



**PUBLIC SECURITY (AMENDMENT)**

**LAW, No. 6 OF 1978**

**OF**

**THE NATIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY**

**[Certified on 7th February, 1978]**

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*Public Security (Amendment) Law,  
No. 6 of 1978*

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L.D.—O. 7/78

A LAW TO AMEND THE PUBLIC SECURITY  
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 Public Security (Amendment) Law, No. 6 of 1978.

Short title.

2. Section 2 of the Public Security Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”, is hereby amended as follows:—

Amendment of section 2 of Chapter 40.

(1) by the repeal of subsection (2) of that section and the substitution therefor, of the following new subsection:—

“ (2) Where the provisions of Part II of this Ordinance have come into operation on any date by virtue of a Proclamation under subsection (1), those provisions shall, subject to the succeeding provisions of this section, be in operation for a period of one month from that date, but without prejudice to the earlier revocation of the Proclamation or to the making of a further Proclamation at or before the end of that period.”; and

(2) by the addition, immediately after subsection (3) of that section, of the following new subsections:—

“ (4) Where the provisions of Part II of this Ordinance have come into operation on any date by virtue of a Proclamation made under subsection (1), such Proclamation shall expire after a period of fourteen days from the date on which the provisions of that Part shall have come into operation, unless such Proclamation is approved by a resolution of the National State Assembly:

Provided that if—

(a) the National State Assembly stands dissolved at the time the provisions of that Part come into operation, or

(b) the National State Assembly is at such time separated by any such adjournment or prorogation as is referred to in subsection (3), or

(c) the National State Assembly does not meet when summoned to meet as provided by subsection (3) of this section or section 40 of the Constitution of Sri Lanka,

then such Proclamation shall expire at the end of a period of ten days from the date on which the National State Assembly shall next meet and sit, unless approved by a resolution of that Assembly at such meeting.

(5) Upon the revocation of a Proclamation under subsection (1) at any time within a period of fourteen days from the date on which the provisions of Part II of this Ordinance shall have come into operation or upon the expiry of such a Proclamation in accordance with the provisions of subsection (4), any further Proclamation made under subsection (1) before the end of a period of fourteen days from the date of such revocation or expiry, as the case may be, shall not come into operation until the making thereof shall have been approved by a resolution of the National State Assembly at its next meeting.

(6) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other provision of this Ordinance, where the provisions of Part II of this Ordinance shall have been in operation for a period of ninety consecutive days, or a period of ninety days in the aggregate during six consecutive calendar months, no Proclamation made under subsection (1) bringing the provisions of Part II of this Ordinance into operation shall, if made at any time during the succeeding six calendar months, be in operation for more than ten days from the date on which the provisions of that Part

are brought into operation by such Proclamation, unless such Proclamation is approved by a resolution of the National State Assembly passed by at least two-thirds of the whole number of members of the National State Assembly (including those not present) voting in favour of such resolution :

Provided that if—

(a) the National State Assembly stands dissolved at the date of the making of such Proclamation, or

(b) the National State Assembly is at such date separated by any such adjournment or prorogation as is referred to in subsection (3), or

(c) the National State Assembly does not meet when summoned to meet as provided by subsection (3) of this section or section 40 of the Constitution of Sri Lanka.

then such Proclamation shall expire at the end of ten days after the date on which the National State Assembly shall next meet and sit unless approved by the National State Assembly by a resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the whole number of members of the National State Assembly (including those not present) voting in favour of such resolution.

(7) Notice of the approval of a Proclamation by the National State Assembly shall, as soon as may be convenient, be published in the *Gazette*."

Amendment of  
section 5 of  
the principal  
enactment.

3. Section 5 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows :—

(1) by the repeal of subsection (1) of that section and the substitution therefor, of the following new subsection :—

‘ (1) The President may make such regulations (hereinafter referred to as “ emergency regulations ”) as appear to him to be necessary or expedient in the interests of public security and the preservation of public order and the suppression of mutiny, riot or civil commotion, or for the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community.’; and

(2) by the substitution for the marginal note to that section of the following new marginal note :—

“ Power of President to make emergency regulations.”.