

Miniature Sheet First Day Covers of Sri Lanka



Indika Lakmal Pathiraja

Version 2.0

PREFACE

This is the version 2.0 of the MSFDC document which has included the images and details of the miniature sheets first day covers that issued up to 2023. In previous document, details had updated up to 2022. So, in 2023, 3 MSFDC's have been updated & included to the document, details of them.

Miniature Sheet first day covers collection or more commonly known as MSFDC is a modern philatelic collector item. So, if you have not yet to include them to your collection, now would be a suitable time to do so. So that you can grab them at their face values before they increase exponentially. This document is a bit of effort to share the details about the existing MSFDC (and its related items) released officially in Sri Lanka.

When looking at the history of the MSFDC issuing, the inaugural issue was released in 2004* (as a full set) but next was in 2020. After that, within three years next all have issued. It can be seen the increase of MSFDC issuing in last 4 years. But in 1967 at the 1st National Stamps Exhibition, SL posts has issued their fist MSFDC from theme Typical Birds of Ceylon.

For those collectors who were innovative, they could have created their own personal MSFDC by pasting the souvenir sheet on a dealer created cover or if adequate space were present, paste over the stamp of the official FDC. Since it is not possible to document the personal documents, they are not included. I was also not able to find any samples of such either.

As always, this effort to create the document is one which is more for my personal use but want to share with other collectors too. They might be mistakes and if so, please do inform me so that I can issue a latest version so that the collectors have an updated correct document. My contact details are given below.

** I am yet to verify if the 1967 Birds MS was also issued as an MSFDC and falls under our definition. If there is official document to prove this, do let me know. It has however been included at the rear of this document.*

It would not have been possible to create this document without the help of other collectors/philatelists in the form of providing images, verifying information, giving ideas to improve the document and moral support . I am very much grateful to each of them.

In no particular order

- Gihan Fernando
- Eranda Nipunika
- Nandana Rodrigo
- Manoj Priyankara
- Gamini Silva

If you have more information, images to improve this document, please send them my way via email, WhatsApp or by giving me a call. A combined effort will help us to provide good documentation to philatelists who collect Sri Lankan philately items.



Indika Lakmal Pathiraja



lakmalpathiraja@gmail.com



0716713312

MSFDC Collection of Sri Lanka

Definition

An MSFDC can be defined as a cover(s) with the Miniature Sheet(s) affixed to the same cover used for FDC which is officially released by an authorized bureau in a country in a country on the day of the stamp(s) issue. Only those with a Miniature Sheets (Souvenir sheets) can qualify for this. The bureau will decide which issue will include an MSFDC.

List of the MSFDC

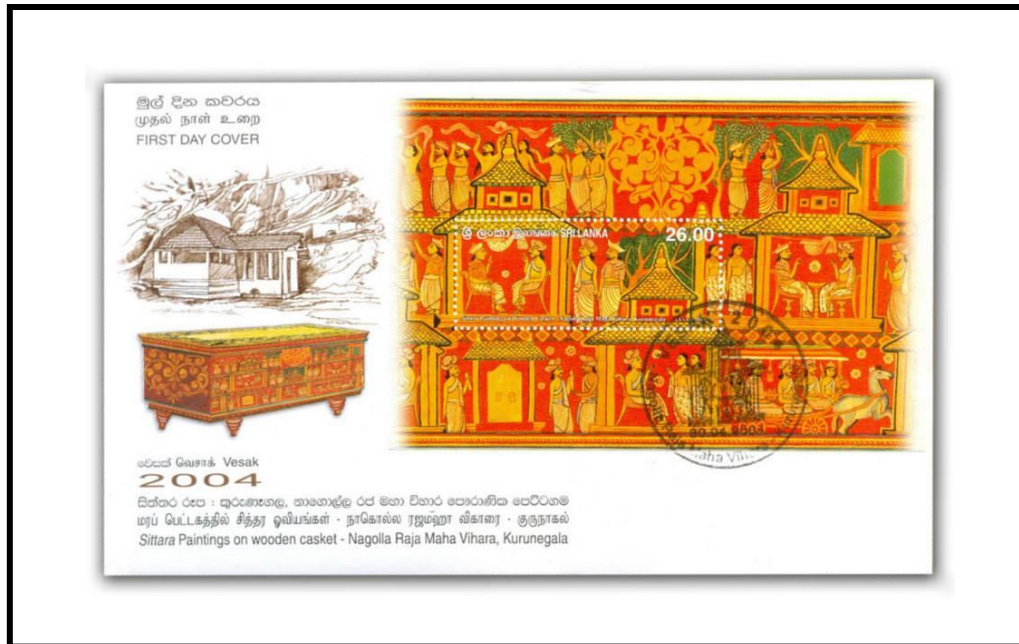
Under above definition below issues have been released from the Philatelic Bureau of the Department of Post.

