

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

**AYURVEDA (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 19 OF 2023**

**[Certified on 09th of October, 2023]**

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| *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* | 1 |

[Certified on 09th of October, 2023]

L.D.–O. 39/2022

AN ACTTOAMENDTHE AYURVEDA ACT, NO. 31 OF 1961

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

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Ayurveda (Amendment) Short title Act, No. 19 of 2023.

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| **2.** The long title of the Ayurveda Act, No. 31 of 1961 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended by the substitution for the words commencing from | Amendment of the Long Title to Act, No. 31 of 1961 |

“FOR THE REGISTRATION OF AYURVEDA HOSPITALS” to the words “DISPENSARIES ATTACHED THERETO;” of the following: -

“FOR THE REGISTRATION OF AYURVEDA HOSPITALS,

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| --- | --- | --- |
| AYURVEDA | PHARMACIES, | AYURVEDA |

DISPENSARIES, AYURVEDA STORES, HERBAL CULTIVATIONS AND HERBAL GARDENS FOR

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RESEARCH | AND | EXTENTION; | FOR | THE |

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AYURVEDA MEDICAL COUNCIL TO REGISTER AYURVEDA PRACTITIONERS, AYURVEDA PHARMACISTS, AYURVEDA NURSES AND AYURVEDA MASSAGE THERAPISTS AND TO DEAL WITH MATTERS RELATING TO THEIR PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT; FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AYURVEDA EDUCATION AND HOSPITAL BOARD TO DISCHARGE CERTAIN FUNCTIONS IN RELATION TO THE AWARD OF DIPLOMAS, CERTIFICATES, DEGREES AND POSTGRATUATE DEGREES IN RELATION TO THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN AYURVEDA AND TO DEAL WITH MATTERS RELATING TO THE AYURVEDA NATIONAL HOSPITAL, AYURVEDA TEACHING HOSPITALS, AYURVEDA RESEARCH HOSPITALS AND THE PHARMACIES, HERBARIA AND DISPENSARIES ATTACHED THERETO;”.

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| General  Amendments | 2 | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| **3.** (1) In the principal enactment and in any other written law, there shall be substituted for the words the | |

“Commissioner for Ayurveda”, “Ayurvedic Medical Council”, “ayurvedic hospitals”, “ayurvedic pharmacy”,“ayurvedic pharmacies”, “ayurvedic dispensary”, “ayurvedic dispensaries”, “ayurvedic store” , “ayurvedic stores”,“ayurvedic practitioners”, “ayurvedic pharmacists”,“ayurvedic nurses”, “the Central Hospital of Ayurveda” and the “Ayurvedic Research Committee”, of the words“Commissioner-General for Ayurveda”, “Ayurveda Medical Council”, “Ayurveda hospitals”, “Ayurveda pharmacy”,“Ayurveda pharmacies”, “Ayurveda dispensary”, “Ayurveda dispensaries”, “Ayurveda store” , “Ayurveda stores”,“Ayurveda practitioners”, “Ayurveda pharmacists”,“Ayurveda nurses”, “the Ayurveda National Hospital” and the “Ayurveda Research Committee”, respectively.

(2) Every reference to the “Commissioner for Ayurveda”,“Ayurvedic Medical Council”, “ayurvedic hospitals”,“ayurvedic pharmacy”, “ayurvedic pharmacies”, “ayurvedic dispensary”, “ayurvedic dispensaries”, “ayurvedic store” ,“ayurvedic stores”, “ayurvedic practitioners”, “ayurvedic pharmacists”, “ayurvedic nurses”, “the Central Hospital of Ayurveda” and the “Ayurvedic Research Committee” , appearing in any notice, notification or other document shall be read and construed as a reference to the “Commissioner-General for Ayurveda”, “Ayurveda Medical Council”,“Ayurveda hospitals”, “Ayurveda pharmacy”, “Ayurveda pharmacies”, “Ayurveda dispensary”, “Ayurveda dispensaries”, “Ayurveda store” , “Ayurveda stores”,“Ayurveda practitioners”, “Ayurveda pharmacists”,“Ayurveda nurses”, “the Ayurveda National Hospital” and the “Ayurveda Research Committee”, respectively.

(3) Every reference to the “Commissioner” in sections 3, 4, 6,8, 9,10, 11, 13, 15, 22, 23, 24, 26, 33, 34, 35, 37, and 75 in the principal enactment shall be read and construed as a reference to “the Commissioner-General of Ayurveda”.

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  3

(4) Every reference to the “Council” in sections 11 to 21, 42, 50 to 63, 71 and 81 in the principal enactment shall be read and construed as a reference to “the Ayurveda Medical Council”.

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| **4.** Section 3 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words,“Deputy Commissioners for Ayurveda,” of the words | Amendment of  section 3 of the  principal enactment |

“Additional Commissioner-Generals for Ayurveda, Commissioners for Ayurveda, Deputy Commissioners for Ayurveda,”.

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| **5.** Section 4 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words, “Deputy Commissioners for Ayurveda,” of the words “Additional Commissioner- | Amendment of  section 4 of the  principal enactment |

Generals for Ayurveda, Commissioners for Ayurveda, Deputy Commissioners for Ayurveda,”.

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| **6.** Section 5 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words, “Deputy Commissioners for Ayurveda,” of the words “Additional Commissioner- | Amendment of  section 5 of the  principal enactment |

Generals for Ayurveda, Commissioners for Ayurveda, Deputy Commissioners for Ayurveda,”.

**7.** Section 7 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed Replacement of

and the following section is substituted therefor:-

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| “Objects of the Act | 7. The objects of the Act shall be - |

(*a*) the provision of-

section 7 of the   
principal enactment

(i) establishments and services   
necessary for the treatment of   
diseases; and

(ii) the primary health care,

according to ayurveda;

4  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

(*b*) the encouragement of the study of, and   
research in, ayurveda by the grant of   
scholarships and other facilities to persons   
employed or proposed to be employed in   
the Department and by the grant of   
financial aid and other assistance to   
institutions providing courses of study or   
engaged in research in ayurveda;

(*c*) the taking, development or encouragement   
of measures for the investigation of   
diseases, and for the improvement of   
public health, according to ayurveda;

(*d*) the management of any herbarium   
 established under section 8;

(*e*) the provision for the wellbeing of people   
by creating and maintaining orderly and   
efficient practices of Ayurveda medicine   
and surgery;

(*f*) the assurance of high professional   
 standards by regulating performance and   
 activities of registered Ayurveda   
 professionals; and

(*g*) the provision of quality Ayurveda articles,   
substances, and drugs and the management   
of any Herbal Gardens for Research and   
Extension or herbal cultivation by   
implementing provisions of the Code   
referred to in section 77, by the   
Department or through any Body   
established under Part VI of the Act for   
that purpose.”.

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| *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* | | 5 | Insertion of new  section 7A in the  principal enactment |
| **8.** The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 7 of the principal enactment and shall have effect as section 7A:- | | |
| “Utilization of | 7A. (1) The moneys granted from the | |
| moneys granted from the  Consolidated | Consolidated Fund from time to time shall be utilized in carrying out the objects of the Act. | |
| Fund and  crediting of | (2) All such sums of money as may be | |
| moneys to the Consolidated Fund | received, levied, or collected under this Act by way of fees or otherwise in carrying out the objects specified in the Act and in the discharge | |

of the functions of the Department shall be   
credited to the Consolidated Fund.”.

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| **9.**  Section 8 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | | Amendment of  section 8 of the  principal enactment |
| (1) | by the substitution for the words, “In carrying out |

the objects specified in section 7, the   
Commissioner” of the words, “The Commissioner-  
General shall have the power to carry out the objects   
specified in paragraphs (*a*) to (*e*) of section 7 and   
in doing so the Commissioner-General”; and

(2) by the substitution for the words, “Ayurvedic   
 hospitals” of the words “Ayurveda hospitals, Herbal   
 Gardens for Research and Extension Services”.

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| **10.** Section 10 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | | Amendment of  section 10 of the  principal enactment |
| (1) | by the substitution for the words, “ayurvedic |

hospitals”, wherever those words appear, of the   
words “Ayurveda hospitals, herbal cultivation,”;

(2) by the substitution for the words, “ayurvedic   
 hospitals” wherever those words appear, of the   
 words “Ayurveda hospitals, herbal cultivation”;

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| 6 | (3) | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| by the substitution for the words, “hospitals” |

wherever those words appear, of the words  
“hospitals, herbal cultivation”.

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| Amendment of  section 11 of the  principal enactment | **11.** Section 11 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) thereof, as follows: - | |
| (1) | by the repeal of paragraph (*b*) thereof, and the |

substitution therefor, of the following new   
paragraph:-

“(*b*) the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous   
Medicine of the University of Colombo,   
Sri Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of   
Indigenous Medicine of Gampaha

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| Wickramarachchi | University | of |

Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head   
of the Unit of Siddha Medicine of the   
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka and the   
Dean of the Faculty of Siddha Medicine   
of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka;”;

(2) by the repeal of paragraph (*c*) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor, of the following new   
 paragraph:-

“(*c*) five members-

(i) two of them each representing   
 Ayurveda and Unani systems of   
 medicine of the Faculty of Indigenous   
 Medicine of the University of   
 Colombo, Sri Lanka and elected from   
 among the Senior Lecturers;

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  7

(ii) one of them elected from among the   
 Senior Lecturers of the Faculty of   
 Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha   
 Wickramarachchi University of   
 Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka;

(iii) one of them elected from among the   
 Senior Lecturers of the Unit of Siddha   
 Medicine of the University of Jaffna,   
 Sri Lanka ; and

(iv) one of them elected from among the   
 Senior Lecturers of the Faculty of   
 Siddha Medicine of the Eastern   
 University, Sri Lanka.”;

(3) by the repeal of paragraph (*f*) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor, of the following new   
 paragraph:-

“(*f*) not more than twelve members appointed   
 by the Minister of whom-

(i) three shall be so appointed from among   
persons who are not registered Ayurveda   
practitioners;

(ii) three shall be so appointed from a panel   
of ten nominated by the All Ceylon   
Ayurvedic Practitioners’ Congress; and

(iii) two shall be so appointed from among   
registered Ayurveda practitioners who   
are not members of the All Ceylon   
Ayurvedic Practitioners’ Congress; and”;   
and

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| 8 | (4) | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| by the addition, immediately after paragraph (*f*), the |

following new paragraph:-

“(*g*) one member shall be so appointed as   
nominated by the Secretary to the Ministry   
of the Minister assigned the subject of   
Finance or Treasury, as the case may   
be .”.

