



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

INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT)

A

BILL

to amend the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017

*Presented by the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of
Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of
Urban Development & Housing on 26th of March, 2021*

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STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT

Clause 2 : This clause amends section 5 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”), and the legal effect of the section as amended is to exclude contributions made by an employer to a gratuity fund when calculating an individual’s gains and profits from an employment.

Clause 3 : This clause amends section 6 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 4 : This clause amends section 9 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to grant tax exemptions under the Strategic Development Projects Act, No.14 of 2008.

Clause 5 : This clause amends section 10 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 6 : This clause amends section 11 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is treat cost of loans of financial institutions as an allowable expense.

Clause 7 : This clause amends section 14 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section is to allow repair expenditure as a deduction in calculation of income tax.

Clause 8 : This clause inserts the new section 15A in the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section is to allow marketing and communication expenditure as a deduction.

Clause 9 : This clause amends section 16 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 10 : This clause amends section 18 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to simplify the calculation of financial cost of a company.

Clause 11 : This clause amends Section 19 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to allow the unrelieved losses of a small and medium enterprise as a deduction.

Clause 12 : This clause amends section 20 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to make provisions to enable a trust or company to change its accounting year.

Clause 13 : This clause amends the section 36 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to allow the splitting of cost and consideration of business assets.

Clause 14 : This clause amends section 38 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to make provisions in to simplify the computation of gains and profits from realization of an investment asset.

Clause 15 : This clause amends section 53 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to introduce partnership income tax on its taxable income.

Clause 16 : This clause amends section 55 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to disallow certain refunds on the payment of partnership tax.

Clause 17 : This clause amends section 60 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to introduce a basis for taxing the gains and profits of business activities.

Clause 18 : This clause amends section 62 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to grant tax exemption on remitted profits for a non-resident person.

Clause 19 : This clause amends section 66 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to make provisions for banks and financial institutions to have a transparent management for doubtful debt provisions.

Clause 20 : This clause amends section 68 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 21 : This clause amends section 70 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 22 : This clause amends section 75 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 23 : This clause amends section 76 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 24 : This clause amends section 77 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 25 : This clause amends section 78 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 26 : This clause amends section 83 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to abolish the withholding on employment income.

Clause 27 : This clause inserts new section 83A in the principal enactment, and the legal effect of that section is to introduce Advance Personal Income Tax (APIT).

Clause 28 : This clause amends section 84 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to abolish the withholding on investment returns other than from winning from a lottery, reward, etc.

Clause 29 : This clause inserts new section 84A in the principal enactment, and the legal effect of that section is to introduce Advance Income Tax (AIT).

Clause 30 : This clause amends section 85 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to remove the withholding on service and contract payments paid to residents.

Clause 31 : This clause amends section 87 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 32 : This clause amends section 88 of the principal enactment, and it is consequential to the amendment made to section 84 of the principal enactment.

Clause 33 : This clause amends section 90 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 34 : This clause amends section 93 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to make provisions to file capital gains tax return on monthly basis.

Clause 35 : This clause amends section 94 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to make the submission of income tax returns compulsory for employees.

Clause 36 : This clause amends section 95 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 37 : This clause amends section 103 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to introduce mandatory provisions to use Tax Identification Number in all tax related documents.

Clause 38 : This clause amends section 113 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to make the filing of tax returns electronically compulsory for companies.

Clause 39 : This clause amends section 120 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to require the taxpayers to prepare separate financial statements.

Clause 40 : This clause amends section 126 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 41 : This clause amends section 129 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to broaden the purview of that section.

Clause 42 : This clause amends section 139 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to broaden the purview of that section.

Clause 43 : This clause amends section 140 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to broaden the purview of that section.

Clause 44 : This clause amends section 157 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 45 : This clause amends section 158 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to extend the time period for computation of interest.

Clause 46 : This clause amends section 159 of the principal enactment for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 47 : This clause inserts section 190A in the principal enactment, and the legal effect of that section is to introduce punitive provisions in relation to auditors etc.,.

Clause 48 : This clause amends section 195 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to provide for certain new definitions.

Clause 49 : This clause amends section 201 of the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the section as amended is to extend the period of application of the Sixth Schedule.

Clause 50 : This clause amends section 203 of the principal enactment for correcting typo errors for the purpose of clarity.

Clause 51 : This clause amends the First Schedule to the principal enactment and the legal effect of the Schedule as amended is to specify different tax rates for different gains and income.

Clause 52 : This clause amends the Second Schedule to the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the Schedule as amended is to allow enhanced capital allowances for improvements in a leasehold land.

Clause 53 : This clause amends the Third Schedule to the principal enactment and the legal effect of the Schedule as amended is to grant tax exemptions on certain gains, profits and income.

Clause 54 : This clause amends the Fourth Schedule to the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the Schedule as amended is to allow certain capital allowances.

Clause 55 : This clause amends the Fifth Schedule to the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the Schedule as amended is to expand the scope of qualifying payments and reliefs.

Clause 56 : This clause amends the Sixth Schedule to the principal enactment, and the legal effect of the Schedule as amended is to extend the time period of certain temporary concessions and to grant certain additional deductions.

Clause 57 : This clause grants powers to the Commissioner-General to issue guidelines on income tax computations.

Clause 58 : This clause provides for tax reliefs to facilitate post COVID-19 economic recovery.

Clause 59 : This clause makes provisions to give retrospective effect to certain amendments made to the principal enactment.

Clause 60 : This clause validates income tax collected under the provisions having a retrospective operation.

Inland Revenue (Amendment)

L.D.-O. 10/2020

AN ACT TO AMEND THE INLAND REVENUE ACT, NO. 24 OF 2017

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

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the Inland Revenue (Amendment) Act, No. of 2021. Short title
and the date
of operation

5 (2) The provisions of this Act (other than the provisions of sections referred to in *Table 'A'* and *Table 'B'* set out in this Amendment Act) shall commence on the date on which the certificate of the Speaker is endorsed thereon.

10 (3) The provisions of sections referred to in *Table 'A'* set out in this Amendment Act shall come into operation on April 1, 2021.

(4) The provisions of sections referred to in *Table 'B'* set out in this Amendment Act shall be deemed to have come into operation on the respective dates specified in that Table.

15 **2.** Section 5 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended in subsection (3) of that section as follows: - Amendment
of section 5
of Act,
No. 24 of
2017

20 (1) in paragraph (c) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words “on equal terms;” of the words “in the same grade of the service, on equal terms;”;

25 (2) in paragraph (f) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words “provident or savings fund or savings society” of the words “provident, gratuity or savings fund or savings society”.

3. Section 6 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “the Second or Fourth Schedule to this Act”, of the words “the Fourth Schedule to this Act”.
- Amendment of section 6 of the principal enactment
4. Section 9 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words “commencement of this Act.” of the words and figures, “commencement of this Act or for any projects approved under the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008.”.
- Amendment of section 9 of the principal enactment
5. Section 10 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subparagraph (v) of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “provident or savings fund” of the words “provident, gratuity or savings fund”.
- Amendment of section 10 of the principal enactment
6. Section 11 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the addition immediately after subsection (3) of that section, of the following new subsection: -
- Amendment of section 11 of the principal enactment
- “(4) For the purpose of this section, cost of funds of the financial institutions incurred on the loans provided for new businesses commenced on or after April 1, 2021 by any individual after successful completion of vocational education from any Vocational Education Institution which is standardized under Technical and Vocational Education and Training concept (TVET concept) and regulated by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, shall be deemed to be incurred in the production of income of such financial institutions.”.
7. Section 14 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -
- Amendment of section 14 of the principal enactment
- (1) in subsection (2) of that section-

- 5 (a) by the substitution for the words and the figure “The deductions referred to in subsection (1) granted for a year of assessment”, of the words and figures “The deductions of improvements referred to in subsection (1) granted for any year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021”; and
- 10 (b) in subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words “in the case of repair or improvement to”, of the words “in the case of improvement to”;
- 15 (2) in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figure “(paragraph (3) of the Fourth Schedule)”, of the words and figure “(paragraph 3 of the Fourth Schedule)”;
- (3) by the addition immediately after subsection (3) of that section, of the following new subsection: -
- 20 “(4) In this section, “improvement” means the expenditure incurred by a person to make additions or alterations to a depreciable asset which enhances the value of such asset, but excludes the expenditure incurred to maintain or repair a depreciable asset which
- 25 temporarily enhances the value of such asset.”.

8. The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 15 of the principal enactment, and shall have effect as section 15A of that enactment: -

- 30 “Marketing and communication expenses **15A.** (1) For any year of assessment commencing on or after April 1, 2021, in calculating a person’s income from a business, marketing and communication expenses incurred by such person in the production of

Insertion of new section 15A in the principal enactment

income during the year of assessment shall be deducted irrespective of whether they are of a capital nature or not.

5 (2) In this section, “marketing and communication expenses” means, any expenses incurred by any person in-

- (a) carrying out a market research by such person or any institution in Sri Lanka on his behalf;
- 10 (b) the development or production of marketing, advertising and communication campaign to the extent that such development or production is carried out in Sri Lanka;
- 15 (c) advertising on mainstream media or social media including television, radio, print or as outdoor advertising;
- 20 (d) product launches or campaign activation carried out by such person or by any local institution on his behalf;
- 25 (e) development and printing of point-of-sale material by such person or by any local institution on his behalf.”.

