagement Programme: Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce 2- Link to Call for budget proposals 2018 to a range of stakeholders including public (26/9/2017): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/calls+for+proposals+for+Budget+E+26092017/7127b65c-2317-447a-9e39-c9badce653c5?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/calls+for+proposals+for+Budget+E+26092017/7127b65c-2317-447a-9e39-c9badce653c5?version=1.0>); Link to Budget Call 2018 to Ministries, Departments, Provincial Councils, Corporations and Statutory Boards: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/Budget+Call_English/617a0253-ebfa-40ac-bfd2-f1451ea269c5?version=1.0 ; Link to Budget Call-2018 (guide) to Ministries Departments, Provincial Councils, Corporations and Statutory Boards (13.08.2017): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/2018+budget+call/88197325-f426-44bc-8917-6d31948840e8?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/2018+budget+call/88197325-f426-44bc-8917-6d31948840e8?version=1.0>) ; Link to newspaper articles on the call for budget proposals (2018): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/finance-ministry-calls-for-proposals-for-budget-2018> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/finance-ministry-calls-for-proposals-for-budget-2018>); <https://agora-parl.org/interact/blog/sri-lanka-finance-ministry-calls-proposals-budget-2018> (<https://agora-parl.org/interact/blog/sri-lanka-finance-ministry-calls-proposals-budget-2018>) ; http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Sep26_1506436491CH.php (http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Sep26_1506436491CH.php) 3- Link to newspaper articles on selected stakeholders: Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce; Proposals submit by National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka: http://www.nce.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Budget_Proposals_2017-2018.pdf (http://www.nce.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Budget_Proposals_2017-2018.pdf)

Comment:

Researcher: 1-The Director of the National Budget Department, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce confirmed that the following three mechanisms for public participation in the budget process have been continued. The key mechanism for public participation in the budget process is the 'Citizen's Engagement Programme'. Citizens are invited to participate in the budget process via an invitation by Ministry of Finance. The training arm of the Ministry together with academic staff of the state universities coordinates the programme to receive inputs for the budget from the grass root levels. To engage with the public, opinion leaders, public officials (e.g.: in health and education) to receive inputs (opinions and comments), coordinators were allocated to divisional secretariat divisions. The inputs received from the grass root level have been submitted to the Economic Policy Unit under the Ministry of Finance in the form of a report for analysis and budget consideration. Further, the Director of National Budget stated that the COPF (Committee on Public Finance) conducted public hearings for budget proposals in Jaffna and Kandy to receive inputs from the public including as farmers and self-employed individuals. 2- The Budget Call for the Public is an open invitation to any stakeholder to submit revenue and expenditure proposals. The Director of the Department of National Budget confirmed that it is published online and in print media. 3- Selected stakeholder meetings are organised by the Ministry of Finance, The Economic Policy Unit and the Trade and Investment Unit of the Ministry of Finance to obtain budget proposals from several key stakeholders such as business chambers (Ceylon Chambers, National Exporters Chambers). During the 2018 budget

discussion, the Chambers held a meeting together to offer proposals (refer sources).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

126. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 125, does the executive take concrete steps to include vulnerable and under-represented parts of the population in the formulation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle of "Inclusiveness", and examines the executive's effort to actively reach out to citizens who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes. The emphasis here is on the executive's efforts to seek out the views of members of the public from socially vulnerable groups and/or who are underrepresented in the process.

To answer "a," the executive must actively seek out individuals from vulnerable and underrepresented communities and/or civil society organizations representing vulnerable and underrepresented individuals and communities. The researcher must provide evidence to show the government's efforts and actions. The researcher must speak with the relevant government official(s), and subsequently double check with an alternative source, such as representatives of vulnerable/underrepresented groups.

Answer "b" applies if the executive does not take concrete steps to incorporate vulnerable/underrepresented individuals, or organizations representing them, into participation mechanisms or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. Link to Stakeholders involved in the budget process:
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/government-budget4> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/government-budget4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Citizen's Engagement Programme covers a wide area of the country as well as individuals. Hence it is considered the most comprehensive mechanism used by the government to receive inputs for the budget. However, the Director of Department of National Budget stated that the programme does not focus on including proposals from vulnerable and underrepresented people. Further, the Director stated that separate engagements are in place to seek the input of such individuals and that line ministries are responsible in ensuring the vulnerable communities are considered in budget proposals. The COPF has conducted public hearings in Jaffna and Kandy to receive inputs from vulnerable and underrepresented people such as farmers and self-employees. In the event that line ministries have not included such groups when submitting proposals, this mechanism ensures that allocations for underrepresented groups are given due consideration.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

127. During the budget formulation stage, which of the following key topics does the executive's engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Macroeconomic issues
2. Revenue forecasts, policies, and administration
3. Social spending policies
4. Deficit and debt levels
5. Public investment projects
6. Public services

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider all of the mechanisms currently used by the executive to promote public participation during the formulation of the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics – and for this reason the other questions assessing the executive's engagement with the public during budget formulation can be answered on the basis of engagement on topics other than the six listed above – for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be only the ones listed above. If the executive's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

b. The executive's engagement with citizens covers at least three (but less than six) of the above-mentioned topics.

