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Ref. No.CAPSD/DSE/ENG/2/07/9299

March 24, 2007

## CIRCULAR

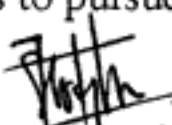
### Enhancement of Reading Programme in Schools

Ministry of Education is pleased to inform all schools that, on the directives of the government, the Ministry of Finance has approved the budget for the development of school libraries under the normal budgetary line, which is: *Nu.10,000 per school per year plus Nu.200 per student per year for students in classes PP-VI and Nu.300 per student per year for students in classes VII-XII.* This is indicative of the importance the government attaches to the school reading programme.

For 2007-2008 FY, the budget incorporation for the development of school libraries has been initiated by the Ministry of Education with the Department of National Budget, which is based on the 2006 school statistics. However, from the subsequent year onwards, guided by the Dzongkhag Education Sector, schools will be required to put in their own library budget requirements, which would be based on the previous year's school statistics.

This budget is meant for buying new books, replenishing old and out-dated books, subscribing to periodicals, etc. It must be noted that this budget line cannot be re-appropriated to any other budget heads. It is meant for the development of school libraries only. CAPSD will support in terms of making available suggestive list of library books from time to time which will be available in the website of Education Ministry.

In view of the strong government support for development of reading habits in our children, schools are hereby instructed to seriously implement the school reading programme. One measure of success of the implementation of school reading programme would be that more and more students and teachers are reading without any external compulsion; the only compulsion being their desire to read more. Without visible change of behaviour in the students and teachers, the schools will have stronger reasons to pursue the programme even more seriously and vigorously.

  
(Tshewang Tendin)

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