

Terms of Reference

Mail Management Programme for Southern Provincial Council

Table of Contents

Abbreviations.....	4
1.1 Introduction.....	5
1.2 Background and Organization Structure.....	5
2.0 Current Process.....	6
2.1 Summary of the Current Process	6
2.2 Problems of the Current Process	6
2.3 Effects of Current Problems	7
3.0 Proposed System.....	7
3.1 Objectives.....	7
3.2 General Description	7
3.3 System Summary	8
3.4 Process of the proposed system	8
3.5 Scope of the System	9
3.5.1 General Information.....	9
3.5.2 Sections of Organizations to be covered in phase 1.....	10
3.5.3 Work plan	11
3.6 System Requirement Specifications.....	12
3.6.1 General Requirement.....	12
3.6.2 Technical Requirement.....	13
3.7 Standards to follow	14
3.8 Testing and Quality Assurance	14
3.9 Hosting	14
3.10 Extensions	16
4.0 System Development, Testing and Implementation.....	16
5.0 System Maintenance and Training.....	16
5.1 System Maintenance (Software and Hardware Troubleshooting)	16
5.2 System Implementation and User Groups	17
6.0 Qualifications of the Bidder.....	17
6.1 Business Registration:.....	17
6.2 Industry Experience.....	17
6.3 Staff Qualifications and Experience.....	17

6.4 Government Project Experience	18
6.5 Experience in Similar projects	18
7.0 Work Plan, Timeframe and Deliverables	19
8.0 Client Input	20
9.0 Ownership.....	20
10.0 Bid Evaluation Criteria	21
11.0 Annexures	22
Annex 1 – Summary of mail count for four months	22

Abbreviations

PMS- Postal Letter Management System

SPC – Southern Provincial Council

MIS –Management Information System

DSS- Decision Support System

ESS- Executive Support System

TPS –Transaction Processing Systems

1.1 Introduction

Postal letter (mail) delivery process of the SPC is a manual process where some organizations use semi automated systems. Work processes of SPC totally depend on the postal system and organizations linked through the current manual letter delivery system.

However, there is no automated system to avoid current problems such as delays and inaccuracies. Therefore. SPC decided to develop an automated system to deliver and track postal letters.

1.2 Background and Organization Structure

Relevant organization structure for the PMS of the SPC is given below.

