

### 3g. Environmental Conservation of “Diyawanna Oya”

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The Diyawanna Oya is an ecologically, aesthetically and historically significant natural water body which flows through the current administrative capital of Sri Jayawardanepura Kotte. It has a long history since the regime of King Parakramabahu V1. It helps the Colombo Metropolitan area to maintain a natural balance between the water and the land. It is covered with verdant fields and evergreen vegetation with rich bio-diversity. With the declaration of Sri Jayawardanepura Kotte as an Administrative Capital of Sri Lanka and construction of the current Parliament complex in 1979, the area around Diyawanna Oya was radically changed both topographically and environmentally. Thereafter, a large number of administrative and commercial institutions were shifted to this area gradually leading to various environmental treats viz. environmental pollutions and degradations due to the unauthorized disposal of solid and liquid waste by various establishments located in the vicinity.

Research was conducted on the request of the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) of Sri Lanka to identify current environmental problems and to recommend a management plan in a sustainable point of view to overcome these problems. The project area comprised