#	Issue Date	Theme	# of Issues
1	30-Apr-2004	Vesak 2004	1
2	25-Jul-2020	Kandy Esala Perahera	3
3	4-Dec-2020	Christmas 2020	1
4	27-Jul-2021	Sri Lanka – Singapore Diplomatic Relations	1
5	9-Oct-2021	Endemic Birds of Sri Lanka	6
6	1-Dec-2022	Endemic Butterflies of Sri Lanka	3
7	6-Dec-2022	Christmas 2022	1
8	23-Jun-2023	UNESCO World heritage site Sigiriya	4
9	27-Oct-2023	Sri Lanka – France Diplomatic Relations	1
10	12-Nov-2023	Deepavali 2023	1
11	1-Dec-2023	Christmas 2023	1

1. VESAK 2004

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued four postage stamps, a souvenir sheet, a first day cover and a miniature sheet first day cover on 30 Apr 2004 for the Vesak 2004.

MSFDC



Details

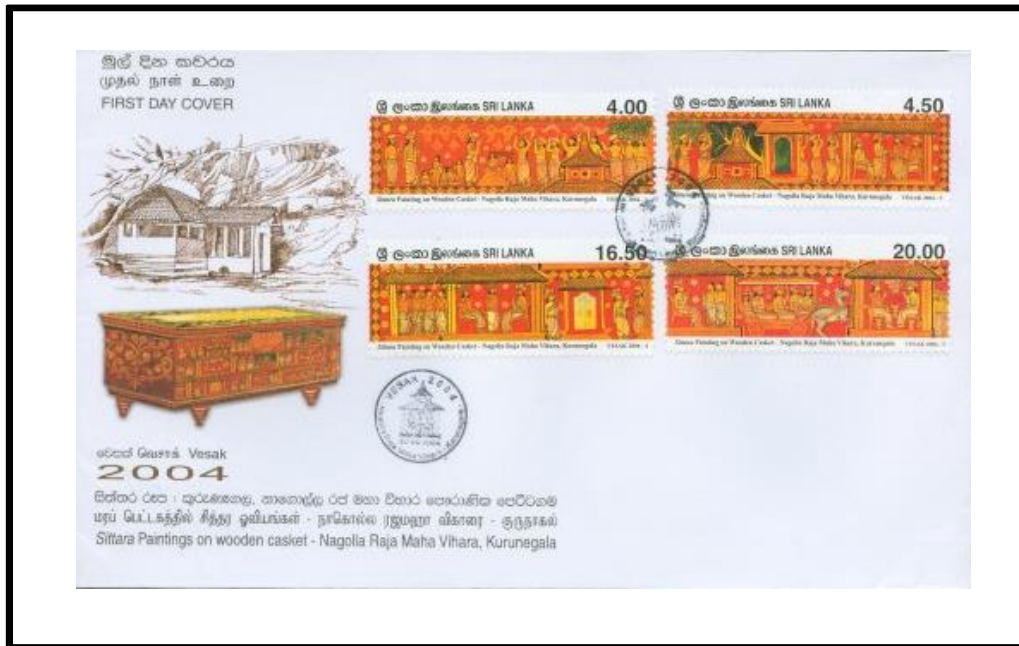
Date of issued	:	30-Apr-2004
Denomination	:	4.00, 4.50, 16.00, 20.00
Catalogue No.	:	4.00 - CSL 1537
		4.50 - CSL 1538
		16.00 - CSL 1539
		20.00 - CSL 1540

Designers

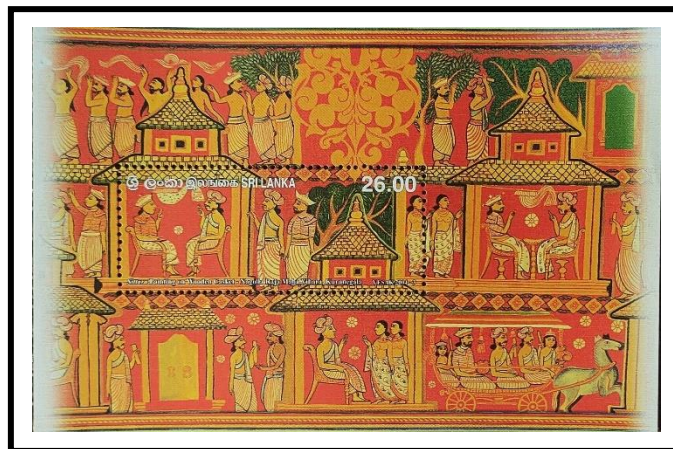
Stamp : Palitha Gunasinghe

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



SG No. : MS1705

Stamps SG No : Only for the Miniature Sheets/ No separate stamp

3. Stamps



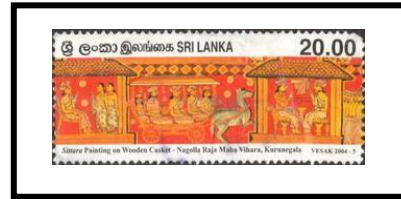
SG 1701



SG 1702



SG 1703



SG 1704

2. KANDY ESALA PERAHERA 2020

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued three postage stamps, three souvenir sheets, a first day cover and three miniature sheet first day covers on 25 July. 2020 for the Kandy Esala perahera