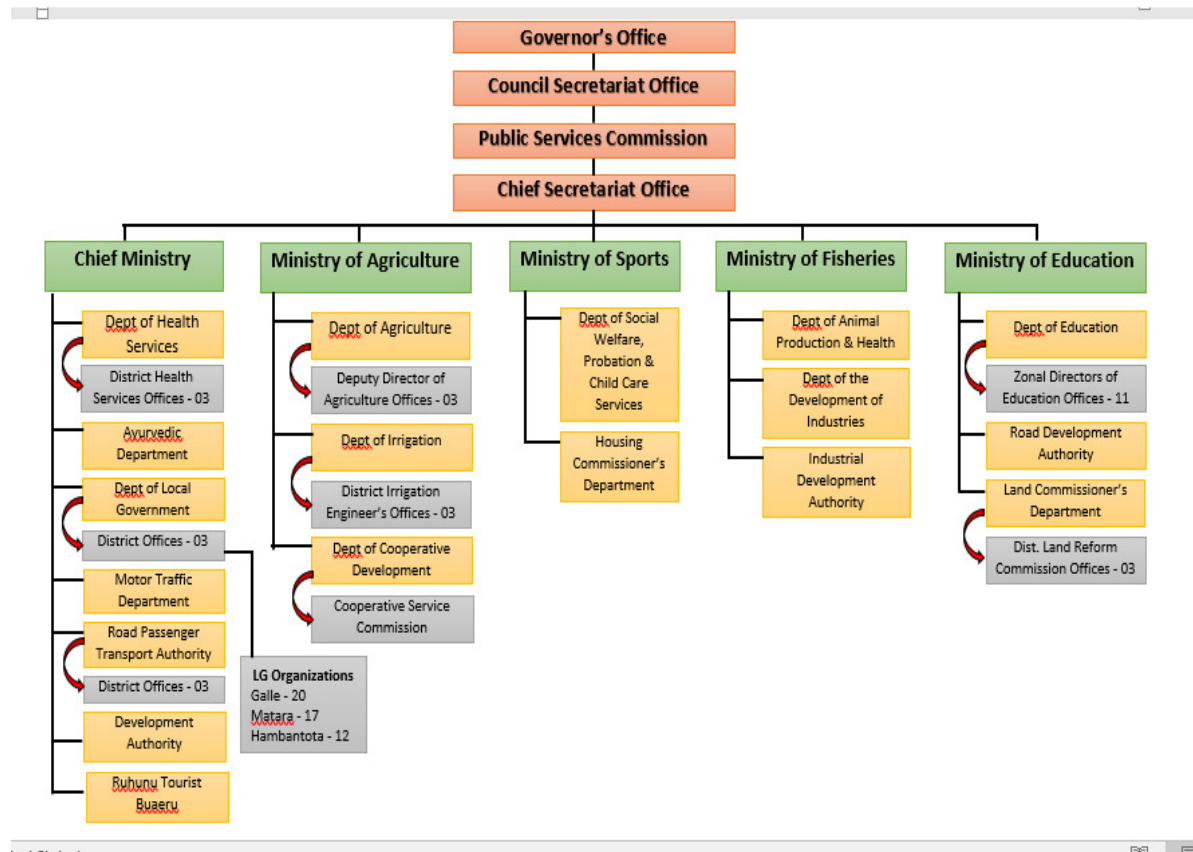


Figure1.1: Organization Structure of SPC

Services through requests are generated from the top organizational level (Governor's Office) to the bottom organizational level (Regional level) or from the bottom organizational level (Regional level) to the top organizational level (Governor's Office).

2.0 Current Process

2.1 Summary of the Current Process

Current process can be summarized as follows.

- a) Each organization has its own methods / processes defined for mail management.
- b) Each organizations administration branch is responsible for the mail delivery.
- c) Every letter is delivered to the relevant branch or to the relevant staff office after receiving.
- d) Each letter is assigned to relevant subject officer by the staff officer/ sectional head.
- e) Subject officer process the request and forward the output to the recipient or to the next organization for further processing.
- f) Organizations use following methods for mail delivery.
 1. Manual system – use record books for daily summary of received letters.
 2. Semi automated systems - use a system to enter letter information and keeps electronic records for delivered letter information.

In some organizations, automated systems have facilities to monitor the progress of further actions and to obtain summarized reports on mail delivery and further actions taken.

2.2 Problems of the Current Process

Following problems were identified in the review of current process.

- a) Implemented for operational level processes of the organization
- b) Only intra organizational letter delivery is available.
- c) There is no inter organizational communication available other than the manual processing.
- d) Only hard copy letter processing is available. If any letter is misplaced, recovery is difficult.
- e) Letter tracking options are not available. It can only be done with telephone calls or other communication methods.
- f) Summarized reports on letter delivery or answering is not available.
- g) Progress can not be measured.
- h) Statistics are not available.
- i) Difficult to use these information for decision making.
- j) Responsibilities are not clearly visible.

2.3 Effects of Current Problems

Effects of the current problems can be stated as follows.

- a) Slow processes / Time wasting
- b) No transparency/ can't track and find progress
- c) Poor work progress due to lack of monitoring
- d) Delays / failures in Decision making
- e) Loss of documents / difficult to find locations
- f) Complains from public
- g) Unsatisfied employees

3.0 Proposed System

Proposed system should be able to solve problems of the current system as mentioned in section 2.2.

3.1 Objectives

- Increase transparency of the mail delivery
- Support the management for decision making by providing summarized information and graphical views
- E file processing to minimize time wasting
- Letter tracking for monitoring the progress

3.2 General Description

Web based mail management system linking all organizations together including following features.

1. Central database structure
2. Letter entry at each organization
3. Image file processing for each letter at the letter entry and process the e file instead of hard copy
4. Letter Tracking system
5. Access levels according to authorization levels
6. Public access at identified levels
7. Dash board view for different management levels with identified reports, statistics, graphs etc.

3.3 System Summary

Current system only works for the transaction processing level of the organization. Proposed system would contain MIS and DSS Systems for the middle level of management and DSS and ESS for the top level of management . Processed information at TPS level should be the input for MIS/DSS operating at middle level which will summarize ground level information for easy decision making. Output of TPS data should be the input for middle level MIS and DSS. Summarized information from the middle level should provide input for top level decision making through ESS and DSS. Figure 5.1 will summarize the idea.

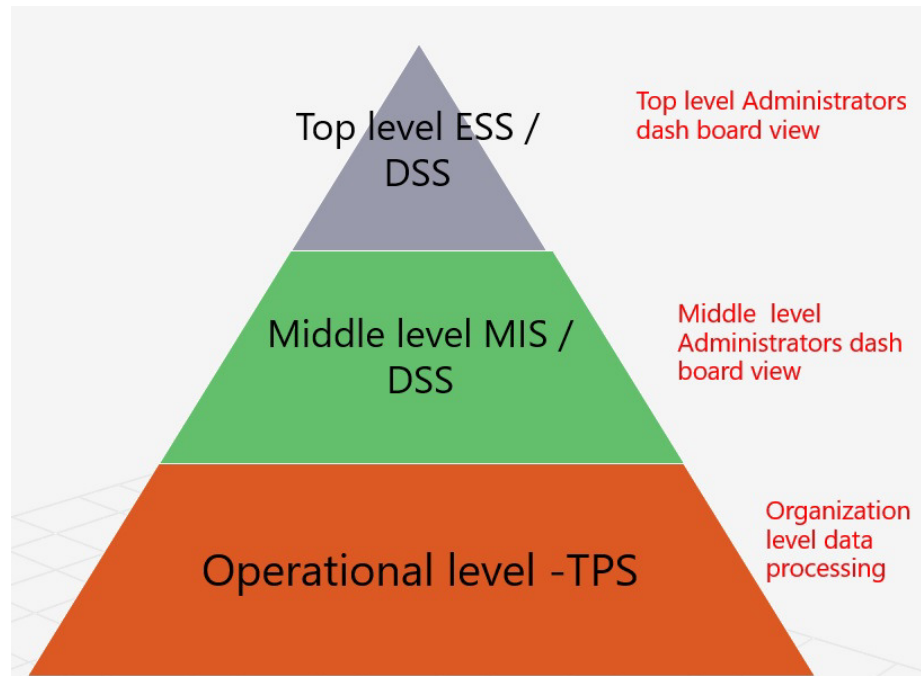


Figure 3.1 : Proposed System in a Managerial view

3.4 Process of the proposed system

Letter entry will be started at any organization. Letter will be scanned and entered into the system with selected information added to the system. Administration section of the received organization will forward the scanned letter and information to the relevant authorized person or the branch at the office. After processing at the organization, processed answer along with added new documents, notes, recommendations, approvals etc, will be forwarded to the next organization for further actions. They only receive electronic copies for processing and processing will be handled in the same way. After repeating the process till the final decision is being made, the response will be sent to the relevant authority or to the person.

Figure 3.2 indicates the letter processing process of the proposed system.

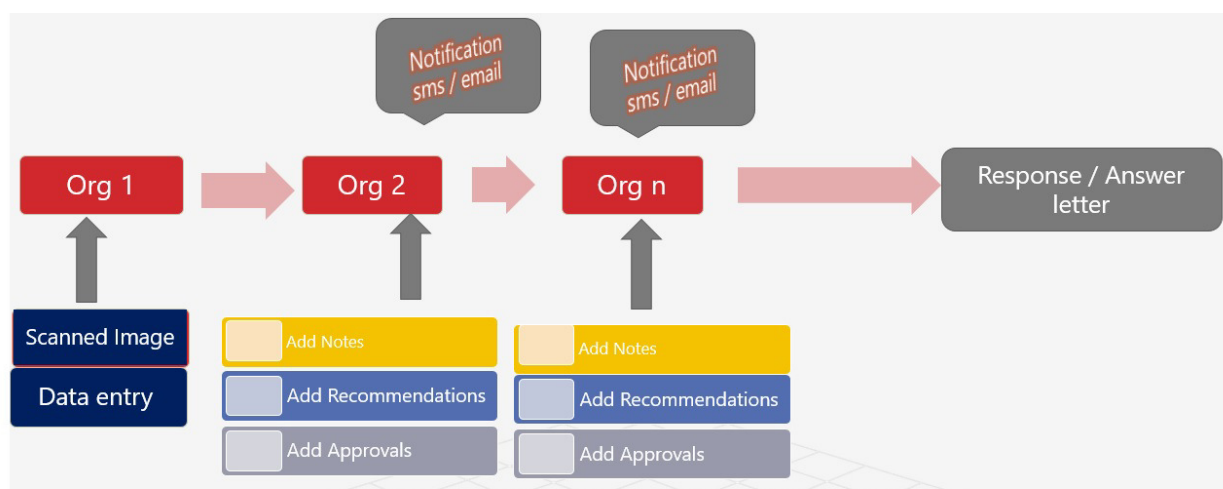


Figure 3.2 : Proposed Process

3.5 Scope of the System

3.5.1 General Information

The system should be developed by following phases.

