

PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE OF WORKERS (AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 11 OF 2025

[Certified on 23rd of July, 2025]

Printed on the Order of Government

Published as a Supplement to Part II of the **Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka** of July 25, 2025

PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING. SRI LANKA

TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO 5

Price: Rs. 20.00 Postage: Rs. 150.00



National Minimum Wage of Workers (Amendment) Act, No. 11 of 2025

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L.D.- O 18/2025

An Act to amend the National Minimum Wage of Workers Act, No. 3 of 2016

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

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the National Minimum Wage of Workers (Amendment) Act, No. 11 of 2025.

Short title and date of operation

- (2) The provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have come into operation on April 1, 2025.
- **2.** Section 3 of the National Minimum Wage of Workers Act, No. 3 of 2016 is hereby amended by the repeal of subsection (1) thereof and the substitution therefor, of the following: -

Amendment of section 3 of Act, No. 3 of 2016

- "(1) (a) For the period commencing on April 1, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2025, the national minimum monthly wage for all workers in any industry or service shall be twenty-seven thousand rupees, and the national minimum daily wage of a worker shall be one thousand eighty rupees.
- (b) With effect from January 1, 2026, the national minimum monthly wage for all workers in any industry or service shall be thirty thousand rupees, and the national minimum daily wage of a worker shall be one thousand two hundred rupees."
- 3. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that -
 - (a) the budgetary relief allowances payable as at March 31, 2025, under the provisions of the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 36 of 2005, the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 4 of 2016, or both, shall form

Inclusion of the budgetary relief allowances in the national minimum monthly wage

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part of the national minimum monthly or daily wage specified in section 2 payable to all workers in any industry or service; and

(b) the wage of any worker who, as at March 31, 2025, received a wage that included the budgetary relief allowances under the provisions of the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 36 of 2005, the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 4 of 2016, or both such Acts, shall, from the date of commencement of this Act, consolidate such allowances as part of such wage of such worker.

Prohibition on reduction of wage and allowances

4. An employer shall not reduce the monthly wage of any worker in any industry or service, including any allowances payable under the National Minimum Wage of Workers Act, No. 3 of 2016, the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 36 of 2005, or the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 4 of 2016, in a manner that would negate the increase made to the national minimum wage by the amendments to the National Minimum Wage of Workers Act, No. 3 of 2016 under this Act.

Implementation of increase in national minimum wage

5. The Commissioner-General shall issue directives to any employer, including the final employer who obtains the services of any worker in any industry or service through an intermediary or contractor to take all necessary measures to ensure that the increase made to the national minimum wage by the amendments to the National Minimum Wage of Workers Act, No. 3 of 2016 under this Act is duly implemented.

Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency

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