MSFDC



Details

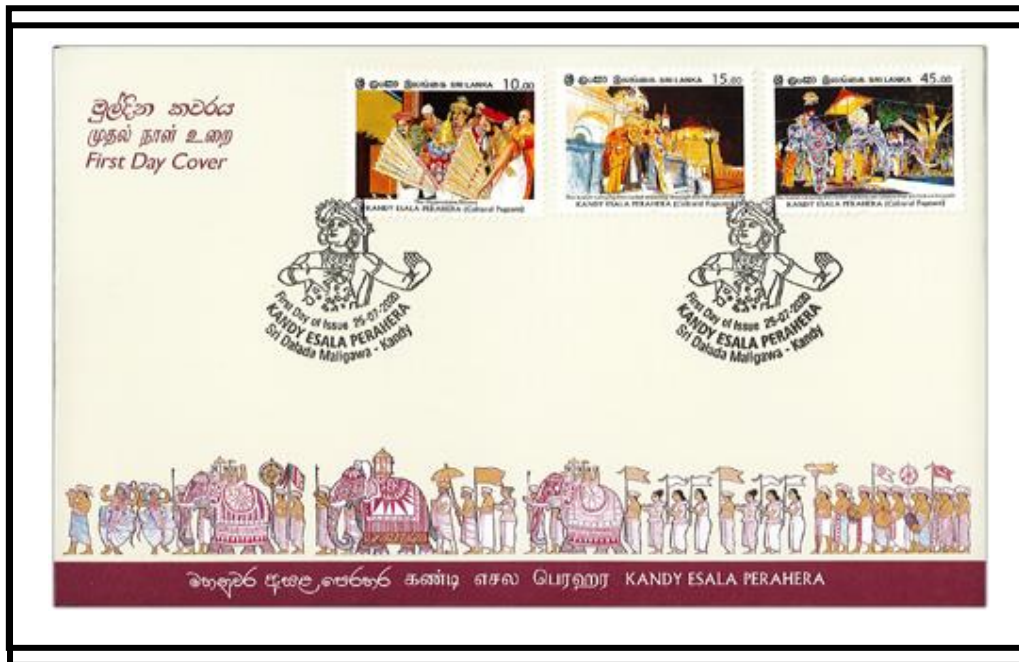
Date of issued	:	25-Jul-2020
Denomination	:	10.00, 15.00, 45.00
Catalogue No.	:	10.00 - CSL 2393
		15.00 - CSL 2394
		45.00 - CSL 2395

Designers

Stamp : Nihal Sangabo Dias

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2393



CSL 2394



CSL 2395

3. CHRISTMAS 2020

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued two postage stamps, a souvenir sheet, and miniature sheets first day cover on 04 Dec. 2020 to mark Christmas 2020.

MSFDC



Details

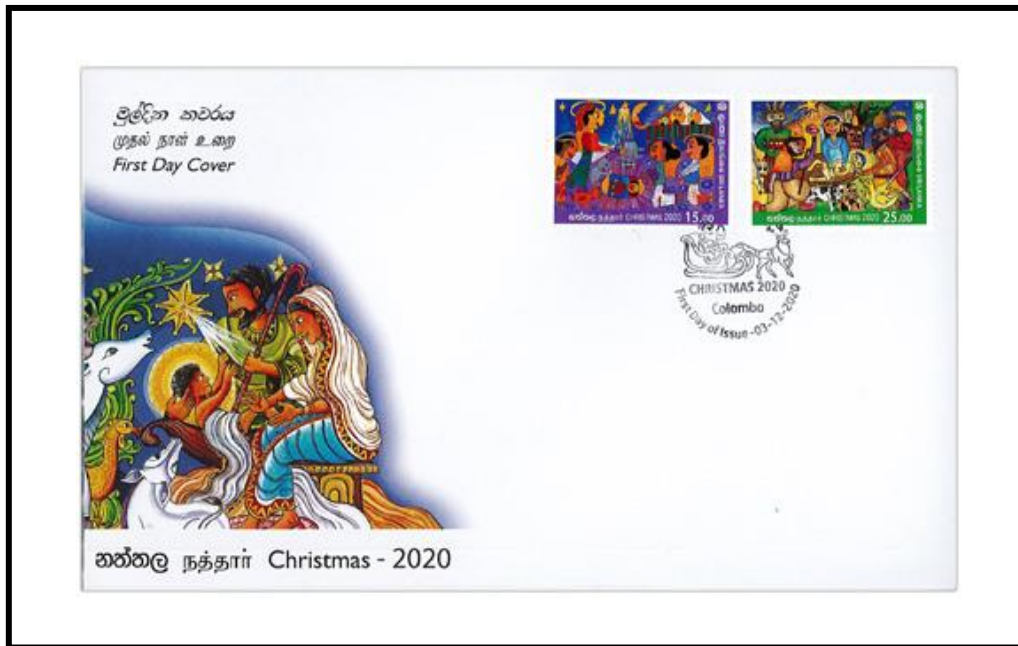
Date of issued	:	4-Dec-2020
Denomination	:	15.00, 25.00
Catalogue No.	:	15.00 - CSL 2406
		25.00 - CSL 2407

