

Telecommunications Bill

Table of Contents

Bill No: 58/1965

Read the first time: 13th December 1965

Long Title

Enacting Formula

Part I PRELIMINARY

1 Short title and commencement

2 Interpretation

Part II PRIVILEGES AND POWERS OF THE GOVERNMENT

3 Exclusive privilege and power to grant licences

4 Procedure on application for licence authorising work involving interference with private rights

5 Power to establish telecommunication line or telecommunication plant on land of railway company

6 Special powers in emergency

7 Power to require production of messages

8 Power to make regulations

9 Revocation of licences

10 Government not responsible for loss or damage

Part III POWER TO PLACE TELECOMMUNICATION LINES AND POSTS

11 Power to place telecommunication lines and posts

12 Power to enter on property

Provisions applicable to property vested in or under the control or management of statutory authorities

13 Power for statutory authority to impose conditions

14 Power for statutory authority to require removal of lines and posts

15 Power to alter position of pipes and drains

16 Dispute between authorities

Provisions applicable to other property

17 Cases of resistance or obstruction

18 Owner of property may require removal of line or post

19 Removal of trees dangerous to or obstructing telecommunication lines or communications

20 Existing line and posts deemed to be placed under this Act

21 Application of Part III to a person licensed under section 3

Part IV PENALTIES

22 Unlicensed telecommunication or breach of licence

23 Using unlicensed telecommunications

24 Intrusion or trespass or obstruction

25 Unlawful attempt to learn contents of messages

- 26 Intentional damage to telecommunication**
- 27 Offences by telecommunications officers**
- 28 Fraudulently sending messages**
- 29 Misconduct**
- 30 Sending false messages**
- 31 Fraudulent retention of message**
- 32 Refusal or neglect to produce message**
- 33 Telecommunications officers deemed public servants**
- 34 Attempt to commit offence**

Part V RADIOCOMMUNICATION

- 35 Exemption**
- 36 Definitions**
- 37 Exclusive privilege**
- 38 Grant of licences**
- 39 Prohibitions**
- 40 Penalty for unlicensed station**
- 41 Power to make regulations**
- 42 Control of apparatus in an emergency**
- 43 Licences for experimental purposes**
- 44 General penalty**

45 Matters not applicable

46 Telecommunications Ordinance, 1950, of Malaysia to cease to apply to Singapore

Explanatory Statement

Expenditure of Public Money

Telecommunications Bill

Bill No. 58/1965

Read the first time on 13th December 1965.

An Act relating to telecommunications.

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 Telecommunications Act, 1965, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Interpretation

2. In this Act —

“Land Authority” means the Minister charged with responsibility for matters affecting land;

“message” means any communication sent and received or made by telecommunication or given to a telecommunications officer to be sent by telecommunication or to be delivered;

“post” means a post, pole, standard, stay, strut or other above-ground contrivance for carrying, suspending or supporting a telecommunication line;

“statutory authority” means a statutory authority constituted under any written law in Singapore;

“telecommunication” means any system for the transmission, emission or reception of signs, signals, writing, images and sounds or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, visual or other electromagnetic systems;

“telecommunication authority” means the Director of Telecommunications and includes any telecommunications officer empowered by the Director of Telecommunications to perform all or any of the functions conferred on the telecommunication authority under this Act;

“telecommunication line” means a wire or wires used for the purpose of a telecommunication with any casing, coating, tube or pipe enclosing the same and any appliances and any apparatus connected therewith for the purpose of fixing or insulating the same;

“telecommunications officer” means any person employed, either permanently or temporarily, in connection with a telecommunication established, maintained or worked by the Government or by a person licensed under this Act;

“telecommunication plant” means any building, apparatus, machinery, equipment, poles, lines, vehicles and any other appliances used for and in connection with telecommunications.

PART II

PRIVILEGES AND POWERS OF THE GOVERNMENT

Exclusive privilege and power to grant licences

3.—(1) The Government shall have the exclusive privilege of establishing, maintaining and working telecommunications within Singapore.

(2) The exclusive privilege referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall not