



**TELECOMMUNICATIONS (AMENDMENT)**

**LAW, No. 17 OF 1974**

**OF**

**THE NATIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY**

**[Certified on 30th May, 1974]**

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*Telecommunications (Amendment) Law,  
No. 17 of 1974*

L. D.—O. 30/71.

A LAW TO AMEND THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
ORDINANCE

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

1. This Law may be cited as the Telecommunications (Amendment) Law, No. 17 of 1974. Short title.

2. The Telecommunications Ordinance is hereby amended by the insertion, immediately after section 42, of the following new sections which shall have effect as sections 42A, 42B and 42c of that Ordinance:— Amendment  
of the  
Telecommuni-  
cations  
Ordinance  
(Chapter 192).

Offences  
relating to  
telegraph  
wire.

42A. (1) Whoever has in his possession, custody or control any telegraph wire and is unable to establish that such telegraph wire has been acquired lawfully, shall be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance.

“Telegraph wire” for the purposes of this section means any copper wire the gauge of which as measured in terms of pounds per mile is between twenty and three hundred.

(2) A certificate purporting to be under the hand of the Superintending Telecommunication Engineer certifying that any telegraph wire in question is of the description referred to in subsection (1) shall be admissible in a court of law and shall be *prima facie* proof of the truth of the statements made therein.

Attempts to  
commit  
offence  
under  
section 42A.

42B. Any person who—

(a) attempts to commit or does any act preparatory to the commission of, or

(b) aids or abets another person to commit, or

(c) conspires with another person, in the commission of,

2      *Telecommunications (Amendment) Law,*  
          *No. 17 of 1974*

an offence under section 42A shall himself be guilty of that offence under this Ordinance.

Penalty.

42c. Every person who is guilty of an offence under section 42A or 42B shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or with a fine not exceeding two thousand rupees or with both such imprisonment and such fine.'

6 *Transfer of Powers (Anuradhapura Preservation Board) Law, No. 25 of 1974*

shall be deemed to be a reference to the Special Commissioner of the Urban Council or the Administrator of the respective Village Council or the Chairman of the Urban Council or the respective Village Council, as the case may be.

Officers and servants of the Board.

10. (1) All officers and servants of the Board shall as far as possible be absorbed into the State service, Local Government Service or to the service of any local authority.

(2) Every officer and servant referred to in subsection (1) shall hold office as nearly as practicable by the same tenure and upon the same terms and conditions as under the said Board, and while performing the same or corresponding duties shall, as nearly as practicable, receive no less salary or remuneration or allowances and be entitled to receive no less pension and gratuity, if any, than he would have been entitled to receive from the said Board.

(3) Every officer or servant of the Board who cannot be absorbed into any service referred to in subsection (1) or who does not wish to continue in any such service shall be deemed to have retired on such terms as may be determined by the Minister.

Power to transfer money and any movable property of the Board.

11. The Minister shall transfer to each local authority to which this Law applies—

- (a) from the funds of the Board such sum of money which he may determine; and
- (b) any movable property of the Board.

Land re-vested in the State.

12. (1) All State lands situated in the Area of Authority of the Board vested in such Board on the day immediately prior to the appointed date, and not vested in each such local authority by this Law, are with effect from that date hereby vested in the State.

(2) Every lease of any State land, whether with or without buildings within the Area of Authority of the Board granted prior to the appointed date and subsisting on that date, shall be deemed to be a lease granted by the Government Agent of the administrative district in which such land is situated, and may be enforced or acted upon as fully and effectually as if such Government Agent had been a party to such lease.