



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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**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.

Short title.

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 The Schedule to the Metric Units (Consequential Provisions) Law, No. 40 of 1978, is hereby repealed and the following Schedule substituted therefor :—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

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1. The Electricity Act.

1. In column 3 of subsection one of section 13 substitute —

(i) for the figures and words "16 chains to an inch", the figures "1 : 10000." ;

(ii) for the figures and words "20 feet to an inch" the figures "1 : 200." ;

(iii) for the figures and words "40 feet to an inch, the figures "1 : 500." ;

(iv) for the figure and words "2 chains to an inch", the figures "1 : 2000."

(v) for the figure and words "1 mile to an inch" the figures "1 : 50,000." ;

2. In paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 23, substitute for the words "thirty three feet", the figures and word "10 meters".

3. In paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 25, substitute, for the words "one inch to eight feet" and "sixteen inches to the mile", the figures "1 : 100" and "1 : 5000" respectively.

4. In subsection (1) of section 33, substitute, for the words "one hundred and fifty feet", the figures and word "45 meters".

5. In section 38, substitute, for the words "two hundred and twenty-five feet", the figures and word "65 meters".

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

“Sale of bread by weight, and marking of weight of loaves

2 (1) No baker or vendor of bread shall sell any bread other than fancy 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 baking or on a band or wrapper affixed round or enclosing the loaf :

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

(a) in the case of fancy bread or roll, of any loaf of bread which is under two 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 is weighed upon delivery.”

**3. The Medical Wants Ordinance**

In section 2, substitute for the definition of “estate”, the following definition :—

““estate” means any estate in which labourers are employed having four hectares of land actually cultivated in tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, cardomom, cocoa camphor, pepper, or cinchona;

**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 altered 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 section 5 of the Weights and Measures Ordinance.”

3. For section 17, substitute the following section :-

“Duties to be paid in Sri Lanka currency according to units of measurements for Sri Lanka.

17. All duties of customs as well as all penalties under the Ordinance, shall be paid and received in the several descriptions of money herein enumerated, and at the rates of exchange

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Produce of cus-  
toms duties to  
be paid in to the  
Treasury &c.

specified namely, 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 units 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 produce of all duties of customs shall be paid by the Collector into the hands of the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury or to the sub-accountants of Sri Lanka in such manner and at such periods as may be specified by the Minister."

5. The Housing 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 figures and word "1.2 metres.";

(2) in rule 3 of that Schedule—

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

(a) for the figure and word "9 feet" the figures and word "2700 millimetres";

(b) for the figure and word "7 feet", the figures and word "1200 millimetres";

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

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

(b) for the figures and words "90 square feet", the figures and words "8.3 square metres";

(iii) by the substitution, in paragraph (d) of that rule for the figure and word "8 feet", the figures and word "2400 millimetres";

(iv) by the substitution, in paragraph (e) of that rule for the figure and word "6 feet", the figures and word "1800 millimetres.";

(v) by the substitution, in paragraph (f) of that rule for the figure and words "8 square feet", the figures and words "74 square metres".

(vi) by the substitution, in paragraph (g) of that rule for the words "one and a half feet", the figures and word "500 millimetres";

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(3) in rule 4 of that Schedule—

- (i) by the substitution, in paragraph (b) of that rule for the figures and word “7½ feet”, the figures and word “2200 millimetres”;
- (ii) by the substitution, in the second proviso to the rule for the figures and word “15 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 “20 feet”, wherever they occur in that paragraph, the figure and word “6 metres”;
- (iii) by the substitution, for the figure and word “3 feet”, the figure and word “.9 metres”;

(5) in rule 8 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 “10 feet”, the figures and word “3 metres”;
    - (c) for the figures and word “15 feet”, the figures and word “4.5 metres”;
    - (d) for the figures and word “20 feet”, the figure 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 “30 feet”, the figure and word “9 metres”;
    - (b) for the figures and word “20 feet”, the figure and word “6 metres”;
  - (iii) by the substitution in paragraph (3) of that rule, for the figures and word “15 feet”, the figures and word “4.5 metres”;
- (6) in rule 9 of that Schedule by the substitution for the figures and words “1,000 square feet”, the figures and words “92.9 square metres”.

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**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 scales capable of weighing up to fifty kilogrammes 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 mentioned under section 15. ”.

2. In section 25, substitute, for sub-section (1) and (2) of that section, 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 kilogramme 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 sub-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 52 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 purposes 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 Replanting Subsidy Act.**

in Section 7—

(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 sheet 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 crape rubber exported from Sri Lanka.

