

රාජා ඉස්වා, පළාත් සභා හා පළාත් පාලන අමාතාාංශය அரச சேவைகள், மாகாண சபைகள் மற்றும் உள்ளூராட்சி அமைச்சு Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government

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Secretaries of Ministries Heads of Departments **District Secretaries Divisional Secretaries**

Establishment Matters of the officers who have expressed interest to absorb into the Development Officers' service

Absorption of the officers who have expressed their preference to be absorbed into the Minute of Development Officer Service published on the Gazette Extraordinary No 1745/11 dated 14th February 2021 amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No 1774/31 dated 07.09.2012 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, is being finalized at present and frequent inquiries regarding the designation of such officers, withdrawal of preference and other such matters are being raised.

02. Designation of the Officers who are being Absorbed

- i) According to Para 2 of the Public Administration Circular 10/2012, the designation of the post held by the officers who have opted to be absorbed into the service of Development Officers will remain the same even after they have been absorbed into the service of Development Officers. However, action should be taken to get those posts approved by the Department of Management Services as Development Officer posts within the carder.
- (ex. A Development Coordinator attached to the State Ministry of Home Affairs will not change his designation upon joining the Development Officer Service. The post and service of the officer should be as follows.

Post: Development Coordinator

Service: Development Officers' Service

ii) When an officer who has expressed a preference to be absorbed into the Development Officer service is transferred to another place of work, the designation will be amended according to the existing posts in that place of work.

(ex. When a Development Coordinating Officer who has expressed a preference to be absorbed into the service of the Development Officer attached to the State Ministry of Home Affairs is transferred to the post of Child Rights Promotion Officer in the Department of Probation and Child Care Services, the position and service of that officer should be as follows.

Post: Child Rights Promotion Officer Service: Development Officers' Service

03. Officers who express a preference for absorption into the Development Officer Service will not be able to withdraw the preference later.

As per the Cabinet Decision No. 17/07/0759/734/015 dated 31.05.2017 taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 23.05.2017, the officers who expressed their preference for absorption to the Development Officers' Service are not able to withdraw their preference at later occasion.

04. <u>Inability to carry out Establishment Activities including promotions / retirements</u> due to improper submission of documents related to absorption

Even though a large number of officers who had opted to be absorbed into the Development Officer Service Minute have been absorbed into the Development Officer Service, it has not been able to proceed required actions of many others due to non-submission of the documents required for the absorption to the Combined Services Division.

All matters relating to Efficiency Bar Examinations, Grade Promotions, Retirement etc. of the officers who have opted to be absorbed into the Service Minute should be carried out by the Combined Services Division and due to non-submission of the above documents the establishment activities the officers have faced difficulties to proceed with establishment activities. In particular, due to the inability of such officers to retire on the due date, the process of adjusting their pensions has also been delayed.

Further, the issuance of promotion letters and formal release letters has been delayed due to non-submission of documents required for the absorption of officers who have already been released for other posts, although they have expressed a desire to be absorbed into the service of the Development Officer and it has been observed that when the salaries relevant to the new post are prepared, they are not placed on the due salary step, as per Chapter VII of the Establishments Code.

05. Therefore, you are kindly informed to take actions with regard to the Establishment activities of the officers, who have expressed the option of being absorbed into the Development Officers service, in your institutions as per the instructions above notifying the same to the officers who have not sent required documents and to forward me the documents required for absorption at the earliest.