9. Section 16 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

- 30 (1) in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “the Second or

Amendment
of section 16
of the
principal
enactment

Fourth Schedule to this Act.” of the words “the Second, Fourth or Sixth Schedule to this Act.”;

- (2) in paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of that section, by the substitution for the words “the Second or Fourth Schedule to this Act.” of the words “the Fourth Schedule to this Act.”.

10. Section 18 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the repeal of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsections: -

Amendment
of section 18
of the
principal
enactment

“(1) The amount of financial costs deducted in calculating the income of a company (other than a financial institution) which is incorporated in or outside Sri Lanka and having an issued share capital as at the date on which the year of assessment ends, from conducting a business or investment for a year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021, shall not exceed the limit referred to in subsection (2).

(2) The limit shall be computed according to the following formula: -

$$\frac{A}{B} \times C$$

Where:

‘A’ = financial cost of the year;

‘B’ = value of financial instruments on which the financial cost incurred during the year; and

‘C’ = 4 x total of the issued share capital and reserves of the company as at the end of the year.”.

11. Section 19 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words “in calculating exempt amounts.”, of the following: -

Amendment
of section 19
of the
principal
enactment

5 “in calculating exempt amounts.

For the purpose of this subsection, where any company has an unrelieved loss from business to deduct in the current year of assessment from a period during which that company had operated as a small and medium enterprise and, if-

10

(a) the unrelieved loss was a profit in the year of assessment in which that unrelieved loss was incurred and which would have been taxed at a reduced rate; and

15

(b) the current year business income is not taxable at the same reduced rate as in the year referred to in the paragraph (a),

that unrelieved loss shall, (subject to paragraph (b) of subsection (1)), be deemed to be a loss (if it would have been a taxable profit) taxed at the same rate of the current year.”.

20

12. Section 20 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section 20
of the
principal
enactment

25

(1) by the repeal of subsection (2) of that section, and the substitution therefor, of the following subsection: -

30

“(2) Where a trust or company is unable to submit the accounts for the period of twelve months of the year of assessment as provided in subsection (1), such trust or company may apply to the Commissioner-General requesting that the accounts based on an alternative period of twelve months be used to compute the income tax payable for a given

5 year of assessment. The Commissioner-General may approve such request on such terms and conditions as he thinks fit. The Commissioner-General may revoke such approval if the trust or company fails to comply with terms and conditions attached to the approval.”.

- 10 (2) in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words “A change in a trust or company’s year of assessment shall”, of the words and the figure “A change approved under subsection (2) shall not”;
- (3) by the substitution for the marginal note of that section, of the following marginal note: -

“Year of assessment”.

- 15 **13.** Section 36 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the addition immediately after subsection (4) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

Amendment
of section 36
of the
principal
enactment

20 “(5) Where, in any year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021, an asset owned by a person is used in the production of different gains and profits from business (including losses) taxable at different tax rates, the cost of, and consideration received for the asset shall be apportioned among such gains and profits, according to the market value of the parts of

25 the assets used to produce respective gains and profits.”.

- 14.** Section 38 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

Amendment
of section 38
of the
principal
enactment

30 “(1A) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in subsection (1), the consideration received for the realisation of an investment asset of a person shall be the amount received or receivable by the person in

respect of such asset or the assessed value at the time of realisation, whichever is higher:

5 Provided, however, a tax official may determine the consideration received for an asset in terms of subsection (1), if such tax official is of the opinion that the assessed value is not indicative of the market value of such asset.

10 For the purpose of this subsection, “assessed value” means the value at the time of the realisation, certified by a professionally qualified valuer in a valuation report.”.

15. Section 53 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section 53
of the
principal
enactment

15 (1) in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “a partnership”, of the words and figures “prior to January 1, 2020, a partnership”;

(2) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

20 “(1A) Every partnership shall be liable to pay income tax with effect from January 1, 2020 at the rate provided for in paragraph 2 of the First Schedule to this Act, separately from its partners.”;

25 (3) in subsection (9) of that section, by the substitution for the words “The precedent partner”, of the words and figures “Prior to January 1, 2020, the precedent partner”;

(4) by the addition immediately after subsection (9) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

30 “(10) Each partner in a partnership shall be responsible for performing any duty or obligation

imposed by this Act on the partnership in relation to its income tax payable.”.

5 **16.** Section 55 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (4) of that section, by the substitution for the words “as paid by them.” of the words “as paid by them without any right to a refund (but with a right to carry forward to the next succeeding year to deduct as a tax credit in that year) of any excess of such share of tax attributable to such partner.”.

Amendment
of section 55
of the
principal
enactment

10 **17.** Section 60 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “a single company business.”, of the words “a single company business, unless different tax rates are applicable to the different activities and sources of income,
15 in which case each such different activity and source shall be treated as distinct businesses and sources.”.

Amendment
of section 60
of the
principal
enactment

20 **18.** Section 62 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “making such remittances.” of the following: -

Amendment
of section 62
of the
principal
enactment

“making such remittances:

25 Provided however, if a non-resident person retained the total income earned in any year of assessment commencing on or after April 1, 2021 in Sri Lanka for a minimum period of three years commencing from the first day of the immediately succeeding year of assessment in which the income is earned and invested the same in Sri Lanka to expand its business or to acquire shares or securities from the Colombo Stock Exchange licensed by the
30 Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka or to acquire any treasury bill, treasury bond or Sri Lanka International Sovereign Bond issued on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka, the tax rate on remittances of such retained income invested
30 shall be zero percent.”.

19. Section 66 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section 66
of the
principal
enactment

- 5 (1) in subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “are complied with.”, of the following:-

“are complied with:

10 Provided that, where the previously allowed specific provision for a debt claim as a deduction has been reversed, reduced or paid during the year in full or part, the amount so reversed, reduced or paid shall be included in calculating such person’s income.”;

- 15 (2) by the repeal of subsection (3) of that section and the substitution therefor, of the following subsection: -

20 “(3) A person conducting a banking business shall, in addition to the records, accounts or any other document required to be prepared as referred to in any other provision of this Act, prepare and retain the records in respect of specific provision for a debt claim, in such form as may be specified by the Commissioner-General.”;

- (3) by the addition immediately after subsection (3) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

25 “(4) In this section-

- (a) “banking business” means the banking business of a financial institution;
- (b) “debt claim” does not include the right to receive a payment on deposits, debentures, stocks, treasury bills,
- 30

promissory notes, bills of exchange and bonds;

- (c) “directives made by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka” means any directives issued to make specific provisions relating to bad and doubtful debts under subsection (1) of section 76J of the Banking Act, No. 30 of 1988 or under subsection (1) of section 12 of the Finance Business Act, No. 42 of 2011 or under subsection (1) of section 9 of the Finance Companies Act, No. 78 of 1988 by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and applicable to the relevant year of assessment, but excludes any directives issued in relation to the adaptation of Sri Lanka Accounting Standards.”.

- 20.** Section 68 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “additional tax of three percent on amounts” of the words “additional tax on three percent of amounts”. Amendment of section 68 of the principal enactment

- 21.** Section 70 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figures “paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 69,” of the words and figures “paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 69,”. Amendment of section 70 of the principal enactment

- 22.** Section 75 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - Amendment of section 75 of the principal enactment
- (1) by the repeal of subsection (1) of that section and the substitution therefor of the following subsection:-

“⁽¹⁾ (a) Where Parliament by resolution approves any double taxation agreement or mutual administrative assistance agreement entered into between the Government of Sri Lanka and the Government of any other territory, or such agreement entered into by the Government of Sri Lanka with the Governments of any other territories, such agreement shall, notwithstanding anything in any other written law, have the force of law in Sri Lanka. Every such resolution which is so approved by Parliament, shall be published in the *Gazette*.

(b) Every agreement entered into between the Government of Sri Lanka and the Government of any other territory and having the force of law in Sri Lanka by virtue of the provisions of section 70 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 4 of 1963, or section 82 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 28 of 1979, or section 92 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 38 of 2000, or section 97 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 10 of 2006 shall be deemed for all purposes to be an agreement approved by Parliament under paragraph (a) of this subsection.”;

(2) in subsection (5) of that section, in the definition of the expression “double taxation agreement”, by the substitution for the words “international agreement relating to the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention” of the words “international agreement for the purpose of affording relief from double taxation in relation to income tax under Sri Lanka law and any taxes of a similar character imposed by the laws of the other territory, and the prevention”.

