

**parliament of the Democratic SocialiSt republic of**   
**Sri lanka**

**anti-terroriSm**   
**a**   
**bill**

**to make provision for the protection of the national Security of Sri lanka and The People of Sri Lanka from Acts of Terrorism, Other Offences Associated with Terrorism and Certain Specified Acts Constituting The Offence of Terrorism Commited within or outside Sri Lanka; for the Prevention of the use of Sri Lankan Territory and its People for the Preparation for Terrorism Outside Sri Lanka; to Provide for the Detection, Identification, Apprehension, Arrest, Detention, Investigation, Prosecution and Punishment of any Person who has Committed An Act of Terrorism or any other Offence Associated with Terrorism; for The Repeal of The Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act, No.48 of 1979; and for Matters Connected Therewith or Incidental thereto**

*Presented by the Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and*   
*Constitutional Reforms on 10th of January, 2024*

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| **anti terrorism** | 1 |

**lD-o 15/2023**

**an act to make proViSion for the protection of the national SecuritY of Sri lanka anD the people of Sri lanka from actS of terroriSm, other offenceS aSSociateD With terroriSm anD certain SpecifieD actS conStitutinG the offence of terroriSm commiteD WITHIN OR OUTSIDE SRI LANKA; FOR THE preVention of the uSe of Sri lankan territorY anD itS people for the preparation for terroriSm outSiDe Sri LANKA; TO PROVIDE FOR THE DETECTION, iDentification, apprehenSion, arreSt, Detention, inVeStiGation, proSecution anD puniShment of anY perSon Who haS committeD an act of terroriSm or anY other offence aSSociateD WITH TERRORISM; FOR THE REPEAL OF THE preVention of terroriSm (temporarY PROVISIONS) ACT, No.48 OF 1979; AND FOR matterS connecteD thereWith or inciDental thereto**

**WhereaS**, terrorism has seriously threatened the Preamble sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka, and has   
caused deaths and serious injury to the citizens of Sri Lanka,   
and has caused vast damage to public and private property of

5 Sri Lanka, and has retarded national development;

**anD WhereaS**, terrorism in its various forms and manifestations is a major threat to the peace and security of the community of nations; and, it is a foremost duty of the Government to protect Sri Lanka, its people, and property 10 from acts of terrorism and related acts;

**anD WhereaS**, Sri Lanka is under obligation to enact laws to give domestic legal effect to international instruments

2 — PL 014351 — 480 (01/2024)

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relating to countering of any acts of terrorism and related acts to which Sri Lanka has become a signatory;

**anD WhereaS**, the Government of Sri Lanka is committed to protect other sovereign nations and their people 5 from the scourge of acts of terrorism;

**anD WhereaS**, Sri Lanka is committed and desirous of eradicating and preventing domestic and international terrorism through enforcing an effective system for the administration of criminal justice against terrorism, based 10 on international norms and standards and domestic needs;

**anD WhereaS**, the Government of Sri Lanka considers the safeguarding of national security is of paramount importance for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect of the rights and freedom of the people of Sri Lanka 15 and for the protection of territorial integrity and enhancing the sovereignty of the people of Sri Lanka;

**anD WhereaS**, the Government of Sri Lanka is mindful of the need to ensure just and fair application of

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| 20 | the system for the administration of criminal justice against terrorism; |

**noW therefore be** it enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows: -

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Anti-Terrorism Act, Short Title No. of 2023.

25 PART I

**application of the act**

Application of **2.** (1) The provisions of this Act shall apply to any person the Act

who commits an offence under this Act, whether within or outside the territorial limits of Sri Lanka, including -

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(a) any citizen of Sri Lanka, who commits an offence   
under this Act, within or outside the territory of   
the Republic of Sri Lanka;

(b) any person who commits an offence under this 5 Act –

(i) wholly or partly, in Sri Lanka;

(ii) in or over the territorial waters of Sri Lanka;

(iii) in the airspace of Sri Lanka;

(iv) on-board or in respect of an aircraft or vessel 10 registered in Sri Lanka or belonging to or used by the Government of Sri Lanka;

(v) on-board or in respect of an aircraft or vessel   
within the territory of Sri Lanka including the   
territorial waters and airspace of Sri Lanka;

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| 15 | (vi) wholly or partly within the office premises of a diplomatic or consular mission of Sri Lanka |

or in respect of such premises, or a consular officer of Sri Lanka, or at the residence of the Head of such diplomatic or consular mission or 20 at the residence of any diplomatic or consular officer or any other employee of such mission;

(vii) wholly or partly within the office premises situated outside Sri Lanka of a statutory board of the Government of Sri Lanka or in respect 25 of such premises, or within the residence of an employee of such statutory board;

(c) any person, who commits an offence under this   
 Act, within or outside the territory of the Republic   
 of Sri Lanka in respect of -

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(i) a citizen of Sri Lanka including a citizen   
deployed in an international peace-keeping   
or monitoring mission;

(ii) a property owned by the State;

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| 5 | (d) any person who had been a citizen of Sri Lanka, and commits an offence under this Act, within or |

outside the territory of the Republic of Sri Lanka:

Provided however, provisions of this Act shall be enforced in respect of such person, only 10 if he continues to have his habitual residence in Sri Lanka:

Provided further, that if he does not have his   
habitual residence in Sri Lanka, provisions of this   
Act, may be enforced with the concurrence of the

15 foreign State of which he is a citizen; and

(e) any person who has his habitual residence in Sri   
Lanka, commits an offence under this Act, within   
or outside the territory of the Republic of Sri   
Lanka.

20 (2) For the purpose of this section-

“habitual residence” means the customary place of   
 residence of a person;

“property owned by the State” includes property   
 owned by-

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| 25 | (a) public corporations and statutory funds or boards; |

(b) businesses and other undertakings vested in the   
 Government by or under any written law; and

(c) any company registered or incorporated under

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| 30 | the Companies Act, No.7 of 2007 in which the Government or a public corporation holds |

fifty *per centum* or more of the shares of that   
company.

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PART II

**offenceS anD penaltieS**

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| 5 | **3.** (1) Any person, who commits any act or illegal omission | Offence of |
| specified in subsection (2), with the intention of – | Terrorism |
| (a) intimidating the public or a section of the public; |

(b) wrongfully or unlawfully compelling the Government   
of Sri Lanka, or any other Government, or an   
international organization, to do or to abstain from   
doing any act; or

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| 10 | (c) propagating war or, violating territorial integrity or infringement of sovereignty of Sri Lanka or any |

other sovereign country,

commits the offence of terrorism.

(2) An act or an illegal omission referred to in subsection 15 (1) shall be -

(a) murder;

(b) hurt;

(c) hostage taking;

(d) abduction or kidnapping;

20 (e) causing serious damage to any place of public use, a State or Governmental facility, any public or private transportation system or any infrastructure facility or environment;

(f) committing the offence of robbery, extortion or 25 theft, in respect of State or private property;

(g) causing serious risk to the health and safety of the   
 public or a section thereof;

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(h) causing serious obstruction or damage to, or interference with, any electronic or automated or computerized system or network or cyber environment of domains assigned to, or websites 5 registered with such domains assigned to Sri Lanka;

(i) causing the destruction of, or serious damage to,   
 religious or cultural property;

(j) causing serious obstruction or damage to, or 10 interference with any electronic, analog, digital or other wire-linked or wireless transmission system including signal transmission and any other frequency-based transmission system;

(k) without lawful authority, importing, exporting, 15 manufacturing, collecting, obtaining, supplying, trafficking, possessing or using firearms, offensive weapons, ammunition, explosives, or any article or thing used or intended to be used in the manufacture of explosives, or combustible or 20   
 corrosive substances or any biological, chemical, electric, electronic or nuclear weapon, other nuclear explosive device, nuclear material or radioactive substance or radiation emitting device; or

(l) committing an act which constitutes an offence 25 within the scope of the Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Financing Act, No.25 of 2005.

(3) For the purpose of subsection (2), “place of public use” includes any highway and any other premises or place

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| 30 | to which at the material time the public have or are permitted to have access, whether as of right or otherwise. |

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| **anti terrorism** | 7 | Penalty for  the offence of terrorism |
| **4.** (1) Any person who-  (a) commits the offence specified in paragraph (a) | |

of subsection (2) of section 3 with the intention   
to cause death, and causes the death of any other

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| 5 | person in the course of committing such offence, shall, upon conviction by the High Court be |

punished with imprisonmentfor life;

(b) commits an offence under subsection (2) of section 3 other than the offence referred to in 10 paragraph (a), shall upon conviction by the High Court be liable to rigorous imprisonment for a term not exceeding twenty years and to a fine, not exceeding rupees one million.

(2) Where any person is convicted by any court of any 15 offence under section 3 or 5, -

(a) the court may, by virtue of that conviction, in addition to any penalty that the court shall impose for such offence, forfeit to the Republic all property bothmovable and immovable of that 20 person; and

(b) any alienation or other disposal of property   
effected by such person after such conviction shall   
be deemed to have been, and to be, null and void.

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| 25 | **5.** (1) Any person who attempts, abets or conspires to | Penalty for |
| commit an offence under section 3, or does any act preparatory | attempt to |
| to the commission of an offence under section 3, shall upon | commit the |
| offence of |
| conviction by the High Court, be liable to imprisonment of |
| terrorism |
| either description for a term not exceeding fifteen years and |

to a fine, not exceeding rupees one million.

30 (2) If such person has committed the offence of terrorism consequent to the commission of an offence under subsection (1), such person shall be liable to the same penalty imposed for the offence of terrorism as if he has committed the offence of terrorism.

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| 8 | **anti terrorism** | Offences |
| **6.** (1) Any person who- |
| associated |
| (a) joins, functions or serves as a leader, member of | with |
| proscribed |
| or a cadre of; | terrorist |

organizations

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| 5 | (b) supports or directs, at any level, the activities of; | and |
| movements |
| (c) recruits, entices or encourages any person to be |

a member of or a cadre of,

a proscribed terrorist organization or movement of which the objective is to commit the offence of terrorism under section 3, commits an offence under this Act.

10 (2) Any person who commits robbery, extortion, theft of property or otherwise obtains money or any property or other material, for or on behalf of a proscribed terrorist organization or a movement an objective of which is to commit the offence of terrorism under section 3, commits an offence under this

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| 15 | Act. | Specified acts |
| **7.** Any person who- |

(a) commits an offence under Part III of the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act, No.10 of 2023, with regard to a victim of an offence 20 under this Act or a witness to the commission of an offence under this Act; or

(b) possesses an article for the purpose of commission,   
preparation, or instigation of the offence of terrorism   
referred to in section 3 of this Act,

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| 25 | commits an offence under this Act. | Aggravated |
| **8.** Any person who harbours, conceals, or in any other |
| manner, wrongfully or illegally prevents, hinders or interferes | criminal acts |
| with the identification, arrest, custody or detention of a person | associated |
| with terrorism |
| knowing or having reasonable grounds to believe that such |

**anti terrorism**  9

person has committed or is concerned in committing an offence under this Act commits an offence under this Act.

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| **9.** Any person who- | Terrorism  associated acts |

(a) gathers any confidential information, having the 5 intention of supplying such information to a person; or

(b) supplies any confidential information to a person, knowing or having reasonable grounds to believe that such information will be used by such other 10 person to commit or conspire, abet, attempt an offence under this Act,   
 commits an offence under this Act:

Provided however, nothing published in good faith with due diligence for the benefit of the public or in the 15 national interest in printed and electronic media, or in any academic publication, shall be deemed to be an offence under this section.

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| 20 | **10.** (1) Any person - | Encour- |
| agement of |
| (a) who publishes or causes to be published a statement, | terrorism |
| or speaks any word or words, or makes signs |

or visible representations which is likely to be understood by some or all of the members of the public as a direct or indirect encouragement or inducement for them to commit, prepare or instigate 25 the offence of terrorism; and

(b) such person-

(i) intends, directly or indirectly to encourage or   
induce the public to commit, prepare or instigate   
the offence of terrorism; or

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| 30 | (ii) is reckless as to whether the public is directly or indirectly encouraged or induced by such |

10 **anti terrorism**

statement to commit, prepare or instigate the   
offence of terrorism,

commits an offence under this Act.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) shall apply to any

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| 5 | person who publishes or causes to be published a statement referred to in that subsection using– |

(a) print media;

(b) internet;

(c) electronic media; or

10 (d) other form of public notice.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), a "statement" includes every statement –

(a) which glorifies the commission of the offence

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| 15 | of terrorism or preparation for the offence of terrorism; and |

(b) from which the public may reasonably be expected   
to infer that what is being glorified is being   
glorified as conduct that should be emulated by   
them in existing circumstances,

20 but does not include an opinion, legitimate criticism, satire, parody. caution or imputation made in good faith.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the question as to how a statement is likely to be understood and what members of the public could reasonably be expected to infer from it shall 25 be determined, having regard both-

(a) to the contents of the statement as a whole; and

(b) to the circumstances and the manner of its   
 publication.

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(5) If any person proves to the satisfaction of the High Court that a statement referred to in subsection (2) neither expressed his views nor had his consent or approval for publication in all the circumstances of the publication of the 5 statement, the court may order that such person is not guilty of an offence under this section.

