

Fisheries Bill

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Bill No: 7/1966

Read the first time: 23rd February 1966

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Fisheries Bill

Bill No. 7/1966

Read the first time on 23rd February 1966.

An Act to amend and consolidate the law for the protection and conservation of fisheries, and to make provisions for the control of fishing, the control of the marketing and distribution of fish and the use and control of fishing ports and harbours, for measures pertaining to the general welfare and improvement of the fishing industry in Singapore and for purposes incidental thereto.

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. This Act may be cited as the Fisheries Act, 1966, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“Director” means the Director of Primary Production appointed under the provisions of section 3 and includes the Assistant Director of Primary Production (Fisheries) appointed under the provisions of the said section;

“estuarine waters” means waters extending from the mouth of a river to the

uppermost point upstream penetrated by sea water at the highest tide of the year and reference to estuarine fishing and to estuarine fisheries shall be construed accordingly;

“fish” includes any of the varieties of marine, brackish water or fresh water fishes, crustacea, aquatic mollusca, turtles, marine sponges, trepang and any other form of aquatic life and the young and eggs thereof;

“fish culturist” means any person culturing or cultivating fish for profit and includes fish pond operators and aquarists;

“fish dealer” includes any person engaged in buying (except for personal consumption), selling, exposing for sale, consigning or exhibiting fish, whether living, fresh or processed, in any manner, or any person engaged in processing fish;

“fish pond” means any enclosed area of water whether fresh or otherwise, which is used or intended for use in the cultivation, storage or capture of fish, and includes estuarine prawn ponds;

“fishery officer” means any officer appointed in writing by the Director under section 4 to be such an officer;

“fishing stakes” means any device used for the capture of fish which is made up of poles or other supports permanently fixed into the ground and enclosed by ramie, rattan, wire or other screening material, so designed as to lead fish into such enclosures, or any device using a net or other screening material that is anchored permanently or impermanently;

“fishing vessel” includes any ship or boat or any other description of vessel used for fishing or the transport of fish or fishing materials;

“inland waters” means any rivers, streams, lakes, ponds and other waters, whether private or otherwise, other than maritime and estuarine waters and reference to inland fishing and to inland fisheries shall be construed accordingly;

“maritime waters” means that part of the seas adjacent to Singapore, both within and outside territorial waters, whether or not citizens of Singapore have by international law the exclusive right of fishing therein; and where such part is defined by the terms of any convention, treaty or arrangement between Singapore and any other country includes the part so defined and references to maritime fishing and maritime fisheries shall be construed accordingly;

“master” includes every person, except a pilot, having command or charge of any vessel;

“processed fish” means fish that has been cured, cooked, frozen or preserved in any manner and includes any product derived or manufactured wholly or partly from fish, and reference to “processing fish” shall be construed accordingly.

PART II

ADMINISTRATION

Appointment of Director of Primary Production and Assistant Director of Primary Production (Fisheries)

3.—(1) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint an officer to be styled the Director of Primary Production (hereinafter referred to as “the Director”) and an officer to be styled the Assistant Director of Primary Production (Fisheries), who, subject to such limitations as may be prescribed by the Director, may perform all duties imposed and exercise all powers conferred on the Director by this Act and every duty so performed and power exercised shall be deemed to have been duly performed and exercised for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Director may delegate the exercise of any or all of the powers conferred or duties imposed upon him by this Act to any public officer.

Appointment of fishery officers

4. The Director may appoint fishery officers for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

Officers to be deemed to be public servants

5. All officers appointed under the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Penal Code (Cap. 119).

Identification card to be produced

6.—(1) Every fishery officer when exercising any powers under this Act shall, if not in uniform, declare his office and shall, on demand, produce to any person affected by the exercise of such powers such card as the Director may direct to be carried by officers appointed under the provisions of this Act.

(2) It shall not be an offence for any person to refuse to comply with any request, demand or order made or given by any officer appointed under this Act, or by any police officer not in uniform, who fails to declare his office and refuses to produce his identification card on demand being made by such person.