- I. Phase 1 - Eleven (11) top level organizations were identified for the phase 1. as in the figure 3.3.
- II. Phase 2 - All other departments and authorities as per the organization chart of SPC.
- III. Phase 3 - All regional level organizations (eg: zonal education offices, District Health Offices etc.) will be connected to the existing system.

Bids are called for the phase 1 at this level. However, the developer should identify the future requirements for phase 2 and 3. Proposed system must contain resource allocations for future extensions and the developer should present future plan along with the proposed system plan.

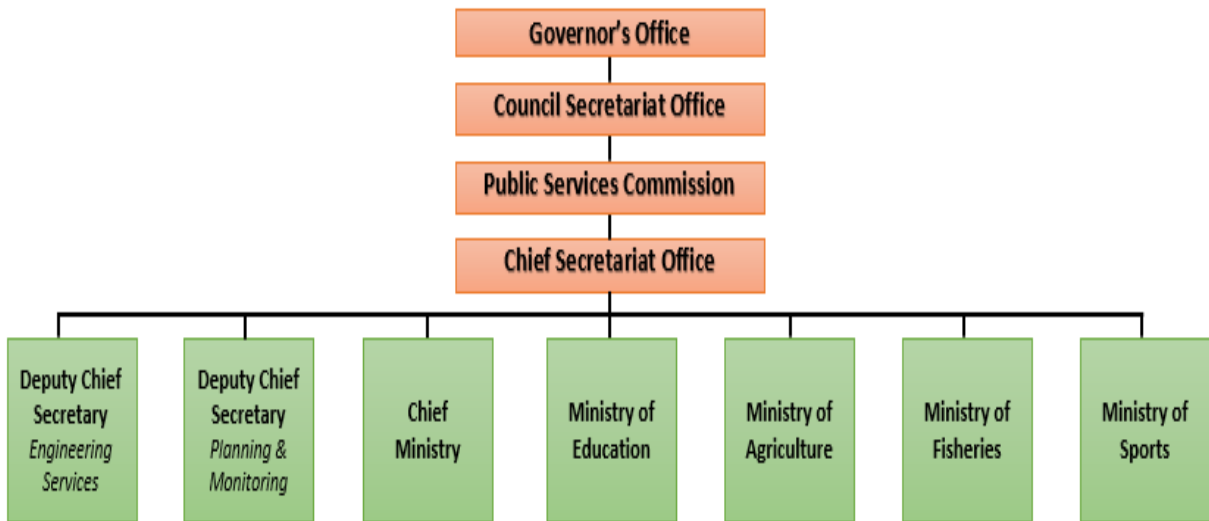


Figure 3.3 : Phase 1 Organizations

3.5.2 Sections of Organizations to be covered in phase 1

<p>Governor's Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Establishment ○ Accounts ○ Administration ○ Legal & Appeal 	<p>Public Service Commission (PSC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Establishment ○ Accounts ○ Exam
<p>Chief Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chief Secretary ○ DCS (Admin) ○ DCS (HRM & Training) ○ DCs (Financial Management) ○ Establishment ○ Personal ○ Administration ○ Development ○ Accounts ○ Finance ○ Budget ○ Accounts and Payments ○ Legal ○ Information Technology ○ Statistics ○ Supply ○ Internal Audit 	<p>Deputy Chief Secretary (Engineering Services)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DCS (Engineering Services) ○ Establishment ○ Accounts ○ Planning ○ Buildings

<p>Deputy Chief Secretary (Planning & Monitoring)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DCS (Engineering Services) ○ Establishment ○ Administration ○ Accounts ○ Development 	<p>Chief Ministry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Establishment Branch ○ Accounts Branch ○ Health Branch ○ Planning Branch ○ Local Government Branch ○ IT Branch
<p>Ministry of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Establishment Branch ○ Accounts Branch ○ Education Branch ○ Planning Branch ○ Media Branch 	<p>Ministry of Fisheries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Establishment Branch ○ Accounts Branch ○ Development Branch
<p>Ministry of Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Accounts Branch ○ Establishment Branch ○ Sports Department ○ Cultural Department ○ Rural Department ○ Planning Branch 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary ○ Establishment Branch ○ Accounts Branch ○ Development Branch

3.5.3 Work plan

- a) The developer should undertake to perform the Services with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity.
- b) The developer is required to:
 - Prepare System Requirement Specification (SRS) in detail
 - Obtain approval for SRS from SPC
 - Design the system and Demonstrate a prototype to a appointed team of SPC
 - Development of the system
 - System Testing at SPC site
 - Demonstration of the system to a appointed team of SPC
 - Training of assigned users
 - System Implementation
 - Free Maintenance up to one year (from delivery date)

3.6 System Requirement Specifications

3.6.1 General Requirement

Following features should be included within the proposed system.