Source:

Interview with with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce stated that except (4) Deficit and debt levels and (6) Public service all other key areas are covered in the executives' engagement with citizens. Link to Call for budget proposals 2018 to a range of stakeholders including public (26/9/2017): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/calls+for+proposals+for+Budget+E+26092017/7127b65c-2317-447a-9e39-c9badce653c5?version=1.0>; Link to Budget Call 2018 to Ministries, Departments, Provincial Councils, Corporations and Statutory Boards: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/Budget+Call_English/617a0253-ebfa-40ac-bfd2-f1451ea269c5?version=1.0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/Budget+Call_English/617a0253-ebfa-40ac-bfd2-f1451ea269c5?version=1.0) ; Link to Budget Call-2018 (guide) to Ministries Departments, Provincial Councils, Corporations and Statutory Boards (13.08.2017): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/2018+budget+call/88197325-f426-44bc-8917-6d31948840e8?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/2018+budget+call/88197325-f426-44bc-8917-6d31948840e8?version=1.0>) ; Link to newspaper articles on the call for budget proposals (2018): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/finance-ministry-calls-for-proposals-for-budget-2018> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/finance-ministry-calls-for-proposals-for-budget-2018>); <https://agora-parl.org/interact/blog/sri-lanka-finance-ministry-calls-proposals-budget-2018> (<https://agora-parl.org/interact/blog/sri-lanka-finance-ministry-calls-proposals-budget-2018>); http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Sep26_1506436491CH.php (http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Sep26_1506436491CH.php) 3- Link to newspaper articles on selected stakeholders: Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce; Proposals submit by National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka: http://www.nce.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Budget_Proposals_2017-2018.pdf (http://www.nce.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Budget_Proposals_2017-2018.pdf)

Comment:

Researcher: Please refer comment for question 125. The agenda of the Citizen's Engagement and stakeholder meetings are not available to verify the details of what is covered in the meetings. Interview with with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce stated that except (4) Deficit and debt levels and (6) Public service all other key areas are covered in the executives' engagement with citizens. The Budget Call accept proposals on a wide range of areas in adherence to the Macroeconomic Framework for the fiscal year.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

128. Does the executive use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf

Please consider only participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency designated by the government to implement participation mechanisms ("the executive") is currently using to allow the public to participate in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget. If the executive has designated a central coordinating agency to implement participation mechanisms throughout the national budget process, researchers may consider these mechanisms. Participation mechanisms used only by line ministries should not be used to answer this question. If there is

more than one mechanism used by the executive, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the implementation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as revenue administration, public service delivery, public investment project implementation, including procurement, and the administration of social transfer schemes.

To answer "a," the executive must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the implementation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government official. Examples include public meetings, online, deliberative exchanges, procurement complaint mechanisms, and social monitoring and dialogue.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input on the implementation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which the executive seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include public hearings, surveys, focus groups, report cards, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if the executive has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to provide input on budget implementation, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured, happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) The executive consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the executive determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", the researcher must have evidence that the government is holding participation mechanisms that have some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that all CSOs and members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

Examples include hotlines, Facebook announcements, one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

1- Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce confirmed that there are no mechanisms in place to public to provide inputs in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget. 2-Ease of Doing Business Forum responses: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/queries-and-responses> ; Link to last Ease of Doing Business Forum report available online: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/260170/Web+publication+F8/727f9aaf-953f-4a44-adb9-d33335ac072f?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/260170/Web+publication+F8/727f9aaf-953f-4a44-adb9-d33335ac072f?version=1.0>) 3- Article announcing latest (12th) forum: <http://www.ft.lk/article/607950/Ease-of-Doing-Business-Forum-for-PPP-interaction-tomorrow> (<http://www.ft.lk/article/607950/Ease-of-Doing-Business-Forum-for-PPP-interaction-tomorrow>)

Comment:

Researcher: The resource persons listed under the Sources confirmed that Sri Lanka does not have any mechanisms in place to receive inputs from the public on monitoring the budget at the implementation stage. However, at the 'Ease of Doing Business' Forum conducted by the Ministry of Finance the business community has the opportunity to follow up on various budget proposals. The objective of conducting the Ease of Doing Business Forum is to address the grievances faced by private sector due to regulatory issues. The meeting calls on several ministers and ministry officials of relevant administrative units such as the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Development Strategy and International Trade, Ministry of Public Enterprise Development, Ministry of National Policy and Economic Affairs and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The objective of the forum is to discuss budget proposals and identify solutions to enhance trade and investment in Sri Lanka. Initially they have planned to have quarterly 'ease of doing business forums' but they don't have quarterly forums currently.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

129. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 128, does the executive take concrete steps to receive input from vulnerable and underrepresented parts of the population on the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle of "Inclusiveness", and examines the executive's effort to actively reach out to citizens who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes. The emphasis here is on national government's efforts to obtain input from members of the public who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes during the implementation of the annual budget.

To answer "a," the executive must actively seek out individuals from vulnerable and underrepresented community and/or civil society organizations representing vulnerable and underrepresented individuals and communities. The researcher must provide evidence to show the government's efforts and actions. The researcher must speak with the relevant government official(s), and subsequently double check with an alternative source, such as representatives from vulnerable/underrepresented groups.

Answer "b" applies if the national executive does not take concrete steps to incorporate vulnerable/underrepresented individuals, or organizations representing them, into participation mechanisms or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Comment:

Please Refer comments for question 128. The Ease of doing business forum does not focus on vulnerable or under represented individuals.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

130. During the implementation of the annual budget, which of the following topics does the executive's engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Changes in macroeconomic circumstances
2. Delivery of public services
3. Collection of revenue
4. Implementation of social spending
5. Changes in deficit and debt levels
6. Implementation of public investment projects

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider all of the mechanisms currently used by the executive to promote public participation during the implementation of the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics -- and for this reason the other questions assessing the executive's engagement with the public during budget implementation can be answered on the basis of engagement on topics other than the six listed above -- for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be ONLY the ones listed above. If the executive's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

1- Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. 2- Ease of Doing Business Forum responses: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/queries-and-responses> ; Link to last Ease of Doing Business Forum report available online: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/260170/Web+publication+F8/727f9aaf-953f-4a44-adb9-d33335ac072f?version=1.0> (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/260170/Web+publication+F8/727f9aaf-953f-4a44-adb9-d33335ac072f?version=1.0) 3- Article announcing latest (12th) forum: <http://www.ft.lk/article/607950/Ease-of-Doing-Business-Forum-for-PPP-interaction-tomorrow> (http://www.ft.lk/article/607950/Ease-of-Doing-Business-Forum-for-PPP-interaction-tomorrow)

Comment:

Researcher: Please refer comments for question 128. During the 'Ease of Doing Business' forum, the business community can raise any question regarding budget implementation. Questions are not restricted to the six areas given by the OBS 2019 guidelines.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

131. When the executive engages with the public, does it provide comprehensive prior information on the process of the engagement, so that the public can participate in an informed manner?

