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சனாதிபதி அலுவலகம்
PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARIAT

Circular No.: PS/ADA/Circular/13/2025
November 14 , 2025

All District Secretaries
All Divisional Secretaries

Establishment of District and Divisional Operations Councils under the "*Ratama Ekata* National Mission" Programme to Eradicate Dangerous Drugs

Initiation

The dangerous drug trafficking can be described as a dire menace targeting children and youth, the most valuable resources of the nation. It poses a severe threat capable of leading the country's future towards total devastation. We, as a nation, have arrived at a critical juncture where this menace driven by local and international organized crime networks, should be eradicated through a broad national approach.

Accordingly, as a solution, the "*Ratama Ekata* National Mission" programme to eradicate dangerous drugs has been introduced by the Hon. President, in accordance with the Cabinet Decision No. අමප/25/1937/801/026 dated 13.10.2025. Through this initiative, it is expected to bring drug traffickers including importers and distributors of dangerous drugs to justice and isolate them, and to rescue and rehabilitate drug dependent persons from this destructive addiction.

With the vision of creating "A Dangerous Drug Free Nation - A Future Full of Joy", this programme aspires to build a massive social impact and pressure against the dangerous drug menace by creating a national initiative with a broad public participation, which integrates the government, security forces, civil organizations and entire citizenry through in order to achieve the following specific objectives:

i. Bring traffickers and distributors before the law and isolate them
ii. Rehabilitate drug dependent persons and direct them for treatment
iii. Establish an operational mechanism at national, district, divisional and rural levels
iv. Strengthen the necessary institutional mechanism for public awareness through an extensive promotional campaign under the theme "Quit"

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A National Operations Council has already been established to achieve the above objectives, and through the establishment of District and Divisional Operations Councils, it is intended to integrate the government and the public closer, and to enable the swift planning and implementation of the next steps of the national mission to eradicate the dangerous drug menace.

01. District Operations Council

1.1 Under this programme, the District Operations Council should be established in every district headed by the Chairman of the District Coordinating Committee. The composition of the same is outlined in **Annexure 1.** The functions of the District Operations Council should be determined considering the needs of each district, in alignment with the objectives of the national programme and in accordance with the functions of the National Operations Council. In particular, the District Operations Council is expected to provide leadership and guidance at the district level and ensure that the programmes planned by the National Operations Council are implemented effectively and efficiently at the district level.

02. Divisional Operations Council

2.1 The Divisional Operations Council should be established under the chairmanship of the Chairman of the Divisional Coordinating Committee. The composition of the same is outlined in **Annexure 2**. The functions of the Divisional Operations Council should be determined considering the specific needs of each division, in alignment with the objectives of the national programme and in accordance with the functions of the District Operations Council. In particular, the Divisional Operations Council is expected to provide leadership and guidance at the divisional level and ensure that the programmes planned by the District Operations Council are implemented effectively and efficiently at the divisional level.

2.2 Further, Public Security Committees have already been established, covering over 14,000 Grama Niladhari Divisions, and this programme should be implemented at the rural level through the said structure.

2.3 In addition, a structure consisting of Brand Ambassadors and Spokespersons will be formulated to bring the "*Ratama Ekata* National Mission" closer to the public.

03. Affairs of the District and Divisional Operations Councils

3.1. The District Secretary should submit information regarding the temporarily planned dates for holding the District or Divisional Operations Councils for the relevant year, to the Secretary of the Ministry in charge of Public Security, within the first two weeks of the year. The meetings of the District or Divisional Operations Council should be held as planned, and the date of the meeting should be informed at least 07 days in advance, to allow members of the Operations Councils to participate in the meetings in a planned and productive manner.

3.2. The agenda should be prepared by the District Secretary/ Divisional Secretary in consultation with the Chairman of the District/ Divisional Operations Council, and its affairs should be limited to the tasks related to eradicate dangerous drugs.

3.3. The Chairmen of the Operations Councils may appoint sub-committees (such as security, religious, social), having considered the needs of the respective District and Divisional Secretariat Division, and the said number should be limited to a maximum of 03.

3.4. The District/ Divisional Operations Councils should act in accordance with the Government laws, orders and circular instructions in fulfilling the duties.

3.5. With regard to the functioning of the District/ Divisional Operations Councils, the authority to make administrative decisions and to establish the procedures for the purpose is entrusted to the Operations Council, and the said procedures should be referred to the Presidential Secretariat and to the Minister in charge of Public Security.

i. Duration of the meeting
ii. Not summon officers who are not essential for the Operations Council
iii. Determine the duration for which each officer should stay in the council meeting, in accordance with the agenda
iv. Connect members via online mode
v. Engage external individuals and either to keep/not to keep them during the period of discussion of the meeting.
vi. Format of meeting minutes and progress review methodology

3.6. The District Secretary/ Divisional Secretary shall bear the responsibility for maintaining all records of the meeting, both in written form and as recordings. The meeting minutes, along with the decisions taken during the meeting, should

be forwarded to the relevant institutions as hard/soft copies within 03 days of the meeting. The copies of the same should also forward to the Presidential Secretariat and to the Secretary of the Ministry in charge of Public Security.

