



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
SRI LANKA

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METRIC UNITS (CONSEQUENTIAL  
PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, No. 10 OF 1983

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[Certified on 10th February, 1983]

*Printed on the Orders of Government*

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Published as a Supplement to Part II of the Gazette of the Democratic  
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka of February 11, 1983

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PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA

TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO

Price : 95 cents

Postage : 50 cents

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1983**

[Certified on 10th February, 1983]

L. D.-O. 96/80.

**An Act to AMEND THE METRIC UNITS (CONSEQUENTIAL  
PROVISIONS) LAW, No. 40 OF 1978.**

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Metric Units (Consequential Provisions) (Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1983.

Chapter 110A.

2. The Schedule to the Metric Units (Consequential Provisions) Law, No. 40 of 1978, is hereby repealed and the following Schedule substituted therefor:—

Replacement of  
Schedule to  
Law No. 40  
of 1978.

Column 1 EXISTING LAW	Column 2 AMENDMENTS
1. The Electricity Act.	<p>1. In subitem 3 of subsection one of section 13 substitute—</p> <p>(i) for the figures and words "18 chains to an inch" the figures "1 : 10000";</p> <p>(ii) for the figures and words "24 inch to an inch" the figures "1 : 2540";</p> <p>(iii) for the figures and words "40 feet to an inch" the figures "1 : 508";</p> <p>(iv) for the figures and words "2 chains to an inch" the figures "1 : 2032";</p> <p>(v) for the figures and words "1 mile to an inch" the figures "1 : 50,000";</p> <p>2. In paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 23, substitute for the words "thirty three feet", the figures and word "10 metres";</p> <p>3. In paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 24, substitute for the words "one inch to eight feet" and "sixteen inches to the mile", the figures "1 : 100" and "1 : 1600" respectively;</p> <p>4. In subsection (f) of section 25, substitute for the words "one hundred and fifty feet", the figures and word "15 metres";</p> <p>5. In section 26, substitute for the words "two hundred and twenty-five feet", the figures and word "25 metres";</p>

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)**  
**(Amendment) Act, No. 15 of 1985**

**Column I**  
**REPLACEMENT**

**Column II**  
**AMENDMENT**

**2. The Bread Ordinance** For section 2, substitute the following section:—

"Bread of bread  
by weight, and  
marking of  
weight of loaves."

2 (1) No baker or vendor of bread shall sell any bread other than loaves, bread or rolls, except in loaves weighing two hundred and twenty five grammes, four hundred and fifty grammes, nine hundred grammes or one thousand and eight hundred grammes.

(2) Subject as hereinafter provided, no baker or vendor of bread shall sell any loaf of bread or expose any such loaf for sale, unless the weight of the loaf is clearly marked on the loaf by an impression made in, or by a label or wrapper attached to or enclosing the loaf:

Provided that nothing in the foregoing provisions of this subsection shall apply:—

(a) in the case of loaves, bread or rolls, of any loaf of bread which is under one hundred and twenty five grammes in weight; or

(b) in the case of any bread which, in pursuance of any contract or agreement in that behalf, is supplied on any occasion in any quantity not less than fifty kilogrammes and in weighed upon delivery."

**3. The Medical Waste Ordinance** In section 2, substitute for the definition of "waste", the following definition:—

"'waste' means any waste in which substances are employed having four beetles; of land generally cultivated in tea, rubber, rubber, coconut, cardamom, coconut, pepper, or similar;"

**4. The Customs Ordinance**

1. Renumber section 10 as subsection (1) of that section.

2. In section 10, insert after the renumbered subsection (1) of that section, the following subsection:—

"(2) Every duty assessed or imposed on the basis of any measurement unit under the proviso to subsection (1), shall be according to the International System of Units as defined in Article 2 of the Weights and Measures (Definition),"

3. For section 11, substitute the following section:

"Units for the  
purpose of the  
law currency go-  
according to units  
of measurement  
for Sri Lanka."

