

# Road signs in Sri Lanka

**Road signs in Sri Lanka** are standardized to closely follow those used in Europe with certain distinctions, and a number of changes have introduced road signs that suit as per local road and system. Sri Lankan government announced by a gazette that aimed to get a face-lift and introduction of over 100 new road traffic signs. The new change will be replaced in color and sizes and introduction of Variable-message sign & electronic digital sign boards in express highways. The Japanese government has granted LKR 1.24 billion to implement message signs in expressways.<sup>[1]</sup>

Language applicable traffic sign boards are in Sinhalese, Tamil and English. The motor traffic act (chapter 203) describes road traffic signs.<sup>[2]</sup>



70 kmph speed limit for light vehicles outside built-up areas. Vehicle categories are motor cars, dual purpose vehicles and motor cycles

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## Danger warning signs



DWS-01: Left Bend Ahead



DWS-02: Right Bend Ahead



DWS-03: Double Bend to Left Ahead



DWS-04: Double Bend to Right Ahead



DWS-05: Hair Pin Bend to Right Ahead



DWS-06: Hair Pin Bend to Left Ahead



DWS-07: Dual Carriage-way Ends



DWS-08: Dual Carriage-way Starts Ahead



DWS-09: Road Narrows Ahead



DWS-10: Road Narrows on the Left Side Ahead



DWS-11: Road Narrows on the Right Side Ahead



DWS-12: Intersection Ahead



DWS-13: Staggered Junction Ahead with First Side Road to Left



DWS-14: Staggered Junction Ahead with First Side Road to Right



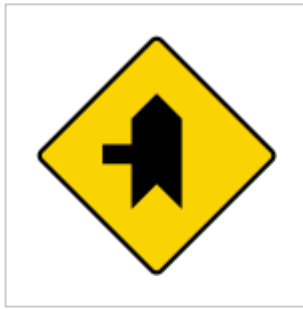
DWS-15: 'T' Junction Ahead



DWS-16: 'Y' Junction Ahead



DWS-17: Traffic From Left Merges Ahead



DWS-18: Side Road From Left Intersects at Right Angle Ahead



DWS-19: Traffic From Right Merges Ahead



DWS-20: Side Road From Right Intersects at Right Angle Ahead



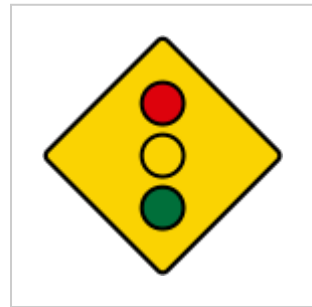
DWS-21: Narrow Bridge or Culvert Ahead



DWS-22: Two-way Traffic Ahead



