

ABSTRACT

Post-Legislative Scrutiny is, relatively, a novel concept. An effective mechanism of Post-Legislative Scrutiny will contribute to review the laws in force, making the laws people-friendly. The problem that is examined in this thesis is whether there exists a need and space for a systematic Post Legislative Scrutiny mechanism in the Sri Lankan legislative system. The concept, Post-Legislative Scrutiny will prevent the legislature from becoming a “Legislative Black Hole”. A mixed methodology involving Empirical research methodology, Doctrinal research methodology and Comparative Analysis research methodology has been adopted in this research and a study on Post-Legislative Scrutiny mechanism of United Kingdom in particular and a case study on a major piece of legislation in Sri Lanka has been conducted to test whether a post legislative scrutiny mechanism will be productive in deriving the best use of legislative instruments. The objectives of this research are to identify the present Post –Legislative scrutiny mechanism of Sri Lanka, to identify the issues of the present Post –Legislative scrutiny mechanism of Sri Lanka, to compare Sri Lankan situation with the other jurisdictions, with special reference to United Kingdom Parliament and to make recommendations for the most suitable and workable Post Legislative Scrutiny mechanism for the Parliament of Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is in a dire need for review of legislations. Establishment of a Post-Legislative Scrutiny unit and a Post-Legislative Scrutiny committee in Sri Lankan Parliament would better serve the purpose. If the Parliament or the legislature is to preserve its legislative supremacy, it, unquestionably, should legislate for the people and those legislations should be qualified as “people- friendly”. A systematic Post-Legislative Scrutiny mechanism paves the way for people friendly laws.

Keywords: Post - Legislative Scrutiny, Parliament, Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution, people- friendly- laws