Comprehensive information must include at least three of the following elements:

1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Constraints
4. Intended outcomes
5. Process and timeline

GUIDELINES:

This question relates to the GIFT principle of "Openness," and addresses whether the executive provides relevant information on the process of the engagement before public participation takes place, in order to help citizens engage effectively. The question addresses whether the "rules of the public engagement" are clearly spelled out, in advance and in detail, so that those members of the public who want to engage know how to do so, in terms of when they can do so, what they are expected to provide input on, by when, to whom, etc. This question does not cover the substance of the engagement, which is covered by questions 127 and 130.

Non-comprehensive information means that the government provides information that includes at least one but less than three of the elements listed above.

Purpose refers to a brief explanation of why the public engagement is being undertaken, including the executive's objectives for its engagement with the public.

Scope refers to what is within the subject matter of the engagement as well as what is outside the subject matter of the engagement. For example, the scope may include how a current policy is administered but exclude the specifics of the policies themselves.

Constraints refers to whether there are any explicit limitations on the engagement. An example of a constraint could be that any policy changes must not cost (or forgo revenue) more than a specific amount or have no net fiscal cost.

Intended outcomes refers to what the executive hopes to achieve as a result of the engagement. Examples of intended outcomes could be revising a policy to better reflect citizen or service-user views or to improve the way in which a particular program is administered.

Process refers to the methods by which the public engagement will take place and the discrete steps in the process. For example, the process may simply be a one-off Internet-based consultation, with a summary published of public inputs and the official response. The process may involve simultaneous or overlapping steps, and may be conducted in one round or in two or more rounds of engagement.

Timeline refers to the specific dates on which the discrete steps in the process will take place, or during which they will be completed, and clear start and end dates for the overall engagement.

Answer "d" applies if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation or formulation stage.

Answer:

c. Information is provided in a timely manner in both or one of the two phases, but it is not comprehensive.

Source:

1- Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. 2- Link to Call for budget proposals 2018 to a range of stakeholders including public

(26/9/2017): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/calls+for+proposals+for+Budget+E+26092017/7127b65c-2317-447a-9e39-c9badce653c5?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/calls+for+proposals+for+Budget+E+26092017/7127b65c-2317-447a-9e39-c9badce653c5?version=1.0>); Link to Budget Call 2018 to Ministries, Departments, Provincial Councils, Corporations and Statutory Boards: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/Budget+Call_English/617a0253-ebfa-40ac-bfd2-f1451ea269c5?version=1.0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/31346/Budget+Call_English/617a0253-ebfa-40ac-bfd2-f1451ea269c5?version=1.0) ; Link to Budget Call-2018 (guide) to Ministries Departments, Provincial Councils, Corporations and Statutory Boards (13.08.2017): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/2018+budget+call/88197325-f426-44bc-8917-6d31948840e8?version=1.0> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/50545/2018+budget+call/88197325-f426-44bc-8917-6d31948840e8?version=1.0>) ; Link to newspaper articles on the call for budget proposals (2018): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/finance-ministry-calls-for-proposals-for-budget-2018> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/article/-/article-viewer-portlet/render/view/finance-ministry-calls-for-proposals-for-budget-2018>); <https://agora-parl.org/interact/blog/sri-lanka-finance-ministry-calls-proposals-budget-2018> (<https://agora-parl.org/interact/blog/sri-lanka-finance-ministry-calls-proposals-budget-2018>) ; http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Sep26_1506436491CH.php (http://www.colombopage.com/archive_17B/Sep26_1506436491CH.php) 3- Link to newspaper articles on selected stakeholders: Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce; Proposals submit by National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka: http://www.nce.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Budget_Proposals_2017-2018.pdf (http://www.nce.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Budget_Proposals_2017-2018.pdf)

Comment:

Researcher: The Director of Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce confirmed that the Ministry of Finance seek inputs from all stakeholders only at the stage of budget formulation but not during the implementation stage. Though the Ministry of Finance has three mechanisms to receive inputs from its stakeholders, only the Citizens' Engagement Programme has been considered for the questionnaire, since it is the most comprehensive mechanism. 1- Citizen's Engagement Programme – Under this programme the public is given information on four elements (purpose, scope, timeline, intended outcomes)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

132. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 125, does the executive provide the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs have been used in the formulation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the executive provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received, which ones are used in the formulation of the annual budget, and how/why.

By "written record", we mean a document that is produced and released by the lead budget agency (Ministry of Finance, Treasury) that has set up and holds the participation activity.

Answer "a" applies when the executive provides a written document with:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*
- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how)*

Answer "b" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*
- *A not-so-detailed report, such as a document with a few paragraphs, on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used.*

Answer "c" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public or*
- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce confirmed that the Ministry of Finance does not provide feedback on how inputs of 1-Citizens Engagement programme are used in budget formulation.

Comment:

Researcher: The Ministry of Finance acknowledges the receipt of proposals by sending a confirmation receipt via e-mail to the stakeholders who submit proposals. However, a formal document on how the inputs have been used is not published. Currently there is no concrete mechanism to provide feedback on the proposals with Ministry of Finance.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

133. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 128, does the executive provide the public with information on how citizens' inputs have been used to assist in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the executive provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received during the implementation of the annual budget, which ones are taken into account to improve budget monitoring, and how/why.

By "written record", we mean a document that is produced and released by the lead budget agency (Ministry of Finance, Treasury) that has set up and holds the participation activity.

Answer "a" applies when the executive provides a written document with:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*
- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how)*

Answer "b" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received (e.g., a written transcript) from the public and*
- *A not-so-detailed report, such as a document with a few paragraphs, on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were or were not taken into account by the executive during budget monitoring.*

Answer "c" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public or*
- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Comment:

Researcher: Please refer the comment to question 128. There is no mechanism in place to provide assistance to monitor the budget implementation stage. Comments during the 'Ease of Doing Business' Forums are discussed if it is raised as an agenda item at the next meeting.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

134. Are participation mechanisms incorporated into the timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Sustainability," "Timeliness" and "Complementarity" and addresses whether the executive is able to link participation mechanisms to the administrative processes that are used to create the annual budget.