11. All duties of customs as well as all penalties under the Ordinance, shall be paid and assessed in the national designation of currency having numerical, and at the rates of exchange

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1983**

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**Column I**  
**REMARKS**

**Column II**  
**AMENDMENTS**

Provision of postage shall be held in to the Treasurer etc.

specifically, in, British gold or silver money, or in such other description of money and at such rate of exchange as may from time to time be determined by the Minister and according to the scale of measurements for Sri Lanka; and in all cases, when such duties are imposed and allowed according to any specific quantity or any specific value, the same shall be deemed to apply in the same proportion to any greater or less quantity of value; and the proceeds of all duties of customs shall be paid by the Collector into the hands of the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury or to the authorized officer of Sri Lanka in such manner and at such periods as may be specified by the Minister."

6. The Muzzing and Town Improvement Ordinance

The Schedule to the Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:-

(1) in paragraph (3) of rule 2 of that Schedule by the substitution for the figure and word "4 feet", the figure and word "1.2 metres";

(2) in rule 3 of that Schedule:-

(a) by the substitution, in paragraph (a) of that rule:-

(a) for the figure and word "9 feet" the figure and word "2.700 millimetres";

(b) for the figure and word "9 feet", the figure and word "2.700 millimetres";

(b) by the substitution, in paragraph (b) of that rule:-

(a) for the figure and words "120 square feet", the figure and words "11.1 square metres";

(b) for the figure and words "80 square feet", the figure and words "7.4 square metres";

(c) by the substitution, in paragraph (c) of that rule for the figure and word "8 feet", the figure and word "2.400 millimetres";

(d) by the substitution, in paragraph (d) of that rule for the figure and word "8 feet", the figure and word "2.400 millimetres";

(e) by the substitution, in paragraph (e) of that rule for the figure and words "8 square feet", the figure and words "0.74 square metres";

(f) by the substitution, in paragraph (f) of that rule for the words "one and a half feet", the figure and word "450 millimetres";

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 1983**

**Section 4**  
**Interpretation**

**Column 11**  
**AMENDMENTS**

(3) in rule 4 of that Schedule—

(i) by the substitution, in paragraph (3) of that rule for the figures and word "7½ feet", the figures and word "2.283 metres";

(ii) by the substitution, in the second provision in the rule for the figures and word "1½ feet", the figures and word "4.5 metres";

(4) in paragraph (1) of rule 5 of that Schedule—

(i) by the substitution, for the figures and word "7½ feet", wherever they occur in that paragraph, the figures and word "2.2 metres";

(ii) by the substitution, for the figures and word "10 feet", wherever they occur in that paragraph, the figures and word "3 metres";

(iii) by the substitution, for the figure and word "2 feet", the figure and word "0.6 metres";

(5) in rule 6 of that Schedule—

(i) by the substitution in paragraph (1) of that rule—

(a) for the figures and word "40 feet", the figures and word "12 metres";

(b) for the figures and word "16 feet", the figures and word "5 metres";

(c) for the figures and word "12 feet", the figures and word "3.6 metres";

(d) for the figures and word "20 feet", the figures and word "6 metres";

(e) for the figures and word "18 feet", the figures and word "5.4 metres";

(ii) by the substitution, in paragraph (2) of that rule—

(a) for the figures and word "35 feet", the figures and word "9 metres";

(b) for the figures and word "20 feet", the figures and word "6 metres";

(iii) by the substitution in paragraph (3) of that rule, for the figures and word "12 feet", the figures and word "4.5 metres";

(6) in rule 8 of that Schedule by the substitution for the figures and words "1,220 square feet", the figures and words "122.9 square metres";

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1983**

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**Column I**  
**REPLACEMENTS**

**Column II**  
**AMENDMENTS**

**6. The Rubber Control  
Act**

**1. For section 16, substitute the following section:—**

**"Scales to be  
kept in licensed  
premises.**

**16. Every licensed dealer shall keep in his licensed premises or under separate cover weighing up to fifty kilograms and shall upon being requested to do so by the Controller or by an officer authorised by the Controller, cause any rubber in those premises to be weighed, and shall permit and give every facility and assistance to the Controller or such authorised officer to compare the weight of the stock of rubber in those premises with the weights as shown in the record maintained under section 16."**

