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**The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

**EXTRAORDINARY**

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**PART IV (A) – PROVINCIAL COUNCILS**

**Provincial Councils Notifications**

**PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF CENTRAL PROVINCE**

**Enactment bearing No. 3 of 2016 of the Department of Cultural Affairs of  
Provincial Council in Central Province**

It is hereby published for the information of all the above enactment approved by Hon. Governor on 06.10.2018 and resolved on 02.08.2017 by Central Province Provincial Council of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SARATH EKANAYAKE,

Chief Minister of Central Provincial Council and  
Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order,  
Local Government, Manpower, Education and Cultural Affairs,  
Tourism, Land, Co-operative Development, Commerce and  
Trade, Food Supply and Distribution Affairs and  
Investment Co-ordination.

Chief Minister's Office,  
Central Provincial Council,  
Kandy.  
08th October, 2018.



**ENACTMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS BEARING NO. 3 OF 2016 OF  
PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF CENTRAL PROVINCE**

Chief Ministry and Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Local Government, Manpower, Education and Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Land, Co-operative Development, Trade and Commerce, Food Supply and Distribution Affairs and Investment Co-ordination and Ministry related with subjects which are not fallen under other ministries.

**Draft Enactment  
No. 03 of 2016 of the Central Provincial Council  
to Establish a Department of Cultural Affairs**

An enactment to establish a Department for Cultural Affairs for the Central Province, to regulate art activities including theatres, plays, provincial literary activities, music and entertainment activities except the approval of cinema movies for exhibition and public performance, and to carry out researches and investigations on ancient and historical monuments and records, their conservation and maintenance and to maintain, regulate and enact necessary rules and regulations for the museums and other similar institutions governed and funded by the Central Provincial Council, and to make rules and regulations on related and consequential matters.

**The Provincial Council of the Central Province of the  
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
hereby enacts the following**

Short Name and  
the effective  
date.

This enactment is called as the enactment of Cultural Affairs No. 03 of 2016 of the Central Provincial Council and shall become into effect from the date on which the Hon. Governor's approval is granted.

**Part I**

Establishment of  
the Department  
of Cultural  
Affairs of the  
Central  
Provincial  
Council.

**Establishment of the Department of Cultural  
Affairs of the Central Province Provincial Council**

- 1 A Department for Cultural Affairs of the Central Province (herein after referred to as the department) shall be established in order to carry out the objectives of this enactment.

Appointing of  
the Director of  
Cultural Affairs.

2. (1) A Provincial Director shall be appointed to the department in order to execute the duties and powers of the department.

Department  
Staff.

- (2) The Provincial Director shall be appointed by the Governor and he shall be the Head of the Department.

Appointing  
other officers for  
the Department.

3. Other officers and staff required to assist the Provincial Director to perform the duties and powers of the department, shall be appointed as per the provisions of the Provincial Council Act No. 42 of 1987.

Transferring  
power.

4. The powers and the duties of the Provincial Director can be transferred to the officers who are appointed under the above 03rd paragraph.

Objectives of the  
Department.

5. It is the duty of this department to achieve the following objectives:  
(1) To regulate and standardize the theaters, performances, cinema hall shows and entertainment activities within the province apart from the approval for cinema movies for exhibition and public performance.