23. Section 76 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

(1) in subsection (2) of that section-

Amendment
of section 76
of the
principal
enactment

- (a) by the repeal of paragraph (b) of that subsection, and the substitution therefor of the following paragraph: -

5 “(b) “permanent establishment”, in relation
to a country with which an agreement
has been entered into on avoidance of
double taxation means, a permanent
establishment defined in an agreement
10 for the relief of double taxation where
an agreement is in force between the
Government of Sri Lanka and the
Government of any territory in which
any person and their agencies, branches
or establishments in Sri Lanka is
15 resident;”;

- (b) in paragraph (c) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words “in Sri Lanka, in which case” of the words “in Sri Lanka or elsewhere, in which case”;

20 (2) in subsection (3) of that section-

- (a) in paragraph (f) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words and figures “paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (2)”, of the words and the figure “paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (3)”;

25 (b) in paragraph (g) of that subsection-

- (i) by the substitution for the words “reduce or enhance the arm’s length price” of the words “reduce, enhance or annul the arm’s length price”;
- 30 (ii) by the repeal of items (i) and (ii) of that paragraph, and the substitution therefor, of the following items: -

- “(i) a final order, where all the members of the Committee are in agreement; or
- 5 (ii) an interim order, where the majority of the members of the Committee are in agreement.”;
- (c) in paragraph (j) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words “Where person or partner of a partnership has not”, of the words
- 10 “Where a person has not”;
- (d) in paragraph (l) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words “Such person or partner of a partnership who is” of the words “Such person who is”;
- 15 (3) in subsection (4) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figure “under subsection (2) has”, of the words and the figure “under subsection (3) has”.
- 24.** Section 77 of the principal enactment is hereby Amendment of section 77 of the principal enactment
- 20 amended as follows: -
- (1) in subsection (2) of that section-
- (a) by the repeal of item (ii) of paragraph (f) of that subsection, and the substitution therefor of the following item: -
- 25 “(ii) an interim order in any other circumstances where the majority of the members of the Committee are in agreement.”;
- (b) in paragraph (g) of that subsection, by the
- 30 substitution for the words “may be to such

person or partner of such partnership.” of the words “may be to such person.”;

- (2) in paragraph (e) of subsection (5) of that section, by the substitution for the words “where a connected transaction” of the words “where a controlled transaction”.

25. Section 78 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words “made by the Transfer Pricing Officer or Assistant Commissioner may”, of the words “made by the Technical Review Committee may”.

Amendment of section 78 of the principal enactment

26. Section 83 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “shall withhold tax”, of the words and figures “shall withhold tax prior to January 1, 2020”.

Amendment of section 83 of the principal enactment

27. The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 83 of the principal enactment, and shall have effect as section 83A of that enactment: -

Insertion of new section 83A in the principal enactment

“Advance Personal Income Tax 83A. (1) An employer shall deduct an Advance Personal Income Tax with effect from April 1, 2020 on any payment which falls under section 5 made to his employee, if such employee -

(a) is a non-resident or non-citizen of Sri Lanka; or

(b) is a resident and citizen of Sri Lanka who gives his consent,

as specified by the Commissioner- General.

(2) The obligation of an employer to withhold tax under subsection (1) shall not be reduced or extinguished when -

(a) the employer has a right or is under an obligation to deduct and withhold any other amount from the payment; or

5

(b) any other law provides that an employee's income from employment shall not be reduced or subject to attachment.

10

(3) The provisions applicable to the withholding tax under this Act shall, *mutatis mutandis*, be applicable to the Advance Personal Income Tax and every reference to the term "withholding", "withholding tax" or "tax payable by withholding" in any such provisions of this Act shall, subject to such modification, be deemed to be a reference to the "Advance Personal Income Tax."

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28. Section 84 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of that section as follows: -

Amendment
of section 84
of the
principal
enactment

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(1) in subparagraph (i) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words "retirement payment or pays amounts as winnings from a lottery, reward, betting or gambling; or" of the following: -

25

"retirement payment, prior to January 1, 2020; or";

(2) by the insertion immediately after subparagraph (i) of that paragraph, of the following new subparagraph: -

30

"(ii) pays amounts as winnings from a lottery, reward, betting or gambling; or";

(3) by the re-numbering of subparagraph (ii) of that paragraph, as subparagraph (iii) of that paragraph; and

- (4) in the re-numbered subparagraph (iii) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “has been allocated; and”, of the words and figures “has been allocated prior to January 1, 2020; and”.

5 **29.** The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 84 of the principal enactment, and shall have effect as section 84A of that enactment: -

Insertion of
new section
84A in the
principal
enactment

“Advance
Income Tax 84A. (1) Subject to section 83A and
subsubsection (3) of section 84, with effect from
10 April 1, 2020, the taxpayer who is resident in
Sri Lanka may make a request to the
withholding agent to deduct Advance Income
Tax from the payment of dividend, interest,
15 discount, charge, natural resource payment,
rent, royalty, premium or similar periodic
payment that the payment or allocation has a
source in Sri Lanka. On the receipt of such
request, a withholding agent shall deduct
advance income tax as specified by the
20 Commissioner-General.

(2) The provisions applicable to the
withholding tax under this Act shall, *mutatis*
mutandis, be applicable to the Advance Income
Tax, and every reference to the term
25 “withholding”, “withholding tax” or “tax
payable by withholding” in any such provisions
of this Act shall, subject to such modification,
be deemed to be a reference to the “Advance
Income Tax.”.

30 **30.** Section 85 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section 85
of the
principal
enactment

- (1) in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution
for the words “shall withhold tax”, of the words and
figures “shall, prior to January 1, 2020, withhold
35 tax”;

- (2) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

5 “(1A) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a person shall withhold tax at the rate provided for in paragraph 10 of the First Schedule to this Act, where such person pays a dividend, interest, discount, charge, natural resource payment, rent, royalty, premium, service fee or an insurance premium with a source in Sri Lanka to a non-resident person.”; and

10

- (3) in the marginal note of that section, by the substitution for the words “fees and contract payments.”, of the words “fees, contract payments and payments to non-residents.”.

15 **31.** Section 87 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of that section, by the substitution for the words “of that year”, of the words “of the subsequent year”. Amendment of section 87 of the principal enactment

20 **32.** Section 88 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - Amendment of section 88 of the principal enactment

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

(a) by the substitution for the words “the following shall be the final”, of the words and figures “the following shall, prior to January 1, 2020, be the final”;

25

(b) in paragraph (d) of that subsection, by the substitution for the words and figures “paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 84”, of the words and figures “paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 84”;

30

- (2) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

5 “(1A) For the purposes of this Act, the following shall, on or after January 1, 2020, be the final withholding payments: -

- (a) amounts paid as winnings from a lottery, reward, betting or gambling, other than amounts received in conducting a business consisting of betting and gaming;
- 10 (b) payments made to a non-resident person who is not a citizen of Sri Lanka or to a non-resident entity that is subject to withholding under this Division, other than payments derived through a Sri Lankan Permanent Establishment; and
- 15 (c) interest paid to or treated as being derived by a non-resident individual who is a citizen of Sri Lanka:

20 Provided however, the following interest amounts shall not be deemed as final withholding payments to such non-resident individual who is a citizen of Sri Lanka: -

- (i) such amount of interest paid and falling within the relief threshold in paragraph 2(a) of the Fifth Schedule to this Act; or
- 25
- (ii) such amount calculated by deducting the total of other sources of assessable income (total assessable income other than interest) from the relief threshold if the total of assessable income from other sources does not exceed the relief threshold.”;
- 30

- 5 (3) in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figures “paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 84”, of the words and figures “paragraph (b) or (d) of subsection (3) of section 84”.

33. Section 90 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section 90
of the
principal
enactment

- 10 (1) in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “a business or investment; or”, of the words “a business, investment or other income; or”;

- (2) by the repeal of subsection (2) of that section and the substitution therefor, of the following subsection: -

15 “(2) An instalment payer shall pay instalments of tax for the year of assessment on or before the fifteenth day respectively of August, November and February in that year of assessment and the fifteenth day of May of the next succeeding year of assessment.”;

20

- (3) in subsection (3) of that section, by the substitution for the words “payment of the instalment.”, of the following: -

“payment of the instalment:

25 Provided however, in calculating the estimated tax payable by an instalment payer, the Advance Personal Income Tax deducted by an employer or to be deducted by an employer for the year of assessment may be deducted prior to applying the formula given in this subsection.”;

30

- (4) in subsection (5) of that section, by the substitution for the words “instalment for the year.” of the following: -

5 “instalment for the year. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section 55 (but without any right to a refund), a partner in a partnership shall be entitled to a tax credit in calculating the amount of current instalment of tax payable for such share of tax credit amount treated as being paid by the partner, but subject to the payment of the same instalment due by the partnership.”.

10 **34.** Section 93 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

(1) in subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “business and investment”, of the words “business, investment and other income”;

Amendment
of section 93
of the
principal
enactment

15 (2) by the repeal of subsection (3) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsection: -

20 “(3) Every person with taxable income consisting of a gain from the realisation of an investment asset shall file with the Commissioner-General a capital gains tax return within thirty days after the end of the relevant calendar month in which the realisation occurred.”.

25 **35.** Section 94 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figures “subject to withholding under section 83; or”, of the words and figures “subject to withholding under section 83 prior to April 1, 2019; or”.

Amendment
of section 94
of the
principal
enactment

30 **36.** Section 95 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “self-assessment.”, of the following: -

Amendment
of section 95
of the
principal
enactment

“self-assessment:

5 Provided however, capital gains tax returns filed in relation to any gains from the realisation of an investment asset received or derived during a year of assessment by a self-assessment taxpayer who is required to file a return of income under subsection (1) of section 93 for the same year of assessment, shall not result in a self-assessment.”.

