

## **The Services Minute Circular for Grade Promotion Issued!**

The medical services minute includes the laws pertaining to appointing medical officers to special and other grades and their retirement from the service. **Until 2010, the year in which the GMOA started acting up on the matter, a minute that was approved in 1991 was in effect.** This was despite a circular issued in 2006 which instructed to update the existing minute.

In 2010 the GMOA took the initiative to suggest amendments to the existing minute through a committee consist of Administrative, Consultant and Grade medical Officers. These amendments were suggested with the purpose of enhance service satisfaction through a grading system.

**Despite efforts of the GMOA, for nearly two years no consensus could be achieved on a new service minute.** Thus the GMOA General Committee decided to forward the Service Minute draft with currently approved grade promotions only. This was forwarded to the relevant government institution for approval. The process of approval took a long time and the GMOA had to continuously battle throughout this period.

A new medical services minute was gazetted on 11.10.2014. The GMOA is happy to announce that according to the **circular issued by the Ministry of Health on 09.02.2015, the new minute will take effect from 01.11.2013 onwards.**

From our rough calculation **nearly 5000 doctors are eligible** for grade promotions. This process will take a long time if done manually. Thus an online application process was formulated in order to fast track this process.

**This was facilitated by the HRMIS ([www.hrmis.health.gov.lk](http://www.hrmis.health.gov.lk)) the online data base of medical officers) which is an another achievement gained through lot of hard work.**

In the implementation of the new grade promotion scheme, Doctors closed to retirement will be given priority.

We invite eligible medical officers to apply for grade promotions according to this circular. The applications will be available online at the GMOA website ([www.gmoa.lk](http://www.gmoa.lk)) soon.

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