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EXTRAORDINARY  
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**PART I : SECTION (1) – GENERAL**

**Government Notifications**

**THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACT, NO. 47 OF 1980**

REGULATION made by the Minister of Environment under Section 32 of the National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980 read with paragraphs (a) and (e) of the Section 10 of the aforesaid Act.

**MAITHRIPALA SIRISENA**  
Minister of Environment

30<sup>th</sup> June, 2006,  
Colombo.

**Regulations**

1. These regulations may be cited as National Environmental (Prohibition of cultivation of annual crops in high gradient area) Regulations, No. 1 of 2006.
2. No person shall –
  - (i) convert plantations, in the high gradient areas into annual crops, where the gradient of such plantation is more than seventy per centum (70%) (approximately – thirty eight degrees [38<sup>o</sup>]); or
  - (ii) clear new land areas in the high gradient areas for the cultivation of annual crops, where the gradient of such land is more than seventy per centum (70%) (approximately – thirty eight degrees [38<sup>o</sup>]);
  - (iii) re-cultivate any land with annual crops, where the gradient of such land is more than seventy per centum (70%) (approximately – thirty eight degrees 38<sup>o</sup>) which had been earlier cultivated with annual crops;
3. Any land having a gradient of less than Seventy per centum (70%) may be cultivated with other crops;

Provided however where such land is to be cultivated with annual crops such cultivation shall be done in accordance with the Soil and Water Conservation Management Guidelines as are approved from time to time by the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Agrarian Services and the Department of Irrigation as the case may be, and the provisions of the Soil Conservation Act, (Chapter 450).

4. Every person who acts in contravention of regulations 2 and 3 shall be guilty of an offence punishable under Section 31 of the Act.

5. For the purpose of these Regulations:-

“**Act**” means the National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980;

“**Annual Crops**” means crops that last for less than one year.

“**Plantations**” means mono or poly cultures of perennials including pasture lands.