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| **11.** (1) A person commits an offence under this section if such person - | Dissemination of terrorist  publications |

(a) distributes or circulates a terrorist publication;

10 (b) gives, sells or lends a terrorist publication;

(c) offers for sale a terrorist publication;

(d) provide**s** a service to others that enables them to obtain, read, listen to or look at a terrorist publication or to acquire it by means of a gift 15 or sale;

(e) transmits the contents of a terrorist publication   
 electronically; or

(f) keeps a terrorist publication in his possession with the intention of using it for a purpose 20 referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b); and

such person-

(a) intends, directly or indirectly to encourage   
or induce the public to commit, prepare or   
instigate the offence of terrorism; or

25 (b) is reckless as to whether the public is directly or indirectly encouraged or induced by the statement to commit, prepare or instigate the offence of terrorism.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) shall apply to a person 30 who commits any act referred to in paragraph (a) of that subsection using-

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(a) print media;   
(b) internet;   
(c) electronic media; or   
(d) other form of public notice.

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| 5 | (3) For the purposes of subsection (1), a "terrorist publication" is a publication to be understood by some or all |

of the persons to whom it is or may be available –  
 (a) as direct or indirect encouragement or other inducement to them to commit or, to prepare for, 10 the offence of terrorism; or   
 (b) that the matter contained therein is useful in the commission of, or preparation for, the offence of terrorism.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3), a "matter" includes 15 every matter–  
 (a) which glorifies the commission of the offence of terrorism or preparation for the offence of terrorism; and   
 (b) from which the public may reasonably be expected to infer that what is being glorified is being glorified 20 as conduct that should be emulated by them in existing circumstances.

(5) For the purposes of this section, the following shall be taken into consideration to consider whether a publication is 25 a terrorist publication:-  
 (a) to the content of the publication as a whole; and (b) to the circumstance in which a particular conduct in consequence to that publication has occurred.

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(6) No person shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence under this section, if that person proves to the satisfaction of the High Court that the matter contained in a publication alleged to have been a terrorist publication neither expressed 5 his views nor had his consent or approval in all the circumstances of the publication of the same.

(7) For the purposes of this section –

"lend" includes let on hire;

"publication" means an article or record of any 10 description that contains any of the following: -

(a) matter to be read;

(b) matter to be listened; or

(c) matter to be looked at or watched.

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| 15 | **12.** (1) A person, if such person - | Training for |
| (a) provides instruction or training, to commit or | terrorism |

to prepare for the offence of terrorism or to   
assist the commission of, or to prepare for the   
offence of terrorism under section 3; and

(b) knows, at the time he provides such instruction 20 or training that the person receiving the instruction or training intends to use or is likely to use the skills in which he is being instructed or trained–

(i) for or in connection with the commission 25 or preparation for the offence of terrorism under this Act; or

(ii) for assisting the commission or preparation   
 for the offence of terrorism under this Act,

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commits an offence under this section.

(2) A person, if such person -

(a) receives instructions or training to commit or prepare for the offence of terrorism or to assist 5 the commission of or to prepare for the offence of terrorism; and

(b) intends, at the time of the instruction or training   
to use the skills which he is being instructed or   
trained –

10 (i) for or in connection with the commission or preparation of the offence of terrorism; or

(ii) for assisting the commission or preparation by   
 others of the offence of terrorism,

commits an offence under section 6.

15 (3) For the purposes of this section "instruction or training" means instruction or training –

(a) in the making or use of firearms, explosives or   
 chemical, biological or nuclear weapons; or

(b) in the use of, or for designing or adapting any 20 method or technique for doing anything for the purpose of or in connection with the commission of the offence of terrorism.

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| 25 | **13**. (1) Any person who commits an offence under sections | Penalty for |
| 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, shall upon conviction by the High | committing |
| offences under |
| Court be liable to rigorous imprisonment for a term not |
| sections 6, 7, |
| exceeding fifteen years or to a fine not exceeding rupees one | 8, 9, 10, 11 |
| million or to both such fine and imprisonment. | and 12 |

(2) Where any person is convicted for an offence under sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, in addition to any penalty

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imposed on such person under subsection (1), the High Court may order that any property movable or immovable in the possession of such person which the Court considers to be connected with the commission of such offence shall be

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| 5 | forfeited to the Republic. | Penalty for |
| **14.** (1) Any person who attempts, abets or conspires to |
| 10 | attempt |
| commit an offence under sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, |
| &.c of |
| or does any act preparatory to the commission of an offence |
| committing |
| under such sections shall upon conviction by the High Court | offences under |
| sections 6, 7, |
| be liable to rigorous imprisonment for a term not exceeding |
| 8, 9, 10, 11 |
| ten years or to a fine not exceeding rupees one million or to | and 12 |

both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) If any offence specified in sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 is committed consequent to an attempt, abetment

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| 15 | or conspiracy to commit such offence or has done any act preparatory to the commission of such offence, the offender |

shall be liable to the same penalty as if he has committed such offence.

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| 20 | **15.** Any person who- | Failure to |
| provide |
| (a) knowing or having reasons to believe that any | information to |
| be an offence |
| other person- |

(i) has committed an offence under this Act; or

(ii) is making preparation, attempting, abetting   
or conspiring to commit an offence under this

25 Act,

fails to report to the officer in charge of the nearest   
police station; or

(b) having in his possession any information relating to the whereabouts of any person of whom he 30 knows that has committed an offence of terrorism or an offence associated with terrorism, fails to provide such information or provides false or misleading information, to a police officer,

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commits an offence under this Act and shall upon conviction by the High Court and liable to imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding seven years or to a fine not exceeding rupees five hundred thousand or to both such

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| 5 | fine and imprisonment. | Disobeying |
| **16.** Any person who - |
| lawful orders |

to be an (a) violates or acts in contravention of a lawful offence

directive or order made in terms of this Act;

(b) willfully fails or neglects to comply with a direction

10 issued in terms of this Act;

(c) fails to provide information or provides false or   
misleading information in response to a question   
put to him by a police officer conducting an   
investigation under this Act:

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| 15 | Provided however, such person shall not be compelled to make any statement under this |

paragraph self-incriminating such person;

(d) willfully prevents or hinders the implementation of   
a lawful order or directive issued under this Act; or

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| 20 | (e) prevents or obstructs enforcement of provisions of this Act, |

commits an offence, and shall upon conviction by the High Court be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years and to a fine not exceeding rupees five hundred thousand.

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| 25 | **17.** Any offence under this Act shall be deemed to be | Offences to be |
| a cognizable offence within the meaning of the Code of | cognizable |

Criminal Procedure Act and shall be investigated, prosecuted and punished in terms of the provisions of this Act, the Code of Criminal Procedure Act and other applicable written laws.

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PART III

INVESTIGATION OF OFFENCES

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| 5 | **18.** An officer in charge of a police station or any | Who may |
| other police officer authorized by an officer in charge of a | conduct |
| police station, shall be entitled to commence and conduct | investigations |

investigation of an offence under this Act or an act preparatory to the commission of an offence under this Act:

Provided however, where any person commits an offence under this Act in the presence of a police officer, or a person

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| 10 | suspected of having committed an offence is arrested in the immediate aftermath of committing an offence, it shall be |

lawful for any police officer to arrest such person to question and commence the investigation:

Provided further, such police officer shall forthwith 15 inform the officer in charge of the relevant police station, of the commencement of such investigation, and conduct the investigation subject to his instructions.

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| 20 | **19.** Any police officer, member of the armed forces or a | Arrest by a |
| coast guard officer, may arrest without a warrant, any person- | police officer |
| and other |
| (a) who commits in his presence, or whom he has | officers |

reasonable suspicion to believe, that such person   
has committed or there is an imminent possibility   
of committing by such person an offence under   
this Act;

25 (b) who has been concerned in committing an offence under this Act;

(c) in respect of whom such police officer, member of the armed forces or a coast guard officer receives information or a complaint which such officer or 30 member believes to be reliable that a person has committed or concerned in committing an offence under this Act;

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(d) who is fleeing from Sri Lanka with the intention of   
evading arrest or is evading arrest after committing   
an offence under this Act; or

(e) who is violating the conditions of bail, subject

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| 5 | to which such person has been released, being a suspect for the commission of an offence under |

this Act.

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| 10 | **20.** (1) A person arrested by a member of the armed forces | Procedure |
| or a coast guard officer other than a police officer, shall be | when arrest |
| produced before the officer in charge of the nearest police | is carried out |
| by an officer |
| station or a police officer designated, from time to time, in that |
| other than a |
| behalf by the Inspector General of Police, without unnecessary | police officer |

delay, and in any event within a period not exceeding twenty-four hours:

15 Provided however, where such person has been arrested outside the territory of the Republic of Sri Lanka or on board any aircraft or vessel, the period of time necessary for the journey from place of arrest to the relevant police station, shall be excluded in calculating such twenty-four hours period:

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| 20 | Provided further, if producing the person being arrested in terms of the preceding provisions of this subsection before |

the officer in charge of the nearest police station is not practicable due to reasons beyond the control of the person who carried out the arrest, the custody of such person shall be

25 given to the officer in charge of the next nearest police station.

(2) The officer who carried out the arrest shall as soon as practicable, notify the arrest to a commissioned officer, who has been authorized to receive such information.

(3) Subject to the provisions of sections 24 and 25, a person 30 so arrested may be questioned and further searched by the commissioned officer where it is necessary to protect the life of any person, to prevent any act of terrorism or to preserve evidence relating to an offence committed under this Act.

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(4) Such commissioned officer shall forthwith inform of such arrest to the officer in charge of the nearest police station or to a police officer designated by the Inspector General of Police in that behalf.

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| 5 | (5) At the time of taking the person so arrested into the custody of the officer in charge of the police station as |

provided for in this section, the officer who carried out the arrest, shall make a statement to such officer in charge of the police station, setting out the circumstances relating to the

10 arrest carried out by him.

(6) Such officer shall also handover to such officer in charge of the police station all items that may have been found in the possession of the suspect, or found from the place of arrest.

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| 15 | **21.** (1) (a) Any person arrested by a police officer, shall | Procedure |
| forthwith, be produced before the officer in charge of the | when arrest |
| is carried out |
| police station to which such police officer is attached. |
| by a police |

officer (b) Where such production is not practicable, the person arrested shall be produced before the officer in charge of the nearest police station.

20 (2) It shall be lawful for a police officer to obtain the assistance of a member of the armed forces or a coast guard officer to carry out an arrest in terms of this Act, or to obtain such assistance to take the arrested person to a police station.

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| 25 | **22.** (1) Where there is reasonable suspicion ofcommission | Power to stop |
| of an offenceunder this Act, a police officer, a member of the | and search |

armed forces or a coast guard officer (hereinafter in this Part referred to as the “arresting officer”) may-

(a) stop and search any person, vehicle, vessel, train   
 or aircraft;

30 (b) question such person;

(c) enter and search any premises or land; and

20 **anti terrorism**

(d) take into custody any document, thing or article, used, derived out of, connected with or, concerned in committing or, reasonably suspected of being used, derived out of, connected with, or concerned 5 in committing an offence under this Act.

(2) The provisions of section 26 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of the exercise of the powers relating to issuing of a notification to the relevant parties under this section.

|  |  |
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| 10 | (3) Any such document, thing or article so taken into custody, shall as soon as practicable be produced before the |

officer in charge of the police station to which the relevant police officer is attached, or be produced before the officer in charge of the nearest police station.

|  |  |
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| 15 | (4) The officer in charge of the police station referred to in subsection (3) shall produce a report in that regard to the |

Magistrate before whom the relevant suspect is produced who shall make an appropriate order with regard to the possession or release of any document, thing or article so taken into

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 20 | custody. | Information |
| **23.** (1) The arresting officer shall inform the person being |
| to be provided |
| arrested, (hereinafter in this part referred to as the “suspect”) |
| at the time of |
| at the time of the arrest- | arrest |

(a) the identity of the arresting officer;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 25 | (b) the offence alleged to have been committed by the suspect; and |

(c) the right of access of the suspect to an Attorney-at-  
 Law as provided for in written law.

(2) Every reasonable measure shall be taken to convey 30 the information specified in subsection (1) in Sinhala, Tamil or English languages, whichever language is understood by the suspect.

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(3) Where it is not practicable to convey such information to the suspect as specified in subsection (1) at the time of arrest, such information shall be conveyed in a language understood by him as soon as practicable.

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| 5 | **24.** Every arrest shall be carried out, with due regard to the | Arrest to be |
| privacy of the suspect. Every possible measure shall be taken | carried out |
| with due |
| to ensure that the arrest of a female suspect is carried out by a |
| regard to |
| female arresting officer, or in the presence of a female officer. |
| privacy |
| 10 |
| **25.** (1) Every possible measure shall be taken to ensure | Searching and |
| questioning of |
| that the questioning of any female suspect is carried out by a |
| females |
| female arresting officer or in the presence of a female officer. |

(2) The search of a female suspect, shall necessarily be conducted by a female officer.

|  |  |  |
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| 15 | **26.** (1) Where any person is arrested under section 20 or | Notification of |
| 21, it shall be the duty of the arresting officer to issue to the | the arrest |

spouse, father, mother or any other close relative of such person, forthwith or in any case not later than twenty-four hours from the arrest,a notification by way ofa document in such form as is specified in the First Schedule, acknowledging 20 the fact of such arrest. It shall be the duty of the holder of such document to return the same to, or produce the same before, the appropriate authority when such arrested person is released from custody:

Provided that, where any person is taken into custody 25 and it is not possible to issue a document as specified in this section, it shall be the duty of the arresting officer if such officer is a police officer, to make an entry in the information book, giving reasons as to why it is not possible, and if the arresting officer is a member of the armed forces or a

30 coast guard officer, to report to the officer in charge of the police station the reasons why it is not possible to issue such document and the officer in charge shall make an entry of such fact along with the reasons therefor in the information book.

