



VISION

Towards a virtuous society which protects Buddhist principles

MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure the continuous existence of an exemplary Buddhist society by creating a righteous and virtuous society that awakens both local and foreign Buddhist communities through the proper implementation of tasks for the furtherance, promotion and development of the Sambuddha Sasana.

OBJECTIVES

- ✿ Protection, fostering and propagation of Theravada Buddhism
- ✿ Protecting and organizing properties belonging to Maha Sanga and utilizing them for the well-being of the Sambuddha Sasana.
- ✿ Developing a virtuous and creative society that appreciates the ethics of Buddhism
- ✿ Maintaining, fostering and developing Buddhasasana and other ideologies associated with it from time immemorial, to suit the timely needs.
- ✿ Conservation, fostering and development of Buddhist literature and arts and crafts
- ✿ Motivating and directing the Buddhist community towards building up of an organized Buddhist economy, compatible with modern techniques.



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Message from the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs

According to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the onerous responsibility for the protection, development and fostering of the Buddhasasana has been assigned to the Department of Buddhist Affairs of the Ministry of Buddhasasana. I am happy to mention that the Department of Buddhist Affairs has always carried out its activities with a proper vision in order to fulfill this noble responsibility.



Whilst **strengthening** the relationship between the village and the temple in order create such spiritual development. Our vision is the building up of a society which protects Buddhist principles. Various activities and programmes are being implemented in order to achieve this objective. In the development process of a country, if there is no spiritual development parallel to the social, economic and physical developments, a comprehensive development cannot be expected. Hence, this Department is performing a most valuable task.

Our priority is working with commitment for the improvement of Dhamma education, eliminating the use of drugs, alcohol and cigarettes, promotion of ethics and use of Buddhist teachings.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Staff, including all Officers in charge of Divisions, who worked with commitment and dedication to carry out efficiently, effectively and without delay the legal role entrusted under the Buddhist Temporalities Act and also to the services of the Dhamma Schools, Development, Projects, Information, Administration, Accounts, Internal Audit and Bhikkhu Registration Divisions.

Nimal Kotawalagedera

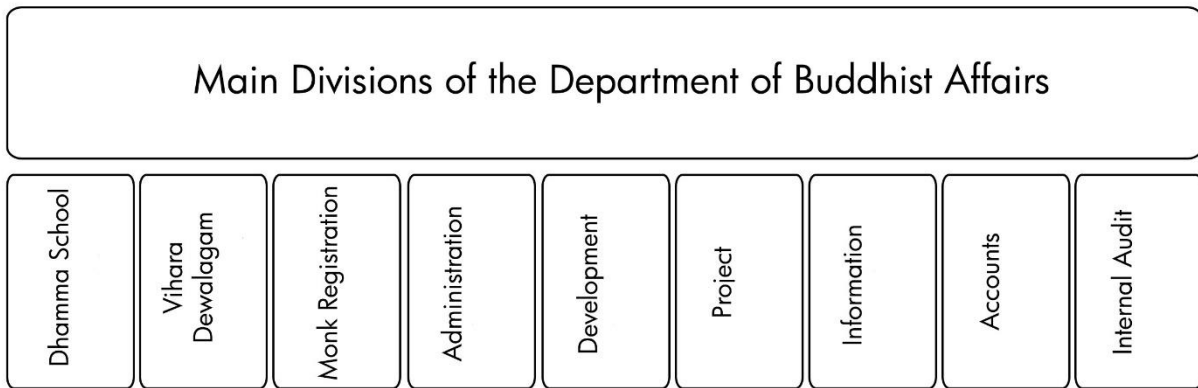
Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs



Introduction

The Department of Buddhist Affairs, whilst carrying out a large number of projects for the furtherance of the Buddhasasana and for maintaining a virtuous Buddhist society, provides necessary administrative support for utilizing Buddhist temples and properties solely for the furtherance of the Buddhasasana, for development of temples, improvement of Dhamma school education and for the registration of all Samanera/ Upasampada Bhikkus in the island, which are responsibilities entrusted to the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs by the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No. 19 of 1931.

In order to carry out these activities successfully, the Department of Buddhist Affairs has the following divisions and the relevant duties have been entrusted to them.



Regional Offices have been established and maintained at Kandy and Ratnapura for the convenience of Bhikkus in faraway areas to attend to matters relevant to the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance.

The following programmes are being carried out by this Department for the furtherance, development and promotion of the Sambuddhasasana.

01. Maintenance and operation of Sasnarakshaka Mandalas.

02. Dhamma School Activities :

- i. Printing and distribution of Dhamma School books.
- ii. Conducting Dhamma School grading examinations throughout the island.
- iii. Conducting Dhamma school children skills evaluation programmes at Regional, district and all island levels.
- iv. Conducting the Dhamma schools certificate examination in order to up-lift the educational standards of Dhamma school teachers.
- v. Providing uniforms for Dhamma school teachers.
- vi. Providing library allowance for Dhamma school teachers.
- vii. Preparing Identity Cards for Dhamma school teachers.



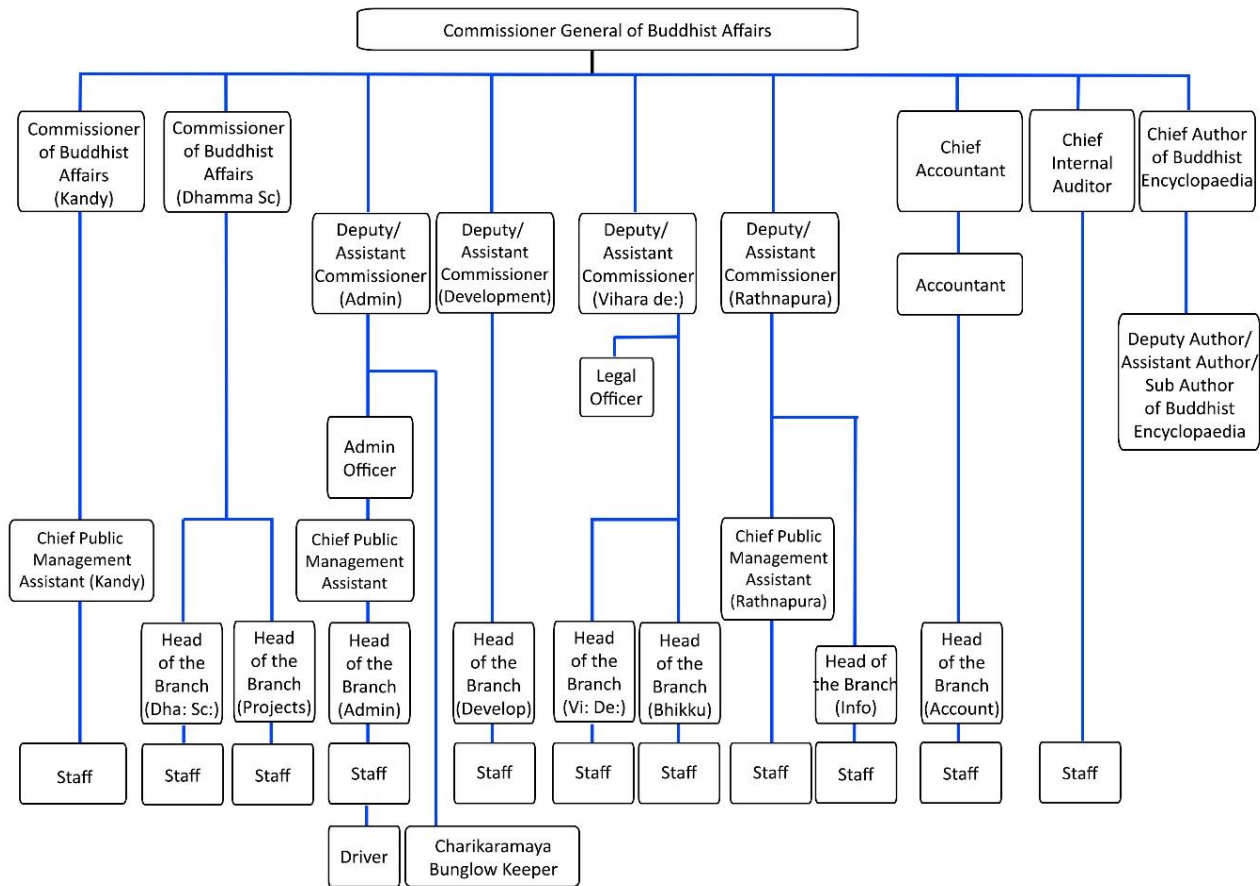
- viii. Conducting training workshops for Dhamma school teachers.
 - ix. Providing assistance for Dhamma school buildings.
 - x. Distributing equipment to Dhamma schools in difficult areas.
 - xi. Appreciating the services of Dhamma school teachers who have served long periods continuously and awarding certificates to them.
 - xii. Conducting classes for the promotion of Pali language proficiency of Dhamma school teachers and conducting an examination.
 - xiii. Implementation of the Daham Sarsaviya programme in collaboration with the Jayawardenapura University and also the Pali University, in order to provide a higher Dhamma education for Dhamma school teachers with a low educational levels.
03. Whilst carrying out coordinating activities to achieve the objectives of the institution, performing official duties with regard to administrative functions pertaining to the staff of the Department, maintenance of buildings, postal services and vehicles.
 04. Utilizing the funds allocated for the relevant activities whilst controlling the expenditure and carrying out financial and accounts functions such as maintaining of accounts, payment of salaries etc.
 05. Appointing Basnayaka Nilmes/Custodians for Buddhist places of worship coming under the purview of the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs in terms Section 4 (1) of the Buddhist Temporalities Act and monitoring their administrative activities.
 06. Providing necessary assistance to administer the properties of Buddhist places of worship. Carrying out duties such as giving lands belonging to temple on long term lease basis and giving necessary approval to the temple to get the income from such lands, taking measures for the protection of immovable properties belonging to the Sanga and getting involved for the settlement of disputes with regard to temple properties.
 07. Registering all Buddhist temples in the island in the Department of Buddhist Affairs and the acceptance of the posts of Chief Incumbent.
 08. Assistance for temples, Siwpassa assistance, providing assistance for temples with economic difficulties.
 09. Activities relevant to the establishment of regional Sasanarakshaka Mandalas.
 10. Providing assistance for cremations of Bhikkus
 11. Performing various activities for the commemoration of the Independence Day, Vesak Full Moon Day and Poson Full Moon Day.
 12. Registration of Temples Performance Committees.
 13. Giving necessary recommendations for providing facilities such as telephones, water and electricity to temples, on concessionary rates.
 14. Activities pertaining to Nikayas and Nikaya sects.
 15. Ordinations and higher ordinations
 16. Payment activities for Nikaya headquarters (drivers/ labourers).
 17. Purchasing of books under assistance for writers.
 18. Functions regarding Dasa Sil Mathas :



- i. Registration of Aramyas
 - ii. Issuing identity cards
 - iii. Matters pertaining to educational institutions
 - iv. Activities regarding meetings and commemorating the Sangamitta Day
19. Registration of Samanera and Upasampda of monks.
20. Preparation of identity cards of Buddhist monks.
21. Activities regarding properties belonging to temples and funds in Bank accounts.

In addition to the activities mentioned above, conducting the National Independence Day ceremony and State Vesak festival which are being held annually, annual student's skills competitions at regional, district and all island levels, Sangamitta Perahera and Sangamitta commemoration ceremony, can be mentioned as special programmes which are being conducted continuously by the Department of Buddhist Affairs.