**2. In section 22, substitute, for subsections (1) and (2) of that provision, the following subsections:—**

**"(1) There shall be charged, levied and paid an export duty on rubber calculated at such rate as may be determined by a resolution of Parliament on every hundred kilograms of rubber exported from Sri Lanka. Every such resolution shall be published in the Gazette.**

**Provided, however, that no such duty shall be charged or levied on any rubber which is proved to the satisfaction of the Principal Collector of Customs to have been imported into Sri Lanka for the purpose of re-export.**

**(2) The amount of duty imposed under this section (1) of this section may be varied, or the duty imposed may be rescinded at any time by a resolution of Parliament. Such resolution shall be published in the Gazette and shall come into effect from the date of such publication."**

**3. In sub-section (1) of section 22 substitute, for the definitions respectively, of "estate" and "small holding", the following definitions:—**

**"estate" means any area of land which is not less than four hectares in extent and on which rubber plants are grown for the purpose of collecting latex therefrom;**

**"small holding" means an area of land which is less than four hectares in extent and on which rubber plants are grown for the purpose of collecting latex therefrom."**

**7. The Rubber Devel-  
opment Fund Act.**

**a Section:—**

**(1) substitute for subsections (1), (2) and (3) of that section, the following subsections:—**

**"(1) There shall be charged, levied and paid an export duty as may be determined by a resolution of Parliament for every kilogramme of strip rubber, exported from Sri Lanka.**

**(2) There shall be charged, levied and paid an export duty as may be determined by a resolution of Parliament for every kilogramme of scrap, waste rubber exported from Sri Lanka.**

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 1983**

**Column I**  
**NOTIFICATION**

**Column II**  
**AMENDMENT**

(3) There shall be charged, levied and paid on export duties as may be determined by a resolution of Parliament for every kilogramme of waste rubber exported from Sri Lanka."

(3) Omit subsection (3) of that section.

**8. The Rubber Research Ordinance**

In Section 5, substitute for subsection (4) of that section the following subsection:—

"(4) For the purpose of calculating the duty under subsection (1), one liter of fluid latex shall be taken to be equivalent to three hundred and fifty units of a kilogramme of dry rubber and one and half kilogramme of coagulated latex shall be taken to be equivalent to one kilogramme of dry rubber."

**9. The Crown Lands Ordinance**

1. In section 55, substitute for paragraph (3) of that section, the following paragraph:—

"(3) all waste land which, not being private property, lies within a distance of one metre of the middle of a public carriageway or railway or within three metres of the middle of a public pathway";

2. In subsection (1) of section 53 substitute for the words "one mile", the words "one thousand and six hundred metres";

3. In paragraph (7) of section 52, substitute for the figures and word "5,000 feet", the words "one thousand and six hundred metres";

4. In section 51, substitute for the figures and word "5,000 feet", the words "one thousand and six hundred metres";

5. In the First Schedule to the Ordinance, substitute for the words and figures "twelve acres, three rods and ten perches and seven tenths of a perch (512 X 3 1/4 X 10.7)" the figures and word "2,512 hectares";

**10. Land Development Ordinance**

In paragraph (c) of section 15B, substitute for the figures and word "5,000 feet", the words "one thousand and six hundred metres";

**11. The Tea Control Act, No. 61 of 1947**

1. In section 15, substitute, for subsection (3) of that section, the following subsection;

"(3) Every licensed dealer shall keep in his licensed premises, and every manufacturer to whom subsection (3) of this section applies shall keep in his tea factory, scales capable of weighing up to fifty kilogrammes;

Provided, however, that it shall not be necessary for a licensed dealer who deals solely in tea to be provided or a registered packer to keep in his licensed premises tea scales referred to in this subsection."

Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1963

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Section I  
REVISIONS

Section II  
AMENDMENTS

2. In subsection (1) of section 53, substitute, for the definitions respectively, of "estate" and "small holding", the following definitions:-

"estate" means an area of land, four hectares or more in extent, on which tea plants are grown for the purpose of harvesting the leaf thereof for conversion into made tea;

"small holding" means an area of land less than four hectares in extent on which tea plants are grown for the purpose of harvesting the leaf thereof for conversion into whole tea.