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(2) Such notification shall include -

(a) the date, time and place of arrest;

(b) reasons for the arrest;

(c) the location of custody or detention;

5 (d) the name, identification number and rank of the arresting officer; and

(e) any other information as may be necessary for   
the *next of kin* of the suspect, to have reasonable   
access to him, without prejudice to the conduct of

10 investigations.

(3) If such a person specified in subsection (1) is not present, the arresting officer shall inquire from the suspect, the identity and whereabouts of a person to whom the notification referred to in subsection (1) shall be served, and if the suspect 15 provides such information, every possible step shall be taken to serve the notification on such person. A copy of the said notification shall be served on the suspect.

(4) The officer in charge of the police station wherein the suspect is detained shall, as soon as practicable, and in any 20 event not later than twenty-four hours of the arrest, notify the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka of such arrest and detention, substantially in the form set out in the Second Schedule, and notify the Inspector General of Police or his authorized representative, substantially in the form set out in 25 the Third Schedule.

(5) Such notification shall include -

(a) the date, time and place of arrest;

(b) reasons for the arrest;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 30 | (c) the location at which the suspect is being held in detention; |

**anti terrorism**  23

(d) the name, identification number and rank of the   
 arresting officer;

(e) any other information that would enable the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to have prompt 5 access to the suspect; and

(f) any other information the Human Rights   
Commission of Sri Lanka may call for, in order to   
determine whether such arrest and detention has   
infringed the fundamental rights of the suspect.

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| 10 | **27.** (1) The Inspector General of Police shall establish | Central |
| and maintain a central database and register, which contain | database and |
| register |
| information with regard to each arrest, detention, remanding, |

grant of bail, discharge, prosecution, conviction or acquittal and punishment of persons arrested under this Act.

15 (2) Such database and register shall also include such other information required to determine the -

(a) lawfulness of the arrest, custody and detention of   
 the suspect;

(b) lawfulness of the deprivation of liberty of the 20 suspect; and

(c) the need for continued detention or remand.

(3) The Inspector General of Police shall provide information in respect of the identity of the person arrested, date of arrest, reason for arrest, place of detention in such 25 database and register, to the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka whenever Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka so requests.

(4) The information received under subsection (3), shall be used only for the purposes of giving effect to the powers 30 and functionsof the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.

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| 24 | **anti terrorism** | Production |
| **28**. (1) A suspect- |
| before a |
| (a) who has been arrested and detained by a police | Magistrate |

officer in terms of this Act; or

(b) who has been arrested by an officer other than a

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | police officer and produced before the officer in charge of a police station or a designated police |

officer in terms of section 20,

shall be produced before the nearest Magistrate not later than forty-eight hours from the time of such arrest:

10 Provided however, where the arrest has been carried out within the territory of the Republic of Sri Lanka, the period of time necessary for the journey from place of arrest to the relevant Magistrate shall be excluded in calculating such forty-eight hours:

15 Provided further, where the arrest has been carried out outside the territory of the Republic of Sri Lanka or on board any aircraft or vessel, the period of time necessary for the journey from place of arrest to the relevant Magistrate shall be excluded in calculating such forty-eight hours.

20 (2) Where, by the time the suspect is produced before a Magistrate-

(a) a Detention Order has been issued in terms of   
section 31, and is placed before the Magistrate for

|  |  |
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| 25 | his inspection, the Magistrate shall make an order to give effect to such Detention Order; or |

(b) a Detention Order has not been issued or has not   
been placed before the Magistrate, the Magistrate   
may -

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 30 | (i) if the officer in charge of the relevant police station makes an application seeking an order |

to remand the suspect, based on grounds

**anti terrorism**  25

that the Magistrate deems reasonable in   
the circumstances, order that the suspect be   
placed in remand custody:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Provided however, where the Magistrate is satisfied that there are no such reasonable |

grounds, the suspect may be discharged; or

(ii) if the officer in charge of the relevant police station requests or has no objection to bail being granted, release the suspect on bail 10 under the provisions of the Bail Act, No.30 of 1997, upon conditions to be stipulated by such Magistrate, excluding personal bail; or

(iii) discharge the suspect, if the officer in charge of the relevant police station so requests on 15 any ground that the Magistrate is satisfied.

(3) The Magistrate before whom the suspect is produced, shall –

(a) personally see the suspect, and look into his well-  
being and welfare through a private interview; and

20 (b) record any comment the suspect may provide.

(4) For the purpose of this section “private interview” means proceedings, either in open court or in Magistrate’s chamber in the absence of any police officer who may have participated in the arrest, or who has investigated into the

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| 25 | offence, alleged to have been committed by the suspect. | Magistrate |
| **29.** (1) Where the Magistrate is of the opinion, that the |
| 30 | suspect may have been subjected to cruel, inhumane or | to direct the |
| suspect to |
| degrading treatment or torture, after taking into account any |
| a forensic |
| comment made by the suspect under section 28, and any | medical |
| representation made by the arresting officer or officer in charge | examination |

of the relevant police station, the Magistrate shall -

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(a) direct that the suspect be produced before a Judicial   
Medical officer for medical examination, and a report   
be submitted to the Magistrate by such Judicial   
Medical Officer; and

5 (b) make an order to change the place of detention of the suspect.

(2) Where the report of the Judicial Medical Officer reveals that there is a probability of the suspect has been subjected to torture, the Magistrate shall, after giving an opportunity to 10 the suspect and the arresting officer or officer in charge of the police station to be heard-

(a) direct the suspect for necessary treatment; and

(b) order that the suspect be kept in remand or detention.

(3) Where the Magistrate orders that the suspect be kept 15 in remand or detention, any police officer who previously had access to the suspect shall not have access to the suspect.

(4) The investigation in respect of such suspect shall be continued by such other police officers as directed by the Inspector General of Police.

20 (5) The Magistrate shall also direct the Inspector General of Police to commence an investigation into the alleged torture to enable the Attorney General to institute criminal proceedings against the person who committed the alleged torture.

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| 25 | **30.** (1) Any person shall not be held in remand for a | Maximum |
| period exceeding one year from the date of his arrest without | period of |
| remand |
| institution of criminal proceedings: |

Provided however, the period of remand may be extended on an order of a Judge of the High Court, on an application made by the Attorney General, which shall not, 30 in any case exceed three months at a time.

**anti terrorism**  27

(2) If criminal proceedings are not instituted within the period referred to in subsection (1), the Magistrate shall release the suspect on bail, on conditions to be stipulated by the Magistrate.

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| 5 | **31.** (1) (a) The Inspector General of Police or any officer | Detention |
| not below the rank of a Deputy Inspector General of Police | Orders |

authorized by the Inspector General of Police in that behalf may seek a Detention Order to detain a suspect for any purpose specified in subsection (2) by way of an application made in

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| --- | --- |
| 10 | that behalf in writing to the Secretary to the Ministry of the Minister of Defence. |

(b) Upon receipt of an application under subsection (1), if the Secretary to theMinistry of the Minister of Defenceis satisfied of the existence of reasonable grounds to believe that

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| --- | --- |
| 15 | the suspect has committed or has concerned in committing an offence under this Act, he may after recording such reasons, |

issue a Detention Order substantially in the form specified in the Fourth Schedule, authorizing the detention of the suspect in an approved place of detention under approved conditions 20 of detention.

(c) A Detention Order under this section may initially be issued for a period not exceeding two months.

(2) A Detention Order under subsection (1) shall include reasons for the issuance thereof, and shall be issued solely for

25 the following purposes where it is necessary: -

(a) to facilitate the conduct of the investigations in   
 respect of the suspect;

(b) to obtain material for investigations and potential evidence relating to the commission of an offence 30 under this Act;

(c) to question the suspect in detention; and

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(d) to preserve evidence pertaining to the commission   
of an offence under this Act, for such reasons to be   
recorded in the Detention Order.

(3) Where a Detention Order under this section has been 5 issued at the time when the relevant suspect is produced before a Magistrate under section 28, a certified copy of such Detention Order shall be placed before the Magistrate for inspection.

(4) A copy of every Detention Order under this section shall 10 be served on the suspect being detained, within a period of forty-eight hours from such Order and the acknowledgement thereof by the suspect shall be obtained and filed in the relevant Magistrate Court.

(5) A copy of the Detention Order shall be served on the 15 next of kin or an adult family member of the suspect within a period of forty-eight hours from such Order and the provisions of section 26 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the manner of serving such copy.

(6) The President shall, on the recommendation of the 20 Inspector General of Police, by Order published in the *Gazette*, specify such number of places as “approved places of detention” for the purpose of this section.

(7) The President shall, in consultation with the Inspector General of Police and the Human Rights Commission of 25 Sri Lanka, specify by Order published in the *Gazette*, such conditions of detention as “approved conditions of detention” for the purpose of this section.

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| 30 | **32.** (1) The Magistrate before whom a suspect has been | Magistrate to |
| produced and detained under the authority of a Detention | visit the place |
| of detention |
| Order shall, without giving any advance notice to the authority |

in charge of such place of detention-

(a) visit once a week, the place of detention of such   
 suspect; and

**anti terrorism**  29

(b) interview the suspect and look into his well-being.

(2) It shall be the duty of the authority in charge of any place of detention to provide prompt and unimpeded access to the Magistrate.

5 (3) If the Magistrate observes that the suspect may have been subjected to torture or the suspect alleges that he was tortured, the Magistrate shall forthwith make order, for the suspect to be produced for examination by a Judicial Medical Officer, and to submit the report to him.

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| 10 | (4) After giving the suspect and the relevant police officer or officers an opportunity to be heard, if the Magistrate is |

satisfied that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the suspect may have been tortured, he shall act in terms of subsections (2), (3), (4) and (5) of section 29.

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| 15 | **33.** (1) The officer in charge of the place of detention in | Notification |
| which a suspect is detained shall notify the Human Rights | of detention |
| to the Human |
| Commission of Sri Lanka of such detention, as soon as |
| Rights |
| 20 | practicable but in any event not later than seventy-two |
| Commission |
| hours from the commencement of detention, for the persons |
| of Sri |
| authorized by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka | Lanka |
| to visit the place of detention in terms of the Human Rights |

Commission of Sri Lanka Act, No. 21 of 1996.

(2) A copy of the Detention Order shall be served on the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, as soon as

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 25 | practicable. | Human Rights |
| **34.** An authorized officer of the Human Rights Commission |
| 30 | of Sri Lanka, shall without giving any advance notice, be | Commission |
| of Sri Lanka |
| entitled to - |
| to visit an |
| (a) enter and examine any approved place of detention; | approved |
| place of |
| detention |
| (b) call for and inspect detention registers, Detention |

Orders and other books and documents required to   
be maintained at such place; and

(c) interview persons being detained at such place.

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| 5 | 30 | **anti terrorism** | Magistrates to |
| **35.** Any Magistrate shall be entitled, without advance | |
| notice, to enter an approved place of detention, inspect such | | be entitled to |
| visit any place |
| place of detention, registers, Detention Orders and other books | |
| of detention |
| and documents required to be maintained at such place, and | |
| interview persons being detained at such place. | | Detention |
| **36.** (1) Where it is necessary to detain a suspect in terms of | |
| beyond two |
| a Detention Order made under section 31 beyond a period of | |
| months to |
| two months, the officer in charge of the relevant police station | |
| be only with |
| shall file a confidential report in the Magistrate Court citing - | | approval of a |

Magistrate

10 (a) the allegation against the suspect;

(b) the findings of investigation; and

(c) reasons which require further detention,

and obtain the approval of the Magistrate for such continued detention.

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| 15 | (2) The Magistrate shall ensure that the disclosure of information in such report does not affect the investigation. |

(3) The submissions of the police officer seeking extension of the period of detention and the objections raised by the suspect or his Attorney-at-Law for such extension, shall be 20 recorded by the Magistrate.

(4) The Magistrate may order the extension of the period of detention or refuse such extension, giving reasons therefor.

(5) (a) Where the Magistrate refuses to grant the extension of the Detention Order, he shall inquire whether there exists

25 any justifiable reason to continue to remand the suspect.

(b) After the inquiry, if the Magistrate is of the opinion that there exists reasonable ground to believe that the suspect may have committed an offence under this Act, the suspect shall be placed in remand custody.

**anti terrorism**  31

(c) Where there are no reasons to believe that the suspect has committed an offence under this Act, he shall be discharged.

(6) The proceedings under this section may be held *in*

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| 5 | *camera*, subject to Article 106 of the Constitution. | Maximum |
| **37.** A suspect shall not be detained for a period exceeding |
| twelve months under a Detention Order made under section | period of |
| detention |
| 31. |
| under |

Detention   
Orders

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10 | **38.** (1) During the pendency of a Detention Order, the | Suspect to |
| suspect shall be produced before a Magistrate once in every | be produced |
| before a |
| fourteen days. |
| Magistrate |

(2) The Magistrate shall comply with the provisions of section 28 upon the suspect being produced before the Magistrate.

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| 15 | (3) Upon completion of the period of detention under a Detention Order, the suspect shall be produced before a |

Magistrate.

(4) Following the examination of a report submitted by the officer in charge of the police station on the investigation in

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| --- | --- |
| 20 | respect of the offence alleged to have been committed by the suspect, if the Magistrate is satisfied that, there exists *prima* |

*faci*e, a basis to conclude that the suspect has committed an offence under this Act, he shall direct that the suspect be detained in remand custody.