- a) Web based system to link all organizations specified in the organization chart (fig.2.1).
- b) System development should be done by three phases as defined in section 3.4.1
- c) Process scanned image at the first level data entry
- d) Data entry should be done at any of the organization. Required data should be identified in SRS. Necessary support will be given by the SPC.
- e) Should be able to forward entered data, scanned images and added notes to the relevant branch within the organization.
- f) Should be able to forward entered letter with relevant information to the next organization through the system without hard copy.
- g) Should be able to get a notification for receiving new documents for the organization.
- h) The sender organization should be able to get a notification when the receiving organization opened the case.
- i) Should be able to add notes, documents, recommendations, approvals etc at any organization level.
- j) Dash board views with summarized information in following forms should be available.
 - i. Statistics Tables
 - ii. Graphs
 - iii. Categorized report modules (to be able to get customized reports)
- k) Search Facility
- l) Dash board views should be designed for different levels of management as per the information from SPC.
- m) Different access levels should be provided for different user categories.
- n) Online public inquiry management module
- o) Notification /Acknowledgement /Alert systems – eg. sms, email, mobile Apps etc.
- p) Process should be defined for following two main categories.
 - i. Letters
 1. Normal
 2. Urgent
 3. Confidential
 - ii. Approvals
 1. Procurement
 2. Dates pay
 3. Fuel
 4. Payment Vouchers
 5. Leave
 6. Foreign Leave
 - iii. Personal File
 - iv. Cheques

- q) The reporting will have to be done graphically as well as in text/tabular form. The report generation in the proposed system would have two categories, the standard reports and ad hoc reports. The standard reports will be designed and uploaded during the implementation and for ad hoc reports; the system will have a customized Query Builder feature. In every report there must be facility to generate the report as MS Excel Sheet, or as HTML format.
- r) Usability: The system should be user-friendly, with the interface and navigation simple and reliable and the system and its content quick to access
- s) System security should be included in the overall process including design, development and implementation. The software must have standard security features inbuilt so that the software has all the checks and balances to ensure integrity of data and the software does not have any flaws or bugs which inadvertently or by design, permit the users to tamper, alter or modify any data without the appropriate permissions.
- t) The software should provide highest degree of security in the architecture. The developer must suggest a suitable security components required in software. In case of any failure, developer shall be liable for penalty. The following are some of the security issues, but not limited to, which must be addressed in the proposal.
 - i. The system would ensure that the users follow login procedures.
 - ii. The access to the database should be based on the user roles of the organization.
 - iii. A proper audit trail must be built within the proposed system.
 - iv. SSL Certificate should be installed.
- u) System should be compatible with commonly available browsers. The system must run on any screen sizes. Using modern UI frameworks for responsive design is highly recommended.

3.6.2 Technical Requirement

a) Software Tools:

- I. Priority will be given for the use of Open Source Software tools (PHP, MYSQL etc)
- II. Unicode fonts should be used. Sinhala, English and Tamil languages can be used wherever necessary

b) Hardware Requirement:

- I. Hardware requirement analysis should be done and submit a proposal with financial considerations.

c) Hosting Requirement:

- I. Identified hosting requirement should be submitted along with the plan of proposed solution. (See the section 3.8 for more information)

3.7 Standards to follow

- I. Developer should adhere to the highest standards conforming to World Wide Web (W3C) standards and the latest version of ICTA standards for the government organizations. Standards (Acts and Cabinet papers) for Government Web Development are also available at <http://www.icta.lk>.
- II. System should conform to the standards defined in latest LIFe document. <http://www.life.gov.lk>

3.8 Testing and Quality Assurance

- I. Quality Assurance should be guaranteed for the whole system in all aspects.
- II. Quality Assurance approach should be described in detail the Methodology.
- III. The developer should implement all necessary security measures and adhere to the security measures proposed by Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Response Team (SLCERT) for ensuring the security of the system where the system should be immune to exploitations such as, SQL Injection; Cross-site scripting (XSS); Session/URL poisoning etc.