Designers

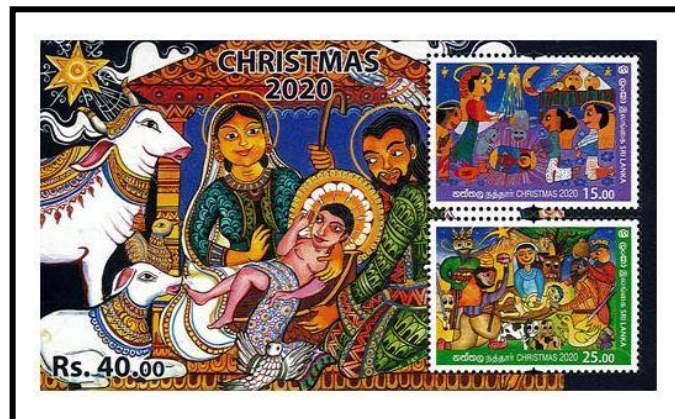
Souvenir Sheet	:	K.A.E. Nesakya
First day Cover	:	H.S.R.T. Peiris
Stamp	:	15.00 - T.R Jayasinghe
		25.00 - T. Weeraratne

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Souvenir Sheet



3. Stamps



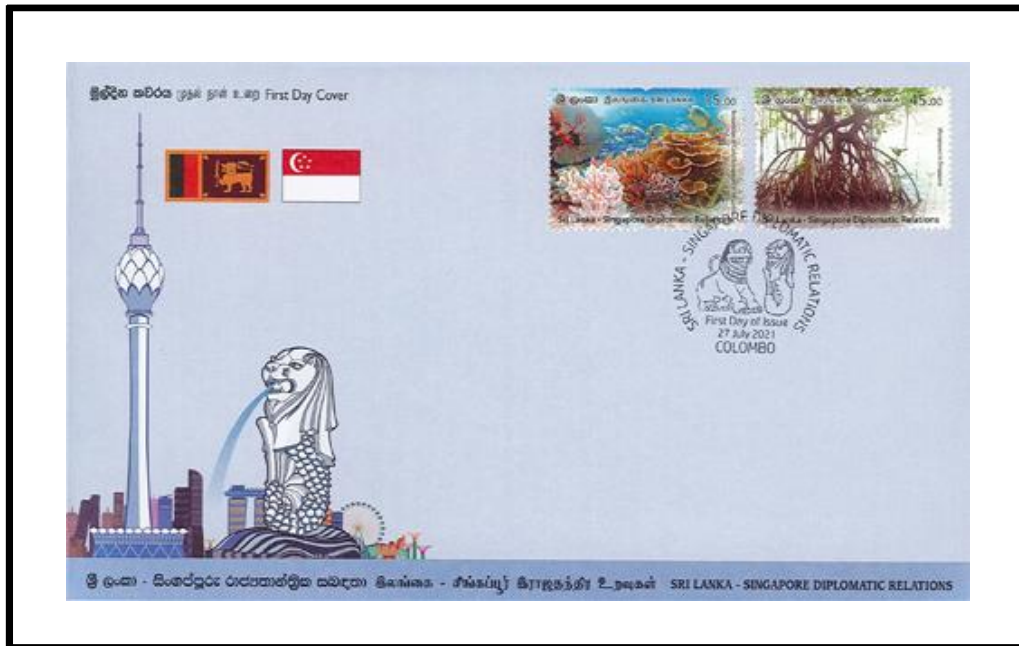
CSL 2406



CSL 2407

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



SG No. : No SG

3. Stamps



CSL 2413



CSL 2414

5. ENDEMIC BIRDS OF SRI LANKA 2021

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued six postage stamps, worth Rs. 25.00 each, 6 souvenir sheets, 6 first day covers, 6 miniature sheet first day covers, 9th October 2021, that depict the six endemic birds in Sri Lanka. These stamps were issued on the World Wildlife Day.

MSFDC



Details

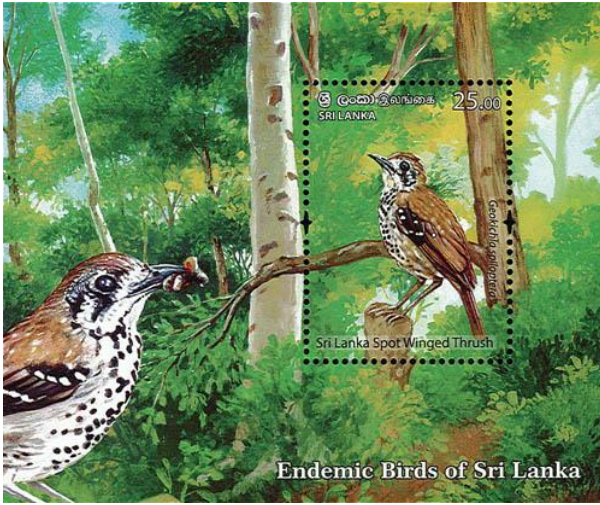
Date of issued	:	09-Oct-2021
Denomination	:	25.00 * 6
Catalogue No.	:	CSL 2427 – CSL 2432
<i>Designers</i>		
Stamp	:	Pulasthi Ediriweera

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Souvenir Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2427



CSL 2428



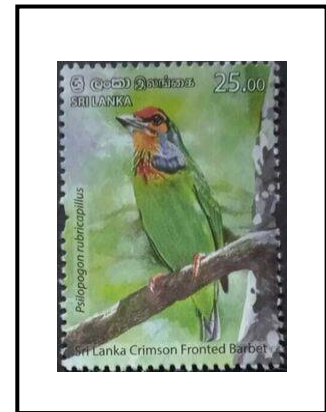
CSL 2429



CSL 2430



CSL 2431



CSL 2432

6. ENDEMIC BUTTERFLIES OF SRI LANKA 2022

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued 12 numbers of definitive stamps in the denomination of Rs. 1.00, 5.00, 10.00, 20.00, 25.00, 30.00, 40.00, 50.00, 60.00, 100.00, 110.00, 200.00 postage stamps and 3 numbers of souvenir sheets, a first day cover and 3 number of miniature sheet first day covers on 1st December 2022, that depict endemic butterflies in Sri Lanka.

