

**Establishing Career Information Center
at
Dehiowita Divisional Secretariat
2019**

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Career Information Center**

1. Overview of Dehiowita Divisional Secretariat

Dehiowita Divisional Secretariat is in the southern part of the Kegalle District bordering to Colombo & Ratnapura Districts.

According to 2017/8 statistics the total population of Dehiowita DS is 89,045 in its 39 Grama Niladari Divisions. There are 56 schools in Dehiowita DSD.

As per the latest statistics there are 20,000 youth, 22% of the total population & 7th in terms of unemployment out of 11 DSD in Kegalle-Labour market survey 2017.

Approximately 42% of the youth are unemployed (not earning permanent income) as per the data from district secretariat.

Present Challenges among unemployed youth.

- Limited training institutions in the DS division for youth to get Vocational & Professional Trainings.
- Most of the GN divisions are rural and limitation of transportation.
- Limited opportunities to get support to find trainings & job opportunities.

2. Overview of Dehiowita Divisional Secretariat

The people's main livelihood activities are agriculture, production & garment sector. The establishment of the Career Information center will be a resource to the school leavers & unemployed youth to get the guidance through HRDO, SDO, YSO to find job opportunities and develop their career.

3. Purpose of establishment of the Career Information Center

Facilitate the school leavers to find job related Vocational & Professional Training to link them for relevant job opportunities in the private sector is the main purpose of establishing the Career Information Center.

Youth will be undergoing Career Test / Career Key online tests to get their Career matched accordingly to their preference.

Further the youth can be registered to the Smart Sri Lanka Database which is proposed by the Government.

The CIC to be operated by the HRDO & SDO attached to the DS office.

Relevant service records to be maintained by them under their supervision of the DS.

Core services of the career information centers is to share the vocational and professional course details, career guidance & counselling, share the employment opportunities, career test etc. And also our staffs trained by Berendina and conducted the following activities too.

- Conducted training on career counselling for field level government staffs, who have attached with Dehiowita divisional secretariat.
- Conducted TOT on career guidance for district level career guidance trainers.
- Dehiowita DSD planned to establish a career information centre(CIC) with the support of BEC very first time in Dehiowita DSD where the youth will have access location to visit and obtain required vocational training and professional training institution details, course admissions, vacancy information's and self-employment advices, Foreign employment related information's etc.

The career information center will be functioning as a facilitating centre to marginalized youth. Free career interest test will be

done here for youth to match their interested and skills for their career. Youth would provide proper career path and directions.

4.Type of services would be provided by Career Information Center

1. Career guidance and advices
2. Career information sharing
3. Career test and link with potential service providers
4. Youth direct to VT and Professional courses
5. Identify the youth and their needs
6. Replicate - career information
7. Career counselling
8. Enterprise & Self-employment development
9. Helps to Divisional job fairs

5.KEY Gaps finding

Dehiowita DSD conducted meeting with Berendina Employment center at Dehiowita DSL on the 16/10/2019. Based on the discussion we have identified some gaps.

Such as,

- Lack of equipment for the information Centre.
- Insufficient publicity (in order to share the information)
- Lack of training providers (VT and NAITA are functioning in limited way)
- Lack of youth skill development opportunities
- Insufficient career guidance

6.The importance of career information Center

By establishing CIC with facilities of such as Computer, Computer table and chairs, information bill boards and make Job registration counter for youth's conveniences.

As noticed that our main gap is to do publicity and sharing information among the public specially job seekers as we have

noticed that every Monday & Wednesday there are minimum 15 service seekers coming to the divisional office.

So the career information center will help the service seekers in order to get a direction for their career growth.

At the same time, it will be help to the Berendina Employment Center in order to conduct the kick-off event in Dehiowita DS division.

7.Objective of the program

To provide material assistance to establish such required Career Information Centre.

8.Follow-up

- Though participating career information center monthly meeting
- Random visit by the District Manager
- Through partnership activities such as CG, Mini Job fair, mentoring program, Vacancies information maintain a database with youth visiting records, how many youths direct to Government and private VTs, etc

Prepared by

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Divisional Secretariat

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