

Ministry of Education

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Your Ref:

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All Provincial Secretaries of Education
Commissioner General of Examinations
Commissioner General of Educational Publications
Director General, National Institute of Education
All Provincial Directors of Education
All Zonal Directors of Education
All Divisional Directors of Education
Principals of Teacher Training Colleges
Principals of Colleges of Education
All Principals
All Principals of Pirivenas (School for Bhikkhus)
Heads of the Government Approved Private Schools
All Principals of Aided and Special Schools
All the Heads of International Schools

Making the Premises of Educational Institutes the Zones free from using and promoting Tobacco based Products, Alcohol and other Related Substances

Provisions of this circular will from now onward supersede the Circular No. 28/2012 dated 30/08/2012 on Making the School Premises Zones Free from Using and Promoting Tobacco Based Products, Alcohol and Other Related Substances.

02. Use, sale or promotion of tobacco - based products, alcohol and other related substances in all the institutes, premises and international schools, which are under the purview of the Ministry of Education or obtaining the sponsorships from such entities will be banned. Legal and illegal tobacco -

[signature]

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based products, alcohol and other related substances or any other substances used for intoxication are included in this respect.

03. This circular will provide the required guidance for the heads of educational institutes, principals and educational authorities to stop the direct and indirect promotion and sale of drugs and substances targeting the school children or school community. Further, action should be taken in accordance with the Part II of the Establishments Code and the general law of the country.

4.0. Entities, persons and groups which this circular will impact:

4.1 This will be relevant to Ministry of Education, and all the institutes under the Ministry of Education such as Department of Educational Publications, Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka, National Institute of Education, Departments of Provincial Education, Zonal Education Offices, Divisional Education Offices, government schools (including teachers' quarters, students' hostels, school canteens), teacher centres including South Asian Teacher Development Centres, aided and special schools, pirivenas, National Colleges of Education, teacher training colleges and international schools.

4.2 These provisions will be relevant to academic and non - academic staffs including all heads of institutes, principals, teachers, non - academic staff of schools, teacher trainees, all students, trainers, parents, old students, building contractors, labourers and any other persons when they are within the premises and involved in the activities of the institutes.

05. The instances in which this circular has its effects are:

When participating in matters within the premises, or outside matters with the identity of the institution, when engaging outside persons or entities in the activities of the institutions, when using the property of the institute and providing opportunities for such activities.

Ex: On the occasions of inter-school cricket matches

Educational tours and outings

At the times when extracurricular activities are carried out

During sports meets, carnivals, exhibitions and musical shows organized by outside parties within the school premises

06. It is the responsibility of the principal/head of the institution to make all the students/trainees/officers/ parents aware of adhering to the above terms and conditions and the people who are visiting the schools/educational institutions should also adhere to these conditions. If these not complied with, they should be considered as a violation of the law of the school/ educational institution.

07. A comprehensive report/copy of police complaint on any act or activity in violation of this circular should be sent to the Secretary to the Ministry of Education in order to take suitable action. The Secretary to the Ministry of Education holds the discretion in this regard. Decisions should be made in respect of the violators of these terms and conditions within the provisions of this circular and it is the responsibility

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of the heads of the institutions to make necessary arrangements to take legal actions in terms of the Establishments Code and the existing legal system.

08. Implementation of the Drugs Prevention Programs

A committee comprised of members from all the relevant parties should be established in every school/institution in consultation with the principal/head of the institution and the responsibility should be assigned to the Deputy Principal/officer. Activities should be carried out to make the schools premises areas that discourage the use of drugs, to set up a physical environment which enhances the skills of not getting into the use of drugs/ cigarettes and alcohol, developing the capability of taking decisions with an understanding and the ability to reject things not suitable to oneself or to the society and steps should be taken to get their active participation in these activities.

09. I would like to emphasise that it is your sole responsibility to implement the provisions of this circular and to ensure the health of all the members of the school/educational institution in order to safeguard the future of all students and to address the national requirement of saving the society from this menace. In addition, it is the responsibility of the principal/head of the institution to take action in compliance of the provisions of this circular and you are kindly informed to work accordingly.

[signatura]

N.H.M. Chithrananda

Secretary

Ministry of Education

Copies

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| 1) Secretary to the President, Presidential Secretariat | - For your information |
| 2) Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration and Home Affairs | - For your information |
| 3) Secretary, Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medicines | - For your information |
| 4) Auditor General, Auditor General's Department | - For your information |
| 5) All Provincial Chief Secretaries | - For your information |
| 6) Attorney General, Attorney General's Department | - For your information |
| 7) Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol | - For your information |
| 8) Chairman, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board | - For your information |
| 9) Chief Commissioner, Teacher Education, Ministry of Education | - For necessary action |
| 10) Director of Education, National School Branch | - For necessary action |
| 11) Director of Education, Non-formal and Special Education | - For necessary action |