MSFDC



Details

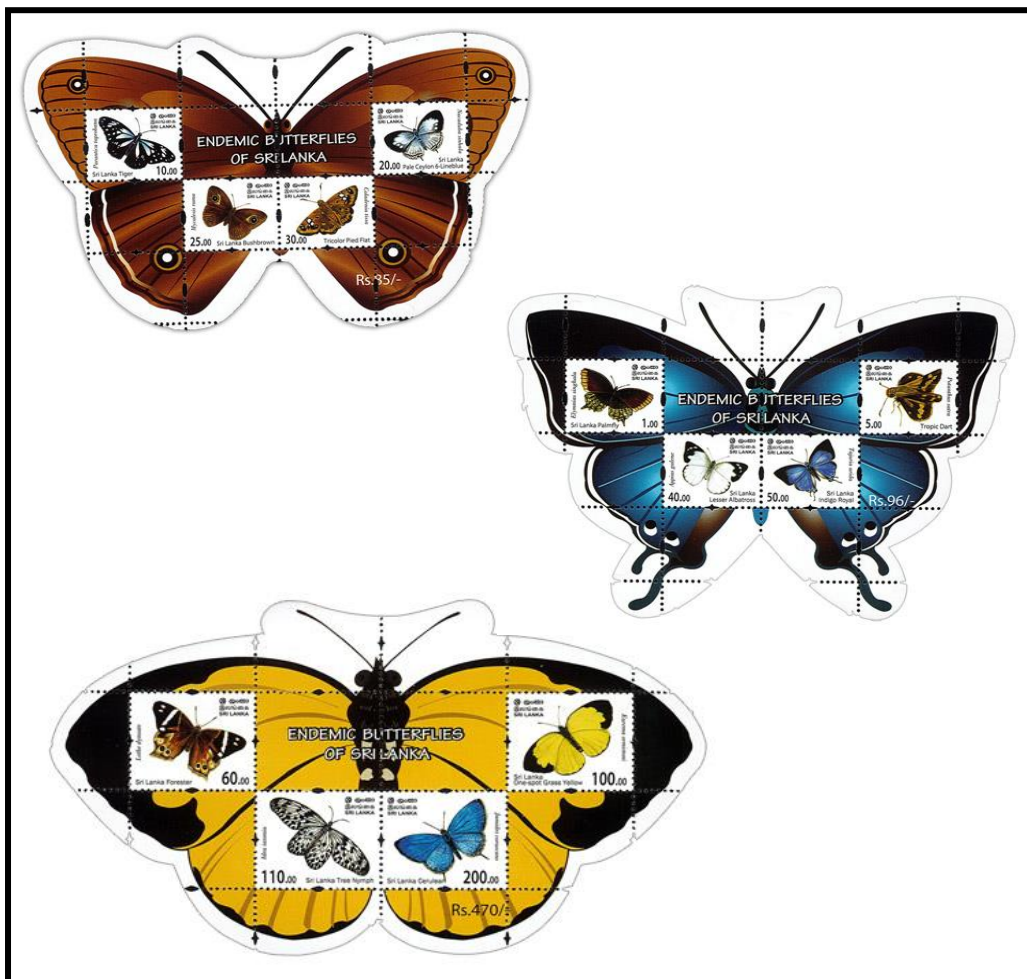
Date of issued	:	01-Dec-2022
Denomination	:	1.00, 5.00, 10.00, 20.00, 25.00, 30.00, 40.00, 50.00, 60.00, 100.00, 110.00, 200.00
Catalogue No.	:	CSL 2487- CSL2498
<i>Designers</i>		
Souvenir Sheet	:	Kelum A. Gunasekara
First day Cover	:	P. Isuru Chathuranga
Stamp	:	Kelum A. Gunasekara