10 **37.** Section 103 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “this Act.”, of the words “this Act and in all tax related source documents or underlying documents of the taxpayer.”. Amendment of section 103 of the principal enactment

15 **38.** Section 113 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - Amendment of section 113 of the principal enactment

(1) in paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “the filing”, of the words and figure “subject to subsection (1A), the filing”;

20

(2) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection: -

25 “(1A) A company which is incorporated in or outside Sri Lanka or a public corporation shall only file its tax returns electronically through the use of a computer system or mobile electronic device.”.

39. Section 120 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection: - Amendment of section 120 of the principal enactment

30 “(1A) With effect from the year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021, where any person is engaged in business or investment activity and the income tax payable shall be calculated by

5 applying different tax rates for such part of taxable income from any gains and profits from business or investment activity or may have exempted amounts as the case may be, such person shall maintain and prepare the financial statements to separately identify such part of taxable income from gains and profits in applying each income tax rate to each part of the taxable income or to identify the exempted gains and profits.”.

10 **40.** Section 126 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (5) of that section, by the substitution for the words “prepared for reward by”, of the words “prepared, filled or assisted to prepare or fill for a payment by”. Amendment of section 126 of the principal enactment

15 **41.** Section 129 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - Amendment of section 129 of the principal enactment

20 (1) by the substitution for the words “returns shall apply to a person required under this Act to file a return of information related”, of the words “returns, assessments, objections and appeals shall apply to a person required under this Act to file a return of information or annual statement related”;

 (2) by the substitution for the marginal note to that section, of the following marginal note: -

25 “Information returns and annual statements”.

42. Section 139 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - Amendment of section 139 of the principal enactment

30 (1) by the repeal of subsection (3) of that section and the substitution therefor of the following subsection: -

5 ”(3) Where the request for review is an objection against an assessment which has been made in the absence of a return or annual statement required to be furnished, such request shall be sent together with a duly filled return or annual statement, as the case may be.”;

(2) by the repeal of subsection (5) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsection: -

10 “(5) (a) On receipt and acknowledgement of a tax payer’s request for review under subsection (4), Commissioner-General shall review the assessment or other decision.

15 (b) The tax payer’s request for review shall be considered by a tax official other than the tax official who made the assessment or other decision.”;

20 (3) in subsection (6) of that section, by the substitution for the words “in accordance with this Act,” of the words and figures “in accordance with this Act, but notwithstanding the time limits specified in subsections (2) and (3) of section 135,”.

43. Section 140 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section
140 of the
principal
enactment

25 (1) in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figures “administrative review under section 139 may appeal against the decision to”, of the words and figures “administrative review of an assessment under section 139 may appeal
30 against that decision of review to”;

(2) in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “ninety days have lapsed”, of the words “seven months have lapsed”;

- (3) by the repeal of subsection (5) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsection: -

5 “(5) A petition of appeal under this section shall be filed in writing to the Tax Appeals Commission with a copy to the Commissioner-General within thirty days from the date of receipt of the decision of the Commissioner-General or within thirty days
10 from the date on which the period of seven months lapsed since the request for administrative review was made under section 139.”;

- (4) by the repeal of subsection (6) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsection: -

15 “(6) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in subsection (5), the appellant may appeal against an assessment upon satisfying the Tax Appeals Commission that owing to absence from Sri Lanka, sickness, or other reasonable cause the appellant
20 was prevented from filing a petition of appeal as required under subsection (2), and that there has been no unreasonable delay on the appellant’s part.”.

25 **44.** Section 157 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section
157 of the
principal
enactment

- (1) in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figures “an extension of time) under section 151 to the date”, of the words and
30 figures “an extension of time under section 151) to the date”;

- (2) by the substitution for the marginal note to that section, of the following marginal note: -

35 “Interest on under-payments and late payments”.

45. Section 158 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section
158 of the
principal
enactment

- (1) by the repeal of subsection (1) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsection: -

5

“(1) Where the Commissioner-General is required to refund a refundable amount under this Act to a taxpayer, an interest shall be paid on such refundable amount to the taxpayer from the date of the refund claim filed until the date on which the refundable amount is paid.”;

10

- (2) in subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “within sixty days of”, of the words “within six months of”.

46. Section 159 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsections (1) and (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “compounded monthly” of the words “computed monthly” respectively.

Amendment
of section
159 of the
principal
enactment

47. The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 190 of the principal enactment, and shall have effect as section 190A of that enactment:-

Insertion of
new section
190A of the
principal
enactment

“Punitive provisions in relation to auditors, tax practitioners, tax advisors or approved accountants

190A. Any auditor, tax practitioner, tax advisor or approved accountant other than a full-time employee of the taxpayer who-

(a) prepares, fills or certifies or assists in preparing, filling or certifying the tax returns, accounts, records, appeals and objections or any other document or information to furnish to the Commissioner-General; and

25

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(b) intentionally disregards or fails to take reasonable care in discharging the professional duty, or fraudulently prepares and certifies such document or information or deliberately misinterprets any provision of this Act or any other Act administered by the Commissioner-General, or any regulation, rule or order made thereunder,

commits an offence under this Act, and on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, be liable to a fine not exceeding one million rupees or to imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months or for a prohibition order preventing him from practicing in such capacity.”.

48. Section 195 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of section
195 of the
principal
enactment

(1) by the substitution for the words and the figure “(1) In this Act,” of that section, of the words “In this Act,”;

(2) by the substitution for the definition of the expression “agricultural business” of that section, of the following definitions:-

““agricultural business” means the business of agro farming or agro processing, but excludes farming of, or processing of liquor or tobacco produces or products, as the case may be;

“agro farming” means-

- 5 (a) the tillage of the soil and cultivation of land with plants of any description, cultivation in green house, bee-keeping, rearing of fish, shrimp farming or animal husbandry, poultry farms, hatchery, veterinary or artificial insemination services;
- 10 (b) the cleaning, sizing, sorting, grading, cutting or chilling of any produce produced out of any activity referred to in paragraph (a) by any person who is engaged in any such activity, in preparation of
- 15 such produce for the market but excludes the agro or food processing;
- 20 “agro processing” means the processing of any locally produced agricultural, fishing, or animal product and includes an undertaking for the dehydrating, milling, packaging, canning for the purpose of changing the form, contour or physical appearance of such product
- 25 in preparation for the market but excludes an undertaking of deep-sea fishing or manufacturing;”;
- 30 (3) in paragraph (a) of the definition of the expression “dividend” of that section, by the substitution for the words “share buy-back”, of the words “ share buy-back”;
- 35 (4) in the definition of the expression “entertainment” of that section, by the substitution for the words “person of food, beverages, tobacco”, of the words “person of liquor, tobacco”;

- (5) by the insertion immediately after the definition of the expression “manager” of that section, of the following new definition: -

5 ““manufacture” means a change in a non-living physical object, article or thing-

 (a) resulting in transformation of such object, article or thing into a new and distinct object, article or thing having a different name, character or use; or

10 (b) bringing into existence of a new and distinct object, article or thing with a different chemical composition or integral structure;”;

15 (6) in paragraph (b) of the definition of the expression “Small and Medium Enterprise” of that section, by the substitution for the words “an entity;”, of the words and figures “an entity unless such person’s and associate’s aggregate annual gross turnover is less than Rs. 500,000,000;”

20 (7) in the definition of the expression “specified undertaking” of that section, by the addition immediately after paragraph (k) of that definition, of the following new paragraphs: -

25 ”(l) sale of goods manufactured in Sri Lanka by an export-oriented company which has entered into an agreement with the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka under section 17 of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka Law, No. 4 of 1978, to-

30 (i) any company which has entered into an agreement with the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka under section

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15

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(8)

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“Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission” means the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission established under the Tertiary and Vocational Education Act, No 20. of 1990;”.

5 **49.** Section 201 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of that section, by the substitution for the words “five years” of the words “seven years”. Amendment of section 201 of the principal enactment

10 **50.** Section 203 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (5) of that section, by the substitution for the words and figures “on or after 1 April 2017,”, of the words and figures “on or after April 1, 2018,”. Amendment of section 203 of the principal enactment

51. The First Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: - Amendment of the First Schedule to the principal enactment.

