

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

I wish to inform the Parliament that I have received the determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill entitled "Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration)" which has been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has determined that Clauses 2 (2), 2 (3), 2 (4) and 11 (2) are inconsistent with Articles 9, 10, and 14 (1) (e) of the Constitution, Clauses 4, 5 and 13 (1) are inconsistent with Article 9 of the Constitution and Clause 12 is inconsistent with Articles 9, 10, 12 and 14 (1) (e) of the Constitution and could only be passed with a special majority prescribed in Article 83 of the Constitution and approved by the people at a Referendum.

The Court further stated that the inconsistency of the above Clauses would cease if amended, as follows:—

- a) by deleting clauses 2 (3), 2 (4), 4 and 5; and
- b) by amending clauses 2 (2), 11 (2) and Clause 13 (1) as suggested in the determination.

Subject to foregoing the other provisions of the Bill are not inconsistent with the Constitution.

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