

Newspaper and Printing Presses Bill

Table of Contents

Bill No: 9/1974

Read the first time: 14th March 1974

Long Title

Enacting Formula

Part I PRELIMINARY

1 Short title and commencement

2 Interpretation

Part II PRINTING PRESSES

3 Licence to use printing press

4 Register of printing presses

Documents

5 Printed document to bear name of printer and publisher

6 Printer to keep copy of document and to produce same to an authorized person

Part III NEWSPAPER COMPANIES

7 Publisher of newspaper to be newspaper company unless exempted from this Part

8 Memorandum and articles to be approved

9 Special features of newspaper company

10 Funds from foreign source for the purposes of a newspaper other than commercial purposes prohibited

11 Application of this Part

Part IV NEWSPAPERS

12 No newspaper to be published without permit

13 Declaration before printing or publication of newspaper

14 Declaration of person ceasing to be printer or publisher

15 Cancellation of declaration

16 Declaration on change of ownership

17 Permit required for sale and distribution in Singapore of newspapers printed or published in Malaysia

18 Registrar of Newspapers

19 Newspaper register

20 Right to inspect newspaper register

21 Copy of entry in register to be evidence

Part V GENERAL

22 Offences

23 Power to seize and detain illegal newspapers

24 Wilful misrepresentation in declaration

25 Penalty

26 Sanction for prosecution

27 Presumption

28 Persons to act for company or firm

29 Search for unlicensed printing presses

30 Search when the requirements of this Act are not being complied with

31 Power to exempt documents, etc., from provisions of this Act

32 Exemptions

33 Rules

34 Repeal and transitional

Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Table of Derivations

Newspaper and Printing Presses Bill

Bill No. 9/1974

Read the first time on 14th March 1974.

An Act to repeal and re-enact the Printing Presses Act (Chapter 258 of the Revised Edition) and to make provisions for the licensing of newspaper companies.

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

Singapore, as follows: —

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act, 1974, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

(2) The Minister may appoint different dates for the coming into operation of the different Parts or provisions of this Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context —

“chief editor” includes the executive editor, the managing editor and any other person who controls the policy of a newspaper;

“company” means a company incorporated or registered under the Companies Act (Cap. 185) or under any corresponding previous written law;

“document” means any printed newspaper or sheet of paper or other material and any printed pamphlet, leaflet, map, chart and plan, and includes any documents bound together;

“newspaper” means any publication containing news, intelligence, reports of occurrences, or any remarks, observations or comments, in relation to such news, intelligence, reports of occurrences, or to any other matter of public interest, printed in any language and published in Singapore for sale or free distribution at regular intervals or otherwise, but does not include any publication published by or for the Government;

“newspaper company” means a public company limited by shares which has complied with the provisions of section 9 of this Act;

“newspaper register” means the books which are to be kept by the Registrar under section 19 of this Act;

“place”, in the phrases “place of business” and “place of residence”, means the street, square or other place and the number or other designation of the house;

“proprietor” includes the chief executive officer of a newspaper company;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of Newspapers and includes any Deputy or Assistant Registrar of Newspapers appointed by the Minister under section 18 of this Act;

expressions referring to printing shall be construed as including writing, lithography, photography and other modes of representing or reproducing words or objects in a visible form.

PART II

PRINTING PRESSES

Licence to use printing press

3.—(1) The Minister may in his discretion grant to any person in Singapore a licence to keep and use a press for the printing of documents and may at any time withdraw such a licence either permanently or for such period as he thinks fit.

(2) The licence shall be in the prescribed form.

(3) Any person to whom a licence is refused or whose licence is withdrawn may appeal to the President whose decision thereon shall be final.

(4) No person shall keep for use or use any such press without such a licence.

(5) For the purposes of this section the occupier of any premises on which any such press is found shall be deemed to have kept it for use until he proves the contrary.

(6) Every licence granted under subsection (1) of this section shall ordinarily be for one year from the date of its issue.

(7) The withdrawal of any licence shall be deemed to be sufficiently communicated to the licensee if a notice of withdrawal is personally served on the person in charge of the printing press.

Register of printing presses

4. The Registrar shall keep a register of printing presses, in which he shall enter such particulars as may be prescribed relating to persons licensed under section 3 of this Act and to printing presses or persons exempted under section 31 of this Act from the