



TRIAL BY JURY
(SPECIAL PROVISIONS) LAW,
No. 12 OF 1972
OF
THE NATIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY

[Certified on 12th December, 1972]

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*Trial by Jury (Special Provisions) Law,
No. 12 of 1972*

L. D.—O. 65/72.

A LAW TO MAKE SPECIAL PROVISION TO DISPENSE WITH THE INTERPRETATION INTO ENGLISH OF CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS IN TRIALS HELD UNDER CHAPTER XX OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.

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

1. This Law may be cited as the Trial by Jury, Short title.
(Special Provisions) Law, No. 12 of 1972.

2. The following provisions of this Law shall Scope of the Law.
apply in the case of any trial under Chapter XX of the Criminal Procedure Code—

(a) where the proceedings are in Sinhala or Tamil as required by or under section 11 of the Constitution of Sri Lanka, and

(b) where a jury is taken from the English speaking Panel of jurors.

3. Where the Judge before whom a trial to which Discretion vested in a Judge.
the provisions of this Law apply is held, is of opinion, after such inquiry as he may consider necessary, that every juror has a sufficient understanding of Sinhala or Tamil, as the case may be, he may direct that the trial be conducted without interpretation into English of—

(1) any evidence given in Sinhala or Tamil, as the case may be,

(2) any address of the Judge or of any pleader made in Sinhala or Tamil, as the case may be, and

(3) any evidence given in a language other than Sinhala or Tamil, provided such evidence is interpreted into Sinhala or Tamil, as the case may be.

4. A trial held in accordance with the provisions Legality of trial held in accordance with section 3.
of section 3 of this Law shall, for all purposes, notwithstanding the provisions of any law or any precedent to the contrary, be deemed to have been lawfully held.

5. This Law shall be deemed to have come into Retrospective effect of this Law.
effect on the 22nd day of May, 1972.