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கல்வி அமைச்சு  
Ministry of Education

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Date } 13 .03.2018

Circular No: 12/2018

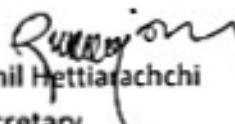
All Provincial Secretaries of Education  
All Provincial Directors of Education  
All Provincial Coordinating Officers in charge of the Subject  
All Zonal Directors of Education  
All Zonal Coordinating Officers in charge of the Subject  
All Divisional Directors of Education  
All Principals  
All Teacher Advisors of Second National Languages (Sinhala / Tamil)

**Revision of the Circular on the Conduct of the Second National Language (Sinhala/ Tamil)  
Annual Competition in School, Zonal, Provincial and All Island Levels**

The Circular on Second National Languages (Sinhala / Tamil) No. 2006/37(1) dated 02.01.2013 of the Secretary of the Ministry of Education is hereby revised to be effective from 01.01.2018. Accordingly, this competition should be conducted in compliance with the manual of Instructions sent along with the Provisions of this Circular. It is specifically notified that the Provisions of this Circular will be effective from 01.01.2018.

You are kindly notified to make arrangements to conduct this competition annually in the respective levels from the year 2018 in compliance with the instructions of this Circular while creating awareness of this competition in provincial, zonal, divisional and school level and to select winners in all Island Level subsequently.

It is kindly stated that duly perfected and accurate official results prepared using the format appeared in the Circular should be submitted to the Ministry of Education when directing the winners to the All Island Level and accordingly, it is an essential requirement to pay your special attention to nominate only the qualified students for the All Island Level.

  
Sunil Hettiarachchi  
Secretary  
Ministry of Education

## All Island Second National Languages (Sinhala / Tamil) Annual Competition

### 1.0 Introduction

This Competition is conducted annually for all the students in Grade 6 – 9 of the Government Schools by the National Languages and Humanities Education Branch of the Ministry of Education.

Improving General Knowledge in compliance with the new Educational reforms and developing creative skills and the Second National Language ability are the objectives of the competition.

The students in Grade 6 – 9 of the Sinhala medium schools who learn in the Sinhala Medium and learn Tamil as the Second National Language and the students of Tamil medium schools who learn in the Tamil medium and learn Sinhala as the Second National Language can participate in this competition.

1.1 The competition is conducted in 4 levels.

- 1) School Level
- 2) Zonal Level
- 3) Provincial Level
- 4) All Island Level

1.2 It has been decided to conduct this competition in two parts up to the Provincial level for the provision of this opportunity to the students whose mother language is Tamil in order to encourage such students to participate in the competition since the participation of the Sinhala medium students was relatively in a lesser level in the Second National Language (Tamil) Competitions conducted up to now.

1.3 The following conditions are applicable to the other competitions except to the singing competition.

- 1) For the students in the Sinhala medium schools whose mother language is Sinhala (Sinhala students)
- 2) For the students in the Sinhala medium schools whose mother language is Tamil (Tamil students)

Students whose Second National Language is Tamil can participate in the competition. The competition should be conducted separately for the students who belong to the above two parts and the **only the two students who secure the first place** should be selected to the Provincial and All Island levels.

However, in the All Island level, a common competition should be conducted for all the students who participate in the above (1) and (2) parts and results too should be issued in general.

### 2.0 General Objectives

01. Improving the understanding among the Nationalities and the ability of fundamental communication.
02. Improving the national cohesion and promoting cultural co-existence among the Nationalities.
03. Formalizing and improving the learning and teaching process of Second National Languages.

- 04. Evaluating and improving the second national language and the fourfold language skills.
- 05. Drawing an inspiration towards the learning and teaching process of the second national languages.
- 06. Considering the learning and teaching process related to the second national languages an opportunity by which the students can obtain live experiences.
- 07. Bestowing sensitive citizens to the society who are able to look at the issues in the today's world with kindness and humanity.

### 3.0 Basic Instructions

Time frame and the responsibility of conducting competitions.