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| 25 | **39.** (1)A police officer conducting an investigation under | Police officer |
| this Act, shall under the authority of an order issued by the | to have access |
| to suspect in |
| Magistrate, be entitled to - |
| remand or |

prison (a) have access to a suspect placed in remand custody   
 and interview the suspect;

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(b) record his statements, with the permission given   
by the Magistrate on an application made to such   
Magistrate in that behalf;

(c) take the suspect out of the remand for the purpose 5 of conducting further investigations under the authority of an order made by a Magistrate:

Provided however, an officer of the Prisons   
Department shall be present at every instance   
referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

10 (2) Where a suspect has been convicted of any other offence other than an offence specified in this Act, and serving a term of imprisonment, a police officer conducting an investigation under this Act, shall under the authority of an order issued by the Magistrate, be entitled to -

15 (a) have access to such suspect in the prison, and interview the suspect;

(b) record his statements, with the permission given by   
the Magistrate on an application made to such   
Magistrate in that behalf;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | (c) take the suspect out of the prison for the purpose of conducting further investigations under the |

authority of an order made by a Magistrate:

Provided however, an officer of the Prisons Department shall be present at every instance referred to in paragraphs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 25 | (a), (b) and (c). | Detention |
| **40.** (1) Where the officer in charge of a police station |
| receives information which he believes to be true, that a person | during remand |

remanded under this Act-

(a) is committing an offence under this Act;

30 (b) is making preparations or attempting to commit an offence under this Act;

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(c) is attempting to escape from remand custody; or

(d) had committed an offence under this Act prior to being arrested and such officer in charge of a police station was unaware of such fact,

5 he shall report such information to the relevant Magistrate.

(2) The Magistrate shall immediately inquire into such information and at the conclusion of the inquiry, if the Magistrate is satisfied that, the officer in charge of the police station had acted in good faith and the allegation against the 10 suspect made by the police, appears to be well founded, and where the Magistrate deems it expedient to keep the suspect under detention, he may on the production of a Detention Order permit the officer in charge of the police station –

(a) to take custody of the suspect;

15 (b) to take custody of the suspect and keep him in remand;

(c) to remove the suspect from remand;

(d) to have such suspect detained in terms of such   
 Detention Order; and

20 (e) to order that the suspect be in isolation or under security.

(3) The Detention Order made under this section shall-

(a) be issued by the Deputy Inspector General of Police   
of the area in which the suspect is remanded;

25 (b) be for a period of two weeks at a time for cumulative period of twelve weeks; and

(c) be reviewed by the Magistrate in every fourteen   
 days.

(4) The transfer of the suspect from remand custody to 30 detention, shall be notified to the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.

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| 5 | 34 | **anti terrorism** | Release |
| **41.** (1) A suspect arrested under this Act, shall only be | |
| released from remand custody or detention, after production | | from remand |
| custody and |
| before a Magistrate and subject to any condition that the | |
| detention |
| Magistrate may impose. | |
| (2) The release of the suspect shall be notified to the Human | |

Rights Commission of Sri Lanka by the officer in charge of the relevant police station, giving adequate time as may be necessary for the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to send an officer authorized in writing, to be present when

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 10 | the release takes place. | An Attorney- |
| **42.** (1) An Attorney- at- Law representing a person |
| 15 | remanded or detained under this Act, shall have the right of | at Law to |
| have access |
| access to such person and to make representations on behalf of |
| to a person in |
| such person, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed |
| remand or in |
| by regulations made under this Act or as provided for in other | detention |

written law.

(2) A person remanded or detained under this Act shall have the right to communicate with his relatives, as provided for in written law.

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| 20 | **43.** The provisions of sections 115 and 116 of the Code of | Certain |
| Criminal Procedure Act shall have no application in relation | sections of |
| the Code |
| to a suspect under this Act. |
| of Criminal |

Procedure Act   
not to apply

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 25 | **44.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of | Application |
| the Code of Criminal Procedure Act shall *mutatis mutandis* | of the Code |
| of Criminal |
| apply to any legal proceeding under this Act. |
| Procedure Act |
| 30 | **45.** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9 of the | Proceedings |
| Code of Criminal Procedure Act, the investigations and | before |
| Magistrate |
| proceedings in respect of a suspect under this Act who had |
| Court |
| previously been produced before a Magistrate, shall be held in |
| the Magistrate Court in which such Magistrate was presiding |

at the time the suspect was previously produced.

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| **anti terrorism** | 35 | Suspect to  be treated  humanely |
| **46.** (1) The place of detention or remand of the suspect, detained or remanded, as the case may be, under the provisions of this Act, shall be provided with the requirements necessary | |

for humane treatment, and such place of detention or remand 5 shall be accessible to the family members of the suspect, and to his Attorney-at-Law with the prior permission obtained from the officer in charge of such place of detention or prison.

(2) Where it appears to the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka or the Magistrate, at an inspection of the place 10 of detention or remand under the provisions of this Act that the place of detention or remand, does not conform to the requirements referred to in subsection (1), such fact shall be informed -

(a) to the Inspector General of Police in cases of

15 detention; or

(b) to the Superintendent of the Prisons in cases of   
 remand.

(3) It shall be the duty of the Inspector General of Police or the Superintendent of the Prisons, as the case may be, to 20 take steps to the greatest extent possible, to treat the suspect humanely.

(4) The officer in charge of the place of detention wherein a suspect is kept in custody shall, where the suspect is –

(a) detained for a period exceeding one month;

25 (b) placed in remand, pending commencement of the trial; or

(c) placed in remand, pending conclusion of the trial,

issue a notification to the next of kin of the suspect and to the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, containing 30 following information: -

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(i) the grounds on which, the extension of the   
period of detention or remand was ordered;

(ii) in situations where the suspect is being detained, without prejudice to the on-going 5 investigations, information needed for the investigations to be conducted diligently and expeditiously; and

(iii) in situations where the suspect is being held in remand custody, reasons as to why institution 10 of criminal proceedings cannot be initiated immediately, or the trial cannot be commenced immediately or the trial cannot be concluded expeditiously, as the case may be.

PART IV

15 **poWerS anD DutieS of certain officerS**  **unDer thiS act**

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| 20 | **47.** For the purpose of conducting investigations into | Powers of |
| offences under this Act and offences under any other written | police officers |
| law that may have been committed in the course of the same | under this Act |
| transaction, or to prevent the commission of any such offence, |
| police officers shall be vested with the powers specified in |

this Part in addition to any power conferred on them by the Police Ordinance or the Code of Criminal Procedure Act or any other written law, to the extent that may be necessary for

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 25 | investigating and preventing offences under this Act. | Duty of |
| **48.** (1) It shall be the duty of every police officer and any |
| member of an armed force and a coast guard officer to take | certain officers |
| necessary measures, subject to the provisions of this Act, to | to prevent the |
| commission of |
| prevent the commission of an offence under this Act. |
| offences under |

this Act 30 (2) For the purpose of subsection (1), any such officer may take such measures-

**anti terrorism**  37

(a) in good-faith;

(b) proportionate to the harm that may be inflicted by   
the commission of the offence alleged to have been   
committed;

5 (c) only where all other means of achieving the objectives of this Act as specified in the Act have proved ineffective; and

(d) only to the extent such measures may be necessary,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10 | to prevent the commission of an offence under this Act or for the purpose of apprehending persons |

who have committed offences under this Act.

(3) Any such officer shall not use excessive force except in the exercise of private defence within the meaning of the Penal Code.

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| 15 | **49.** (1) The Inspector General of Police shall name and | Specialized |
| Anti- |
| establish a Specialized Anti-Terrorism Agency of the Sri |
| Terrorism |
| Lanka Police, which shall be assigned with the responsibility |
| Agency of |
| 20 | of preventing and countering terrorism, and investigating the | the Sri Lanka |
| commission of any offence under this Act (hereinafter referred | Police |
| to as the “Specialized Agency”). |

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), the Inspector General of Police shall be entitled to assign any investigation or any partly conducted investigation, into the

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| 25 | commission of an offence under this Act, to any other division or unit or to any police station, of the Sri Lanka Police. |

(3) It shall be the duty of the Specialized Agency, to ‒

(a) maintain the central database;

(b) maintain statistics relating to the commission of   
 offences under this Act;

38 **anti terrorism**   
 (c) conduct investigations to arrest, and proceedings relating thereto in respect of persons who commit offences under this Act;   
 (d) assess threat situations posed by terrorism, and issue 5 warnings to the general public; and   
 (e) conduct research into terrorism, anddevelop investigation techniques and strategies, best practices and standards.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10 | **50.** (1) Where any offence under this Act is committed | Appointment |
| of special |
| or upon receipt of an information of the commission of, |
| teams of |
| or preparation to commit an offence under this Act, the |
| investigators |
| Inspector General of Police may appoint a special team of |

investigators (hereinafter referred to as the “Investigation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15 | Team”) comprising of the following persons, to investigate into such offence, or to take necessary measures to prevent |

the same: -  
 (a) a police officer designated by name and rank who shall be the Head of the Investigation Team; (b) such number of other police officers designated 20 by name and rank who shall be the criminal investigators;   
 (c) such number of legal experts;   
 (d) such number of crime inspection officers;   
 (e) such number of forensic medical specialists;   
25 (f) such number of forensic psychologists;   
 (g) such number of forensic scientists, including scientists in serology, genetics, ballistics, explosives and chemicals;   
 (h) such number of finger print experts;

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(i) such number of experts in handwriting and suspected   
 documents;

(j) such number of computer and automated network   
 experts;

5 (k) such number of forensic auditors;

(l) such number of experts in analogy, digital technology   
 and mobile and satellite communication technology;

(m) such number of photographers and videographers;   
 and

10 (n) such number of other experts, that the Inspector General of Police may deem necessary.

(2) (a) The Inspector General of Police shall designate a police station to the Investigation Team constituted under subsection (1).

15 (b) The officer in charge of such police station shall, in addition to performing the general duties and functions assigned to such officer under this Act and other written law, assist the Investigation Team.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | (3) The members of the Investigation Team who are not police officers shall be deemed to be Peace Officers for |

the purpose of performing the functions assigned to such Investigation Team.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 25 | **51.** (1) A police officer not below the rank of a Deputy | Constitution |
| Inspector General of Police who is a member of an | of support |
| Investigation Team may with the concurrence of relevant | teams |
| authorities constitute support teams comprising of members |

of any armed force, doctors and other health care workers, emergency relief service providers, public servants and other necessary persons, to attend the following duties at any scene 30 of crime where an offence under this Act has been committed:-

40 **anti terrorism**   
 (a) to rescue and evacuate victims of any offence and other persons from the scene of crime;   
 (b) to provide emergency medical treatments;   
 (c) to recover dead bodies;   
5 (d) to douse fires;   
 (e) to deactivate explosives and other lethal and dangerous substances;   
 (f) to carry out controlled explosions, in order to deactivate lethal and dangerous substances; 10 (g) to remove debris;   
 (h) to create access routes; and   
 (i) to provide other emergency, humanitarian and security requirements and services.

|  |  |
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| 15 | (2) It shall be the duty of every person whose assistance has been sought under subsection (1), to provide such assistance, |

as may be required.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 20 | **52.** (1) For the purposes of this Act, a police officer not | Powers to |
| below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of police who has been | facilitate |
| investigations |
| authorized in writing by an officer in charge of a police |
| station to conduct an investigation in terms of this Act, shall |

be empowered to require any person who has been suspected of committing an offence under this Act or whose presence or assistance is required to conduct such investigation to – (a) be present for an interview;   
25 (b) answer questions put to him;   
 (c) provide information;   
 (d) give statements;

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(e) give statements on affidavit or oath:

Provided that, a statement on affidavit or oath   
shall only be obtained on an order of a Magistrate;

(f) tender any document or thing that may be in the

5 possession or control of such person;

(g) assist in conducting of an investigation;

(h) where the person is suspected for committing an   
offence under this Act, make himself available for a   
physical examination having due regard to gender

10 sensitivity and privacy of the person; and

(i) make himself available for taking of photographs,   
video recording and taking finger, palm or foot prints   
where the person is suspected for committing an   
offence under this Act.

15 (2) No person shall be bound to make a statement or produce an affidavit implicating or incriminating himself in the commission of an offence.

(3) Any person who is to be interviewed and whose statement is to be recorded, shall-

20 (a) be informed of his right to have access to an Attorney- at-Law of his choice to obtain legal advice prior to such interview; and

(b) be interviewed and the statement be recorded in a language understood by such person, and the services 25 of an interpreter be obtained where necessary:

Provided that, where the services of an interpreter are obtained, the interview shall be recorded with its translation, and be transcribed, and preserved for future verification.

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(4) A police officer acting under the provisions of this section shall inform the person prior to being interviewed, of his rights under this Act.

(5) Wherever possible, the interview shall be audio-visually

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5 | recorded. | Use of force to |
| **53.** Where the person in charge of any vehicle, vessel, |
| train or aircraft disobeys any order given by a police officer | stop a vessel |
| or vehicle |
| or any other person acting on his demand for halting any such |

vehicle, vessel, train or aircraft for the purposes of this Act, 10 such police officer or the person may use such force as may be necessary to halt such vehicle:

Provided however, any such force may be used only where all other means of halting the vehicle, vessel, train or aircraft have proved ineffective:

15 Provided further, any such officer shall not use excessive force except in the exercise of private defence within the meaning of the Penal Code.

