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EXTRAORDINARY

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No. 2449/12 – TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025

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PART I: SECTION (I) – GENERAL

Government Notifications

ESALA FESTIVAL OF MAHIYANGANAYA – 2025

BY virtue of the powers vested in me by the Transfer of Powers (Divisional Secretaries) Act, No. 58 of 1992, and according to the regulations in terms of the provisions of the Chapter 362 of Pilgrimages Ordinance published in *Government Gazette* No. 9902 of 10th September, 1948, *Gazette* No. 10283 of 17th August, 1951, *Gazette* No. 14778 of 25th March, 1995 and *Gazette* No. 14752 of 09th June, 1967, I, Wickramanayake Wimansa Senevirathne the Divisional Secretary of Mahiyanganaya/the officer-in-charge of the camp area, do hereby inform the following orders shall be in force with regard to the camp of Mahiyanganaya Esala Festival 2025.

1. It is announced that Mahiyanganaya Esala Festival will be commenced on the 25th August, 2025 by “Kapsituweema” ceremony and the closure of the event will be marked by “Diya Kepeema” Ceremony on the 08th September, 2025.
2. The camping area for abode of pilgrims shall be the land demarcated from the 37th Mile Post of Mahiyanganaya -Bibila Main Road up to the 2/39 culvert in front of Mahiyanganaya National School, the front area of Villu Wewa Road and the area of land bounded by the lanes called “Gangawata Veediya” “Angmedilla Veediya” and “Devala Veediya” which approaches the clock tower from the front of Mahiyanganaya Hospital.
3. It is hereby prohibited cooking meals or do selling in or around the courtyards of “Sthupa Maluwa”, “Bo Maluwa” and “Devala Premises”.



4. On a permit issued by Divisional Secretary/the officer-in-charge of the camp area, selling of flowers, joss sticks, candles, camphor, pooja items and idols for ritual purposes is allowed in the strip of land of “Meda Veediya” which is facing the “Stupa” and in the strip of land situated to the left of the “Makara Thorana”.
5. Selling of items specified in above is allowed also in the land ahead of the area facing the “Stupa” except in the 60 permanent stalls constructed by the Rajamaha Vihara and Saman Devalaya.
6. Within the camp area specified in above Section 2, selling and distribution of all food to pilgrims and selling of other commodities are allowed in already existing 60 permanent buildings and in the temporary stalls constructed on a permit issued by Divisional Secretary/the Officer-in-charge of the camp area.
7. The area ahead of 10ft. from the water drain of both sides of Dutugemunu Street, Meda Mawatha, Ammedilla Road, Badulla-Mahiyanganaya Main Road, Bodimaluwa Mawatha and the road in front of the “Sangawasa (Bikku abode), that is noticed as the route of perahera by the “Basnayaka Nilame” and Ven. Chief Incumbent, is reserved for business purposes.
8. Any trading is prohibited on both sides of the road from the clock tower which is situated in front of the hospital to the “Makara Thorana” of Badulla Main Road and in front of permanent shops.
9. Except as permitted in statement 04, 05 and 06 mentioned above, establishing temporary stalls or selling items in mobile stalls within the camp area or establishing temporary sheds other than the stalls already built on the two sides of “Gangawata Road” is entirely prohibited.
10. Parking of private vehicles on the main street is hereby prohibited.
11. No person shall enter any type of vehicle into the camp area including bicycles and bullock carts without a permit issued by Divisional Secretary/the officer-in-charge of the camp or any other authorized person by him.
12. No person shall enter any motor vehicle into the camp via the main access road to “Pooja Bhoomi” by the side of the “Wahalkada” (Vestibule) which faces Mahiyanganaya-Bibila main road, Villuwa Wewa road, the access road by the side of the “Makara Thorana”, the road running close to the clock tower situated in front of the hospital and the road close to 2/39 culvert near Mahiyanganaya National School unless permit is obtained.
13. Notice will be published by me on the procedure of leasing the parcels of land for business purpose within the camp area.
14. All the temporary constructions in the leased out commercial lands shall comply with the specifications made by the Medical Officer in Health of Mahiyanganaya.
15. 01 or 02 mobile toilets adjacent to each boutique will have to be made available for the use of pilgrims, if ordered by me.
16. After the removal of the temporary buildings/sheds by the settlers of the leased out land at the end or the Esala festival, all refuse and garbage including polythene shall be collected and disposed under the supervisions of the Public Health Inspectors.
17. It is prohibited to construct any permanent or temporary building within camp area unless a license has been obtained from me.

18. No person shall without the previous sanction of the Divisional Secretary/Officer-in-Charge of camp construct any shed or any sort of building or extend any building, so as to encroach any land used or set apart for use as a street or any land forming the banks of a river within the camp area.
19. Reserving seats under charges to watch the Perahera is strictly prohibited.
20. Construction of temporary stalls along Badulla - Mahiyanganaya main road in-between the Zonal Education Office and the new Covid Diagnostic Laboratory is strictly prohibited.
21. Vehicle Parking Sites.-
 - (i) the vehicle park reserved for the “Pooja Bhoomi” (the piece of land in front of the hospital)
 - (ii) The piece of land situated to the left of “Sirisangabo Pre-School” and “Makara Thorana” and the area extending from there to “Bo Maluwa Veediya”.
 - (iii) The triangular piece of land in between the Villuwa Wewa road and Mahiyanganaya-Bibila road is allocated for parking passenger transport buses.
22. It is prohibited to tie elephants and tuskers for the Perahera along the Mahaweli river bank of “Gangawata Veediya” in day or night.

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- (a) Firing of any sort of crackers is strictly prohibited within the camp area.
- (b) No person shall make any collection of money within the camp area on selling tickets, flags or on any other purpose unless permission is granted by an authorized officer of the Divisional Secretary.

W. WIMANSA SENEVIRATHNE,
Divisional Secretary, Mahiyanganaya.

MAHIYANGANAYA ESALA FESTIVAL – 2025

According to the regulations in terms of the provisions of the Chapter 362 of Pilgrimages Ordinance published in *Government Gazette* No. 9902 of 10th September, 1948, *Gazette* No. 10283 of 17th August, 1951, *Gazette* No. 14778 of 25th March, 1995 and *Gazette* No. 14752 of 09th June, 1967, and the transfer of powers Act (Divisional Secretaries), No. 58 of 1992, I, Wickramanayake Wimansa Senevirathne the Divisional Secretary of Mahiyanganaya/the officer-in-charge of the camp, do hereby notify that the following places are allocated for the purpose of distributing and selling of food items among the pilgrims.

- (a) The permanent buildings in between the 37th Km and 2/39 culvert in front of the National School along Mahiyanganaya-Bibila road.
- (b) Temporary buildings constructed on a permit issued by me, within the allocated ground for abode of pilgrims inside the camp area.

It is prohibited any other place or land, within the camping areas except specified in the above.

W. WIMANSA SENEVIRATHNE,
Divisional Secretary, Mahiyanganaya.

At Mahiyanganaya District Secretariat,
05th August, 2025.

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