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My No: PS/CSA/00/1/9/1

Circular No: PS/SP/Circular/28/2020

August 24, 2020

To:

All Secretaries to Ministries

All Secretaries to State Ministries

Granting relief to Secretaries to Cabinet Ministries and Secretaries to the State Ministries whose posts were abolished

The Cabinet of Ministers that met on 19.08.2020 had approved the proposals made in the Cabinet Memorandum No. 20/1189/301/003 dated 18.08.2020 presented by His Excellency the President for providing an alternative relief package in appreciation of the service for the Secretaries to the Ministries and Secretaries to the State Ministries, who were deprived of their posts following the dissolution of the Cabinet of Ministers in terms of the Constitutional provisions.

Accordingly,

1. The Secretaries to Cabinet Ministries, whose posts were abolished,

- i. are to be attached to the Ministry of Public Service, Provincial Councils and Local Government until such time that they retire under the provision of the Minute on Secretaries or they are appointed to posts in their previous service or to any other suitable post.
- ii. to direct the Secretary to the Ministry of Public Service, Provincial Councils & Local Government to appoint the said officers to a suitable post prior to 31.08.2020 if they do not intend to retire under the provisions of the Minute on Secretaries and to grant salaries, allowances and all other privileges approved for the post held by them and received by them on the date of such retirement or date of appointment to a suitable post or until 31.08.2020, whichever date occurs earlier.
- iii. To reduce the period of three years referred in the Public Administration Circular 22/99 (XXXI) (04) to one year in order for him to obtain first class duty free vehicle import permit in terms of government policy for the import of vehicles whenever he / she revert to the previous service.

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2. The Secretaries to the State Ministries, whose posts were abolished,

Having regard to the fact that the then Secretaries to State Ministries were entitled to salaries, allowances and privileges attached to the posts of Secretary to the State Ministries while they were carrying out the duties of the relevant posts and urgent duties under the Covid – 19 situation as per the decision reached at the meeting of Cabinet of Ministers held on 03.06.2020.

- i. Granting approval for whose balance period of service to reach the mandatory age of retirement is one year or less than one year on the date of appointment the new Cabinet of Ministers enabling them to retire from service with the salary, allowances and other privileges they had received assuming that they have served up to 60 years of age.
- ii. To direct the Secretary to the Ministry of Public Service, Provincial Councils and Local Government to take measures to attach to the Ministry of Public Service, Provincial Councils and Local Government until such Secretaries retire from Public Service under the special provisions provided by Cabinet decisions or until they are reverted to the post of their previous service or appointed to another suitable post and to pay the salaries, allowances and all other privileges approved for the post that they received till such date by the ministry until 31.08.2020 or until they are appointed to another post or until they retire from Public Service under the special provisions provided by Cabinet decisions whichever date occurs first and to take measures to appoint such officers to a suitable posts before 31.08.2020.
- iii. To grant permission to retain the relevant salary scale regardless of the period of service in the post of Secretary to the State Ministry, even after appointment to a suitable post.
- iv. To grant permission to retain the allowance of Rs. 25,000.00 only for officers who have completed 06 months service and who were deprived of their posts.

You are, therefore, kindly requested to initiate further action in conformity with the aforesaid provisions.

P.B. Jayasundera

Secretary to the President

CC: 1. Secretary to the Prime Minister

- 2. Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
- 3. Auditor General
- 4. Director General / Pensions

For information & necessary action