



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
SRI LANKA

UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT)
ACT, No. 26 OF 1988

[Certified on 21st July, 1988]

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L.D.—O. 13/88

AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITIES ACT, No. 16 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 Universities (Amendment) Act, No. 26 of 1988, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may appoint by Order published in the *Gazette*.

Short title and date of operation.

2. The following heading is hereby substituted for the heading "STUDENT RELATIONS COUNCILS AND OTHER ASSOCIATIONS" appearing in Part XIV of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978, as amended by Act No. 7 of 1985 (hereinafter referred to as the "principal enactment") :—

Amendment of heading to Part XIV of Act No. 16 of 1978.

"UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION AND OTHER ASSOCIATIONS".

3. Section 112 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefor:—

Replacement of section 112 of the principal enactment.

"University Students Union, Faculty Students Union, &c.

112. (1) Each Higher Educational Institution shall have a University Students Union whose composition, duties and functions shall be as specified in the Schedule to this Act.

(2) Each Faculty of a Higher Educational Institution shall have a Faculty Students Union whose composition, duties and functions shall be as specified in the Schedule to this Act.

(3) The governing authority of each Higher Educational Institution shall prescribe by by-law, the mode of conducting elections for the election of office-bearers of the unions referred to in subsections (1) and (2) and the duties and functions of such office-bearers."

4. Section 114 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed.

Repeal of section 114 of the principal enactment.

Amendment of section 115 of the principal enactment.

5. Section 115 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:—

- (1) by the substitution in subsection (1) of that section, for all the words from “A Higher Educational Institution” to “recognize any union,”, of the words “A Higher Educational Institution may, recognize any Union,”;
- (2) by the substitution, in subsection (2) of that section, for the words “Subject to the provisions of section 117, the governing authority”, of the words “The governing authority”.

Amendment of section 116 of the principal enactment.

6. Section 116 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:—

- (1) by the substitution for the words “Student Relations Council, or” occurring in that section, of the words “University Students Union and the Faculty Students Union, or”; and
- (2) by the substitution, in the marginal note to that section for the words “Student Relations Council.”, of the words “University Students Union and the Faculty Students Union.”.

Repeal of section 117 of the principal enactment.

7. Section 117 of the principal enactment is hereby repealed.

Addition of Schedule to the principal enactment.

8. The following Schedule is hereby added at the end of the principal enactment:—

“SCHEDULE

(Section 112)

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION AND FACULTY STUDENTS UNION

1. (1) The University Students Union of each Higher Educational Institution shall be representative of the entire student community of the Institution.

(2) The University Students Union of each Higher Educational Institution shall consist of all the members of each Faculty Students Union and such Union shall elect the following office-bearers:

- (a) President;
- (b) Vice-president;
- (c) Secretary;
- (d) Editor; and
- (e) Junior Treasurer.

2. The duties and functions of the University Students Union shall be—

- (a) to foster the spirit of corporate life among students of the university ;
- (b) to organize and supervise, in consultation with the governing authority student welfare activity in the university, recreational facilities, spiritual and religious activities, the counselling of students and the supply of meals and refreshment ;
- (c) to afford a recognized means of communication with the authorities of such higher educational institution on matters relating to or connected with living and working conditions of the students ;
- (d) to be represented on any other body which may, in accordance with the rules made by the governing authority for the purpose, be appointed to undertake student welfare activities in the university ;
- (e) to assist the university authorities to maintain discipline ;
- (f) to represent students who are accused in disciplinary inquiries ;
- (g) to foster, cultural, literary and aesthetic awareness and activities among students and to organize and publish magazines and periodicals of the students ;
- (h) to foster an interest and understanding in the arts and life and social well-being of the citizens of the country ;
- (i) to foster activity conducive to the social and moral well-being of the student community and promote activity conducive to healthy social life ;
- (j) to organize and promote cultural, literary and social inter-activity with other universities and like organisations in Sri Lanka and abroad ;
- (k) to associate in the organization and execution of extension courses and adult education programmes in collaboration with the staff and students ;
- (l) to safeguard and protect the good name of the Higher Educational Institution ;
- (m) to debate matters of public interest ;
- (n) to further national interest and national unity ;
- (o) to safeguard and protect the property of such Higher Educational Institution ;
- (p) to take steps to encourage and further the academic interest ; and
- (q) to undertake any activities that may be determined by the governing authority from time to time.

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3. (a) There shall be a Senior Treasurer for the University Students Union who shall be a senior teacher nominated by the office-bearers of such Union.

(b) An office-bearer of the University Students Union may hold office concurrently in a Faculty Students Union.

(c) The office-bearers referred to in this Act shall cease to hold office at the end of an academic year.

(d) Where an office in the University Students Union falls vacant, then such Union shall as soon as possible elect a suitable person to fill that vacancy. The person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of office of his predecessor.

(e) Where an office in a Faculty Students Union falls vacant the students of that Faculty shall as soon as possible elect a suitable person to fill that vacancy. The person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of office of his predecessor.

4. (1) A University Students Union may raise funds with the approval of the principal executive officer of the Higher Educational Institution concerned for social, cultural and welfare activities approved by such principal executive officer.

(2) The governing authority of a Higher Educational Institution shall make rules relating to the disbursement of funds by the University Students Union or a Faculty Students Union, and the manner of keeping the accounts, of the respective Unions.

5. The governing authority of Higher Educational Institution shall make Rules relating to the conduct of meetings and the manner of maintaining records of the proceedings of such meetings of the University Students Union and the Faculty Students Union.

6. (1) A Faculty Students Union shall be representative of all students of such Faculty and the office-bearers of such Union shall be elected by the students of such Faculty by secret ballot for that academic year.

(2) A Faculty Students Union shall consist of—

(a) President;

(b) Vice-President;

(c) Secretary;

(d) Editor;

(e) Junior Treasurer; and

(f) such other members as may be determined by each Higher Educational Institution in the following manner:—

(i) two members for a Faculty with two hundred or less registered students;

(ii) four members for a Faculty with two hundred and one to four hundred registered students;

(iii) six members for a Faculty with four hundred and one to six hundred registered students ; and

(iv) eight members for Faculty with over six hundred registered students.

(3) There shall be a Senior Treasurer for each Faculty Students Union who shall be a senior teacher, nominated by the office-bearers of such Union.

7. The duties and functions of a Faculty Students Union shall be—

(a) to promote the corporate life and welfare of the student community of the Faculty ;

(b) to take steps to encourage and further the academic interests of its students ;

(c) to safeguard and protect the good name of the Faculty and Institution ;

(d) to foster cultural and sports activities amongst the students of the Faculty ;

(e) to make recommendations to the University Students Union on matters pertaining to the disbursement of the funds and the general welfare of the student community of the Faculty ; and

(f) to ensure that all decisions of a Faculty Students Union pertaining to the academic and welfare activities of the Faculty are taken by a majority vote of its members.”