- (2) To preserve and maintain ancient and historic monuments and reports except on those that are declared as to have national importance, by or under a parliamentary act.
  - (3) To maintain and preserve the museums and similar institutions governed by the Provincial Council.
  - (4) To regulate the literary, religious and other non institutional societies and organizations which function within the province and activities related to art associations.
  - (5) To improve the creative skills of the artists in the fields of arts and literature within the province and welfare activities of artists.
  - (6) To conduct researches and investigations regarding cultural and arts related affairs, artists and related fields to conserve the visible and invisible cultural heritages of the central province and to publish and preserve the information with regard to them.
  - (7) To promote religious, cultural, literary, arts, moral and spiritual values in the central province.
6. The Duties and the Powers of the Department shall be as follows:
- (1) To form cultural groups in the province, to recruit artists, to pay them allowances and to get the artists involved in arts programs and performances.
  - (2) To form, register, manage, monitor, audit and dissolve cultural groups.
  - (3) To register and monitor the arts associations.
  - (4) To establish, maintain and govern museums and other similar institutions funded by the provincial council.
  - (5) To maintain the hygienic conditions of the theaters and the cinema halls which are located in the central province and to inspect whether they suit for people and set standards for matters with regard to them and conduct examinations.
  - (6) To plan, implement, assess and assist to cultural programs within the province.
  - (7) To establish and improve cultural committees and arts associations and take necessary actions for their development.
  - (8) To obtain the required assistance and support of the government, provincial councils, local government institutions, other legal entities to perform the duties of the department and maintain relationships with non governmental organizations.
  - (9) To plan, implement, maintain and facilitate the programs for the welfare of artists.
  - (10) To establish cultural villages in the province and plan programs to preserve the traditional knowledge for future generations.
  - (11) To audit the financial and accounting reports submitted by the arts associations, regional cultural committees and provincial cultural authority and take legal actions with regard to financial irregularities.

Duties and powers of the Department.

- (12) (a) To name the selected and identified sacred item, clothes, jewellery and artifacts of the province as “The Provincial Cultural Heritages which shall be conserved”.
- (b) To assist to set standards to produce, sell and distribute the selected sacred item, clothes, jewellery and artifacts which are named as “The Provincial Cultural Heritages which shall be conserved”.
- (13) (a) To enter
- (b) To inspect and examine
- (c) To Request to produce a license, pass, report, certificate or any other document
- (d) To examine such license, pass, reports, certificate or any other document
- (e) To take photo copies or extracts of necessary documents and information
- (f) To inquire and investigate from the officers in charge or any other necessary persons.
- (14) To fulfill the requirements which are thought to be needed to perform the mission of the this Department such as the duties of the government, provincial councils, local government institutions and departmental activities and to obtain the support of local, foreign and other legal entities and to maintain a coordination with non-governmental organizations.
- (15) To obtain the assistance of the police when required while performing the duties of the department.

## Part II

### Forming the Central Provincial Cultural Committee

Forming the cultural group.

7. (1) Cultural groups can be formed for the fields of traditional dancing, singing and music of the province in order to promote and safeguard the provincial aesthetic arts and to improve the economical standard of the artists. These groups shall operate under the supervision of the provincial director.
- (2) The provincial Director can make necessary provisions with the approval of the secretary to the ministry regarding the recruitment of artists and advisors to cultural groups, deciding their qualifications, disciplinary controls, supervision, payment of allowances and their removal.
- (3) The cultural director has the power to guide the cultural groups towards the activities which are necessary to achieve the objectives of the department.

## Part III

Forming cultural committees.

### Forming Regional Cultural Committees and Provincial Cultural Authority

8. (1) Regional cultural committees which will be referred herein after as "committee" shall be formed in each Divisional Secretariat Division.
- (a) The Artists, teachers and interested persons in arts related activities from the division can obtain the membership of this regional cultural committee.
- (b) A chairman, a secretary and a treasurer shall be selected from the members at a General Meeting of the committee.

