Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Act 1970

1970 CHAPTER 45

PART I

PROVISIONS WITH RESPECT TO ANCILLARY AND OTHER RELIEF IN
MATRIMONIAL CAUSES AND TO CERTAIN OTHER MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS

*Powers of court in cases of divorce, etc., to make orders with respect to
financial provision for parties to the marriage and children of the family*

2   Financial provision for party to a marriage in cases of divorce, etc.

(1) On granting a decree of divorce, a decree of nullity of marriage or a decree of judicial
separation or at any time thereafter (whether, in the case of a decree of divorce or of
nullity of marriage, before or after the decree is made absolute), the court may, subject
to the provisions of section 24(1) of this Act, make any one or more of the following
orders, that is to say—

  (a)   an order that either party to the marriage shall make to the other such
periodical payments and for such term as may be specified in the order;

  (b)   an order that either party to the marriage shall secure to the other to the
satisfaction of the court, such periodical payments and for such term as may
be so specified;

  (c)   an order that either party to the marriage shall pay to the other such lump sum
or sums as may be so specified.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1)(c) above, an order under this
section that a party to a marriage shall pay a lump sum to the other party—

  (a)   may be made for the purpose of enabling that other party to meet any liabilities
or expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in maintaining himself or
herself or any child of the family before making an application for an order
under this section;

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(b)   may provide for the payment of that sum by instalments of such amount as may be specified in the order and may require the payment of the instalments to be secured to the satisfaction of the court.