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| 20 | **54.** (1) A police officer shall be entitled to take over the | Taking over the |
| control of any vehicle, vessel, train, aircraft or unmanned | control of any |
| vehicle, vessel, |
| aerial vehicle for the purpose of conducting an investigation |
| & c. |
| under this Act or for preventing the commission of an offence. |

(2) Such taking of control shall be promptly reported to a Magistrate.

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| 25 | **55.** (1)For the purpose of this Act, a police officer not | Suspension |
| below the rank of a Deputy Inspector General of Police may | or delaying |
| the taking |
| issue directions to- |
| off or sailing |
| (a) suspend or delay, the taking off of any aircraft, or | of vessel, |
| aircraft, & c. |
| the sailing of any vessel, for a period not exceeding |

forty- eight hours;

30 (b) land any such aircraft at a designated airport or at any other appropriate location; or

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(c) bring any vessel to any port or harbour or any other   
 appropriate location:

Provided however, no directive under paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) shall be issued, without prior approval obtained from 5 the Magistrate having jurisdiction in the area within which such aircraft or vessel is located.

Provided further, the officer issuing the direction shall, prior to the issuance of such directive satisfy himself of the necessity for issuing the same and shall issue such directive 10 subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the approval granted by the Magistrate.

(2) The Director General of Civil Aviation appointed under the Civil Aviation Authority Act, No.34 of 2002, and the

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15 | Commander of the Sri Lanka Air Force shall be prior informed of any such direction issued in respect of any aircraft for the |

purpose of obtaining air-defence clearance.

(3) Where the direction is issued in respect of a vessel of the Sri Lanka Navy, the Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy shall be given prior notice of such direction.

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| 20 | **56.** (1) An officer in charge of a police station shall be | Clinical |
| entitled to directly submit a suspect in custody or a victim | forensic |
| medical |
| of an offence to a Judicial Medical Officer for examination. |
| examinations |

(2) The report of the examination shall be directly

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| --- | --- |
| 25 | submitted by the Judicial Medical Officer to the relevant officer in charge of the police station, with a copy to the |

Magistrate before whom the suspect has been, or is to be produced.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 30 | **57.** (1) An officer in charge of a police station shall be | Directly |
| entitled to directly, submit any document, thing or article, | submitting |
| which he reasonably believes to be connected with the | items to |
| Government |
| commission of an offence under this Act, to the Government |
| Analyst |
| Analyst or to any other local or foreign expert for examination | or other |
| and analysis. | expert |

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(2) The report of the examination shall be directly submitted by the Government Analyst or other expert, to the officer in charge of the relevant police station with a copy to the Magistrate before whom the suspect has been, or is to be

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5 | produced. | Transfer of |
| **58.** (1) It shall be lawful for a police officer who conducts |
| 10 | material for |
| an investigation in respect an offence under this Act to submit |
| investigation |
| material for investigation to any other law enforcement |
| agency, if he is of the view that, there exists material indicative |
| of that offence, falling under the purview of the investigation |

competency of such other law enforcement agency has been committed.

(2) The law enforcement agency referred to in subsection (1), may include an agency of any other sovereign country.

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| 15 | **59.** (1) It shall be lawful for a police officer with the | Investigations |
| approval of the Inspector General of Police, and with the | outside Sri |
| Lanka |
| prior approval obtained from the relevant foreign country to |

conduct an investigation in terms of this Act outside Sri Lanka.

(2) It shall be lawful for a police officer authorized by the

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | Inspector General of Police, with the prior approval obtained from the relevant foreign country and the Government of Sri |

Lanka, to undertake and carry out a joint investigation into the commission of an offence under this Act, with a criminal investigation agency of any other country.

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| 25 | **60**. (1) Where a police officer not below the rank of a | Police |
| Senior Superintendent of Police receives reliable information | may issue |
| directives for |
| that an offence under this Act is committed or is likely to be |
| the protection |
| 30 | committed, he may issue any one or more of the following |
| of the |
| directives to the public, if he is of the opinion that there is a |
| public |
| clear and present danger, and that such directive is necessary |

for the purpose of protecting persons from harm or further harm, associated with such offence: -

(a) not to enter any specified area or premises;

(b) to leave a specified area or premises;

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(c) not to leave a specified area or premises and to   
 remain within such area or premises;

(d) not to travel on any road;

(e) not to transport anything or to provide transport to 5 anybody;

(f) to suspend the operation of a specified public   
 transport system;

(g) to remove a particular object, vehicle, vessel or   
 aircraft from any location;

10 (h) to require that a vehicle, vessel, ship or aircraft to remain in its present position;

(i) not to sail a vessel or ship into a specified area until   
 further notice is issued;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15 | (j) not to fly an aircraft out of, or into a specified air space; |

(k) not to congregate at any particular location;

(l) not to hold a particular meeting, rally or procession;   
 and

(m) not to engage in any specified activity:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | Provided however, no directive under paragraphs (a) to (m) shall be issued, without the prior approval obtained |

from a Magistrate, who shall prior to the issuance of such directive satisfy himself of the necessity for issuing the same and may make an order to issue such directive subject to such 25 conditions.

(2) The Human Rights Commission of SriLanka shall forthwith be informed of any directive issued under this section by the relevant officer who issued such directive or the

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Magistrate who granted prior approval for any such directive under paragraphs (a) to (m).

(3) Any such directive, may include exceptions to such directive, in order to meet with emergency situations and 5 humanitarian requirements of persons that may be affected by any such directive.

(4) Any such directive, shall be published in the *Gazette* and be given a wide publicity in the relevant area through others appropriate means.

10 (5) (a) The period of operation of any such directive shall not exceed, continuously for more than twenty-four hours at a time, and for a total period of more than seventy-two hours.

(b) Where the period of operation of any such directive

|  |  |
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| 15 | is required to be extended for more than twenty-four hours, such extended period shall commence after an interval of not |

less than twenty-four hours, after the expiration of the initial period of operation of the directive.

(6) The assistance of the members of any armed force may be obtained by the Inspector General of Police, with the

20 prior approval obtained from the Commander of the relevant armed force, to give effect to any directive under this section.

(7) For the purpose of giving effect to such directive, it shall be lawful for the police officers to cordon-off such area.

|  |  |
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| 25 | (8) During the period of operation of such directive and during a twenty-four hours interval between two periods of |

operation, it shall be lawful for any police officer or a member of any armed force authorized in that behalf –

(a) to stop, question and search any person found within   
 the area within which such directive is effective;

30 (b) to enter and search any premises; or

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(c) to stop any person who may attempt to enter into or,   
remain in the effective area of such directive and   
question and search such person or his belongings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | and property that may be taken in, or out of such area. |

(9) Any search conducted in terms of this section shall be carried out in a gender sensitive manner, with due respect to the dignity and privacy of the person being searched, and while ensuring that the search of a female shall only be carried out 10 by a female officer.

(10) It shall also be lawful for a police officer or a member of the armed forces authorized in that behalf to restrain and search any person who may act contrary to the directive.

(11) Any person, who willfully acts contrary to a directive 15 issued under this section, commits an offence, and shall upon conviction by a Magistrate be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding five thousand rupees or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(12) An offence under this section shall be deemed to be 20 a non-cognizable offence within the meaning of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, if the commission of such offence does not endanger the life of any person other than the offender.

PART V

|  |  |  |
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| 25 | **material for inVeStiGationS** | Obtaining |
| **61.** (1) The officer in charge of the relevant police |
| 30 | station shall be entitled to apply for an order from a | information |
| from banks, |
| Magistrate to require any bank, non-banking financial |
| financial |
| institution or designated non-finance business to provide |
| institutions, |
| following information and material to such officer, subject | & c |

to the provisions of the Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Financing Act,No.25 of 2005,Prevention of Money

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Laundering Act, No.5 of 2006 and the Financial Transactions Reporting Act, No. 6 of 2006 : -

(a) information relating to any financial service provided   
by such bank, institution or business, to any person;

5 (b) details of any financial transaction carried out by any person;

(c) details relating to bank accounts, deposits, remittances,   
and withdrawals and financial services provided by   
any such bank, institution or business;

10 (d) details relating to securing of financial services by any person;

(e) a certified statement of any account or other   
 information pertaining to any account or transaction:

Provided however, such police officer shall be entitled

15 to apply for an order under this section only if there exist reasonable grounds of suspicion against any person in the commission of an offence under this Act.

(2) Such Magistrate shall consider the application made by

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | such police officer, and make an order in terms of subsection (1), where it appears reasonable and necessary for conducting |

an investigation.

(3) The Magistrate shall maintain confidentiality in respect of the application and the proceedings pertaining to the same shall be held *in-camera* if requested by such police officer,

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| 25 | subject to Article 106 of the Constitution. | Obtaining |
| **62.** (1) The officer in charge of the relevant police station |
| information |
| shall be entitled to apply for an order from a Magistrate to |
| from service |
| require any telecommunication, satellite or digital service |
| providers |
| or data service provider, to provide information, including - |

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(a) information pertaining to services provided or being   
 provided by such service provider to any person;

(b) information pertaining to services enjoyed by any person to whom such services have been made 5 available;

(c) any information, data or document or record that   
may be stored, archived or otherwise kept, by such   
service provider; and

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10 | (d) information pertaining to the uploading or downloading of data or information, to or from any instrument |

through the service provided by such service   
provider:

Provided however, such police officer shall be entitled

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| --- | --- |
| 15 | to apply for an order under this section only if there exist reasonable grounds of suspicion against any person in the |

commission of an offence under this Act.

(2) Such Magistrate shall consider the application made by such police officer, and make an order in terms of subsection (1), where it appears reasonable and necessary for conducting 20 investigation.

(3) The Magistrate shall maintain confidentiality in respect of the application and the proceedings pertaining to the same shall be held *in-camera* subject to Article 106of the Constitution if requested by such police officer.

|  |  |  |
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| 25 | **63**. (1) The officer in charge of a police station shall be | Obtaining |
| information |
| entitled to apply for an order from a Magistrate to require |
| from |
| from the following officers any information or document for |
| Government |
| 30 | the purpose of conducting an investigation in respect of an | or statutory |
| offence under this Act:- | institutions |
| (a) the Secretary to any Ministry of a Minister; |

(b) Secretary General of the Parliament of Sri Lanka;

50 **anti terrorism**   
 (c) Commissioner General of Inland Revenue;   
 (d) Governor of the Central Bank;   
 (e) Head of the Department of Foreign Exchange; (f) Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit;   
5 (g) Director General of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka;   
 (h) Director General of Customs;   
 (i) Controller General of Immigration and Emigration;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10 | (j) Commissioner General for the Registration of Persons; |

(k) Controller General of Imports and Exports;   
(l) Registrar of Companies;   
(m) Commissioner General of Land;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15 | (n) Director General of the National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka; |

(o) the Registrar General   
(p) Commissioner General of Motor Traffic;   
(q) Director General of Telecommunications;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | (r) a Head of any Government department, statutory body or other Government institution; or |

(s) Chairperson of a Provincial Council or a Chairperson   
 or a Special Commissioner of a local authority.

(2) Such Magistrate shall consider the application made by such police officer, and make an order in terms of subsection 25 (1), where it appears reasonable and necessary for conducting investigation.

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(3) The Magistrate shall maintain confidentiality in respect of the application, and the proceedings pertaining to the same shall be held *in-camera* if requested by such police officer, subject to Article 106 of the Constitution.

5 PART VI

**maGiStrate to make orDerS to**   
**facilitate inVeStiGationS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 10 | **64.** (1) An officer in charge of a police station may for the | Magistrate to |
| purpose of conducting an investigation on an offence under | make orders |
| on application |
| this Act, make an application to a Magistrate for making |
| of an officer |
| orders to facilitate such investigation including- |
| in charge of a |

police station (a) restraining a suspect from travelling outside Sri   
 Lanka;

(b) by taking of blood, hair samples, swab and

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15 | biometrics including the finger impressions of a person; |

(c) by conducting of identification parades;

(d) forwarding productions to the Government   
Analyst, any other local or foreign expert or to

20 a government forensic medical specialist;

(e) conducting of relevant examinations and tests   
 by experts;

(f) freezing of bank accounts or freezing of other   
 financial deposits and accounts, subject to any

25 condition that may be imposed:

Provided that, the Magistrate may on his own motion or on an application made in that behalf, vary such order, or permit the use in good faith of the funds in such accounts by the holder 30 of any such account, for any legitimate purpose;

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(g) suspending or varying the provision of services   
 being provided by any service provider:

Provided that, the Magistrate may either on his own motion or on an application made in that behalf, 5 vary such order, enabling the use in good faith of such services by the recipient of any such service, for any legitimate purpose; or

(h) opening of safe boxes.

(2) The Magistrate shall, upon being satisfied that the 10 application is made in good faith and the assistance sought is reasonably necessary for the purpose of facilitating the conduct of investigations, make the order sought under subsection (1).

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| 15 | **65.** (1) For the purposes referred to in subsection (2), a | Magistrate |
| police officer not below the rank of a Superintendent of Police | to authorize |
| unlocking |
| may make an application to a Magistrate seeking for an order |
| data and |
| authorizing such officer - |
| information |

(a) to direct any person who provides locking or

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | encryption services pertaining to any communication or storage services or equipment of any data or |

information or other thing, to unlock or unencrypt   
the service or equipment and provide information   
contained therein to such police officer;

(b) to intercept, read, listen or record any postal 25 message or electronic mail or any telephone, voice, internet, or video conversation, or conference or any communication through any other medium; or

(c) to access any, analogue or digital data or information   
 exchange or transfer system:

30 Provided however, such police officer shall be entitled to apply for an order under this section only if there exist

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reasonable grounds of suspicion against any person in the commission of an offence under this Act.

