



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

**ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP AND
BISHOPS OF CEYLON (AMENDMENT)
ACT, No. 30 OF 2014**

[Certified on 21st August, 2014]

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*Roman Catholic Archbishop and Bishops of
Ceylon (Amendment) Act, No. 30 of 2014*

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L.D.—O.(Inc.) 18/2013.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP AND BISHOPS
OF CEYLON ORDINANCE

WHEREAS a portion of the area hitherto under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Trincomalee has now been created into a new Diocese called the Roman Catholic Diocese of Batticaloa and the Right Reverend Dr. Joseph Ponniah has been duly appointed as the Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa to administer the same :

Preamble.

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Roman Catholic Archbishop and Bishops of Ceylon Ordinance, to provide for the incorporation of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa and in other respects :

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Roman Catholic Archbishop and Bishops of Ceylon (Amendment) Act, No. 30 of 2014.

Short title.

2. The Roman Catholic Archbishop and Bishops of Ceylon Ordinance (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) as last amended by Act, No. 19 of 2000 is hereby further amended by the insertion immediately after section 3D thereof, of the following new section which shall have effect as section 3E of the principal enactment :—

Insertion of
new section
3E in Chapter
338.

“Incorporation
of the Roman
Catholic
Bishop of
Batticaloa.

3E. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa, to wit, the Right Reverend Dr. Joseph Ponniah and his successors duly appointed according to the laws and usages of the Roman Catholic Church, shall be a body corporate and shall, for all purposes of this Ordinance, have the name of the “Roman

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Ceylon (Amendment) Act, No. 30 of 2014*

Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa”, and by such name shall have perpetual succession and shall have full power to acquire, purchase, take, hold and enjoy movable and immovable property of every description and to sell or otherwise dispose of the same, and may sue or be sued in respect of such property in all courts of justice.”.

Insertion of new section 5E in the principal enactment.

3. The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 5D of the principal enactment and shall have effect as section 5E of the principal enactment :—

“Vesting of property in the Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa.

5E. All property both movable and immovable, already acquired, held or possessed by the said Right Reverend Dr. Joseph Ponniah, in his official capacity, shall, subject to any trust or condition affecting the same, vest in the said Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa.”.

Amendment of section 6 of the principal enactment.

4. Section 6 of the principal enactment as last amended by Act, No. 19 of 2000 is hereby further amended by the addition immediately after subsection (5) of that section, of the following new subsection :—

“(6) Any instrument of conveyance, transfer or assignment executed by the Bishop of Trincomalee in favour of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa of all the property movable or immovable which by reason of the creation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Batticaloa become subject to the administration of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Batticaloa, shall be charged the stamp duty prescribed for such instrument, under section 2 of the Stamp Duty Act, No. 43 of 1982 or section 13 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006, as the case may be.”.

Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency.

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

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