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## CIRCULAR

### Science Practical Work in Classes IX and X in Schools

It is needless to mention that the processes of learning form the bedrock to gaining knowledge and skills in any subject. It becomes even more important that the learning in science takes place through practical hands-on approach so that our education system prepares our children to be scientifically literate citizens to live their lives meaningfully in a rapidly changing world of science and technology.

Cognizant of the needs of the system and to facilitate the development of scientific skills in our children, the Ministry of Education has been continuously making efforts in constructing science laboratories and equipping them with equipment and chemicals spending enormous government resources which otherwise could be used for other more important purposes. Regrettably, however, science practical work is reportedly not conducted in most schools in the country, presumably owing to the withdrawal of science practical examinations at the end of class X a few years ago. This does not reflect well of our education system. It must be noted that, under the present scenario, we as a system would be subject to government and the public scrutiny for establishing science facilities at huge costs which are hardly used for the intended purposes. This is a grave concern for the Ministry of Education.

In the interest of developing scientific skills and make learning of science meaningful to our children, schools are instructed to make adequate efforts to ensure that science practical works in classes IX and X are carried out as part of the regular processes of teaching and learning in science in all schools. It may be noted that not conducting science practical sessions in support of learning the principles and concepts of science and developing scientific skills in our children will be viewed very seriously by the Ministry of Education.

(Tshewang Tandin)

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