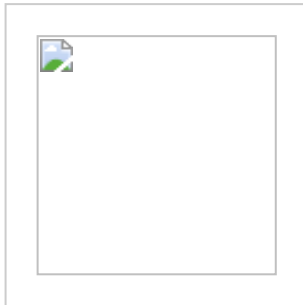
DWS-25: Roundabout Ahead



DWS-26: Light Signals Ahead



DWS-27: Dangerous Descent Ahead



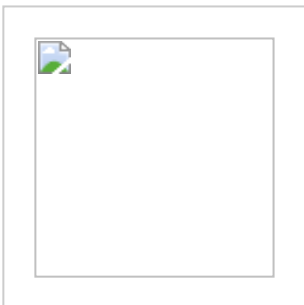
DWS-28: Dangerous Ascent Ahead



DWS-29: Slippery Road Ahead



DWS-31: Falling Rocks Ahead



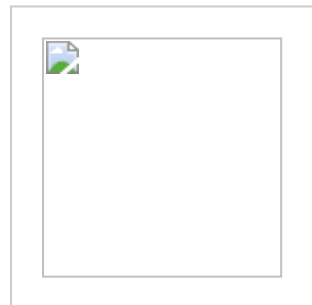
DWS-32: Pedestrian Crossing Ahead



DWS-33: Children present/crossing Ahead



DWS-35: Road Work Ahead



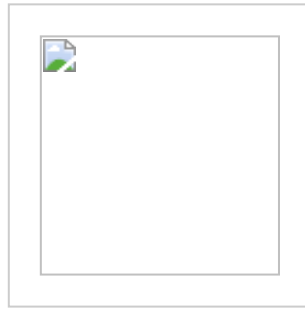
DWS-36: Level Crossing with Gates Ahead



DWS-37: Unprotected Level Crossing Ahead



DWS-40: Cyclist crossing Ahead



DWS-41: Cattle Crossing Ahead



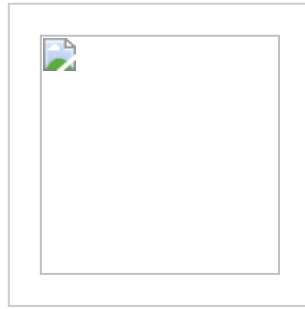
DWS-44: Road Hump Ahead



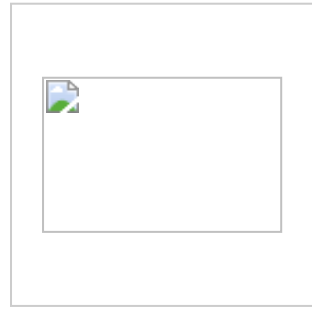
DWS-45: Uneven Road Ahead



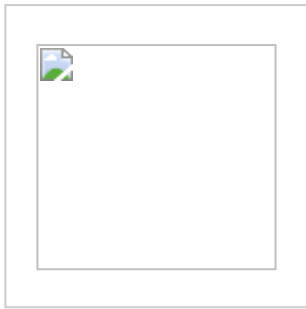
DWS-46: Dip Causeway Ahead



DWS-49: Low flying Air Crafts Ahead



DWS-50: Railway Level Crossing Ahead

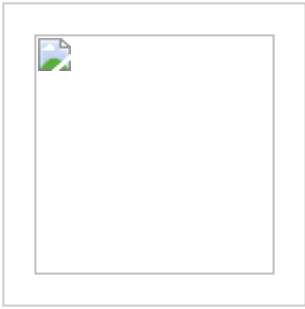


DWS-51: Railway Level Crossing Comprising Two or More Tracks ahead

## Regulatory signs

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### Prohibitory signs



PHS-01: No Entry

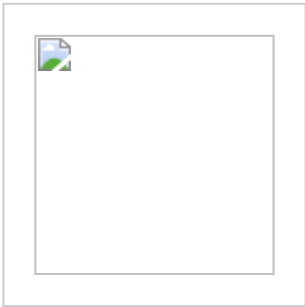


PHS-10: Road Closed



PHS-19: Road Closed for  
Motorcycles

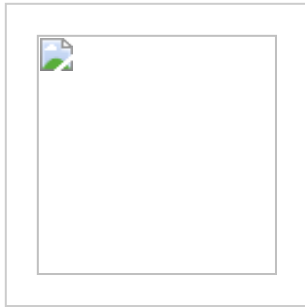
## Restrictive signs



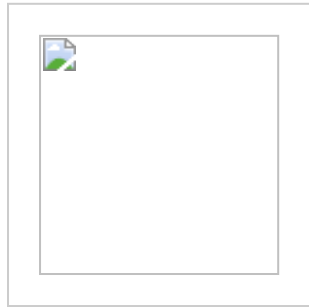
RSS-05: Speed Limit for  
vehicles within built-up  
areas except for 3  
wheelers and land  
vehicles



RSS-06: Speed Limit for  
light vehicles outside  
built-up areas



RSS-07: Speed Limit for  
heavy vehicles in non  
built-up areas



RSS-09: Speed Limit for  
all vehicles within school  
areas and hospitals

## Mandatory signs

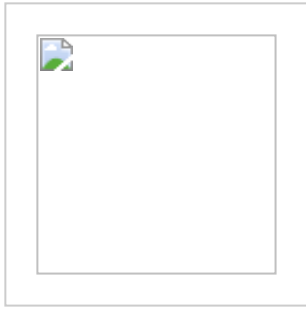


MNS-01: Turn Left

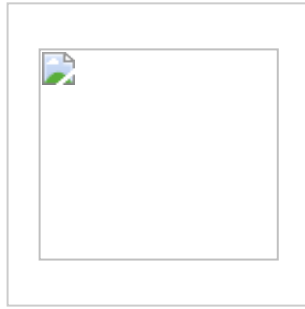


MNS-02: Turn Right

## Priority signs



PRS-01: Stop



PRS-02: Give Way



PRS-03: Priority road



PRS-04: End of priority road



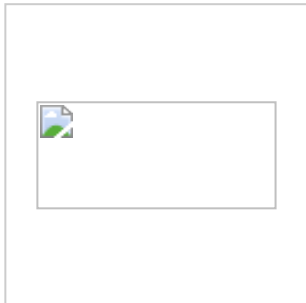
PRS-05: Priority for the oncoming traffic