Please note that "timetable" refers to a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation. This document is sometimes referred to as the budget calendar and is the same document referenced in Question 53.

Answer "a" applies if the national executive establishes a clear set of guidelines that enable citizens and civil servants to understand when participation mechanisms should be used to enable citizen inputs to be incorporated into the annual budget. For answer choice "a", the timetable must be available to the public prior to the budget preparation process beginning.

Answer "b" applies if the executive does not establish a clear set of guidelines that enable citizens and civil servants to understand when participation mechanisms should be used to enable citizen inputs to be incorporated into the annual budget or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation or implementation stage.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. Action plan 2018 of the Department of National Budget: Table: Activity Plan 2018 - Department of National Budget, Page 6 <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/58954/59028/Action+Plan++2018+%28E%29-new.pdf/99ca4c90-a3ab-47e1-8c6e-31eaa469050b> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/58954/59028/Action+Plan++2018+%28E%29-new.pdf/99ca4c90-a3ab-47e1-8c6e-31eaa469050b>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Director of the Department of the National Budget stated that participation mechanisms are not included in the timeline of the NBD. However it is included in the timeline of the Ministry of Finance according the response of the Director of the National Budget Department. However, no source docuemnt can be found online as a verification of this statement and hence, answer b. has been selected.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

135. Do one or more line ministries use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during the formulation or implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES

While questions 125 – 135 focus only on participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency currently use to allow the public to participate in the national budget process, this question asks about participation mechanisms used by line ministries to allow the public to participate in national budget processes. Thus, participation mechanisms used by the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by a line ministry or if multiple line ministries use participation mechanisms, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the formulation and/or implementation of the annual budget.

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf

To answer "a," a line ministry must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the formulation or implementation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to

express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government official. Examples include public meetings and online deliberative exchanges.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input in the formulation or implementation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which a line ministry seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include surveys, focus groups, report cards, published policy consultation exercises, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if a line ministry has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to participate in the budget formulation phase, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured and happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) A line ministry consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the line ministry determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", there should be some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that the all CSOs and individual members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Examples of mechanisms that might qualify as a "c" response include hotlines, Facebook announcements, and one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

Answer:

c. Yes, at least one line ministry uses participation mechanisms during the budget formulation or implementation phase, but either these mechanisms capture only some ad-hoc views, or the executive invites specific individuals or groups for budget discussions (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce confirmed that the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade and (MODSIT) and Export Development Board (EDB) engage with chambers and the business community to formulate proposals to submit to Ministry of Finance.

Comment:

Researcher: The Director of Department of National Budget stated that line ministries are advised to engage with public through participation mechanisms to formulate proposals at the grass root level. MODSIT and EDB conduct meetings and discussions with chambers and business community to incorporate their feedback into budget proposals.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

136. Does the legislature or the relevant legislative committee(s) hold public hearings and/or use other participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during its public deliberations on the formulation of the annual budget (pre-budget and/or approval stages)?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle on "Sustainability," "Transparency," and "Complementarity" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the legislature are interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the legislature, rather than being limited to allowing the public to attend or hear public budget deliberations.

Please consider participation mechanisms that the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) has put in place and is using to allow the public to participate in their deliberations on the annual budget. This includes deliberations during the pre-budget phase (i.e., when the executive is still in the process of formulating the draft budget) and the budget discussions after the budget has been tabled to parliament and before it is approved. In the comment box, please specify during which stage of the budget cycle the legislature has put in place a public participation mechanism.

Mechanisms through which members of the public reach out to individual Members of Parliament as opposed to the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) or unofficial hearings organized by a subset of committee members should not be considered in answering this question.

If there is more than one mechanism, please select a mechanism that best shows/reflects the legislature's efforts to incorporate citizens into the formulation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as revenues, policy selection, and macro-fiscal planning (please note that the issue of coverage is covered in a subsequent question).

To answer "a," the legislature must hold public hearings where citizens are allowed to testify. This answer applies only if the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can testify (for example, participation takes place on a first-come-first-served basis).

Answer "b" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *Testimony is not allowed from members of the public or CSOs; but*
- *There are other means used by the legislature to receive and collect views from citizens and CSOs on the budget, and the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can provide input. The researcher must provide evidence to support the presence of those alternative processes through which the legislature seeks inputs from citizens. For example, there should be a public record indicating that views from citizens and the public were sought.*

Answer "c" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *Testimony is not allowed from members of the public or CSOs;*
- *No other means are used by the legislature to receive and collect views/input from citizens and CSOs on the budget, but*
- *The legislature invites a few individuals/groups to provide input (through public hearings or elsewhere)*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget

Answer:

c. Yes, public hearings are held. No testimony from the public is provided during the public hearings, and there are no other mechanisms through which public contributions are received, but the legislature invites specific individuals or groups to testify or provide input (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget, Coordinator of the Citizen's Engagement Programme, Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Comment:

Researcher: There are no formal public hearings in place to receive inputs from public during the budget formulation or implementation stage. The business community can voice their opinions through the 'Ease of Doing Business' meetings

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IBP Comment

During an IBP cross-country consistency check, the response for this question is revised from D to C. As noted by the researcher in Q125, the Committee on Public Finance (of the legislature) held two pre-budget hearings in 2018. There is a media report that those meetings took place here: <http://www.ft.lk/front-page/Committee-on-Public-Finance-to-hold-pre-budget-public-hearings/44-661281> As these meetings were ad-hoc, and not fully open to all of the public (only held in three districts), this qualifies for a C score.

