

මධ්‍යම පරිසර අධිකාරිය
மத்திய சுற்றாடல் அதிகாரசபை
Central Environmental Authority



“පරිසර පියස”, 104, ඩෙන්සිල් කොබ්බෑකඩුව මාවත, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.
 “பரிசர பியச”, 104, டென்சில் கொப்பேகடுவ மாவத்தை, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை.
 “Parisara Piyasa”, 104, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka. Web : www.cea.lk

අපේ යොමුව } CEA/06/EPU/PR/39/2022 } ඔබේ යොමුව } දිනය }
 எமது தொடர்பு } } உமது தொடர்பு } திகதி } 2023.12.20
 Our Ref. } } Your Ref. } Date }

Media Release

Do not bring polythene and plastic when visiting Sri Pada

- A request from the Central Environmental Authority...

The Central Environmental Authority requests the devotees who are visiting Sri Pada to refrain from disposing of garbage including polythene and plastic in the area while visiting Sri Pada.

This year's Sri Pada season begins on 26th December 2023, the Unduvap Full Moon Poya Day, and ends on the Vesak Full Moon Poya Day of 2024. Usually, a large number of devotees visit Sri Pada during this season, to worship the Sacred Footprint. Sri Pada is located in the Samanala Nature Reserve. In 2010, the Samanala Nature Reserve was declared a world heritage by UNESCO and has been identified as a highly sensitive environmental zone. This sanctuary is rich in plants endemic to Sri Lanka, and it is also home to many endemic Animals. The sources of water of Sri Lanka's major rivers originate from the Samanala Nature Reserve. It is our duty and responsibility to protect this sensitive environmental zone. Disposing of garbage including polythene and plastic in this area damages the unique biodiversity of this sensitive environmental zone, and it also pollutes the water sources in this reserve. Further, the waste added to this environment is swept along the water sources, pollutes the rivers and streams across the country, and ends up in the sea.

Therefore, Mr. P. B. Hemantha Jayasinghe, Director General of the Central Environmental Authority, requests the devotees not to bring any polythene or plastic when coming to Sri Pada, and if polythene or plastic needs to be used under unavoidable circumstances, not to

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Deputy Director Generals	HRD, Admin. & Finance Tel: 2124610	Envt. Pollution Control Tel : 2124618 Fax : 2872605	Envt. Mgt. & Assessment Tel : 2124626 Fax : 2872296	Envt. Edu. & Awareness Tel : 2124614 Fax : 2872609	Waste Management Tel : 2124634 Fax : 2882152	Regional Operation Tel : 2124638 Fax : 2872275	Page 1 of 4		



improperly dispose of such waste in this sensitive environmental zone. Further, Mr. Jayasinghe kindly requests all the devotees to either carry the waste, if any that is generated while visiting Sri Pada, back to their homes or to hand over such waste to the waste collection centers maintained by local government bodies, private institutions, and volunteer organizations at the entrance of the main access roads to Sri Pada (i.e., Nallathanni Road and the two roads from Ratnapura area).

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