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கல்வி அமைச்சு
Ministry of Education

"ஓசூர்ப்பாய"
வந்தரூரூர்.

"இசுரூபாயா"
பத்தரமுல்ல.

"Isurupaya"
Battaramulla.

මගේ අංකය ED/03/56/21/2017

எமது இல. }
My No. }

දිනය } 13.02.2017

திகதி }
Date }

To all Principals,

"Research for achieving excellence in Education" Research Day of the School Education Sector of Sri Lanka

It is necessary to make decisions based on research for quantitative and qualitative development of education. The Ministry of Education and the National Institute of Education, which come under the central government, are engaged in conducting research while it is necessary to develop research at provincial and school levels. As a step forward in this direction, 15th March, 2017 (Wednesday), has been declared as the Research Day of the school education sector of Sri Lanka. The theme for this year is "Research for achieving excellence in Education" A school level programme related to popularizing of research island- wide on the above theme, is to be organized, by each school from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., on the appointed day, under the leadership of the Principal. A talk by a guest speaker or a dissemination session of the findings of a research study done at school level must be organized in this connection. The national function to mark the Research Day will be held at the Ministry of Education (4th Floor) on 15th March, 2017.

The Research Day is intended to direct Principals, teachers and students to conduct research. Through this social research are to be popularized among them, which in turn will guide them to shape their lives on the basis of research. Moreover, it is expected to contribute to the development of the country by directing students towards scientific thinking through quantitative and qualitative development of education.

Principals, teachers and students must collectively engage in activities in the nature of those given below continuously, in order to organize Research Days in the coming years. Obtain the assistance of an academic serving at a university, College of Education, Teachers' College, Teacher Centre or a recognized research institution situated close to your school in this connection. If Provincial/Zonal level Research Units have already been established, their assistance also can be obtained to improve research.

Principal's Role:

1. Identify the problems faced by the school by discussing with the teachers. Identify the problems faced by the school community too. Assign groups of teachers to find solutions to these problems through a research approach.
2. Providing opportunities to disseminate findings of research done by teachers as a part of postgraduate, B Ed., M Ed., M Sc., M Phil., Ph.D. programmes, by organizing a research conference.
3. Organizing a discussion on research with the assistance of an external resource person.
4. Publication of an annual magazine on the Research Day, including data related to student/teacher attendance, student/teacher participation in extra-curricular activities and activities related to School Based Teacher Development.
5. Giving opportunities to teachers in charge of Grade 1 to present progress of activities done to identify students, towards March.
6. Formation of research circles among the teachers and to direct them to conduct action research.

Activities for Teachers

1. Introduction of the action research approach to improve the learning teaching process.
For further information on the Research Methodology course conducted by the University of Colombo, visit the web-site of this Ministry at www.moe.gov.lk.
2. Maintaining a reflective journal on school activities and presenting it at teacher circles.
3. Conducting research camps at classroom level, directing students from Grade 6 to 9 to undertake small projects and giving them opportunities to disseminate their findings.

E.g. developing entrepreneurship and inventive skills of students through:

- Observation of research institutes/industries/botanical gardens.
(Nano Technology laboratory at University of Wayamba, the planetarium, ITI, SLINTEC etc.)
- Presenting the data of books read and television programmes watched, in graphic form.
- Giving opportunities to write biographies of selected people and write about historical events; and to present them in the form of stories.
- To prepare the student profiles for each class, after discussing with parents.

Activities for Students

1. Forming research committees among students under the guidance of a teacher (Primary/Secondary), and making students collect information on topics of their choice.
2. Directing students to maintain a reflective journal or a memoir on day-to-day activities and giving them opportunities to present their journals to the research committee.
3. Advising Advanced Level students to conduct their projects in the form of a small-scale research.
4. Primary students can be guided to make observations about the following topics and later make presentations to the class.
 - Observing behavior patterns of birds found in the environment
 - Observing trees and flowers in the garden and preparing reports
 - Comparison of prices of various goods
 - Analysis of reports in the newspapers on an incident. /educational reports

I highly appreciate your cooperation in this regard.

S.U.Wijeratne
Secretary (Acting)
Ministry of Education

Copies:

1. Vice Chancellor (Universities) – For technical support
2. Provincial Director of Education – For school level supervision of implementation of this task
3. Zonal Director of Education - For school level supervision of implementation of this task
4. Divisional Director of Education - For school level supervision of implementation of this task
5. President (College of Education) – For support for successful implementation of the task
6. Manager (Teachers' Colleges, Teacher Centers) - For support for successful implementation of the task