3.7. Journalists are allowed to report the facts of the meeting, and the Chairmen of the District/ Divisional Operations Councils may hold a separate discussion with the media at the end of the meeting, if necessary.

3.8. Sensitive information related to incidents and individuals, as well as matters related to the identity of informants, should not be discussed publicly.

04. Supervision of the District/Divisional Operations Councils

4.1. The supervision and facilitation of the District and Divisional Operations Councils will be carried out jointly by the Presidential Secretariat and the Ministry in charge of Public Security.

05. Responsibility of Government Officials regarding District/ Divisional Operations Councils

5.1. It is emphasized that the District/ Divisional Operations Councils are the foremost mechanism for implementing the "*Ratama Ekata* National Mission" to eradicate dangerous drugs at the district and divisional levels, and the members of these councils should actively contribute to its affairs. Accordingly, every government official is fully bound to implement the lawful decisions taken by the District/ Divisional Operations Councils.

5.2. Every government officer convened for a meeting of the District/ Divisional Operations Council is compulsory to participate, and if not possible, prior notice should be given to the Secretary of the Operations Council and appropriate arrangements should be made for that purpose.

06. The necessary provisions for this programme for the year 2025 have been provided through the Clean Sri Lanka Programme, and provisions will be allocated from the Annual Budget, from the year 2026 onwards.

07. You will be duly informed regarding the inclusion of amendments to the provisions of this circular based on any rules and regulations imposed by the Government from time to time.

08. Please contact Mr. K.L.D. Asela, Senior Assistant Secretary to the President (Telephone No.: 0112354354 - Ext. No. 3606 / Email: sas6.ada@presidentsoffice.lk) for any further inquiries / clarifications or other relevant information regarding the matters mentioned herein.

09. I seek your active participation, contribution, dedication and cooperation towards this noble national mission, in order to liberate our nation from the national menace that currently confronts and to build a beautiful Sri Lanka; the aspiration we all share.

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Copies: 1. All Chairmen of District and Divisional Coordinating Committees
2. All Hon. Governors of Provinces
3. Secretary to the Prime Minister
4. Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
5. Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government
6. Auditor General
7. Director General, Department of National Planning
8. Director General of Government Information

Annexure 1

Composition of the District Operations Council

Public Representatives and Officials

1. Chairman of the District Coordinating Committee - Chairman
2. Hon. Governor
3. Chairmen of the Divisional Coordinating Committees
4. Provincial Chief Secretary
5. District Secretary/ Government Agent - Secretary of the District Operations Council
6. Secretaries of Provincial Ministries
7. Commissioner of Local Government
8. Provincial Commissioner of Probation
9. Provincial Director of Education
10. Provincial Director of Health Services
11. Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police in charge of the Province
12. Deputy Inspector General of Police in charge of the District / Officers in charge of the Division
13. Officers in charge of Security at the district level - Tri Forces
14. Officers of the Department of Coast Guard
15. District Officers of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB)
16. Officers of the Bureau of Rehabilitation
17. Community Corrections Officers

Personnel to be convened with the consent of the Chairman of the District Coordinating Committee

1. All Religious Leaders
2. Representatives of Civil Organizations
3. Representatives representing various sectors
4. Officers of Private Rehabilitation Institutions

Annexure 2

Composition of the Divisional Operations Council

Public Representatives and Officials

1. Chairman of the Divisional Coordinating Committee - Chairman
2. Divisional Secretary - Secretary
3. Heads of Local Government Institutions
4. Members of Local Government Institutions
5. Zonal Director of Education
6. Director of the Hospital / Medical Officer-in-Charge
7. Officers-in-Charge of Police Stations (OICs)
8. Health Service Officers
9. Probation Officers
10. Child Rights Promotion Officers
11. Child Protection Officers
12. Divisional Officers of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB)
13. Officer-in-Charge - National Youth Corps
14. Officer-in-Charge - National Vocational Training Authority / Principal - Technical College
15. Youth Service Officers
16. Superintendent of Excise
17. Community Corrections Officer
18. Chairmen of Public Security Committees

Personnel to be convened with the consent of the Chairman of the Divisional Coordinating Committee

1. All Religious Leaders
2. Representatives of Civil Organizations
3. Representatives representing various sectors