



GMOA

ESTABLISHED IN
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TU No. 291

THE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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Memo

CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement) with India

To all GMOA Branch Secretaries,

GMOA initiated raising our voice against CEPA since year 2012.

CEPA is a proposed bilateral trade agreement between Sri Lanka & India. This agreement will cover trade of both goods and services, including professional services. CEPA has been under negotiation for more than 10 years.

Concerns of the GMOA are based on following facts,

01. Contents of CEPA have not been disclosed to Sri Lankan professionals or the public.
02. No productive discussion with professional groups regarding CEPA up to now.
03. Possible influx of unqualified Indian professionals (including doctors) to Sri Lanka leading to poor quality of services in Sri Lanka.
04. Negative experiences in trade agreements with India in the past.
05. CEPA defines professional in a very primitive manner. Many underqualified and inexperienced individuals can be categorized as professionals under CEPA.
06. A condition in the agreement is National Treatment of Indians. This gives Indian immigrants the same rights and privileges of Sri Lankans.

We believe that CEPA will affect all categories of medical officers and the health system in general.

Having realized the danger, GMOA took following initiatives.

1. Formulation of a Specialist Registry
2. Development of a formal evaluation procedure for foreign medical professionals.
3. Awareness campaign against certain conditions in CEPA.

GMOA Executive Committee requests all GMOA members to visit www.gmoa.lk website for further details.

We would appreciate if your branch union could study all the available facts regarding CEPA & send your observations as a branch union resolution before 5th of October 2015.

Thank You

Yours faithfully

Dr. Nalinda Herath
Secretary