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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/39/2023
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திகதி }
Date }

Media Release

Two more Gazettes to Protect the Environment ...

Nine more single-use plastic items banned ...

"Haliela Water Source Reservation" declared as an Environmental Protection Area ...

• Nine more Single-use Plastic Items Banned ...

By virtue of the powers vested in Nazir Ahamad, Minister of Environment, in terms of the National Environmental Act No. 47 of 1980, using nine (09) single-use plastic items for any process, trade, or industry within the country has been banned by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2341/30 of 19 July 2023 with effect from 1st October 2023.

These items include single-use drinking straws and stirrers; single-use plates, cups, spoons, forks, and knives; plastic garlands; and plastic string hopper trays that have been banned. Thus, manufacturing, importation for local use, sale, offering for sale, displaying for sale, offering free of charge, or exhibiting within the country will be banned from 01 October 2023, and in case of any violation of this ban, legal action will be taken in terms of the provisions of the National Environmental Act.

It is the need of the hour that everyone works together to prevent the massive environmental pollution caused by the use of plastic. Therefore, this ban was imposed with the objective of reducing the use of non-essential plastic items and related environmental problems and providing support to protect the environment including living beings. Also, this gave an opportunity to promote local industries engaged in environment-friendly alternatives and reduce the foreign exchange involved in plastic importation.

• "Haliela Water Source Reservation", declared as an Environmental Protection Area ...

By virtue of the powers vested in Nazir Ahamad, Minister of Environment, in terms of the National Environmental Act No. 47 of 1980, the land area consisting of 362 allotments of lands situated in the tea estates in the Haliela Divisional Secretariat in the Badulla District of Uva Province has been declared as an environment protection area under the name "Haliela Water Source Reservation Environmental Protection Area" by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2335/21 of 09 June 2023.

Water sources that feed the small streams feeding Badulu Oya are located in this area. Considering the protection of those water sources to be of national interest, action was taken to declare this area as an environmental protection area with the objective of conserving and providing legal protection to these water sources.


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Accordingly, only permitted uses can be carried out in the "Haliela Water Source Reservation Environmental Protection Area" henceforth, and such activities should be carried out subject to the conditions set out in the gazette notification. Tree planting programmes aimed at improving the water source reservation area, community-based water supply projects to provide drinking water to the rural communities, and activities related to the sustainable existence of the Haliela Environmental Protection Area have been declared as permitted uses.

In terms of the provisions of the National Environment Act, ecologically unique areas are declared as environmental protection areas and such areas are regulated to ensure the long-term sustainability of the areas. Accordingly, there have been ten designated environmental protection areas in Sri Lanka, and the "Haliela Water Source Reservation Environmental Protection Area" is the eleventh environmental protection area.

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