

My No. 2/9/776(+)

Ministry of Public Administration  
and Home Affairs,  
Independence Square,  
Colombo 7.

25th January, 1980.

To: All Secretaries to Ministries,  
Heads of Departments and  
Heads of Public Corporations.

Picketing within premises

This is further to Public Administration Circular No. 156 of 17th January, 1980. The following action too should be taken.

- (a) where picketing is attempted within the premises of any state or public institution, disciplinary action should be taken against the picketers.
- (b) if damage to property or breach of the peace or any other criminal offence is committed or anticipated within the confines of a building, the Head of the institution or other responsible officer should summon the Police to deal with the matter. This would also be the case where the Police themselves discover that picketers had broken the law, e.g. by throwing of stones or articles from a building which was likely to cause damage to property or harm persons.
- (c) as far as picketing outside the premises of a state or public institution is concerned, the police should be informed to enable them to enforce the move-on by-law as such activity would obstruct the public.

Sgd: D.B.I.P.S. Siriwardhana.  
Secretary,  
Ministry of Public Administration  
and Home Affairs.