

Arms and Explosives (Amendment) Bill

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Bill No: 32/2002

Read the first time: 1st October 2002

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Arms and Explosives (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 32/2002

Read the first time on 1st October 2002.

An Act to amend the Arms and Explosives Act (Chapter 13 of the 1985 Revised Edition) to give effect to the Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection concluded in Montreal on 1st March 1991 and for other miscellaneous purposes.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of

Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Arms and Explosives (Amendment) Act 2002 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2(1) of the Arms and Explosives Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended —

- (a) by inserting, immediately after the words “noxious fumes” in the 4th line of the definition of “arms”, the words “or noxious substance”;
- (b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “arms”, the following definitions:

“authorised military device” means any explosive manufactured solely for lawful military or police purposes, including but not limited to a shell, bomb, projectile, mine, missile, rocket, shaped charge, grenade or perforater;

“authorised military or police personnel” means —

- (a) any member of the Singapore Armed Forces;
- (b) any member of the Singapore Police Force; or
- (c) any person who performs military functions for the Ministry of Defence or the Singapore Armed Forces;”;

- (c) by inserting, immediately before the definition of “carriage”, the following definition:

“authorised person” means —

- (a) the Commercial and Industrial Security Corporation; or
- (b) any other auxiliary police force established under any written law and which is authorised by the Licensing Officer to accept the deposit of guns, arms or explosives under section 15(1);”;

- (d) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “carriage”, the following

definition:

“ “Commercial and Industrial Security Corporation” means the Commercial and Industrial Security Corporation established under the Commercial and Industrial Security Corporation Act (Cap. 47);”;

- (e) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “deal in”, the following definition:

“ “detection agent” means any of the substances set out in the Schedule and which —

- (a) is intended to be used to enhance the detectability of explosives by vapour detection means;
- (b) is introduced into a plastic explosive during its manufacture in such a manner as to achieve homogeneous distribution in the finished product; and
- (c) is present in the plastic explosive in such concentration no less than that specified in the fourth column of the Schedule;”;

- (f) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “gun”, the following definition:

“ “high explosives” includes but is not limited to cyclotetramethylenetetranitramine (HMX), pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN) and cyclotrimethylenetrinitramine (RDX);”;

- (g) by deleting the definition of “licensing authority” and substituting the following definition:

“ “Licensing Officer” means the person appointed by the Minister under section 9 and includes an Assistant Licensing Officer;”;

- (h) by deleting the words “or aircraft” in the definition of “master”;

- (i) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “master”, the following definition:

“ “plastic explosive” means any explosive which —

- (a) is formulated with one or more high explosives which in their pure form have vapour pressure of less than 10^{-4} Pa at a temperature of 25°C;
 - (b) is formulated with a binder material; and
 - (c) is, when mixed, malleable or flexible at normal room temperature;”;
- (j) by inserting, immediately before the definition of “Port Master”, the following definition:

“ “pilot-in-command” means the pilot designated by the operator or the owner of an aircraft as being in command and charged with the safe conduct of a flight;”;
- (k) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “railway administration”, the following definition:

“ “unmarked plastic explosive” means any plastic explosive that does not contain a detection agent;”.

Amendment of section 3

3. Section 3 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the word “Nothing” in the 1st line of subsection (1) and substituting the words “Subject to subsection (3), nothing”; and
- (b) by inserting, immediately after subsection (2), the following subsection:

“(3) Sections 3A to 3D and any rules made under section 3D shall also apply to —

 - (a) the Government;
 - (b) any other person referred to in subsection (1);
 - (c) the articles referred to in subsection (1)(f); and
 - (d) the arms and ammunition referred to in subsection (1)(g).”.

New sections 3A to 3D

4. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 3, the following sections:

“Prohibition on manufacture of unmarked plastic explosives