



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS AND CHILDREN (AMENDMENT)

A BILL

**to amend the Employment of Women, Young Persons
and Children Act, No. 47 of 1956**

Presented by the Minister of Labour on 22nd of July, 2026

(Published in the Gazette on June 25, 2026)

Ordered by Parliament to be printed

[Bill No. 72]

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STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT

Clause 2: This clause amends section 7 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, No. 47 of 1956 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) and the legal effect of the amendment is to increase the existing monetary penalty from a fine of rupees ten thousand to a fine of rupees one hundred thousand.

Clause 3: This clause amends section 13 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the amendment is to increase the existing monetary penalty from a fine of rupees ten thousand to a fine of rupees one hundred thousand.

Clause 4: This clause amends section 20A of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the amendment is to increase the existing monetary penalty from a fine of rupees ten thousand to a fine of rupees one hundred thousand.

Clause 5: This clause excludes the application of the amendments made to sections 7, 13 and 20A of the principal enactment in respect of fines imposed for offences committed prior to the coming into operation of this Act.

*Employment of Women, Young Persons
and Children (Amendment)*

L.D. – O. 55/2025

AN ACT TO AMEND THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN,
YOUNG PERSONS AND CHILDREN ACT, NO. 47 OF 1956

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

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 5 | 1. This Act may be cited as the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Act, No. of 2026. | Short title |
| 10 | 2. Section 7 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, No. 47 of 1956 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended in subsection (3), by the substitution for the words “ten thousand rupees”, of the words, “one hundred thousand rupees”. | Amendment of section 7 of Act, No. 47 of 1956 |
| | 3. Section 13 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (2), by the substitution for the words “ten thousand rupees”, of the words, “one hundred thousand rupees”. | Amendment of section 13 of the principal enactment |
| 15 | 4. Section 20A of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (3), by the substitution for the words “ten thousand rupees”, of the words, “one hundred thousand rupees”. | Amendment of section 20A of the principal enactment |
| 20 | 5. It is hereby declared that the amendments made to sections 7, 13, and 20A shall not apply in respect of any offence committed under the above sections where such offences were committed prior to the coming into operation of this Act. | Offences committed prior to coming into operation of this Act |
| 25 | 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 any inconsistency |