Amendment of **12.** Section 12 of the principal enactment is hereby section 12 of the amended by the substitution for the words, commencing from principal enactment “Each member of the Council” to “or reappointment:” of the following:-

“Each member of the Council, other than the Commissioner-General, the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head of the Unit of Siddha Medicine of the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka and the Dean of the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka, shall, unless he vacates office earlier, hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election or reappointment, as the case may be:”.

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| Replacement of  section 13 of the  principal enactment | **13.** Section 13 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor: - | |
| “Vacation of office by  members of | 13. (1) A member of the Council, other than the Commissioner-General, the Dean of |
| the Council | the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the |

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Dean

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  9

of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the   
Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of   
Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head of   
the Unit of Siddha Medicine of the University   
of Jaffna, Sri Lanka and the Dean of the Faculty   
of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern University,   
Sri Lanka, shall be deemed to have vacated   
office–

(*a*) where he is not a public officer,   
 on sending his resignation in   
 writing to the President of the   
 Council;

(*b*) where he is not a public officer,   
 on being absent without excuse   
 sufficient in the opinion of the   
 Council, from three consecutive   
 meetings of the Council;

(*c*) on his ceasing to be a registered   
 Ayurveda practitioner, or on the   
 taking effect of an order made by   
 the Council under this Act   
 suspending his registration as an   
 Ayurveda practitioner; or

(*d*) on his being convicted of any   
 offence under the Penal Code   
 (Chapter 19).

(2) The Commissioner-General shall be   
deemed to have vacated office as a member of

the Council on his ceasing to hold office as the   
Commissioner-General.

10  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

(3) The Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous   
Medicine of the University of Colombo, Sri   
Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous   
Medicine of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi   
University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka,   
the Head of the Unit of Siddha Medicine of the   
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka or the Dean of   
the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern   
University, Sri Lanka, as the case may be, shall   
be deemed to have vacated office as a member   
of the Council on him ceasing to hold office as   
the Dean or the Head of any of the aforesaid   
respective Institutions as the case may be.”.

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| Amendment of  section 16 of the  principal enactment  Amendment of  section 18 of the  principal enactment | **14.** Section 16 of the principal enactment is hereby amended, by the substitution for the words, “shall be six.”, of the words “shall be thirteen.”.  **15.** Section 18 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | |
| (1) | by the insertion immediately after paragraph (*d*) |

thereof, the following new paragraph:-

“(*da*) the registration of persons as Ayurveda   
 massage therapists;”;

(2) in paragraph (*e*) thereof, by the substitution for the   
 words, “registration; and” of the words,  
 “registration;”;

(3) in paragraph (*f*) thereof, in subparagraph (i), by the   
 substitution for the words “and ayurvedic nurses;   
 and” of the words “and Ayurveda nurses, and   
 Ayurveda massage therapist; and”.

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| *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* | | 11 | Amendment of  section 22 of the  principal enactment |
| **16.** Section 22 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) thereof, as follows:- | | |
| (1) | by the insertion, immediately after paragraph (*a*), | |

the following new paragraph:-

“(*aa*) a representative of the Secretary to the   
Ministry of Finance or the Secretary to the   
Treasury;”;

(2) by the repeal of paragraph (*b*) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor, of the following new   
 paragraph:-

“(*b*) the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous   
Medicine of the University of Colombo,   
Sri Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of   
Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha   
Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous   
Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head of the Unit   
of Siddha Medicine of the University of   
Jaffna, Sri Lanka and the Dean of the Faculty   
of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern   
University, Sri Lanka;”;

(3) by the insertion, immediately after paragraph (*b*)   
 thereof, the following new paragraph:-

“(*ba*) the Head of the National Institute of   
 Traditional Medicine;”;

(4) by the repeal of paragraph (*c*) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor, of the following new   
 paragraph:-

“(*c*) the Head of the Ayurveda National   
 Hospital;”;

(5) by the repeal of paragraph (*d*) thereof, and the

substitution therefor, of the following new

paragraph:-

12  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

“(*d*) an officer of the rank of a Senior Assistant   
Secretary or of a higher rank of the Ministry   
of the Minister assigned the subject of   
Higher Education appointed by the Minister   
on recommendation of the Minister assigned   
the subject of Higher Education;”;

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| (6) | by the repeal of paragraph (*e*) thereof, and the substitution therefor, of the following new paragraph:- |

“(*e*) five members appointed by the Minister on   
the recommendation of the Minister   
assigned the subject of Higher Education-

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| (i)  (ii)  (iii)  (iv) | two of them each representing Ayurveda and Unani systems of medicine of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka;  one of them from the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka;  one of them from the Unit of Siddha Medicine of University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka; and  one of them from the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka, |

from among the lecturers of each Faculty or   
Unit;”

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| (7) | by the repeal of paragraph (*f*) thereof, and the substitution therefor, of the following new paragraph:- |

“(*f*) five members, other than the members   
 appointed under paragraph (*e*)-

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  13

(i) two of them each representing   
Ayurveda and Unani systems of   
medicine of the Faculty of   
Indigenous Medicine of the   
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka;