Organizational chart of the Department of Buddhist Affairs



Approved Cadre of the Department & number of employees in service as at 31.12.2017

No	Designation	Salary Code	Service Category	Service Level	Grade/ Class	Approved Cadre			Number of Existing			Number of Existing Vacancies
						Permanent	Contract	Acting	Permanent	Contract	Acting	
01	Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs	SL 3-2016	SLAS	Senior	Special	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
02	Commissioner of Buddhist Affairs	SL 1-2016	SLAS	Senior	I	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
03	Chief Accountant	SL 1-2016	SLAcS	Senior	I	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
04	Chief Internal Auditor	SL 1-2016	SLAcS	Senior	I	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
05	Deputy/ Assistant Commissioner	SL 1-2016	SLAS	Senior	II/ III	4	0	0	4	0	0	0
06	Accountant	SL 1-2016	SLAcS	Senior	II/ III	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
07	Legal Officer	SL 1-2016	Dept.	Senior	III	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
08	Chief Author	SL 1-2016	Contract	Senior		0	1	0	0	0	0	1
09	Sub Author	SL 1-2016	Dept.	Senior		1	0	0	1	0	0	0
10	Deputy Author/ Assistant Author	SL 1-2016	Contract	Senior		0	2	0	0	0	0	2
11	Administrative Officer	MN 7-2016	PMAS	Tertiary	Supra	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
12	Project Officer	MN 4-2016	Asso. Officers	Secondary		3	0	0	2	0	0	1
13	Coordinator of Buddhist Affairs	MN 4-2016	Asso. Officers	Secondary		480	0	0	434	0	0	46
14	Development Assistant	MN 4-2016	Asso. Officers	Secondary		38	0	0	37	0	0	1
15	Account Assistant	MN 4-2016	Asso. Officers	Secondary		2	0	0	2	0	0	0
16	Assistant Legal Officer	MN 4-2016	Asso. Officers	Secondary		1	0	0	1	0	0	0
17	Development Officer	MN 4-2016	DOS	Secondary		207	0	0	166	0	0	41
18	Public Management Assistant	MN 2-2016	PMAS	Secondary	I/ II/ III	45	0	0	33	0	0	12
19	Driver	PL 3-2016	DS	Primary		12	0	0	10	0	0	2
20	Bungalow Keeper	PL 2-2016	Dept.	Primary		1	0	0	0	0	0	1
21	O.E.S Posts	PL 1-2016	OES	Primary	I/ II/III	20	0	0	16	0	0	4
22	Lorry Helper	PL 1-2016	Dept.	Primary		2	0	0	0	0	0	2
23	Assistant Bungalow Keeper	PL 1-2016	Dept.	Primary		1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total						825	3	0	712	0	0	116



01

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administrative Division of the Department, is performing a very important role and some of the major functions carried by it are mentioned below:

- Maintaining the personal files of all officers of the Department and attending to all relevant matters.
- Directing the staff for training courses and conducting workshops
- All duties pertaining to the subject of vehicles, including the maintenance of vehicles.
- All duties regarding the settlement of water, electricity and telephone bills.
- All duties regarding postal works.
- All administrative functions pertaining to the officers of the Department.
- All establishment matters including getting approval for posts, preparing schemes of recruitments, recruitments, updating the changes in the staff, preparation of Parliamentary reports, Cabinet Memorandums etc.
- All matters with regard to attendance, leave etc. of the staff.
- All duties pertaining to the discipline of officers
- Distress loans and property loans for staff members
- All matters pertaining to transfers, placements of officers.
- Accepting and approval of vouchers pertaining to overtime and traveling
- Matters pertaining to Agrhara Insurance of officers
- Transaction with other institutions with regard to administration
- Maintenance of all equipment including telephones, computers, photo copy machines, fax machines, air conditioning machines.
- Maintenance and repair of buildings (Mahanayaka Charikaramaya, Regional Office, Kandy and Regional Office, Rathnapura.
- Conducting the meetings of Staff Officers and Heads of Divisions.
- Conducting district coordinating officers meetings and attending to relevant matter.
- Maintaining Public Administration circulars and all other circulars and taking action regarding relevant matters.

01.1. Special activities carried out by the Administrative Division during the Year 2017

1. Converting the salaries of all officers attached to the Department as at 01.01.2017 and 01.01.2018 in terms of P.A. Circular 03/2006.
2. Preparing the necessary criteria for providing transfers to officers holding posts of Buddhist Affairs Coordinators, Development Assistants and Development Officers attached to District Secretariats and Divisional Secretariats and calling for applications accordingly.



3. Posting of Graduate Trainees appointed by the Ministry of Public Administration and Management to Divisional Secretariats.
4. Carrying out activities relevant to the absorption of officers who were recruited to the Department under the programme for providing employment to graduates in the years 1999 and 2005, to the Development Officers Service statute.
5. Issuing the results of the efficiency bar examination of Development Officers attached to the Department.
6. Conducting of a special programme with the participation of officers of the Head Office on 12.09.2016 at the Buddhist Cultural Centre to improve the efficiency and productivity of the Department of Buddhist Affairs.
7. Conducting a workshop on 31.10.2016, under the patronage of the Hon. Minister of Buddhist Affairs, for all officers throughout the island who are attached to the Department of Buddhist Affairs.
8. Implementing the programme for providing official traveling bags to Buddhist Affairs Coordinators.
9. Taking action to repair the internal telephone connections of the Department
10. Taking measures to install the Legal Officer's office in the second floor.
11. It was possible to get the approval of the Management Services Department for the recruitment of 03 Editors on contract basis for compiling the Buddhist encyclopedia, which is under this Department. Publishing notices in the gazette and newspapers for calling of application for recruitments in this connection.
14. Maintaining the vehicle pool of the Department and taking measures for repairs and transport.

The vehicle pool of the Department as at 31.12.2017 is as follows:

- Vans - 04
- Lorries - 03
- Motor Cars - 03
- Cabs - 02

15. Taking necessary action for obtaining Agrahara insurance and to register officers for the Agrahara gold and silver scheme.
16. Finalizing the repair activities of the Maha Nayaka Charikaramaya.
17. Taking action to provide officers, as distress loans.
18. Preparing and printing the 2016 Performance Report in three languages.



VIHARA DEWALAGAM DIVISION

Fulfilling the responsibilities entrusted to the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs by the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No. 19 of 1931, has been assigned to the Vihara Dewalagam Division and thereby the well-being and advancement of Buddhasasana have been ensured.

02.1. Registration of Buddhist Temples

Number of applications received for the registration of temples	- 426
1. Number of temples registered	- 381
2. Number of letters sent for confirming the posts of Chief Incumbents of temples given by Maha Nayaka Theros	-246

02.2. Leasing of lands owned by temples and Dewalas

Number of applications received for leasing	- 203
Number given on lease	- 99
Number of revisions made in respect of lease rents	- 10

02.3. Release of funds deposited in Banks by Bhikkus who have passed away.

1. Requests made the release of relevant funds	- 80
2. Amount released on recommendations made for the release of relevant funds	- Rs.56,252,283.51

02.4. Giving approval for cutting and sale of trees in Lands belonging to temples and Dewalas

1. Number of letters received requesting approval for cutting of trees	- 49
2. Approvals given for cutting of trees	- 41

02.05. Providing recommendations for Pooja Deeds

1. Requests made for obtaining Pooja deeds	- 222
2. Recommendations given for Pooja deeds	- 217

02.6. Informing that properties purchased personally by Bhikkus do not belong to the Sanga

1. No. of requests received from relevant Bhikkus	- 65
2. No. who were informed that relevant properties do not belong to Sanga	-32

02.7. Providing approval for the construction of Aranya Senasana

Bhikkus have made requests for the construction of Aranya Senasana in lands belonging to the Wild Life Department and recommendations for such requests have been given as follows:

1. No. of requests received	- 22
2. No. of recommendations given For such requests	- 13



02.8. Activities regarding caretaker appointments and temples

Appointment of caretakers for Buddhist temples coming under the control of the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs in terms of Section 4:1 of the Vihara Dewalagam Act and the supervision of their activities are being carried out by the Vihara Dewalagam Division. Accordingly, in the year 2017, action has been taken as follows in respect of temples/Dewalas controlled by Section 4:1 of the Vihara Dewalagam Ordinance (By the Head Office).

1. No. of temples	- 109
2. No. of applications received for the appointment to the post of Caretaker	- 24
1. No. of Dewalas	- 32
2. No. of applications received for the appointment of Caretaker	- 04
3. No. appointed to the post of Basnayaka Nilame	- 04
1. No. of places of worship which have prepared Asset Registers – 08	
a. No. of Dewalas	- 04
b. No. of temples	- 04
No. of places of worship which have carried out annual Goods verifications	-02
1. No. of probable annual budgets received	-68
2. No. of half yearly probable budgets received	-50
3. No. of probable budgets received and referred back after approval	-49
4. No. of supervisions carried regarding gratification money	-42

In addition, recommendations have been provided for requests made by current Chief Incumbents requesting the ownership of 12 vehicles owned by Bhikkus who have passed away. Providing recommendations for 02 requests made for Gem licences and recommendations have been given for the release of funds received as compensation for acquiring lands belonging to the temples. (The value of compensation released on such recommendations is Rs. 25690352.00).

Further, for legal matters in Courts/Bribery or Corruption Investigation Commission in respect of places of worship, appearances have been made on 29 instances and for resolving problems in places of worship, officers of the Division have participated in 50 inspections, 39 mobile services and 26 discussions with the relevant parties .



03

DHAMMA SCHOOLS DIVISION

03.1. Registration of Dhamma Schools

Dhamma schools are immensely helpful for the development of moral values of children. All Dhamma schools which have been started with this objective, are being registered in the Department of Buddhist Affairs. After the registration, details are being obtained annually for providing materials such as text books, registers etc. which are essential for maintaining Dhamma school

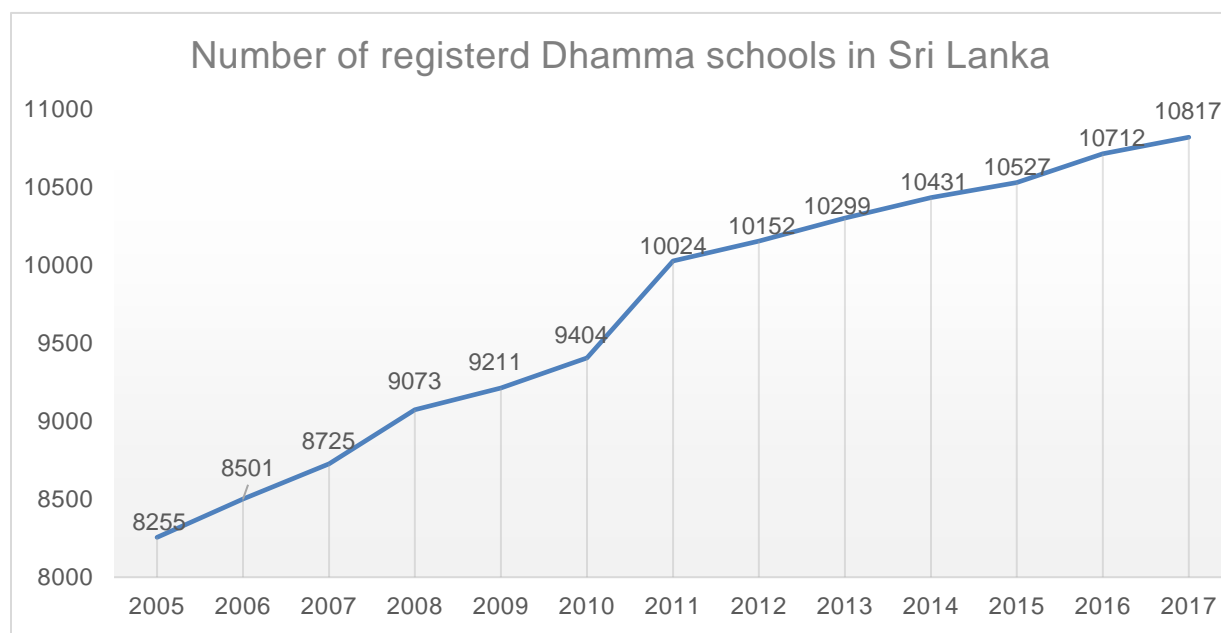


Diagram 03.1 – Progress in the Number of registered Dhamma schools in Sri Lanka

03.2. Conducting Dhamma schools grading examinations

This examination is being held to test the Dhamma knowledge of children studying in Dhamma schools. In the year 2017, examinations were held in 3,361 centers for 976,639 applicants. The amount estimated for it was Rs.21,000,000 and the amount spent was Rs. 17,510,072.