- (c) The Divisional Secretary of the relevant division will be the patron of the committee by virtue of his post and the Cultural Officer shall act as the coordinator of the committee.
- (2) The Tenure of the committee is one year.
9. (1) Every committee shall have a constitution with particulars regarding the composition of the committee, its accounts, and other provisions necessary for the maintenance of the committee. The general provisions to be included in the constitution can be imposed from time to time by the Minister by regulations with the recommendation of the Provincial Director.
- (2) The committees have the right to prepare their constitutions as per to their requirements and not contradict to the above mentioned general provisions.
10. Powers of the Regional Cultural Committees are as follows:
- (1) To prepare plans and implement them to promote religious, cultural, moral and spiritual values which ensures the conservation of the visible and invisible heritages of the relevant divisional secretariat division.
- (2) To assist to implement the duties of the Provincial Cultural Department in regional level.
- (3) To take actions to implement a program for the equal distribution of opportunities of welfare programs and other different opportunities submitted from time to time by the Central Provincial Council or by the Cultural Department of Central province for the benefit of the artists who reside within the functional area of the committee.
- (4) To enhance the quality of various art creations conducted in rural areas, to contribute to upgrade the standards of rural artists and take actions to create a competitive background to assess their creations in government level.
- (5) To build a platform for the opinions, proposals, ideas and contributions of artists representing various fields and implement programs to ensure their identity.
- (6) To implement a mechanism to perform innovative cultural and arts programs in rural and regional levels.
- (7) To create opportunities to spread the culture and arts creations of the committee's territory to the national and international levels and to create opportunities for the artists from the committee's territory to exchange the knowledge of different countries.
- (8) To extend a helping hand to the ordinary level artists to publish their creations.
- (9) To implement a sustainable program to strengthen the socio-economic conditions of the artists residing in the committee's territory.
- (10) To implement programs to eradicate the socio environmental barriers to create a moral and disciplined society.
- (11) To submit recommendations forwards to regional artists in the Central Province.

General regulations which shall be included to the constitution of the cultural committees.

Powers of the regional cultural committees

- (12) To organize regional arts festivals.
  - (13) To organize various programs through this committee to develop the arts academies in the region.
  - (14) To intervene in the welfare of the artists residing in the committee's territory.
  - (15) To provide financial sponsorships for arts, cultural, historic and religious affairs of the region.
  - (16) To obtain the assistance required to the cultural events organized by the committee from the government, provincial council, local government institutions, non governmental organizations and other legal entities.
  - (17) To bear the expenses for the programs, exhibitions, concerts and sales of the committee members, reimburse that amount and obtain a pre decided portion of such income as revenue.
  - (18) To engage in the coordination activities of programs aimed at preserving the visible cultural heritages of the committee's territory.
  - (19) To collect funds to maintain committee's account.
- Accounts of the Regional Cultural Committee.
11. Every Regional Cultural Committees shall maintain and account as per to the provisions provided in the constitution of that committee.
- Establishment of Provincial Cultural Authority.
12. A provincial cultural authority (hereinafter referred to as the authority) shall be established for the province.
    - (1) One selected member from the office bearer of each regional cultural committee, such as chairman, secretary or treasurer, can obtain the membership of the provincial cultural authority.
    - (2) A chairman, a secretary and a treasurer shall be selected at a general meeting from the members of the provincial cultural authority.
    - (3) Provincial Director shall hold the post of patron of the provincial cultural authority and a cultural officer shall act as the coordinator of the committee.
    - (4) The tenure of authority is one year.
- Powers of Provincial Cultural Authority.
13. Powers of the provincial cultural authority shall be as follows:
    - (1) To monitor the procedures undertaken by the regional cultural committees to preserve the invisible heritages of the province.
    - (2) To intervene to develop the religious places situated in the province and monitor the development activities carried out in regional level.
    - (3) To form and monitor a program for the equal distribution of opportunities of welfare programs and other different opportunities submitted by the Central Provincial Council or by the Cultural Department of Central Province from time to time for the benefit of the artists who reside in central province.
    - (4) To enhance the quality of various art creations conducted in the province, to contribute to upgrade the standards of artists and take actions to create a competitive background to assess those creations.

