

ANNOUNCEMENT

I wish to inform the Parliament that I have received the Determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill entitled "Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)" which has been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1).

The Supreme Court has determined that the Clause 4 of the Bill is inconsistent with Article 12(1) of the Constitution and the inconsistency would cease if the Clause 4 be amended as suggested by the Court.

The Court further determined that the other provisions of the Bill are not inconsistent with the Constitution and the inconsistency between the Sinhala text and the English text in the Clause 2 could be corrected at the Committee Stage of the Bill.

I order that the Determination of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today's proceedings.