(2) The purposes for which the Magistrate may make an order under subsection (1) shall be –

5 (a) to determine the identity of a person who has committed;

(b) to determine the location of a person who has   
 committed;

(c) to facilitate the conduct of an investigation into;

10 (d) to gather evidence against a person who has committed;

(e) to determine whether one or more persons are   
conspiring, planning, preparing or attempting to   
commit; or

15 (f) to take measures to prevent the commission of,

an offence under this Act.

(3) Such Magistrate shall, if he is satisfied that the application is made in good faith and making of such order is reasonably necessary for conducting investigations, issue

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 20 | such order. | Magistrate |
| **66.** (1) On an application made by an officer in charge of |
| 25 | a police station conducting an investigation into an offence | to record |
| statements |
| under this Act, the Magistrate to whom such application is |
| made, may question and record the statement of any suspect, |
| who is produced by such officer before the Magistrate. |

(2) The recording of such statement, shall be in compliance with the following conditions: -

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(a) the person shall be informed of his rights under this Act;

(b) the person shall be inquired in order to ascertain whether such person wishes to voluntarily answer the

5 questions put to him, and the Magistrate shall proceed to record a statement, only if he is satisfied that such person is voluntarily making such statement, without any promise, inducement or threat;

(c) a questionnaire shall be obtained from the officer 10 in charge of the police station for the purpose of questioning such person;

(d) the person shall be warned that in the event of criminal proceedings being instituted against him, the contents of the statement that he will make, may be used as 15 evidence against him;

(e) whatever statement such person wishes to give shall be recorded, in addition to answers given to the questions put to him;

(f) in situations where the person being interviewed, 20 does not understand the language spoken by the Magistrate, the services of an interpreter shall be obtained, in order to translate the questions and the answers into the languages understood by such person and the Magistrate; and

25 (g) a transcript of the interview and a video recording thereof shall be prepared and retained for future verification.

(3) Where the person who makes such statement is subsequently indicted for having committed an offence 30 under this Act, such statement shall, subject to the provisions specified in subsection (2) of section 78 and to the provisions of section 24 of the Evidence Ordinance be admissible in

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evidence against such person at proceeding in respect of such offence.

(4) Where the person who makes such statement is called by the Attorney General as a witness to testify against a person 5 who is indicted for having committed an offence under this Act, either the entirety of the statement or a part thereof, may be marked and produced in evidence, as part and parcel of the examination-in-chief of such person.

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| 10 | (5) (a) Where the suspect declines to make a statement to the Magistrate, the Magistrate shall communicate such fact |

to the relevant police officer.

(b) If at the time the suspect so declines to make a statement, he is in detention in terms of a detention order or, is in remand custody, he shall be returned to detention or

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 15 | remand custody, as the case may be. | Completion of |
| **67.** (1) When the investigation is completed, the officer |
| in charge of the relevant police station shall submit to the | investigations |

Magistrate, a report notifying the completion of investigations.

(2) A Detention Order under this Act shall not be issued 20 or extended in respect of a suspect in respect of whom the investigation has been completed.

(3) If at any time, an investigation in respect of any person arrested under this Act, is to resume, the Magistrate and the Human Rights Commission of SriLanka shall be informed of

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| 25 | such resumption and the completion of further investigation. | Notes of |
| **68.** The provisions of the Code of Criminal procedure Act |
| shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of submission of notes | investigations |
| of investigation to the Attorney General, upon completion of | to be |
| submitted to |
| the investigations. |
| the Attorney |

General

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PART VII

**inStitution of criminal proceeDinGS**

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| 5 | **69.** The Attorney General may indict and institute, | Attorney |
| General to |
| undertake or carry-on criminal proceedings in respect of an |
| institute |
| offence committed under this Act and an offence committed by |
| proceedings |
| such person under any other law in the course of committing |

such offence under this Act.

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| 10 | **70.** (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any | Suspension |
| other written law, where – | and |
| deferment of |
| (a) death or grievous hurt has not been caused to any | indictment |

person; or

(b) the security of the State and the people of Sri Lanka   
has not been seriously compromised or affected,

the Attorney General may, having due regard to the facts 15 specified in subsection (2), and subject to one or more conditions referred to in subsection (3), suspend and defer the institution of criminal proceedings against such person alleged to have committed an offence under this Act**,** for a period not exceeding twenty years.

20 (2) Where the Attorney General suspends and defers the institution of criminal proceedings under subsection (1), he shall pay due regard to-

(a) the State policy;

(b) the national interest and public interest;

25 (c) views of the Inspector General of Police;

(d) views of the victims of the offence; and

(e) the representations that may be made by the accused   
person or, on his behalf by his Attorney-at-Law.

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(3) Where the Attorney General decides in terms of subsection (1) to suspend and defer the institution of criminal proceedings against any person alleged to have committed an offence under this Act, he shall prefer an application to 5 the High Court, to obtain the sanction of such Court to the imposition of one or more of the following conditions on such person as consideration for the suspension and deferment of the institution of criminal proceedings against such person:-

(a) to publicly express remorse and apology before the 10 High Court, using a text issued by the Attorney General as instructed by the Court;

(b) to provide reparation to victims of the offence, as   
 specified by the Attorney General;

(c) to participate in a specified programme of 15 rehabilitation;

(d) to publicly undertake that such person refrains from   
 committing an offence under this Act;

(e) to engage in specified community or social service;   
 or

20 (f) to refrain from, committing any indictable offence or, breach of peace.

(4) The High Court shall, upon consideration of the application made by the Attorney General under subsection (3), order the person alleged to have committed the offence 25 to appear before the Court, and shall notify such person of the conditions imposed by the Court and be afforded an opportunity to be heard and consent to the conditions so imposed by the Court.

(5) If such person fulfils the conditions imposed under 30 subsection (4) during the period stipulated for fulfilling such conditions, the Attorney General shall not institute criminal

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proceedings against such person in respect of the offence alleged to have been committed.

(6) If the person fails without valid excuse to comply with such conditions, the Attorney General may with notice to the 5 suspect, institute criminal proceedings against such person after the lapse of the period given to the suspect to fulfil such conditions.

PART VIII

**trial**

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| 10 | **71**. Every person who commits an offence under this Act | Trial in |
| shall be triable without a preliminary inquiry, on indictment | the High |
| Court |
| by the Attorney General, before a Judge of the High Court, |

sitting without a jury:

Provided however, the Chief Justice may direct that the 15 trial shall be held before the High Court at Bar, in terms of the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, where-

(a) the Attorney General so requests the Chief Justice;

(b) the Chief Justice is of the opinion that the interests of Justice so demand; or

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| 20 | (c) the accused or an Attorney-at-Law on his behalf so | Detention until |
| applies. |
| **72.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act |
| 25 | or any other written law, the Secretary to the Ministry of the | conclusion of |
| trial |
| Minister of Defence may- |
| (a) if he is of opinion that it is necessary or expedient |
| that a person be kept in the custody of any authority, |

in the interest of national security and public order;   
and

(b) subject to such directions as may be given by the

30 High Court to ensure a fair trial of such person,

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make order, that such person be kept in custody of any authority, in such place, subject to such conditions as may be determined by the High Court having regard to such interests.

(2) Any order made under subsection (1) shall be 5 communicated to the High Court and to the Commissioner General of Prisons and it shall be the duty of such Commissioner General, to deliver the custody of such person to the authority specified in such Order and the provisions of the Prisons Ordinance (Chapter 54) shall cease to apply in

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| 10 | relation to the custody of such person. | Proceedings |
| **73.** The proceedings in respect of offences under this Act |
| 15 | shall be given priority over any other business of the court | in respect of |
| offences under |
| unless in the opinion of the court, special circumstances of |
| this Act to be |
| urgency in such other business prevents. |
| given priority |
| **74.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of | Trial |
| the Code of Criminal Procedure Act shall, *mutatis mutandis,* | procedure |

apply in respect of a trial under this Act.

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| 20 | **75.** (1) If at any time before the judgement is given by the | Withdrawal of |
| High Court against a person who has been indicted for having | Indictment |
| committed one or more offences under this Act, where any |
| charge in the indictment does not relate to- |

(a) causing death or grievous bodily injury to any   
 person;

(b) endangering the security of the State and the people 25 of Sri Lanka; or

(c) causing serious harm to property,

the Attorney General may, having due regard to the facts specified in subsection (2) and subject to one or more conditions referred to in subsection (3) with the permission of 30 the High Court, withdraw the indictment against the accused.

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(2) When the Attorney General withdraws the indictment under subsection (1), he shall pay due regard to the views of the victims of the offence and the representations that

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| 5 | may be made by the accused person or on his behalf by his Attorney-at-Law. |

(3) The Attorney General may impose one or more of the following conditions as specified in subsection (1):-

(a) to publicly express remorse and apology before

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| 10 | the High Court, using a text issued by the Attorney General; |

(b) to provide reparation to victims of the offence, as   
 specified by the Attorney General;

(c) to voluntarily participate in a specified programme   
 of rehabilitation;

15 (d) to publicly undertake that he refrains from committing an offence under this Act or under any other law;

(e) to engage in specified community or social service;   
 and

20 (f) to refrain from committing, any indictable offence, or, breach of peace.

(4) If such person fulfils the conditions imposed under subsection (3), during the period stipulated for fulfilling such conditions, the Attorney General shall not present a fresh 25 indictment against the accused thereafter on the same charges in the original indictment.

(5) If the accused fails without valid excuse to comply with the said conditions, the Attorney General may file a fresh indictment against the accused on the same charges in 30 the original indictment and proceed to prosecute the accused

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after the lapse of the period given for the accused to fulfil such conditions.

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| 5 | **76.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the | Grant of bail |
| provisions of this Act, if the trial against a person remanded | to persons in |
| remand or in |
| or detained under this Act has not commenced after the |
| detention |
| expiration of twelve months, from the date of arrest, the Court |

of Appeal may release such person on bail, upon an application in that behalf, made by the suspect or an Attorney- at-Law on his behalf:

10 Provided however, the High Court may in exceptional circumstances release the suspect on bail subject to such conditions as the High Court may deem fit:

Provided further, where the trial against an accused in

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| 15 | respect of whom the indictment has been forwarded and filed in the High Court, has not commenced after the expiration |

of twelve months from the date of such filing, the High Court may consider to release such person on bail, upon an application in that behalf made by the accused or an Attorney- at-Law on his behalf.

20 PART IX

**aDmiSSibilitY of StatementS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 25 | **77.** (1) A statement made by any person to a Magistrate | Statements |
| under this Act, shall be admissible against such person, | made to a |
| Magistrate |
| subject to the provisions specified in subsection (2), and to |
| the provisions of section 24 of the Evidence Ordinance. |

(2) (a) A person shall not be legally bound to make a statement or produce an affidavit implicating or incriminating himself in the commission of an offence.

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| 30 | (b) Any person who is to be interviewed and his statement is to be recorded, shall have the right, if he so wishes, to have |

access to, or communicate with, an Attorney-at-Law and obtain legal advice prior to such interview.

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(c) A Magistrate seeking to record a statement, shall inform the person being interviewed of his rights under this Act prior to such interview.

(d) If the person whose statement being recorded at the 5 interview does not understand the language being spoken, the services of an interpreter shall be obtained and the interview shall be conducted in a language that could be understood by such person.

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| 10 | (e) A translation of the statement shall be transcribed together with the corresponding questions, and kept for future |

verifications.

(f) The interview shall wherever possible be audio-visually recorded.

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| 15 | **78.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other | Pre-conditions |
| to be |
| written law, a statement made to a Magistrate by a person |
| satisfied for |
| accused of having committed an offence under this Act, shall |
| admissibility |
| not be admissible in evidence against such person, unless- |
| of a statement |

made to a

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| 20 | (a) the Magistrate who recorded such statement had | Magistrate |
| immediately prior to and soon after recording the |
| statement, cause the person who made the statement |

to be examined by a government forensic medical   
specialist; and

(b) the report of the forensic medical specialist is produced by the prosecuting authority, during 25 the *viore-dir*e inquiry, that may be conducted for verifying the admissibility of the statement.

PART X

**miScellaneouS orDerS**

|  |  |  |
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| 30 | **79.** (1) Notwithstanding anything in any other written | President |
| law, where the President has reasonable grounds to believe | to make |
| Proscription |

Orders.

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that any organization is engaged in any act amounting to an offence under this Act, or is acting in an unlawful manner prejudicial to the national security of Sri Lanka or any other country, the President may, by Order published in the *Gazett*e, 5 (hereinafter referred to as a “Proscription Order”) proscribe such organization in terms of the provisions of this Act.

(2) A Proscription Order may be made by the President, for giving effect to-

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| 10 | (a) a recommendation made by the Inspector General of Police; or |

(b) a request made by the Government of any foreign   
 country to the Government of Sri Lanka.

