

අධනපන අමාතනංශය கல்வி அமைச்சு Ministry of Education

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මගේ පොමුව **எனது** இல. My Ref.

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Circular Number: 18/2020

All Provincial Directors of Education, Chief Commissioner (Teacher Education Administration), All Subject Directors, Ministry of Education All Zonal Directors of Education, All Presidents of Colleges of Education. All Divisional Directors of Education. All Principals,

Declaration and the Promotion of the Use of e-thaksalawa Learning Content Management System as the National Learning Content System for General Education.

e-thaksalawa Learning Content Management System, introduced to the school system by the Ministry of Education in year 2013, has performed optimum service so far while its necessity has been profoundly established. Consequently, e-thaksalawa is hereby declared as the Official National Learning Content System for General Education.

This system can be accessed through https://e-thaksalawa.moe.gov.lk.

- 02. Achievement at the "e-swabhimani" competition conducted by the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka in year 2015 for the evaluation of national software and the achievement at the "Manthan" competition conducted in India and represented by South Asian countries, can be considered as national and international assurances of its suitability for the system of General Education in Sri Lanka.
- 03. According to a study conducted by the UNESCO on government assisted e-learning methodologies formulated by numerous countries at the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, e-thaksalawa has been recommended and declared as the official e-learning system operated under national level learning systems in Sri Lanka.
- 04. e-thaksalawa has been established as a Learning Management System with strong and broader range characteristics of national and international levels. Since it is empowered with all practices of a Learning Management System, it has already opened avenues for the Blended Learning Methodologies to be introduced in future.

05. Accordingly, this circular is issued to draw your attention to the following main points.

5.1 Using e-thaksalawa

All Heads of Institutions including the Provincial Director of Education and the Zonal Director of Education instead of creating isolated and incomplete learning content systems within their own province, zone or institution, should essentially use and contribute to e-thaksalawa.

Heads of Institutions, Subject Directors, Lecturers, Teachers and other relevant officials should maintain appropriate procedures to officially promote the use of e-thaksalawa in all schools, Teacher Centers, Computer Resource Centers and Colleges of Education.

Virtual learning space, in e-thaksalawa Learning Management System is allocated to each teacher-student enrollin 2020 onwards to be used in their 3 years stay at National College of Education. All presidents should take necessary actions to ensure the optimum utilization of allocated virtual spaces of all lectures and the students of National Colleges of Education.

5.2 Broadening access to e-thaksalawa

Any e-learning related activity or project implemented in schools, Computer Resource Centers, Teacher Centers and Colleges of Education should necessarily be based on the official Learning Management System, e-thaksalawa. The system of e-thaksalawa is being facilitated in order to be used for e-learning by the students and when it is implemented at provincial level, the e-learning sessions between teachers and students as well as virtual programs such as online classrooms should be conducted on the platform of online Learning Management System of e-thaksalawa.

5.3 Contributing to the Creation of e-thaksalawa Content

A copy of all electronic contents produced or question papers designed by your institution with the use of government funds should be handed over to the Ministry of Education to be considered for the inclusion in e-thaksalawa.

All question papers related to year-end examinations prepared by the schools should be submitted to the Ministry of Education within one month of the examination in order to be uploaded to e-thaksalawa.

5.4 Non-implementation of Learning Content Systems other than e-thaksalawa.

You should never agree into various Learning Management Systems proposed to be introduced in Provincial Departments of Education, Zonal Education Offices, Provincial and National Schools, Computer Resource Centers, Teacher Centers and Colleges of Education by different private, government and Non-governmental Organizations.

Any subject related content provided by such institutions / organizations should be confirmed of the quality through a proper evaluation process and submitted to the Ministry of Education with respective recommendation to be included in e-thaksalawa Learning Management System.

Specially, the time, cost and the human resources unnecessarily invested in the creation, maintenance, securing and storing data in isolated systems equipped with minimal qualities of a Learning Management System have been observed as wastage.

Furthermore, the failure of such systems within a short period of time may cause the system of education to be subjected to adverse criticism. e-thaksalawa as a common national platform inclusive of all contents to be used by all students will provide students with access to a wider range of learning content for a longer period and therefore, it is essential to act accordingly.

It is further emphasized that your staff, principals and the other officials should be informed to follow the instructions of this circular.

N. H. M. Chitrananda,

Secretary,

Ministry of Education,

Copies:-

- 1. Auditor General
- 2. Provincial Chief Secretaries
- 3. All Additional Secretaries
- Provincial Secretaries of Education
- 5. Commissioner General of Examinations
- 6. Commissioner General of Educational Publications
- 7. Director General, National Institute of Education
- 8. Secretary General, Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO
- 9. Chairman, Information Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka
- 10. Director General (Accounting and Finance), Ministry of Education
- 11. Chief Financial Officer, Ministry of Education
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