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சனாதிபதி அலுவலகம்
PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARIAT



Circular No. PS/DSP/03/16

May 04, 2016

To: **All Secretaries of Ministries**
All Provincial Chief Secretaries
All Heads of Departments
All District Secretaries
All Heads of Local Authorities
All Heads of State Corporations and Statutory Boards
All Chairmen of Government Owned Companies

Commemoration Programme on World Environment Day – June 05, 2016

June 5 was declared “World Environment Day “ to celebrate the inauguration of United Nations Environment Programme every year which was launched in terms of a decision taken at the International Environment Conference held in Stockholm in 1972. “World Environment day” is celebrated every year on 5th June with the intention of raising global awareness about the preservation of environment and to draw the attention of policy makers to various environmental problems.

02. The present world population of 7 billion will increase rapidly. Their daily needs too will increase day by day. As a result of factors like mega development projects , indiscriminate consumption and illegal trafficking of wild animals and plants, and arson and wild fires, the present density of fauna and flora is rapidly decreasing. Certain species of animals are faced with the threat of extinction. Currently the world is facing climatic changes due to increase in global warmth resulting from deforestation, presence of toxic gases including carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. If no attention is drawn in this regard, the entire animal population of the world and the human beings will be faced with a variety of problems in the near future.

Therefore solutions for these problems can be provided to a certain extent by measures like conservation of wild life and wild animals, increasing the forest cover, launching of environment protection programmes preserving bio-diversity etc.. In order to raise global awareness in this regard, the Word Environment Day is celebrated worldwide in the year 2016 under the theme “Fight Against the illegal trade in wildlife”.

03. On the instructions of H.E. the President, the Cabinet of Ministers had granted approval to celebrate World Environment Day on June 5th every year, to declare the period from May 30th to June 5th as “National Environmental Week “ and to launch special environment protection programmes with the participation of all government and non-government institutions during the National Environment Week .

04. Accordingly you are requested to organize the following programmes and implement them during the Environment Week launched from May 30, 2016 to June 05 2016.

- i. All Heads of State Institutions should brief their staff about the importance of World Environment Day and conduct “Shramadana” campaigns to clean the office premises and they should ensure that the garbage in the office premises are categorized into various items (such as plastic/polythene/paper/glass/metals/ carbonic matters) and commence disposal of such garbage and launch Environment protection programmes.
- ii. School principals should brief school children about the importance of World Environment Day and launch Environment Protection Programmes.
- iii. Local Authorities should launch Environment Protection Programmes including waste management programmes within their area of local authority with the collaboration of such local authority.
- iv. To minimize the use of polythene and plastic and promote the use of environment friendly wrapping materials.
- v. Launch environment friendly “Green Villages” and “Green Cities” programmes under “Haritha Lanka Programmes “.
- vi. Launching of different environment protection programmes including environment friendly land preservation and tree planting programmes.
- vii. Rehabilitation of lands subjected to damage.
- viii. Launch programmes to brief the public about protection of environment
- ix. conducting environmental exhibitions
- x. Launching programmes to identify and promote “ green (haritha) employment”.
- xi. Planting trees along coastal belt implementing Haritha sea shore concept.
- xii. Conservation of wet lands.
- xiii. promoting carbonic agriculture free of toxins.

5. You are requested to formulate plans for implementation of above programmes and to brief the relevant parties and to launch such programmes with the guidance and participation of political leadership.

6. You are kindly requested further to report the progress of programmes implemented during the relevant week to the Presidential Task Force on Environment Conservation and to incorporate the programmes to celebrate of "National Environment week" in future in the annual programmes of your institution and district.

I appreciate the co-operation being extended by you towards the establishment of an environment friendly community.



P.B. Abeykoon

Secretary to the President

Copies to:

1. Secretary to the Prime Minister- for information.
2. Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers - for information.