



PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

JUDICATURE (AMENDMENT)

A BILL

to amend the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978

*Presented by the Minister of Justice and National Integration
on 18th of August, 2026*

(Published in the Gazette on August 07, 2026)

Ordered by Parliament to be printed

[Bill No. 77]

PRINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, SRI LANKA
TO BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU, COLOMBO 5

Price : Rs. 15.00

Postage : Rs. 150.00

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STATEMENT OF LEGAL EFFECT

Clause 2: This clause amends section 4 of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) and the legal effect of the section as amended is to increase the number of Judges of the High Court to one hundred and twenty Judges.

Clause 3: This clause amends section 6 of the principal enactment and the legal effect of the section as amended is to enhance the retirement age of High Court Judges and all other Judges including Magistrates.

Judicature (Amendment)

L.D. -O. 25/2026

AN ACT TO AMEND THE JUDICATURE ACT, NO. 2 OF 1978

BE it enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows: -

1. This Act may be cited as the Judicature (Amendment) Act, No. of 2026. Short title
- 5 2. Section 4 of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended, in paragraph (a) thereof, by the substitution for the words “not more than one hundred and ten Judges”, of the words “not more than one hundred and twenty Judges”. Amendment of section 4 of Act, No. 2 of 1978
- 10 3. Section 6 of the principal enactment is hereby amended as follows:- Amendment of section 6 of the principal enactment
- (1) in subsection (3) thereof, by the substitution for the words “sixty-one years” of the words “sixty-three years”; and
- 15 (2) by the repeal of subsection (4) thereof and the substitution therefor of the following subsection:-
- “(4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Public and Judicial Officers (Retirement) Ordinance (Chapter 355), the age of retirement of all other Judges and Magistrates shall be sixty-two years.”.
- 20
4. In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency

