

GENERAL SCHEME OF THE REPEAL OF OFFENCE OF PUBLICATION OR
UTTERANCE OF BLASPHEMOUS MATTER BILL 2018

ARRANGEMENT OF HEADS

1. Short title
2. Common law offence of blasphemy
3. Amendment of the Censorship of Films Act 1923
4. Amendment of the Censorship of Films (Amendment) Act 1925
5. Repeals

ACTS REFERRED TO

Censorship of Films Act 1923 (No. 23)

Censorship of Films (Amendment) Act 1925 (No. 21)

Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2008 (No. 14)

Defamation Act 2009 (No. 31)

Head 1

Provide that:

Short title

This Act may be cited as the Repeal of Offence of Publication or Utterance of Blasphemous Matter Act 2018.

Head 2

Provide that:

Common law offence of blasphemy.

For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the common law offence of blasphemy is abolished.

Head 3

Provide that:

Amendment of the Censorship of Films Act 1923

Section 7(2)(a)(ii) of the Censorship of Films Act 1923, as amended by section 70 of the Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2008, is amended by the substitution of “indecent or obscene” for “indecent, obscene, or blasphemous”.

Head 4

Provide that:

Amendment of the Censorship of Films (Amendment) Act 1925

Section 3(2) of the Censorship of Films (Amendment) Act 1925 is amended by the substitution of “indecent or obscene” for “indecent, obscene, or blasphemous”.

Head 5

Provide that:

Repeals

Sections 36 and 37 of the Defamation Act 2009 are hereby repealed.