- (5) To build a platform for the opinions, proposals, ideas and contributions of artists representing each and every field and implement programs to ensure their identity.
- (6) To create a mechanism to perform innovative cultural and arts programs in rural and central provincial levels.
- (7) To create opportunities to spread the culture and arts creations of central province to the national and international levels and to create opportunities for the artists from central province to exchange the knowledge of different countries.
- (8) To extend a helping hand to the ordinary level artists to publish their creations and form a sustainable program to strengthen the socio-economic conditions of the artists.
- (9) To enhance the quality of various art creations conducted in rural level, to contribute to upgrade the standards, of rural artists and take actions to create a competitive background to assess their creation in government level.
- (10) To create opportunities to spread the culture and arts creations of the territory of central province to the national and international levels and to create opportunities for the artists from the territory of central province to exchange the knowledge of different countries.
- (11) To extend a helping hand to the ordinary level artists to publish their creations.
- (12) To implement a sustainable program to strengthen the socio-economic conditions of the artists who live in the territory of central province.
- (13) To implement programs to eradicate the socio environmental barriers to create a moral and disciplined society.
- (14) To organize various programs in view of developing the arts academies in the territory of the authority.
- (15) To intervene in the welfare of the artists residing in the authority's territory.
- (16) To provide financial sponsorships for arts, cultural, historic and religious programs within the authority's territory.
- (17) To obtain the assistance required to the cultural events organized by the authority from the government, provincial council, local government institutions, non-governmental organizations and other legal entities.
- (18) To bear the expenses for the programs, exhibitions, concerts and sales of the members of the authority, reimburse that amount and obtain a pre decided portion of such income as revenue.
- (19) To intervene in the coordination activities of programs aimed at preserving the visible cultural heritages of the authority's territory.
- (20) To collect funds through various programs for the fund (the fund and the account) created for the welfare of all artists.

Constitution of the authority.	<p>14. (1) The provincial authority shall have a constitution with particulars regarding the composition of the authority, its accounts and other provisions necessary for the maintenance of the authority. The general provisions to be included in the constitution shall be imposed from time to time by the secretary with the recommendation of the Provincial Director.</p> <p>(2) The authority has the right to prepare its constitution as per to the requirements and not contradict to the above mentioned general provisions.</p>
Account of the authority.	15. The Provincial authority shall maintain an account as per the provisions of its constitution.
Registration of the authority and the committees.	<p>16. The authority and all regional committees shall register them under the provincial director.</p> <p>17. Provisions needed for the registration mentioned in clause 16, shall be imposed by the minister in charge of the subject by regulations.</p>

#### Part IV

##### Establishment of the Central Provincial Cultural Account

Establishment of Central Provincial cultural Account.	18. A separate account shall be maintained for cultural affairs under the central provincial council fund. The funds of this account can be used for the purposes of the welfare of the artists, to preserve folklore and folk arts, moral and spiritual development and to preserve the traditional heritages.
Credits of the account.	<p>19. Credit of the account are as follows:</p> <p>(1) Provisions allocated by the provincial council.</p> <p>(2) All local and foreign donations and financial assistances made to the department.</p> <p>(3) All charges levied under this enactment.</p> <p>(4) Revenue gained by the fund raising programs organized by the cultural department.</p> <p>(5) Revenue gained through the cultural groups.</p>
Paying money from the cultural account.	20. Funds shall be released by the provincial treasury after the submission of the estimate prepared for the purpose of utilizing the funds of the account, signed by the Ministry's secretary to the treasury.
Auditing of the account.	<p>21. All transactions including the revenue and expenditure of the account shall be audited annually by the Auditor General. The report of these accounts shall be submitted to the provincial council-for information-by the minister in charge for the subject after three months from the completion of the financial year.</p> <p>The minister in charge for the subject shall submit an annual report to the provincial council within 03 months from the completion of the financial year.</p>



## Part V

### General Provisions

22. (1) The Minister can give orders to implement and enforce the provisions of this enactment. Orders imposed by the Minister.
- (2) (1) Minister can give orders on each of the following matters or regarding all matters in a manner which won't affect the common state of the powers granted by the sub section (1).
- (3) Matters required implementing the duties and powers of the department cultural groups, cultural committees and central provincial cultural authority.
- (4) Provisions regarding theatres, musical performances, shows at cinema halls, entertainment activities and related matters except the approval of cinema movies for exhibition and public performance.
- (5) Provisions to set the standards and related matters regarding the production, sale and distribution of "Atapirikara" and other sacred items, clothes, jewellery and artifacts of the province which are identified as "The Provincial Cultural Heritages which shall be conserved".
- (6) Provisions regarding traditional folk arts, traditional dances, songs, public performances and related matters which are identified as "The Provincial Cultural Heritages which shall be conserved".
- (7) All the orders made by the minister shall be published in the gazette and needed to be presented to the provincial council and approved within three months of such publishing.
- (8) All the orders rejected by the provincial council shall be repealed from the date of such rejection in a manner which does not affect any activity executed under such order.