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
No. of applicants	716,840	757,927	765,887	777,576	787,692	808,161	813,432	855,868	950,274	913,720	976,639
No. centres	3,667	4,068	3,888	3,884	5,758	3,920	3,830	3,842	3,907	3,938	3,361



03.3. Collection and maintenance of information on Dhamma School teachers and students

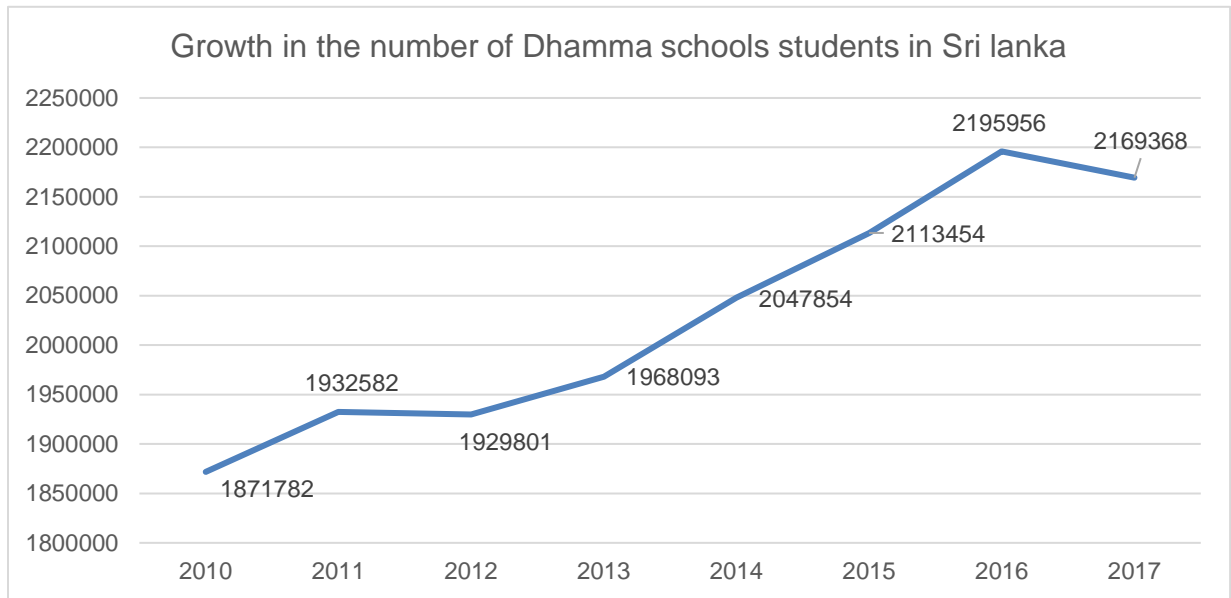


Diagram 03.2. - Growth in the number of Dhamma schools in Sri Lanka

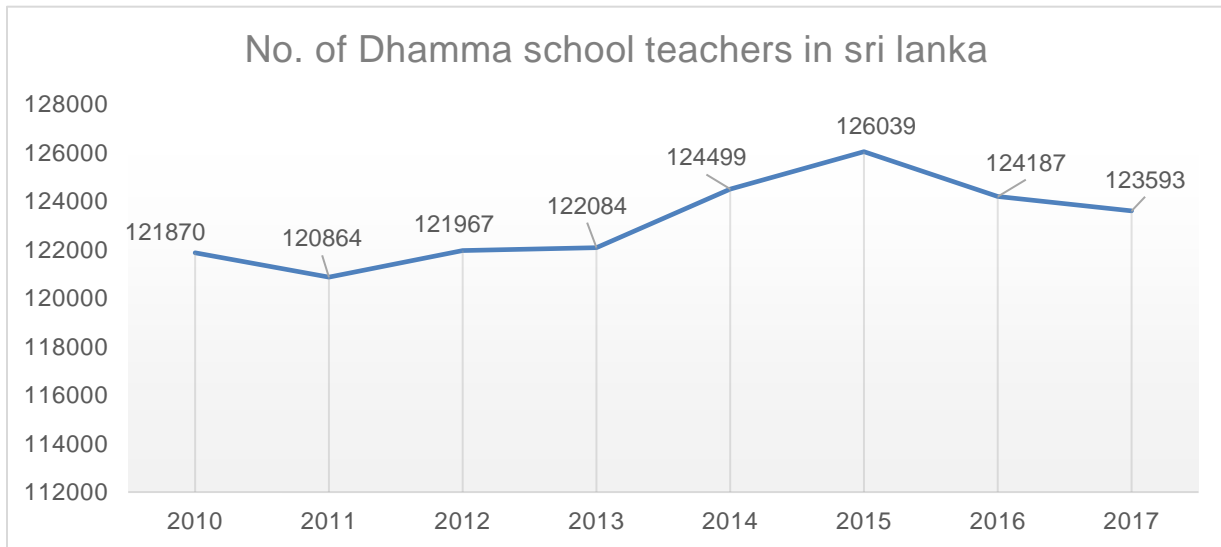
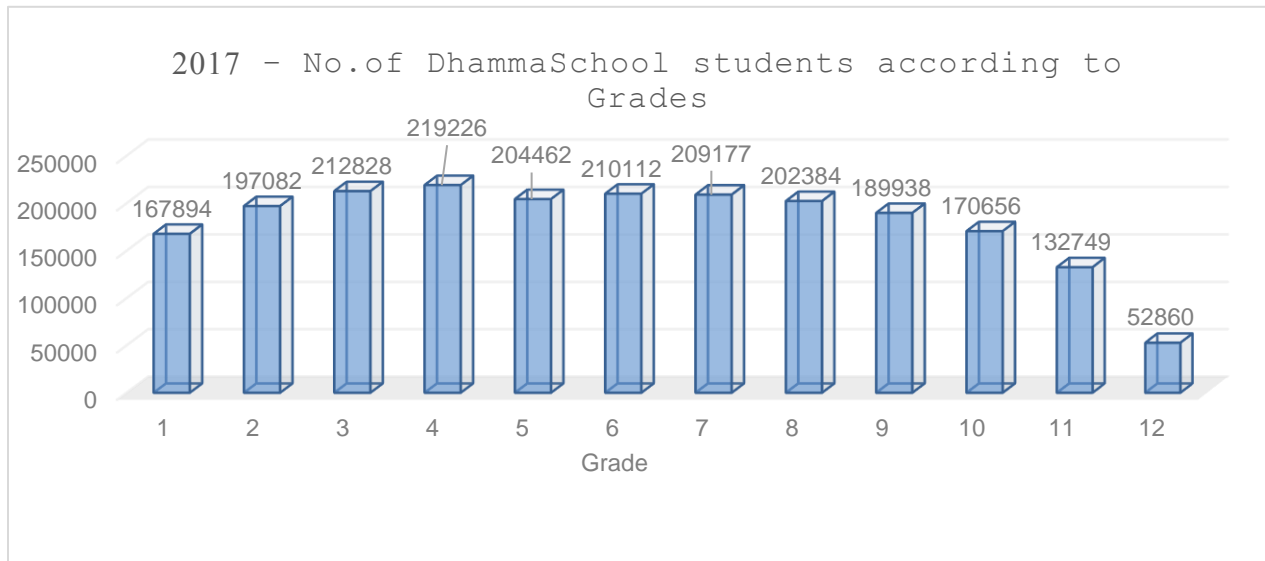


Diagram 03.3. - Growth in the number of Dhamma schools teachers in Sri Lanka





In the year 2017, the No. of Dhamma school students was 216,936 in 21 Districts

These statistics are being obtained annually in order to obtain information for providing annual library allowances and uniforms to Dhamma school teachers, text books to Dhamma school children and for obtaining information for other programmes

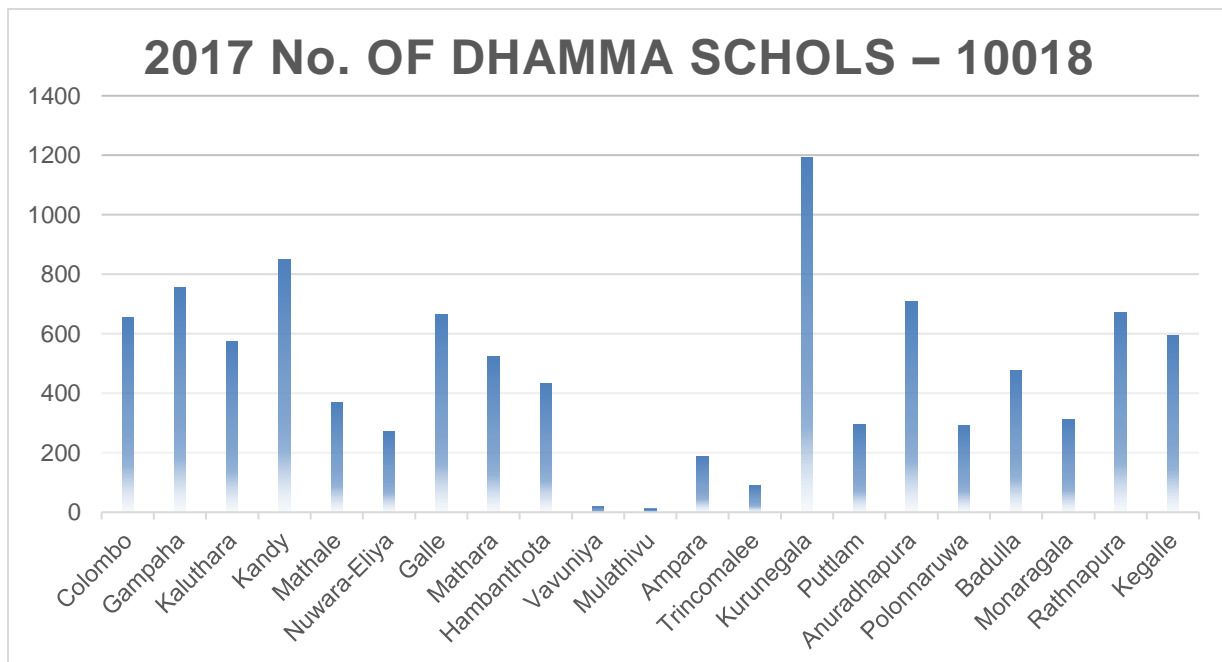


Diagram 03.4 - 2017 - No. of Dhamma school

In the year 2017, 61,000 forms were printed for obtaining information on Dhamma School teachers and students. Amount spent was Rs. 357,063.00.



03.4. Commemoration of the 122nd Dhamma Schools Day

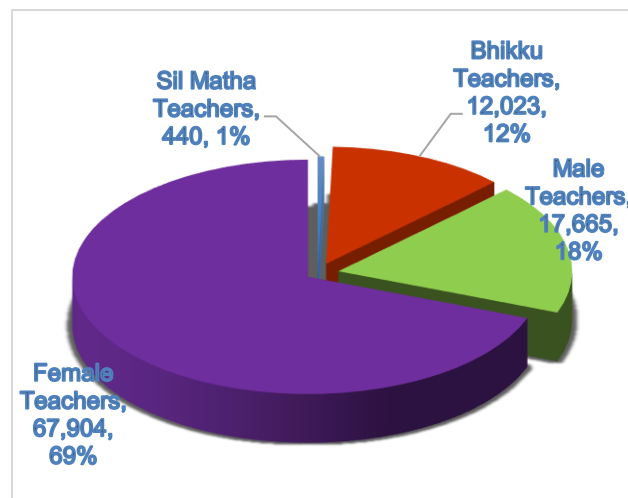
Ceremony for the commemoration of the All Ceylon Dhamma School Day is being held every year on 03rd August as Vijayananda Dhamma School at Weliwatta, Galle, which was Sri Lanka's first Dhamma school, was opened on 03rd August 1895. The 122nd Dhamma Schools Commemoration ceremony, which fell for the year 2017 was held on 3rd August at the Vavunia Urban Council Auditorium .

Awarding of prizes for Dhamma school students who were successful at the evaluation of students in the Vavunia District,

Conducting of a Perahera with the participation of Dhamma school teachers, parents and children,

Conducting of Buddhist exhibitions, including the exhibition of posters, photographs, drawings, sculptures, books.

03.5. Providing teachers allowances, uniforms to Dhamma school teachers



Graph 03.5 – 2017 – No of Dhamma School Teachers

In the year 2017, this library allowance was granted to 10,018 Dhamma schools in 321 regional Sasanarakshaka Mandalas.

The total number qualified to receive this allowance was 95,156. An annual library allowance of Rs. 5000/- is paid to a teacher. The provision allocated for it was 494,000,000.00 and the expenditure was Rs. 475,738,000.00.

From the year 2004, an uniform is being provided to all Dhamma school teachers, who have completed the age of 18 years and who have completed one year's voluntary service continuously, in order to encourage them and in recognition of their services.

All Dhamma school teachers are very happy for receiving uniforms. A rapid increase in the number of Dhamma school teachers can be seen with the issue of uniforms. With it, there has



also been a growth in the number of Dhamma school students. Accordingly, awarding of uniforms to Dhamma school teachers in this manner is very helpful for the building up of a society with ethical values. Every year, the Government spends an amount exceeding Rs. One Hundred Million in this connection. Accordingly, about Rs.127.9 million has been spent in this connection this time also. Accordingly, in the year 2017, 83,000 Dhamma school teachers were qualified to receive uniforms and all of them have been provided with uniforms.

03.6. Dhamma School Teachers Certificate examination

It is expected to achieve the following objectives by conducting this examination.

1. Enhancing the educational qualifications of Dhamma schools teachers who are now in serve.
2. Appreciating the services of teachers who are engaged in teaching activities in Dhamma schools.
3. Developing further, the knowledge of Dhamma school teachers and motivating them for higher education.
4. Creating social recognition for Dhamma school teachers and thereby getting the people to appreciate their services.