15 (1) in paragraph 1 of that Schedule-

20 (a) in subparagraph (1) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “for a year of assessment shall”, of the words and figures “for a year of assessment commencing on or after April 1, 2018 but for the period prior to January 1, 2020 shall”;

 (b) by the insertion immediately after subparagraph (1) of that paragraph, of the following new subparagraph: -

25 “(1A) subject to the provisions of subparagraph (2), the taxable income of a resident or non-resident individual commencing from January 1, 2020 shall be taxed at the following rates: -

	<i>Taxable income for a year of assessment</i>	<i>Tax payable</i>
5	Not exceeding Rs. 3 million	6% of the amount in excess of Rs.0
10	Exceeding Rs. 3 million but not exceeding Rs. 6 million	Rs. 180,000 plus 12% of the amount in excess of Rs. 3 million
15	Exceeding Rs. 6 million	Rs. 540,000 plus 18% of the amount in excess of Rs. 6 million”;

(c) in subparagraph (2) of that paragraph-

- (i) in item (b)(i) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the words “where the period”, of the words and figures “prior to January 1, 2020, where the period”;
- (ii) in item (b)(ii) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the words “where the period”, of the words and figures “prior to January 1, 2020, where the period”;
- (iii) by the addition immediately after item (b)(ii) of that subparagraph, of the following new item: -

“(iii) on or after January 1, 2020:

5	<i>Total income from employment referred to in subparagraph (3) for a year of assessment</i>	<i>Tax payable</i>
	Not exceeding Rs. 10,000,000	0% of the amount in excess of Rs.0
10	Exceeding Rs. 10,000,000 but not exceeding Rs. 20,000,000	6% of the amount in excess of Rs.10,000,000
15	Exceeding Rs. 20,000,000	Rs. 600,000 plus 12% of the amount in excess of Rs. 20,000,000”;

(d) in subparagraph (3) of that paragraph-

- (i) by the substitution for the words and the figure “referred to in subparagraph (2) shall be-”, of the words and the figure “referred to in item (b) of subparagraph (2) shall be-”;
- (ii) in item (c) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the words “by the employer;” of the words “by the employer; and”;
- (iii) by the repeal of items (d) and (e) of that subparagraph; and
- (iv) by the re-lettering of item (f) of that subparagraph, as item (d) thereof;

(e) in subparagraph (4) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “liquor or tobacco.”, of

the words “manufacture and sale or import and sale of any liquor or tobacco product.”;

- (f) by the addition immediately after subparagraph (4) of that paragraph, of the following new subparagraph: -

“(5) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the provisions of subparagraph (1A), an individual’s gains and profits from the consideration received in respect of gems and jewellery shall be taxed at the maximum rate of 14%.”;

- (2) by the repeal of paragraph 2 of that Schedule and the substitution therefor, of the following paragraph: -

“2. Tax rate for partnerships.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (2), the taxable income of a partnership shall be taxed at the following rates with effect from January 1, 2020: -

<i>Taxable income for a year of assessment</i>	<i>Tax payable</i>
Not exceeding Rs. 1,000,000	0% of the amount in excess of Rs.0
Exceeding Rs. 1,000,000	6% of the amount in excess of Rs.1,000,000

- (2) Where a partnership’s taxable income includes gains from the realization of investment assets, then-

- (a) those gains shall be taxed to the partnership at the rate of 10%; and
 - (b) only the remainder of the partnership's taxable income shall be taxed at the rate referred to in subparagraph (1).";
- (3) in subparagraph (1) of paragraph 3 of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words and figures "taxed at the rate of [24%.]", of the words and figures "taxed at the rate of 24% prior to January 1, 2020 and 18% with effect from January 1, 2020.";
- (4) in paragraph 4 of that Schedule-
 - (a) by the repeal of subparagraph (1) of that paragraph and the substitution therefor, of the following: -
 - "(1) Subject to subparagraphs (2), (2A) and (3), the taxable income of a company for a year of assessment-
 - (a) prior to January 1, 2020 shall be taxed at the rate of 28%;
 - (b) with effect from January 1, 2020 shall be taxed at the rate of 24%.";
 - (b) in subparagraph (2) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words "for a year of assessment", of the words and figures "for a year of assessment prior to January 1, 2020";
 - (c) by the insertion immediately after subparagraph (2) of that paragraph, of the following new subparagraph: -
 - "(2A) Such part of the gains and profits of a company for a year of assessment shall be taxed at the following rates with effect from January 1, 2020:-

- 5 (a) gains and profits from the business of a Small and Medium Enterprise, excluding such gains and profits from a business of betting and gaming or from the sale of liquor (in the case of liquor, other than those gains and profits from a business which is merely incidental to another business)- 14%;
- 10 (b) gains and profits from conducting a business of sale of goods or merchandise including export of goods, where the payment for such sale or export is received in foreign currency and remitted through a bank to Sri Lanka-14%;
- 15 (c) gains and profits of a specified undertaking-14%;
- (d) gains and profits from providing educational services-14%;
- 20 (e) gains and profits of an undertaking for the promotion of tourism-14%;
- (f) gains and profits from providing construction services-14%;
- 25 (g) gains and profits from agro processing-14%;
- (h) gains and profits from providing health care services-14%;
- (i) gains and profits from dividends received from a resident company-14%;

- (j) gains and profits derived by any export company which is registered with the Board of Investments of Sri Lanka established by the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka Law, No. 4 of 1978 from the consideration received in respect of health protective equipment and similar products supplied to the Ministry of Health, Department of Health Services, Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Airforce, Sri Lanka Police and COVID Center- 14%;
- (k) gains and profits of any company (even though a higher rate of income tax is applicable as provided under this Act or under any other written law) which lists its shares on or after January, 1 2021, but prior to December 31, 2021, in the Colombo Stock Exchange licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka, for three years of assessment commencing from April 1, 2022 -14%;
- (l) gains and profits from the consideration received in respect of gems and jewellery – 14%;
- (m) subject to item (a), (b), (c), (j) or (k) of this subparagraph, gains and profits from manufacturing-18%;
- (n) gains and profits from conducting betting and gaming-40%;
- (o) gains and profits from the manufacture and sale or import and sale of any liquor or tobacco product-40%.”;

- (d) by the addition immediately after subparagraph (4) of that paragraph, of the following new subparagraph: -

5 “(5) The income tax payable by a company, calculated in accordance with subparagraphs (1), (2A), (3) and (4) of paragraph 4 of this Schedule shall be reduced as follows: -

10 (a) aggregate income tax payable by any company (including income tax payable calculated on the basis and tax rate provided in any agreement with the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka under section 17 of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka Law, No. 4 of 1978, but other than on gains from the realization of investment asset) which lists its shares on or after January 1, 2021, but prior to December 31, 2021, in the Colombo Stock Exchange licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka, shall be reduced by fifty *per centum* for the year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021;

30 (b) such part of income tax payable on gains and profits from dividends by any multi-national company shall be reduced by twenty-five *per centum* for the year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021 and fifty *per centum* for the two years of assessment immediately

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succeeding that year of assessment, subject to the condition that there shall be-

- 5 (i) an increase in exports (other than specified undertakings) by thirty *per centum* in the year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021, compared to the immediately preceding year of assessment (hereinafter referred to as the “first year”);
- 10 or
- 15 (ii) an increase in exports (other than specified undertakings) by fifty *per centum* in the year of assessment commencing from April 1, 2022, compared to the first year and maintains such status in the subsequent
- 20 year of assessment.”;

(5) in paragraph 5 of that Schedule-

- 25 (a) in subparagraph (1) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words and figures “taxed at the rate of [28%].”, of the words and figures “taxed at the rate of 28% prior to January 1, 2020 and 24% with effect from January 1, 2020.”;
- 30 (b) in subparagraph (2) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “realisation of capital assets”, of the words “realisation of investment assets”;

(6) in paragraph 7 of that Schedule-

- 5 (a) in subparagraph (1) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words and figures “taxed at the rate of [28%].”, of the words and figures “taxed at the rate of 28% prior to January 1, 2020 and 24% with effect from January 1, 2020.”;
- 10 (b) in subparagraph (3) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words and figures “taxed at the rate of [28%].”, of the words and figures “taxed at the rate of 28% prior to January 1, 2020 and 24% with effect from January 1, 2020.”;
- (7) in the heading of paragraph 8 of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words “Provident or Pension Funds” of the words “Provident, Pension or Gratuity Funds”;
- 15 (8) in subparagraph (1) of paragraph 10 of that Schedule-
- (a) in item (c)(ii) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the words and figures “14%; and”, of the figures “14%;”;
- 20 (b) in item (c)(iii) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the figures “14%.”, of the word and figures “14%; and”;
- (c) by the addition immediately after item (c)(iii) of that subparagraph, of the following new item: -
- 25 “(iv) in the case of payments referred to in section 85(1A)-
- (iva) interest or discount paid-5%;
- (ivb) all other payments- 14%.”;
- 30 (9) by the addition immediately after paragraph 10 of that Schedule, of the following new paragraphs: -

“11. Tax rate for persons who engage in agro farming together with agro processing or manufacturing.

5 Where a person utilizes agro farming produce
produced by him for his agro processing or
manufacturing business activity in Sri Lanka, such
portion of the tax payable in respect of such agro
processing or manufacturing business activity that
10 corresponds to the proportion of the farming
produce produced by him to the total farming
produce utilized in such agro processing or
manufacturing, shall be reduced by twenty-five *per*
centum, for the period of five years of assessment
commencing on April 1, 2021.

15 **12. Application of tax rates for different gains and profits.**

 Where a person’s taxable income consists of
different sources of income or gains and profits from
different business activities, the income tax rates
20 applicable to each such source of income or such
gains and profits from such different business
activities shall be applied to such source of income
or such gains and profits.”.