(ii) one of them from the Faculty of   
 Indigenous Medicine of the   
 Gampaha Wickramarachchi   
 University of Indigenous Medicine,   
 Sri Lanka;

(iii) one of them from the Unit of Siddha   
Medicine of University of Jaffna, Sri   
Lanka; and

(iv) one of them from the Faculty of   
Siddha Medicine of the Eastern   
University, Sri Lanka,

and elected by the lecturers of each Faculty or   
the Unit from among themselves;”;

(8) by the repeal of paragraph (*i*), thereof and the substitution therefor, of the following new paragraph:-

“(*i*) not more than eight members appointed by the   
Minister from among registered Ayurveda   
practitioners of whom not more than two shall   
be so appointed from a panel of six nominated   
by the All Ceylon Ayurvedic Practitioners’  
Congress; and”.

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| **17.** Section 23 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words from “Each member of the Board” to “or reappointment:” of the following: - | Amendment of  section 23 of the  principal enactment |

14  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

“Each member of the Board, other than the Commissioner-General, the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head of the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka, the Head of the Ayurveda National Hospital and the Head of the National Institute of Traditional Medicine, shall, unless such member vacates his office earlier, hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election or reappointment, as the case may be:”.

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| Amendment of  section 24 of the  principal enactment | **18.** Section 24 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | |
| (1) | in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the |

words from “A member of the Board” to “Hospital   
of Ayurveda”, of the words, “A member of the   
Board, other than the Commissioner-General, the   
Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the   
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka the Dean of the   
Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha   
Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous   
Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head of the Unit of Siddha   
Medicine of University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, the   
Dean of the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the   
Eastern University, Sri Lanka, the Head of the   
Ayurveda National Hospital and the Head of the   
National Institute of Traditional Medicine,”;

(2) by the repeal of subsection (3) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor of the following:-

“(3) The Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous   
Medicine of the University of Colombo,   
Sri Lanka, the Dean of the Faculty of Indigenous

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  15

Medicine of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi   
University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka,   
the Head of the Unit of Siddha Medicine of the   
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka or the Dean of   
the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern   
University, Sri Lanka, shall be deemed to have   
vacated office as a member of the Board on his   
ceasing to hold the office of the Dean of the   
Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the   
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Dean of   
the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the   
Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of   
Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Head of   
the Unit of Siddha Medicine of University of   
Jaffna, Sri Lanka or the Dean of the Faculty of   
Siddha Medicine of Eastern University,   
Sri Lanka, as the case may be.”;

(3) by the repeal of subsection (4) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor, of the following:-

“(4) The Head of the Ayurveda National   
Hospital shall be deemed to have vacated   
office as a member of the Board on his   
ceasing to hold the office of the Head of   
the Ayurveda National Hospital.” .

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| **19.** Section 27 of the principal enactment is hereby amended, by the substitution for the words, “shall be six.”, of the words “shall be fourteen.”.  **20.** Section 30 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | | Amendment of section 27 of  the principal  enactment  Amendment of section 30 of  the principal  enactment |
| (1) | by the repeal of paragraph (*a*), thereof, and the |

substitution therefor, of the following new   
paragraph: -

16  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

“(*a*) to determine-

(i) the qualifications required for the award   
 of postgraduate degrees, basic degrees,   
 diplomas, and certificates under this Act;

(ii) the standards of the courses conferring   
 basic degrees, diplomas and certificates,   
 conducted by local or foreign universities   
 or degree-awarding institutions, to be   
 considered for registration under the Act;

(iii) and to hold examinations for the holders   
 of basic degrees, diplomas and certificates   
 conferred by local or foreign universities   
 or degree-awarding institutions, to be   
 considered for registration under the Act;

(iv) the standards and period of internship or   
 training required by holders of basic   
 degrees, diplomas and certificates   
 conferred by local or foreign universities   
 or degree awarding institutions, to be   
 considered for registration under the Act;”;

(2) in paragraph (*b*) thereof, by the substitution for the   
 words “enable persons to obtain” of the words  
 “enable persons to obtain postgraduate degrees or   
 basic degrees or”;

(3) in paragraph (*c*) thereof, by the substitution for the   
 words “enable persons to obtain” of the words  
 “enable persons to obtain postgraduate degrees or   
 basic degrees or”;

(4) by the insertion, immediately after paragraph (*c*)   
 thereof, of the following new paragraph:-

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  17

“(*ca*) to make recommendations to the Minister in   
 respect of any fees to be prescribed, where   
 necessary, for the award of postgraduate   
 degrees, basic degrees, diplomas, and   
 certificates under this Act;”.

|  |  |
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| **21.** Section 33 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the repeal of subsection (1) thereof, and the substitution therefor of the following:- | Amendment of section 33 of  the principal  enactment |

“(1) There shall be a Committee which shall be   
called the Ayurveda Research Committee, (hereinafter   
in this Part referred to as “the Committee”) which shall   
consist of fourteen members, namely-

(*a*) the Commissioner-General;

(*b*) the Head of the Ayurveda National Hospital;

(*c*) the Head of the Bandaranayake Memorial   
 Ayurveda Research Institute;

(*d*) four Professors of traditional medicine, each   
 representing the University of Colombo, Sri   
 Lanka, the Gampaha Wickramarachchi   
 University of Indigenous Medicine, the   
 University of Jaffna, and the Faculty of Siddha   
 Medicine of Eastern University, Sri Lanka;

