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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2474/02 - 2026 පෙබරවාරි මස 02 වැනි සඳුදා - 2026.02.02

No. 2474/02 - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 02, 2026

(Published by Authority)

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

L.D-B 4/1981(II)A

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACT, No. 47 OF 1980

Order under Section 24C and Section 24D

BY virtue of the powers vested in me by section 24C and section 24D read with any other provisions of Part V of the National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980, as may be applicable, to duly implement the provisions of said Act I, Hettithanthri Patabendige Dammika, Minister of Environment do by this Order, declare that-

- the area of land and the map in which the metes and bounds are set out in the Schedule I shall be an Environmental Protection Area and shall be called the “Gonameriyawa Environmental Protection Area” (in this Order referred to as the “Protection Area”); and
- any planning scheme and project other than the matters listed in the Schedule II shall cease to operate in the Protection Area from the date of operation of this Order.

HETTITHANTHRI PATABENDIGE DAMMIKA,
Minister of Environment.

Colombo,
02nd February, 2026.



SCHEDULE I

1. The extent of the Protection Area is 1.775 hectare.
2. The Protection Area is situated at the land of Veragama Rajamaha Viharaya in the Gonameriyawa Grama Niladhari Division in Kebithigollewa Divisional Secretariat area in Anuradhapura District in the North Central Province.
3. The metes and bounds of the Protection Area are as follows:-

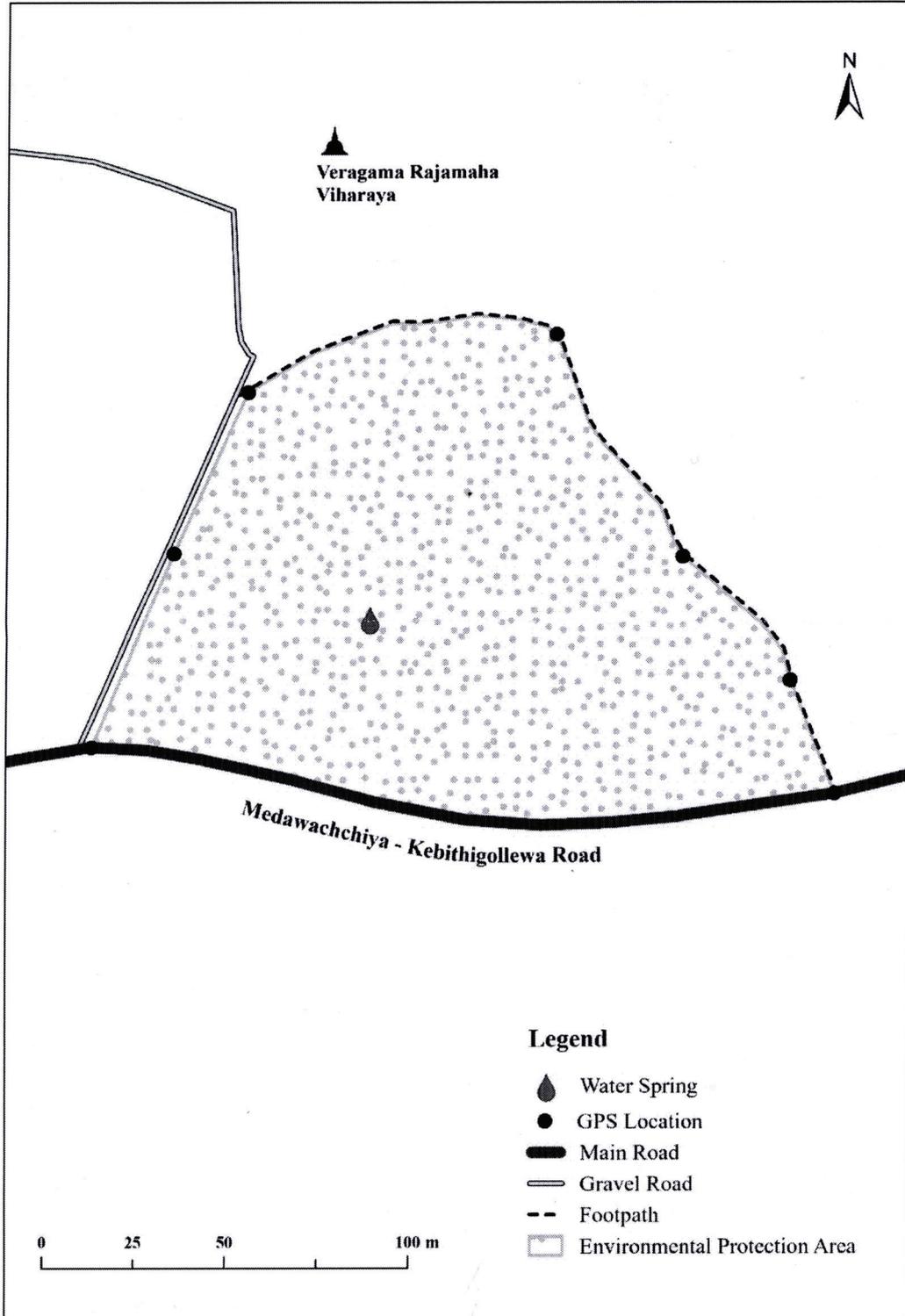
North - Foot path

East - Along the foot path, up to the place mentioned in the Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinate 460254E, 953764N, along the Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinates 406179E, 953890N, 460213E, 953829N, 460242E, 953795N

South - From the last mentioned place along the Northern boundary of the Medawachchiya-Kebithigollewa Road up to the place mentioned in the Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinate 460054E, 953777N

West - From the last mentioned place, along the boundary of the Veragama Rajamaha Viharaya up to the place mentioned in the Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinate 460096E, 953874N, along the Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinate 460076E, 953830N

4. Map of the Protection Area



SCHEDULE II

1. Matters listed for the purpose of this Order shall be -
 - (a) maintenance of existing infrastructure;
 - (b) removal of exotic plants and Alien Invasive Species in an eco-friendly manner without affecting the biodiversity of the said Protection Area;
 - (c) obtaining water for drinking purposes;
 - (d) any educational and research activity without any harm, damage or pollution to the Protection Area;
 - (f) excavation, conservation and maintenance of Archaeological sites.
2. Matters listed in item 1 shall be carried out in such manner as to-
 - (a) not hinder the natural sustainability of the Protection Area;
 - (b) not disturb fauna and flora and their habitats ; and
 - (c) not disturb the existing watersprings and waterways within the Protection Area.
3. The approval to carry out matters listed in item I shall be obtained from the Central Environmental Authority established under section 2 of the National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980.
4. The Central Environmental Authority shall constantly monitor all matters under its purview.
5. The Central Environmental Authority shall maintain registers and cause proper records to be maintained when discharging its duties.
6. The study or research report of such educational and research activity referred to in paragraph (d) of item 1 shall be submitted to the Central Environmental Authority within three months from the date of visit to the Protection Area. Where the matters herein provided have not been complied with, the Central Environmental Authority shall notify, the person that undertook the educational and research activity and the relevant institute or university which such person represented, of such non-compliance, and request the delivery of such report forthwith.

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