137. During the legislative deliberations on the annual budget (pre-budget or approval stages), which of the following key topics does the legislature's (or relevant legislative budget committee) engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Macroeconomic issues
2. Revenue forecasts, policies, and administration
3. Social spending policies
4. Deficit and debt levels

- 5. Public investment projects
- 6. Public services

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider the range of mechanisms currently used by the legislature to promote public participation during legislative deliberations on the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics, for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be only the ones listed above. If the legislature's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget and Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Comment:

Researcher: The Parliament does not seek input from public directly at any stage. However, the public can raise question/provide inputs to their elected representative (Members of Parliament), on the annual budget at pre-budget or approval stage. These MPs can raise the questions of public, at the Committee Stage debates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

138. Does the legislature provide feedback to the public on how citizens' inputs have been used during legislative deliberations on the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the legislature provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received and how inputs were used during legislative deliberations (please note that these deliberations can refer to the pre-budget and approval phases). By "written record" in this question, we mean a document that is produced and released by the legislature.

Answer "a" applies when the legislature provides a written document with:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) and*
- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how).*

Answer "b" applies when the legislature provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) and*
- *A not-so-detailed report on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used in legislative deliberations on the annual budget (please note that these deliberations refer to the pre-budget and approval phases).*

Answer "c" applies when the legislature provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) or*
- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a “c” response or above are not met.

Source:

Interviews with Director of the Department of National Budget and Staff of the Economic Intelligence Unit of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Comment:

Researcher: The Parliament does not seek input from public directly at any stage. However, the public can raise question/provide inputs to their elected representative (Members of Parliament), on the annual budget at pre-budget or approval stage. These MPs can raise the questions of public, at the Committee Stage debates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

139. Does the legislature hold public hearings and/or use other participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during its public deliberations on the Audit Report?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle on “Sustainability,” “Transparency,” and “Complementarity” and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the legislative are interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the legislature, rather than being limited to allowing the public to attend or hear public budget deliberations.

A key constitutional role of the legislature in almost all countries is to oversee the government’s management of public resources. While the Supreme Audit Institution is responsible for checking the government’s accounts and publishing the outcome of their audits, for accountability purposes it is essential that the legislature reviews and scrutinizes those reports, and checks on whether the executive is taking the appropriate corrective actions based on the Supreme Audit Institution’s recommendations.

Holding public hearings to review audit findings allows the public to learn more about how the government has managed its resources for the budget years that have ended, and demand accountability in case of mismanagement and irregularities. Reviewing and discussing those reports in public is therefore a key responsibility of a legislature.

Please note that by “Audit Report” we refer to the same audit report assessed in the transparency section of this Survey, i.e., one of the eight key budget documents that all governments (in this case, the Supreme Audit Institution) must produce, according to best practice.

Please consider participation mechanisms that the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) have put in place and using to allow the public to participate in their deliberations on the Audit Report.

Mechanisms through which members of the public reach out to individual members of parliament as opposed to the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) or unofficial hearings organized by a subset of committee members should not be considered in answering this question.

To answer “a,” the national legislature must hold public hearings where citizens are allowed to testify. This answer applies only if the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can testify (for example, participation takes place on a first-come-first-served basis).

Answer “b” should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *No testimony is allowed from the public; BUT*
- *There are other means used by the legislature to receive and collect views from citizens and CSOs on the budget, and the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can provide input. The researcher must provide evidence to support the presence of those alternative processes through which the legislature seeks inputs from citizens. For example, there should be a public record indicating that views from citizens and the public were sought.*

Answer “c” should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *No testimony is allowed from the public;*
- *No other means are used by the legislature to receive and collect views/input from citizens and CSOs on the budget, BUT*
- *The legislature invites a few individuals/groups to provide input (through public hearings or elsewhere)*

Answer “d” applies if the requirements for a “c” response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the Audit Report.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

Response of the Deputy Auditor General

Comment:

Researcher: The legislature does not seek the public's input for the audit report.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

140. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can suggest issues/topics to include in the SAI's audit program (for example, by bringing ideas on agencies, programs, or projects that could be audited)?

GUIDELINES:

This question assesses whether the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has established mechanisms through which the public can provide suggestions on issues/topics to be included in its audit program. When deciding its audit agenda, the SAI may undertake audits for a sample of agencies, projects, and programs in the country; and such a selection could be based on complaints and suggestions made by members of the public. To receive such suggestions, the SAI may create formal mechanisms, like setting up a website, hotline, or office (or assigning staff to liaise with the public).

Answer:

a. Yes, the SAI maintains formal mechanisms through which the public can suggest issues/topics to include in its audit program.

Source:

Responses from the Deputy Auditor General 1- Contact form of National Audit Office: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/contact-form?%20view=alfcontact> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/contact-form?%20view=alfcontact>); Complaint form of National Audit Office: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/complaint-submit-form> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/complaint-submit-form>)

Comment:

Researcher: The National Audit Office is open for suggestions, petitions and complaints from the public. The receipts from public are examined by a special investigation division under National Audit Office. Despite a statement on the National Audit Office website states that they get in touch with the public following the lodging of a concern, there is no active engagement by the National Audit Office with the public on the audit report. The National Audit Office does not proactively seek inputs. However, the general public is able to provide inputs. This can be considered a passive mechanism. Response of the Deputy Auditor General: According to the Section 04 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018, any member of the society can submit representations to the NAOSL directly on affairs of the public entities.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

141. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) provide the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs have been used to determine its audit program?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the Supreme Audit Institution provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received, which ones are used to determine the Supreme Audit Institution's audit program. By "written record" in this question, we mean a document that is produced and released by the Supreme Audit Institution.

Answer "a" applies when the Supreme Audit Institution provides a written document with:

- *The inputs received from the public and*

- A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how).

Answer "b" applies when the SAI provides a written document that includes:

- The inputs received from the public and
- A not-so-detailed report on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used to determine the SAI's annual audit program.