25 **52.** The Second Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of the
Second
Schedule to
the principal
enactment

(1) in paragraph 1 of that Schedule-

30 (a) in subparagraph (2), subparagraph (3) and
subparagraph (4) of that paragraph, by the
substitution for the words “total expenses incurred
by that person during that year”, of the words “total
investment made by that person” respectively;

(b) in subparagraph (6) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “shall be deferred”, of the words “shall not be deferred”;

5 (c) by the repeal of subparagraph (9) of that paragraph, and the substitution therefor, of the following subparagraph: -

“Improvements on Leasehold Lands

10 (9) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other provision of this Act, for the purpose of this Schedule, any building, structure, or similar work of a permanent nature constructed or made in a leasehold land by the person who made the investment shall not be deemed as an intangible asset
15 but deemed as a depreciable asset.”;

(2) by the repeal of paragraph 2 of that Schedule, and the substitution therefor, of the following paragraph: -

20 **“Exemption of Certain Dividends from Withholding Tax**

2. Notwithstanding anything in the First Schedule, the rate of tax to be applied on a dividend paid by a company to a non-resident member prior to January 1, 2020 shall be zero, if the company paying the dividend has incurred more than USD 250 million on depreciable assets (other than intangible assets) in Sri Lanka, for the period in which that payment is made out of profits sheltered by enhanced capital allowances under this Schedule.”;

25
30

(3) by the repeal of paragraph 3 of that Schedule, and the substitution therefor of the following paragraph: -

“Exemption of Employment Income

3. Notwithstanding anything in the First Schedule, the rate of tax to be applied on employment income of an expatriate employee shall be zero, if the company making the payment has incurred more than USD 250 million on depreciable assets (other than intangible assets) in Sri Lanka, for the period in which that payment is made out of profits sheltered by enhanced capital allowances under this Schedule, or for five years from the commencement of commercial operations, whichever is higher, where the number of expatriate employees at any time during that period does not exceed twenty.”.

53. The Third Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:-

Amendment
of the Third
Schedule to
the principal
enactment

- (1) in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (d) of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words “by the Commissioner-General;”, of the words “by the Commissioner-General or a regulated provident fund;”;
- (2) by the insertion immediately after paragraph (h) of that Schedule, of the following new paragraph: -

“(hh) a gain made by a person on or after April 1, 2021 from the realisation of land or building which was sold, exchanged or transferred to a real estate investment trust listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange and licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka;”;
- (3) by the repeal of paragraph (i) of that Schedule and the substitution therefor, of the following: -

“(i) the interest accruing to or derived by-

- 5 (i) a charitable institution, where it is proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioner-General that such interest is applied solely for the purpose of providing care to children, the elderly or the disabled in a home maintained by such charitable institution;
- (ii) any person outside Sri Lanka on any loan granted to any person in Sri Lanka or to the Government of Sri Lanka by such person;
- 10 (iii) any person on moneys lying to his credit in foreign currency in any foreign currency account opened by him or on his behalf, in any commercial bank or in any specialized bank, with the approval of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, on or after January 1, 2020;
- 15 (iv) any person from a term deposit account titled as “Special Deposit Account” opened and maintained with an authorized dealer in Sri Lanka as prescribed by regulations made by the Minister under section 29 read with section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017, (excluding the subsequently renewed accounts), either in any designated foreign currency or in Sri Lanka Rupees on or after April 8, 2020;
- 20 (v) any welfare society, on or after April 1, 2021;
- 25 In this subparagraph, “welfare society” means a fund or a society which has been set up or formed for the welfare of its members or their respective families and contributions are made by its members, including benevolent fund which promotes the savings of members, but other than any company which is incorporated or registered under any law in force in Sri Lanka or elsewhere and a partnership;
- 30
- 35

- 5 (vi) any multi-national company on any deposit opened and maintained in foreign currency in any domestic bank, if such deposit is maintained to cover its import expenditure for that year of assessment, on or after April 1, 2021;

10 In this subparagraph, “multi-national company” means a company that is part of a group of associated companies, with business establishments in two or more countries;”;

- (4) by the repeal of paragraphs *(k)* and *(l)* of that Schedule, and the substitution therefor of the following:—

15 “*(k)* any sum received by-

- (i) any person from the President’s Fund established by the President’s Fund Act, No. 7 of 1978 or the National Defence Fund established by the National Defence Fund Act, No. 9 of 1985;
- 20 (ii) any Public Corporation out of the funds voted by Parliament from the Consolidated Fund or out of any loan arranged through the Government;

25 *(l)* any income earned by-

- (i) any non-resident person other than a Sri Lankan permanent establishment by way of interest, discount or realization of any gain on any sovereign bond denominated in local or foreign currency;
- 30

- (ii) any person by way of interest or discount paid or allowed, as the case may be, on any sovereign bond denominated in foreign currency, including Sri Lanka Development Bonds,

issued by or on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka;”;

- (5) by the insertion immediately after paragraph (l) of that Schedule, of the following new paragraphs: -

“(ll) a gain from the realisation of Sri Lanka international sovereign bonds issued by or on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka and received or derived by a commercial bank or authorized dealer who made an aggregate investment not less than USD 100 million in such bonds on or after April 1, 2021;

(lll) interest or discount accrued or derived on or after April 1, 2021 by any Samurdhi community-based banks established under the Department of Samurdhi Development from security or treasury bonds under the Registered Stocks and Securities Ordinance (Chapter 420) or treasury bills under the Local Treasury Bills Ordinance (Chapter 417);”;

- (6) in paragraph (o) of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words “a dividend paid”, of the words and figures “prior to January 1, 2020, a dividend paid”;

- (7) by the insertion immediately after paragraph (o) of that Schedule, of the following new paragraph: -

“(oo) on or after January 1, 2020, a dividend paid by a resident company-

5 (i) to a member to the extent that such dividend payment is attributable to, or derived from, gains and profits from dividend received by that resident company;

10 (in this paragraph, “gains and profits from dividend” means the dividend received by that company after the deduction of expenses or losses, if any, subject to the provisions of this Act and income tax paid or payable on such dividend received by that company);

(ii) to a member who is a non-resident person;

15 (iii) which is engaged in any one or more of the following businesses in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of the Finance Act, No. 12 of 2012 and which has entered into an agreement with the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka established under the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka Law No. 4 of 1978: -

25 (iiia) entrepot trade involving import, minor processing and re-export;

30 (iiib) offshore business where goods can be procured from one country or manufactured in one country and shipped to another country without bringing the same into Sri Lanka;

(iiic) providing front-end services to clients abroad;

- (iiid) headquarters operations of leading buyers for management of financial supply chain and billing operations;
- 5
 - (iiie) logistics services including bonded warehouse or multi-country consolidation in Sri Lanka;”;
- 10
 - (8) in paragraph (*r*) of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words “by a resident company”, of the words “by any person”;
 - (9) by the insertion immediately after paragraph (*r*) of that Schedule, of the following new paragraph: -
 - 15 “(*rr*) dividends and gains on the realisation of units or amounts derived as gains from the realization of capital assets of a business or investment by a unit holder, from real estate investment trust listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange and licensed by the
 - 20 Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka;”;
 - (10) by the addition immediately after paragraph (*s*) of that Schedule, of the following new paragraphs: -
 - 25 “(*t*) any amount derived on or after April 1, 2018, by any non-resident person as any payment for air craft, software licences or as for other related services from the Sri Lankan Airlines Limited;
 - (*u*) the gains and profits earned or derived by any person from-
 - 30 (i) the sale of produce from agro farming of such person within the period of five years of assessment commencing from April 1, 2019:

- 5 Provided that in relation to an undertaking which consists of the production of agro farming produces and utilizing such produce to agro processing or manufacture of any product, such produce shall be deemed to have been sold for the agro processor or manufacturer at the market price prevailing at the time of such deemed sale, and the gains and profits computed on the basis of such deemed sale in relation to the agro farming shall be considered as exempt gains and profits within the period of five years of assessment commencing on April 1, 2019;
- 10
- 15 (ii) providing information technology and enabled services on or after January 1, 2020, as may be prescribed;
- 20 (iii) any service rendered in or outside Sri Lanka to any person to be utilized outside Sri Lanka, where the payment for such services is received in foreign currency and remitted through a bank to Sri Lanka on or after January 1, 2020;
- 25 (iv) any foreign source (other than gains and profits referred to in subparagraph (iii)) where such gains and profits are earned or derived in foreign currency and remitted through a bank to Sri Lanka on or after January 1, 2020;
- 30 (v) any vocational education programmes of any Vocational Education Institution which is standardized under Technical and Vocational Education and Training concept (TVET concept) and regulated by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission-
- 35

5 (a) if such institution has doubled
its student intake of the
vocational education
programmes for such year of
assessment compared to the
student intake of such
programmes in the year of
assessment immediately
preceding that year of
10 assessment;

(b) for a period of five years
commencing on April 1, 2021:

15 Provided however, for the purpose of
paragraph (a), any institution which
doubled the student intake of the
vocational education programmes as
provided for in the first year and
maintained the same student intake of such
20 programmes of the first year for the next
four years shall be deemed as an institution
which fulfilled the requirement in such
years;

25 (vi) any business of export of gold, gems or
jewellery or from the business of cutting and
polishing of gems which are brought to Sri
Lanka and exported after such cutting and
polishing, where such gains and profits earned
in foreign currency are remitted through a
30 bank to Sri Lanka, with effect from April 1,
2021;

(V) any amount derived on or after January 1, 2020 by-

(i) any non-resident person from laboratory
services or standards certification services;

- (ii) any religious institution which is registered with the Ministry in charge of the subject of religious affairs, by way of grants or donations;
- 5 (w) gains and profits received or derived from business
 (other than any gains from the realisation of capital
 assets and liabilities of the business as calculated
 under Chapter IV of this Act) by a person from
10 following any new undertaking (which is not
 formed by splitting-up or re-construction of an
 existing undertaking) commenced on or after April
 1, 2021, for that period, subject to the conditions
 contained herein: -

