

SRI LANKA

Stamp

Bulletin No. 126

Commemorative Issue

**Ven. WELIVITA SRI SARANANKARA
SANGHARAJA THERO**



1982. 07. 05

Philatelic Bureau

Department of Posts

Ceylinco House

Colombo 1

SRI LANKA

STAMP BULLETIN No. 126

Ministry of Posts & Telecommunications,
Lotus Road,
Colombo 1,
Sri Lanka.
July 05th, 1982.

THE Ministry of Posts & Telecommunications will issue today a commemorative stamp in the denomination of 50 cents in honour of Venerable Welivita Pindapathika Asarana Sarana Saranankara Sangharaja Thero.

The Venerable Sangharaja Thero, Head of the Sangha (the Buddhist Order of Monks), was an exceptional religious leader of the 17th century. He re-established the Upasampada (higher ordination) of the Bhikkhu Sasana which brought widespread fame to Sri Lanka.

His literary works both prose and verse have been an impetus and a model to lovers of literature among the clergy and the laity as well.

The present renaissance of the Buddha Sasana began in 1752 with the holding of the first Upasampada Vinaya Karmaya at the Rajamalwatte Wisungama Sima Malakaya, Senkadagalapura (present day Kandy) under the aegis of the Venerable Upali Sthavira who arrived from Siam.

The organization of the Pageant of the Tooth Relic, along with the Devala Perahera (the procession of the Temples of Gods) which was made possible owing to the Thero's advice and guidance to King Kirthi Sri Rajasingha, brought about global recognition of the proud heritage of our nation.

From the very inception of his novitiate period, he went from door to door with the begging bowl for his alms. He cherished the simple way of life. As a novice, destitute of position and power, he fulfilled his role for the stability of the Sasana. Finally his elevation to a position of veneration and honour with the incumbency of 4,800 temples in the country and the exalted office of Sangharaja is an example to all Bhikkhus.

Born in 1698, he entered the Buddhist priesthood at the age of sixteen and received his higher ordination at the age of 55 years.

The Venerable Welivita Pindapathika Asarana Sarana Saranankara Sangharaja Thero passed away on the day following the Esala Full Moon Day in 1778 (Full Moon Day in July) while listening to the Sangibana (a recital of the Scriptures).

Philatelic Details

<i>Date of Issue</i>	: 1982.07.05
<i>Value</i>	: 50 cents.
<i>Colours</i>	: Multi-colour
<i>Designer</i>	: M. Katugampola
<i>Printers</i>	: Mezhdunarodnaia Kniga, Moscow, U.S.S.R.
<i>Format</i>	: Vertical
<i>Size</i>	: 30 × 42 mm.
<i>Printing Process</i>	: Offset
<i>Sheet Composition</i>	: 100 Stamps per sheet
<i>Paper</i>	: 102 GSM Special Art Paper
<i>Gum</i>	: Tropical Gum
<i>Quantity Printed</i>	: 1,000,000 Stamps

Official First Day Covers

The Philatelic Bureau will provide a specially designed First Day Cover and a First Day of Issue Postmark.

Terms of Sale

Overseas orders for supply of the new stamps and First Day Covers should be addressed with full particulars to the Director, Philatelic Bureau, 4th Floor, Ceylinco House, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka and should be accompanied by Mail Transfer, International Money Order, British Postal Order or Bank Draft drawn on the Bank of Ceylon, Colombo or any other Bank in Sri Lanka payable to the Director, Philatelic Bureau. Uncertified personal cheques are not acceptable.

Telephones : 25588, 26163, 26177.

Special Notice

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Current stamps of the U.N.P.A. including issues of New York, Geneva and Vienna are available for sale.

Stamp Issues—1982

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>	
1.	F. R. Senanayake	.. 50 cents ..	82.01.01	
2.	Philip Gunawardane	.. 50 cents ..	82.01.11	
3.	50 Years—Department of Inland Revenue	.. 50 cents ..	82.02.09	
4.	Inauguration of National T.V.	Rs. 2.50 ..	82.02.15	
5.	Sri Lanka First Test Cricket Match	.. Rs. 2.50 ..	82.02.17	
6.	Flowers of Sri Lanka*	.. 35 cents Rs. 2.00 Rs. 7.00 Rs.20.00	} 82.04.01	
7.	Food and Nutrition Policy Planning	.. 50 cents ..		82.04.06
8.	World Hindu Conference	.. 50 cents ..		82.04.21
9.	Vesak—1982*	.. 35 cents 50 cents Rs. 2.50 Rs. 5.00		} 82.04.23
10.	Opening of New Parliament Building	.. 50 cents ..	82.04.29	
11.	Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara	.. 50 cents ..	82.05.22	
12.	125th Birth Anniversary of Lord Baden Powell	.. 50 cents ..	82.05.24	
13.	Dr. Gunapala Malalasekera	50 cents ..	82.05.26	
14.	World Buddhist Congress	.. 50 cents ..	82.06.01	
15.	World Environment Day	.. 50 cents ..	82.06.05	
16.	Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy	.. 50 cents ..	82.06.14	
17.	Centenary of Colombo Y.M.C.A.	.. Rs. 2.50 ..	82.06.24	

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>
18.	Ven. Welivita Sri Saranankara Sangharaja ..	50 cents ..	82.07.05
19.	25 Years—Sasana Sevaka Samithiya ..	50 cents ..	82.08.04
20.	Dr. Robert Koch Centenary	50 cents ..	82.09.21
21.	Sir John Kotalawala ..	50 cents ..	82.10.02
22.	Sir Oliver Goonatillake ..	50 cents ..	82.10.20
23.	World-wide Sight Conservation Project ..	— ..	82.10
24.	125th Anniversary of Sri Lanka Postage Stamp* ..	50 cents Rs. 5.00	} 82.12

Dates and values are subject to alteration.

*Souvenir Sheet available.