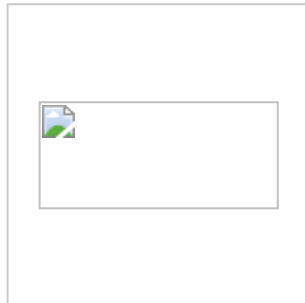
PRS-06: Priority over oncoming traffic

## Additional panels

- Additional panels to be used with regulatory signs



APR-08: School

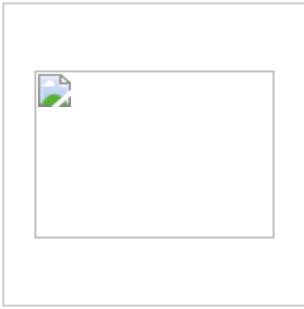


APR-13: 5.00 am – 9.00 pm

## Directional informative signs

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### National Highways

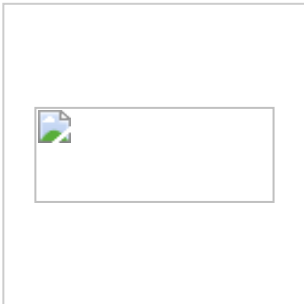


IS(NH)-09: Confirming Distances



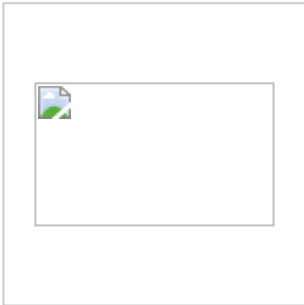
IS(NH)-10: Beginning of an administrative area

## Provincial Roads



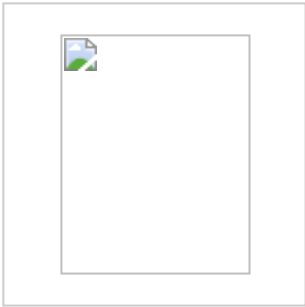
IS(PR)-04: Direction Sign, Provincial Roads

## Expressways



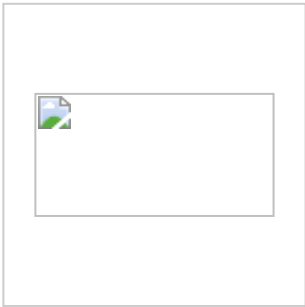
IS(EX)-06: Exit Ramp, Direction Sign

## Other signs useful for drivers

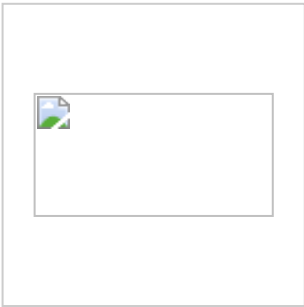


OSD-16: Expressway  
start

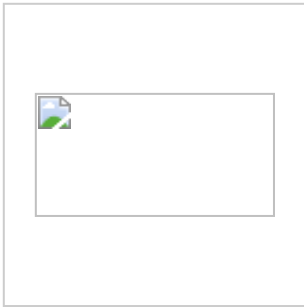
Route number signs



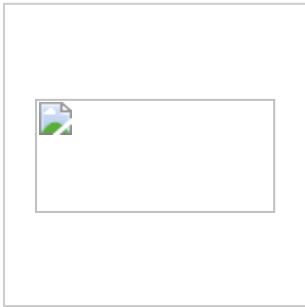
RNS-01: A Class  
Highways



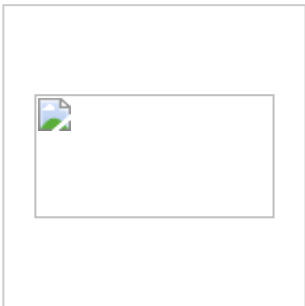
RNS-02: B Class  
Highways



RNS-03: C Class  
highways



RNS-04: Expressways  
(Light blue)



RNS-04: Expressways  
(Dark blue)

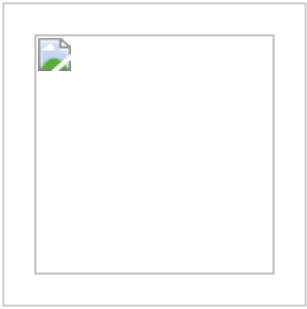
Additional panels

- Additional Panels to be used with Directional Informative Signs

Miscellaneous signs

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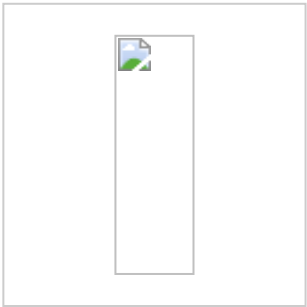




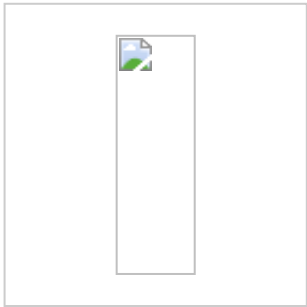
MS-05: Chevron Markers

# Road markings

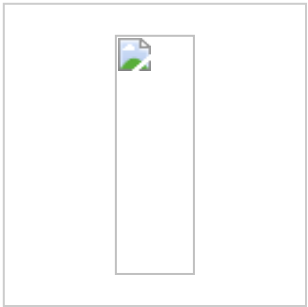
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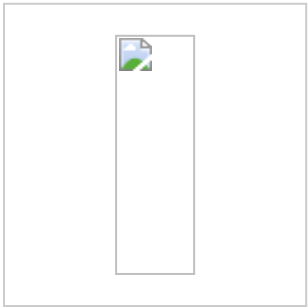
RM-06: Longitudinal Continuous Centre Line



