

## FELLING OF TREES (CONTROL)

### AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROHIBITION, REGULATION OR CONTROL OF THE FELLING OF TREES.

Act Nos,

9 of 1951

30 of 1953

[1 of 2000](#) [ 12<sup>th</sup> June , 2000 ]

[15<sup>th</sup> March , 1951 ]

Short title. **1.** This Act may be cited as the Felling of Trees (Control) Act.

Orders prohibiting **2.**  
or regulating the  
felling of trees.

(1) The Minister may by Order provide for the prohibition, regulation or control of the felling of trees of such description as may be specified in the Order.

(2) An Order under this section may be made so as to have effect either throughout Sri Lanka or in any particular area in Sri Lanka, and may prohibit the doing of anything regulated by the Order except under the authority of a licence granted by such officer as may be specified in the Order.

(3) Every Order made by the Minister under this section shall be published in the Gazette and shall come into operation upon the date of such publication or upon such later date as may be specified therein.

(4) Every Order made by the Minister under this section shall, as soon as practicable after it comes into operation as hereinbefore provided, be laid before Parliament; and if a resolution is passed by Parliament, within forty days after the Order is so laid, that the Order shall be annulled, the Order shall with effect from the date of the resolution be void, but without prejudice to anything previously done thereunder.

Every Order which is not so annulled shall be as valid and effectual as though it were herein enacted.

Steps for  
identification of  
trees

**3.** Any person authorized by the Commissioner of Agrarian Services may take such steps whether by marking or otherwise as may be necessary for the purpose of the identification of trees to which an Order under section 2 or any licence thereunder relates.

Penalty for  
contravention of  
Order.

**4,**

[1.2.1 of 2000](#)

(1) Any person who acts in contravention of any Order made under this Act , or of any condition inserted in any licence granted under any such Order shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction Lifter summary trial before a Magistrate be liable to a fine not less than five thousand rupees and not exceeding fifty thousand rupees or to imprisonment of either description for a term not less than six months and not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Upon the conviction of any person for an offence under subsection (1), any tree or part thereof in respect of which such

offence has been committed shall, by reason of such conviction be forfeited to the State.

(3) Any tree or part thereof forfeited to the State under subsection (2) shall-

(a) if no appeal has been preferred to a High Court established by Article 154P of the Constitution against the relevant conviction vest absolutely in the State with effect from the date on which the period prescribed for preferring an appeal against such conviction expires:

(b) if an appeal has been preferred to a High Court established under Article 154P of the Constitution against (he relevant conviction, vest absolutely in the State with effect from the date on which such conviction is finally affirmed on appeal.

In this subsection, "relevant conviction" means the conviction in consequence of which any tree or part thereof is forfeited to the State under subsection (2).

(4) An officer designated in writing by the Conservator of Forests shall take charge of any tree or part thereof vested in the State under subsection (3) and shall dispose of it in accordance with the directions of the Conservator of Forests."