

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

Part II of December 12, 2025

SUPPLEMENT

(Issued on 12.12.2025)



**LICENSING OF SHIPPING AGENTS,
FREIGHT FORWARDERS, NON-VESSEL OPERATING
COMMON CARRIERS AND CONTAINER OPERATORS
(AMENDMENT)**

**A
BILL**

**to amend the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders,
Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators
Act, No. 10 of 1972; and to provide For matters connected therewith
or incidental thereto**

Ordered to be published by the Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation

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STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT

Clause 2: This clause amends the Long Title to the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act, No.10 of 1972 and the legal effect of that section as amended is to discontinue the application of the provisions of the principal enactment to container operators.

Clauses 3, 4 and 5: The amendments done by these clauses are consequential to the amendment made by clause 2.

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*Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders,
Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and
Container Operators (Amendment)*

L.D.-O 62/2023

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LICENSING OF SHIPPING AGENTS, FREIGHT
FORWARDERS, NON-VESSEL OPERATING COMMON CARRIERS
AND CONTAINER OPERATORS ACT, NO. 10 OF 1972; AND TO
PROVIDE FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH OR INCIDENTAL
THERE TO.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating
Common Carriers and Container Operators (Amendment)
Act, No. of 2025.

Short title

2. The long title to the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act, No.10 of 1972,
(hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended by the substitution for the words “FREIGHT FORWARDERS, NON-VESSEL OPERATING COMMON CARRIERS, AND CONTAINER OPERATORS”, of the words “FREIGHT FORWARDERS AND NON-VESSEL OPERATING COMMON CARRIERS”.

Amendment
of long title to
Act, No.10 of
1972

2 *Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders,
Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and
Container Operators (Amendment)*

3. (1) In the principal enactment and in any other written law, there shall be substituted –

- 5 (a) for the words, “Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non - Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act”, of the words “Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders and Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers Act”; and
- 10 (b) for the words, “Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non - Vessel Operating Common Carriers, and Container Operators”, of the words “Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders and Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers”.
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(2) Every reference to the “Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non- Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act” in any notice, notification, contract, communication or other document shall be read and construed as a reference to the “Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders and Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers Act”.

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4. Section 15 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the deletion of the definition of expression “container operators”.

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5. With effect from the date of commencement of this Act, notwithstanding any provision in any other law-

- (a) any application made for the issue of licence in respect of container operator

Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non -Vessel Operating Common Carriers, and Container Operators Act, and the Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non -Vessel Operating Common Carriers, and Container Operators to be known as the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders and Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers Act, and the Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders and Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers respectively

Amendment of section 15 of the principal enactment

Savings and transitional provisions

Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, 3
Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and
Container Operators (Amendment)

5 under subsection (1A) of section 3 of
the principal enactment and pending on
the day immediately preceding the date
of commencement of this Act shall be
deemed to be made under the provisions
of the Licensing of Container Depot
Operators Act, No. 2025; and

10 (b) unless specifically suspended or cancelled
in the manner provided for in the principal
enactment, all licences issued to container
operator, and subsisting or having effect
on the day immediately preceding the
date of commencement of this Act shall
be deemed with effect from the date
15 of commencement of this Act to be
licences issued under the provisions of the
Licensing of Container Depot Operators
Act, No. 2025.

20 **6.** 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