Answer "c" applies when the SAI provides a written document that includes:

- The received from the public or
- A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can suggests issues/topics to include in the SAI's audit program.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

Responses from the Deputy Auditor General

Comment:

Reseracher: The Auditor General does not provide a written document explaining how the citizens input was utilized. However they provide a document to the Parliament. The response of the Deputy Auditor General: According to the Section 04 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 , the National Audit Office of Sri Lanka (NAOSL) is required to submit a reports to Parliament on actions taken by the NAOSL using inputs made by the citizen

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

142. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can contribute to audit investigations (as respondents, witnesses, etc.)?

GUIDELINES:

This question mirrors question 140, but instead of covering public assistance in formulating the SAI's audit program, it focuses on whether the Supreme Audit Institution has established mechanisms through which the public can participate in audit investigations. In addition to seeking public input to determine its audit agenda, the SAI may wish to provide formal opportunities for the public and civil society organizations to participate in the actual audit investigations, as witnesses or respondents.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

Response of the Deputy Auditor General. The National Audit Office contains inquiry and complaint forms for the public to contribute. However, there is no active engagement of the department with the public on the audit report. 1- Contact form of National Audit Office:

<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/contact-form?%20view=alfcontact>

(<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/contact-form?%20view=alfcontact>) ;Complaint form of National Audit Office:

<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/complaint-submit-form> (<http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/complaint-submit-form>)

Comment:

There is no formal mechanism in place. Response of the Deputy Auditor General: The public can contribute to the audit investigations carried out by the NAOSL by making written representations and providing other evidences at the field visits

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S0. Are you participating in the Sector Budget Transparency Module pilot?

Please select "Yes" to this question if you have confirmed your participation in the Sector Budget Transparency Module pilot, and S1-S20 related to sector budget transparency will become available for you to complete.

For all others, please select "No," and you will be directed to the last page of the Open Budget Survey questionnaire.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Sector Budget Transparency Model- Health Sector

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: I choose not to review this question

Comments: I am not aware of this SBTM pilot.

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S1. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present revenue earmarked for the sector and/or the sector's expenditure associated with this earmarked revenue?

Answer:

d. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present total revenues earmarked for the sector or the total sector's expenditure associated with earmarked revenue.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Table- Loans Disbursement of Foreign Funded Projects 2008 – 2016 (Page 230)

<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>

(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: EBPs or any other supporting documents do not present estimates of earmarked revenues of health sector.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S2. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present revenue earmarked for the sector and/or the sector's expenditure associated with this earmarked revenue?

Answer:

d. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present total revenues earmarked for the sector or the total sector's expenditure associated with earmarked revenue.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 (YER) does not present revenue earmarked for the health sector.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S3. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present donor assistance for the sector and/or the sector's expenditure associated with this donor assistance?

Answer:

c. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal presents *at least the total amount* of donor assistance for the sector or the total sector's expenditure associated with donor assistance.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I: Table- Loans Disbursement of Foreign Funded Projects 2008 – 2016 (Page 230)
<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>
(<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: Sri Lankan health sector is financed by both domestic and foreign funds. In 2018, 4.61% of health sector expenditure is estimated to be financed using foreign funds. The components that are estimated to be financed using foreign funds are under the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine. As per the estimates for 2018, 28.45% of expenditure estimates on Hospital Development Projects (Page 358-365) will be foreign funded (25.54% of foreign loans, 2.51% of foreign grants and 0.40% of Reimbursable Foreign Loans); 8.05% of expenditure on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (Page 366-368) is estimated to be funded through foreign grants; 23.16% of expenditure on Control of Communicable and Non Communicable Diseases (Page 369-370) is financed through foreign grants. Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I only presents the total donor assistance for the sector. Therefore option 'c' is selected.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S4. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present expenditure by a functional classification (first-level functional) that is consistent with the first-level functional classification presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

c. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents expenditure by a functional classification, but it is not consistent with the classification presented in either the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>); EB-Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2017>. Please note that Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 has taken off from the Ministry of Finance web platform.

Comment:

Researcher: Though the Annual Report 2017 (YER) presents health sector expenditure but the Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 (EBPs) and Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 (EB) do not provided health sector expenditure estimates. The functional classification considered to respond to this question is the functional classification by COFOG, WHO and guidelines of the question 5.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S5. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification (second-level functional)?

Answer:

b. No, neither the Executive's Budget Proposal nor the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 - Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>); Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 - Volume I: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0)

Comment:

Researcher: Though EBPs and EB do not present the subfunctional classification of the health sector expenditure, the EBPs-Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 Volume I (Page 328-361) & EB-Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I (Page 332-365) present a classification similar to subfunctional classification estimates for health sector under the administrative classification. Though this classification is compatible with the functional classification of World Health Organisation (WHO) (https://www.who.int/health_financing/topics/budgeting-in-health/classification-system-expenditures/en/) this is not considered as the subfunctional classification of health sector, since Sri Lanka doesn't produce the functional classification of expenditure.

The classification provided in EBPs and EB for health sector- Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MOH) & Department of Ayurveda (DA) are the two main bodies which contributes to the Health sector of Sri Lanka and the subfunctional classification under these can be list down as: MOH- Minister's Office, Administration and Establishment Services, Medical Supplies Division, Hospital Operations, Human Resource Development, Hospital Development Projects, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Control of Communicable and Non Communicable Diseases, National Nutrition Programme, Medical Research, Promotion of Indigenous Medicine; DA- Administration and Establishment Services, Curative Services, Research, Education and Training, Medicinal Plant Conservation.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S6. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification (second-level functional) that is consistent with the subfunctional classification presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

d. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present the sector's expenditure by a functional classification.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>

EB-Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017:<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2017>.

Please note that Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 has taken off from the Ministry of Finance web platform.

Comment:

Researcher: Though EBPs, EB and YER do not present the subfunctional classification of the health sector expenditure, the EBPs-Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 Volume I (Page 328-361) & EB-Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I (Page 332-365) present a classification similar to subfunctional classification estimates for health sector under the administrative classification.

Though this classification is compatible with the functional classification of World Health Organisation (WHO) (https://www.who.int/health_financing/topics/budgeting-in-health/classification-system-expenditures/en/) this is not considered as the subfunctional classification of health sector, since Sri Lanka doesn't produce the functional classification of expenditure.