Level of the competition	Direction and participation	The date by which the competitions should be finished	The closing date that the results should be submitted and other details.
School	1.Principal 2.Second National Languages Development Committee. 3. Students in Grade 6 - 9 of the school.	15 <sup>th</sup> May	Official results prepared in compliance with the relevant format including the names of only the two students selected from each competition should be sent to the Zonal Director of Education prior to 31 <sup>st</sup> May.(The format is attached)
Zonal	1.Zonal Director of Education/ Second National Languages coordinating officer/ Second National Language Development Committee 2. Students selected from the School level competition.	30 <sup>th</sup> July	Official results prepared in compliance with the relevant format including the names of the students selected from each competition should be sent to the Provincial Director of Education prior to 15 <sup>th</sup> August.
Provincial	Provincial Director of Education/ Second National Languages Provincial Coordinating Officer/ Second National Language Development Committee 3.Students selected from the Zonal level competition.	15 <sup>th</sup> September	Official results prepared in compliance with the relevant format including the names of the students who secured the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> places from each competition should be sent via registered post to reach Director of Education, National Languages and Humanities Education Branch of the Ministry of Education, Isurupaya, Battaramulla prior to 30 <sup>th</sup> September.
All Island	Director of Education/Deputy Director of Education (Second National Languages) 2. Students who won in the Provincial level competitions.	15 <sup>th</sup> November	Prizes and the certificates awarding ceremony will be held prior to 31 <sup>st</sup> of December.

### **3.1 School Level (Prior to 15<sup>th</sup> May)**

It is an essential requirement to make all the students in Grade 6 -9 participate in the School Level competition optimally in a way the objectives of this competition are achieved. It is the responsibility of the principal and the Second National Languages Development Committee to reserve a day for awarding certificates for the students who secure first, second and third places in the School Level competition.

### **3.2 Zonal Level (Prior to 30<sup>th</sup> July)**

Only the students who secure first and second places in the School Level competition should be directed to participate in the Zonal Level competition. Here, actions should be taken in terms of Section 1.3 of this Circular. For this purpose, a Second National Languages Development committee should be appointed in Zonal Level. The Zonal Director of Education will be appointed as the President and the coordinating officer in charge of the subject will be appointed as the Secretary and the committee should include another three officers who coordinate other languages and Aesthetic subject as the members of the committee. For the written paper of the Zonal Level competition, the coordinator in charge of the Second National Languages should prepare a question paper taking the question paper as the model which was provided to the Provincial Level competitions in the previous level by the Ministry of Education. Likewise, supervision of the School Level competition should also be carried out in the Zonal Level.

### **3.3 Provincial Level (Prior to 15<sup>th</sup> September)**

Only the students who secure first and second places in the school level competition should be directed to participate in the Provincial Level competition. A Second National Languages Development Committee should be appointed in each Province in terms of the Provisions stipulated in the Circular. The Provincial Director of Education will be appointed as the President and the coordinating officer in charge of the Second National Language will be appointed as the Secretary and the committee should include coordinating officers in charge of the Second National Languages of the other Zones and Teacher Advisors as the members of the committee. Planning this occasion and provision of instructions and guidance for the School Level and Zonal level competitions should be carried out by the Coordinating Officer in charge of the Second National Languages and he/she should participate in all the supervision activities of all levels.

Provincial Level written competitions should be conducted in all Provinces on a same day and at a same time according to the question papers and the timetable provided to the Provinces by the Ministry of Education.

### 3.4 All Island Level (Prior to 30<sup>th</sup> November)

All Island competition will be conducted by the Ministry of Education for students selected on the results of the Provincial Level as per the Section 1.3 of the Circular. All Island singing competition will be conducted as a general competition. The official result sheets of all Provinces should be sent to the National Languages and Humanities Education Branch of the Ministry of Education subsequent to preparing them in compliance with the applicable format.

### 3.5 Events of the competition.

Events of the competitions, grades for which the event should be conducted and the number of events are indicated in the following chart.

