



**PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
SRI LANKA**

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**PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT)**

**A  
BILL**

**to amend the Penal Code (Chapter 19)**

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*Presented by the Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and  
Constitutional Reforms on 21st of August, 2024*

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*Ordered by Parliament to be printed*

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**[Bill No. 285]**

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*STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT*

*Clause 2* : This clause amends section 11 of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No.15 of 1979 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) and is consequential to the amendment made by clause 3.

*Clause 3* : This clause amends section 14 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as amended is to increase the maximum fine that may be imposed by a Magistrate’s court.

*Clause 4* : This clause amends section 291 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as amended is to increase the amounts specified in paragraphs (c) and (f) of subsection (1) and subsection (3) of that section.

*Clause 5* : This clause amends section 388 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as amended is to increase the fines imposed on in the cases of contempt.

*Clause 6* : This clause amends First Schedule to the principal enactment and the legal effect of the amendment is to increase the penalties in respect of the offences under the Penal Code (Chapter 19) specified in that Schedule.

*Penal Code (Amendment)*

L.D.—O. 45/2019

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PENAL CODE ( CHAPTER 19 )

BE it enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows:-

1. This Act may be cited as the Penal Code (Amendment) Act, No.    of 2024. Short title
- 5     2. The sections of the Penal Code (Chapter 19) specified in Column I of the Schedule hereto, are hereby amended by the substitution for the words specified in the corresponding entry in column III, of the words specified in the corresponding entry in Column IV of that Schedule for the purpose of increasing penalties imposed in respect of the offences specified in Column II thereof. Amendment of certain sections of Chapter 19 specified in the Schedule
- 10     3. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the provisions of section 2 shall not apply in respect of an offence referred to in the Schedule, where such offence was committed prior to the date of coming into operation of this Act. Avoidance of doubt
- 15     4. In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency

## SCHEDULE

[section 2]

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>	<i>Column IV</i>
<i>Section</i>	<i>Offence</i>	<i>Present words</i>	<i>Amended words</i>
137	Wearing the dress or carrying any token used by soldier, sailor or airman with intent that it may be believed that he is such soldier, sailor or airman	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
151	Owner or occupier of land not giving information of riot, &c.	one thousand rupees	ten thousand rupees
157	Committing affray	one hundred rupees	ten thousand rupees
165	Misconduct by public servant in Posts or Telecommunications Department	fifty rupees	twenty thousand rupees
169	Wearing garb or carrying token used by public servant with fraudulent intent	one hundred rupees	twenty five thousand rupees
169E	Bribery in connection with an election	five hundred rupees	one million rupees
	If bribery by treating	two hundred rupees	seven hundred fifty thousand rupees
169F	Undue influence at an election	five hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
	Personation at an election	three hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees

169H	Failure to keep election accounts	three hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
170	Absconding to avoid service of summons or order proceeding from a public servant	fifty rupees	fifty thousand rupees
	If summons or notice require attendance in person, &c., in a Court of Justice	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
171	Preventing the service or the affixing of any summons or notice or the removal of it when it has been affixed, or preventing a proclamation	one month, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	six months, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
	If summons &c., require attendance in person, &c., in a Court of Justice	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
172	Not obeying a legal order to attend at a certain place in person or by agent, or departing therefrom without authority	one month, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	six months, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
	If the order require personal attendance, &c., in a Court of Justice	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees

173	Intentionally omitting to produce a document to a public servant by a person legally bound to produce or deliver such document	one month, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	six months, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
	If the document is required to be produced in or delivered to a Court of Justice	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
174	Intentionally omitting to give notice or information to a public servant by a person legally bound to give such notice or information	one month, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	six months, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
	If the notice or information required respects the commission of an offence, &c.	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
175	Knowingly furnishing false information to a public servant	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
176	Refusing oath when duly required to take oath by a public servant	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
177	Being legally bound to state truth, and refusing to answer questions	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees

178	Refusing to sign a statement made to a public servant when legally required to do so	one hundred rupees	twenty thousand rupees
180	Giving false information to a public servant in order to cause him to use his lawful power to the injury or annoyance of any person	one thousand rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
181	Resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
182	Obstructing sale of property offered for sale by authority of a public servant	with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees	with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
183	Obstructing public servant in discharge of his public functions	with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees	with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to twenty five thousand rupees

