



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

**REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS
(AMENDMENT)**

A

BILL

to amend the Registration of Electors Act, No. 44 of 1980

*Presented by the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of
Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of
Urban Development & Housing on 07th of April, 2021*

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[Bill No. 44]

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STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT

Clause 2 : This clause amends section 3 of the Registration of Electors Act, No. 44 of 1980 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) and the legal effect of the section as amended is to provide the first day of February as the qualifying date for determining the age of a person who has attained eighteen years to be registered as an elector.

Clause 3 : This clause amends section 4 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as amended is to provide the first day of February in any year as the date for determining the residence of a person in any electoral district to have his name entered to the register of electors.

Clause 4 : This clause amends section 12 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as amended is to provide as the date, the Commissioner of Elections should commence the revision of the register of electors under section 10 of this Act to be on or before the first day of February each year.

Clause 5 : This clause inserts new section 20A in the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as inserted is to provide different qualifying dates for a person to be qualified to secure the entry of his name into the register of electors and for the registering officers to make supplementary lists in that regard.

Registration of Electors (Amendment)

L.D.—O. 26/2018

AN ACT TO AMEND THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS
ACT, NO. 44 OF 1980

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Registration of Electors (Amendment) Act, No. of 2021. Short title

5 **2.** Section 3 of the Registration of Electors Act, No. 44 of 1980 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended by the substitution for the words, “The first day of June”, of the words “The first day of February”. Amendment
of section 3
of Act,
No. 44 of
1980

10 **3.** Section 4 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:— Amendment
of section 4
of the
principal
enactment

(a) in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “The first day of June”, of the words “The first day of February”;

15 (b) in subsection (2) thereof, by the substitution for the words “the first day of June”, of the words “the first day of February”; and

(c) in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for the words “the first day of June”, of the words “the first day of February”.

20 **4.** Section 12 of the principal enactment is hereby amended in subsection (1) thereof, by the substitution for the words “the first day of June” of the words, “the first day of February”. Amendment
of section 12
of the
principal
enactment

5. The following new section is hereby inserted immediately after section 20, and shall have effect as section 20A in the principal enactment:—

Insertion of new section 20A in the principal enactment

5 “Different qualifying dates and supplementary lists

20A. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3, any person who attains the age of eighteen years on any day—

10 (a) within the period commencing on the first day of February in any year and ending on the thirty first day of May of that year;

(b) within the period commencing on the first day of June in any year and ending on the thirtieth day of September of that year; and

15 (c) within the period commencing on the first day of October in any year and ending on the thirty first day of January of the subsequent year,

20 shall be qualified to have his name entered or retained in a register as an elector.

25 (2) Every person qualified to be registered as an elector under subsection (1) of this section may apply for registration as an elector to the registering officer of the electoral district in which that person resides.

30 (3) Every person applying for registration under subsection (2) shall make such application to the registering officer of the electoral district in which such person resides—

(a) within a period of two weeks of that person attaining the age of eighteen years; and

(b) accompanied by a copy of the birth certificate or the National Identity Card of such person.

5 (4) Every registering officer of an electoral district shall prepare supplementary lists respectively of—

10 (a) all persons who have attained the age of eighteen years between the first day of February of that year and the thirty first day of May of that year, who have applied for registration;

15 (b) all persons who have attained the age of eighteen years between the first day of June in that year and the thirtieth day of September of that year who have applied for registration; and

20 (c) all persons who have attained the age of eighteen years between the first day of October in a year and the thirty first day of January of the subsequent year who have applied for registration.

25 (5) Every registering officer of each electoral district shall give notice within a period of two weeks that the respective supplementary lists referred to in subsection (4) have been completed, and such supplementary lists of copies thereof are available for inspection at all reasonable hours of the day at the office of the registering officer or at such other places in the electoral district as may be specified in the notice. Every such

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4 *Registration of Electors (Amendment)*

notice shall be published in the *Gazette* and in at least one newspaper each in Sinhala, Tamil and English Languages.

5 (6) Every person who claims to have a right to have his name included in a supplementary list prepared under this section may apply to the registering officer of the electoral district to have his name included in that list, Every such application shall be made within a period of ten days of the publication of the notice relating to such supplementary list.

10 (7) A registered elector may object to the inclusion of the name of any person in a supplementary list prepared under this section and every such objection shall be made in writing to the registering officer of the electoral district within a period of ten days of the publication of the notice relating to such supplementary list.

15 (8) The provisions of subsections (6) to (16) of section 14 and section 15 shall *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the determination of the claims and objections made under this Act.

20 (9) The registering officer of each electoral district shall certify the supplementary lists prepared by him under this section immediately after the claims and objections have been adjudicated. Upon such certification, supplementary lists shall be incorporated in to the electoral register for that electoral district.

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5 (10) The supplementary lists of persons attained the age of eighteen years on the date of the proclamation of any election shall be published in the *Gazette* and the Register of Electors incorporated the said supplementary lists shall be deemed as the Register of Electors at such election.”.

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 inconsistency