Serial No.	Type of evaluation	Grades and the number of events				Total number of events
		06	7	08	09	
01	Language practice and comprehension	01	01	01	01	04
02	Reading	01	01	01	01	04
03	Speech	01	01	01	01	04
	Total number of events	03	03	03	03	12
04	Singing(Group events)	01				01
	Total number of events for one medium	03 + 03 + 03 + 03 + 01				13

(It should be noted that 26 events will be conducted including Second National Language (Tamil) and Second National Language (Sinhala)

One contestant can participate in only one event in a year. However, a contestant can participate in another event in the next year except for the event that she or he has taken part in the previous years. If a contestant is revealed to have violated the rules of the competition in any level, he or she will be removed from the competition

The following objectives, conditions and the marking scheme should be made clear to the students before commencing the competition. When participating in the competition, the students should compulsorily mention their correct name, address, Grade, medium of learning, medium presented to the competition, (Ex- students whose learning medium is Sinhala should consider that their Second National language is Tamil) Zone and the Province. (These details can be written in one's mother language.) An identity card with a proper photograph should be presented to substantiate the identity of the contestants. (Ex- Postal Identity Card)

The decision of the Board of Judges will be the final decision of this competition.

## **4.0 Conditions and the Marking Scheme**

### **4.1 Language Practice and Comprehension – Written examination**

#### **4.1.1 Objectives**

Improving the skills of identifying the letters, words and pictures accurately and developing the

understanding of the students regarding the Second National Language.

#### **4.1.2 Procedure of the Competition**

- 1) There are 4 events for Grade 6, 7, 8 and 9
- 2) Time should be allocated as it should be 1 hour and 30 minutes for the Grade 6 and 7 and 2 hours for the Grade 8 and 9.
- 3) Questions will be prepared from the textbooks prescribed for the respective Grades. In addition to that, questions to check the general knowledge on the day today life will be included.
- 4) Questions papers for Provincial and All Island level will be prepared by the Ministry of Education.

#### **4.1.3 Marking Scheme**

- 1) Total mark is 100.

### **4.2 Reading**

#### **4.2.1 Objectives**

- 1) Practising correct pronunciation
- 2) Reading attentively with understanding.
- 3) Improving the ability and the speed of reading.
- 4) Practising to read aloud.
- 5) Improving the ability to read with expressions.

#### **4.2.2 Procedure of the competition**

- 1) There are 4 events for Grade 6,7,8, and 9
- 2) Reading aloud a part from a textbook prescribed for the Grade and another part from newspapers, magazines or other books provided by the Board of Judges.

#### 4.2.3 Method of providing marks

1) Reading with understanding	- 15
2) Correct pronunciation	- 10
3) Reading aloud and clearly	- 10
4) Reading with expressions	- 10
5) Overall reading ability	- 05
<b>Total marks</b>	<b>- 50</b>

#### 4.3 Speech

##### 4.3.1 Objectives

- 1) Improving the speaking ability.
- 2) Developing the ability of presenting ideas logically and systematically.
- 3) Measuring the ability to present the facts related to the topic within the specific time.
- 4) Improving clear pronunciation.
- 5) Developing the ability to attract the audience through voice control and appropriate gestures.

##### 4.3.2 Evaluating Procedure

- 1) There are 4 evaluations for Grade 6, 7, 8 and 9
- 2) Speech should be delivered on one topic received by drawing lots from among the topics mentioned in annexure No.1 and the student should speak on the same topic received by drawing lots and he or she will not be permitted to change the topic. (Topics will be changed annually)
- 3) Time duration is 03 minutes.

##### 4.3.3 Method of providing marks

1) Relevancy to the topic and the creativeness	- 15
2) Clear and correct pronunciation	- 10
3) Ability to present the facts clearly	- 10
4) Voice control and appropriate gestures	- 10
5) Utilizing the given time and the conclusion	- 05
<b>6) Total marks</b>	<b>- 50</b>

**4.4 Singing**

**4.4.1 Objectives**

- 1) Identifying the ability to sing (with a luscious tone) rhythmically and melodically by balancing the pitch, to use words correctly and to evoke emotions and to identify the traditional singing style.
- 2) Identifying and exchanging the cultural identity.