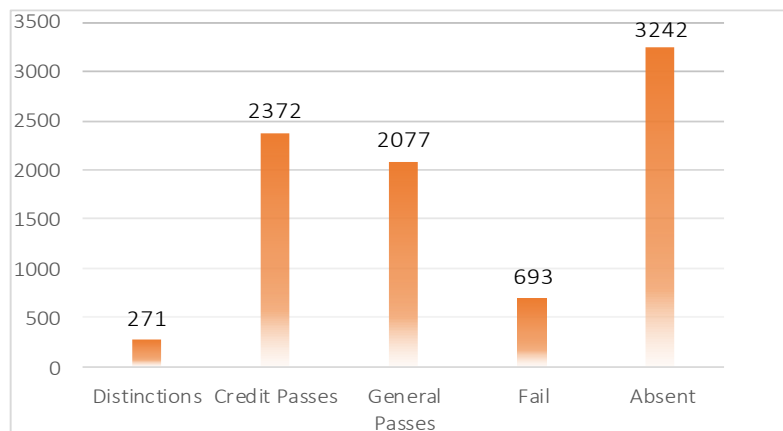


Diagram 03.6 Results of dhamma school teachers certificate examination

In the year 2017, this examination was held at 24 centers in 19 districts. The number of applicants was 8703 and out of it, 5413 were qualified for the examination and the number of applicants who appeared for the examination was 3242. The number of qualified applicants who did not sit for the examination was 3242 which was 37.45% of the qualified applicants.

A sum of Rs. 1475980.00 was spent for this examination, which was held on 15th July 2017. Results were released by 09th October 2017.



03.7. Evaluation of the skills of Dhamma School students

Programme for the evaluation of skills of Dhamma school students, which is being held annually to develop the knowledge of Dhamma school students to absorb the teachings of Buddhism practically and for the creation of an intelligent and virtuous generation of children, was conducted very successfully this year too.

This skills evaluation is being conducted in four stages as divisional, district and all Island Dhamma schools.

The programme was held this time at the Girls High School, Nuwara Eliya and Holytrinity Tamil school and Minister of Buddha Sasana Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama was the chief guest.

For organizing activities at divisional levels, the Sasanarakshaka Mandala Registrar Bhikkus, were granted Rs.10,000.00 each for organizing activities at district level and district Sasanarakshaka Mandala Registrar Bhikkus, were granted Rs.18,000.00 each for organizing activities at District level.

The estimated amount of this programme was Rs. 15,808,006 and Rs. 16,000,000 was spent in respect of the year 2017.



03.8. Printing of Dhamma School text books

With the objective of improving Dhamma school education, which is very essential for the creation of a virtuous society, printing and distribution of Dhamma school text books are being carried out by this Department.

On being informed by the Dhamma schools the quantity of text required for the year, printing is being carried out. Printing of these books was done by the Government Press, State Printing Corporation. The amount allocated for it was Rs.150,000,000.00 and the total amount spent was Rs.149,994,482.00.

After handing over the printed books to the stores of the Department, books for the year 2017 were distributed among all registered Dhamma schools located throughout the island.



Grade 9 Dhamma text book was revised this year.

Total number of Districts	-	22
Number of Divisional Sasanarakshaka Mandals	-	121
Number of Dhamma schools	-	10018
Total number of books distributed	-	2385379

03.9. Buddha Jayanthi Book Shop

Marketing of Dhamma books to the general public is being carried out by the Buddha Jayanthi book shop, which is under the Department of Buddhist Affairs. Sixty four (64) categories of books, including Tripitaka books translated into simple Sinhala and Buddhist Encyclopedia are kept here for sale.

From the year 2015, about eight hundred sixty four (864) books have been marketed and the amount received was Rs.736,127.00. Amounts received, have been handed over to the Head Office on the respective date.

As the room in which the book shop is maintained was threatened by termites, pesticides were used for it. An iron rack belonging to the Department was repaired and provided to the book shop

04

DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

04.1. Activities regarding Sil Mathas

04.1.1. Improving Sil Matha Educational Institutes

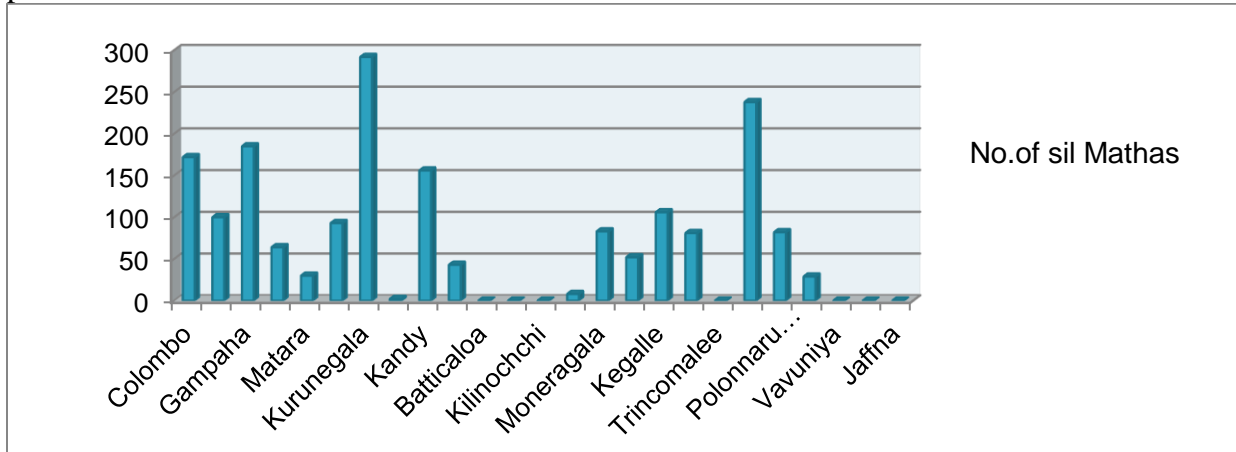
Sil Matha educational institutes have been set up for providing opportunities to Sil Mathas, scattered throughout the island, to improve their Dhamma knowledge and to up-lift their educational levels. Final examination of the short-term course which commenced on 03.07.2017 for 17 Sil Mathas at the Piyadasa Ratnayake Memorial Sil Matha Training Institute, Mulatiyana, was held on 25.12.2017 and certificates were awarded after the completion of the course. Provision of Rs. Two Million required for short-term course and maintenance activities of the Sil Matha Training Institute, has been provided.

Constructions, landscaping and painting activities of the Sil Matha headquarters at Eriyawetiya, Kelaniya have been finalized by now. Fixing of the Lift, is now being carried out. It is planned to open the Sil Matha head quarters in the month of May 2018.



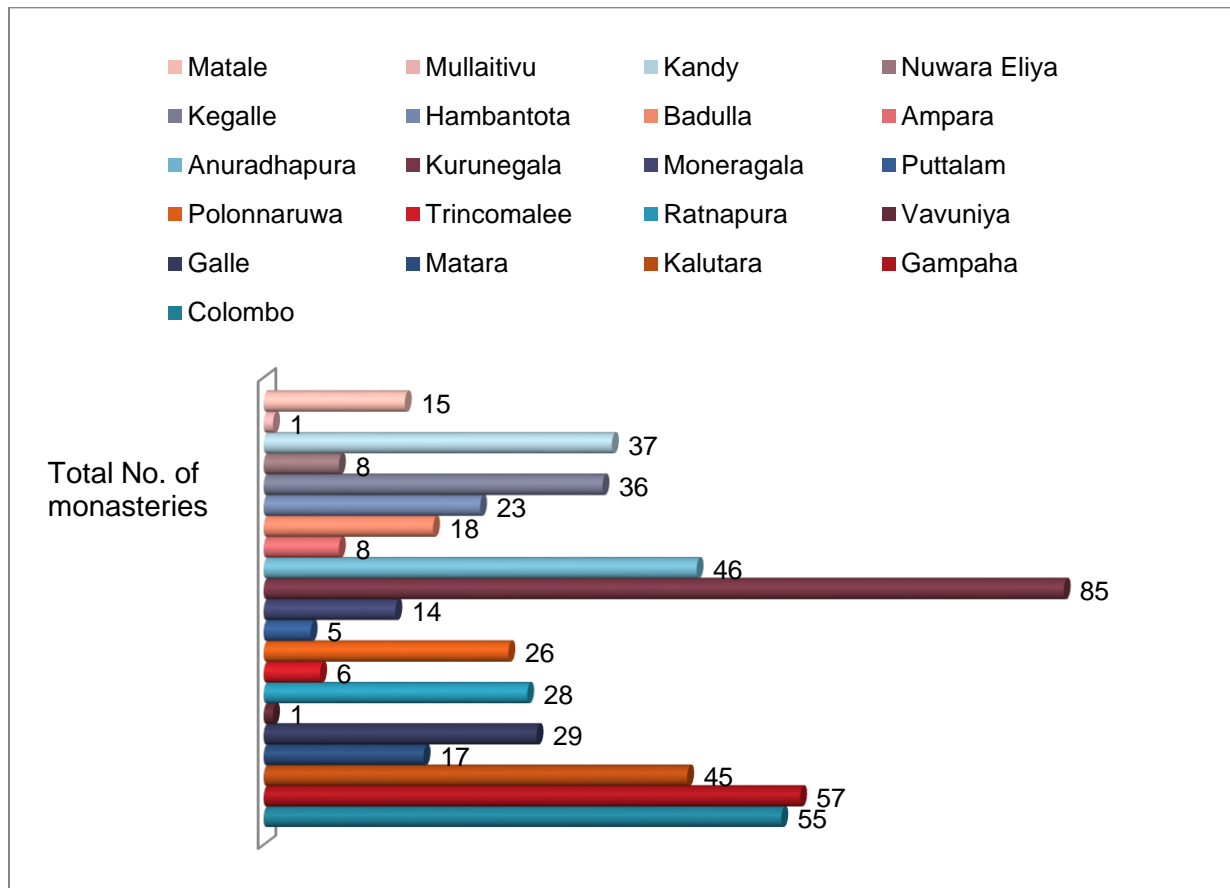
04.2. Registration of Sil Mathas and Issue of Identity Cards

Issuing identity cards for Sil Mathas and registration of Sil Mathas are being carried out by the Department of Buddhist Affairs. The number of Sil Mathas registered in this Department as at present is 1816 and it is as follows.



04.3. Registration of Sil Matha monasteries

Number of Sil Matha monasteries in Sri Lanka registered at present is as follows.



04.4. National Sil Matha Association

Under this, meetings of Sil Mathas are being conducted and expenses for organizing such meetings and providing traveling expenses and Siwpassa to Sil Mathas participating for the meetings are met by the Department. During the year 2017, 03 meetings of the All Ceylon Jathika Mandala meetings and 01 meeting of the Executive Committee were held. District meetings have been held. Necessary financial provisions and travelling expenses have been provided for District Sil Matha Associations.

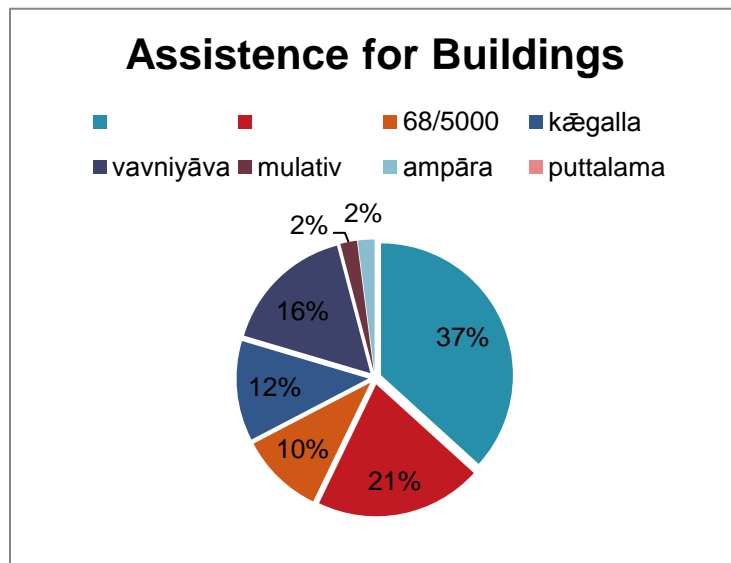
04.5. Arts and crafts and paying tributes to Buddhist intellectuals

Since up-lifting of local arts and crafts is one of the objectives of this Department, financial assistance is being provided for such activities. This task is being carried out on a regular basis with a view to encourage local artistes to improve their skills, to preserve Sri Lankan heritages and to pass on Sri Lankan arts as a legacy to the world. Accordingly, under the programme for paying tributes to Buddhist intellectuals, financial provisions have been provided for Peraheras and other cultural activities organized by 20 Divisional Secretariats and regional organizations.

