



STATE LANDS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) LAW

No. 8 OF 1972

OF

THE NATIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY

[Certified on 11th November, 1972]

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State Lands (Special Provisions)
Law, No. 8 of 1972

L. D.—O. 51/72.

A LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE REMOVAL OF CERTAIN DOUBTS WHICH HAVE ARISEN BY REASON OF THE ABSENCE OF THE SUBJECTS AND FUNCTIONS OF CROWN LANDS IN THE NOTIFICATION DATED 31ST MAY, 1970, RELATING TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF DEPARTMENTS, SUBJECTS AND FUNCTIONS PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY NO. 14,908/6 OF 2ND JUNE, 1970.

WHEREAS doubts have arisen as to whether the Minister of Agriculture and Lands was legally competent to exercise the powers, duties and functions pertaining to Crown lands during the period commencing 31st May, 1970, and ending on the 31st July, 1971, by reason of the inadvertent omission in a Notification dated 31st May, 1970, and published in *Government Gazette Extraordinary* No. 14,908/6 of 2nd June, 1970, relating to the assignment by the Prime Minister of Departments, Subjects and Functions to Ministers:

And whereas the Minister in charge of the subject of Agriculture and Lands has, during the aforesaid period, with the implicit concurrence of the Prime Minister and to the exclusion of the other Ministers, exercised the powers, duties and functions on matters relating to Crown lands:

Be it enacted by the National State Assembly of the Republic of Sri Lanka as follows:—

1. This Law may be cited as the State Lands (Special Provisions) Law, No. 8 of 1972.

Short title.

2. (1) It is hereby declared that during the period commencing 31st May, 1970, and ending on the 31st July, 1971, the subjects and functions relating to Crown lands shall be deemed for all purposes to have been assigned by the Prime Minister to the Minister of Agriculture and Lands, and accordingly all acts done or taken by the Minister of Agriculture and Lands during the aforesaid period, on the basis that the subjects and functions of Crown lands had been assigned by the Prime Minister to him shall be valid and effectual notwithstanding the omission of the said subjects and functions under the sub-title "Minister of Agriculture and Lands" in the Notification dated 31st May, 1970.

Subjects and functions of Crown lands deemed to have been assigned to Minister of Agriculture and Lands during the period commencing 31st May, 1970, and ending on 31st July, 1971.

(2) Where, in any action or proceeding instituted or commenced prior to the coming into force of this Law and not finally disposed of, and in any action or proceeding instituted or commenced after the coming into force of this Law, any question has arisen or arises as to whether the Minister of Agriculture and Lands was, during the period commencing 31st May, 1970, and ending on 31st July, 1971, charged with the administration of the subjects and functions relating to Crown lands, such question shall be determined in accordance with, and with due regard to, the foregoing provisions of this Law.