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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2193/27 - 2020 සැප්තැම්බර් මස 16 වැනි බදාදා - 2020.09.16
No. 2193/27 - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

(Published by Authority)

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL Government Notifications

THE PILGRIMAGES ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 175)

The Esala Perahera Festival of Historic Sankhapala Raja Maha Viharaya - 2020

ATTENTION of the General Public is drawn to the regulations relating to pilgrimages in terms of the *Gazette Extra Ordinary* No. 2153/15 of 12.12.2019 published under the Pilgrimages Ordinance Chapter 175. I hereby notify the following particulars relating to those regulations.

1. Duration of conducting the Procession

- The kap planting ceremony for the Esala Perahera 2020 will be held at the auspicious time on 18.09.2020
- All night Pirith Chanting on 26.09.2020 and alms giving on the following day.
- Kumbal Perahera on 27.09.2020,
- Salu Perahera on 28.09.2020,
- Randoli Perahera on 29.09.2020,
- Ginisilu Perahera Festival on 30.09.2020,
- Maha Perahera on 01.10.2020,
- Alms giving to the god at dawn on 03.10.2020 and the Esala Perahera will be concluded.

2. The Camp Area:-

- The camp area where the Esala Festival to be conducted shall be the area bounded to the North by the Sankhapala peak, to the South by the 'Rakwana' river, to the East by Perahera Mawatha and to the West by Perahera Mawatha.



3. Vehicles

- 3.1 No vehicle, including motor vehicles, bicycles, and carts , without my permission or a permission given by an authorized officer, shall park or enter any place or festival premises except the area reserved for parking.
- 3.2 Entering vehicles to the sacred area through the gateway erected facing to Ratnapura - Embilipitiya main road is strictly prohibited.

4. Construction of Buildings

- 4.1 No person shall construct or build any shelter or structure whether temporary or permanent or add a new part to such building which is already exist within the camp area during the period of time from the 26th September to the 03rd October 2020, without my written permission or such permission obtained from an authorized officer.
- 4.2 Whereas, it shall be permitted to enter any land or place situated in the camp area in order to implement any regulation, among the regulations imposed by me or any authorized officer or to erect a pillar or to conduct a construction or a building on any land or place within the camp area in order to display any notice or signboard.

5. Health

- 5.1 No person who is suffering from any contagious or infectious disease shall enter the camp area. Every person shall thoroughly heed to follow the health instructions currently operative in the country.
- 5.2 The participation of the devotees is limited to the date of the Maha Perahera and the crowd should be provided with the required health facilities as per the health instructions.
- 5.3 Other days on which the Perahera to be conducted shall be without devotees and shall limited to the rituals only.
- 5.4 Dancing troupes to be participated shall be limit and keeping records on the artists, doing testings before starting the Perahera and providing accommodation and following health instructions shall be adhered.
- 5.5 The food provided to the participants of the procession shall be supervised by the Medical Officer of Health.
- 5.6 Providing health services before and during the Perahera shall be entrusted to the Office of the Medical Officer of Health- Udawalawa, District Hospital- Embilipitiya, Base Hospital - Udawalawa and the Provincial Directorate of Health Services.

6. Trade

- 6.1 No person shall, within the camp area, sell lotteries, flags or collect contributions for any other purpose without my permission or the permission given by an authorized officer and sale and consumption of tobacco products and every kind of drugs are strictly prohibited in the premises and within the Devalaya boundary, during the period of conducting the Perahera.
- 6.2 Actions shall be taken to keep closed the boutiques which are currently selling flowers and other sacred items in the camp area from 5.00 p.m. until the Perahera ends.

7. Beggars

- No person shall beg or solicit alms within the camp area except such places as may be appointed for the purpose outside the sacred area.

8. Power Supply Facilities

- Ceylon Electricity Board and Pradeshiya Sabha- Embilipitiya Shall be responsible for the installation of street lamps and extra lamps on the temple premises and the Perahera route.

9. Water

- Installation of additional water tanks providing water for bowzers and providing drinking water facilities to the devotees is entrusted to the National Water supply and Drainage Board, Udawalawa, Pradeshiya Sabha, Embilipitiya, and to the Divisional Secretariat Embilipitiya.

10. Security

- All security arrangements and handling traffic on the road without obstructing the devotees shall be assigned to the security forces and to the police.

11. Accommodations

- Kolambageara Maha Vidyalaya and Sankhapala Gunaratana Vidyalaya are nominated for accommodation for the dancing troupes participating in the Perahera and carrying out such activities as per the health instructions shall be entrusted to the Zonal Education Office and the principals of the aforesaid schools.

Orders 1 to 11 above shall be valid until the end of the Perahera Festival.

MALANI LOKUPOTHAGAMA,
District Secretary/Government Agent,
Administrative District of Ratnapura,
Officer-in-charge of the Camp.

At the District Secretariat,
Ratnapura.
15th September, 2020.

10-60