



THE CIVIL DEFENCE ACT, 1952



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THE CIVIL DEFENCE ACT, 1952

¹ACT No. XXXI OF 1952

[29th April, 1952]

An Act to provide for powers to secure the civil defence of ²[Pakistan].

WHEREAS it is necessary to provide for powers to secure the civil defence of ²[Pakistan] ; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. Short title, extent and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called the Civil Defence Act, 1952.

(2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

³**[1A. Definitions.**— In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

⁴[(1) civil defence includes any measures not amounting to actual combat, for affording defence against any form of hostile attack by a foreign power or for depriving any form of hostile attack by a foreign power of its effect, whether such measures are taken before, during or after the time of the attack and includes remedial measures during calamity or disaster in peace time ;]

(2) ‘Civil Defence Services’ means the services formed wholly or mainly to meet the needs of civil defence].

¹ For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Gazette of Pakistan, Ext., 1952, page 287.

The Act has been applied to—

(i) Baluchistan, with certain modification, with effect on and from the thirtieth day of April, 1952, see Gazette of Pakistan, 1952, Pt. I, p 190 ; extended to the Leased Areas of Baluchistan, by the Leased Areas (Laws) Order, 1950 (G.G.O. 3 of 1950); and applied in the Federated Areas of Baluchistan, see Gazette of P. 1953, Pt. I, p. 152 ; and

It has also been extended to—

(i) the Baluchistan States Union, by the Baluchistan States Union (Federal Laws) (Extension) Order, 1953 (G.G.O. 4 of 1953) ; and

(ii) Khairpur State, by the Khairpur (Federal Laws) (Extension) Order, 1953 (G.G.O. 5 of 1953).

The Act has been and shall be deemed to have been brought into force in Gwadur with effect from the 8th September, 1958, by the Gwadur (Application of Central Laws) Ordinance, 1960 (37 of 1960), S. 2.

² Subs. by A.O., 1964, Art. 2 and Sch., for “the Federation”.

³ Section 1A, ins. by the Civil Defence (Amdt.) Act, 1966 (10 of 1966), s. 2.

⁴ Subs. by the Civil Defence (Amdt.) Act, 1994 (22 of 1994) , s. 2. for cl. (1).

2. Power to make rules.—(1) The ¹[Federal Government] may by notification in the official Gazette make such rules² as appear to it to be necessary or expedient for securing the civil defence of ³[Pakistan].

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) such rules may provide for, or may empower any authority to make orders providing for, all or any of the following matters, namely :—

- ⁴[(a) the constitution, enrolment, discipline, powers, duties, privileges and protection of Civil Defence Services ;
- (b) preventing or prohibiting anything likely to assist the enemy or to prejudice the successful conduct of civil defence including acts, publications or communications prejudicial to civil defence ;
- (c) requiring any person or class of persons to comply with any scheme of civil defence ;
- (d) ensuring the safety of any place or thing used or intended to be used for the purposes of Government or a local authority, the protection of which is considered necessary or expedient for securing civil defence ;
- (e) the control of lights, sounds and vehicles ;
- (f) the control of trade or industry for the purposes of regulating or increasing the supply of, and the obtaining of information with regard to, articles or things of

¹ Subs. by F.A.O., 1975 Art. 2 and Table, for “Central Government”.

² For the Civil Defence (Special Powers) Rules, 1951, see Gaz. of P., 1951, Ext., pp. 571-582 ; for the Railway Air Raid Precautions Services Rules, 1951, see *ibid.*, pp. 667-672.

³ Subs. by A.O., 1964, Art. 2 and Sch., for “the Federation”.

⁴ Subs. by the Civil Defence (Amdt.) Act, 1966 (10 of 1966), s. 3, for the original clauses (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h).

any description whatsoever which may be used in connection with the conduct of civil defence ;

- (g)** the provision, storage and maintenance of commodities and material required for the conduct of civil defence ;
 - (h)** the provision, construction, maintenance or alteration of buildings, premises or other structures required for the conduct of civil defence ;
 - (i)** the measures for preventing and dealing with the outbreak of fire;
 - (j)** preventing or controlling any use of uniforms, whether official or otherwise, flags, official decorations like medals, badges and other insignia and anything similar thereto, where such use is calculated or likely to deceive the public or to prejudice civil defence ;
 - (k)** the salvage of damaged buildings and property and disposal of the dead ;
 - (l)** the evacuation of areas and the removal of property or animals therefrom ;
 - (m)** the accommodation in any area of persons evacuated from another area and the regulation of the conduct of evacuated persons accommodated in such area ;
 - (n)** the billeting of evacuated persons ;
 - (o)** the instruction of members of the public in civil defence ;
 - (p)** the entry into, and search of, any place reasonably suspected of being used for any purpose prejudicial to civil defence and for the seizure and disposal of anything found there and reasonably suspected of being used for such purpose;
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(q) the requisition of property and acquisition thereof.

(3) The rules made under sub-section (1) may further—

- (a)** provide for the arrest and trial of persons contravening any of the rules or any order issued thereunder ;
- (b)** provide that any contravention of, or any attempt to contravene, and any abetment of, or attempt to abet, the contravention of any of the provisions of the rules, or any order issued under any such provision, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both ¹[;]
- ²**[(c)** provide for the seizure, detention and forfeiture of any property in respect of which such contravention, attempt or abetment as is referred to in clause (b) has been committed ;
- (d)** prescribe the duties and powers of public servants and other persons as regards preventing the contravention of, or securing the observance of, the rules or any order issued thereunder ;
- (e)** provide for preventing the obstruction and deception of, and disobedience to, any person acting, and interfering with any notice issued, in pursuance of the rules or of any order issued thereunder ;

¹ Subs. by the Civil Defence (Amdt.) Act, 1966 (10 of 1966), s. 3. for full-stop.

² New clauses (c) to (f) added *ibid*.