 - 15 (i) an undertaking which is involved in the sale
 of construction materials recycled in a
 selected separate site established in Sri Lanka
 to recycle the materials which were already
 used in the construction industry, (a person
 who is involved in the provision of
20 construction services using construction
 materials recycled by him from a site with the
 same conditions, in the provision of such
 services provided by him shall be deemed to
 have sold such materials for the construction
25 service at a market price prevailing at the time
 of such deemed sale), for a period of ten years;
 - 30 (ii) any business commenced on or after April 1,
 2021 by an individual after successful
 completion of vocational education from any
 Vocational Education Institution which is
 standardized under Technical and Vocational
 Education and Training concept (TVET
 concept) and regulated by the Tertiary and
 Vocational Education Commission, for a
35 period of five years;

- 5 (iii) an undertaking commenced by a resident person for the purpose of manufacturing of boats or ships in Sri Lanka and received or derived any gains and profits from the supply of such boats or ships, for a period of seven years;
- 10 (iv) any renewable energy project established with a capacity to produce not less than one hundred Mega Watts of solar or wind power and supplied such power to the national grid, for a period of seven years;
- 15 (v) an undertaking commenced on or after January 1, 2021 by any resident person who constructs and installs communication towers and related appliances using local labour and local raw materials in Sri Lanka or provides required technical services for such construction or installation, for a period of five years;
- 20 (vi) an undertaking for letting bonded warehouses or warehouses related to the offshore business in the Colombo and Hambanthota Ports, if such person has invested on such undertaking on or after April 1, 2021;
- 25 Tax exemption periods provided in the above subparagraphs (other than in subparagraph (vi)) shall be reckoned from the year of assessment in which the undertaking commences to make profits (assessable income from such business) from transactions entered
- 30 into in that year of assessment or from the commencement of the year of assessment immediately succeeding the year of assessment in which the undertaking completes a period of two years reckoned from the date on which the undertaking commences to carry on commercial
- 35 operations, whichever occurs earlier.”.

54. The Fourth Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of the Fourth
Schedule to
the principal
enactment

- (1) in the table in subparagraph (1) of paragraph 1 of that Schedule, by the addition, immediately after Class 5, of the following new Class:-

“6	milking machines with latest technology, used to manufacture local liquid milk related products.”;
----	--

- (2) in paragraph 2 of that Schedule-

- (a) in the table in subparagraph (3) of that paragraph, by the addition, immediately after Class 5, of the following new Class:-

“6	2.”;
----	------

- (b) in subparagraph (4) of that paragraph-

- (i) in item (c) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the words “vehicle; or”, of the words “vehicle;”;
- (ii) in item (d) of that subparagraph, by the substitution for the words “trailer.”, of the words “trailer; or”;
- (iii) by the addition immediately after item (d) of that subparagraph, of the following new item:-

“(e) a motor cycle.”;

- (3) by the addition immediately after subparagraph (3) of paragraph 4 of that Schedule, of the following new subparagraph:-

“(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in subparagraph (1), where a depreciable asset of a

5 person which was subject to deduction of the
enhanced capital allowances calculated in
accordance with the provisions of the Second or
Sixth Schedule to this Act is realized by that
person, an assessable charge included in
calculating the person's income for the year shall
be equal to the consideration received by the
person during the year of assessment for such
asset, or no balancing allowance shall be granted
10 to the person for the year for such asset.”.

55. The Fifth Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of the Fifth
Schedule to
the principal
enactment

(1) in paragraph 1 of that Schedule-

15 (a) in subparagraph (c) of that paragraph, by
the substitution for the words “profits
remitted to the President's Fund”, of the
words “any sum paid to the Consolidated
Fund or to the President's Fund”;

20 (b) by the insertion immediately after
subparagraph (c) of that paragraph, of the
following new subparagraphs: -

25 “(d) with effect from April 1, 2021,
contribution made by a resident
individual in money or otherwise to
establish a shop for a female
individual who is from a Samurdhi
beneficiary family as recommended
and confirmed by the Department of
Samurdhi Development;

30 (e) with effect from April 1, 2021,
expenditure incurred by any financial
institution by way of cost of
acquisition or merger of any other
financial institution where such cost
35 is ascertained by considering all the

5 facts on case-by-case basis and as
confirmed by the Central Bank of
Sri Lanka. Such deductible
expenditure shall be apportioned in
equal amounts over a period of three
years of assessment and be deductible
from the assessable income of that
financial institution in each such year
of assessment commencing from the
10 year of assessment where the
expenditure is incurred:

15 Provided however, any amount
which was not deducted during the
three years period, by reason of the
total assessable income in a year has
not exceeded the above permitted
deduction, shall be deducted in the
year of assessment immediately after
the three years period and so on;

20 (f) expenditure incurred on or after April
1, 2021, by any person-

25 (i) in the production of a film at a
cost of (including promotional
expenditure of such film) not
less than five million rupees;

(ii) in the construction and
equipping of a new cinema at a
cost of not exceeding twenty-
five million rupees;

30 (iii) in the upgrading of a cinema at
a cost of not exceeding ten
million rupees:

35 Provided that, the deduction under
this subparagraph shall be restricted
to one third of the taxable income of
the year, and any amount which is not

deducted in current year may be carried forward and deducted in the next succeeding year and so on, subject to the same restriction.

5 For the purpose of this subparagraph-

10 “film” means any audio-visual presentation of the moving image produced on any form or format whatsoever and which is intended primarily to be exhibited by projection on a screen in a cinema; and

15 the expenditure on construction and equipping or upgrading a cinema shall be certified by the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka established by the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka Act, No. 47 of 1971 as being equipped with digital technology, Digital Theatre Systems and
20 Dolby Sound Systems.”;

(2) in paragraph 2 of that Schedule-

25 (a) by the repeal of subparagraph (a) of that paragraph and the substitution therefor, of the following subparagraph: -

“(a) (i) Rs. 500,000, for each year of assessment prior to January 1, 2020; and

30 (ii) Rs. 3,000,000, for each year of assessment commencing on or after January 1, 2020,

except that an individual who is a trustee, receiver, executor or liquidator shall not be

entitled to deduct this personal relief as such trustee, receiver, executor or liquidator, and the relief shall not be deducted against gains from the realization of investment;”;

- 5 (b) in subparagraph (b) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “year of assessment,” of the words “year of assessment, but prior to January 1, 2020,”;
- 10 (c) in subparagraph (d) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “for the year;”, of the words and figures “for the year up to December 31, 2019;”;
- 15 (d) in subparagraph (e) of that paragraph, by the substitution for the words “for the year.”, of the words and figures “for the year up to December 31, 2019;”;
- (e) by the addition immediately after subparagraph (e) of that paragraph, of the following new subparagraphs:-
- 20 “(f) in the case of a resident individual, following expenditure up to a total sum of Rs. 1,200,000, incurred for a year of assessment on or after January 1, 2020: -
- 25 (i) health expenditure including contributions to medical insurance;
- (ii) vocational education or other educational expenditure incurred locally by such individual or on behalf of such individual’s children;
- 30 (iii) interest paid on housing loans;

- (iv) contributions made to any local pension scheme, other than for a scheme under the employer or on behalf of the employer, by an employee;
- 5 (v) expenditure incurred for the purchase of shares or any other financial instrument listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange and licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka or
- 10 treasury bonds under the Registered Stocks and Securities Ordinance (Chapter 420) or treasury bills under the Local Treasury Bills Ordinance (Chapter 417);
- 15 (g) in the case of a resident individual who has acquired solar panels to fix on his premises and connected to the national grid, Rs. 600,000 for each year of assessment, upto the total expenditure on such solar panels or upto the amounts paid to a bank in respect of any loan
- 20 obtained to acquire such solar panels.”.

56. The Sixth Schedule to the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows: -

Amendment
of the Sixth
Schedule to
the principal
enactment

- (1) by the repeal of paragraph 2 of that Schedule;
- 25 (2) in paragraph 3 of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words “three years”, of the words “six years”;
- (3) in paragraph 8 of that Schedule, by the substitution for the words and figures “section 15, for three years”, of the words and figures “section 15, during the period of five years”;
- 30 (4) by the insertion immediately after paragraph 8 of that Schedule, of the following new paragraphs:-

“Rate of Interest

9. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in subsection (1) of section 159, the rate of

interest for any payment due and payable during the period from March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020 under this Act, shall be zero percent.

Marketing and Communication Expenses

5 10. (1) Subject to subparagraph (2), a person shall be entitled to an additional deduction when calculating his income from business for a year of assessment, equal to 100% of the total amount of marketing and communication expenses
10 deducted under section 15A during the three years of assessment commencing from April 1, 2021.

 (2) The additional deduction under subparagraph (1) shall be made subject to the
15 following conditions: -

- (a) the payment shall be made to a person who is not an associated person of the tax payer;
- (b) internal marketing expenses, salaries of
20 marketing staff, expenditure on maintaining an internal marketing department, expenditure on corporate social responsibility initiatives and foreign travel expenses shall not be considered for
25 the purpose of the additional deduction under subparagraph (1);
- (c) expenditure shall be attributable to goods and services with 65% of local value addition, the mode of calculation of
30 which shall be as specified by the Commissioner-General;

(d) the total additional deduction under subparagraph (1) shall not exceed Rs. 500,000,000 in any year of assessment;

5 (e) the Commissioner-General shall specify the requirements to maintain records, source documents and underlying documents for the purpose of subparagraph (1), in addition to the requirements of other sections of this Act.

