

THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

**ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT
(CHAPTER 7)**

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Animals and Birds Act

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An Act for preventing the introduction into, and the spreading within, Singapore of diseases of animals and birds; for the control of the movement of animals and birds into, within and from Singapore; for the prevention of cruelty to animals and birds; for measures pertaining to the general welfare and improvement of animals and birds in Singapore and for purposes incidental thereto.

[22nd October 1965]

PART I

PRELIMINARY

- 1. This Act may be cited as the *Animals and Birds Act*. Short title.
- 2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpre-
 “aircraft” includes any kind of craft which may be used tation.
 for the conveyance of animals or birds by air;

- “animal” includes horses, asses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, dogs, cats and any four-footed beast kept in captivity or under control, of any age or sex;
- “animal quarantine station” means a quarantine station established under section 63;
- “bird” includes domestic fowls, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowls and pigeons of any age or sex and the eggs thereof;
- “building” includes any house, hut, shed, stable or enclosure, whether roofed or not, used for sheltering or confining any animal or bird and any pen, cage, wall, gate, pillar, post, paling, frame, boarding, fence, platform, roadway, path, steps, staging, slip, wharf, dock, piles, jetty, landing stage or bridge, or any structure connected with the foregoing;
- “bull” means a male of any species of cattle;
- “carcase” means the dead body of an animal or bird and includes any part thereof and the meat, bones (whether whole, broken or ground), offal, hide, skin, wool, hair, feathers, hoof, horns or other part of an animal or bird, separately or otherwise, or any portion thereof;
- “cat” means a domesticated cat of any breed or sex;
- “cattle” means bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, and calves and includes buffaloes of any age or sex;
- “contact” means any animal or bird which has by contact direct or indirect with a diseased animal or bird been exposed to the risk of contracting a disease;
- “Director” means the Director of Primary Production appointed under section 3, and includes the Deputy Director of Primary Production appointed under that section;
- “disease” means any disease infectious or contagious amongst animals or birds and includes anthrax, black-quarter, rinderpest (cattle plague), contagious pleuropneumonia, contagious abortion, tuberculosis, epizootic lymphangitis, foot and mouth disease, glanders and farcy, goat pox, haemorrhagic septicaemia, rabies, sheep pox,

swine fever, swine erysipelas, trypanosomiasis, Newcastle disease (Ranikhet disease), pullorum disease (bacillary white diarrhoea), fowl cholera, fowl plague, fowl pox, infectious laryngotracheitis and any other disease which the Minister may from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, declare to be a disease within the meaning of this Act;

“dog” means a domesticated dog of any breed or sex;

“examine”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, includes the carrying out of any tests and post-mortem examination, after exhumation of the carcass (if necessary);

“fodder” means any substance used for food of animals or birds;

“horse” includes any mare, gelding, pony, foal, colt, filly, ass or mule;

“infected” means infected with any disease;

“licence” means the licence issued by the Director;

“litter” means any substance used for bedding or otherwise for or about animals or birds;

“master” means the captain of any ship or aircraft and includes any person for the time being in charge of any ship (other than a pilot) or aircraft;

“officer of customs” has the same meaning as is assigned to it in the Customs Act;

Cap. 70.

“owner” includes any person for the time being in charge of any animal or bird and any person for the time being in occupation of any building;

“permit” means a permit issued by the Director;

“port” has the same meaning as is assigned to it in the Port of Singapore Authority Act;

Cap. 236.

“quarantine” means the compulsory detention in isolation of any animal, bird or thing;

“quarantine station” means any building or place where quarantine is carried out, and includes an examination station or hulk;

“ship” includes every description of vessel or craft, however propelled, which may be used in the water;

“veterinary biologics” means aggressions, serums, viruses, toxins, tuberculin, mallein, Johnin, abortin,

vaccines, micro-organisms either living or killed, and products of micro-organisms intended for use in the treatment or diagnosis of diseases of animals and birds;

“veterinary authority” means the Director, the Deputy Director of Primary Production and the Senior Primary Production Officer and includes any person appointed in writing by the Director to be a veterinary authority under section 3 (2);

“veterinary centre” means a veterinary centre established under section 65.