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2487



CSL 2488



CSL 2489



CSL 2490



CSL 2491



CSL 2492



CSL 2493



CSL 2494



CSL 2495



CSL 2496



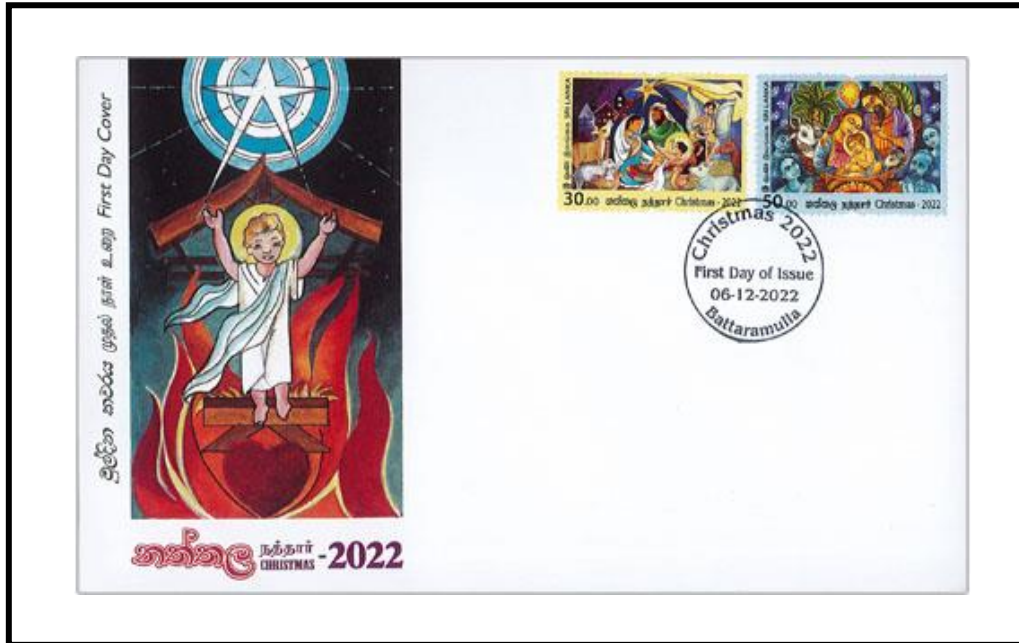
CSL 2497



SCL 2498

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2499



CSL 2500

8. UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES OF SRI LANKA - SIGIRIYA

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued four postage stamps, four souvenir sheets a first day cover and four miniature sheets first day cover depicting Sigiriya Rock as the first issue of the stamp series of the UNESCO World Heritage sites of the Sri Lanka in the demonstration of Rs. 50.00 and Rs. 110.00 on the 15th of June 2023.

MSFDC



Details

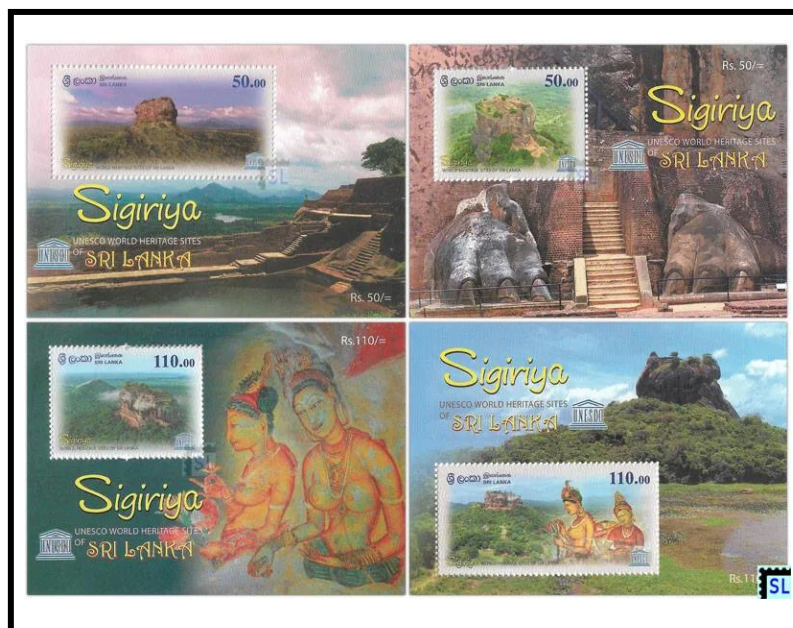
Date of issued	:	23-Jun-2023
Denomination	:	50.00 * 2, 100.00 * 2
Catalogue No.	:	CSL 2510 - CSL 2513
<i>Designers</i>		
Stamp	:	Sudath Jayawardana

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2510



CSL 2511



CSL 2512



CSL 2513

9. SRI LANKA FRANCE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued two postage stamps, a souvenir sheet, a first day cover and a miniature sheet first day cover depicting the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations Sri Lanka & France demonstration of Rs. 50.00 on the 27th of October 2023.