3.9 Hosting

- I. The developer should submit a suitable hosting plan including relevant storage, digital signatures, backup and restore plans.
- II. The storage of data of the system should be stored in a central location, which will be used by managers and employees of every organization each time they need to retrieve a document.
- III. Cloud service storage solutions will be given priority.
- IV. The documents should be stored in the selected central location accompanied by a series of meta data and an electronic signature that guarantees its authorship, authenticity and veracity.
- V. The storage system of mail documents should be customized for each company. Restricted access should be given through a user mechanism and password. Once inside, any employee can be accessed all documents, which has been allowed for them to use without restriction.
- VI. Letters must remain in the system at least five years.
- VII. Archiving solution should be provided.
- VIII. In order to estimate the letter count, daily and monthly letter processing were taken by random sampling of phase 1 institutions. However, it should be noted that, mentioned following are the number of letters. Each letter may contain number of pages which will

contribute to the required storage capacity. Sample of letter processing summary is added to this document to provide basic understanding on required storage capacity.

Daily letter quantity can be summarized as follows.

No	Description	Mail Summary of a Day				
		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Total	Avg (per day)
1	Governor's Office	70	44	56	170	57
2	Public Service Commission	31	31	23	85	28
3	Council Secretariat	12	14	12	38	13
4	Chief Secretariat	252	224	257	733	244
5	DCS Engineering Services	29	23	42	94	31
6	DCS Planning & Monitoring	13	23	9	45	15
7	Chief Ministry	340	125	422	887	29
8	Ministry of Education	161	185	153	499	166
9	Ministry of Agriculture	55	50	60	165	55
10	Ministry of Fisheries	21	19	20	60	20
11	Ministry of Sports	140	180	178	498	166
	Total	644	613	632	1889	630

Table 3.1 : Daily Letter Processing Summary

Monthly average of letters can be summarized as follows.

No	Description					Total	Avg (per month)
		1	2	3	4		
1	Governor's Office	1016	809	509	857	3191	798
2	Public Service Commission	715	766	732	772	2985	746
3	Council Secretariat	124	164	106	124	518	130
4	Chief Secretariat	3686	3358	3346	3304	13694	3424
5	DCS Engineering Services	793	894	640	730	3057	764
6	DCS Planning & Monitoring	303	404	393	413	1513	378
7	Chief Ministry	3153	3660	4334	4599	15746	3937
8	Ministry of Education	4234	4484	4435	4139	17292	4323
9	Ministry of Agriculture	931	1127	1035	1350	4443	1111
10	Ministry of Fisheries	492	357	410	498	1757	439
11	Ministry of Sports	1647	1769	1675	1373	64664	1616
	Total	15447	16023	15940	16786	70660	17665

Table 3.2 Monthly Letter Processing Summary

Further information on letter categorization for samples of 4 months is given in the annex 1.

3.10 Extensions

The developer should provide provision to extend the website for phase 2 and phase 3 as mentioned in section 3.4.1.

4.0 System Development, Testing and Implementation

The developer is advised to develop a suitable testing and implementation plan and submit along with the SRS.

Developer is responsible for communicating and implementing the testing and implementation plan with the support of assigned SPC team.

5.0 System Maintenance and Training

5.1 System Maintenance (Software and Hardware Troubleshooting)

- Agreement should be signed for free one year maintenance and support services.
- Help desk support of 24x7.
- A supporting team will be appointed by the SPC for coordination and troubleshooting.
- Selected supporting team should be trained by the developer.

Structure of the supporting team is as follows.

