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MOD/DEF/2/1/620

ഇക്കോ අംකය உழுது இல. Your No.

ආර්තමක අමාතනාංගය, අංක 15/5. ණලදයක මාවත. කොළඹ 03. මු ලංකාව

பாதுகாப்பும் அமைச்சு, இல. 15/5. பாலதக்ஷ மாவத்தை, கொழும்பு 03. இலங்கை MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, № 10/5. கேச்செய்யும் Merwaltin, COLOMBO ம் கூட (ANKA - MINISTRY) 29 B

Commander of the Army
Commander of the Navy
Commander of the Air Force
Director General/Coast Guard Department
Director General/Civil Security Department

தேதி. Date. 18th March 2016

CIRCULAR INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SECRETARY/MINISTRY OF DEFENCE TO THE HEADS OF THE ARMED FORCES

- 1. This is a time of transition for the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces. The men and women in uniform fought valiantly to end terrorism in this country which we were able to achieve in May 2009. Despite the military defeat of terrorism we recognise that there is a long march ahead towards ensuring reconciliation.
- 2. In a post conflict context, the Security Forces will have to play a dual role of assisting the Government in winning hearts and minds and consolidating peace, and ensuring that there is no re-emergence of terrorism and violence.
- 3. The Sri Lankan military is a highly disciplined force and it is in our interest to protect the image and honour of the Armed Forces that delivered freedom to the people of Sri Lanka following thirty years of terrorism.
- 4. As you are aware, there have been allegations which have surfaced from time to time on offences committed by Armed Forces Personnel. In this regard, your attention is drawn to circular instructions sent by the Addl. Secretary (Defence) of this Ministry dated 6th May 2013 bearing file ref. No. MOD/DEF/02/01/620 requesting that strict action be taken against those Armed Forces personnel who have committed offences (Annex-I).
- 5. In this context, I wish to refer to the provisions contained in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard Acts with respect to commission of offences by Armed Forces personnel and you are hereby directed to reissue instructions to all Armed Forces personnel that strict action would be taken accordingly to investigate and punish those Armed Forces personnel that have committed offences and engaged in any criminal activity, in the interest of protecting the

image of the Armed Forces of Sri Lanka. It should be noted that these instructions would be valid for officials that serve in the Civil Security Department and the Coast Guard Department as well.

6. It is requested that such instructions be issued forthwith.

Eng. Karunasena Hettiarachchi Secretary/Ministry of Defence

cc: Addl. Secretary (Defence)