04.6. Providing facilities for Dhamma schools

04.7. Assistance for Dhamma school buildings

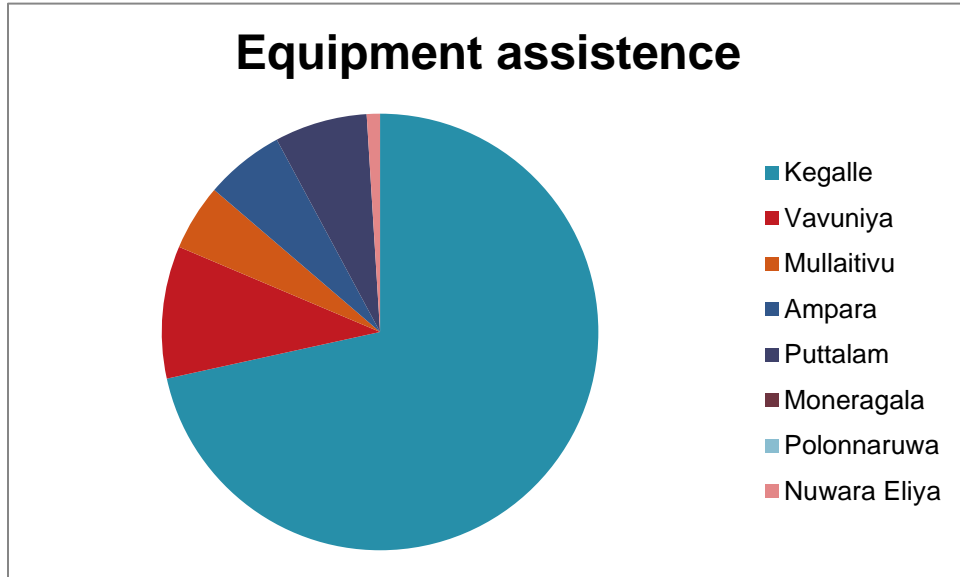
Dhamma schools which are qualified to receive financial assistance are being awarded financial provisions up to a maximum of Rs.200,000.0 for construction of new buildings, developments or renovations. Accordingly, Rs.9,800,000/- has been awarded to 49 Dhamma schools.



04.8 Dhamma School equipment assistance

Dhamma schools which have been qualified to receive financial assistance, are being awarded assistance to a maximum of Rs. 100,000.00 for Dhamma school equipment (desks, benches and essential equipment). Accordingly, Rs.10,200,000.00 has been awarded to 102 Dhamma schools.





04.9 Registration activities of Temple Performance Committees, Dayaka Sabhas and Sasanarakshaka Mandalas

Serial No.	District	No. of Dayaka saba	No. of Sil Matha Monasteries	No. of Temple Performance Associations	No. of temple Sasanarakshaka mandala
1	Colombo	132	09	353	23
2	Kalutara	184	07	284	58
3	Gampaha	228	17	229	45
4	Galle	264	06	291	63
5	Matara	247	06	297	51
6	Hambantota	212	08	189	43
7	Kurunegala	680	27	223	18
8	Puttalam	129	02	72	18
9	Kandy	312	13	409	66
10	Matale	92	03	152	8
11	Bataloa	05	0	1	0
12	Mannar	03	0	0	1
13	Kilinochchiya	0	0	0	0
14	Nuwara Eliya	116	03	87	26
15	Monaragala	95	02	108	39
16	Badulla	148	04	167	14
17	Kegalle	253	18	289	114
18	Ratnapura	251	05	217	72



19	Tttrincomalee	28	0	34	1
20	Anuradhapura	210	11	257	15
21	Polonaruwa	100	09	100	1
22	Amparai	25	0	84	11
23	avunia	21	0	5	0
24	Mulaive	01	0	1	0
25	Jaffna	05	0	0	0
total		3741	150	3849	687

04.10 Promotion of Sasanarakshaka Mandala activities

04.11. Providing facilities for Sasanarakshaka Mandalas

Number of Sasanarakshaka Mandalas operative in the island is 322. Through these Sasanarakshaka Mandalas, which are operative in 22 Districts, equipment which are necessary for regional activities are being provided. Temple Sasanarakshaka Mandalas and Dhamma school network are operative under Sasanaraksha Mandalas. Development activities at village levels are also being carried out by these Mandalas.

Serial No.	District	D.Sec./D.S. office	Equipment provided	Funds allocated	Funds allocated according to districts
1	Monaragala	Badalkumbura	Computer	80000.00	480,000.00
2		Medagama	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
3		Bibila	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
4		Madulla	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
5		Buttala	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
6	Kurunegala	Udubeddawa	Computer/Printer	100000.00	400,000.00
7		Kotawehera	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
8		Ratnayakapura	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
9		Ganewatta	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
10	Badulla	Badulla D.S.S.	Computer/Printer	100000.00	380,000.00
11		Soranakota	Computer	80000.00	
12		Welimada	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
13		Lunugala	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
14	Matale	Walgamuwa	Computer/Printer	100000.00	280,000.00
15		Matale	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
16		Naula	Computer	80000.00	
17	Kandy	Ududumbara	Computer/Printer	100000.00	360,000.00
18		Hataraliyadda	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
19		Akurana	Computer	80000.00	
20		deltota	Computer	80000.00	
21	Kegalle	D.Secretariat	Computer/Printer	100000.00	380,000.00
22		Deraniyagala	Computer/Printer	100000.00	
23		Mawanella	Computer	80000.00	
24		Galgamuwa	Computer/Printer	100000.00	



25	Matara	Thihagoda	Computer	80000.00	80,000.00
26	Kalutara	Ingiriya	Computer	80000.00	80000.00
27	Colombo	Moratuwa	Computer/Printer	100000.00	100,000.00
28	Galle	Nagoda	Computer/Printer	100000.00	100,000.00
29	Puttalam	Mahakumbukkada wala	Computer	80000.00	80,000.00
30	Ratnapura	Nivithigala	Computer	80000.00	80,000.00
31	Amparai	Mahaoya	Computer/Printer	100000.00	100,000.00
32	Nuwara Eliya	Ambagamukoralaya	Computer/Printer	100000.00	100,000.00
Total provisions				3,000.000.00	3,000.000.00

04.12. Expenses of Sasanarakshaka Mandalas

Under this, expenses in connection with conducting of Bala Mandala meetings, organizing such meetings, travelling expenses of Bhikkus who are participating in such meetings and providing alms are being met by this Department. Three All Ceylon Sasanarakshaka Mandala meetings and 05 Executive Committee meetings have been held in the year 2017. Elections for the appointment of office bearers for all Districts and regional Sasanarakshaka Mandalas have been held and new office bearers for the All Ceylon Sasanarakshaka Mandalaya were appointed on 11.10.2017.

04.13 Organizing of National Festivals.

04.14. Independence Pirith ceremony



In accordance with the 'Anusasana' given by Most Venerable Davuldena Gnanissara Thero, Maha Nayaka Thero of Sri Lanka Amarapura Maha Nikaya, all night Pirith ceremony was held by the Maha Sanga, including Most Venerable Tirikumalaye Ananda Maha Nayaka Thero of the Amarapura Dharmarakshita Nikaya on 02nd February 2017 at the Independence Building, Colombo 07.



A large number of Buddhist devotees, including Hon. Vajira Abeywardena, Minister of Public Administration of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and Hon. Wijayadasa Rajapaksha, Minister of Buddha Sasana and Justice, Ministers and Parliamentarians, participated for this event.

04.15 National Independence Day religious observations

Buddhist programme to mark the 69th National Independence Day Commemoration, which fell on 04th February 2017, was held at Dharmakeerthiyamaya (Polwatta temple), Colombo 03, under the patronage of Wetara Mahinda Nayaka Thero. Hon. Ranil Wickramasinghe, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker of Parliament of Sri Lanka, Hon. Wijayadasa Rajapaksha, Minister of Buddha Sasana and Justice, Ministers and Parliamentarians, Government officials, Buddhist devotees as well as school children participated for this occasion.

4.16. State Vesak Day festival

State Vesak festival of the 2561st Buddhist year was held under the theme “Dhammacharee Suban Sethi” (Dhamma Life creates happiness), at the Wattarama Raja Maha Vihara temple in the District of Kegalle on 09th May 2017 under the patronage of His Excellency the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Vesak Week Programme (from 07.05.2017 to 13.05.2017)

During the Vesak week, programmes were implemented in all Divisional Secretariats of the island under the topics mentioned below. Similarly, this programme was implemented in the Kegalle District from the month of January 2017.

07.05.2017	-	Health and Buddhism
08.05.2017	-	Environment and Buddhism
09.05.2017	-	Literature and Buddhism
10.05.2017	-	Poya Day Sil programme
11.05.2017	-	Arts and Buddhism and Pindapatha programme
12.05.2017	-	Public Servant and Buddhism
13.05.2017	-	Social Development, Economy and Buddhism





4.17 Ceremonies for awarding of ‘Sannas Patra’ to Mahanayaka Theros,

Ceremony for awarding of the ‘Sri Sannas Patraya’ to Most Venerable Kotugoda Dhammawasa, Maha Nayaka Thero of the Sri Lanka Amarapura Maha Nikaya, was held at the Independence Building, Colombo 07 on 03rd August 2017 under the patronage of His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.



4.18 Sri Sanagamitta Commemoration ceremony

2325th Sri Sangamitta Commemoration ceremony and the Sangamitta Peraera were held at Anuradhapura on 04/03.12.2017.





4.19. Organizing of Upasampada ceremonies

According to the information provided by the Ven. Registrar monks of the respective Nikayas, Upasampada ceremonies were conducted for Samanera Bhikkus, expecting Upasampada and travelling expenses were awarded at the places where the ceremonies were held, under the supervision of Divisional Secretary.

Nikaya Chapter	No. of Bhikkus	Travelling expenses granted
Sri Rohana Chapter of Shyamopali Maha Nikaya	33	99,000.00
Malwathu Maha Vihara Chapter of Shyamopali Maha Nikaya	350	1,050,000'00
Sri Lanka Amarapura Maha Sanga Sabha	355	1,065,000.00
Wanshika Chapter of Shyamopali Maha Nikaya of Uva	5	15,000.00
Ari Kalyani Samagri Dharma Maha Sanga Sabhawa of Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte	41	123,000.00
Sri Rohana Chapter of Shyamopai Wanshika Maha Nikaya	33	99,000.00
total	817	2,451,000

4.20 Assistance for cremations

Under this, a sum of Rs. 1,487,500.00 has been provided in respect of 153 cremations of Bhikkus and sil Mathas.

Serial No.	District	No. of cremations	Funds Provided
01	Colombo	09	82,500
02	Kalutara	03	27,500
03	Gampaha	10	90,000



04	Galle	09	95,000
05	Matara	07	60,000
06	Hambantota	08	55,000
07	Ratnapura	08	92,500
08	Anuradhapura	14	157,500
09	Kandy	13	117,500
10	Kegalle	13	137,500
11	Nuwara Eliya	01	10,000
12	Badulla	11	95,000
13	Matale	09	102,500
14	Polonnaruwa	02	17,500
15	Kurunegala	05	42,500
16	Monaragala	28	282,500
17	Puttalam	02	15,000
18	Amparai	01	7,500
	Total	153	1,487,500

4.21. Providing Siwpassa Assistance

By this programme assistance is being provided to Bhikkus, in temples in difficult areas in selected districts and selected Divisional Secretary Divisions, who are finding it difficult to receive Siwpassa. Accordingly, in the year 2017, Siwpassa assistance has been provided 920 Bhikkus in 261 temples.

4.22 Providing telephones, electricity and water for temples, on concessionary basis.

Necessary recommendations are being given for providing telephones, electricity and water to places of religious worship on concessionary basis. Accordingly, in the year 2017 recommendations have been given for 09 temples.

5

PROJECT DIVISION

05.1. Daham Sarasaviya Buddha Dharma Diploma Course

Provision allocated in respect of the year 2017 was Rs.7,000,000/-

Educational activities of the Daham Sarasaviya Diploma course which was started jointly by the Department of Buddhist Affairs in collaboration with the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka on 20.08.2016, were carried out until June 2017. A sum of Rs.690,000/-, which was the balance amount payable as lecture fees for the course which was held at 23 centres, has been allocated to the relevant District Offices and Divisional Secretariats.



Educational activities of the year 2016 which were carried out jointly by the Department of Buddhist Affairs and Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, have been completed and its final examination was held on 23,24/ 30/9/2017 at 13 centres, representing 19 Districts. All activities of the this examination were coordinated by the Department of Buddhist Affairs. Action was taken to provide a sum of Rs.483,187/- to 13 District Secretary offices for the activities of the examination. Total amount spent, including fuel and other expenses, was Rs. 500,119/-.

Action was taken to pay a sum of Rs. 2,684,800/- to the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, which was the amount to be paid further according to the estimate (Rs.3,879,900/-) approved for the 2016 course.