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	<p>(3) There shall be charged, levied and paid an export duty as may be determined by a resolution of Parliament for every kilogramme of crape rubber exported from Sri Lanka.”.</p> <p>(2) Omit subsection (5) of that section.</p>
<p>8. The Rubber Research Ordinance</p>	<p>In Section 6, substitute for subsection (4) of that section, the following subsection :—</p> <p>“(4) For the purpose of calculating the duty under subsection (1), one litre 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 kilogrammes of coagulated latex shall be taken to be equivalent to one kilogramme of dry-rubber”.</p>
<p>9. The Crown Lands Ordinance</p>	<p>1. In section 55, substitute for paragraph (5) of that section, the following paragraph :—</p> <p>“(5) all waste land which, not being private property, lies within a distance of ten metres of the middle of a public carriageway or cartway or within three metres of the middle of a public pathway ;”.</p> <p>2. In subsection (1) of section 63 substitute for the words “one mile”, the words “one thousand and six hundred metres”.</p> <p>3. In paragraph (7) of section 96, substitute for the figures and word “5,000 feet”, the words “one thousand and six hundred metres”.</p> <p>4. In section 101, substitute for the figures and word “5,000 feet”, the words “one thousand and six hundred metres”.</p> <p>5. In the First Schedule to that Ordinance, substitute, for the words and figures “twelve acres, three roods and ten perches and seven tenths of a perch (A12 R3 P. 10.7)” the figures and word “5.1877 hectares”.</p>
<p>10. Land Development Ordinance</p>	<p>In paragraph (c) of section 156, substitute for the figures and word “5,000 feet”, the words “one thousand and six hundred metres”.</p>
<p>11. The Tea Control Act, No. 51 of 1957</p>	<p>1. In section 18, substitute, for subsection (4) of that section, the following subsection ;</p> <p>“(4) 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 :</p> <p>Provided, however, that it shall not be necessary for a licensed dealer who deals solely in made tea packeted by a registered packer to keep in his licensed premises the scales referred to in this subsection.”.</p>

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2. In subsection (1) of section 63, 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 purposes 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 made tea;

12. The Tea and Rubber Estate (Control of Fragmentation) Act, No. 2 of 1958

1. In section 8, substitute, for sub section (1) of that section, the following subsection:—

"(1) 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 condition of such estate is already so unsatisfactory that its division or partition into lots is not likely to effect such condition 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



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case of tea 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 9, 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.

9. (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 ownership or a 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) Notwithsatnding 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 of ownership or a 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 25, substitute, for the definitions respectively of “ rubber estate ” and “ tea estate ”, the following definitions :—

“ rubber estate ” means a rubber estate of not less than forty 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 forty 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 ;”.

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13 The Estate Bazaars (Compulsory Acquisition) Act, No. 19 of 1958	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 is not less than eight hectares in extent and which forms a separate and distinct property, but does not include any property an application for the transfer of ownership of which has made under section 11 of the Tea and Rubber Estates (Control of Fragmentation) Act No. 2 of 1958 ;".
14. The Tea (Tax and Control of Export) Act, No. 16 of 1959	1. In section 2, substitute for subsections (1), (2) and (3) of that section the following subsections:— "Tax on tea which is sold at a Colombo tea auction and on tea exported from Sri Lanka sold at a foreign tea auction. 2. (1) Where any tea— (a) is sold at a Colombo tea 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 (3) are made therefrom, is in excess of a price to be determined by the Minister, by Order published in the <i>Gazette</i> , 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 so sold a tax at such rate as shall be determined by the Minister by Order published in the <i>Gazette</i> : Provided that where the tax which, but for this proviso, would be payable under the preceding provisions of this subsection on any tea in respect of its first resale at a Colombo tea auction is in excess of the tax under those provisions on that tea in respect of its sale at such an auction before such first resale there shall in lieu of the tax under those provisions be charged, levied and paid on that tea in respect of such first resale 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 exported 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 17 of the Customs Ordinance, and in force on that day.

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(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 excess paid in 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.”.

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

‘ (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 “assessed 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 in subsection (1) of section 2 and which is authorized 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 assessed price referred to in subsection (1).’.

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 takes as part of the personal luggage of a passenger on any vessel or aircraft, or

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(b) any tea sent as commercial samples.”.

4. In section 12, substitute for subsections (1) and (2) of that section the following subsections :—

“(1) Where any tea is sold at a Colombo tea auction, 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 kilogramme of such tea, and the name and address of the purchaser.

(2) Where any tea exported from Sri Lanka for sale at a foreign tea auction is sold at such an auction, the person who is the owner of the tea at the time of the sale shall, not later than fourteen days after the date of the sale, state in writing to the Commissioner, the description, quantity and sale price per kilogramme of such tea, and the name and address of the purchaser.”.

15. The Sri Lanka Tea Board Law, No. 14 of 1975.

1. In section 13—

(1) in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of that section substitute for the words “at the rate of rupees twenty five and cents seventy only”, 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 in the definitions respectively, of—

(a) “estate”, for the words “ten acres”, the words “four hectares”; and

(b) “small holding”, for the words “ten acres”, the words “four hectares.”.

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