

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

**REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS**   
**(AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 22 OF 2021**

**[Certified on 13th of October, 2021]**

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| *Registration of Electors (Amendment)* | 1 |

*Act, No. 22 of 2021*   
 [Certified on 13th of October, 2021]   
L.D.—O. 26/2018   
 AN ACTTOAMENDTHE REGISTRATIONOF ELECTORS

ACT, NO. 44 OF 1980   
BE it enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows:–

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| **1.** | This Act may be cited as the Registration of Electors | Short title and  the date of  operation  Amendment of section 3 of Act, No. 44 of 1980 |
| (Amendment) Act, No. 22 of 2021 and shall come into operation on February 1, 2022. | |
| **2.** | Section 3 of the Registration of Electors Act, No. 44 |
| of 1980 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended by the substitution for the words, “The | |

first day of June”, of the words “The first day of February”.

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| **3.** | Section 4 of the principal enactment is hereby | Amendment of section 4 of the principal  enactment |
| amended as follows:— | |
| (*a*) | in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for |

the words “The first day of June”, of the words “The   
 first day of February”;   
(*b*) in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for   
 the words “the first day of June”, of the words “the   
 first day of February”; and   
(*c*) in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for   
 the words “the first day of June”, of the words “the   
 first day of February”.

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| **4.** | Section 12 of the principal enactment is hereby | Amendment of  section 12 of the principal  enactment |
| amended in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “the first day of June” of the words, “the first day of February”. | |

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| Amendment of  section 13 of the principal  enactment | **5.** | Section 13 of the principal enactment is hereby |
| amended in subsection (1) of that section by the substitution for the words “thirty-first day of January” of the words | |

“thirtieth of September”.

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| Insertion of new section 20A in  the principal  enactment | **6.** | The following new section is hereby inserted | |
| immediately after section 20, and shall have effect as section 20A in the principal enactment:— | | |
| “Different  qualifying  dates and  supplementary | | 20A. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3, any person who attains the age of eighteen years on any day— |

lists

(*a*) within the period commencing on the   
 first day of February in any year and   
 ending on the thirty first day of May of   
 that year;

(*b*) within the period commencing on the   
 first day of June in any year and ending   
 on the thirtieth day of September of   
 that year; and

(*c*) within the period commencing on the   
 first day of October in any year and   
 ending on the thirty first day of January   
 of the subsequent year,

shall be qualified to have his name entered or   
retained in a register as an elector.

(2) Every person qualified to be registered   
as an elector under subsection (1) of this section   
may apply for registration as an elector to the   
registering officer of the electoral district in   
which the qualified address of such person in   
terms of subsection (2) of section 4 is situated.

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(3) Every qualified person to be registered   
as an elector under subsection (1) shall make   
such application to the registering officer of   
the electoral district in which the qualified   
address of such person in terms of subsection   
(2) of section 4 is situated, along with the   
following documents:–

(*a*) a copy of the birth certificate of such   
 person; or

(*b*) a copy of the National Identity Card of   
 such person.

(4) Every registering officer of an electoral   
district shall prepare supplementary lists   
respectively of—

(*a*) all persons who have attained the   
 age of eighteen years between the first   
 day of February of that year and the   
 thirty first day of May of that year, who   
 have applied for registration;

(*b*) all persons who have attained the age   
 of eighteen years between the first day   
 of June in that year and the thirtieth   
 day of September of that year who have   
 applied for registration; and

(*c*) all persons who have attained the   
 age of eighteen years between the first   
 day of October in a year and the   
 thirty first day of January of the   
 subsequent year who have applied for   
 registration.

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(5) Every registering officer of each   
electoral district shall give notice within a   
period of two weeks that the respective   
supplementary lists referred to in subsection   
(4) have been completed, and such   
supplementary lists of copies thereof are   
available for inspection at all reasonable hours   
of the day at the office of the registering officer   
or at such other places in the electoral district   
as may be specified in the notice. Every such   
notice shall be published in the *Gazette* and in   
at least one newspaper each in Sinhala, Tamil   
and English Languages.

(6) Every person who claims to have a right   
to have his name included in a supplementary   
list prepared under this section may apply to   
the registering officer of the electoral district   
to have his name included in that list. Every   
such application shall be made within a period   
of ten days of the publication of the notice   
relating to such supplementary list.

(7) A registered elector may object to the   
inclusion of the name of any person in a   
supplementary list prepared under this section   
and every such objection shall be made in   
writing to the registering officer of the electoral   
district within a period of ten days of the   
publication of the notice relating to such   
supplementary list.

(8) Any provisions of this Act relating to   
determination of claims and objections shall   
*mutatis mutandis* apply to any claims and   
objections under this section.

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(9) The registering officer of each electoral   
district shall certify the supplementary lists   
prepared by him under this section   
immediately after the claims and objections   
have been adjudicated. Upon such   
certification, the supplementary lists shall be   
known as the certified supplementary register   
and be attached as an annexure to the electoral   
register for that electoral district.

(10) Upon the certification of any   
supplementary register under subsection (9) of   
section 20A, the registering officer shall give   
notice in the *Gazette* and in at least one   
newspaper in each of the National Languages   
that the register has been certified.

(11) The certified supplementary register   
for any electoral district shall come into   
operation on the date of the publication in the   
*Gazette* of the notice referred to in subsection   
(10) and subject to such alterations if any, as   
may subsequently be made therein in   
accordance with subsection (4) of section 15   
or section 18, such certified supplementary   
register shall continue to be in operation until   
superseded by the coming into operation of   
the next certified register.”.

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| **7.** | The following new section is hereby inserted | Insertion of new section 24A |
| immediately after section 24, and shall have effect as section | |

24A of the principal enactment:–

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| “Power of the  Election  Commission  to issue  directions | 24A. The Election Commission may issue such directions as it may consider necessary, to provide for any difficulty or unforeseen circumstances or for the determination or |

adjustment of any question or matter in relation   
to the registration of electors under this Act.”.

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| Amendment of section 29 of  the principal  enactment | **8.** | Section 29 of the principal enactment is hereby |
| amended in the definition of the expression of “register of electors” by the substitution for the words “for any electoral district ;” of the words “including the certified supplementary | |

register prepared under section 20A for any electoral district.”.

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| Amendment of the Schedule to the principal  enactment | **9.** | The Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby |
| amended as follows:– | |
| (1) | in items (2), (3) and (5) (ii) of form A of the |

Schedule by the substitution for the words and   
figures “June 1, 19...” of the words and figures of  
“February 1, 20...”.

(2) in subsections (2), (3) and (5) (ii) of form B of the   
 Schedule by the substitution for the words and   
 figures “June 1, 19...” of the words and figures of  
 “February 1, 20...”.

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| Supplementary list for a  specified period | **10.** | (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3, any |
| person who attains the age of eighteen years on any date within the period from the first day of June 2021 to the date | |

of commencement of this Act shall be qualified to have such person’s name entered or retained in the register of electors as an elector and every such person shall apply for registration to the registering officer of the electoral district in which the qualified address of such person in terms of subsection (2) of section 4 is situated along with the documents specified in subsection (3) of section 20A.

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(2) Every registering officer shall make a supplementary list for the purpose of subsection (1) and shall *mutatis mutandis* apply the procedure specified in subsections (5) to (11) of section 20A for the preparation of the supplementary list.

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| **11.** | In the event of any inconsistency between the | Sinhala text to  prevail in case  of inconsistency |
| Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. | |

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