



INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Notice to Betting and Gaming Operators

Amendments to the Betting and Gaming Levy Act, No. 40 of 1988 by the B & GL (Amendment) Act, No. 11 of 2023

As per the amendments made to the Betting & Gaming Levy Act, No.40 of 1988 by the Betting and Gaming Levy (Amendment) Act No. 11 of 2023, following changes are effective from April 1 2023, to the business of Betting and Gaming in Sri Lanka.

Significant changes to the Act are set out below.

1. Registration

(a) Person who carries on the business of gaming

- Every Person who carries on the business of gaming who shall be entitled to obtain a licence issued Under Sec 2 of Casino Business Regulation Act No. 17 of 2010 is required to be registered with the Inland Revenue Department (hereinafter referred as “ IRD”) “within one month from the licence issuance”
- Any person, who has obtained such license and has not registered with IRD, shall register with IRD within one month from August 21 2023 (prior to September 21 2023).

(b) Person who carries on the business of Bookmaker

- Every person who carries on the business of Bookmaker shall register with IRD within one month from the date of commencement of the business
- Any person who has commenced the business of Bookmaker before 21 August, 2023 has not registered with IRD shall register with IRD within one month from August 21, 2023 (prior to September 21 2023).

2. Gross Collection Levy on the business of bookmaker & business of gaming

Gross collection levy rate has been increased to fifteen per centum for any year commencing from April 1, 2023 on the gross collection from the business of bookmaker or business of gaming, if such gross collection exceeds Rs. 1 million per month.

3. Removal of Social Security Contribution Levy (SSCL)

Any person who is liable to pay the Gross collection levy shall not be liable to pay SSCL with effect from 21 August 2023.

4. Casino Entrance Levy

With effect from April 01, 2023,

- Every person who carries on the business of gaming in Sri Lanka, shall collect casino entrance levy of United States Dollars fifty or its equivalent in any other convertible foreign currency or in Sri Lanka currency from person who is a citizen of Sri Lanka who enters such place of business of gaming physically or via internet.
- Non-Citizens are not subject to casino entrance levy

5. Annual Levy on the Business of Gaming

The amount of the levy payable by a person carrying on the business of gaming including playing rudjino for every year commencing on or after April 01, 2023, is increased to Rs. Five hundred million

6. Annual Levy on the Business of bookmaker

The amount of the levy payable by a person carrying on the business of a bookmaker for every year commencing on or after April 01, 2023, is amended as set out below.

- a) Annual levy payable by bookmaker who conducts the business through an agent or via internet with or without the use of live telecast facilities has been increased to Rs five million.
- b) Annual levy payable by bookmakers who conducts the business with the use of live telecast facilities has been increased to Rs one million
- c) Annual levy payable by bookmakers who conducts the business without the use of live telecast facilities has been increased to Rs. seventy five thousands

07. Change in Definition of “Bookmaker”

The Definition bookmaker has been broadened. The “book maker” means a *person who receives or negotiates bets*

- (a) *Directly or indirectly*
- (b) *In cash or on credits or*

(c) Via internet

on horse racing which are run or are proposed to be run or any sport event to be held or proposed to be held in Sri Lanka or outside Sri Lanka

Operators of the business of betting and gaming are required to be registered as specified above with IRD prior to September 21, 2023 and the application should be made by registered post or hand delivered to IRD and information about the documents to be submitted for registration are available at the Stamp Duty and Betting and Gaming Unit of the Inland Revenue Department. Applications could also be downloaded from the official website of the Inland Revenue Department (www.ird.gov.lk)

For any clarification,

Deputy Commissioner General (Source Tax) – 011-2135300

Senior Commissioner (Betting & Gaming) – 011-2134960

Commissioner (Stamp Duty, Betting & Gaming Levy, CGT) - 011-2135171

Secretariat: 011-2135402/011-2135410/011-2135413/011-2135412/011-2135430

Commissioner-General of Inland Revenue