The Department of Buddhist Affairs made a proposal to improve the quality of Daham Sarasaviya Diploma course, which is being conducted annually from the year 2007. Accordingly, these two institutions had discussions regarding this course. Accordingly, necessary action was taken to make this course a more meaningful course. It was decided that the Daham Sarasaviya Buddhist Diploma course, which up to now has been conducted as a one year course, be conducted as a 02 year course, Daham Sarasaviya Higher Diploma course, First Year and Second Year. It was also decided that the opportunity for registration for the External Degree courses conducted by the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, should be given only to Dhamma school teachers who pass the Second Year. A new syllabus, comprising 06 subjects, had to be introduced for the First Year. In addition, it was decided that all Dhamma school teachers who are following the course, should be a given a one day practical training on meditation during the period of the course. It is scheduled to introduce a new syllabus, including practical training, for the second year and discussions in this regard will be held in the future. Resource contributions for the preparation of the course, would be Rs.95,900/- approximately.

All Dhamma schools in the island have been informed regarding the acceptance of applications for the new course, which has been prepared for the 2017 course. (Daham Sarasaviya Buddhist Diploma Higher Diploma course). Accordingly, it was decided that the acceptance of applications should be finalized by 24.11.2017 and that the list of names of those selected should be hand over to Department of Buddhist Affairs and the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, before 22.12.2017. Relevant activities were carried out in 19 District Secretariats. Action has been taken to allocate Rs. 171,000/-, on the basis of Rs.9,000/- for each District Secretariat for expenses in respect of conducting of interviews and the commencement of the course.

Similarly, an approximate estimate of Rs. 5, 829,800/- was forwarded for approval by the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka and action has been taken to provide a sum of Rs. 2,400,000/- to the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, subject to the revisions made to the estimate.



5.2. Dhamma teachers’ skills development programme

Most of those who have come for Dhamma school teachers service, are those with General Certificate of Education (O.L.) level qualifications. Some of them leave the Dhamma school service for various social reasons such as marriages, higher education, employment etc. and another group joins



the Dhamma school teachers service. Accordingly, on every occasion, those who are joining this service are new comers. As these teachers have not received teachers training, they have to be given a proper training. Similarly, when dealing with children, it would be compulsory to identify and understand the psychological levels of the children. If that is not so, there could be adverse effects. Based on these matters, the Dhamma schools teachers skills development project has been formulated as a project to develop Dhamma school teachers’ conceptual skills also. Thereby, it is expected to improve the quality of Dhamma school education further and bring the role of a Dhamma school teacher to an excellent level.

The amount allocated for this project for the year 2017 was Rs.5,000,000.00. Number of teacher training workshops conducted in 05 Districts was 25. The number of teachers trained was 7000. The expenditure incurred for it was Rs. 4,779,480.00.

05.3. Preparation of Dhamma Schools Teachers Identity Cards

Dhamma School is the foundation for bestowing the essence of the supreme Buddha Dhamma from generation to generation. Dhamma school teachers identity cards are being issued in order to encourage Dhamma school teachers who work with dedication and commitment to built up a virtuous social environment. In the year 2017, 1468 Dhamma school teachers identity cards were prepared incurring an expenditure of Rs. 148, 665.17.

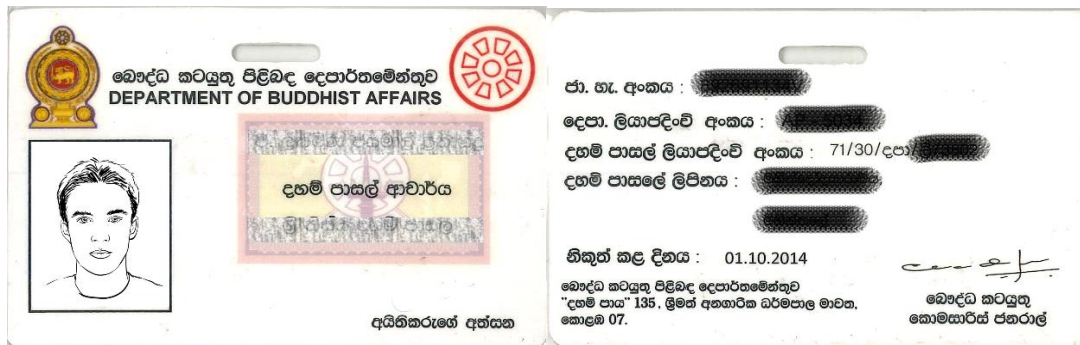


Figure 05.1 - A specimen of the Dhamma school teachers identity card



05.4 Buddhist Encyclopedia

A provision of Rs. 1,400,000.00 was allocated in the year 2017 and the expenditure was as follows.

Re-printing Buddhist Encyclopedia IV – Rs.	598,000.00
Re-printing Buddhist Encyclopedia V - Rs.	891,250.00
Total amount spent	- Rs. <u>1,409,250.00</u>

Buddhist Encyclopedia Office was opened at Maha Nayaka Charikaramaya on 02/01/2018 and officers were recruited for 03 posts as a Chief Editor, Deputy Editor and Assistant Editor. They commenced duties on 02/01/2016 according to an annual plan. Telephones and computer facilities required for the office, were provided by this Department and the Ministry of Buddha Sasana. Taking the books, magazines, racks etc. which were in the old office to the new office has been carried out and action is being taken by the Distribution Division of the Government Press to hand over the Volume IV of the Buddhist Encyclopedia, which has been re-printed, to the main stores of the Department of Buddhist Affairs.

05.5. Printing and supplying of abridged Tripitaka

Total amount allocated = Rs.3,000,000/-

- Amount spent as allowances for abridged Tripitaka Mandalaya - Rs. 1,012,000.00
- Amount spent for alms activities for abridged Tripitaka M. Rs. 288.648.59
- Amount spent for book compiling activities - Rs. 1, 165,640.00

Total - Rs. 2,466,289.00

06

BHIKKU REGISTRATION DIVISION

06. 1. Issue of Samanera/ Upasampada certificates and providing Bhikku Identity Cards

Services carried out by this division:

- Registration of new Samanera declarations
- Registration of new Upasampada declarations
- Issue of disrobing certificates
- Making necessary amendments in Samanera and Upasampada declarations
- Issue of certified copies of Samanera and Upasampada declarations, which have been registered.
- Computerizing and up-dating Samanera and Upasampada documents
- Providing necessary evidence on legal issues



- Issuing Bhikku identity cards

In the year 2017:

Number of Samanera Bhikkus registered	- 4,209
Number of Upasampada Bhikkus registered	- 869
Number of ordination certificates issued	- 1,246
Number of Bhikku identity cards issued	- 127

A computer software has been formulated by this division to computerize information regarding Samanera and Upasampada Bhikkus. By this software information regarding 16,111 Upsampada Bhikkus and 15,853 Samanera Bhikkus, have now been entered into this data base. up to now.

By this, Samanera and Upasampada certifications can be issued without any delay to those who apply for such certificates.

07

INFORMATION DIVISION

The main functions of the Information Division, of the Department of Buddhist Affairs, which was established on 14th February 2015, are to collect, prepare and up-date various information and statistics relevant to the Department. After preparing such information properly, releasing them to the government and private sectors is also being done. In addition, the functions mentioned below are being carried out by this Division.

7.1 Up-dating Temple, Dhamma School information

Information regarding temples, Dhamma schools at regional, district and provincial levels updated up to 31st December 2017, are given below statically.

District	No of Temples Registered	No of temples which have forwarded applications	No of temples which haven't forwarded applications	Total in District	Dhamma Schools Operative	Total No of Teachers	Students
Colombo	720	121	40	881	656	11474	229363
Gampaha	612	187	34	833	755	11649	238259
Kaluthara	507	164	21	692	575	8247	155668
Galle	692	124	27	843	666	8589	152986
Mathara	481	135	16	632	523	7052	123061
Hambanthota	373	110	47	530	434	5404	95588
Kandy	752	231	80	1063	848	10363	174224



Mathale	313	108	28	449	369	3879	63161
Nuwara-Eliya	242	52	26	320	270	2814	45530
Kurunegala	1078	413	117	1608	1192	13349	208449
Puththalama	258	75	9	342	295	3211	54384
Anuradhapura	636	207	67	910	707	7095	128222
Ampara	147	46	5	198	188	2241	41689
Polonnaruwa	239	66	11	316	292	3472	62659
Trincomalee	102	29	14	145	89	1583	19092
Badulla	341	138	17	496	476	5334	95191
Monaragala	263	85	26	374	311	3646	65874
Vavuniya	27	2	5	34	19	215	3053
Rathnapura	517	191	25	733	671	7557	132037
Kegalle	539	159	57	755	595	6875	105562
Mannar	4	0	5	9	0	0	
Jaffna	6	0	3	9	0	0	
Kilinochchi	1	0	0	2	0	0	
Mulathiv	10	3	1	14	11	138	1904
Batticaloa	13	3	2	18	0	0	
Total	8873	2649	683	12205	9942	124187	2195956

7.2 Pali Language promotion programme

This programme is being carried out annually as a solution to the shortage of teachers with a knowledge in the Pali language of the Dhamma school sector. The expected objective is to nurture the Dhamma school teachers with a knowledge on the Pali language and get them to be engaged in the teaching process. In addition, by this a liking is created for the use of Tripitaka.

This programme was carried out successfully in 17 selected centres in the island by providing to the course recipients thesis courses prepared by veterans with Pali language knowledge and the number of course recipients was 1400.

Table 07.1 – Information regarding Temples & Dhamma Schools in Sri Lanka as at 31.12.2017

7.3 Bhikku Training programmes

Bhikku conceptual promotion programme is being carried out under the guidance of Vinayadhara Dharmadara Ven. Thero for the conceptual development of Samanea Bhikkus. This is a residential three days programme, providing necessary training and knowledge to Bhikkus on traditional Pirith chanting, Dhamma sermons, meditation methods, Sasanika rituals etc.

7.4 Drugs Prevention Programme

This programme was implemented by the Department of Buddhist Affairs on provisions provided by the Special Projects Unit of the Presidential Secretariat. Its main objective is the



training of necessary resource persons for drugs prevention. Accordingly, training has been provided to 256 resource persons through out the island and they have carried out a large number of programmes within their Divisional Secretary Divisions.

Date on which the programme was held	No. of days	Place held	Districts covered	No. of participants	Amount spent
2017/01/13,14,15	3	Wayamba Training Institute	Kegalle/Puttalam	57	191,887.00
2017/01/ 27,28,29	3	Wayamba Training Institute	Kurunegala	72	173,915.00
2017/04/ 01,02,03	3	Leadership Training Institute ශ්‍රී - Embilipitiya	Matara/Hambantota/Badulla/Ratnapura/Amparai/Monaragala	76	272,556.00
2017/07/ 28,29,30	3	National Institute of Education	Colombo/Gampaha/Kalutara/Galle/Nuwara Eliya	51	164,270.00
			Total	256	802,628.00
				Total Expenditure.	831,990.00

7.5 Kalyana Mitra Society

It is very often said that the Sri Lankan society has been depreciated. It is seen that there is some truth in it. Poisonous drugs are on the increase. Use of alcohol and cigarettes are increasing. Various corruptions and injustices can be heard in every social strata. In the present generation, there are no signs of coming up exemplary and worthy characters in various fields who lived in the past. As such, it is essential to launch a programme based on Dhamma schools in order to create such exemplary leaders. The objective of this project is to implement programmes with practical training to develop for the necessary knowledge, skills and concepts among the children.

Accordingly, Rs. 200 million was provided for it by the Special Projects Unit of the Presidential Secretariat and from it 258 awareness programmes on Kalyana Mitra society were carried out. The amount spent for it was Rs.14,238,129.00. The number of participants for training workshops was 23417.



7.6 Programme for the conservation of library books

A programme for the conservation of valuable books found in old temples in the island has been initiated and as present conservation activities has been initiated as a pilot project after identifying the temples which have palm leaf books in the Kurunegala district. National Archives Department is providing the technical knowledge and training for it. One Coordinating Officer on Buddhist Affairs from every Divisional Secretariat, is being trained for this.

7.7 Sending of Well-Wishing messages

Preparation of well - wishing messages issued by the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs to news papers, magazines and commemoration magazines

7.8 Up-dating the web site of the Department of Buddhist Affairs

Up dating the web site created in respect of the Department of Buddhist Affairs, enterin new information and issuing of information.

7.9 Daily newspapers reports

Providing assistance for taking necessary legal action regarding

Taking appropriate action regarding various reports revealed by daily newspapers, reports and photographs which are defamatory to Buddhism, various allegations and insults made to temples and Bhikkus and creating awareness regarding critical reports.

08

ACCOUNTS DIVISION

The role of this Division is to utilize funds allocated by the General Treasury for the furtherance, promotion and development of the Buddhasasana, economically, efficiently and in a manner considered as most appropriate and forward monthly and annual statements of accounts to the General Treasury regarding the manner in which the funds were utilized and also forward any other reports requested by the General Treasury.

