

PARLIAMENT OF CEYLON

5th Session 1969-70



Legitimacy Act, No. 3 of 1970

Date of Assent : January 21, 1970

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Legitimacy Act, No. 3 of 1970

L. D.—O. 23/69.

AN ACT TO CHANGE THE LAW RELATING TO THE LEGITIMIZATION OF CERTAIN ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN AND TO MAKE A CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENT IN THE MARRIAGE REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.

[Date of Assent: January 21, 1970]

BE it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Representatives of Ceylon in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Legitimacy Act, No. 3 of 1970.

Short title.

2. (1) This Act shall not apply to—

(a) a marriage between persons professing Islam;
or

(b) a marriage, under the Kandyan Marriage and Divorce Act, between persons subject to Kandyan law.

This Act not to apply to certain marriages.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, the expression "a valid marriage to which this Act applies" does not include a marriage referred to in sub-section (1).

3. A valid marriage to which this Act applies shall be deemed at all times, whether before or on or after the date of the commencement of this Act, to have rendered, and to render, legitimate any child procreated by the parties prior to such marriage, whether or not such child was so procreated in adultery:

Legitimization of illegitimate children.

Provided, however, that where at any time before the date of the commencement of this Act any rights of any description whatsoever did not vest in the child of any marriage, but did in fact vest in any other person, by reason only of the fact that such child, having been procreated in adultery, was the

illegitimate child of the parties, the subsequent legitimization of such child, by virtue of the operation of the preceding provisions of this section, shall not be deemed or construed—

- (a) to have prejudiced or affected, or to prejudice or affect, in any manner, or to any extent, whatsoever the rights so vested, or such other person's claim or title to such rights; and
- (b) to have conferred, or to confer, on such child any claim or title to such rights.

**Amendment of
Chapter 112.**

4. The Marriage Registration Ordinance is hereby amended by the repeal of section 21 of that Ordinance.