## Part VI

### Offences and Penalties

23. (1) Atapirikara, Sacred items, clothes, jewellery and artifacts of the province which are named as "The Provincial Cultural Heritages which shall be conserved" shall be produced, only in accordance with the proper standards. If they are sold and distributed with the intention of earning profits, it must be done in accordance with the proper standards. It is an offence to produce goods not in accordance with the standards.
- (2) Any person or an institution or a group of person who produce, sell and distribute "Atapirikara", sacred items, clothes and jewellery and artifacts named as "The Provincial Cultural Heritages which shall be conserved" and not in accordance with the proper standards, is committing an offense under this enactment.
- (3) Any person or an institution or a group of persons who commits an offense under sub-section 2, becomes an offender under this enactment and shall be subjected to a penalty of either a fine not exceeding Rs. 25,000 or an imprisonment not exceeding two years or to both penalties including the fine and the imprisonment, if found guilty after a short trial before a magistrate.

24. Any person who is violating any provision of this enactment or violating any regulation of an order made under this enactment which is mentioned in sub sections 23 (1) and 23 (2), becomes an offender under this enactment and shall be subjected to a penalty of either a fine not exceeding Rs. 10,000 or an imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both penalties including the fine and the imprisonment, if found guilty after a short trial before a magistrate, in case that offence being not considered for a special penalty under this enactment.

## Part VII

### Interim Provisions

- Interpretation. 25. The person who is serving as the Provincial Director of the Cultural Department of Central Province from before to the effective date shall be considered as the director appointed under section 03 of this enactment for the matters of this enactment, and the officers working in the department from before the effective date shall be considered as the officers mentioned in the above section 04 of this enactment.
26. All assets, responsibilities, liabilities, law suits, and all contracts and agreements with the department of cultural affairs which functioned before the effective date, will be considered as the assets, responsibilities, liabilities, law suits, and agreements of the department established under this enactment.
27. In case another meaning needed with regard to the terms of this enactment, otherwise
- The term “Visible cultural heritages” stand for all religious places, all places with cultural importance, monuments, documents and items which could be conserved as ancient heritages.
- The term “Invisible cultural heritages” stand for all religious and cultural festivals, folk lore, traditional tales, traditional arts, magic and white magic.
- The term “Governor” stands for the Governor of the Central Province.  
The term “Minister” stands for the Minister in charge of Cultural Affairs of the Central Province.
- The term “Province” stand for the Central Province. The term “Provincial Council” stands for the Central Provincial Council.
- The term “Ministry’s Secretary” stand for the Secretary of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of the Central Province.
- The term “Provincial Director” stand for the Director of the Department of cultural affairs of Central Province.
- The term “Provincial Cultural Officer” stands for the cultural officer of the central provincial public service.
- The term “Assets” stands for all the assets including the books, documents, cash in banks, cash left in hand, furniture, buildings, lands, projects, all movable and immovable properties belonging to the cultural fund, cultural committees and cultural authority.
- The term “Recruitment procedure” stands for the recruitment procedure approved by the central provincial governor.

The term “Artist” stands for persons who are enagaged permanently in the fields of singing, music, dancing, literature, art, sculpture, carving, drama, cinema by their natural interest or traditionally or by acquiring educational qualifications in these fields, as well as persons who are rendering or have rendered a service to the society in these fields.

The term “Cultural affairs” stands for the matters mentioned under sections 25.1, 25.2, 29.1 and 28 of the first list of the sub section 09 of the constitution of 1978.

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| 28. | The department shall be considered as an institution sub-listed for the bribery act as per to the explanation to that act and the provisions of that act shall be interpreted accordingly. | To be considered as an institution sub-listed under the bribery Act. |
| 29. | All the office bearers and employees of the department shall be considered as state officers with regard to the matters of criminal procedure.   | Employees to be considered as state officers.                        |
| 30. | If there is any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil language versions of this enactment, the Sinhala version shall considered effective.   |  |

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