

My No: MPA/IAD/ADM/GA02/TWH/19
Ministry of Public Administration and
Disaster Management
Independence Square
Colombo 07

22.02.2019

Secretaries of Ministries
Provincial Chief Secretaries
Heads of Departments
Heads of Government Cooperation and Statutory Boards

Declaring Thripitaka as a World Heritage
(Sri Thripitaka Felicitation Week from 16.03.2019 to 23.03.2019)

Your attention is hereby drawn to Circular No PS/PMD/C/06/2019 dated 05.02.2019 issued by the Secretary to H.E the President on the above matter.

02. With the objective of bestowing Theravada Buddhism, which has been protected, preserved and conveyed from generation to generation so far with the lavish sponsorship of the rulers and great contribution of Bhikku Sasana of Sri Lanka for more than 2500 years up to the present, to the next generation, protecting its real context, H.E the President officially declared Theravada Thripitaka as a National Heritage on 05.01.2019 on the instructions and directions of Maha Sangha.

03. Accordingly, approval has been received on 13.01.2019 to the proposal submitted by H.E. the President Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka on the instructions of Maha Sangha that necessary action should be taken to declare Theravada Thripitaka as a world heritage recollecting the responsibility of Sri Lanka as the Center of Theravada Buddhism.

04. Accordingly, the proposal is due to be submitted at Mahamaluwa of Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Tooth Relic) as a collective proposal of all Buddhist countries, which follow Theravada Buddhist tradition, under the auspices of Chief Prelates of Three Nikaya of Sri Lanka, with the participation of other Theros and representation of other countries following Theravada Buddhism.

05. With a view to make this effort of national importance a success, the week from 16.03.2019 up to 23.03.2019 has been declared as “Sri Thripitaka Felicitation Week”, marking the commencement of this national programme.

06. Schedule for Sri Thripitaka Felicitation Week is as follows

- 16.03.2019 – Island wide Pindapatha Dana Programme
- 17.03.2019 – Island wide Daham School Programme
- 18.03.2019 – Island wide programme based on Schools and Pirivenas
- 19.03.2019-Programme conducted based on Non-Government Institutions
- 20.03.2019 – Programme conducted based on temples on Poya Days
- 21.03.2019 – Conducting an academic seminar and launching a compilation of scholarly articles
- 22.03.2019 – Programme conducted all government institutions
- 23.03.2019 – National Ceremony at Mahamaluwa Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Tooth Relic) at Kandy

07. You are kindly requested to conduct following programmes and activities at your institution as well as all other affiliated institutions within the above week.

- I. Decorating all the institutions with Buddhist Flags within Sri Thripitaka Felicitation Week
- II. Conducting Buddhist religious programs on 23.03.2019 which is the day for public sector
- III. Organizing Dhamma Deshana programmes

8. I would like to point out that it is your responsibility to ensure all the measures mentioned above are properly carried out at your Ministry/ Department/ Institution in order to make the national programme for declaring Thripitaka as a world heritage a success.

Sgd/ J.J. Rathnasiri
Secretary
Ministry of Public Administration and
Disaster Management

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- 01. Secretary to the President, President's Secretariat - For your information as per the Circular No PS/PMD/C/06/2019 dated 05.02.2019