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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2258/3 - 2021 දෙසැම්බර් මස 13 වැනි සඳුදා - 2021.12.13
No. 2258/3 - MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021

(Published by Authority)

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

Notification No. 1

PILGRIMAGES ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 175)

Sri Pada Pilgrimage Season - 2021/2022

IT is hereby notified for the information of the General Public that the aforementioned pilgrimage season will commence on 18th December, 2021 and end on 16th May, 2022.

The General Public are informed that the regulations published in the following *Gazette* notifications, in terms of the provisions of the Pilgrimages Ordinance, shall be in force within the duration of the pilgrimage season.

Government *Gazette* No. 9859 of 30th April, 1948
Government *Gazette* No. 10000 of 22nd July, 1949
Government *Gazette* No. 11255 of 07th February, 1958
Government *Gazette* No. 12508 of 07th July, 1961
Government *Gazette* No. 12947 of 02nd March, 1962
Government *Gazette* No. 2034/33 of 01st September, 2017

MALANI LOKUPOTHAGAMA,
District Secretary/ Government Agent Ratnapura.

At the District Secretariat, Ratnapura.



SRI PADA PILGRIMAGE SEASON - 2021/2022

Attention of the General public is invited to the regulations relating to pilgrimages published in the *Gazettes* bearing No. 9859 of 30th April 1948, No.10000 of 22nd July, 1949, No. 11255 of 07th February, 1958, No. 12508 of 7th July, 1961, No. 12947 of 02nd March, 1962, No. 2034/33 of 01st September, 2017. I hereby notify the following particulars relating to those regulations.

01. Rest Rooms/ Ambalam

1.1 Rest rooms/ambalam at Lihinihela, Palabaddala temple, Heramitipana, Andiyamalathenna, Warnagala, Seetagagula, Medahinna, Idikatupana shall be used as lodgings.

1.2 No temporary lodgings shall be prepared or maintained.

02. Construction of Buildings

No buildings or lodging or boutique, whether permanent or temporary, shall be constructed during the period from 18th December, 2021 to the 16th May, 2022 by any person without my written permission or such permission obtained from any other authorized officer.

03. Beggars

Asking for or receiving alms by beggars and giving or distributing alms to beggars shall be avoided at any place within Sri Pada compound area or ambalam/rest room premises.

04. Bathing and Washing

4.1 Bathing or washing clothes shall be avoided at places except the safe places already identified and declared by the Department of Forest, Central Environment Authority and Local Government Authorities.

4.2 Private ventures which are intended to facilitate for bathing and washing clothes shall duly obtain prior written permission from the Department of Forest, Local Government Authority and Central Environment Authority.

05. Vehicles/ Routes

5.1 No person shall park or enter vehicles at places except the places reserved by Pradeshiya Sabha or respective Local Government Authority.

5.2 The main routes fixed for pilgrimage are Raja Mawatha (Palabaddala route), Hatton Nallathanniya route and Kuruwita Erathna route.

06. Environment and Sanitation

6.1 Polythene and plastic shall not be discarded improperly on pilgrims' route or within Sri Pada Compound area or around rest rooms or to the environment.

6.2 No person shall place bonfire and set fire which may cause any conflagration in Sri Pada Site, by any reason.

6.3 Sanitation and garbage disposal during pilgrimage season shall be facilitated by the Local Government Authorities and Provincial Health Services Directorate.

6.4 The responsibility of disinfection of the railings along the route shall be assigned to the Local Government Authorities.

07. Medical Facilities

A prior written permission of Director of Provincial Health Services and respective Local Government Authority shall be obtained for the medical treatment/ first-aid centres which are to be undertaken by private ventures.

08. Marketing and alms-halls shall be conducted subject to Health Guidelines in-force

- 8.1 Hawkers are not allowed to sell anything within Sri Pada Compound area and rest room premises and along the route due to prevailing COVID - 19 pandemic situation.
- 8.2 Selling of Pooja items, Pooja trays, food items or other commodities shall not be allowed at any place except the places where permission was granted by me or by any other authorized officer.
- 8.3 Carrying along the pilgrims' route or storing, sale or purchase at boutiques and consuming any liquor, cigarettes, or any other narcotic shall strictly be prohibited.
- 8.4 No person shall establish, maintain any permanent or temporary boutique or do business therein on either side of access roads except at the places already allowed.
- 8.5 Dustbins shall be placed in every boutique and building and all refuse should be deposited therein.
- 8.6 All Processed foods for sale shall be kept with covered so as to protect them from flies.
- 8.7 No permission shall be granted to undertake alms-halls. Alms-halls for giving face masks and sanitary items can be undertaken at the starting point of the pilgrims' route only by the persons who essentially need to conduct such alms-halls.
- 8.8 A prior written permission from me or from any other authorized officer shall be obtained for such purpose.

09. Measures to be taken in the case of COVID-19 pandemic

- 9.1 Wearing face masks, Maintaining distance and following proper health guidelines while pilgrimage.
- 9.2 Pilgrims shall keep the Vaccination Card or copy of the same with them during the journey.
- 9.3 Pilgrims shall not be permitted to stay in the Sri Pada Compound and shall leave once worshipped.

MALANI LOKUPOTHAGAMA,
District Secretariat/ Government Agent,
Administrative District of Ratnapura.

At the District Secretariat, Ratnapura.
on the 09th day of December, 2021.

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