MSFDC



Details

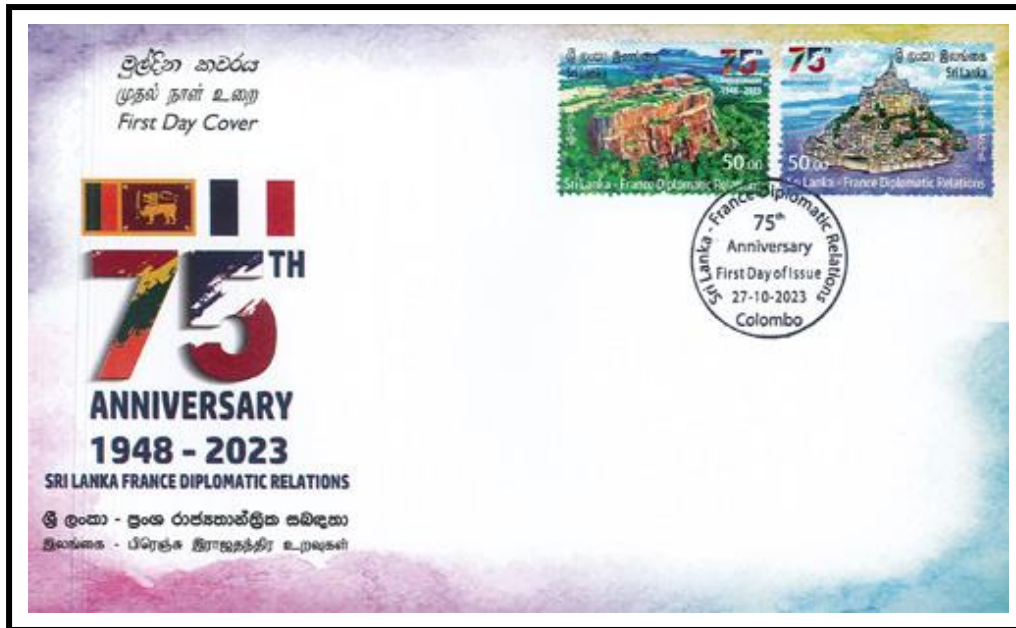
Date of issued : 27-Oct-2023
 Denomination : 50.00 * 2
 Catalogue No. : SCL2539, SCL2540

Designers

Souvenir Sheet : Isuru Chaturanga
 First day Cover : Isuru Chaturanga
 Stamps : SL - Ruwan Indrajith Upasena
 France - Mahinda Herath (lives in France)

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2539

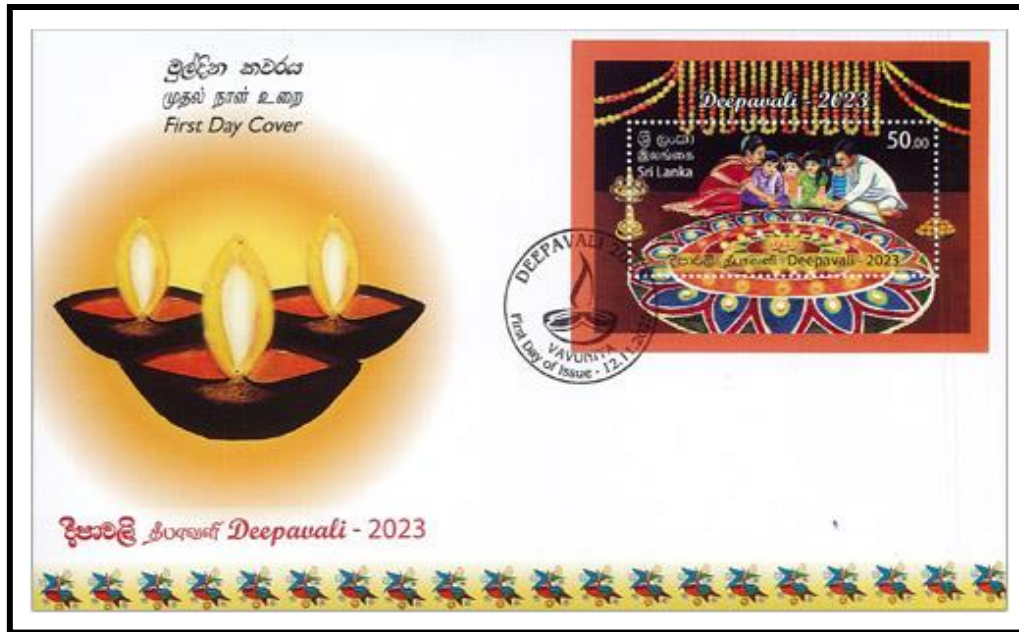


CSL 2540

10. DEEPAVALI 2023

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued a postage stamp, a souvenir sheet, a first day cover and a miniature sheet first day cover depicting the Deepavali festival demonstration of Rs. 50.00 on the 12th of November 2023.

MSFDC



Details

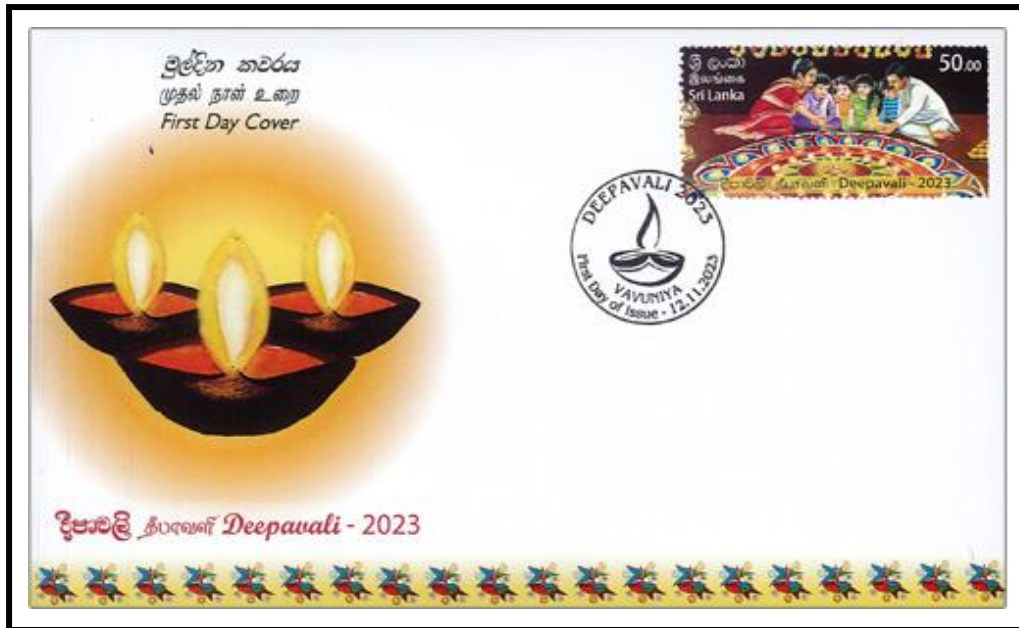
Date of issued	:	12-Nov-2023
Denomination	:	50.00
Catalogue No.	:	SCL 2541

