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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2449/13 – 2025 අගෝස්තු මස 12 වැනි අඟහරුවාදා – 2025.08.12
No. 2449/13 – TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025

(Published by Authority)

PART I: SECTION (I) – GENERAL

Government Notifications

THE PILGRIMAGES ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 175)

The Esala Festival of Sabaragamu Maha Saman Devalaya - 2025

I hereby notify to the General public that the aforesaid Festival will commence on the 22nd August 2025 and end on 08th September 2025.

Attention of the General public is here by drawn that the regulation in terms of the provisions of the Pilgrimage Ordinance published in the following *Gazette Notification*:

Gazette No. 2151/21 dated 26th November 2019
Gazette No. 2184/49 dated 17th July 2020
Gazette No. 2243/08 dated 30th August 2021
Gazette No. 2293/45 dated 18th August 2022
Gazette No. 2338/60 dated 30th June 2023
Gazette No. 2390/03 dated 24th June 2024

K. G. S. NISANTHA,
District Secretary/Government Agent,
Officer in Charge of the Esala Festival Camp,
At the Sabaragamuwa Maha Saman Devalaya.

At the District Secretariat, Rathnapura,
On 11th August, 2025.

1A – G 45100 – 05 (08/2025)

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The Esala Festival of Sabaragamu Maha Saman Devalaya - 2025

Attention of the General public is hereby drawn that the regulation related to the Pilgrims Published in the *Gazette* No. 2151/21 dated 26th November 2019, *Gazette* No. 2184/49 dated 17th July, 2020 *Gazette* No. 2243/08 dated 30th August 2021, *Gazette* No. 2293/45 dated 18th August, 2022 *Gazette* No. 2338/60 dated 30th June 2023. *Gazette* No. 2390/03 dated 24th June 2024.

I hereby notify the following Particulars relating to those regulations.

1. Duration of conducting the Procession -

- It is hereby informed that the Esala Festival of Sabaragamu Maha Saman Devalaya-Will commence on the 22nd August and end with Water Cutting Ceremony and Day Procession on the 08th September 2025.
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| * All Night Pirith Chanting Ceremony | 22.08.2025 |
| * Alms Giving Ceremony for Maha Sangha | 23.08.2025 |
| * Kap Planting Ceremony | 24.08.2025 |
| * Auction of Stalls | 24.08.2025 |
| * Kumbal Perahera | From 24.08.2025 to 28.08.2025 |
| * Street Parade of the Perahera | From 29.08.2025 to 02.09.2025 |
| * Randoli Perahera Festival | From 03.09.2025 to 07.09.2025 |
| * Water Cutting Ceremony | 08.09.2025 |

2. The Camp Area -

- The camp area where the Esala Festival to be conducted shall be the area bounded to the North by the cement channel which demarcates public resident lands of Paraveni Officers, vehicle parking area, sales stalls area and the entrance road to the vehicle park, to the South by Thennagewaththa and the 'Kalu' river, to the East by Ratnapura- Panadura Road and to the West by Maha Uyanwaththa possessed by the Devalaya.

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 - Panadura 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 22nd August to the 08th September 2025, 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. Offering Puja for the Perahera -

- 5.1 Pausing Perahera on the way in order to offer puja for the Water Cutting Perahera is Permitted.

6. Health -

- 6.1 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.

7. Trade -

- 7.1 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 procession.
- 7.2 During the Perahara season Government Covid 19 Health Advice should be thoroughly established boutiques which are currently selling Flowers and Trade On Either side of the road Kotaambe to Kataliyanpalla other sacred items in the camp area.
- 7.3 No Persons shall build or erect a boutique or sales stall or sell anything in the sacred area, except flowers and pooja items that have been erected on both sides of the entrances road to the camp area.
- 7.4 Hawkers are not allowed to sell anything within the camp area after 7.00 p.m.
- 7.5 Each of the building and stall be pieced with a garbage containers and garbage shall be disposed in such containers.
- 7.6 All processed foods exposed for sale shall be kept in boxes with covers so as to protect them from flies.

8. Environment -

- 8.1 No person shall bring or throw away plastic bottles, shopping bags, lunch sheets etc in the camp area.
- 8.2 Plastic wastes which are brought in to the camp area shall be dumped only into relevant garbage containers.
- 8.3 Thorough attention shall be paid to make the camp area a plastic free area.

9. Beggars -

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

K. G. S. NISANTHA,
District Secretary/Government Agent,
Officer in Charge of the Esala Festival Camp,
At the Sabaragamuwa Maha Saman Devalaya.

At the District Secretariat Rathnapura,
On 11th August 2025.

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