(*e*) one member duly appointed by the National   
 Science Foundation established under the   
 Science and Technology Development Act,   
 No. 11 of 1994;

(*f*) one member duly appointed by the National   
 Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka   
 established under the Intellectual Property   
 Act, No. 36 of 2003;

18  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

(*g*) one member nominated by the Secretary to   
 the Ministry of the Minister assigned the   
 subject of Science;

(*h*) one member appointed by the Minister from   
 among persons who possess ten or more years   
 of experience in the field of law;

(*i*) two members appointed by the Minister, from   
 among the Ayurveda Practitioners registered   
 in the special register; and

(*j*) one member not below the rank of Senior   
 Assistant Secretary appointed by the Secretary   
 to the Ministry of the Minister to whom the   
 subject of Finance is assigned.”.

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| Amendment of section 38 of  the principal  enactment  Amendment of section 41of the principal  enactment | **22.** Section 38 of the principal enactment is hereby amended, by the substitution for the words, “shall be three.”, of the words “shall be five.”.  **23.** Section 41 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | |
| (1) | in paragraph (*c*) of subsection (1) thereof, by the |

substitution for the words “ayurvedic clinical   
treatment” of the words “ayurveda clinical   
treatment and Ayurveda Primary Health Care”;

(2) in subsection (2) thereof, by the insertion   
 immediately after paragraph (*d*), the following new   
 paragraph: -

“(*da*) the charging of any prescribed fees in   
respect of any matters referred to in   
paragraphs (*a*) to (*d*);”;

(3) by the addition, immediately after subsection (2)

thereof, of the following new subsection:-

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  19

“(3) Formulating one or more sub-committees to   
carry out duties and responsibilities specified in sub   
sections (1) and (2).”.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **24.** Section 51 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) thereof, by the addition, immediately after paragraph (*c*), of the following new paragraph:- | | Amendment of section 51 of  the principal  enactment |
| “(*d*) | a register for the registration of |

Ayurveda massage therapists.”.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **25.** Section 53 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” wherever they appear in that section, of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse | Amendment of section 53 of  the principal  enactment |

or Ayurveda massage therapist”.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **26.** Section 54 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” wherever they appear in that section, of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse | Amendment of section 54 of  the principal  enactment |

or Ayurveda massage therapist”.

|  |  |
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| **27.** Section 55 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in paragraph (*c*) of subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “The institute of Ayurveda of the University of Ceylon; or” of the words “the Faculty of | Amendment of section 55 of  the principal  enactment |

Indigenous Medicine of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka, the Unit of Siddha Medicine of the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, the Faculty of Siddha Medicine of the Eastern University, Sri Lanka; or”.

|  |  |
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| **28.** Section 56 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor: - | Replacement of section 56 of  the principal |

enactment

20  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

“Qualifications 56. No person shall be entitled to be for registered as an Ayurveda pharmacist, registration as   
Ayurveda Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist pharmacist,   
 unless such person-Ayurveda   
nurse or   
Ayurveda (*a*) is a citizen of Sri Lanka; and   
massage   
therapist (*b*) satisfies the Council that such person possesses sufficient knowledge, experience and skill in the science of manufacturing Ayurveda medicines efficiently or sufficient experience in Ayurveda nursing or professional skill as an Ayurveda massage therapist , as the case may be.”.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Amendment of section 57 of  the principal  enactment | **29.** Section 57 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - | | |
| (1) | in subsection (1) thereof- | |
| (*a*) | | in paragraph (*a*), by the substitution for the |

words “pharmacist, ayurvedic nurse” of the   
words “pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse,   
Ayurveda massage therapist,”;

(*b*) in paragraph (*b*), by the substitution for the   
 words “pharmacist, ayurvedic nurse” of the   
 words “pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse,   
 Ayurveda massage therapist,”;

(*c*) in paragraph (*c*), by the substitution for the   
 words “any diploma or certificate” of the   
 words “any postgraduate degree or basic   
 degree or diploma or certificate”;

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  21

(2) in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the   
 words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse”  
 wherever those words appear in that subsection, of   
 the words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse   
 or Ayurveda massage therapist”; .

|  |  |
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| **30.**  Section 58 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” wherever they appear in that | Amendment of section 58 of  the principal  enactment |

section, of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage therapists,”.

**31.** Section 59 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| (1) | in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the | Amendment of |
| words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” | section 59 of |
| the principal |
| and the words “register of ayurvedic nurses,” | enactment |

wherever those words appear, of the words  
“Ayurveda pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse or   
Ayurveda massage therapist” and the words  
“register of Ayurveda nurses, the register of   
Ayurveda massage therapists,”, respectively;

(2) in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” and the words “register of ayurvedic nurses,” wherever those words appear, of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist” and the words “register of Ayurveda nurses, the register of Ayurveda massage therapists,”, respectively; and

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 22 | (3) | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for the |

words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse”  
and the words “register of ayurvedic nurses,” of the   
words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or   
Ayurveda massage therapist” and the words  
“register of Ayurveda nurses, the register of   
Ayurveda massage therapists,”, respectively.

