



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

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**PARLIAMENT (POWERS AND PRIVILEGES)  
(AMENDMENT) ACT, No. 27 OF 1997**

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[Certified on 21st October, 1997]

*Printed on the Order of Government*

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*Parliament (Powers and Privileges) (Amendment)  
Act, No. 27 of 1997*

[Certified on 21st October, 1997]

L.D.—O. 14/97.

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE PARLIAMENT (POWERS AND PRIVILEGES)  
ACT**

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) (Amendment) Act, No. 27 of 1997.

Short title.

2. Section 22 of the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act, (hereinafter referred to as the "principal enactment") as amended by Law No. 5 of 1978, is hereby further amended as follows :—

Amendment of section 22 of Chapter 383.

(1) by the repeal of subsection (2) of that section, and the substitution therefor of the following subsection :—

"(2) every breach of the privileges of Parliament which is specified in the Schedule to this Act (whether in Part A or Part B thereof) shall be an offence under this Part punishable by the Supreme Court under the provisions hereinafter contained in that behalf ." ; and

(2) by the addition at the end of that section, the following new subsection :—

"(3) Every breach of the privileges of Parliament which is specified in Part B of the Schedule to this Act and which is committed in respect of, or in relation to, Parliament shall be an offence under this Part punishable by Parliament under the provisions contained in that behalf."

3. Section 23 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the repeal of subsection (2) of that section.

Amendment of section 23 of the principal enactment.

2 *Parliament (Powers and Privileges) (Amendment)  
Act, No. 27 of 1997*

Amendment of  
section 27 of the  
principal  
enactment.

4. Section 27 of the principal enactment as amended by Law, No. 5 of 1978 is hereby further amended as follows :—

(1) by the repeal of subsection (1) of that section and the substitution therefor of the following subsection :—

“(1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (2) and (3), Parliament shall have power and jurisdiction to punish summarily any breach of the privileges of Parliament specified in Part B of the Schedule to this Act which is committed in respect of, or in relation to, Parliament by any member or any other person.” ;

(2) by the repeal of subsection (1A) of that section ; and

(3) by the substitution, for the marginal note to that section, of the following marginal note :—

“Parliament’s jurisdiction over offences specified in Part B of Schedule”.

Repeal of section  
27A of the  
principal  
enactment.

5. Section 27A of the principal enactment as amended by Law, No. 5 of 1978 is hereby repealed.

Replacement of  
section 28 of the  
principal  
enactment.

6. Section 28 of the principal enactment, as amended by Law, No.5 of 1978 and Act, No. 37 of 1987 is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefore:—

“Punishment which Parliament may impose. 28. The punishment which may be imposed by Parliament for any offence under this Part shall be admonition at the Bar of Parliament or removal from the precincts of Parliament:

Provided, however, that in the case of an offence committed by a member of Parliament, the Parliament may, in addition to or in lieu of any punishment hereinbefore specified, order his suspension from the service of Parliament for any period not exceeding one month :

**Parliament (Powers and Privileges) (Amendment) 3**  
**Act, No. 27 of 1997**

Provided further that in the case of an offence committed by a person who is not a member, Parliament may also order that such person shall be prohibited from entering Parliament or its precincts for a period not exceeding six months.”.

7. Section 32 of the principal enactment as amended by Law, No. 5 of 1978 is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor:—

Replacement of section 32 of the principal enactment.

“Limitation of power of punishment by Parliament.

32. Nothing in this Act shall confer or be construed to confer on Parliament any power to impose any punishment on any person other than the power to impose for any offence specified in Part B of the Schedule, any punishment authorized by section 28 of this Act.”.

8. The Schedule to the principal enactment as amended by Law, No. 5 of 1978 is hereby further amended in Part A of that Schedule, by the substitution for the heading appearing therein, of the following heading:—

Amendment of the Schedule to the principal enactment.

“OFFENCES TO BE PUNISHABLE ONLY BY THE SUPREME COURT.”.

9. 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 the event of inconsistency.

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