



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

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**ASSISTANCE TO AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS  
OF CRIME AND WITNESSES (AMENDMENT)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to amend the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and  
Witnesses Act, No. 4 of 2015**

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*Presented by the Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhhashasana on  
25th of July, 2017*

(Published in the Gazette on May 08, 2017)

*Ordered by Parliament to be printed*

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**[Bill No. 193]**

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*Assistance to and Protection of Victims of  
Crime and Witnesses (Amendment)*

L. D.—O. 48/2016.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASSISTANCE TO AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS  
OF CRIME AND WITNESSES ACT, NO. 4 OF 2015

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses (Amendment) Act, No. of 2017. Short title.

2. Section 31 of the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act, No. 4 of 2015 is hereby amended as follows:— Amendment  
of section 31  
of Act, No. 4  
of 2015.

(1) in subsection (1) of that section, by the substitution for the words “within Sri Lanka,”, of the words “within or outside Sri Lanka.”;

(2) by the insertion immediately after subsection (1) of that section, of the following new subsection:—

“(1A) Where any evidence or statement of any victim of crime or witness is to be recorded from any remote location outside Sri Lanka under subsection (1), it shall be recorded at the Sri Lankan diplomatic mission in the country from where such victim of crime or witness seeks to testify or make the statement.”; and

(3) by the repeal of subsection (4) of that section, and the substitution therefor, of the following subsection:—

“(4) For the purposes of this section—

(a) “Court” means a Court before which any criminal proceedings are being conducted; and

2 *Assistance to and Protection of Victims of  
Crime and Witnesses (Amendment)*

(b) “public officer” includes an officer  
serving in the Sri Lanka Foreign  
Service.”.

3. In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala  
5 and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail.

Sinhala text  
to prevail in  
case of  
inconsistency.

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