8.1 Main functions and responsibilities :

- Preparation of estimates on income and expenditure of expenditure votes of the Department.
- Carrying out all receipts and payments, obtaining imprests from the Operations Department of the Treasury, providing monthly reports to the Public Accounts Department, reconciliation of Departmental books with the computer printed notes of the Treasury, settlement of annual accounts.



- All procurement activities of the Head Office of the Department.
- Supervision and control of the stores of the Head Office.
- Appropriation account, advance account of State officials, preparation of the general deposit account, forwarding to the Auditor General.
- Carrying out the verification and disposal activities of the Department.
- Maintaining all asset registers
- Providing answers to all audit queries issued by the Auditor General and inquiries made by the Public Accounts Committee.



CATEGORY : APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT(2017)						Form : A	
Description	Financial Performance (Rs. In '000)					Physical Performance	
	Current Year		Previous Year	Variations Over		Output(Service/ Goods)	
	Budgeted	Actual	Actual	Budgetd	Year Actual	Type/class	Measure
Programme Title and No . 01 Operational Activities							
Project Title and No. : 01. General Administration & Establishment Services							
Expenditure :							
Recurrent Expenditure							
* Personal Emoluments	34,480	31,830	30,294	2,650	1,536	Personal Emoluments	No.of Employees
* Other Recurrent	20,049	18,630	18,501	1,419	129		
Total	54,529	50,460	48,795	4,069	1,665		
Capital Expenditure							
<u>Rehabilitaion and Improvement of Capital Assets</u>							
* Buildings & Structures	300	300	298	-	2		
* Plant, Machinery and Equipments	300	268	-	32	268		
* Vehicles	800	602	338	198	264		
<u>Acquisition of Capital Assests</u>							
* Furniture and Office Equipments	1,750	1,690	1,943	60	(253)		
* Plant, Machinery and Equipments	800	793	257	7	536		
* Buildings & Structure	8,000	8,000	4,500	-	3,500		
<u>Capacity Building</u>							
* Staff Training	1,500	1,441	2,000	59	(559)		
Total	13,450	13,094	9,336	356	3,758		
Total Expenditure	67,979	63,554	58,131	4,425	5,423		



CATEGORY : APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT(2017)						Form : A	
Financial Performance (Rs. In '000)						Physical Performance	
Description	Current Year		Previous Year	Variations Over		Output(Service/ Goods)	
	Budgeted	Actual	Actual	Budgetd	Previous Year Actual	Type/class	Measure
Programme Title and No . 02 Development Activities							
Project Title and No. : 02. Uplifment of Buddhist Activities							
<u>Expenditure :</u>							
Recurrent Expenditure							
* Personal Emoluments	314,506	314,350	312,007	156	2,343	Personal Emoluments	No.of Employees
* Other Recurrent	919,625	748,739	741,353	170,886	7,386		
Total	1,234,131	1,063,089	1,053,360	171,042	9,729		
Capital Expenditure							
* Facilitation of Dhamma School	20,000	18,335	14,511	1,665	3,824		
* Facilitation of Sasanarakshaka Mandala	3,000	2,908	2,940	92	(32)		
* Facilitation of SImatha Arama	7,000	4,851	10,220	2,149	(5,369)		
* Dhamma School Teacher's Training & DhahamSarasaviya Programmer	12,000	11,386	7,264	614	4,122		
Total	42,000	37,480	34,935	4,520	2,545		
Total Expenditure	1,276,131	1,100,569	1,088,295	175,562	12,274		



CATEGORY : ADVANCE ACCOUNTS (2017)						Form : C				
Description	Financial Performance (Rs. In '000)					Physical Performance				
	Rs. 000									
	Current Year		Previous Year	Variations Over		Output (Service/ Goods)		Current Year's output		Previous Years
	Prescribed	Actual	Actual	Prescribed	Previous Year Actual	Type/ class	Measure	Targeted	Actual	Output Actual
Type: Advance Account						Distress Loans	Applicant		20,875	18,668
						Property Loans	Applicant		-	-
Account Title and No.: Public Officers Advance Account No 20101						Vehicle Loans	Applicant		-	-
						Indebt Loans	Applicant		-	-
						Bicycle Loans	Applicant		-	-
Maximum Expenditure Limit	34,000	30,671	24,354	3,329	6,317	Festival Loans	Applicant		5,386	5,270
Minimum Receipt Limit	18,500	19,064	18,675	564	389	Special Loans	Applicant		392	416
Maximum Debit Limit	68,000	58,475	46,868	9,525	11,607	Special Loan Advances	Applicant		4,018	-
Maximum Liability										

09

INTERNAL AUDIT DIVISION

This Division provides assistance for the performance of responsibilities entrusted to the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs by the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No. 19 of 1931 for the furtherance and advancement of Sam Buddha Sasana.

The Internal Audit Division of the Department of Buddhist Affairs was established on 01.07/2013.

Objectives:

- Carrying out auditing activities of all temples and dewalas coming under Section 4 (1) of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No. 19 of 1931.
- Carrying out all audit activities of the Department of Buddhist Affairs.
- Assisting the strengthening of the internal control system.
- Assisting in maintaining proper accounts and management systems.
- Assisting in the proper utilization of resources.
- Assisting to achieve the performance targets.



Internal auditing is an independent assessment within an organization. It includes reviewing, measuring and evaluating services and functions carried out by all levels of the management and also reporting regarding of the internal control system. Internal auditing assists the management.

9.1 This Division functions under a Chief Internal Auditor.

Special functions carried out by the Internal Audit Division

- (1) Strengthening control systems introduced with regard to account books which should be maintained in a place of worship according to the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance.
- Introducing books of accounts to be maintained in a temple in accordance with the provisions of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance and strengthening the control systems in them.
- Temples coming under Section 4 (1) of the Ordinance, being subjected to internal audit and providing guidelines to such temples.
- Conducting Audit and Management committee meetings.
- Providing the fullest corporation and support for various programmes which are being organized by the other Divisions of the Department.
- Providing assistance for the special duties which have to carry out by the Department.
- Audit activities carried out in the year 2016.

Year 2017

- Sabaragamu Maha Saman Dewalaya
- Badulla Paththini Dewalaya
- Badulla Kataragama Dewalaya
- Auditing of accounts of the Department of Buddhist Affairs
- Badulla Soragune Kuda Dewalaya
- Rangiri Dambulu Rajamaha Viharaya
- Seenigama Sri Dewol Maha Dewalaya
- Audit report regarding the current account bearing No.0002323279 in the name of the
 - Commissioner of Buddhist Affairs.
 - Report regarding Peoples Bank account of Rangiri Dambullu Rajamaha Viharaya.
 - Devinuwara Parama Vichitramaya Rajamaha Viharaya
 - Devinuwara Sri Vishnu Dewalaya
 - Uhunu Maha Kataragama Dewalaya
 - Pothgul Rajammama Viharaya
 - Pelmadulla Rajamaha Viharaya
 - Sri Padasthanaya
 - Checking of 2017 vouchers
 - Abhinwarama Viharaya
 - Sella Kataragama Mahasen Viharaya
 - Kirivehera Rajamaha Viharaya



Temples and Dewalayas in which auditing activities are being carried out Internal Audit Division, are as follows.

Office	Temples coming under 4(1)	Dewalas coming 4(1)	Total
Head Office	116	08	124
Ratnapura Regional office	30	09	39
Kandy Regional Office	71	20	91
Total	217	37	254

Head Office

District	Temples coming under 4(1)	Dewalas coming under 4(1)
Colombo	08	-
Gampaha	14	-
Kalutara	07	-
Galle	07	01
Matara	20	01
Kurunegala	43	06
Hambantota	13	-
Anuradhapura	04	-
Total	116	08

Ratnapura Regional office

District	Temples coming under 4(1)	Dewalas coming under 4(1)
Ratnapura	16	04
Monaragala	09	02
Badulla	05	03
Total	30	09

Kandy Regional Office

District	Temples coming under 4(1)	Dewalas coming under 4 (1)
Kandy	42	13
Matale	07	01
Kegalle	17	03
Nuwara Eliya	03	02
Badulla	02	01
Total	71	20



REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDDHIST AFFAIRS

10.1. Ratnapura Regional Office

Administrative Area	Temples and Dewalas in the districts of Ratnapura, Monaragala and Badulla, controlled under Section (4) 1 and (4) 2 of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No. 19 of 1931, are included.		
	District	Places of worship controlled under 4 (1)	Places of worship controlled under 4 (2)
	Ratnapura	20	536
	Monaragala	11	162
	Badulla	08	190
Total	39	1288	

All activities relevant to these places of worship are being carried by the Regional Office, Ratnapura in accordance with the provisions of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No 19 of 1931. Among such activities are:

- Assisting in the appointment of custodians and Basnayaka Nilames to temples
- Handing over the properties of places of worship to the custodians.
- Leasing of lands belonging to the temples
- Getting down annual accounts reports, checking them and releasing funds.
- Taking relevant action for the settlement of disputes connected to temples.
- Assisting the Perahera activities of the Ruhunu Maha Kathragama Dewalaya.
- Supervisory activities regarding gratification money,\
- Assisting in the settlement of land disputes
- Providing recommendation for felling of trees and transport of timber.
- Providing recommendation for gem licences
- Taking action regarding Bank accounts of Bhikkus who have passed away
- Taking action regarding complaints, appeals etc. takes a prominent place.

Serial No	Duties	District			Total
		Rathnapura	Badulla	Monaragala	
01	Appointment of custodians	01	01	-	02
02	Leasing of lands	80	195	80	335
03	Revising lease amounts	40	450	40	530
04	Issuing of licenses for felling of trees and for transporting timber	260	02	235	497
05	Releasing of monies in Bank accounts of Bhikkus who have passed away	30	25	10	65
06	Providing approval for grant of Pooja Deeds	02	-	02	04
07	Releasing of compensation and interests	02	-	02	06
08	Settlement of lands and other disputes in temples	90	70	80	240



09	Recommending the issue of licenses for gem mining	137	-	06	143
10	Recommending the extension of licenses given for gem mining	150	-	03	153

During this year, the custodians were educated regarding the systematic maintenance of accounts of places of worship. Custodians and Basnayaka Nilames who do not sent probable and half yearly income and expenditure reports in time, were advised in writing. By the field inspections and office inspections carried out by this office, steps have been taken to provide solutions for disputes prevailing places of worship. After discussions with the lessee and custodians for recovering rents. Action has been taken to settle land disputes in tem[les and 'Kapu' disputes in Dewalas. Action has been taking by paying special attention regarding defaulting the payment of lease rents, not paying legal rents and also regarding appeals on lease rents.

Accordingly, Rupees Ten Million Seven Hundred and Eighty Five Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Three (Rs.107851163.00) has been recovered as annual rent for a portion of land given on lease by Ruhunu Kataragama Maha Dewalaya to Pelawatta Sugar Company. Annual rent of Rupees Forty Seven lakhs which was due to Wategama Raja Maha Viharaya for 2138 acres given on lease to Athimale Plantation Company has been recovered.

In addition, in the year 2017, action is being taken to give on lease a large extent of land belonging to Wategama Raja Maha Viharaya to Wellassa Agri Enterprises (Pvt.) Company (55 acres), Icon Coastal (Pvt.) Company (100 acres) and Maliban (Pvt.) Company (100 acres). Thereby, action is being taken to enhance the income position of the temple. Similarly, in the year 2017, action was taken to to give long lease most of the lands belonging to temples such as Embilipitiya Kawantissa Raja Maha Viharaya, Ratnapura Sudharmashala Viharaya, which have been given without obtaining rents,.

A significant progress has been seen in the year 2017 regarding giving on lease lands belonging to places of worship and the recovery of rents. Similarly, various programmes were implemented in the 2017 to systemize the payment of rents. In order to facilitate office works and to maintain them efficiently, a programme to computerize separately files which are operative in places of worship with regard to rents, was initiated in the year 2016. It is being up-dated and continued further.

During this year, supervision of gratification money was carried out in 35 places of worship, including Sabaragamuwa Maha Saman Dewalaya, Ruhunu Maha Kataragama Dewalaya, Kiri Vehera Rajamaha Viharaya. Gratification monies of the year 2017, has increased to Rupees Three Hundred Million Five Hundred and Ninety Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Nine and cents Eighteen (Rs. 63597369.18) due to the calculation of gratification money under the proper supervision of the officers.



