

HOMAGAMA 'DHARMA RASHMI 2024' LANTERN COMPETITION WINNERS OF THE SCHOOLS AND DAHAM PASAL CATEGORY AWARDED PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES

Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardhana stresses the importance of passing on cultural heritage to future generations

- The school that built the lantern which won the first place receives Rs. 500,000
- Second Place Winner in lantern Competition Receives Rs. 200,000
- Third Place Prize of Rs 100,000 Awarded in Homagama Lantern Contest

Homagama witnessed a display of creativity and community spirit during the 'Dharma Rashmi 2024' lantern competition. Organized under the guidance of Minister of Transport, Highways and Mass Media and acting Minister of Education Dr. Bandula Gunawardana, the event marked its second successful year.

The competition saw a turnout of approximately 1,000 lanterns crafted by schools within the Homagama Education Zone. These creations were showcased along the road stretching from the NSBM Green University campus to the Pitipana Mahinda Rajapaksa College, providing a visual treat for visitors from June 21 to 23.

The culmination of this festival took place at the Homagama Pitipana Mahinda Rajapaksa Vidyalaya Sports Complex on June 25.

The senior section of Homagama President's College clinched the top prize, receiving Rs 500,000. Teacher G.G. Lorani and three students from the winning team accepted the award from Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardana. Watareka Junior College earned the second spot, with Principal K.G. Ashoka Malani, Teacher H.A. Lakmali Hettiarachchi, and six students

representing the school to receive Rs 200,000. The middle section of Mahinda Rajapaksa School, represented by two students, secured third place and were awarded Rs 100,000.

The lanterns were evaluated by a panel of judges including retired Aesthetic Education Director Thushara Gunathilaka, Senior Lecturer Punyasiri Gamage, and Assistant Education Director Ruwani Jayalath.

The prize-giving ceremony was graced by Homagama Divisional Secretary B.A. Daminda Chinthaka, of State Development and Design Corporation Chairman Kushan Devinda, Associated Newspapers of Ceylon (ANCL) Chairman Professor Harendra Kariyawasam, Director Finance Dr. Sunil Jayantha Navaratne, Director Editorial Sisira Paranatantrie, Director Legal Janaka Ranatunga, General Manager Sumit Kothalawala, Homagama education Zonal Director Hemantha Gamage, Homagama Mahinda Rajapaksa School Principal J.D. Sarath Bandu Gunasekera, Homagama Mahinda Rajapaksa School Assistant Principal Venerable Yasassi Thera, Homagama Middle School Principal Pushpani Adihetti, and other dignitaries and students.

Pictures by Sulochana Gamage and Dushmantha Mayadunne



Second place: Watareka Junior College



Third place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College Grade 10



12th place :Sri Parakrama College, Panagoda,



13th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, 11F



First place: Homagama President's College Senior Section



4th place: Meegoda Dharmaraja College



5th place: St. John Bosco's College, Kaluaggala



6th place: President's College, Primary Section



7th place: Subharathi Central College, Godagama.



8th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, 12A



9th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, Advanced Level



10th place: Pitipana Maha Vidyalaya, Grade 11



11th place: Homagama Central College 12D



14th place: Pitipana Junior College,



15th place: Homagama College



16th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, Grade 6



17th place: Wetara Central College, 12 Tec B



18th place: Siri Piyarathana Primary School, Padukka



19th place: Siri Piyarathana Central College, Padukka



20th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, Grade 9



21st place: Wetara Central College 12 Tec



22nd place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, Grade 8



23rd place: President's College, Awissavella



24th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, Grade 7



25th place: Mahinda Rajapaksa College, 10Q