

Public Administration Circular No. - 10/2001.

TO : The Secretary - Ministry of Defence.
Ministry of Education.
Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils.
Ministry of Information and Media.
Ministry of Samurdhi and Rural Development.
Ministry of Indigenous Medicine.
Ministry of Labour.
Ministry of Environment.
Ministry of Women's Affairs, AND

Chief Secretaries of Provincial Councils.

National Health Week - Year 2001

In terms of the Cabinet Decision dated 28.2.2001 in connection with above, the Ministry of Health has declared the seven days from 21st to 27th May as the **National Health Week** for the year 2001.

Based on the theme of "Improving the Quality of Life of the People", the Ministry of Health has formulated an eighteen-fold health programme with the objective of preventing communicable and non-communicable diseases and creating a healthy environment. The main activities of this 18 fold programme that would help to establish the above objectives, have been identified to be implemented during this Health Week.

It was decided at the meeting held on 10.5.2001 headed by the Hon. Prime Minister that it is essential to issue instructions to relevant officials in line Ministries and Provincial Ministries to take appropriate action towards the success of the programmes. The active participation required from other Ministries in the activities relating to those programmes that are to be implemented during this Health Week are detailed below.

1.Assistance expected from Hon. Provincial Chief Ministers

1.1. Identification of health programmes to be implemented within the respective provinces for the National Health Week. It is more appropriate to plan these programmes in consultation with the Provincial Health Minister and the Provincial Health Secretary/Provincial Health Director.

1.2. Issuing of relevant instructions to establish provincial committees, district committees and regional committees required to strengthen the activities in connection with the prevention of Dengue and other communicable diseases and supervising the operation of these committees.

1.3. Coordination with relevant Provincial Ministries and providing them with the necessary guidance.

1.4. Taking action to generate other provisions and resources required for those activities, in addition to the provisions granted by the Ministry of Health.

1.5. Paying special attention to and providing necessary guidance to the programmes in schools implemented by the Ministry of Education in connection with the National Health Week.

1.6. Providing necessary guidance and instructions to conduct the "Suwayathra Demonstration Motorcade" moving across the province and organize suitable programmes containing various features through this motorcade.

1.7. Obtaining assistance of relevant police stations to provide security required for the Suwayathra Programme.

2. Assistance expected from the Ministry of Local Government and Local Authorities

2.1. Extending assistance to programmes organized by health institutions for the prevention of communicable diseases.

2.2. Creating public awareness on the safe disposal of garbage and providing required services towards that.

2.3. Extending assistance and providing required services at various shramadana campaigns conducted to clean the environment.

2.4. Extending support required in programmes conducted to create public awareness on the food safety and assist the health personnel in the inspections carried out on food establishments.

2.5. Providing necessary assistance in the programmes launched to combat mosquito menace and providing necessary services to facilitate and strengthen the activities in those programmes.

3. Assistance expected from the Ministry of Education

3.1. Getting the active participation of schools to make the National Health Week a success.

3.2. Implementation of programmes aimed at the Health Week in schools and building up leadership among students themselves to proceed with such programmes, (in this connection, the Secretary of the Ministry of Education has already sent the relevant Circulars), lectures, seminars, quizz/competition, drama, art and essay competitions can be

3.3. Extending cooperation for the success of programmes organized in schools by the Department/Ministry of Health and other departments.

3.4. Institution to create and maintain a healthy environment within the school system.

3.5. Extending required assistance to establish health clubs and strengthen the ones that have been already established in schools.

3.6. Making use of students as “change agents”.

4. Assistance expected from the Ministry of Labour

4.1. Formulation and implementation of health programmes for the Sri Lankans who go for employment abroad and the members of their families through the Bureau of Foreign Employment.

4.2. Making those Sri Lankans who go for employment abroad aware of the ways of preventing AIDS and other venereal diseases by way of seminars, workshops, trainings, etc.

5. Assistance expected from the Ministry of Information and Media

5.1. Creating public awareness on the 18 fold health programme and providing active participation to keep the public reminded of the same continuously.

5.2. Extending assistance to the media propaganda activities jointly with the Ministry of Health in the implementation of the National Health Week.

6. Assistance expected from the Ministry of Women's Affairs

6.1. Taking action to get the public participation required for the National Health Week through women's organizations.

6.2. Creating awareness in women's organizations on the prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

6.3. Providing required guidance to the Sri Lankan women to protect their children from alcohol and drug addiction.

7. Assistance expected from the Ministry of Samurdhi and Youth Affairs

7.1. Conducting awareness programmes on the prevention of diseases with public participation.

7.2. Assisting in the programmes conducted to clean the environment and taking necessary steps to obtain active participation of the public.

7.3. Providing instructions to make Samurdhi recipients aware of the objectives of the National Health Week at meetings attended by them.

7.4. Issuing necessary instructions to make use of Samurdhi animators as change agents.

7.5. Extending support and assistance to the health officials for the success of the above mentioned programme on the prevention of diseases and environmental sanitation.

8.Assistance expected from the Ministry of Environment

8.1. Extending necessary assistance to various environmental programmes (such as cleaning) organized by the Ministry of Health.

8.2. Maintaining proper coordination with and providing necessary guidance to relevant Ministries, departments and other institutions in the implementation of programmes required for the disposal of garbage, industrial waste and controlling the spread of mosquitos and flies.

8.3. Providing the schools, the assistance of the Environmental Pilot Squads established by them.

8.4. Providing assistance to strengthen and implement the legal framework needed for the protection of environmental health.

9.Assistance expected from the Police Department

9.1. Providing assistance in organizing activities of the Health Week.

9.2. Providing required security for the processions, meetings and for the "Suwayathra" programme and ensuring traffic safety.

9.3. Providing required assistance particularly in activities relating to programmes of prevention of accidents and prevention of AIDS.

9.4. Create awareness aiming the Police personnel regarding the importance of their active participation in the different activities intended to protect the health of the people.

9.5. Extending required assistance to the Local Authorities and the health personnel in the effective implementation of the laws and regulations relating to health services at Provincial level.

10.Assistance expected from the Ministry of Indigenous Medicine

10.1. Formulation of programmes to implement the 18 fold programme aimed at the improvement of health and prevention of diseases and implementation of those programmes through Provincial Ministries.

10.2. Issuing of instructions required for organizing environmental cleaning programmes at institutions belonging to the Ministry and Department of Medicine.

In order to ensure that the people gain the maximum benefits out of this **National Health Week**, the commitment and the active participation of all the relevant sectors are of vital importance.

It is informed that planning, effective implementation and regular-monitoring and supervision of this programme with regard to the different components of each Ministry is the responsibility of that Ministry.

A copy of the Circular issued in connection with the National Health Week by the Department of Health is attached hereto for your kind attention please.

M.N. Junaid
Secretary.