

The Government-owned Newspapers (Management) Act, 1975

(ACT NO. XLI OF 1975)

An Act to provide for the management and development of Government-owned newspapers and for the dissolution of certain companies established mainly for carrying on the business of publication of newspapers and printing.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the management and development of Government-owned newspapers, for the dissolution of certain companies established mainly for carrying on the business of publication of newspapers and printing and for matters ancillary thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

Short title and commencement 1. (1) This Act may be called the Government-owned Newspapers (Management) Act, 1975.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 13th day of June, 1975.

Definitions 2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

(a) "Board" means the Board of Management for Government-owned Newspapers constituted under section 3;

(b) "dissolved company" means a company dissolved under section 6.

Constitution of Board of Management 3. (1) The Government may, for the purposes of this Act, constitute a Board to be called the Board of Management for Government-owned Newspapers.

(2) The Board shall consist of a Chairman and such number of other members as the Government may deem fit to appoint.

(3) The terms and conditions on which the Chairman and other members shall hold office and the procedure of the meetings of the Board shall be such as may be determined by the Government.

**Functions
of the
Board**

4. The functions of the Board shall be-

(a) to manage, develop, expand and modernise-

(i) the newspapers owned by the Government;

(ii) the printing presses owned by the Government and used for the purposes of printing and publication of newspapers owned by the Government;

(iii) the printing presses vested in the Government under section 6;

(b) if so authorised by the Government, to enter into or make any contract, agreement or other arrangement relating to the newspapers and printing presses under its management;

(c) to purchase any plant, machinery, maintenance spares, raw materials and stores or any other goods necessary for the newspapers and printing presses under its management and to dispose of them;

(d) with the special sanction of the Government, to borrow or raise money on the security of any property under its management;

(e) to do such other acts and things as the Government may direct, or as may be necessary for the performance of the aforesaid functions.

**Principle to
be followed
by the
Board**

5. (1) The Board shall, in the discharge of its functions, act on sound commercial lines so as to adequately meet the needs of mass communication media of the country and constructively project the progressive national image abroad.

(2) The Board shall, in the discharge of its functions, be guided by such directions as the Government may give from time to time.

**Dissolution
of the
Board**

¹[5A. (1) If, at any time, the Government considers it expedient, it may, by order in the official Gazette, dissolve the Board constituted under section

3. (2) Upon the dissolution of the Board under sub-section (1),-

(a) sections 3, 4 and 5 shall be ineffective and shall be deemed to have been omitted; and

(b) the newspapers and printing presses owned by, or vested in, the Government shall be managed, developed, expanded and modernised in such manner as the Government may determine in this behalf.

(3) Notwithstanding the dissolution of the Board under sub-section (1), anything done or any action taken by the Board prior to its dissolution shall be deemed to have been done or taken by the Government.]

**Dissolution
of certain
companies**

6. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Companies Act 1913 (VII of 1913), or in any other law for the time being in force, or in any trust or wakf or in any deed or other instrument, the companies specified in the Schedule shall, upon the commencement of this Act, stand dissolved.

(2) Upon the dissolution of the companies under sub-section (1)-

(a) all such assets, rights, powers and privileges and properties, movable and immovable, of the dissolved companies, including shares thereof and their shares in any other company, corporation or trust, as have not already vested in the Government under the Bangladesh Abandoned Property (Control, Management and Disposal) Order, 1972 (P.O.No. 16 of 1972), hereinafter referred to as the said Order, and all printing presses, cash and bank balances, reserve funds and investments of the dissolved companies and all other interest and rights in, or arising out of, such property of, or in the possession, power or control of, the dissolved companies shall stand transferred to and vest in the Government;

(b) all debts and liabilities incurred, all obligations undertaken, all contracts entered into and all engagements made by, or with, and all matters and things engaged to be done by, with or for, any of the dissolved companies for the purpose of, or in relation to, its business and functions shall stand transferred to, and be deemed to have been incurred, undertaken, entered into or made by, with or for, the Government;