RM-11: Longitudinal Double Centre Line



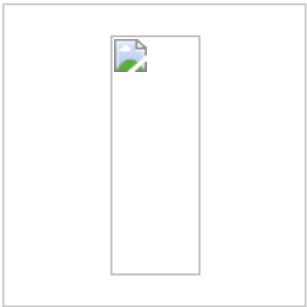
RM-16: No Parking Line



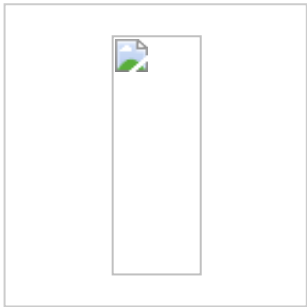
RM-17: No Parking Double Line

# Traffic light signals

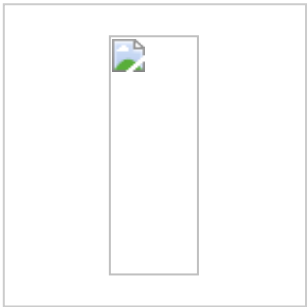
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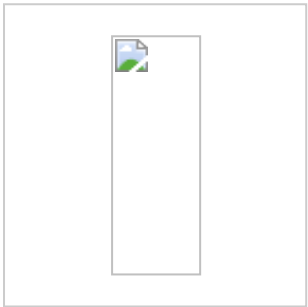
APS-01: Red Light



APS-02: Red and Amber Lights

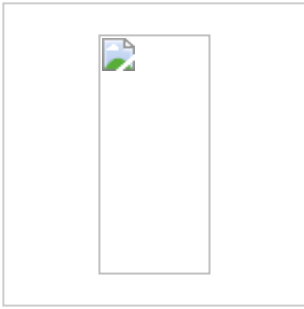


APS-03: Green Light



APS-04: Amber Lights

# Light signals for pedestrians

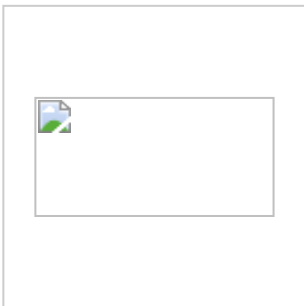


LSP-01: Light Signals for  
Pedestrians

## Prohibited distance

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- Prohibited distance for parking of vehicles



PDV-05: Prohibited  
distance at bus stops

## Hazard-warning plates

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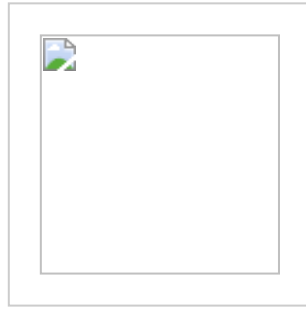
- Hazard-warning plates fixed to transport vehicles



HWP-01: Explosive



HWP-02: Flammable gas



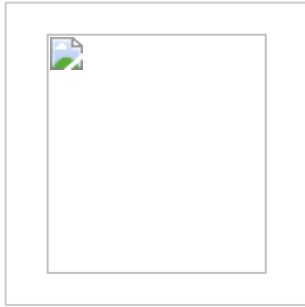
HWP-03: Flammable liquid



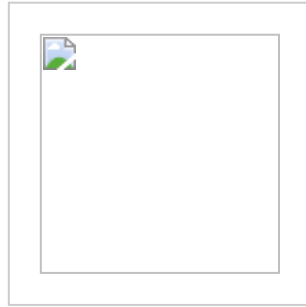
HWP-04: Flammable solid



HWP-05: Oxidizer



HWP-06: Infectious substance



HWP-07: Radioactive substance



HWP-08: Corrosive substance

## See also

- [Transport in Sri Lanka](#)

## References

1. ["Sri Lanka's road traffic signs to get a facelift"](http://www.sundaytimes.lk/140525/business/sri-lankas-road-traffic-signs-to-get-a-facelift-99859.html) (<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/140525/business/sri-lankas-road-traffic-signs-to-get-a-facelift-99859.html>) Sunday Times. Retrieved 27 November 2014.
2. ["The Motor Traffic Act"](http://www.srilankalaw.lk/Volume-V/motor-traffic-act.html) (<http://www.srilankalaw.lk/Volume-V/motor-traffic-act.html>). Retrieved 8 January 2015.

## External links

- [Government Notifications: The Motor Traffic Act \(Chapter 203\)](#)
- [Proposals to enhance the benefits of road sector development in Sri Lanka](#)

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