Appointment
of officers.

3.—(1) The President may appoint an officer to be styled the Director of Primary Production and an officer to be styled the Deputy Director of Primary Production.

(2) The Director may, with the approval of the Minister, appoint any public officer employed in the administration of this Act to be a veterinary authority 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 and the veterinary authority by this Act.

Officers to be
deemed to be
public
servants.
Cap. 224.

4. All officers appointed under the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Penal Code.

Identification
card to be
produced.

5.—(1) Every veterinary authority, officer of customs or police 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 those powers such card as the Director, the Director-General of Customs and Excise or the Commissioner of Police respectively may direct to be carried by officers appointed under the provisions of this Act, officers of customs or police officers.

(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 officer of customs or police officer not in uniform, who fails to declare

his office and refuses to produce his identification card on demand being made by that person.

PART II

IMPORTATION, TRANSHIPMENT AND EXPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS

Importation

6.—(1) The Minister may make orders—

(a) specifying the countries or the parts of any country from which animals and birds, or any specified kinds of animals or birds, may be imported or transhipped either with or without restriction; or

(b) prohibiting, either absolutely or conditionally, the import and transhipment from any specified country or any specified part of a country of any carcase, semen, fodder, litter, dung or any product of animals or birds or any article or substance that is likely to convey or spread any disease.

Power to make orders with regard to importation, etc.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of any order made under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

7.—(1) Except as provided in any order made under section 6 (1), no person shall import or tranship any animal, bird or veterinary biologics, except in accordance with a licence issued in that behalf by the Director and in accordance with the conditions (if any) of that licence and such other conditions as may be prescribed.

No person to import any animal, bird or veterinary biologics without licence.

(2) A licence to import or tranship any animal, bird or veterinary biologics under this Act may be obtained on an application made in the prescribed form to the Director and upon the payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

(3) Any person importing or transhipping an animal, bird or veterinary biologics in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Examination and detention of imported animals and birds.

8.—(1) Every animal or bird imported or transhipped or about to be imported or transhipped may be required to undergo an examination by a veterinary authority either at the place of arrival or at such other place as the veterinary authority may determine. If that animal or bird is in the opinion of the veterinary authority likely to have been exposed to infection with any disease, the veterinary authority may subject it to such biological or other test or treatment as he may consider necessary and may charge such fees as may be prescribed for that biological or other test or treatment.

(2) Any such animal or bird may on importation or transhipment be detained by a veterinary authority for observation, examination, test or treatment for such period and at such place as in the circumstances of the case he thinks proper.

Arrival of animal or bird to be reported.

9.—(1) The master of any ship or aircraft and the guard of any train on which there is any animal or bird, whether that animal or bird is intended to be landed in Singapore or not, shall forthwith on the first arrival of the ship, aircraft or train at a port, airfield or station in Singapore report the fact to a port officer or the officer in charge of the airfield or the station master, as the case may be, who shall without delay inform the veterinary authority.

(2) A veterinary authority may board any ship, aircraft or train for the purpose of examining an animal or bird.

(3) Notwithstanding the fact that—

(a) a licence has been issued for the importation or transhipment of an animal or bird under section 7; or

(b) any animal or bird comes from a country or part of a country which has been specified in an order made under section 6 (1) (a),

the port officer or officer in charge of an airfield or station master shall not permit that animal or bird to be landed from the ship or removed from the aircraft or the train, as the case may be, until he has personally satisfied himself that the veterinary authority has granted a permit for the landing or removal of that animal or bird from the ship, aircraft or train.

(4) Any person who fails to make a report as is required by subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(5) Any person who permits an animal or bird to be landed or removed from a ship, aircraft or train in contravention of subsection (3) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

10.—(1) If any animal or bird which has been or is about to be imported or transhipped, is, in the opinion of a veterinary authority, infected with any disease, the veterinary authority may in his discretion —

Importation of diseased animals or birds and contact.

- (a) refuse to permit that animal or bird or any animal or bird which has come into contact with that animal or bird to be landed or removed;
- (b) cause that animal or bird and any contacts thereof to be destroyed at once and the carcase to be disposed of in such manner as he may direct; or
- (c) cause that animal or bird and any animal or bird which has come into contact with that animal or bird to be detained in quarantine for such period as he may consider necessary.

(2) If any animal or bird is destroyed under subsection (1) (b), the expenses of disposing of the carcase of the animal or bird shall be payable by the owner or person in charge of the animal or bird.

(3) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird which has been destroyed under subsection (1) (b).

11.—(1) Any dog or cat imported or transhipped by sea shall, unless a veterinary authority has authorised its landing, at all times while on board the ship in any port be confined in an enclosed part of the ship or in a cage or kennel.

Dogs and cats on board ship.

(2) If any dog or cat dies or is lost from a ship while in the port, the master of the ship shall immediately notify the veterinary authority of the death or loss.

(3) The master of any ship, in any case —

- (a) in which any cat or dog imported or transhipped by sea in that ship has, in contravention of

subsection (1), not been confined while on board the ship in the port; or

(b) where he fails without reasonable cause to notify the death or loss of a dog or cat while the ship is in the port,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Destruction of injured animals or birds.

12.—(1) If any animal or bird examined by a veterinary authority for the purpose of importation or transhipment is found to be suffering from injury which, in the opinion of the veterinary authority, cannot be relieved, the veterinary authority may cause that animal or bird to be destroyed immediately and its carcase to be disposed of in such manner as he may direct.

(2) If any animal or bird is destroyed under this section, the expenses of disposing of the carcase of the animal or bird shall be payable by the owner or person in charge of the animal or bird.

(3) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird destroyed under subsection (1).

Permission to land carcasses.

13.—(1) No person shall land from any ship or remove from any aircraft, train or vehicle the carcase of any animal or bird without the written permission of a veterinary authority who may give directions in writing as to the manner of its disposal.

(2) Any person landing or removing the carcase of an animal or bird in contravention of subsection (1) or who fails to comply with the directions in writing of a veterinary authority given under that subsection shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Destruction or disinfection of certain articles.

14. Whenever a veterinary authority is of the opinion that any bedding, litter, fodder or other material imported by land, sea or air may convey or spread any animal disease, he may seize and detain, and may in his discretion order the destruction or disinfection of, that bedding, litter, fodder or other material.

Exportation

15.—(1) No person shall export any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird except in accordance with a licence in that behalf issued by the Director and in accordance with the conditions of that licence (if any) and such other conditions as may be prescribed.

No person to export any animal or bird without licence.

(2) A licence to export any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird may be issued upon an application made in the prescribed form to the Director and upon the payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

(3) Any person exporting any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

16. The owner or person in charge of any animal or bird who wishes to export the animal or bird to the States of Malaya shall produce evidence in writing of the permission of the Director-General of Veterinary Services, States of Malaya, or the State Director of Veterinary Services to import the animal or bird into the States of Malaya before any licence under section 15 is issued.

Exportation to the States of Malaya.

17. Every animal or bird which is about to be exported may be required to undergo an examination by a veterinary authority at such place as he may determine.

Examination before exportation.

18. A veterinary authority may refuse to permit any animal or bird to be exported, if he is of the opinion that the animal or bird —

Exportation of diseased animal or bird.

(a) is infected with any disease; or

(b) has come into contact with any animal or bird which is infected with disease.

PART III

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF DISEASE

General

19.—(1) If a veterinary authority has reason to believe that any animal or bird may be infected with any disease, he may subject that animal or bird to such examination or test as he may consider necessary. For the purposes of such

Examination of animals or birds suspected of disease.

examination or test the veterinary authority may take blood, milk, urine, or any other substance from the animal or bird.

(2) For the purpose of carrying out any examination or test under subsection (1), the veterinary authority may give written directions for the animal or bird to be delivered to him at a specified place and time, and no such animal or bird shall be removed from that place after being delivered without the permission of the veterinary authority:

Provided that no person shall be required to deliver any animal or bird at any place more than 5 kilometres from the place at which the animal or bird is kept.

