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

*————————*

**CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**   
**(AMENDMENT)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No. 15 of 1979**

*————————*

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

(Published in the Gazette on July 19, 2024)

*Ordered by Parliament to be printed*

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**[Bill No. 286]**

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*STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT*

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

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

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

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

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

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| *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)* | 1 |

L.D.—O. 18/2021

AN ACTTOAMENDTHE CODEOF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE   
ACT, NO. 15 OF 1979

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

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Code of Criminal Short title Procedure (Amendment) Act, No. of 2024.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5 | **2.** Section 11 of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No. | | | Amendment |
| 10 | 15 of 1979 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal | | | of section 11 |
| of Act, No. |
| enactment”) is hereby amended as follows: - | | | 15 of 1979 |
| (1) | in paragraph (*a*) thereof- | |
| (*a*) | | by the substitution in sub-paragraph (i), for |
| the words “one thousand five hundred | | |

rupees,”, of the words “one million rupees,”;

(*b*) by the substitution in sub-paragraph (ii), for the words “one thousand five hundred rupees,”, of the words “one million rupees,”; 15 and

(2) in sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (*b*) thereof, by the substitution for the words “one thousand five hundred rupees.”, of the words “one million rupees.”.

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| 5 | 2 | *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)* | Amendment |
| **3.** Section 14 of the principal enactment is hereby | |
| amended in paragraph (*b*) thereof, by the substitution for the | | of section |
| 14 of the |
| words “one thousand five hundred rupees;”, of the words | |
| principal |
| “one million rupees;”. | | enactment |
| **4.** Section 291 of the principal enactment is hereby | | Amendment |
| amended as follows: - | | of section |
| 291 of the |

principal

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| (1) | in subsection (1) - | | enactment |
| (*a*) | by the substitution in paragraph (*c*) thereof, |

for the words “ten rupees,”, of the words “three

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 10 | (*b*) | thousand rupees,”; |
| in paragraph (*f*) thereof, by the repeal of sub- |

paragraphs (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) and the   
substitution therefor of the following sub-  
paragraphs: -

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| 15 | “(i) | for a term of seven days where the |

amount of the fine exceeds three   
thousand rupees but does not exceed   
ten thousand rupees;

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| 20 | (ii) | for any term not exceeding fourteen |
| days where the amount of the fine |

exceeds ten thousand rupees but does   
not exceed twenty thousand rupees;

(iii) for any term not exceeding three months where the amount of the fine 25 exceeds twenty thousand rupees but does not exceed fifty thousand rupees;

*Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*  3

(iv) for any term not exceeding six months   
 where the amount of the fine exceeds   
 fifty thousand rupees;”;

(2) in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for the 5 words “two hundred and fifty rupees”, of the words “two thousand rupees”.

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| 10 | **5.** Section 388 of the principal enactment is hereby | Amendment |
| amended in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for | of section |
| 388 of the |
| the words from “if a District Court,” to the end of that | principal |
| enactment |
| subsection, of the words “to a fine not exceeding fifty |

thousand rupees and in default of payment to simple imprisonment which may extend to six months, unless such fine be sooner paid.”.

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| 15 | **6.** The First Schedule of the principal enactment is hereby | Amendment |
| amended in the Seventh (7) Column thereof, by the | of the First |
| Schedule to |
| substitution, for the words specified in Column II of the | the principal |
| enactment |

Schedule hereto, of the words specified in the corresponding entry in Column III of the Schedule hereto, for the purpose of increasing penaltiesin respect of the offences under the 20 Penal Code (Chapter 19) specified in the corresponding entry in Column I of the Schedule hereto.