10 **Financial Cost**

11. Subject to the provisions of this Act, financial cost incurred (other than such amounts, of which deductions is denied in previous years) during the year of assessment commencing on April 1, 2021, shall be deducted irrespective of the limit referred to in subsection (2) of section 18. That year of assessment shall not be recognized for the purpose of six years period referred to in subsection (3) of section 18.”.

20 **57.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Commissioner-General may, for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act, issue guidelines as may be necessary for the purpose of calculating the income tax payable for the year of assessment ending March 31, 2020, specifying the computation of assessable income (or losses) from each source, deductions of qualifying payments and reliefs, computation of taxable income, applicable tax rates and tax credits in which to apply the pro-rata basis or actual basis only for the required circumstances as the case may be, for over the two periods of the year of assessment as for the first period from April 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 and for the second period from January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020.

Power of the Commissioner-General to issue guidelines for specific periods

58. (1) The Commissioner-General shall write off any income tax arrears payable by any Small and Medium Enterprise as defined in section 195 of the principal enactment for the year of assessment commencing on April 1, 2019, if such arrears arise due to any assessment made (other than the assessments made for tax payments as per the returns but including any penalty) up to the year of assessment ending March 31, 2019 which is outstanding as at June 26, 2020, in the records of the Commissioner-General-
- 10 (a) if such assessment was made as per the provisions of this Act or the provisions of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 10 of 2006 or the provisions of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 38 of 2000 or the provisions of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 28 of 1979; but
- 15 (b) subject to the deduction of any refunds duly claimed by such person as provided in any tax Act administered by the Commissioner-General from such income tax arrears.
- (2) Subject to section 136 of the principal enactment, 20 the Assistant Commissioner shall not amend the self-assessment under the provisions of section 135 of that enactment for the year of assessment ending on March 31, 2020, where the Assistant Commissioner is satisfied that there is no fraud or willful neglect involved in the disclosure 25 of income or any deduction or relief by such Small and Medium Enterprise and paid the tax declared in the return.
- (3) The Commissioner-General shall not impose any penalty or initiate criminal proceedings under Chapter XVIII of the principal enactment against a person who-
- 30 (a) files his return of income for the year of assessment commencing on April 1, 2019, before June 30, 2021; and

Tax relief measures to facilitate post-Covid-19 economic recovery

- (b) makes the payment of tax payable on assessment referred to in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 82 of the principal enactment, for the year of assessment commencing on April 1, 2019, before June 30, 2021.

59. The amendments made to the principal enactment by the sections specified in *Column I* of *Table B* set out in this Amendment Act, to the corresponding sections specified in *Column II* of that Table shall be deemed, for all purposes, to have come into operation on such dates as are specified in the corresponding entries in *Column III* of that Table.

Retrospective effect

60. Any person who has collected the income tax as provided for in this Amendment Act during the period commencing from such dates as are specified in *Column III* of *Table B* set out in this Amendment Act and ending on the date of commencement of this Amendment Act, shall be deemed to have acted with due authority and such collection shall be deemed, for all purposes, to have been, and to be, validly made and such person is hereby indemnified against all actions civil or criminal in respect of such collection.

Validation

61. 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.

'Table A'

(section 1)

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>
6	11
7	14
8	15A
10	18
11	19
13	36
14	38
17	60
18	62
19(2)	66(3)
34(2)	93(3)
36	95
37	103
38	113
39	120
40	126
42(2) and 42(3)	139(5) and 139(6)
43	140
45(2)	158(2)
47	190A
48(4), (7) and (10)	195
51(1)(f)	subparagraph (5) of paragraph 1 of the First Schedule

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>
51(4)(c)	items (k) and (l) of subparagraph (2A) of paragraph 4 of the First Schedule
51(4)(d)	subparagraph (5) of paragraph 4 of the First Schedule
51 (9)	paragraph 11 of the First Schedule
52(1)(c)	subparagraph (9) of paragraph 1 of the Second Schedule
52(2)	paragraph 2 of the Second Schedule
52(3)	paragraph 3 of the Second Schedule
53 (2)	paragraph (hh) of the Third Schedule
53(3)	subparagraph (v) and (vi) of paragraph (i) of the Third Schedule
53(5)	paragraphs (II) and (III) of the Third Schedule
53(9)	paragraph (rr) of the Third Schedule
53(10)	subparagraphs (v) and (vi) of paragraph (u), and paragraph (w) of the Third Schedule
54(1)	the table in subparagraph (1) of paragraph 1 of the Fourth Schedule
54(2)(a)	the table in subparagraph (3) of paragraph 2 of the Fourth Schedule
54(3)	paragraph 4 of the Fourth Schedule
55(1)(b)	subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) of paragraph 1 of the Fifth Schedule
55(2)(e)	subparagraph (g) of paragraph 2 of the Fifth Schedule
56(4)	paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Sixth Schedule

‘Table B’ (section 59)

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>
2	5	01.04.2018
3	6	01.04.2018
4	9	01.04.2018
5	10	01.04.2018
9	16	01.04.2018
12	20	01.04.2018
15	53	01.01.2020
16	55	01.01.2020
19(1) and 19(3)	66(2) and 66(4)	01.04.2018
20	68	01.04.2018
21	70	01.04.2018
22	75	01.04.2018
23	76	01.04.2018
24	77	01.04.2018
25	78	01.04.2018
26	83	01.01.2020
27	83A	01.04.2020
28	84	01.01.2020
29	84A	01.04.2020
30	85	01.01.2020
31	87	01.04.2018

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>
32(1)(b) and 32(3)	88 (1)(d) and 88(3)	01.04.2018
32(1)(a) and 32(2)	88(1) and 88 (1A)	01.01.2020
33(1) and 33(2)	90(1) and 90(2)	01.04.2018
33(3) and 33(4)	90(3) and 90(5)	01.04.2020
34(1)	93(2)	01.04.2018
35	94	01.04.2019
41	129	01.04.2018
42(1)	139(3)	01.04.2018
44	157	01.04.2018
45(1)	158(1)	01.04.2018
46	159(1) and 159(2)	01.04.2018
48(1), (3), (8) and (9)	195	01.04.2018
48(2)	195	01.04.2019
48(5)	195	01.01.2020
48(6)	195	01.04.2020
49	201(2)(b)	01.04.2018
50	203	01.04.2018
51(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d)	subparagraph (1), (1A), (2) and (3) respectively of paragraph 1 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>
51(2)	paragraph 2 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(3)	subparagraph (1) of paragraph 3 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(4)(a)	subparagraph (1) of paragraph 4 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(4)(b)	subparagraph (2) of paragraph 4 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(4)(c)	subparagraph 2A of paragraph 4, other than items (k) and (l) of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(5)(a)	subparagraph (1) of paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(6)	subparagraph (1) and (3) of paragraph 7 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(8)	subparagraph (1) paragraph 10 of the First Schedule	01.01.2020
51(1)(e)	subparagraph (4) of paragraph 1 of the First Schedule	01.04.2019
51(5)(b)	subparagraph (2) of paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	01.04.2018
51(7)	paragraph 8 of the First Schedule	01.04.2018
51(9)	paragraph 12 of the First Schedule	01.04.2020

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>
52(1)(a) and (b)	subparagraphs (2), (3), (4) and (6) of paragraph 1 of the Second Schedule	01.04.2018
53(1)	paragraph (d) of the Third Schedule	01.04.2018
53(3)	subparagraph (i) and (ii) of paragraph (i) of the Third Schedule	01.04.2018
53(4)	paragraphs (k) and (l) of the Third Schedule	01.04.2018
53(8)	paragraph (r) of the Third Schedule	01.04.2018
53(10)	paragraph (t) of the Third Schedule	01.04.2018
53(3)	subparagraph (iii) of paragraph (i) of the Third Schedule	01.01.2020
53(6)	paragraph (o) of the Third Schedule	01.01.2020
53(7)	paragraph (oo) of the Third Schedule	01.01.2020
53(10)	subparagraph (ii), (iii) and (iv) of paragraph (u) of the Third Schedule	01.01.2020
53(10)	paragraph (v) of the Third Schedule	01.01.2020
53(3)	subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (i) of the Third Schedule	08.04.2020
53(10)	subparagraph (i) of paragraph (u) of the Third Schedule	01.04.2019
54(2)(b)	subparagraph (4) of paragraph 2 of the Fourth Schedule	01.04.2018
55(1)(a)	subparagraph (c) of paragraph 1 of the Fifth Schedule	01.04.2019

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>	<i>Column III</i>
<i>Section number of this Act</i>	<i>Section number of the principal enactment which is amended</i>	<i>Date of operation</i>
55(2)	paragraph 2 other than subparagraph (g) of the Fifth Schedule	01.01.2020
56(1), (2) and (3)	paragraphs (2), (3) and (8) of the Sixth Schedule	01.04.2018
56(4)	paragraph 4 of the Sixth Schedule	01.03.2020
57	new section	01.04.2019
58	new section	26.06.2020