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| Replacement of section 60 of  the principal  enactment | **32.** Section 60 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor:- | |
| “Fees to be | 60.(1) The fee for registration as an |
| charged for  the purposes  of section 18, in the exercise | Ayurvedic practitioner, Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist, shall be such sum as may be |
| of powers  under section 30 and in | prescribed by rules made by the Council under this Act. |
| carrying out | |
| duties under | (2) The Registrar shall not register the name |
| section 41 | of any person in the register of Ayurveda |

practitioners, the register of Ayurveda   
pharmacists, register of Ayurveda nurses, the   
register of Ayurveda massage therapists, until   
the fee for registration as an Ayurveda   
practitioner, Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda   
nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist, as the   
case may be, is paid by that person.

(3) The fees chargeable by the Ayurveda   
Education and Hospital Board in the exercise,   
discharge and performance of its powers,   
functions, and duties under section 30 of this   
Act, shall be as prescribed by regulations.

(4) The fees chargeable by the Ayurveda   
Research Committee for the performance of its   
duties under section 41 of the Act, shall be as   
prescribed by regulation.”.

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| *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* | 23 | Amendment of section 61 of  the principal  enactment |
| **33.**  Section 61 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “Ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage | |

therapist”;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **34.** Section 62 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “register of Ayurvedic nurses,” and the words “ayurvedic pharmacist or Ayurvedic nurse” of the words “register of Ayurveda nurses, | Amendment of section 62 of  the principal  enactment |

the register of Ayurveda massage therapists,” and the words,“Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist” respectively.

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| **35.** Section 63 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -  (1) in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the | Amendment of section 63 of  the principal  enactment |

words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse”  
of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda   
nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist”;

(2) in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for the   
words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse”  
and the words “register of ayurvedic nurses,” of the   
words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or   
Ayurveda massage therapist” and the words,  
“register of Ayurveda nurses, the register of   
Ayurveda massage therapists,” respectively.

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| **36.** Section 66 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor: - | | Replacement of section 66 of  the principal  enactment |
| “Ayurveda  pharmacist,  Ayurveda  nurse or  Ayurveda  massage  therapist to be treated as  duly qualified | 66. For the purposes of any written law, a registered Ayurveda pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse or Ayurveda massage therapist shall be deemed to be a legally or duly qualified Ayurveda pharmacist, Ayurveda nurse or  Ayurveda massage therapist, respectively.”. |

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| Amendment of section 69 of the principal  enactment | 24 | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| **37.** Section 69 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “special register of ayurvedic practitioners,” of | |

the words “in the Special register of Ayurveda practitioners,”.

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| Replacement of section 70 of the principal  enactment  Amendment of section 71 of the principal  enactment | **38.** Section 70 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor: - | |
| “Registered Ayurveda  pharmacist, | 70. (1) Every registered Ayurveda pharmacist shall be entitled to manufacture |
| registered Ayurveda | Ayurveda medicines. |
| nurse or  registered | (2) Every registered Ayurveda nurse shall |
| Ayurveda massage | be entitled to practise ayurveda nursing. |
| therapist  entitled to | (3) Every registered Ayurveda massage |
| manufacture or practice | therapist shall be entitled to practise Ayurveda massage techniques.”. |
| **39.** Section 71 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - | |
| (1) | in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the |

words “registered ayurvedic nurse,” wherever those   
words appear in that subsection, of the words  
“registered Ayurveda nurse or registered Ayurveda   
massage therapist,”;

(2) by the repeal of subsection (2) thereof, and the   
 substitution therefor, of the following subsection: -

“(2) A person who is registered under   
section 10 as the proprietor of a registered   
Ayurveda hospital, herbal cultivation,   
Ayurveda pharmacy, herbarium, Ayurveda   
sale centre or Ayurveda store may,   
notwithstanding that he is not a registered

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  25

Ayurveda pharmacist, use, for the purposes of   
the business of such Ayurveda hospital, herbal   
cultivation, pharmacy herbarium, Ayurveda   
sale centre or stores, any name, title, addition,   
or description which may be used by a   
registered Ayurveda pharmacist, if-

(*a*) he employs a registered Ayurveda   
 pharmacist to personally superintend   
 and manage the cultivation,   
 distribution, sale or manufacturing of   
 medicines, drugs or poisons at such   
 Ayurveda hospital, herbal cultivation,   
 pharmacy, herbarium, Ayurveda sale   
 centre or Ayurveda store, as the case   
 may be; and

(*b*) the name of the pharmacist so   
 employed has been notified in writing   
 to the Council.”.

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| **40.** Section 72 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “ayurvedic pharmacist or ayurvedic nurse” wherever those words appear in that section of the words “Ayurveda pharmacist or Ayurveda nurse or | Amendment of section 72 of the principal  enactment |

Ayurveda massage therapist”.

