

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT



## ජාතික විගණන කාර්යාලය தேசிய கணக்காய்வு அலுவலகம் NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE



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N.A.O.

29 June 2023

Chairman  
People's Leasing & Finance PLC

### Report of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements and Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements of the People's Leasing & Finance PLC and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 March 2023 in terms of Section 12 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

#### 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

##### 1.1 Opinion

The audit of the financial statements of the People's Leasing & Finance PLC ("the Company") and the consolidated financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group") for the year ended 31 March 2023 comprising the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2023, and statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash

flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, was carried out under my direction in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read in conjunction with provisions of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018. To carry out this audit I was assisted by a firm of Chartered Accountants in public practice. My report to Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(6) of the Constitution will be tabled in due course.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Company and the Group give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and the Group as at 31 March 2023 and of their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards.

##### 1.2 Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). My responsibilities, under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

##### 1.3 Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of the audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, my description of how my audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

KEY AUDIT MATTER	HOW MY AUDIT ADDRESSED THE KEY AUDIT MATTER
<p><b>Provision for impairment charges on Loans and Receivables carried at amortized cost</b></p> <p>As at 31 March 2023, provision for impairment charges on loans and receivables carried at amortized cost net of provision for impairment charges amounted to LKR 125,378 million as disclosed in note 25 to the financial statements.</p> <p>This was a key audit matter due to the materiality of the reported provision for impairment charges which involved complex calculations; degree of significant judgements and assumptions and level of estimation uncertainty associated with estimating future cashflows management expects to receive from such loans and receivables.</p>	<p>In addressing the adequacy of the provision for impairment charges on loans and receivables carried at amortized cost, my audit procedures included the following key procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I assessed the alignment of the Group's provision for Impairment charges computations and underlying methodology including responses to market economic volatility with its accounting policies, based on the best available information up to the date of my report.</li> <li>I evaluated the Internal controls over estimation of impairment charges, which included assessing the level of oversight, review and approval of impairment allowances policies and procedures by the Board and management.</li> <li>I checked the completeness, accuracy and classification of the underlying data used in the computation of impairment charges by agreeing details to relevant source documents and accounting records of the Group.</li> <li>In addition to the above, following procedures were performed.</li> </ul>



KEY AUDIT MATTER	HOW MY AUDIT ADDRESSED THE KEY AUDIT MATTER	
<p>Key areas of significant judgements, estimates and assumptions used by management in the assessment of the provision for impairment charges included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management overlays to incorporate the current economic contraction.</li> <li>▪ The incorporation of forward-looking information such that expected cashflows reflect current and anticipated future external factors evaluated under different economic scenarios and the probability weighting determined for each of these scenarios.</li> </ul>	<p><b>For Loans and receivables assessed on an individual basis for impairment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I evaluated the reasonableness of the credit quality assessment.</li> <li>▪ I checked the arithmetical accuracy of the underlying individual impairment calculations.</li> <li>▪ I evaluated the reasonableness of key inputs used in provision for impairment charges made with particular focus on current economic contraction. Such evaluations were carried out considering the customer exposure to elevated risk industries, debt moratoriums, status of recovery actions of collaterals in forecasting the value and timing of cashflows.</li> </ul> <p><b>For loans and receivables assessed on a Collective basis for impairment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I tested key inputs as disclosed in note 25.6 and the calculations used in the provision for impairment charges.</li> <li>▪ I assessed whether judgments used in assumptions and estimates made by the management when estimating future cashflows, in the underlying methodology and management overlays were reasonable. My assessment included portfolio segmentation, elevated risk industries, evaluating the reasonableness of forward-looking information, different economic scenarios and probability weightings assigned to each scenario.</li> <li>▪ I assessed the adequacy of the related financial statement disclosures set out in notes 11 &amp; 25 of the financial statements.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Information Technology (IT) systems and internal controls over financial reporting</b></p> <p>Group's financial reporting process is significantly reliant on IT systems with automated processes and internal controls. Further, key financial statement disclosures are prepared using data and reports generated by IT systems, that are compiled and formulated with the use of spreadsheets.</p> <p>Accordingly, IT systems and related internal controls over financial reporting were considered a key audit matter.</p>	<p>My audit procedures included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I obtained an understanding of the internal control environment of the processes and checked relevant controls relating to financial reporting and related disclosures.</li> <li>▪ I involved my internal specialized resources to check and evaluate the design and operating effectiveness of IT systems and relevant controls, including those related to user access and change management.</li> <li>▪ I also obtained a high-level understanding, primarily through inquiry, of the cybersecurity risk affecting the Group and the actions taken to address these risks</li> <li>▪ I checked source data of the reports used to generate disclosures for accuracy and completeness, including review of general ledger reconciliations</li> </ul>	
<p><b>1.4 Other information included in the Company's 2023 Annual Report</b></p> <p>Other information consists of the information included in the Company's 2023 Annual Report, other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. Management is responsible for the other information. The Company's 2023 Annual Report is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report.</p> <p>My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.</p> <p>In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider</p>	<p>whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.</p> <p>When I read the Group's 2023 Annual Report, if I conclude that are material misstatements therein, I am required to communicate that matter to those charged with governance for correction. If further material uncorrected misstatements are existed those will be included in my report to Parliament in pursuance of provisions in Article 154(6) of the Constitution that will be tabled in due course.</p>	<p><b>1.5 Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements</b></p> <p>Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.</p>



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

As per Section 16(1) of the National Audit Act No. 19 of 2018, the Group is required to maintain proper books and records of all its income, expenditure, assets and liabilities, to enable annual and periodic financial statements to be prepared of the Group.

**1.6 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls of the Company and the Group.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue

as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statement. I am responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. I remain solely responsible for my audit opinion.

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

**2. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018 and Companies Act, No.7 of 2007 includes specific provisions for following requirements.

- I have obtained all the information and explanation that required for the audit and as far as appears from my examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Company as per the requirement of section 163 (2) (d) of the Companies Act, No.7 of 2007 and section 12 (a) of National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- The Financial Statements of the Company comply with the requirement of section 151 of the Companies Act, No.07 of 2007.
- The Financial Statements presented is consistent with the preceding year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iii) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- The Financial Statements presented includes all the recommendations made by me in the previous year as per the requirement of section 6 (1) (d) (iv) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.
- Based on the procedures performed and evidence obtained were limited to matters that are material, nothing has come to my attention;

- to state that any member of the governing body of the Company has any direct or indirect interest in any contract entered into by the Company which are out of the normal course of business as per the requirement of section 12 (d) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018;
- to state that the Company has not complied with any applicable written law, general and special directions issued by the governing body of the Company as per the requirement of section 12 (f) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018;
- to state that the Company has not performed according to its powers, functions and duties as per the requirement of section 12 (g) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018;
- to state that the resources of the Company had not been procured and utilized economically, efficiently and effectively within the time frames and in compliance with the applicable laws as per the requirement of section 12 (h) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

**W.P.C.Wickramaratne**  
Auditor General