

## UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

COMMISSION CIRCULAR NO. 11 /2024

No. 20, Ward Place, Colombo 07.

24th April, 2024

Vice-Chancellors of Universities Rectors of Campuses Directors of Institutes

## <u>Following Protocol and Procedural Step when Dealing with the Diplomatic Personnel</u> (DPL) Community.

The higher authorities had expressed concern on the fact that certain Universities have adopted a practice of hosting Ambassadors and High Commissioners stationed in Colombo at their respective universities, without seeking clearance or providing information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the State Ministry for Higher Education and the University Grants Commission (UGC).

02. It was of the view that these ad-hoc engagements with the Diplomatic Personnel, lacking prior coordination and clarification, may impede the concerted efforts towards internationalization of our State Universities and the facilitation of Government-to-Government partnerships. Hence the UGC was instructed to communicate to all Higher Educational Institutions/ Institutes (HEIs) that any visits by Diplomatic Personnel to any state university must be duly notified to the State Ministry for Higher Education and the Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs well in advance, with a copy to UGC.

03. Accordingly, the Commission at its  $1120^{th}$  Meeting held on  $07^{th}$  March 2024 having considered the instructions given by the higher authorities, decided to inform the HEIs to follow the protocol and procedural steps when dealing with DPL Community.

. Please take action accordingly.

Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunge

Chairman

Copies:

- 1. Hon. State Minister of Higher Education
- 2. Secretary/Ministry of Education
- 3. Secretary/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 4. Vice-Chairman/UGC
- 5. Members of the UGC
- 6. Secretary/UGC
- 7. Registrars of Universities
- 8. Deans of Faculties
- 9. Accountant/UGC
- 10. Bursars of Universities
- 11. Librarians/SAL/AL of the Higher Educational Institutions / Institutes
- 12. Deputy Registrars/ Snr. Asst. Registrars/ Asst. Registrars of Campuses/ Institutes
- 13. Deputy Bursars / Snr. Asst. Bursars / Asst. Bursars of Campuses / Institutes
- 14. Internal Auditor/UGC
- 15. Gov. Audit Superintendents of Universities
- 16. Snr. Asst. Int. Auditors of HEIs
- 17. Secretaries of Trade Unions
- 18. Auditor-General