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| **7.** 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

4 *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*

**SCHEDULE**  [section 6]

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Column I* | *Column II* | *Column III* |
| *Section under the Penal Code and the Offence* | *Words Deleted* | *Words substituted* |
| 137 Wearing the dress or carrying any  token used by  sailor, soldier or airman with intent that it may be  believed that he is such sailor, soldier or airman | one hundred rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 151 | Owner or occupier of land not giving information of riot, &c. | | one thousand rupees | ten thousand rupees |
| 157 Committing affray | one hundred rupees | ten thousand rupees |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 165 | Misconduct by  public servant in  Posts or  Telecommunications Department | | fifty  rupees | twenty  thousand rupees |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 169 | Wearing garb or  carrying token used by public servant  with fraudulent intent | | one hundred rupees | twenty five thousand  rupees |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 169E | Bribery in  connection with an election |   If bribery by treating | five hundred rupees  two hundred rupees | one million rupees  seven hundred fifty thousand rupees |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 169F | Undue influence at an election |   Personation at an election | five hundred rupees  three hundred rupees | one hundred  thousand rupees  one hundred  thousand rupees |
| 169G False statement in  connection with an  election | same | Fine |

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

6 *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*

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

*Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*  7

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| 177 Being legally   bound to state truth, and refusing to   answer questions | same | Simple  imprisonment  for a term which may extend to  six months, or  fine which may extend to fifty  thousand  rupees, or both |
| 178 Refusing to sign a statement made to a public servant when legally   required to do so | one hundred rupees | twenty thousand rupees |
| 180 Giving false   information to a public servant in order to cause him to use his lawful power to the injury or annoyance of any person | one thousand rupees | one hundred thousand  rupees |
| 181 Resistance to the taking of property by the lawful   authority of a   public servant | one hundred rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 182 | Obstructing  sale of property offered for sale by authority of a public servant | | imprisonment of either  description  for one  month, or  fine of one  hundred  rupees | Simple  imprisonment for a term  which may  extend to six months, or  with fine  which may  extend to  twenty  thousand  rupees |

8 *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 183 | Obstructing public servant in discharge of his public  functions | | imprisonment of either  description  for three  months, or  fine of one  hundred  rupees | Simple  imprisonment for a term  which may  extend to six months, or  with fine  which may  extend to  twenty five  thousand  rupees |
| 184 Omission to assist public servant  when bound by law to give such assistance  Willfully  neglecting to aid  a public servant  who demands aid  in the execution  of process, the  prevention of  offences, &c. | one month, or fine of  fifty rupees  one hundred rupees | three months, or with fine  which may  extend to  twenty  thousand  rupees  one hundred thousand  rupees |
| 185 Disobedience to an order lawfully  promulgated by a public servant, if such disobedience causes obstruction, annoyance, or  injury to persons lawfully employed | one month or fine of  fifty rupees | three months, or with fine  which may  extend to  twenty  thousand  rupees |

*Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*  9

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| If such  disobedience causes danger to human life, health, or  safety, &c. | imprisonment of either  description  for six  months, or  fine of one  hundred  rupees | Simple  imprisonment  for a term  which may  extend to six  months, or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand  rupees |
| 219A Resistance or   obstruction to   lawful apprehension under a civil   process | one hundred rupees | twenty thousand rupees |
| 223 Intentional insult or interruption to a public servant   sitting in any   stage of a   judicial proceeding | one thousand rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 265 Adulterating food or drink intended for sale so as to make the same   noxious | one hundred rupees | one hundred thousand  rupees |
| 266 Selling any food or same drink as food and   drink, knowing   the same to be   noxious | same | imprisonment of either  description for a term which may extend to six  months, or fine which may  extend to one  hundred  thousand  rupees, or both |
| 267 Adulterating any drug or medical preparation intended for sale, so as to lessen its efficacy or to change its   operation, or to   make it noxious | same | imprisonment of either  description for a term which may extend to six  months, or fine which may  extend to one  hundred  thousand  rupees, or both |

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| nt  e  d  t  ng  nd  on  o  ss  not  the  of  o  ss  d | 10 | *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)* |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 268 Offering for sale, or issuing from a dispensary, any  drug or medical preparation known to have been  adulterated | same | imprisonment of either  description for a term which may extend to six  months, or fine which may  extend to one  hundred  thousand  rupees, or both | | 269 Knowingly selling, same or issuing from a  dispensary any  drug or medical  preparation as a  different drug or  medical preparation | same | imprisonment of either  description for a term which may extend to six  months, or fine which may  extend to one  hundred  thousand  rupees, or both | | 270 Defiling the water  of a public spring  or reservoir | imprisonment of either  description  for three  months, or  fine of fifty  rupees or  both | Simple  imprisonment for a term  which may  extend to six  months, or  with fine  which may  extend to one  hundred  thousand  rupees, or both | | 271 Making atmosphere  noxious to health | one hundred rupees | one hundred  thousand rupees | | 272 Driving or riding on a public way so rashly or negligently as to endanger  human life, &c. | imprisonment of either  description  for six  months, or  fine of one  hundred  rupees, or  both | fine not less than twenty five  thousand rupees, and not  exceeding fifty thousand rupees, and on a second conviction to a  fine not less than thirty thousand | | |

*Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*  11

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|  |  | rupees and not exceeding  seventy five  thousand  rupees and the suspension of  his driving  licence, and on a third or  subsequent  conviction to a fine not less  than seventy  five thousand  rupees or to  rigorous  imprisonment for a term not exceeding six  months or to  both such fine and  imprisonment and the  cancellation of his driving  licence. |
| 273 Navigating any   vessel so rashly or negligently as to endanger human life, &c. | one hundred rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 275 Conveying for hire any person by   water in a vessel in such a state,   or so loaded, as   to endanger his   life | one hundred rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 276 Causing danger, obstruction, or   injury in any   public way or   line of navigation | fine of one hundred  rupees | fine which  may extend to fifty thousand rupees |

12 *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*

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| 277 Dealing with any poisonous  substance so as to endanger human life, &c. | one hundred rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 278 Dealing with fire, or any combustible matter, so as to  endanger human life, &c. | same | imprisonment  of either  description for a term which  may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to fifty thousand  rupees, or both |
| 279 Dealing with any explosive substance so as to endanger human life, &c. | same | imprisonment  of either  description for a term which  may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to  seventy five  thousand  rupees, or both |
| 280 Dealing with any machinery so as to endanger human life, &c. | same | imprisonment  of either  description for a term which  may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to fifty thousand  rupees, or both |
| 281 A person omitting to guard against  probable danger to human life by the fall of any building over which he has a right entitling him to pull it down or repair it | same | imprisonment  of either  description for a term which  may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to fifty thousand  rupees, or both |

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| 282 A person omitting to take order with any animal in his possession, so as to guard against danger to human life, or of grievous hurt, from such   animal | same | imprisonment of either  description for a term which  may extend to six months, or fine which  may extend to twenty  thousand  rupees, or both |
| 283 Committing a  public nuisance | fifty rupees | twenty  thousand rupees |
| 314 Voluntarily causing  hurt | one thousand rupees | fifty  thousand rupees |
| 325 Voluntarily causing hurt on grave and sudden provocation, not intending to   hurt any other   than the person who gave the provocation | fifty rupees | twenty  thousand rupees |
| 326 Causing grievous   hurt on grave and sudden provocation, not intending to hurt any other than the person who gave the provocation | two thousand rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 327 Doing any act rashly or negligently which endangers human life or the personal safety of others | one hundred rupees | one hundred  thousand rupees |
| 328 Causing hurt by   doing an act rashly or negligently which endangers human life, &c. | one hundred rupees | one hundred  thousand rupees |

14 *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*

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| 329 Causing grievous hurt by doing an act rashly or  negligently which endangers human life, &c. | one thousand rupees | one hundred fifty thousand rupees |
| 332 Wrongfully  restraining any  person | fifty rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 333 Wrongfully  confining any  person | one thousand rupees | five hundred  thousand rupees |
| 343 Assault or use of criminal force;  otherwise than on grave provocation | fifty rupees | fifty thousand rupees |
| 348 Assault or use of criminal force in attempt wrongfully to confine a person | one thousand rupees | five hundred thousand  rupees |
| 349 Assault or use of criminal force on grave and sudden provocation | fifty rupees | twenty  thousand rupees |
| 433 Criminal trespass | one hundred rupees | one hundred  thousand rupees |
| 434 House trespass | one thousand rupees | one hundred fifty thousand rupees |

*Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)*  15

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| 450 Being found in a building for   unlawful purpose | fifty rupees | twenty  thousand rupees |
| 451 Loitering about  by reputed thief | same | Imprisonment of either  description for a term which  may extend to three months,  or fine which  may extend to twenty  thousand  rupees, or both |

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| 16 | *Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)* |

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