12. The Tea and Rubber  
Estates (Control of  
Partitioning) Act,  
No. 3 of 1954

1. In sections 4, 5 and 6, for subsection (3) of each section, the following subsection:-

"(3) The Board shall grant its consent:-

(a) to the transfer of ownership of a tea or rubber estate which does not involve the division of such estate into a number of lots;

(b) to the transfer of ownership of a tea or rubber estate which involves the division of such estate into a number of lots or to the partition by deed of a tea or rubber estate, or to the institution of a partition action in respect of a tea or rubber estate:-

(i) if all the lots into which such estate is to be divided or partitioned, or all those lots except such one of them as is not less than forty hectares in extent, are to be used for an object which is declared to be a housing object by section 2 of the National Housing Act, or for any industrial purpose, or for the development of any town, or for any other prescribed purpose, or are to be merged with an adjoining tea or rubber estate and the Board is of opinion that such merger will result in the more efficient and economic management of the lands that are merged;

(ii) if, in the opinion of the Board, the agricultural conditions of such estate are already so unsatisfactory that its division or partition into lots is not likely to affect such conditions adversely; or

(iii) if each of the lots into which such estate is to be divided or partitioned is not less than two hundred hectares in extent in the



**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1982**

**Section 7**  
**Interpretation**

**Section 8**  
**Amendment**

area of ten and one hundred hectares in extent in the case of rubber, and such division or partition will not in the opinion of the Board adversely affect the agricultural condition or the efficiency of management of the property."

2. For section 8, substitute the following section:-

"Prohibition of registration of certain estates and small holdings under the Tea Control Act, No. 51 of 1957, and the Rubber Control Act.

8. (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Tea Control Act, No. 51 of 1957, an estate of less than two hundred hectares in extent, or a small holding, constituted by the division of a tea estate into lots on or after the appointed day shall not be registered under such Act unless such division has been made in consequence of a transfer or partition of such tea estate with the prior consent of the Board and in accordance with the conditions, if any, subject to which such consent has been granted. In this subsection the expression "small holding" shall have the same meaning as in the Tea Control Act, No. 51 of 1957.

(2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Rubber Control Act, an estate, less than one hundred hectares in extent, or a small holding, constituted by the division of a rubber estate into lots on or after the appointed day shall not be registered under such Act unless such division has been made in consequence of a transfer or partition of such rubber estate with the prior consent of the Board and in accordance with the conditions, if any, subject to which such consent has been granted. In this subsection the expression "small holding" shall have the same meaning as in the Rubber Control Act."

3. In section 58, substitute, for the definitions respectively of "rubber estate" and "tea estate", the following definitions:-

"rubber estate" means a rubber estate of not less than fifty hectares in extent which, under the Rubber Control Act is or is deemed to be an estate registered under that Act;

"tea estate" means a tea estate of not less than sixty hectares in extent which, under the Tea Control Act, No. 51 of 1957, is or is deemed to be an estate registered under that Act."

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1983**

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**Column 1**  
**RECAPITULATION**

**Column 2**  
**AMENDMENTS**

13 The Estate Income  
(Compulsory  
Assessment) Act,  
No. 19 of 1956

In section 6, substitute for the definition of "estate", the following definition:—

"estate" means any land or group of lands, whether cultivated or uncultivated, which in that free chain of title represents an interest and which forms a separate and distinct property, but does not include any property an appreciation for the transfer of ownership of which has arisen under section 14 of the Tax and Customs Statute (Control of Fragmentation) Act No. 2 of 1983;

14. The Tea (Tax and  
Control of Imports)  
Act, No. 19 of 1956

1. In section 2, substitute for subsections (1), (2) and (3) of that section the following subsections:—

"Tax on tea which is sold as a Colombo tea auction and on tea exported from Sri Lanka and as a foreign tea auction."

