My No: E/III/2/6-7

Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Plantation Industries And Parliamentary Affairs, Independence Square Colombo 07.

03 January, 1997.

All Secretaries Heads of Departments and Heads of Corporations and Statutory Boards.

Granting of special Leave during the <u>Ramazan Season</u>

Your reference is requested to the Public Administration Circular No. 02/96 of 18^{th} January, 1996.

02. You are requested to make arrangements to enable Muslim Public Officers/Employees to take part in prayers and religious activities during the month of Ramalan (Ramazan) in 1997.

03. The times during which such prayers and religious activities will take place daily are as follows:-

3.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m.
6.30 a.m. to 7.30 a.m.
6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
8.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

04. Workshifts may be arranged wherever possible to avoid granting of Special Leave for these periods. However, in case of unavoidable circumstances a Special Leave may be approved.

05. Further, please take action to grant Festival Advance to eligible Muslim Officers/Employees in Public Service, Corporations and Statutory Bards, 14 days before the expiry date of 1997 Ramalan (Ramazan) Festival.

Sgd. R.S. Jayaratne Secretary Ministryof Public Administration, HomeAffairs,Plantation Industries and Parliamentary Affairs