



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

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**JUDICATURE (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 4 OF 2022**

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**[Certified on 17th of February, 2022]**

*Printed on the Order of Government*

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*Judicature (Amendment) Act, No. 4 of 2022*

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L. D.-O. 20/2020

AN ACT TO AMEND THE JUDICATURE ACT, NO. 2 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 Judicature (Amendment) Act, No. 4 of 2022. Short title

**2.** Section 5c of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor:— Replacement of  
section 5c of Act,  
No. 2 of 1978

“Appointment  
of the  
Recorder  
Judge      5c. (1) The Judicial Service Commission shall appoint a judicial officer from among the District Judges and Magistrates, to be called the Recorder Judge, to any High Court exercising criminal jurisdiction, where such Commission is of the opinion that such appointment is required.

(2) The Judge of such High Court (in this section referred to as the “Trial Judge”) may delegate to the Recorder Judge appointed to such High Court, the power to preside over pre-trial conferences subject to the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No. 15 of 1979.

(3) The Recorder Judge shall attend to and deal with pre-trial conferences delegated to him under subsection (2) as specified in section 195A of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No. 15 of 1979 and post-trial matters delegated to him by the Trial Judge not including sentencing of an accused, that may arise in the course of a criminal proceeding.

(4) The Trial Judge may refer to the Recorder Judge any matter of a procedural nature arising in the course of the proceedings instituted in that court after the stage referred to in subsection (3).

(5) The Recorder Judge may, with the concurrence of the Trial Judge, submit for determination by the Trial Judge any matter which may otherwise have been properly dealt with by him.

(6) The Recorder Judge shall—

- (a) sit separately and exercise all the powers vested in him by subsection (3);
- (b) have the power to do all such acts connected with or incidental or ancillary to the exercise of the powers referred to in subsection (3) including the maintenance of the Journals of the Court; and
- (c) exercise the powers in relation to pre-trial conferences as specified in section 195A of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No. 15 of 1979 only in respect of matters where the High Court exercises criminal jurisdiction in terms of section 9 and shall not exercise the powers in respect of matters where the High Court is called upon to exercise appellate, revisionary or writ jurisdiction.”.

Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency

**3.** In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail.

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