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| **41.** Section 77 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - | | Amendment of section 77 of the principal  enactment |
| (1) | by the repeal of subsection (1) thereof and the |

substitution therefor, of the following:-

“(1) Regulations may be made under this Act   
prescribing an Ayurveda Code containing all   
such provisions in respect of all such matters as   
the authority empowered to make such   
regulations may deem necessary to prohibit,   
regulate or control the manufacture, preparation,   
importation, exportation, purchase, storage,   
advertising, transportation, quality control, sale,

26  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

supply, distribution or dispensing of any article,   
substance or drug for the purpose of Ayurveda   
medicine and surgery. Such Code may,   
without prejudice to the generality of the   
powers hereinbefore conferred, make provision   
in respect of all or any of the following   
matters:-

(*a*) the declaration of any article, substance   
 or drug as a poison, poisonous substance   
 or dangerous drug, as the case may be,   
 for that purpose;

(*b*) the prohibition, regulation or control of,   
 the manufacture, preparation,   
 importation, exportation, purchasing,   
 storing, advertising, transportation,   
 quality control, sale, supply, or   
 distribution of any Ayurveda product;

(*c*) the registration and maintenance of any   
 herbal Garden for Research and   
 Extension;

(*d*) the registration of or issuance of licences   
 or permits for any herbal cultivation and   
 for any related activity, including   
 transportation and storing of crop;

(*e*) the introduction and operation of a   
 system of registration, licensing or   
 issuance of permits for the purpose of   
 effecting such regulation or control,   
 including, but not limited to, the making   
 of application for such registration,   
 licensing or issuance of permits, the   
 grant, refusal, suspension and   
 cancellation of such registration, licence

or permit;

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  27

(*f*) the precautions to be taken, and the   
 conditions to be complied with, in such   
 herbal cultivation and in such   
 manufacture, preparation, importation,   
 exportation, purchase, storage,   
 advertising, transportation, quality   
 control, sale, supply, distribution or   
 dispensing;

(*g*) the books and records to be kept and   
 maintained, and the returns to be   
 furnished, by persons engaged in such   
 herbal cultivation and in such   
 manufacture, preparation, importation,   
 exportation, purchase,   
 storage, advertising, transportation, quality   
 control, sale, supply, distribution or   
 dispensing;

(*h*) the inspection of the premises in which   
 such herbal cultivation is carried out and   
 in which such manufacture, preparation,   
 importation, exportation, purchase,   
 storage, advertising, transportation,   
 quality control, sale, supply, distribution   
 or dispensing is carried on, and of the   
 records and books kept and maintained   
 for that purpose;

(*i*) the charging of fees, where necessary,   
 in respect of any matter referred to in   
 this section;

(*j*) the declaration of any medicinal plant   
 which requires a licence or permit for   
 cultivation; and

(*k*) any other matter incidental to or   
 connected with the matters aforesaid.”;

(2) in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the   
words “the Prime Minister.” of the words “the

President.”.

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| Amendment of section 79 of  the principal  enactment | 28 | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| **42.** Section 79 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “registered ayurvedic hospital, any registered ayurvedic pharmacy,”, | |

wherever those words appear in that section, of the words“registered Ayurveda hospital, any registered Ayurveda pharmacy, any Ayurveda drug manufactory, any herbal cultivation,”.

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| Replacement of section 80 of  the principal  enactment | **43.** Section 80 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor: - | |
| “offences  and penalties | 80. (1) Any person who – |

(*a*) resists or obstructs a person   
authorized in that behalf under this   
Act in the exercise by such person of   
any powers conferred on him by or   
under this Act;

(*b*) fails without reasonable cause, to   
comply with the requirements of a   
notice issued under this Act;

(*c*) knowingly makes any false statement   
in any return or information furnished   
by him under this Act; or

(*d*) willfully omits any material fact from   
any return or information furnished   
by him under this Act in respect of   
which he is required to furnish   
information,

commits an offence under this Act and shall   
be liable on conviction after summary trial   
before a Magistrate, to a fine of not exceeding   
fifty thousand rupees or to imprisonment of

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  29

either description, for a term not exceeding six   
months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Any person who contravenes the   
provisions of this Act or any regulation made   
thereunder, while practicing Ayurveda under the   
Authority of a licence issued under this Act,   
commits an offence under this Act and shall be   
liable on conviction after summary trial before a   
Magistrate, to a fine of not exceeding one   
hundred thousand rupees or to imprisonment of   
either description, for a term not exceeding one   
year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(3) Any person who commits an offence under   
section 79 of this Act, shall be liable on   
conviction after summary trial before a   
Magistrate, to a fine not exceeding one hundred   
thousand rupees or to imprisonment of either   
description, for a term not exceeding one year or   
to both such fine and imprisonment.

(4) Any person who-

(*a*) carries out any activity without a   
 licence or permit for which a licence or   
 permit is required under this Act; or

(*b*) fraudulently displays a logo or a mark   
 or a sign indicating that a premises,   
 establishment, an article, a drug,   
 substance or an Ayurveda product has   
 a valid licence issued under this Act,

commits an offence under this Act and shall be   
liable on conviction after summary trial before   
a Magistrate, to a fine not exceeding two hundred   
thousand rupees or to imprisonment of either   
description for a term not exceeding one year or   
to both such fine and imprisonment.