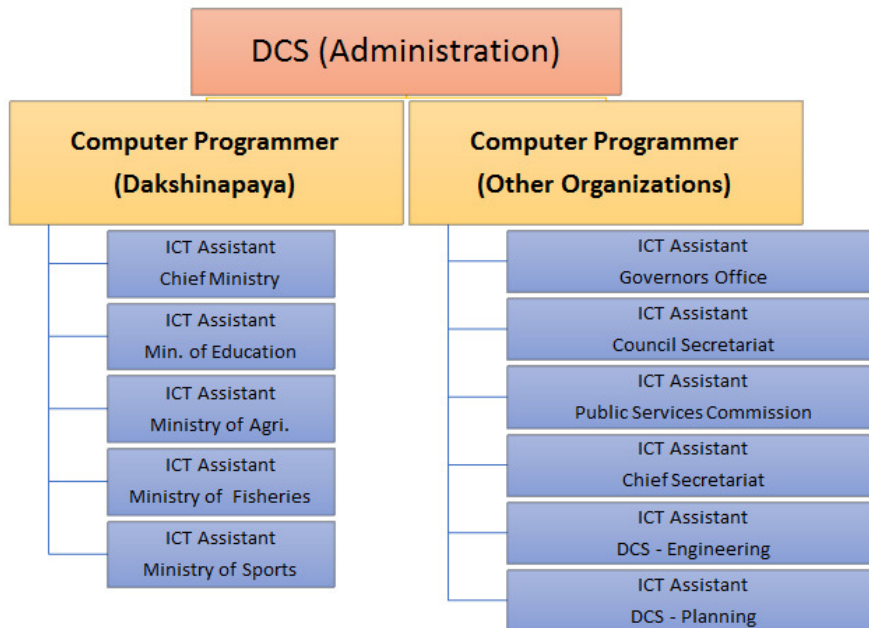


Figure 5.1 : Structure of the Supporting Team

5.2 System Implementation and User Groups

System user group will be selected from each participating organization and to be trained to use the system. Mail system can be used by any staff officer or supporting staff member, therefore everyone needs a user training. User groups should be categorized as follows.

- Group 1- Top Management
- Group 2 – Middle Level Management
- Group 3- Transaction Processing level staff

Trainings shall be arranged in organization basis or user group basis. Awareness session for all users and separate technical trainings should be provided for each user group.

6.0 Qualifications of the Bidder

6.1 Business Registration: Copy of the Business Registration certificate should be submitted by the developer

6.2 Industry Experience(Software Development) of the bidder should be more than five (5) years. Proof documents should be attached with contacts details of clients.

6.3 Staff Qualifications and Experience: Role of the proposed project:

The bidder should have adequate technical manpower to carry out this project and complete it on time. All the professionals should be employed on full time basis and their responsibilities delegated based on the standard software development team. Should have the following positions in this project with relevant qualifications and experience.

Key Experts (Positions) required	Minimum Mandatory Qualification	Minimum Mandatory Experience	Number of Positions
Project Manger	Degree from a recognized University in Computer Science or Information Technology or related subject with Professional Qualification (Recognized	Demonstrate at least 5 years' experience in similar capacity.	1

	certification in management related subjects and experience in development of government systems would be an added advantage)		
Tech Lead	Degree from a recognized University	Demonstrate at least 5 years' experience in similar capacity.	1
Software Engineer(s)	Degree from a recognized University	Demonstrate at least 5 years experience in similar capacity	Pls specify
GUI Designer(s)	Degree/Diploma in IT or related subject	Demonstrate at least 5 years experience in similar capacity	Pls specify
QA Engineer(s)	Degree/Diploma in IT or equivalent qualifications	Demonstrate at least 5 years experience in similar capacity	Pls specify
Support and Maintenance staff	Degree/Diploma in IT or equivalent qualifications	Demonstrate at least 5 years experience in similar capacity	Pls specify

Table 6.1

6.4 Government Project Experience

Developer should provide proof documents for successfully implemented government sector projects with contact details of clients.

6.5 Experience in Similar projects

Developer should provide proof documents for successfully implemented similar projects with contact details of clients.

7.0 Work Plan, Timeframe and Deliverables

Total duration of this project is 12 weeks (3 months). Work schedule of the system is given below.

	Activity	Due date	Deliverable	Responsibility
1.	Initial Meeting	One day	-	SPC / Developer
2.	Preparation of SRS	2 Weeks	SRS	SPC / Developer
3.	System design	2 weeks	Prototype demonstration	Developer
4.	System Development	5 weeks	system demonstration	Developer
5.	System Testing at client site	1 week	Test reports / feedback reports	SPC / Developer
6.	Training	3 weeks	user training / Supporting staff training/ Training documentation	SPC / Developer
7.	Implementation	2 weeks	Fully functional system with source code / user manual / user login detail	SPC / Developer
8.	Maintenance	One year after sign off	Support and Maintenance Agreement	SPC / Developer
9.	Sign off	1 week	Fully functional system with relevant document	SPC / Developer

8.0 Client Input

SPC will provide the following facilities to the development team.