184	Omission to assist public servant when bound by law to give such assistance	one month or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	three months or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
	Willfully neglecting to aid a public servant who demands aid in the execution of process, the prevention of offences, &c.	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
185	Disobedience to an order lawfully promulgated by a public servant, if such disobedience causes obstruction, annoyance, or injury to persons lawfully employed	one month, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	three months, or with fine which may extend to twenty thousand rupees
	If such disobedience causes danger to human life health, or safety, &c.	with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees	with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees



219A	Resistance or obstruction to lawful apprehension under a civil process	one hundred rupees	twenty thousand rupees
223	Intentional insult or interruption to a public servant sitting in any stage of a judicial proceeding	one thousand rupees	fifty thousand rupees
265	Adulterating food or drink intended for sale so as to make the same noxious	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
266	Selling any food or drink as food and drink, knowing the same to be noxious	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
267	Adulterating any drug or medical preparation intended for sale, so as to lessen its efficacy or to change its operation, or to make it noxious	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
268	Offering for sale, or issuing from a dispensary, any drug or medical preparation known to have been adulterated	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
269	Knowingly selling, or issuing from a dispensary any drug or medical preparation as a different drug or medical preparation	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees

270	Defiling the water of a public spring or reservoir	with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to fifty rupees	with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand rupees
271	Making atmosphere noxious to health	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
272	Driving or riding on a public way so rashly or negligently as to endanger human life, &c.	with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one one hundred rupees, or with both	with fine not less than twenty five thousand rupees, and not exceeding fifty thousand rupees, and on a second conviction to a fine not less than thirty thousand rupees and not exceeding seventy five thousand rupees and the suspension of his driving licence, and on a third or subsequent conviction to a fine not less than seventy five thousand

			rupees or to rigorous imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment and the cancellation of his driving licence
273	Navigating any vessel so rashly or negligently as to endanger human life, &c	one hundred rupee	fifty thousand rupees
275	Conveying for hire any person by water in a vessel in such a state, or so loaded, as to endanger his life	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
276	Causing danger, obstruction, or injury in any public way or line of navigation	with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees	with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees
277	Dealing with any poisonous substance so as to endanger human life, &c.	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
278	Dealing with fire, or any combustible matter, so as to endanger human life, &c.	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees

279	Dealing with any explosive substance so as to endanger human life, &c.	one hundred rupees	seventy five thousand rupees
280	Dealing with any machinery so as to endanger human life, &c.	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
281	A person omitting to guard against probable danger to human life by the fall of any building over which he has a right entitling him to pull it down or repair it	one hundred rupees	fifty thousand rupees
282	A person omitting to take order with any animal in his possession, so as to guard against danger to human life, or of grievous hurt, from such animal	one hundred rupees	twenty thousand rupees
283	Committing a public nuisance	fifty rupees	twenty thousand rupees
314	Voluntarily causing hurt	one thousand rupees	fifty thousand rupees
325	Voluntarily causing hurt on grave and sudden provocation, not intending to hurt any other than the person who gave the provocation	fifty rupees	twenty thousand rupees

326	Causing grievous hurt on grave and sudden provocation, not intending to hurt any other than the person who gave the provocation	two thousand rupees	fifty thousand rupees
327	Doing any act rashly or negligently which endangers human life or the personal safety of others	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
328	Causing hurt by doing an act rashly or negligently which endangers human life, &c	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
329	Causing grievous hurt by doing an act rashly or negligently which endangers human life, &c.	one thousand rupees	one hundred fifty thousand rupees
332	Wrongfully restraining any person	fifty rupees	fifty thousand rupees
333	Wrongfully confining any person	one thousand rupees	five hundred thousand rupees
343	Assault or use of criminal force; otherwise than on grave provocation	fifty rupees	fifty thousand rupees
348	Assault or use of criminal force in attempt wrongfully to confine a person	one thousand rupees	five hundred thousand rupees

349	Assault or use of criminal force on grave and sudden provocation	fifty rupees	twenty thousand rupees
433	Criminal trespass	one hundred rupees	one hundred thousand rupees
434	House trespass	one thousand rupees	one hundred fifty thousand rupees
450	Being found in a building for unlawful purpose	fifty rupees	twenty thousand rupees
451	Loitering about by reputed thief	fifty rupees	twenty thousand rupees
487	Criminal intimidation by anonymous communication or having taken precaution to conceal whence the threat comes	two years	two years, or with fine, or with both

