



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

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**TWENTIETH AMENDMENT  
TO THE CONSTITUTION**

**A**

**BILL**

**to amend the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic  
of Sri Lanka**

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*Presented by the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and  
Economic Affairs on 23rd of August, 2017.*

(Published in the Gazette on August 03, 2017)

*Ordered by Parliament to be printed.*

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**[Bill No. 201]**

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PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA  
TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO 5

**Price : Rs. 6.00**

**Postage : Rs. 10.00**

2—PL 005412— 510 (08/2017)

*Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution*

L.D.—O. 41/2017

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution. Short title.

5     2. The following new Article is hereby inserted immediately after Article 154D of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the “Constitution”) and shall have effect as Article 154DD of the Constitution:—

*Insertion of new  
Article 154DD  
in the  
Constitution of  
the Democratic  
Socialist  
Republic of  
Sri Lanka.*

10   “Election of Provincial Councils.     154DD. The election of members to all Provincial Councils shall be held on the same date and the Parliament shall determine the date on which all the Provincial Councils shall stand dissolved (in this Chapter referred to as the “specified date”):

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Provided that, such specified date shall not be later than the expiration of the term of the last constituted Provincial Council.”.

20   3. Article 154E of the Constitution is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “as a dissolution of the Council.” of the following:—

*Amendment of  
Article 154E of  
the  
Constitution.*

“as a dissolution of the Council:

Provided, however, upon the determination of the specified date under Article 154DD—

25     (a) the term of office of any Provincial Council ending prior to the specified date shall be deemed

2                    *Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution*

to be extended up to the specified date and such Provincial Council shall stand dissolved on the specified date; or

- 5                    (b) the term of office of any Provincial Council which continues beyond the specified date shall end on the specified date and such Provincial Council shall stand dissolved on the specified date.”.

4. The following new Article is hereby inserted immediately after Article 154E of the Constitution and shall have effect as Article 154EE of the Constitution:—
- Insertion of new Article 154EE in the Constitution.

“The Parliament to exercise powers of a Provincial Council.

15                    154EE. In the event of dissolution of any Provincial Council by reason of the operation of the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (8) of Article 154B or by any other reason specified in any law, the powers of such Provincial Council shall be exercised by the Parliament until the specified date and the provisions of Articles 154L and 154M shall, *mutatis mutandis* apply in relation to the exercise of powers of the Provincial Council.”.

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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.

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