## ගෞරව ශාස්තුවේදී දිඹුල්කුඹුරේ ශුී සරණංකර විමලධම්ම අනුනායක ස්ථවිර,

මහාවිහාර වංශික සහාමෝපාලී මහා නිකායේ මල්වතු මහා විහාර පාර්ශ්වය, විහාරාධිපති, ඓතිහාසික වල්ගම්පාය ශීු අභයරාජ පුරාණ රජමහා විහාරය, මාත්ගමුව පන්සල, මල්වතු මහාවිහාරය, මහනුවර - ශීූ ලංකාව



## Ven. Dimbulkumbure Sri Saranankara Vimaladhamma Anunayaka Thera,

Syamopali Maha Nikaya of Malwatta Chapter, (B.A. Hon) Chief Incumbent of the Walgampaya Sri Abhayaraja Ancient Rajamaha Viharaya Mathgamuwa Temple, Malwatu Maha Viharaya, Kandy - Sri Lanka

2023-08-29

Dear Mr. Kandage,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your noble initiative and leadership in helping to illuminate the nine temples at the Malwattha Chapter of the Siyam Nikaya at Kandy using rooftop solar systems. This is a great meritorious deed that will not only reduce or eliminate the electricity bills that we are struggling to pay but also contribute to protecting the environment and promoting renewable energy.

As you know, the Malwattha Chapter of the Siyam Nikaya is one of the two custodians of the Temple of the Tooth at Kandy, which is the most sacred and revered site for Buddhists in Sri Lanka and around the world. The temples at the Malwattha Chapter are also important places of worship and learning for many monks and devotees. Therefore, your generous and compassionate gesture of supporting these temples with rooftop solar systems is a great service to the Buddha Sasana and the Buddhist community.

Your project also reflects some of the core Buddhist principles that guide us in living in harmony with nature and all beings. By installing rooftop solar systems, you are demonstrating the principle of dependent origination, which states that all things arise and cease in dependence on causes and conditions. This implies that nothing exists in isolation, but everything is connected and interrelated. Therefore, harming the environment is harming oneself and others, and vice versa. By understanding the causal links between our actions and their consequences, we can act more responsibly and compassionately towards the environment.

You are also practicing the principle of non-violence or Ahiṃsā, which means not harming or killing any living being, including animals, plants, and insects. This is based on the recognition that all beings have the potential to attain enlightenment and are worthy of respect and compassion. By refraining from violence, we can cultivate a peaceful and harmonious relationship with the environment and its inhabitants.

Moreover, you are exemplifying the principle of generosity or Dāna, which means giving freely and unselfishly to others, especially those in need. This includes sharing our material resources, such as food, water, clothing, and shelter, as well as our spiritual resources, such as wisdom, kindness, and joy. By practicing generosity, we can reduce our greed and attachment to worldly possessions, which often lead to environmental exploitation and degradation.

I am pleased to nominate my chief of staff, Ven. Ampitiye Chandajothi Thero, to coordinate the activities on behalf of the Malwattha Chapter of the Siyam Nikaya. He is a well-respected and experienced monk who has been working closely with me for many years. He will be in charge of liaising with you and your colleagues, Mr. Whitaker and Mr. Karunasekara, as well as overseeing the installation and maintenance of the rooftop solar systems at the nine temples. I hereby authorize Ven. Ampitiye Chandajothi Thero to act as the signatory for establishing a bank account to manage the rooftop solar project cost.

I understand that you and your colleagues have devised an innovative solution to meet the project cost by utilizing your own funds and donations, as well as crowdfunding from both local and international sources. I commend you for your creativity and resourcefulness in finding ways to finance this project. I request you to mobilize your own, your friends and family's donations and meet any shortfall in funds by using crowdfunding platforms both nationally and internationally. I am confident that many people will be inspired by your example and join you in this worthy cause.

I also request you to arrange a post project audit to be done by a reputable international audit firm to ensure transparency, project management and maintenance of the rooftop solar systems. This will help us to monitor the performance and impact of the project, as well as to identify and address any issues or challenges that may arise. The audit report should be submitted to me and Ven. Ampitive Chandrajothi Thero within six months of the completion of the project. I trust that you will select a suitable and qualified audit firm for this purpose.

I hope that this project will be successfully implemented at the nine temples at the Malwattha Chapter as soon as possible. I also hope that this project will serve as a model for other religious places in Sri Lanka, such as the temples of the Asgiriya Chapter of the Siyam Nikaya, which is the second custodian of the Temple of the Tooth at Kandy, as well as Buddhist, Catholic, Christian, Islamic, and Hindu places of worship. I believe that this project will demonstrate the spirit of interfaith harmony and cooperation that is essential for peace and prosperity in our country.

Once again, I thank you for your kindness and generosity in initiating and leading this project. I bless the one and each other who are eager in this onerous and noblest purpose by dint of the triple gem and the sacred tooth relic.

'Sabbe sattā bhavantu sukhitattā'

All beings may be happy.

Yours Sincerely,

Deputy Sangharāja

Ven. Dimbulkumbure Sri Saranankara Vimaladhamma Thera

(B.A Hon) The Chief Incumbent of the

Walgampāya Sri Abhayarāja Ancient Rajamahā Vihāraya,

Chapter of the Syāmopāli Mahā Nikaya of Malwatta,

Malwatu Mahā Vihāraya,

Kandy - Sri Lanka