Serial No.	Place of worship	Annual gratification money
01	Sabaragamu Maha Saman Dewalaya	13,494,906.00
02	Ruhunu Maha Kataragama Dewalaya	12,720,922.89
03	Kirivehera Raja Maha Viharaya	34,924,530.00
04	Abhinawarama Viharaya	307,990.00
05	Sella Kataragama Mahasen Viharaya	1,472,900.00
06	Kotabowa Kuda Kataragama Dewalaya	296,820.00
07	Uggal AluthNuwara Kataragama Dewalaya	214,736.50
08	Bolthumbe Saman Dewalaya	148,797.00
09	Sankapala Maha Viharaya	90,305.00

By auctioning of blocks of lands at Sabaragamu Maha Saman Dewalaya, Uggal AluthNuwara Kataragama Dewalaya and Sankapala Raja Maha Viharaya, the officers of this Department have earned a sum of Rupees Seven Million Four Hundred and One Thousand Seven Hundred and sixty one and twenty five cents (Rs.7401761.25) in the year 2017. In addition to the calculation of gratification money income of Sabaragamuwa Maha Saman Dewala, calculation of gem income and income from electricity receipts commenced from the year 2017 and action is being taken to settle the electricity bills which are in arrears in the Sabaragamu Maha Saman Dewala from the income received from electricity assistance receipts. Under the proper supervision and guidance of the officers, payments of installments for the official vehicle, bearing No. SG KX 655, belonging to the Sabaragamu Saman Maha Dewalaya, has now been finalized.

10.2 Kandy Regional Office

Regional Office Kandyadministrative Area	Temples and Dewalas in the Districts of Kandy, Matale, Kegalle and Nuwara-Eliya and Muthiyangana Raja Maha Viharaya, Mahiyangana Raja Maha Viharaya, Mahiyangana Saman Dewalaya in the Badulla are included to the temples and dewalayas which are controlled under Section 4 (1) and 4 (2) of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance			
	District	Temples Administered under 4(1)	Devalas Administered under 4(1)	Places of worship not administered under 4(1)
	Kandy	42	13	1023
	Mathale	07	01	443
	Kegalle	17	03	740
	Nuwara-Eliya	03	02	317
	Badulla	02	01	497
	Total	71	20	3020



All activities relevant to these places of worship are being carried out by this office according to the provisions of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance No. 19 of 1931 and among such activities are:

- Appointment of custodians for the relevant temples.
- Carrying out election activities for the appointments of Diyawadana Nilames and Banayaka Nilames for Sathra Maha Dewalas of Sri Dalada Maligawa and Dewalas in rural areas.
- Depositing and releasing of custodian security deposits.
- Handing over of properties of places worship to the custodians,
- Leasing of temple and Dewala lands
- Getting down, inspecting annual accounts reports and releasing of funds
- Taking action regarding temple disputes,
- Assisting Sri Dalada Perahera, and Upasampada activities,
- Participating and assisting Dhamma schools ceremonies and other religious occasions are specially being carried out.
- Maintaining of documents regarding the vesting of hereditary rights, is specially being carried out.

Compared to the year 2016, the seminar organized this time at the Ran Ayuda Mandapa of Sri Dalada Maligawa on 09th February 2017 to educate the custodians of places of worship, was more productive. The main objective of this seminar was to motivate them on initiating and maintaining legal activities and for keeping accounts keeping in places of worship properly and by using the specified forms. At this seminar, which was held under the Commissioner General of Buddhist Affairs, there were 02 main lectures on accounts activities, initiating and maintaining od audit and legal activities. This meeting was very helpful for eliminating many shortcomings which prevailed in administrative activities of places of worship. Regarding custodians who do not send probable budgets and half yearly budgets at the proper time, it was stated that in addition to informing them regarding it by letters, they should be informed to visit the relevant places of worship and obtain the necessary reports at the proper time. The percentage of the receipts of probable annual income and expenditure reports was 100% in the year 2017 and with regard to the receipt of half yearly reports, in 2017 it was 84 in first 06 months and 66 in the second 06 months.

The procedure of preparing documents separately for respective places of worship, computerizing them and up-dating them is being implemented successfully this year too, as in the previous years and up-dating the files regarding the revision of lease rentals is being carried out. In addition, obtaining of information regarding all places of worship in the relevant Districts, at Divisional Secretary Divisions levels, is being carried out as in the previous years. Similarly, due to explaining the manner in which action should be taken regarding State lands, specified notices for vesting of such lands are being sent, properly filled. As such, it has now been possible to formulate a procedure for maintaining land registers.



A discussion regarding land problems in places of worship and preparation and registration of Deeds of Lease, was held during this year, with the participation of the District Land Registrar, Attorneys-at-Law and Notaries.

Accordingly, by the experience gained during the previous year and by using the guidance of the Head Office, office environment was created appropriately, providing a good working environment to the office staff and thereby an efficient and productive service will be provided to the service recipients in the year 2018 also with the cooperation and commitment of all concerned.

Annexure No. 01 :

01. No. of lease applications issued	- 1476
02. Lease Deeds finalized	- 311
03. No. of letters sent for assessments	- 165
04. No. of field inspections	- 65
05. No. of office inspections	- 59
06. Viharadhipathy confirmation letters	- 02
07. Letters for appointment of Custodians	- 12
08. Letters for appointment of Basnayaka Nilames	- 02
09. Handing over of goods	- 05
10. No. of instances of releasing money	- 39
11. Cutting of trees	- 171
12. Shramadana	- 04
13. Gratification money official duties	- 114
14. Cases being heard	- 06
15. Cases finalized during the year	- 02

Annex. No. 02

Serial No.	Place of worship	No. of times	Total amount during the year
01	Sri Dalada Maligawa	58	31599150.00
02	Vishnu Dewalaya, Kandy	05	1008710.00
03	Aluth Nuwara Dadimunda Dewalaya	04	3666295.00
04	Kataragam Dewalaya, Kandy	12	3054155.00
05	Pattini Dewalaya, Kandy	09	2513221.00
06	Dodanwala Natha Dewalaya	06	642605.00
07	Ambekka Katharagama Dewalaya	02	235974..00
08	Kandy Natha Dewalaya	01	460590..00
09	Rangiri Dambulu Rajamaha Wiharaya	02	2929915.00
10	Getambe RajopawanaramayaSaman	11	48993017.00
11	Muthiyangana Rajamaha Wiharaya	01	490000.00



12	Mahiyangana Saman Dewalaya	03	2516610.00
13	Mahiyangana Raja Maha Viharaya	02	658626.00
	Lankathilala Vishunu Dewalaya	01	219055.00
15	Hanguranketha Vishnu Dewalaya	01	346337.00
16	Madagoda Paththini Dewalaya	01	170558.00
	Total	119	55404818.00

Removal of gratification money in temples in the year 2017

The number of cases relevant to places of worship in which this office got involved was 15 in the year 2016. Out of it, 04 cases have been finalized. While appearing in courts for cases and providing necessary legal advice, through the Assistant Legal Officer to custodians of places of worship/ Theros with instructions obtained from the Attorney General, guidance has been given to limit legal activities.

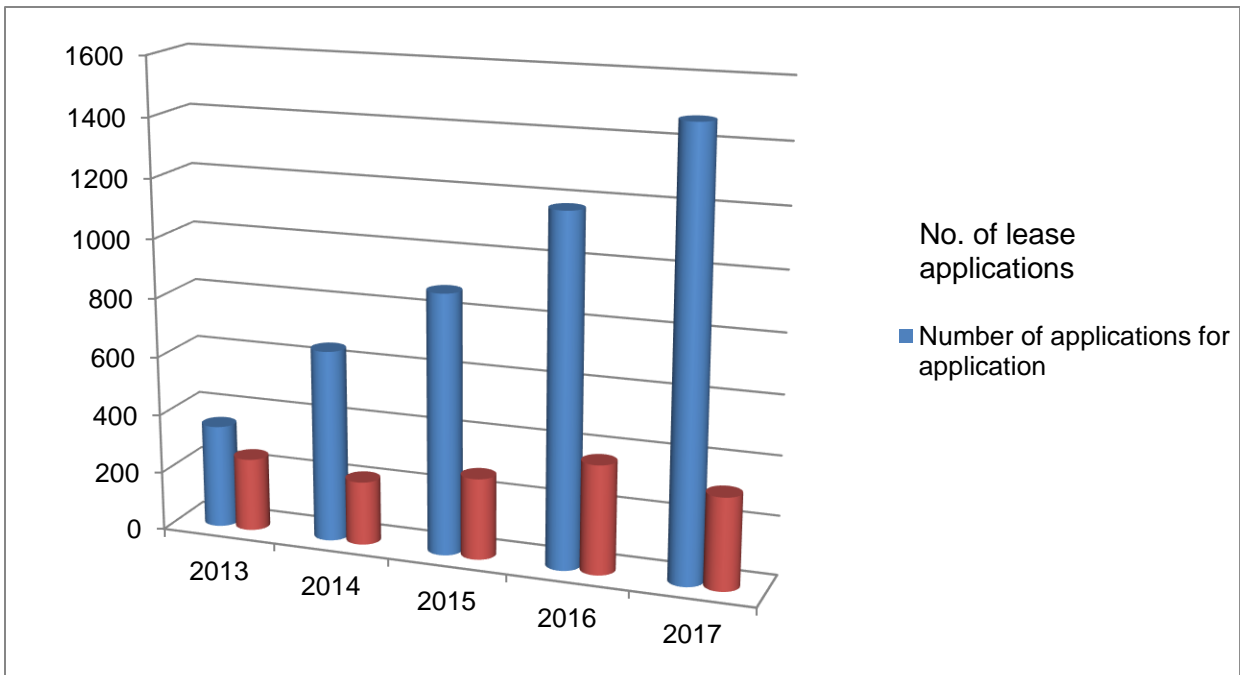
Serial No.	Case No.	Court	The relevant place of worship
01	DLM 000982/11	District Court, Kandy	Suduhumpola Rajamaha Viharaya
02	20381	District Court, Kandy	Dalukgolla Raja Maha Viharaya
03	L21455	District Court, Kandy	Gangarama Raja Maha Viharaya
		District Court, Kandy	
05	DLM00048/14	District Court, Kandy	Alawathugoda Sandagiri Viharaya6
06	X 212	District Court, Hatton	Sri Meththrama Viharaya

Serial No.	Case No.	Court	Relevant place of worship
01	L/5377	District Court, Matale	Pidurangala Raja Maha Viharaya
02	L/1773	District Court, Kandy	Amunewala Raja Maha Viharaya

Cases finalized in 2017

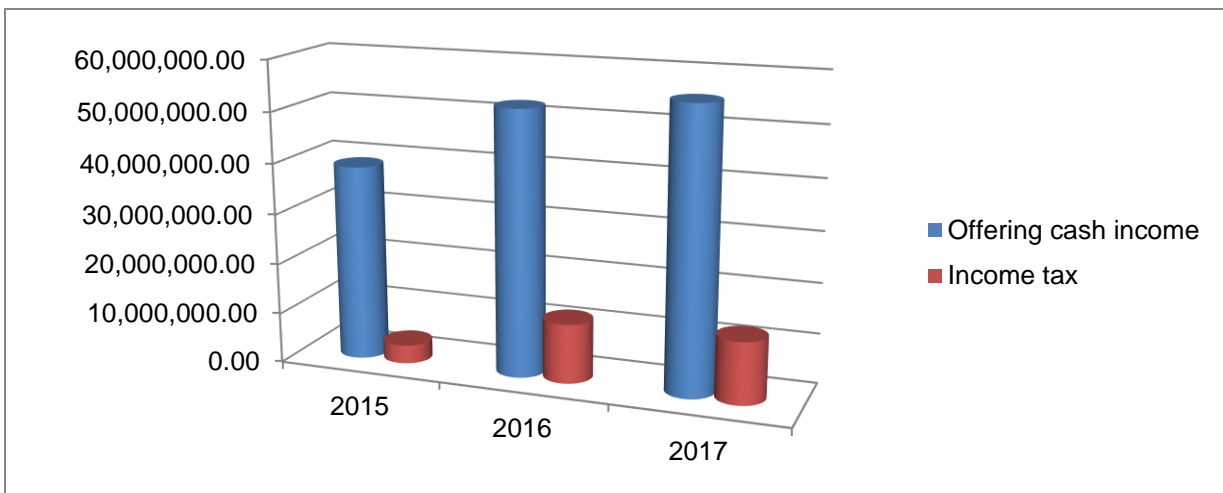
Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
No. of Lease applications	350	650	880	1177	1476
No. of Lease Deeds	248	216	275	369	311





Progress regarding lease applications of lease deeds from the year 2013 to 2017

Year	2015	2016	2017
Income from gratification money	38,808,964.00	52,297,383.00	55,404,818.00
Newly added lease rents during the year	3,673,680.00	11,861,280.00	12,377,544.00
No. of acres taken on lease	--	122	138
Sending of official Ordinances	-	05	44



Progress regarding gratification money income and income from lease rents from the year