The classification provided in EBPs and EB for health sector- Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MOH) & Department of Ayurveda (DA) are the two main bodies which contributes to the Health sector of Sri Lanka and the subfunctional classification under these can be list down as: MOH- Minister's Office, Administration and Establishment Services, Medical Supplies Division, Hospital Operations, Human Resource Development, Hospital Development Projects, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Control of Communicable and Non Communicable Diseases, National Nutrition Programme, Medical Research, Promotion of Indigenous Medicine; DA- Administration and Establishment Services, Curative Services, Research, Education and Training, Medicinal Plant Conservation.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S7. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present expenditure by an administrative classification that is consistent with the administrative classification presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents expenditure by an administrative classification that is consistent with the administrative classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Source:

The administrative classification is presented in all three documents (EBPs, EB and YER).

1. EBPs-Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 Volume I: Table 4.4 GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE BY MINISTRY / SPECIAL SPENDING UNIT (Page XXXIII-XXXVII)- The online version is unavailable on the MOF website.

2. EB- Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I: Table 4.4 GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE BY MINISTRY / SPECIAL SPENDING UNIT (Page XXXIII-XXXVII). Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I- <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2017>; <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/336544/volume1.pdf/3927a0c4-cdbd-46bc-88da-c60fcc38fefe> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/336544/volume1.pdf/3927a0c4-cdbd-46bc-88da-c60fcc38fefe>)

3. YER- Annual Report 2017- Schedule III - HEAD-WISE SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY PROVISION AND EXPENDITURE – 2017 (Page 339-344). Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The administrative classification in EBPs, EB and YER are consistent. Eg: Health Sector-Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine; Department of Ayurveda)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S8. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by program?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present(s) the sector's expenditure by program. (Please note in the comments in which document(s) programs are presented)

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 - Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>; Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 - Volume I: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0)

Comment:

Researcher: EBPs- Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 347, 357-381) and Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume I (Page 359 - 383) present the health sector expenditure by programme. The Health Sector (Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine and Department of Ayurveda) have tables titled 'Development Activities' which includes allocations for major new projects for 2018 which can be considered as programmes of the budget year. The overall development activities in health sector account for 27.63% of the health budget of 2018 as of Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 and Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 .

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S9. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the sector's expenditure by program consistent with sector programs presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

d. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present the sector's expenditure by program.

Source:

1.Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017- Volume I - Table 4.2: Summary of Expenditure by Programme -Refer Page XXXI. Each Administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Development Activities' which includes allocations for major new projects for 2017. However, these are not considered as programs under OBS 2019 guideline. According to OBS 2019 guideline program could be any classification under administrative classification. The MOF website doesn't contain the documents anymore.

2. Budget Estimates 2017 (Approved) Volume I- Table 4.2. Summary of Expenditure by Programme (Refer Page XXXI). Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I- <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2017>; <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/336544/volume1.pdf/3927a0c4-cdbd-46bc-88da-c60fcc38fefe> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/336544/volume1.pdf/3927a0c4-cdbd-46bc-88da-c60fcc38fefe>). Each Administrative unit (Ministries and Departments) has a table titled 'Development Activities' which includes allocations for major new projects for 2017. However, these are not considered as programs under OBS 2019 guideline. According to OBS 2019 guideline program could be any classification under administrative classification.

3.The Annual Report 2017 presents major projects implemented in 2017 (Refer Table 4.16 (Page 97), Table 4.18 (Page 98), Table 4.19 (Page 99), Table 4.21 (Page 101), Table 4.23 (Page 102), Table 4.24 (Page 102), Table 4.25 (Page 103), Table 4.26 (Page 103), Table 4.27 (Page 103) and Table 4.28 (Page 103).

Part IV-Financial Statements: Schedule II - STATEMENT OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS -2017 presents (Page 327-338) 9.80% of the total budget excluding public debt amortization. Link to the Annual Report 2017:

<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>) (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

The program classification under EBPs and/or EBs is not as same as the classification provided in the YER.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S10. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present(s) the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy. (Please note in the comments the document and the type of classification.)

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 - Volume I: <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>);

Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 - Volume I: http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0 (http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502673/V_01_+E_Aprvd.pdf/5dfe807a-6ede-4839-8485-075c24e973c0)

Comment:

Researcher: EBPs- Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 347, 357-381) and EB- Budget Estimates (Approved) 2018 Volume II (Page 359 - 383) present the details of sublevels under each programme classification, under the administrative unit.

According to OBS 2019 guidelines program classification can be any classification under the administrative classification.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S11. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy?

Answer:

b. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present this level of detail.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S12. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present an economic classification for the sector's expenditure (organized by functional, administrative, or program classification)?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal presents an economic classification for the sector's expenditure. (Please note in the comments which classification presents the sector expenditure by the economic classification – functional, administrative or program.)

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 - Volume I (Page 350-381) : <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 Volume I (Page 350-381) presents the economic classification (eg: Personal Emoluments, Travelling Expenses, Maintenance Expenditure, Services, Transfers, Acquisition of Capital Assets and etc) of subfunctional estimates for health sector.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S13. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present a geographic distribution of the sector's expenditure (organized by functional classification, administrative classification, or program)? (For the purposes of this question, the sector's expenditure must include spending beyond just intergovernmental transfers.)

Answer:

b. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present a geographic distribution of the sector's expenditure.

Source:

N/A

Comment:

Researcher: The documents which are qualified to be considered as Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documents do not present geographic distribution of the health sector's expenditure.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S14. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present intergovernmental transfers to the sector?

Answer:

d. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present total intergovernmental transfers to the sector.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde->

4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: Though the Annual Report 2017 (YER) presents intergovernmental transfers- Schedule III - HEAD-WISE SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY PROVISION AND EXPENDITURE - 2017 (Page 344) and Schedule IV STATEMENT OF PROVINCIAL COUNCILS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT - 2017 (Page 345), it does not provide intergovernmental transfers to the health sector. The Schedule II - STATEMENT OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS -2017 (Page 327) presents only one transfer to health sector at the provincial level (intergovernmental)- "Strengthening Patient Care Services by Establishing Clinical Waste Management Systems in the Needy Hospitals Come under the Provincial Councils in Sri Lanka."