2. (1) Where any tea—

(a) is sold at a Colombo auction; or

(b) is exported from Sri Lanka and sold at a foreign tea auction,

at a price which is or which when expressed in terms of Sri Lanka currency and after the deductions specified in subsection (5) and made therefrom, is in excess of a price to be determined by the Minister, by Order published in the Gazette, having regard to the current prices at which tea is sold at Colombo tea auctions there shall be charged, levied and paid in respect of each kilogramme of the tea, an additional tax of PEEK rupees as shall be determined by the Minister by Order published in the Gazette: Provided that where the tax which, but for this provision, would be payable under the prevailing provisions of this subsection on any tea in respect of its first sale as a Colombo tea auction is in excess of the tax under those provisions on that tea in respect of its sale as such an auction before such first sale where such is the case the tax under those provisions be charged, levied and paid on that tea in respect of such first sale a tax equal to the amount of such excess.

(2) For the purposes of expressing in terms of Sri Lanka currency the price at which a kilogramme of tea auctioned from Sri Lanka for sale at a foreign tea auction was sold on any day at such an auction, the rate of exchange shall be the rate of exchange specified under section 27 of the Customs Ordinance, and it shall on that day.

**Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 19 of 1983**

**Column I**  
**EXPLANATIONS**

**Column II**  
**Amendments**

(3) The deductions which, for the purpose of subsection (1), shall be made from the price at which a kilogramme of tea exported from Sri Lanka for sale at a foreign tea auction is sold at such an auction shall be—

(a) the export duty and any other port or Sri Lanka on that kilogramme of tea; and

(b) the amount fixed by the Minister by Order published in the Gazette in respect of a kilogramme of tea exported from Sri Lanka for sale at such a foreign tea auction, to cover the cost of freight, insurance and handling.<sup>1</sup>

2. (1) In section 5, substitute for subsections (1) and (2) of that section, the following sub-section—

“(1) The Commissioner shall, on the basis of the current prices at which tea is sold at a Colombo tea auction, determine for the purposes of subsection (2), the price, hereafter in this section referred to as the “current price”, which a kilogramme of—

(a) any tea produced in Sri Lanka by the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.; or

(b) any tea which is not tea referred to in paragraph (a) of this subsection or is subsection (1) of section 2 and which is authorised by a permit issued under this Act to be exported from Sri Lanka,

would reasonably be expected to fetch on any day if such tea was sold on that day at a Colombo tea auction.

(2) Before the issue of a permit under this Act authorising the export of any tea from Sri Lanka to which subsection (1) applies there shall be charged, levied and paid in respect of each kilogramme of such tea a tax at such rate as may be determined by the Minister by Order published in the Gazette. Such rate shall be determined in relation to the current price referred to in subsection (1).<sup>1</sup>

3. In section 7, substitute for the proviso to subsection (1) of that section, the following proviso—

“Provided that no permit shall be required for the export of—

(a) any tea, not exceeding six kilogrammes in weight, despatched as a gift by parcel post or taken as part of the personal baggage of a passenger on any vessel or aircraft; or

Metric Units (Consequential Provisions)  
(Amendment) Act, No. 10 of 1963

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Column I  
Sinhala

Column II  
English

(b) any tea sent as commercial samples".

4. In section 13, substitute for subsections (1) and (2) of that section the following subsections:—

"(1) Where any tea is sold as a Ceylon tea within the meaning of the Ordinance, the person who is the owner of the tea at the time of the sale shall, not later than three working days after the date of the sale, state in writing to the Commissioner, the description, quantity and sale price per kilogram of such tea, and the name and address of the purchaser."

"(2) Where any tea exported from Ceylon for sale as a foreign tea within the meaning of the Ordinance, the person who is the owner of the tea at the time of the sale shall, not later than three working days after the date of the sale, state in writing to the Commissioner, the description, quantity and sale price per kilogram of such tea, and the name and address of the purchaser."

15. The Sri Lanka Tea Board Law, No. 13 of 1955.

1. In section 13—

(1) in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of that section substitute for the words "at the rate of) more than twenty five and not more than fifty" the words "at such rate as may be determined by the Minister by Order published in the Gazette";

(2) in paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of that section substitute for the words "by this section", the words "under this section".

2. In section 31, substitute for the definitions respectively of—

(a) "estate", for the words "tea area", the words "one hectare"; and

(b) "small holding", for the words "tea area", the words "one hectare".

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