(3) A Proscription Order may include one or more of the following prohibitions:-

15 (a) prohibiting any person being a member of such organization;

(b) prohibiting such organization recruiting members   
 to such organization;

(c) prohibiting any person acting in furtherance of the 20 objectives of such organization;

(d) prohibiting the conducting of meetings, activities   
 and programmes by such organization;

(e) prohibiting the use or mobilization of bank   
accounts and other financial depositories of such

25 organization;

(f) prohibiting to enter into contracts;

(g) prohibiting the raising of funds and receiving grants   
 and bequests;

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(h) prohibiting the transferring of funds and assets of   
 the organization;

(i) prohibiting the lobbying and canvassing on behalf   
 of such organization; or

5 (j) prohibiting any person by publication of any material in furtherance of the objects of such organization.

(4) Any prohibition, restriction, suspension or sanction, issued under any other written law in respect of an

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| 10 | organization in respect of which a Proscription Order has been issued under subsection (1), shall continue to be in operation, |

without prejudice to any such Proscription Order issued under subsection (1).

(5) Immediately after publication of a Proscription Order

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| 15 | in the *Gazette*, it shall be communicated to the organization in respect of which such Proscription Order has been issued, |

and be immediately informed to the members and employees of such organization together with reasons therefor, by way of direct communication, whenever such communication is

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| 20 | possible. A public announcement of such Order shall also be made. |

(6) The President may, on an application made by a person or an organization aggrieved by a Proscription Order issued under subsection (1), review or cancel such Order after considering the representations of such person or organization.

25 (7) (a) A Proscription Order made under this section may be initially issued for a period of one year.

(b) On the lapse of the period of one year, the President may, taking into account, the contemporary and reliable

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| 30 | information and security needs, extend any such Order for further periods not exceeding one year at a time. |

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(8) Any person or organization aggrieved by a Proscription Order or any extension thereof, shall be entitled to make an application in terms of Article 126 of the Constitution.

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| 5 | **80.** (1) Where on a recommendation made by the Inspector | President |
| General of Police, the President has reasonable grounds | to make |
| Restriction |
| to believe, that any person has committed, or is making |
| Orders |
| preparation, to commit an offence under this Act, and the |

conduct of such person cannot be investigated without him being arrested, and if the President is of the opinion that it is 10 necessary to do so, the President may, after an application is made to the High Court by the Attorney-General and upon obtaining the sanction of such Court, make an order in writing (hereinafter referred to as a “Restriction Order”) imposing such restrictions, as shall be specified in that order, for a period 15 not exceeding one month.

(2) A Restriction Order made under subsection (1) may include restrictions on -

(a) the movement outside the place of residence;

(b) travelling overseas;

20 (c) travelling within Sri Lanka;

(d) travelling outside the normal route between the place   
 of residence and place of employment;

(e) the communication or association, or both, with   
 particular persons as shall be specified in the order; or

25 (f) engaging in certain specified activities that may facilitate the commission of an offence under this Act.

(3) Any such Restriction Order may require the suspect to report to any police station on a specified date, or at specified 30 periodic intervals.

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(4) A Restriction Order under subsection (1) shall be made, only if such Order-

(a) is necessary for the prevention of the commission   
 of an offence under this Act;

5 (b) is necessary to conduct investigations into the commission of an offence under this Act;

(c) is proportionate to the offence alleged to have   
committed or likely to be committed under this   
Act; and

10 (d) does not amount to an arbitrary deprivation of liberty or restriction on the exercise of fundamental rights, in terms of the provisions of the Constitution.

(5) The court shall cause any such Restriction Order to be served on the person in respect of whom such Order 15 was made, and require the Inspector General of Police to take necessary steps to enforce any such Order and ensure compliance therewith.

(6) (a) The Inspector General of Police shall cause, the

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| 20 | statements of the person in respect of whom the Restriction Order was made, to be recorded, within one week of making |

thereof and submit it to the President, enabling the President to determine whether the said Order shall be revoked or varied.

(b) Prior to recording the statement, the relevant person shall be informed of his rights under this Act, and be informed 25 of the grounds for making the Restriction Order.

(c) Prior to recording the statement, the relevant person shall be permitted if he so requests, to have access to, or confidential communication with, an Attorney-at-Law.

(d) The interview shall be conducted and the statement 30 shall be recorded in a language understood by the person

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being interviewed, with the services of an interpreter obtained where necessary:

Provided however, where the services of an interpreter is obtained, the interview shall be recorded with its translation, 5 and be transcribed, and preserved, for future verification.

(e) Wherever possible, the interview shall be audio-visually recorded.

(7) Any person who willfully acts in contravention of a Restriction Order made under this Act commits an offence,

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| 10 | and shall upon conviction by the High Court be liable to imprisonment which may extend to three years and to a fine |

not exceeding rupees three hundred thousand.

(8) The President shall review a Restriction Order made under this section in every month and extend the period 15 thereof, if necessary.

(9) The aggregate period of any Restriction Order shall not exceed six months.

(10) The person in respect of whom a Restriction Order or an extension thereof has been made, or an Attorney-at-Law 20 on his behalf, shall be entitled to make an application in terms of Article 126 of the Constitution.

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| 25 | **81.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Public | Curfew |
| Security Ordinance (Chapter 140), the President may, by | Orders |
| Order published in the *Gazette* (hereinafter referred to as a |
| “Curfew Order”), declare curfew under this Act, for a period |

specified in such Order, either to the entirety or part of Sri Lanka including its territorial waters and air space, for the purposes referred to in subsection (2) and subject to the provisions of subsection (3).

30 (2) The President may make a Curfew Order, for the purposes of -

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(a) controlling, detecting or investigating the occurrence   
of systematic and widespread committing of   
terrorism and other offences under this Act;

(b) for the protection of national or public security from

5 terrorism and other offences under this Act; or

(c) to prevent the systematic and widespread committing   
 of offences under this Act.

(3) (a)The maximum period of any Curfew Order shall not exceed twenty-four hours at a time.

10 (b)There shall be an interval of a minimum period of three hours between two periods of curfew.

(4) A Curfew Order may be made subject to such exemptions that may be imposed to provide for humanitarian needs.

15 (5) Any such Curfew Order, shall-

(a) specify categories of persons who are exempted   
 from the application of such Order;

(b) specify any person who may be authorized to issue   
 permits-

20 (i) exempting any person or persons from adhering to the Curfew Order; and

(ii) authorizing such person or persons to travel   
from one place to another, due to the need of

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| 25 | maintaining essential services and supplies, emergency requirements and humanitarian |

needs, as may be specified in such permit.

(6) Any person who needs to be fully or partly exempted from a Curfew Order, shall be entitled to make an application

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to the authority referred to in subsection (5) in the prescribed form.

(7) A person who willfully violates a Curfew Order commits an offence, and upon conviction by a Magistrate be 5 liable to a fine not exceeding rupees three hundred thousand.

(8) It shall be lawful for any arresting officer to use reasonable force, as may be necessary to ensure compliance with a Curfew Order, where all other means of ensuring compliance have proved ineffective.

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| 10 | **82.** (1) For the purposes of this Act, the President may, on | Prohibited |
| a recommendation made by the Inspector General of Police | Places |

or the Commander, respectively of, Army, Navy or Air Force or the Director General of Coast Guard, from time to time, by Order published in the *Gazette*, stipulate any place of public

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| 15 | use or any other location to be a prohibited place (hereinafter referred to as the “Prohibited Place”). |

(2) The Order under subsection (1) shall include prohibitions on the entry, and where necessary, may include prohibitions on taking photographs, video recording and 20 making sketches of the Prohibited Place.

(3) In addition to the publication of the Order in respect of a Prohibited Place in the *Gazette*, sufficient publicity through other means shall be given.

(4) Upon being declared a place as a Prohibited Place, 25 notices shall be placed at entry points to such place where possible, indicating that such place has been declared as a Prohibited Place.

(5) (a) The period of operation of an Order made under subsection (1) shall not exceed for a period of seven days.

30 (b) Where the period of operation of any such Order is required to be extended for a period exceeding seven days, an application in that behalf shall be made to obtain the

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prior approval from a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the area within which such Prohibited Place is situated. Such Magistrate shall prior to the issuance of such order satisfy himself of the necessity for issuing the same and may make 5 an order subject to any conditions.

(6) After making an Order under subsection (1), the officer in charge or any other person having lawful authority and control over the Prohibited Place as authorized by the President, shall specify the categories of persons who shall 10 be authorized to enter and remain in such place, and he shall also be entitled to authorize any other person to enter such place on conditions he may specify.

(7) Any person willfully contravenes an Order made under subsection (1) by entering or remaining in a prohibited place 15 without lawful authority commits an offence, and shall upon conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years and to a fine not exceeding rupees three hundred thousand or to both such fine and imprisonment.

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| 20 | (8) Any person willfully contravenes an Order made under subsection (2) by taking photographs, video recording and |

making sketches of a prohibited place commits an offence and shall upon conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to a fine, not exceeding rupees three hundred thousand.

25 (9) For the purpose of subsection (1), “place of public use” includes any highway and any other premises or place to which at the material time the public have access or are permitted to have access, whether as of right or otherwise.

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| 30 | **83.** (1) Any police officer may seize any movable property | Seizure, |
| used for committing or concerned in committing an offence, | confiscation |
| and forfeiture |
| or derived out of committing an offence under this Act. |
| of property |

(2) Any such seizure shall be valid for a period not exceeding three days of such seizure unless such seizure is

**anti terrorism**  71

affirmed and extended by a Magistrate on a request made by an officer in charge of a police station.

(3) Any seizure of property not so affirmed and extended as aforesaid shall cease to have effect after the expiry of the

5 said period of three days.

(4) Any seizure of property affirmed and extended under subsection (2) shall cease to be in force upon the expiry of ninety days of such affirmation unless authorized by a Magistrate, who may authorize the extension of the seizure 10 till the conclusion of the trial, relating to the relevant offence, upon a request made by the officer in charge of the police station.

(5) Where any person establishes his claim in respect of the property so seized, the Magistrate may release such property 15 to the person who establishes the claim, on conditions that may be imposed, if he is satisfied that-

(a) such person is the *bona-fide* owner, who has no   
knowledge of the commission of the offence; or

(b) such person had exercised due diligence to prevent 20 the commission of such offence.

(6) Where any person is convicted for an offence under this Act, the Court may make order subject to the determination of an appeal against such conviction that any property movable or immovable used in the commission of such offence or derived 25 out of such offence, be forfeited and confiscated to the State.

(7) Where any person has been acquitted of any charge under this Act, the Court may make order that any property used for or derived out of the commission of such offence be forfeited and confiscated to the State.

30 (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (6) and (7), any property so forfeited and confiscated to the State

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which have been used by any person to commit an offence under this Act without the knowledge or consent of the owner of such property, shall be discharged from such forfeiture and confiscation.

5 (9) Any person aggrieved by an order made under this section, may appeal to the Court of Appeal.

(10) The provisions of subsections (5), (6), (7) and (8) shall not apply to any instrument, weapon, ammunition or utensil used to commit an offence under this Act.

10 PART XI

**SentencinG GuiDelineS**

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| **84.** When determining the term of imprisonment to be imposed on a person convicted of having committed an | Aggravating factors |

offence under this Act, the following factors may be taken into 15 account as aggravating factors which warrant the imposing of an enhanced term of imprisonment, subject to the provisions of this Act: -

(a) the effect of the commission of the relevant offence on the territorial integrity or sovereignty of Sri 20 Lanka, or of any other sovereign country;

(b) the effect of the commission of the relevant offence   
 on the security or defence of Sri Lanka;

(c) the number of lives lost due to the commission of   
 the offence;

25 (d) whether the commission of the offence has given rise to public disquiet;

(e) injuries or harms inflicted on any person in or outside   
 Sri Lanka;

**anti terrorism**  73 (f) the impact on the victims of the offence and aggravated nature of the consequences undergone by them;   
 (g) the effect on the security of the general public; 5 (h) the impact on the peaceful co-existence of the people of Sri Lanka;   
 (i) financial and material loss caused to the Government of Sri Lanka and to the general public;

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| 10 | (j) financial and other resources required for the reparation and restoration of the damages caused; |

and   
(k) any other factor as may be determined by the court   
 to be taken into account as an aggravating factor.

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| 15 | **85.** When determining the term of imprisonment to be | Mitigating |
| imposed on a person convicted of having committed an | factors |

offence under this Act, the following factors may be taken into account as mitigating factors which warrant reduced term of imprisonment subject to the provisions of this Act:- (a) publicly denouncing terrorism;   
20 (b) expression of remorse;   
 (c) young age at the time of committing the offence; (d) old age at the time of sentencing;   
 (e) time period spent in detention or remand;   
 (f) coercion or duress under which the offence had been 25 committed;   
 (g) voluntarily providing of reparation by the accused to the victims of the offence;

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(h) public denouncement of violence, and other offences   
 in respect of which the accused was convicted ;

(i) genuine commitment towards the preservation and protection of the territorial integrity and sovereignty 5 of Sri Lanka;

(j) voluntarily participating in and completing a   
rehabilitation programme stipulated by the court; or

(k) any other factor as may be determined by the court   
 to be taken into account as a mitigating factor.

10 PART XII

**General**

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| 15 | **86.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Code | Certain |
| of Criminal Procedure Act, the provisions of section 306 of | provisions |
| of the Code |
| that Act shall not apply in the case of any person who pleads |
| of Criminal |
| or is found guilty, by or before any court for any offence |
| Procedure |
| under this Act. |
| Act not to |
| apply |
| **87.** The provisions of Children’s Ordinance (Chapter 23) |
| Children’s |
| shall apply to any child who is found guilty and convicted for | Ordinance to |
| 20 |
| having committed an offence under this Act. | apply |
| **88.** (1)An Order made or direction given under this Act | Protection of |
| may be questioned in proceedings as provided for under this | officers & c. |

Act.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1), no suit, prosecution or other proceeding, civil or criminal shall lie 25 against any officer or person for any act or thing in good faith done or purported to be done in pursuance or suppose pursuance of any Order made, or direction given under this Act.

