



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

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**FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES  
(AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 11 OF 2017**

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[Certified on 25th of July, 2017]

*Printed on the Order of Government*

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*Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment)*  
*Act, No. 11 of 2017*

[Certified on 25th of July, 2017]

L.D.—O. 21/2016.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES  
ACT, NO. 2 OF 1996

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Act, No. 11 of 2017. Short title.

2. The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 28 of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) and shall have effect as section 28A of that enactment:— Insertion of new section 28A in the principal enactment.

“Prohibition of fishing operations utilizing bottom trawl nets. 28A. (1) (a) No person shall engage in or cause any other person to be engaged in fishing operations utilizing bottom trawl nets, including nets with or without two wings or using vertical poles at the two free ends of the net, to be towed by motorized or mechanized fishing boats.

(b) No person shall use, possess, import, transport, purchase or sell any bottom trawl net, to be towed by a motorized or mechanized fishing boat for the purpose of carrying out fishing operations in Sri Lanka Waters.

(2) No license shall be issued by the Director-General under Part II of this Act for fishing operations carried out by bottom trawl nets to be towed by a motorized or mechanized fishing boat in Sri Lanka Waters.

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(3) Any license, issued under this Act for fishing operations carried out utilizing bottom trawl nets towed by motorized or mechanized fishing boats in Sri Lanka Waters, shall not be renewed:

Provided that, a license already issued for the use of bottom trawl nets and which is still in force on the day preceding the date of commencement of this Act, shall notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act, continue to be valid for the purpose and in respect of which the license has been issued, for the period specified therein.”.

Amendment of  
section 49 of the  
principal  
enactment.

**3.** Section 49 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the insertion immediately after subsection (2A) thereof, of the following new subsection:—

“(2AA) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with the provisions of section 28A of this Act shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, be liable to an imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine not less than fifty thousand rupees.”.

Amendment of  
section 66 of the  
principal  
enactment.

**4.** Section 66 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the insertion, immediately after the definition of the expression “Sri Lanka Waters”, of the following new definition:—

“ “bottom trawl net” means a towing net having a cone shaped body and a bag or cod end (madiya) connected to the apex with or without two wings connected to the other end and towed by motorized or mechanized fishing boats.”.

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5. The provisions of section 28A of this Act, shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other written law, and accordingly, in the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of section 28A of this Act and such other law, the provisions of section 28A of this Act shall prevail.

Section 28A of this Act to prevail over other written law.

6. 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.

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