



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

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**LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to amend the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance (Chapter 262)**

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*Presented by the Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law, M. P.  
for Colombo District on 08th of November, 2022*

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**[Bill No. 160]**

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*Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)*

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTIONS ORDINANCE  
(CHAPTER 262)

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No.      of 2022.

Short title

5      2. Section 28 of the main ordinance as amended by Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act No. 16 of 2017 is amended as follows:—

Amendment  
of Article 28  
of the  
Principal  
Enactment

(i) Subsection (2) of section 28 of the Principal Enactment,  
as amended by subsection (2) of Section 8 of the Local  
10 Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017  
is hereby removed and amended by substituting the  
following section:—

15      “In subsection (2) of that section by the repeal of  
the words commencing from “Any recongnized  
political party” and ending with the words “setting  
out the names:—”, and the substitution therefore of  
the following:—

20      “(2) Any recongnized political party or  
independent group shall, for the purpose of election  
as members of any local authority, submit two  
nomination papers in respect of all wards of such  
local authority. The nomination papers submitted  
by every recongnized political party or independent  
group in respect of all wards of any local authority  
25 shall consist of the number of candidates of whom  
twenty five *per centum* are youth candidates, whilst  
upholding the principle that not less than ten *per  
centum* of the total number of members to be elected

2        *Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)*

and returned in the first nomination paper, and not less than fifty *per centum* of the total number of candidates in the additional nomination paper shall be women candidates for the purpose of election as  
5        members of such local authority, substantially in the Forms set out in the First Schedule, setting out the names—”.”

(ii) Subsection (6) of Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 is hereby  
10        repealed and amended substituting the following section:—

Subsection (2A) of Section 28 of the Principal Enactment, as amended by the subsection (6) of Section 8 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017, is hereby entirely  
15        repealed and amended as the following:—

(2A) The Commissioner shall by notice published in the *Gazette*, specify the minimum number of women candidates and youth candidates as  
20        specified in subsection (2) to be nominated in the First Nomination Paper and the Additional Nomination Paper in respect of all wards of each Local Authority. Where the total number of women candidates to be nominated is such that not less  
25        than ten *per centum* and youth candidates to be nominated is such that not less than twenty five *per centum* of the total number of members to be elected and returned in the First Nomination Paper. Women should comprise not less than fifty *per centum* of  
30        the number of candidates and youth should comprise not less than twenty five *per centum* in the Additional Nomination Paper. When such number of candidates would be an integer and

fraction, the integer shall be deemed to be the number required for the purposes of this section.”.”

(iii) Subsections (2D) and (2E) of section 28 of the Principal Enactment, as amended by subsection 8 and 9 of the  
5 Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 are hereby repealed.

(iv) As amended subsection (2) of section 11 of the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 16 of 2017 of the Section 31 (E) of the Principal Enactment is hereby  
10 entirely repealed and amended as follows:–

“(f) that does not contain the total number of women and youth candidates as required to be nominated under subsection (2A) of section 28 of this Ordinance.”.

15 **3. (a)** Subsections 2 (i) and 2 (ii) of this Act stipulate that when confirming the ten *per centum* of women candidature in the first nomination list of a local government body, that ten *per centum* should, as much as possible, must be evenly distributed among the 75% of the adult candidates  
20 and 25% of the young candidates. Also, as stated in subsections 2 (i) and 2 (ii) of the Act, fifty per cent of the second nomination list of a local government body for women candidates, that fifty per cent, should be distributed as reasonably as possible, between 25% of young candidates  
25 and 75% of adult candidates.

Suspicion  
Clause

(b) The provisions of this Act shall apply to any provisions of this Act contrary to the provisions of this Act.

**4.** (a) The term “Youth Candidates” mentioned in any section of this Act should be read and understood as both male and female youth candidates.

Interpretation

(b) For the purpose of this Act, ‘Youth Candidates’ mean  
5 to persons between the ages of 18 and 35 years.

**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.