**4.4.2 Evaluation Procedure**

- 1) Only a group consisted of 8 students selected from Grade 6, 7, 8 and 9 from one school should be directed to participate. When selecting students for this competition, minimum of 2 students from one class should be included. The same group which secured the first place in School, Zonal and Provincial Levels should be directed to participate in the competitions conducted in the future (The members of the group cannot be changed).
- 2) Musical instruments should not be used.
- 3) Three songs should be presented in the competition including 1 song from each two parts selected from the three categories i, ii and iii from the folk songs indicated in annexure 1 of the Circular and in addition to that, one song from any type of folk songs selected by you. (The folk songs mentioned in i, ii and iii will be changed annually.)

Folk songs which are classified under three categories.

- i. Lullabies
- ii. Songs related to the National Games
- iii. Folk songs related to occupations

Folk songs relevant to these categories have been indicated in the annexure 02 of this circular.

- 4) Songs should be sung by memorizing the words.
- 5) Songs should be sung by identifying the metre of the each song.
- 6) Gestures except facial expressions will not be considered in giving the judgement.
- 7) The contestants should wear the uniform when participating in the singing contest.

**4.5.3 Method of providing marks.**

- 1) Following the traditional rhythmic patterns – pitch - 15
- 2) correct pronunciation of the words - 15
- 3) Singing with team spirit - 10



**5.0 Organizational Activities of the competition and General Instructions.**

5.1 A Second National Languages Development Committee should be appointed in each school. The principal will be the President and the teacher in charge of the subject will be the Secretary of the committee and it should also include three teachers who teach Sinhala, Tamil and Aesthetic subjects as members of the Committee.

5.2 School Level competitions should be conducted by participating the students in Grade 6-9. Principals, teachers in charge of the subject and the Second National Languages Development Committee should be responsible for this task.

5.3 Participants of this competition (For one event)

5.3.1 School Level - All the students studying in Grade 6 - 9

5.3.2 Zonal Level - Students who secured first and second places in the School Level competitions (maximum two students)

5.3.3 Provincial Level - Students who secured first and second places in the Zonal Level competitions (maximum two students)

5.3.4 All Island Level - Students who secured first and second places in the Provincial Level competitions (maximum two students)

5.4. Issuing certificates to the students who secure first, second and third places in the School, Zonal, Provincial and All Island Levels should be done in the respective level.

5.5 When conducting this competition, it is the responsibility of each authority in all the levels to perform formally and impartially and to issue the official results without any delay and with a proper transparency subsequent to conducting the competition properly according to the prescribed time periods and to keep the information of the students related to this purpose.

5.6 Other contestants cannot be used to substitute the contestants who participate in the initial level.

5.7 The accuracy of the full name of the contestant should be affirmed by comparing it with his or her birth certificate.

**Specimen Application**  
**Second National Languages (Sinhala / Tamil) Competition**

Medium of learning:- .....

Second National Language presented to the competition:- .....

Zone / Province:- .....

Type of the competition (Ex: Speech):- .....

Grade (Ex: Grade 6):- .....

Serial No.	Name of the student (clearly with initials)	Place obtained	Marks obtained	Name and address of the competition (Postal address should be correctly written)	Province	Zone	Telephone No.
1							
2							

**Certification of the Principal / Zonal Director of Education / Provincial Director of Education**

I hereby certify that the above mentioned information is the true information of the two students who secured the first and second places in the Second National Languages Competition conducted in the School / Zonal / Provincial Level.

.....  
Teacher in charge/ Assistant Director of Education/  
Deputy Director of Education in charge of the subject

.....  
Principal/Zonal Director of Education/  
Provincial Director of Education  
Official Frank

(The official format for reporting the results should be **perfected accurately** and submitted preparing it in two copies for the next competitions.)