



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
SRI LANKA

---

OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS  
(AMENDMENT)  
ACT, No. 22 OF 1983

---

[Certified on 5th July, 1983]

*Printed on the orders of Government*

---

Published as a Supplement to Part II of the *Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka* of July 8, 1983

PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA

---

TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO

Price : 35 cents

Postage : 50 cents

*Obscene Publications (Amendment)*

Act, No. 22 of 1983

[Certified on 5th July, 1983]

L.D.—O 110/78.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE.

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Obscene Publications (Amendment) Act, No. 22 of 1983. Short title.

2. Section 2 of the Obscene Publications Ordinance is hereby repealed and the following new section substituted therefor :— Amendment  
of section 2  
of Chapter 30.

“ Offences  
relating  
to obscene  
publications.

2. It shall be an offence against this Ordinance punishable on conviction by a Magistrate—

(1) for the first offence, with a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months, or with both such fine and imprisonment; and

(2) for a subsequent offence committed after a conviction for the first offence, with imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months and in addition with a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees,

to do any of the following acts namely :—

(a) for purposes of or by way of trade or for distribution or public exhibition to make or produce or have in possession for purposes stated or otherwise, obscene writings, drawings, prints, paintings, printed matter, pictures, posters, emblems, photographs, cinematograph films, video cassettes or any other obscene objects;

*Obscene Publications (Amendment)*  
*Act, No. 22 of 1983*

- (b) for the purposes above mentioned to import, convey, or export or cause to be imported, conveyed, or exported any of the said obscene matters or things, or in any manner whatsoever to put them into circulation ;
- (c) to carry on or take part in a business, whether public or private, concerned with any of the said obscene matters or things, or to deal in the said matters or things in any manner whatsoever, or to distribute them or to exhibit them publicly or to make a business of lending them ;
- (d) to advertise or make known by any means whatsoever, in view of assisting in the said punishable circulation or traffic, that a person is engaged in any of the above punishable acts, or to advertise or to make known how or from whom the said obscene matters or things can be procured either directly or indirectly.”.

---

Annual subscription of Bills and Laws of the Parliament Rs. 150 (Local),  
Rs. 200 (Foreign), payable to the SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS  
BUREAU, P. O. Box 500, COLOMBO 1, before 15th December each year in respect  
of the year following.