



GMOA

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THE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
No. 275/75, Professional Centre, Prof. Stanley Wijesundara Mawatha, Colombo 07

Tel : 2580886 / 0714 999555
Fax : 2503586 / 4518668
Web : www.gmoa.lk
Email : info@gmoa.lk
office@gmoa.lk

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Press Release

Articles defaming medical profession on National Media.

We have noticed a recent disturbing trend of defamatory articles appearing against the Medical Profession.

This came to highlight last week when Lankadeepa and Divaina newspapers published fabricated news items "දොස්තරෙකු අනවරයෙන් සිසුවිය දැඩි සත්කාර එකකයේ", "කුරුණෑගල දොස්තරගෙන් හෙද සිසුවියට අනවර" respectively, claiming an incident of alleged sexual assault against a Nursing Student by a Medical Officer.

GMOA has inquired the matter with Principal, Nurses Training School Kurunegala to which the alleged nursing student was attached, Director, Teaching Hospital Kurunegala where the alleged incident took place and MS, Base Hospital Chilaw where the student was admitted for treatment after the alleged incident. All the above parties have confirmed that no such incident has occurred.

It is clear that above news items, like many similar articles in the past, are baseless and have been fabricated with malicious intent to defame the medical profession and ministry of health.

GMOA has already complained to relevant authorities regarding the irresponsible conduct of relevant media organizations.

GMOA Branch Unions of Teaching Hospital Kurunegala, and District General Hospital - Chilaw will resort to an one day Token Strike on 12.02.2013, from 8.00 am onwards in protest of the deliberate efforts of tarnishing the name of the Medical Profession.

We request Ministry of Health to hold an urgent inquiry on the recent incident and other malicious efforts to defame the noble medical profession.

Everyone should understand that destroying of the free health system of the country will be at the expense of the **right to live** of the needy majority of the public.

Thank you
Yours faithfully

Dr. Chandika Epitakaduwa
Secretary