- a. Appoint a supporting team for coordination (Preparation of SRS and all other stages of the development)
- b. Arrange meetings with relevant end users and senior managers of SPC, if the need arises;
- c. Co-ordinate and arrange all appointments / meetings
- d. Training Arrangements (venue and refreshments)

9.0 Ownership

9.1 The SPC will be the rightful owners of the Source Code and all Intellectual Property associated with the system and they will have full rights over the ways they can use these resources. The developer should provide soft copies of all source codes, databases, graphics (source file), Administrator login, passwords and hard copies of design documentations and other related documents used in the system during the handover of the project.

The system so developed will be the sole property of the SPC or any agencies designated by them. The developer will have no right to commercially use or apply the software elsewhere.

9.2 The intellectual property rights relating to the images, photos (captured by the photographers), text, artwork, design, sound recordings, software, database, and any other components developed for this project by the developer shall be the property of SPC and shall have the right to transfer such rights to the community it prefers.

9.3 Any proprietary software components belonging to the developer shall be licensed to SPC for perpetual use. The developer shall require making appropriate arrangements to make available the source code of the said proprietary software to the client in the event of either bankruptcy or winding of merger of the consultant company.

9.4 All passwords should be hand over to SPC after signing off.

9.5 Vendor should impose the copyright and disclaimer notice as specified by the SPC.

9.6 All confidential information exchanged during the assignment should be treated as non-disclosable contents.

10.0 Bid Evaluation Criteria

	Description	Maximum Mark
i.	Specific Experience of the developer company relevant to the proposed project a) Industry Experience b) Government Project Experience c) Experience in Similar Projects	(15) 05 05 05
ii.	Adequacy of the proposed methodology and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference a) Technical Approach and Methodology b) Work Plan and Project Management c) Adaptability to General Requirements d) Adaptability to Technical Requirements e) Training Plan f) Support and Maintenance	(55) 15 10 10 10 05 10
iii.	Key Professional staff qualifications assigned for the project (as mentioned in section 6.3 of the TOR)	(30)
	Total	100

The minimum score required to pass is : **70**

Developer companies who scored above 70 in the initial evaluation will be called for a prototype demonstration, as per the decision of the procurement committee.

11.0 Annexures

Annex 1 - Summary of mail count for four months

No	Description	Mail Summary Month 1											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	TOTAL
		Governor's Office	PSC	Council Secretariat	Chief Secretariat	DCS Engineering Services	DCS Planning & Monitoring	Chief Ministry	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Agriculture	Ministry of Fisheries	Ministry of Sports	
1	Normal	799	552	102	3686	725	296	2924	3809	900	409	1510	15712
2	Registered	38	124	20		68	7	229	423	30	80	135	1154
3	Confidential	1	4						2	1	3	2	13
4	Other	19	35	2									56
	Total	857	715	124	3686	793	303	3153	4234	931	492	1647	16935

No	Description	Mail Summary Month 2											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	TOTAL
		Governor's Office	PSC	Council Secretariat	Chief Secretariat	DCS Engineering Services	DCS Planning & Monitoring	Chief Ministry	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Agriculture	Ministry of Fisheries	Ministry of Sports	
1	Normal	457	632	150	3358	813	404	3437	4103	1100	281	1623	16358
2	Registered	46	93	12		81		223	378	25	76	143	1077
3	Confidential								7	2		3	12
4	Other	6	41	2									49
	Total	509	766	164	3358	894	404	3660	4488	1127	357	1769	17496

No	Description	Mail Summary Month 3											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
		Governor's Office	PSC	Council Secretariat	Chief Secretariat	DCS Engineering Services	DCS Planning & Monitoring	Chief Ministry	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Agriculture	Ministry of Fisheries	Ministry of Sports	TOTAL
1	Normal	970	595	94	3346	591	393	4081	3978	1000	400	1518	16966
2	Registered	31	85	5		49		253	453	35	10	156	1077
3	Confidential	3							4	1		1	9
4	Other	12	52	7									71
	Total	1016	732	106	3346	640	393	4334	4435	1036	410	1675	18123

No	Description	Mail Summary Month 4											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
		Governor's Office	PSC	Council Secretariat	Chief Secretariat	DCS Engineering Services	DCS Planning & Monitoring	Chief Ministry	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Agriculture	Ministry of Fisheries	Ministry of Sports	TOTAL
1	Normal	760	630	103	3304	664	413	4439	3724	1050	408	1254	16749
2	Registered	38	93	14		66		160	410	30	85	117	1013
3	Confidential	2	1						5		5	2	15
4	Other	9	48	7									64
	Total	809	772	124	3304	730	413	4599	4139	1080	498	1373	17841