



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

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**EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS  
AND CHILDREN (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 2 OF 2021**

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**[Certified on 18th of January, 2021]**

*Printed on the Order of Government*

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*Employment of Women, Young Persons and  
Children (Amendment) Act, No. 2 of 2021*

[Certified on 18th of January, 2021]

L.D.—O. 33/2018

AN ACT TO AMEND THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS  
AND CHILDREN ACT, No. 47 OF 1956

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

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| <p><b>1.</b> This Act may be cited as the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Act, No. 2 of 2021.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Section 3 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, No. 47 of 1956 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended as follows:-</p> <p>(1) in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for the words “male young persons who have attained the age of sixteen years but are under the age of eighteen years ” of the words “male young persons”;</p> <p>(2) in subsection (4) thereof, by the substitution for the words “persons between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years” of the words “young persons”; and</p> <p>(3) in subsection (5) thereof, by the substitution for the words “persons between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years” of the words “young persons,”.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Section 4 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “ a person who has attained the age of sixteen years but is under the age of eighteen years ” of the words “a young person”.</p> | <p>Short title</p> <p>Amendment of<br/>section 3 of Act,<br/>No. 47 of 1956</p> <p>Amendment of<br/>section 4 of the<br/>principal<br/>enactment</p> |
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Amendment of  
section 9 of the  
principal  
enactment

**4.** Section 9 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:-

(1) in subsection (1) of that section-

(a) in paragraph (a) thereof, by the substitution for the words “fifteen years” of the words “sixteen years”; and

(b) in paragraph (b) thereof, by the substitution for the words “fifteen years” of the words “sixteen years”;

(2) in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “fifteen years” of the words “sixteen years”; and

(3) by the repeal of subsection (3) of that section.

Repeal of  
section 10 of the  
principal  
enactment

**5.** Section 10 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed.

Amendment of  
section 20 of the  
principal  
enactment

**6.** Section 20 of the principal enactment is amended as follows:-

(1) in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “No child or young person who has not attained the age of 16 years” of the words “No child”;

(2) in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “No person who has attained the age of fourteen years but is under the age of eighteen years” of the words “No young person”; and

(3) in subsection (4) thereof, by the substitution for the words “a person who has attained the age of sixteen years but is under the age of eighteen years” of the words “a young person”.

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7. Section 34 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:-  
(1) in subsection (1) thereof-

Amendment of  
section 34 of the  
principal  
enactment

- (a) by the substitution for the definition of the expression “child” of the following definition:-

“child” means a person who is under the age of sixteen years;”;

- (b) in paragraph (c) of the definition of the expression “industrial undertaking” by the substitution for the words “fourteen years” of the words “sixteen years”;

- (c) by the substitution for the definition of the expression “night” of the following definition:-

“night”—

- (a) with reference to the employment of women, means at least eleven consecutive hours including the period between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.; and
- (b) with reference to the employment of persons under the age of eighteen years, means at least twelve consecutive hours which shall end not later than 6 a.m. and which-
- (i) in the case of such of those persons as have attained the age of sixteen years, shall, subject to the provisions of subparagraph (ii), include at least seven consecutive hours falling between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; and

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(ii) in the case of such of those persons as have attained the age of sixteen years and are undergoing vocational training in the baking industry or are apprentices in that industry, shall, if work during the night in that industry prohibited for all workers, include the seven consecutive hours falling between 9 p.m. and 4 a.m., instead of the period of at least seven consecutive hours referred to in sub-paragraph (i) if the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette* so directs;”;

(d) by the substitution for the definition of the expression “young person” of the following definition:-

“young person” means a person who has attained the age of sixteen years but is under the age of eighteen years.”; and

(2) in paragraph (a) of subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “fourteen years” of the words “sixteen years”.

Sinhala text to  
prevail in case  
of inconsistency

**8.** In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail.