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S15. Does the Executive Budget Proposal present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector?

Answer:

b. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Draft) 2018 - Volume I (Page 345-381) : <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/502102/Volume1E.pdf/96c9e2c6-9759-4cf0-a772-d79698897b90>)

Comment:

Researcher: The EBPs does not present expenditure for each hospital (front line health service delivery units). However, under subfunctional classifications of Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine, have mentioned some allocations to the hospitals. Eg: 1. Administration and Establishment Services (Page 351)- Medical Council, Victoria Home for Incurables, Provincial Hospitals, Homeopathy Hospital, Sri Jayawardanapura General Hospital, Wijaya Kumarathunga Memorial Hospital, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, National Medicines Regulatory Authority, Dr. Neville Fernando Teaching Hospital; 2. Medical Supplies Division- Medical Supplies for Hospitals and Institutions, Cancer Treatment Drugs for Maharagama Cancer Institute and Cancer Units in Other Hospitals, Blood Bank Equipments-Consumables; 3. Hospital Development Projects (Page 358-365) Eg: Construction of Accident Ward Operating Theatre & Intensive Care Unit at BH Gampola.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S16. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector?

Answer:

b. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 (YER) does not present expenditure for each hospital in the public health sector.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S17. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the differences between the original estimates of transfers to public corporations in the sector and the actual outcome?

Answer:

d. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present the differences between the original estimates of transfers to public corporations in the sector and the actual outcome.

Source:

Link to the Annual Report 2017- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>) <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Annual Report 2017 presents a comparison on enacted levels and the actual outcome in Part IV- Financial Statements, Table: Comparisons of the Budgets and Actuals for the year ended 31st December 2017 (Page 233). The table contains original estimate, revised estimates, actuals and difference in performances. In addition to that, the Statement of Financial Performance for the period ended 31st December 2017 presents budget estimates and actuals of expenditure (Page 229). However, it does not provide a comparison between original and actual allocations dedicated to public institutions in the health sector.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S18. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present a narrative explaining the objectives for the sector's expenditure, and show the expenditure associated with achieving the objectives?

Answer:

c. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal presents a narrative explaining the objectives for the sector's expenditure but does not show how expenditure is associated with achieving the objectives.

Source:

Link to Budget Speech 2018: <http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-speeches>) <http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4> (<http://treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/470884/budgetspeech2018E.pdf/9a9b081b-a709-418f-88ee-64f397db6ab4>)

Comment:

Researcher: The Budget Speech 2018 presents health sector expenditure under the title, 'A Healthy Nation' (Page 36-38). However, it doesn't provide specific policy objectives that are intended to achieve in FY2018. Paragraph 195 states that, the government intends to provide medicine at an affordable cost and to allocate more resources to strengthen the health sector but the narrative description of health sector proposals doesn't specify the link between the allocation for the proposal and the respective policy objective. Therefore option 'c' is selected.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

S19. Is subnational expenditure in the sector (including expenditure financed from own-source revenues) reported in *central*/government budget formulation documents (Executive's Budget Proposal or Enacted Budget) or budget execution documents (In-Year Reports or Year-End Report)?

Answer:

c. Yes, the sector's subnational expenditure for some (but not all) levels of subnational government is included in at least one central government budget formulation or execution document.

Source:

Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I (EB) - <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/budget-estimates-2017>
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/336544/volume1.pdf/3927a0c4-cdbd-46bc-88da-c60fcc38fefe>

Link to Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume III (EB): <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/336544/volume3.pdf/aa9b9535-fa20-4839-be01-dd3a9f229bc9>

Link to the Annual Report 2017 (YER)- Ministry of Finance Sri Lanka: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/publications/annual-report>
<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/12870/2017.pdf/2bce4f3d-ebde-4409-b2b5-c8a0801b3edc>

Please note that, MOF website doesn't contain Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 Volume I and III anymore.

Comment:

Researcher: Health Sector expenditure at provincial councils is presented in EBPs, EB but not in YER. The subnational level exists in Sri Lanka is provincial council level. Revenue from Provincial Councils-

1. EBPs-The Budget Estimates (Draft) 2017 Volume I, includes the revenue collected from the provincial councils, Table 3.2.3 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL REVENUE (Page XXV).
2. EB- The Budget Estimates (Approved) 2017 Volume I, includes the revenue collected from the provincial councils, Table 3.2.3 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL REVENUE (Page XXV).
3. Annual Report 2017- Schedule IV-STATEMENT OF PROVINCIAL COUNCILS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT – 2017 presents both revenue and expenditure of each provincial council. Health sector subnational level expenditure: Both the EBPs (Volume I- Page 323-361) and EB (Volume I 327-365) present allocations from the health sector administrative unit (Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine) to the provincial councils till 2016 but not for the budget year 2017. Both the EBPs (Volume III- Page 29-70) and EB (Volume III- Page 29-70) present a component (allocation) for health sector from the provincial councils expenditure head, titled 'Health Sector Development Project'. This component is usually financed by Government of Sri Lanka and a donor. However, the Annual Report 2017 does not provide health sector expenditure at provincial level and it provides the total expenditure (recurrent and capital) for all provincial councils, Schedule IV STATEMENT OF PROVINCIAL COUNCILS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT - 2017 (Page 345). In addition, the Annual report also provides total transfers to provinces, Table 4.7 | Transfers to Provinces in year 2017 (Page 90).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

S20. Does the central government make publicly available on a website or portal at least one of the key budget documents (Executive's Budget Proposal, Enacted Budget, In-Year Reports, or Year-End Report) prepared by subnational governments?

Answer:

d. No, the sector's subnational expenditure is not presented in any central government budget formulation or execution documents.

Source:

Link to the Ministry of Finance: <http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/home> (<http://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/guest/home>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: