

My No : EST-01/MISCL/06/0032(II)
Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs,
Provincial Councils and Local Government
Independence Square
Colombo 07.

16.12.2022

Secretaries to Ministries
Chief Secretaries of Provinces
Heads of Departments
Heads of State Corporations/Statutory Boards

Commencement of Work, Year – 2023

The celebration of the 75th Independence Day, which falls in 2023 in line with the development approach of Sri Lanka for the next twenty five years from 2023-2048 under the theme “A step towards the new century” has brought new expectations for all of us serving in the public service.

02. The commitment made by the public servants to maintain public services whilst continuing service delivery to the public even amidst the COVID – 19 pandemic is hereby commended. The government has already established firmly the foundation at national and international level to overcome the present economic crisis within a short period. Therefore, this is the critical moment, which demands your active contribution and dedication in the public service to eradicate poverty, reduce unemployment, enhance local production and foreign exchange.

03. At this time where the people are in arduous situations due to this economic crisis, which the world has never experienced in its history, your attention is highly important now than before to introduce reforms required by the public service, reduce the expenditure of the government, and increase the income by way of studying the lessons on the reforms introduced by the other countries of the world to meet the challenges in the face of economic crisis. Therefore, you should take necessary action to introduce citizen charters, online service delivery methods and to decentralize the services, which are delivered centering the capital, at the divisional and district level.

04. I believe that all the public servants from rural renaissance center to National Food Security Committee will be committed to perform this national responsibility stepping beyond their routine duties and connecting all the institutions, Central Government, Provincial Councils and Local Authorities in order to produce food required by all within the country and ensure their supplies in order to establish food security. Further, it is highly necessary for the public servants at all the levels to ensure the collective efforts with private sector, non-governmental organizations, foreign agencies, rural volunteer organizations, political authorities, representatives of the public and religious organizations for obtaining the contribution of the younger generation.

05. The official ceremony to mark the commencement of duties of service stations should be held with the participation of all the public servants on Monday, 02nd January 2023, the first working day of the year 2023. The main official ceremony will be held at the Presidential Secretariat at 9.00 a.m. on the appointed day. Therefore, action should be taken to conduct following programmes at the same time concurrently to the main ceremony at all public institutions and offices at national, provincial, district and divisional level. The below mentioned programme should be adapted, for this purpose.

- I. Hoisting the National Flag and singing the National Anthem.
- II. Observing two minutes silence to commemorate the war heroes and others who sacrificed their lives on behalf of the motherland.
- III. Reading aloud the Oath of Public Servants (attached herewith) in any language convenient for the members of the staff being at their work places.
- IV. Delivering a short speech on the government policy and the programme introduced to overcome the present challenges and the contribution of the public servant in achieving the said objectives in order to motivate them.

06. You are kindly requested to take the initiative to make this programme a success.

Sgd./ M.M.P.K. Mayadunne
Secretary
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Oath/ Affirmation of the Public Service

Today, the first working day of year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three, marks the commencement of a new year of which the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka makes the expectations of people of the country a reality.

I, an employee paid by the public being a part of a pure government which guides the human resource equipped with modern technology, do hereby swear/ affirm to perform each and every way

the role entrusted to me in the implementation of public policies and goals,

efficiently,

productively,

with firm determination,

and utmost dedication,

honesty,

and with loyalty to the public,

with a view to meet the challenges of developing the motherland which flourishes as one country,

one nation, one country under one flag

with unity and harmony

to create a disciplined, law abiding, virtuous society and a people-centric economy to make my motherland a prosperous democratic state in the region within the next twenty-five years under the vision of “A step forward towards the new century” by achieving sustainable development goals.