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| **anti terrorism** | 75 | Offences by bodies of  persons |
| **89.** Where an offence under this Act is committed by a body of persons, if that body of persons is- | |

(a) a body corporate, every director and principal   
 executive officer of that body corporate;

5 (b) a firm, every partner of that firm; or

(c) a body unincorporated other than a firm, every   
officer of that body responsible for its management   
and control,

shall be deemed to be guilty of such offence:

10 Provided that, no such person shall be deemed to be guilty of such offence, if he proves that such offence has committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

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| 15 | **90.** (1) The President may make regulations, for the | Regulations |
| purpose of carrying out or giving effect to the purposes, |

principles and provisions of this Act.

(2) Every regulation made by the President shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or on such later date as may be 20 specified in the regulation.

(3) Every regulation made by the President shall within thirty days of its publication in the *Gazette* be brought before Parliament for its approval.

(4) Any regulation not so approved shall be deemed to 25 be rescinded from the date of such disapproval but without prejudice to anything duly done thereunder.

(5) Notification of the date on which a regulation is deemed to be rescinded shall be published in the *Gazette.*

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| 76 | **anti terrorism** | Directions |
| **91.** (1) The President may, from time to time, issue |

directions subject to the provisions of this Act, which shall apply to police officers, members of armed forces and coast

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| 5 | guard officers pertaining to the manner in which the provisions of this Act shall be enforced. |

(2) The directions issued under subsection (1), shall be solely for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Act, in an efficacious manner and, be in compliance with the human rights norms and standards recognized by law.

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| 10 | (3) Every such direction shall be published in the *Gazette.* | Rehabilitation |
| **92.** (1) The President may make regulations to implement |
| rehabilitation programmes for the persons in respect of whom | programmes |

the Attorney General has recommended suspension and

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| 15 | deferment of criminal proceedings under section 70, or the Attorney General has withdrawn indictments under section 76. |

(2) Regulations under subsection (1) shall include-

(a) objectives to be achieved by the conduct of the   
 programme;

(b) nature of rehabilitation activities;

20 (c) nature of the training to be provided;

(d) the authority or authorities who conduct the   
 rehabilitation or training;

(e) the location of the programme;

(f) the duration of the programme; and

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| 25 | (g) any other matter relating to the implementation of any rehabilitation programme under this section. |

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| 5 | **anti terrorism** | 77 | This Act to |
| **93.** The provisions of this Act shall have effect | |
| notwithstanding anything contained in any other written law | | prevail over |
| other written |
| and in the event of any conflict or inconsistency between | |
| law |
| the provisions of this Act and such other written law, the | |
| provisions of this Act shall prevail. | | Judicial |
| **94.** Nothing contained in this Act shall be read and | |
| construed as preventing any person aggrieved by any decision, | | review |

determination, order or direction, made by any relevant authority under this Act, seeking relief through judicial review, 10 in terms of the provisions of the Constitution.

PART XIII

**repealS anD tranSitional proViSionS**

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| 15 | **95.** The Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) | Repeal of |
| Act, No.48 of |
| Act, No.48 of 1979 is hereby repealed. |
| 1979 |
| **96.** Notwithstanding the repeal of the Prevention of | Transitional |
| Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act, No.48 of 1979 | provisions |

(hereinafter referred to as the “repealed Act”) -

(a) any investigation, trial, appeal or application conducted, held, preferred or made under the 20 repealed Act and pending decision, in any court or with other authority, on the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act shall be disposed of, continued, held or entertained, as nearly as may be practicable under the provisions 25 of the repealed Act including the provisions pertaining to procedure and evidence;

(b) any person suspected of having committed or concerned in committing an offence under the repealed Act prior to the date of commencement of 30 this Act, in respect of whom the proceedings have not been instituted as at the date of commencement of this Act, shall be prosecuted against, under

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the provisions of the repealed Act and the legal   
proceedings into any such offence shall be held   
by the relevant authority, as nearly as may be   
practicable, under the provisions of this Act:

5 Provided however, prior to filing the indictment for any such offence, the Attorney General shall consider the possibility to suspend or defer criminal proceedings under section 70 of this Act;

(c) all sentences passed and any decree or order 10 entered or made in any criminal proceeding under the repealed Act, immediately prior to the date of commencement of this Act, shall be deemed, respectively to have been passed, entered or made

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| 15 | under the corresponding provisions of this Act and be enforced and given effect accordingly; and |

(d) all regulations and orders made under the provisions   
of the repealed Act, prior to the date of commencement   
of this Act, including but not limited to regulations   
proscribing any organization and including the

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| 20 | regulations published in *Gazette* Extraordinary No. 1721/2 of August 29, 2011, shall be deemed, to have |

been made under the corresponding provisions of   
this Act and be enforced and given effect accordingly.

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| 25 | **97.** (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires- | Interpretation |
| “aircraft” includes a helicopter; |

“armed forces” means Sri Lanka Army established   
under the Army Act (Chapter 357), Sri Lanka   
Navy established under the Navy Act (Chapter

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| 30 | 358) and Sri Lanka Air Force established under the Air Force Act (Chapter 359); |

“coast guard officers” shall have the same meaning   
assigned to such expression under the Department   
of Coast Guard Act, No.41 of 2009;

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“Code of Criminal Procedure Act” means the Code   
 of Criminal Procedure Act, No.15 of 1979;

“Commissioner General of Land” means the

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| 5 | Commissioner General appointed under section 3 of the Land Development Ordinance |

(Chapter 464);

“Commissioner General of Motor Traffic” means   
the Commissioner General appointed under

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| 10 | section 204 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203); |

“Commissioner General for the Registration of   
Persons” means the Commissioner General   
appointed under section 3 of the Registration   
of Persons Act, No.32 of 1968;

15 “confidential information” means-

(a) any information, the dissemination of which is   
likely to have an adverse impact on the security   
and defence of Sri Lanka;

(b) any information not in the public domain, the 20 dissemination of which is likely to have an adverse effect on national security or public security, relating to-

(i) the persons of the police, armed forces   
 or Department of Coast Guard;

25 (ii) the functions, movements or whereabouts of a specified person;

(iii) a prohibited place or an approved place   
 of detention;

(iv) the conduct of investigations into 30 offences under this Act, findings of

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such investigations, persons arrested   
and detained and identity of officers   
conducting investigations;

(c) any information relating to the police or the 5 armed forces, on the conduct of any official activity, including any law enforcement or military measure which is intended to be carried out or is being carried out, or has been carried out;

10 (d) any secret code, word, password or encryption detail relating to national security and defence;

“Controller General of Immigration and Emigration” means the Controller General appointed under section 4 of the Immigrants and Emigrants Act 15 (Chapter 351);

“Controller General of Imports and Exports” means   
the Controller General appointed under section   
2 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,   
No.1 of 1969;

20 “curfew” means the prohibition of the presence, movement in or through a place of public use places including any road, railway, tunnel, territorial sea, stream, park, market, seashore and recreation area;

25 “designated non-finance business” has the same meaning assigned to that expression in the Financial Transaction Reporting Act, No.6 of 2006;

“Director General of Customs” means the Director 30 General appointed under section 2 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235);

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“Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit” means   
the Head of the Financial Intelligence Unit   
designated under the Financial Transaction   
Reporting Act, No.6 of 2006;

5“Director General of the National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka” means the Director General appointed under section 2 of the Intellectual Property Act, No.36 of 2003;

“Director General of the Securities and Exchange 10 Commission of Sri Lanka” means the Director General appointed under section 19 of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Act, No.19 of 2021;

“Director General of Telecommunications” means

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| 15 | the Director General appointed under section 22B of the Sri Lanka Telecommunication Act, |

No.25 of 1991;

“Evidence Ordinance” means the Evidence   
 Ordinance (Chapter 14);

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| 20 | “gratification” shall have the same meaning assigned to such expression in the Anti-Corruption Act, |

No.9 of 2023;

“Head of the Department of Foreign Exchange” means the Head of the Department of Foreign 25 Exchange within the meaning of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017;

“Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka” means the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka established under the Human Rights 30 Commission of Sri Lanka Act, No.21 of 1996;

“non-banking financial institution” shall have the   
same meaning assigned to such expression

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under the Financial Transaction Reporting   
Act, No. 6 of 2006;

“Penal Code” means the Penal Code (Chapter 19);

“person” means an individual, group of individuals, 5 an association, organization or body of persons;

“Police Ordinance” means the Police Ordinance   
 (Chapter 53);

“proscribed terrorist organization” includes any 10 organization proscribed under a regulation made in terms of the United Nations Act, No.45 of 1968;

“Registrar of Companies” means the Registrar of Companies appointed under section 471 of 15 the Companies Act, No. 07 of 2007;

“territory of the Republic of Sri Lanka” shall have   
the same meaning assigned to that expression   
under the Constitution;

“unmanned aerial vehicle” means a mechanized 20 or automated flying object, which does not contain an ability to navigate such object by a human being from within the object, and which may or may not be navigated or controlled remotely;

25 “victim” in relation to an offence means a person including a child victim who has suffered any injury, harm, impairment or disability whether physical or mental, emotional, economic or other loss, as a result of an act or omission 30 which constitutes an alleged –

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(a) offence under this Act; or

(b) offence under any other written law which has   
been committed in the course of committing an   
offence under this Act,

5 and includes a person who suffers harm as a result of intervening to assist such a person or to prevent the commission of an offence, and the parent or guardian of a child victim of an offence and any member of the family and next of kin of such person, dependents 10 and any other person of significant importance to that person;

“witness” means any person who-

(a) has provided information or lodged a complaint

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| 15 | with any law enforcement officer and based upon such information or complaint, an investigation or |

inquiry could be commenced or has commenced or   
is likely to commence, in connection with the alleged   
commission of an offence under this Act;

(b) in the course of an investigation or inquiry 20 conducted by a law enforcement officer, into the alleged commission of an offence under this Act has provided information or made a statement containing an account of matters in respect of which such person had been questioned;

25 (c) has provided an affidavit or submitted a statement in support of a complaint made or any legal action instituted by a victim of an offence under this Act;

(d) has provided information or any communication to   
 a Commission;

30 (e) has reasonable grounds to believe that he shall be summoned by a court or a Commission to make a

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statement or testify in any judicial or quasi-judicial   
proceedings against a person, based on information   
provided or a statement made to a law enforcement   
officer or a Commission by such person;

5 (f) has received summons from a court or a Commission to make a statement, testify or produce any document, report or object in any judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding before such court or Commission; or

(g) being a public officer, has investigated into the 10 alleged commission of an offence under this Act,

and includes a victim of an offence, a child witness, the parent or guardian of a child witness, a family member or dependent of such witness or any other person of significant importance to such person, an expert witness and a person who has been 15 summoned to testify before a court or a Commission on behalf of a person suspected or accused of the alleged commission of an offence under this Act.

(2) Any word or expression used in this Act and defined in the Penal Code or the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, but 20 not defined in this Act shall have the same meaning assigned to such word or expression by the Penal Code or the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, respectively.

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| **98.** 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

**anti terrorism**  85 [section 26(1)] FIRST SCHEDULE   
 **Notification of the arrest and custody**   
1. Name of the person arrested:-  
2. Date, time and place of arrest:-  
3. Reasons for the arrest:-  
4. Location of the proposed custody or detention of the person arrested:-  
5. Name, identification number and rank of the arresting officer:-  
6. Any other information as may be necessary for the next of kin of person arrested, to have reasonable access to him:-  
7. Identity of the person to whom the notification is being issued:-  
8. Date and place of issue of the notification:-  
9. Name, designation and signature of the officer issuing the notification:-

[section 26(4)] SECOND SCHEDULE   
 **Notification of the arrest to the Human Rights**  **commission of Sri lanka**   
1. Name of the person arrested:-  
2. Date, time and place of arrest:-

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3. Reasons for the arrest:-  
4. Location of the place at which the suspect is being held in detention:-  
5. Name, identification number and rank of the arresting officer:-  
6. Name and designation of the officer in charge of the place of detention and his contact details:-   
7. Any other information as may be necessary to enable the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to have prompt access to the detainee:-

[section 26(4)] THIRD SCHEDULE   
**Notification of the arrest to the Inspector General of**  **police**   
1. Name of the person arrested:-  
2. Date, time and place of arrest:-  
3. Reasons for the arrest:-  
4. Location of the place at which the suspect is being held in detention:-  
5. Name, identification number and rank of the arresting officer:-  
6. Name and designation of the officer in charge of the place of detention and his contact details:-

**anti terrorism**  87 [section 31(1)(b)] FOURTH SCHEDULE   
 **Detention order**   
1. Number of the Detention Order:-  
2. Name and designation of the officer issuing the Detention Order:-  
3. Date and place of issuing the Detention Order:-  
4. Identity of the officer who requested the issue of the Detention Order and the date of the request and where applicable the reference number:-  
5. Name of the person (suspect) in respect of whom the detention is being authorized:-  
6. The place of authorized detention:-  
7. The period of detention:-  
8. The purpose for which detention of the suspect has been authorized:-  
9. Conditions of detention:-

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