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Circular No: PS/SP/Circular/03/2020

January 17, 2020

To; All Provincial Governors

Priority work to be undertaken by Provincial Councils during January - March 2020

His Excellency the President has instructed me to inform that priority should be given to following seven areas of work in the background of limited financial resources available in terms of "Vote on Account - 2020" approved by the Parliament.

- 1. Schools
- 2. Hospitals
- 3. Sathi Pola
- 4. Public Bus Stations
- 5. Street Cleaning
- 6. Communicable Disease
- 7. Waste Management

The identified priority activities have been elaborated in *Annex I* to this letter. As His Excellency the President has given highest priority to eradicate poverty, priority to the above work should be given to ensure, low income and poverty stricken categories living in rural, estate and urban lagging areas to have best possible access to improved facilities which will provide opportunities to empower them.

You are also requested to make an assessment of teacher and staff shortages of schools in such areas and take steps to deploy such staff from places where there is excess, to places of shortage to the best possible extent, at least within Divisional / District Secretariat area basis, so that least inconvenience is caused even for employees liable to such re-deployment.

You are also requested to assess unutilized and neglected buildings, structures, incomplete projects such as housing schemes, water supply schemes, run down/ poorly maintained bridges and culverts, dispensaries, schools, Ayurveda hospitals, community centers, elderly homes, child and maternity care centers, community centers, play grounds, elephant fences and corridors minor irrigations and tanks, anicuts, storage facilities and similar facilities in your Province and focus on them to rehabilitate, instead of undertaking any new facilities to get the best use of such facilities.

P.B. Jayasundera

Secretary to the President

Cc: Secretary – Ministry of Finance, Economy and Policy Development

Secretary – Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local

Government

All Secretaries to Governors

Chairman - Finance Commission

ANNEX 1

PRIORITIZING THE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN PROVINCES FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION

1. Schools

- i. All schools coming under the preview of Provincial Councils to be provided with clean environment, sanitation with adequate number of toilets, proper drainage system, well maintained school playground, green surroundings, access to quality drinking water facilities, child friendly class room and activity arrangements.
- ii. Special attention should be given to rural, plantation schools and less popular urban schools with shanty and crowded neighborhood.
- iii. Ensure shops and traders do not facilitate drugs and school environment free from access to drugs.
- iv. Asses teacher requirements of all schools with particular emphasis on rural, estate and lagging areas in urban areas.

2. Hospitals

- i. All hospitals, dispensaries, maternity care centers including Ayurveda hospitals coming under Provincial Councils and Pradeshiya Sabhas to be cleaned, provided with sanitation facilities with adequate toilet facilities patient friendly OPD arrangements etc.
- ii. Special attention be paid to all base hospitals and dispensaries for OPD services and ease pressure and overcrowded OPD operations in National Hospital.
- iii. Parking facilities for vehicles to be properly organized.

3. Sathi Pola facilities

- i. All *Sathi Pola* to be kept clean before "*Pola*" commences on the designated day and cleaned up after "*Pola*" is concluded and maintain the place on solid conditions.
- ii. Provide clean environments, toilets, waste collection arrangements and free from stray animals and third party people.
- iii. Meat and fish stalls must be maintained with best hygienic conditions and clean.
- iv. Provide special arrangements to have safe parking arrangements for bicycles, motor bicycles, tractors, trucks, and cars and ensure no third party people around such places.
- v. Ensure traffic arrangements on "Pola day" are made in and around main roads or residence in such neighborhood are not interrupted which connecting the "Pola" so that keep the places clean at all times, ensure frequent supervision arrangements are in place with proper official identification and ensure these places are free from theft flashes, decorations and other distractions.

4. Public Bus Stations

Maintain commuter friendly facilities in all bus stations provide adequate toilet facilities, deploy employees responsible for sanitation to ensure these places are safe and clean at all time.

5. Street Cleaning

All Streets under Pradeshiya Sabhas in township areas as well as rural, remote, plantation and shanty areas are cleaned regularly and rural roads are maintained properly.

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6. Communicable Disease

The frequent occurrence of Dengue, mosquitos and other source of communicable disease should be prevented by all-round preventive actions (deploy the assigned employees under supervision to keep work programs such as regular fumigation). Commitment to eradicate Dengue would be an advisable target.

7. Waste management

- i. Most Pradeshiya Sabhas can work with local community to manage their waste.
- ii. Work with local processing agencies to develop scientifically specialized organic fertilizer etc.