30  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

(5) Any person who acts in contravention   
of any provision of this Act, (other than the   
provisions referred to in subsections (1), (2),   
(3) and (4) of this section) or any requirements   
imposed under any such provision, or any   
regulations made under the Act, shall be guilty   
of an offence under this Act and shall, on   
conviction after summary trial before a   
Magistrate, be liable –

(*a*) where such person is not a body   
 corporate, to a fine not less than rupees   
 five thousand and not exceeding   
 rupees fifty thousand or to   
 imprisonment of either description for   
 a term not exceeding one year or to   
 both such fine and imprisonment in   
 the case of a first offence, and to a fine   
 not less than rupees ten thousand and   
 not exceeding rupees one hundred   
 thousand or to an imprisonment of   
 either description for a term not   
 exceeding two years or to both such   
 fine and imprisonment in the case of   
 a subsequent offence ; and

(*b*) where such person is a body corporate,   
 to a fine not less than rupees fifty   
 thousand and not exceeding rupees   
 one million in the case of a first   
 offence, and to a fine not less than   
 rupees one hundred thousand and not   
 exceeding rupees two million in the   
 case of a subsequent offence.”.

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| Amendment of section 83 of  the principal  enactment | **44.** Section 83 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “pharmacy or nursing,” of the words “ayurveda drug manufacturing, nursing or Ayurveda massage therapy,”. |

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| *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* | | 31 | Amendment of section 89 of  the principal  enactment |
| **45.** Section 89 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- | | |
| (1) | by the repeal of the definition of the expression | |

“Ayurveda” and the substitution therefor, of the   
following:-

“ “Ayurveda” includes the Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani   
and Desiya Chikitsa systems of medicine   
and surgery and any other system of   
medicine indigenous to Asian countries   
and recognized as such by the   
Governments of such respective   
countries;”;

(2) by the insertion, immediately after the definition of the expression “ayurveda pharmacy”, the following new definition: -

“ “Ayurveda Product” means any Ayurveda article,   
substance or drug which is manufactured   
or refined for sale, and includes any locally   
manufactured or imported medicinal   
extract or fraction, a health supplement, a   
food supplement, a cosmeceutical, or a   
device;”;

(3) by the insertion, immediately after the definition of the expression “dispensary”, the following new definitions:-

“ “Eastern University of Sri Lanka” means the   
Eastern University of Sri Lanka established   
under Order made under section 21 of the   
Universities Act, No.16 of 1978 and   
published in the *Gazette* Extraordinary   
No. 420/25 of September 26, 1986;

32  *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*

“Faculty of Indigenous Medicine of the University   
of Colombo, Sri Lanka” means the Faculty   
of Indigenous Medicine of the University   
of Colombo, Sri Lanka established by   
Order made under the Universities Act,   
No.16 of 1978 and published in the *Gazette*   
Extraordinary No. 2319/22 of February 13,   
2023;

“Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of   
Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka” means   
the the Gampaha Wickramarachchi   
University of Indigenous Medicine, Sri   
Lanka established by Order made under   
the Universities Act, No.16 of 1978 and   
published in the *Gazette* Extraordinary No.

2199/12 of October 28, 2020;

“Herbal Cultivation” means the cultivation of any   
medicinal plants for Ayurveda purposes   
as prescribed in the Ayurveda Code and   
shall include crop harvest or residual of   
such growth used for any commercial   
purposes;

“Herbal Gardens for Research and Extension”  
means a dedicated space devoted to grow   
medicinal plants for research purposes,   
either by the Department of Ayurveda or   
a person registered for such purposes under   
this Act;”;

(4) by the insertion, immediately after the definition of the expression “Hospital of Indigenous Medicine”, the following new definitions:-

*Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023*  33

“ “Medicinal plant” means any plant which, in one   
or more of its organs, contain substances   
that can be used for thereputic purposes   
or which are precursors for the synthesis   
of useful drugs;

“Minister” means the Minister assigned the subject   
of Ayurveda under Article 44 or 45 of   
the Constitution;

“Primary Health Care” means a whole-of-society   
approach to health that aims at ensuring   
the highest possible level of health and

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| well-being | and | their | equitable |

distribution by focusing on people's   
needs and as early as possible along the   
continuum from health promotion and   
disease prevention to treatment,   
rehabilitation and palliative care, and as   
close as feasible to people's everyday   
environment;”;

(5) by the repeal of the definition of the expression  
“register of Ayurveda practitioners” and the   
substitution therefor, of the following:-

“ “register of Ayurveda practitioners” means the   
General register, or the Special register   
maintained by the Ayurveda Medical   
Council under this Act for the registration   
of Ayurveda practitioners, and includes   
any register which is deemed to be a

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| General | register | of | Ayurveda |

practitioners or a Special register of   
Ayurveda practitioners under subsection   
(3) of section 51;”;

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 34 | (6) | *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* |
| by the insertion, immediately after the definition of |

the expression “registered ayurvedic practitioner”, the   
following new definitions:-

“ “Registered Ayurveda massage therapist” means   
any person registered as an Ayurveda   
massage therapist under this Act;

“Register of Ayurveda massage therapist” means   
the register maintained by the Ayurveda   
Medical Council for the registration of   
Ayurveda massage therapist under this   
Act;

“University of Colombo, Sri Lanka” means the   
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka   
established under section 139 of the   
Universities Act, No.16 of 1978;

“University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka” means the   
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka established   
under section 139 of the Universities Act,   
No.16 of 1978;”.

|  |  |
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| Avoidance of  doubt | **46.**For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the provisions of this Act shall not affect or be deemed to |

have affected any act previously done or any decision previously made under the principal enactment prior to the date of commencement of this Act.

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| Sinhala text to  prevail in case of inconsistency | **47.** In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. |

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| *Ayurveda (Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 2023* | 35 |

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