



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

LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT)

**A
BILL**

to amend the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance (Chapter 262)

*Presented by the Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law, M. P.
for Colombo District on 08th of November, 2022*

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Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTIONS ORDINANCE
(CHAPTER 262)

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. of 2022.

Short title

5 2. Section 28 of the main ordinance as amended by Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act No. 16 of 2017 is amended as follows:—

Amendment
of Article 28
of the
Principal
Enactment

10 (i) Subsection (2) of section 28 of the Principal Enactment, as amended by subsection (2) of Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 is hereby removed and amended by substituting the following section:—

15 “In subsection (2) of that section by the repeal of the words commencing from “Any recongnized political party” and ending with the words “setting out the names:—”, and the substitution therefore of the following:—

20 “(2) Any recongnized political party or independent group shall, for the purpose of election as members of any local authority, submit two nomination papers in respect of all wards of such local authority. The nomination papers submitted by every recongnized political party or independent group in respect of all wards of any local authority shall consist of the number of candidates of whom
25 twenty five *per centum* are youth candidates, whilst upholding the principle that not less than ten *per centum* of the total number of members to be elected

2 *Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)*

and returned in the first nomination paper, and not less than fifty *per centum* of the total number of candidates in the additional nomination paper shall be women candidates for the purpose of election as
5 members of such local authority, substantially in the Forms set out in the First Schedule, setting out the names—”.”

(ii) Subsection (6) of Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 is hereby
10 repealed and amended substituting the following section:—

Subsection (2A) of Section 28 of the Principal Enactment, as amended by the subsection (6) of Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017, is hereby entirely
15 repealed and amended as the following:—

(2A) The Commissioner shall by notice published in the *Gazette*, specify the minimum number of women candidates and youth candidates as
20 specified in subsection (2) to be nominated in the First Nomination Paper and the Additional Nomination Paper in respect of all wards of each Local Authority. Where the total number of women candidates to be nominated is such that not less
25 than ten *per centum* and youth candidates to be nominated is such that not less than twenty five *per centum* of the total number of members to be elected and returned in the First Nomination Paper. Women should comprise not less than fifty *per centum* of
30 the number of candidates and youth should comprise not less than twenty five *per centum* in the Additional Nomination Paper. When such number of candidates would be an integer and

fraction, the integer shall be deemed to be the number required for the purposes of this section.”.”

(iii) Subsections (2D) and (2E) of section 28 of the Principal Enactment, as amended by subsection 8 and 9 of the
5 Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 are hereby repealed.

(iv) As amended subsection (2) of section 11 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 of the Section 31 (E) of the Principal Enactment is hereby
10 entirely repealed and amended as follows:–

“(f) that does not contain the total number of women and youth candidates as required to be nominated under subsection (2A) of section 28 of this Ordinance.”.

15 **3. (a)** Subsections 2 (i) and 2 (ii) of this Act stipulate that when confirming the ten *per centum* of women candidature in the first nomination list of a local government body, that ten *per centum* should, as much as possible, must be evenly distributed among the 75% of the adult candidates
20 and 25% of the young candidates. Also, as stated in subsections 2 (i) and 2 (ii) of the Act, fifty per cent of the second nomination list of a local government body for women candidates, that fifty per cent, should be distributed as reasonably as possible, between 25% of young candidates
25 and 75% of adult candidates.

Suspicion
Clause

(b) The provisions of this Act shall apply to any provisions of this Act contrary to the provisions of this Act.

4. (a) The term “Youth Candidates” mentioned in any section of this Act should be read and understood as both male and female youth candidates.

Interpretation

(b) For the purpose of this Act, ‘Youth Candidates’ mean
5 to persons between the ages of 18 and 35 years.

5. 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.