Designers

Souvenir Sheet	:	Nihal Sagabo Dias
First day Cover	:	Nihal Sagabo Dias
Stamp	:	Nihal Sagabo Dias

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamp



CSL 2541

11. CHRISTMAS 2023

The philatelic bureau of the department of posts has issued two postage stamps, a souvenir sheet, and miniature sheets first day cover on 01 Dec. 2023 to mark Christmas 2023. The Dept of Christmas Religious Affairs selected pictures of the following themes in the Christmas Postage stamp Art competition 2023.

MSFDC



Details

Date of issued	:	01-Dec-2023
Denomination	:	50.00, 110.00
Catalogue No.	:	30.00 - CSL 2542
		50.00 - CSL 2543

Designers

Souvenir Sheet	:	Uvindu Niwanthaka Jayalath
First day Cover	:	V.S.J. Mendis
Stamps	:	30.00 - N. D. Mersaleen
	:	50.00 - Hasindu Praharshana Fernando

Related Philatelic Items

1. First Day Cover



2. Miniature Sheet



3. Stamps



CSL 2542

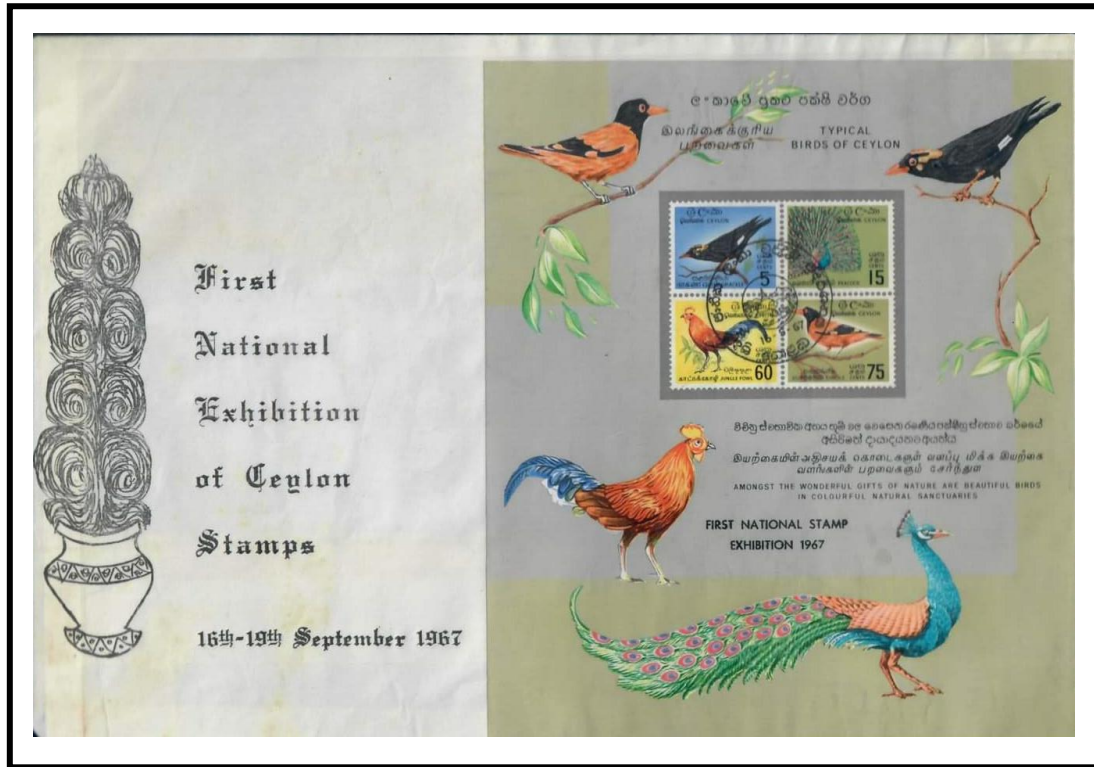


CSL 2543

Other Issues Released as MSFDC

Typical Birds of Ceylon

This was released at the 1st National Exhibition



Released Date : 16-09-1967.

Cancelled from special seal included Sinhala letters.



Released Date : 17-09-1967.

Cancelled from special seal included English letters.