

**AN ACT TO PREVENT ANIMAL SACRIFICES IN ANY PLACE OF
PUBLIC HINDU RELIGIOUS WORSHIP OR ADORATION OR ITS
PRECINCTS OR IN ANY CONGREGATION OR PROCESSION
CONNECTED WITH ANY HINDU RELIGIOUS WORSHIP IN A
PUBLIC PLACE OR PUBLIC STREET**

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

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Prevention of Animal Sacrifices in Hindu Religious Worship Act No.of 2016.

Definitions

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a) “animal” includes birds;
 - b) “place of public Hindu religious worship or adoration” means any place intended for use by, or accessible to, the public or a section thereof for the purposes of Hindu religious worship or adoration;
 - c) “precincts” in relation to a place of public Hindu religious worship or adoration includes all lands and buildings near such place which are ordinarily used for purposes connected with Hindu religious worship or adoration;

- d) “public place” means any place intended for use by, or accessible to, the public or a section thereof;
- e) “public street” means a road, street, way or other place, whether a thoroughfare or not, to which the public are granted access or over which they have a right to pass;
- f) “sacrifice” means the killing or maiming of any animal.

Prohibition of

- 3. (i) No person shall sacrifice any animal in any place of public Hindu religious worship or adoration or its precincts or in any congregation or procession connected sacrifice with any Hindu religious worship in any public place or public street;

- (ii) No person shall:

officiate or offer to officiate at, or perform or offer to perform, or serve, assist or participate, or offer to serve, assist or participate in,

any sacrifice of any animal in any place of public Hindu religious worship or adoration or its precincts or in any congregation or procession connected with any Hindu religious worship in any public place or public street;

(iii) No person shall knowingly allow any sacrifice of any animal to be performed at any place which is situate at any place of public Hindu religious worship or adoration or its precincts, which is in his possession or under his control.

Offences

4. Whoever contravenes any provision of section 3 commits an offence and upon Penalties conviction before a Magistrate, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand rupees or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Regulations

5. The Minister may make regulations giving effect to the principles and provisions of this Act. Every regulation made by the Minister shall be published in the Gazette and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or such later date as may be specified in such regulation. Every regulation shall, as soon as convenient after its publication in the Gazette be brought before Parliament. Any regulation which is not approved by Parliament shall be deemed to be rescinded from the date of such disapproval but without prejudice to anything previously done under such regulation.