(3) Any person who fails without lawful excuse to comply with any written direction given under subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Destruction
of diseased
animal or
bird.

20. A veterinary authority may require the immediate isolation or destruction of any animal or bird which in the opinion of the veterinary authority, as a result of any examination or test made under section 19 or otherwise, is infected with disease.

Compensa-
tion for any
animal or
bird
destroyed.

21. No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird which has been destroyed under section 20:

Provided that the Minister may in his discretion authorise the payment of such sum as he may determine as compensation in respect of that animal or bird.

Post-mortem
examination.

22.—(1) A veterinary authority may conduct a post-mortem examination of the carcass of any animal or bird and may remove such portions of the carcass as he considers necessary for laboratory examination. For the purposes of the examination, the veterinary authority may give written directions for the carcass to be delivered to him at a specified place and time, and no such carcass shall be removed from that place after being delivered without the permission of the veterinary authority:

Provided that no person shall be required to deliver the carcass of any animal or bird at any place more than

5 kilometres from the place at which the carcass is at the time the written directions are given.

(2) A veterinary authority may give written directions for the carcass of an animal or bird which has been buried to be exhumed for the purpose of a post-mortem examination.

(3) Any person who fails without lawful excuse to comply with any written direction given under subsection (1) or (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

23.—(1) If a veterinary authority considers that any animal or bird has been exposed to infection to any disease, he may give written directions for that animal or bird to be subjected to such treatment as he may consider necessary, including vaccine or serum therapy or a combination of such therapy.

Animal or
bird contact
exposed to
infection.

(2) Any person who without lawful excuse fails to comply with any written direction given under this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

24.—(1) A veterinary authority may give written directions for—

Disinfection
of building.

- (a) the disinfection in such manner as he may determine of any building in which an infected animal or bird has been found or kept;
- (b) prohibiting the use of any such building until the building has been disinfected in accordance with such directions as may have been given under paragraph (a).

(2) Any person who without lawful excuse fails to comply with any written direction given under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

25.—(1) If a veterinary authority is of the opinion that any building which has been occupied by an infected animal cannot be effectively disinfected, he may give written

Destruction
of building.

directions, with the approval of the Minister, to the owner or occupier thereof to destroy the building and to burn the materials thereof within such time as may be specified in the order.

(2) If an order made under subsection (1) is not complied with within the time specified in the order, the veterinary authority may cause the building and the materials thereof to be destroyed.

(3) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any building which has been destroyed by the owner or occupier thereof in compliance with written directions or by a veterinary authority under subsection (1) or (2), as the case may be:

Provided that the Minister may in his discretion authorise the payment of such sum as he may determine as compensation in respect of any such building.

(4) Any person who, without lawful excuse, fails to comply with any written direction given under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Disinfection
or destruction
of
articles.

26.—(1) A veterinary authority may give written directions for the disinfection or destruction of any bedding, clothing, harness, fitting, buckets, pails or utensils whatsoever used in connection with any infected animal or bird.

(2) No compensation is payable in respect of any bedding, clothing, harness, fitting, buckets, pails or utensils destroyed under subsection (1).

(3) Any person who without lawful excuse fails to comply with any written direction given under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Disinfection
of person and
clothing.

27.—(1) A veterinary authority may require the disinfection of the body and clothing of any person who has been in contact with or in charge of or attended upon any animal or bird infected with or in the opinion of the veterinary authority infected with disease.

(2) Any person failing without lawful excuse to comply with any requirement under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500.

28.—(1) A veterinary authority may require the disinfection of any vehicle or conveyance entering or leaving an area declared to be an infected area, under section 35, or which has been used in the transport of any animal or bird infected with or in the opinion of the veterinary authority infected with disease.

Disinfection
of vehicles.

(2) Any person failing without lawful excuse to comply with any requirement under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500.

29.—(1) No person shall knowingly cast or cause or permit to be cast into any drain, ditch, water channel, street or open space, or otherwise expose any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird which is or has been infected with disease or any fodder, litter, dung or thing which has been used in connection with any infected animal or bird.

Disposal of
infected
animal, bird
or carcase.

(2) Any person who acts in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

30.—(1) Every owner or person in charge of any animal or bird infected with or reasonably suspected to be infected with disease shall immediately make a report to a veterinary authority or to the nearest police station and shall at once cause that animal or bird and all other animals or birds which have been in contact with it to be confined and isolated until the arrival of a veterinary authority.

Owner of
diseased or
dead animal
or bird to
report.

(2) Every owner or person in charge of any animal or bird reasonably suspected to have died of disease shall immediately report its death to the veterinary authority or the nearest police station and, in the case of an animal, the carcase shall not be moved without written permission from the veterinary authority:

Provided that it shall not be an offence to bury the carcase of the animal, if no instructions have been received within 24 hours of making that report.

(3) Where the officer in charge of a police station has communicated the contents of a report by telephone to a veterinary authority, he shall as soon as possible transmit the report to the veterinary authority.

(4) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to make a report as required under subsection (1) or (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(5) Any person who without reasonable excuse —

(a) fails to cause any animal or bird to be confined and isolated as is required by subsection (1); or

(b) permits the carcass of an animal or bird to be moved in contravention of subsection (2),

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*Special provisions relating to animals
(other than dogs and cats) and birds*

Application. **31.** Sections 32 to 36 shall not apply to dogs and cats.

Disposal of dead animal or bird. **32.—**(1) The owner or person in charge of any animal or bird that has died from disease or has been destroyed by order of a veterinary authority shall burn or otherwise dispose of the carcass thereof in accordance with the written directions of the veterinary authority.

(2) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with any written directions given by a veterinary authority under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Moving or disposal of diseased or suspected animal or bird. **33.—**(1) No person shall move or dispose, whether by sale or otherwise, of any animal or bird diseased or reasonably suspected of being diseased or of being a contact of any diseased animal or bird or of the carcass of such an animal or bird, or of the milk, dung or blood of such an animal, except with the written consent of a veterinary authority.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine

not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

34.—(1) A veterinary authority may give written directions prohibiting the removal of milk, manure, fodder, litter or other articles likely to carry or convey infection, from premises on which there is or recently has been, any animal or bird infected with disease.

Removal of articles from infected premises.

(2) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with any written directions given under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

35.—(1) Whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that any disease exists amongst any animals or birds in any part of Singapore, the Minister may by order declare that part to be an infected area and may in the order prohibit either absolutely or conditionally the removal into or out of that area any animal or bird or specified kind of animal or bird.

Infected areas.

(2) When an area has been thus declared to be an infected area, a veterinary authority may give such written directions to regulate the tying-up, isolation, segregation, movement and slaughter of animals or birds within the area as he may consider necessary to control and check the spread of the disease. In the event of any owner or person in charge of any animal or bird failing to comply with those written directions the veterinary authority may take such steps as are necessary to effectively isolate or segregate that animal or bird and all expenses incurred thereby shall be recoverable from the owner or person in charge or both.

(3) Any animal or bird allowed to stray within an infected area, in contravention of any written direction given under subsection (2), may be destroyed forthwith by a veterinary authority or may be seized and detained until its forfeiture has been declared in pursuance of the provisions of this Act. No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird so destroyed or seized.

(4) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with any written directions given under subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on

conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Special
permission.

36. The veterinary authority may grant, subject to such conditions as he may impose, written permission to the owner of any animal or bird to remove it into or out of any infected area.

*Special provisions relating to dogs and cats
in connection with rabies*

Licensing of
dogs.

37. No person shall own, keep, harbour or maintain any dog that is over 3 months old, unless the dog is licensed.

Rabies
infected
areas.

38.—(1) The Minister may at any time as a precaution against rabies by order declare Singapore or any part thereof to be a rabies-infected area.

(2) No person shall take any dog out of a rabies-infected area or out of Singapore when any part thereof is a rabies-infected area, except in accordance with a written permit issued by a veterinary authority.

(3) The owner or person in charge of any dog within a rabies-infected area shall cause the dog to be kept under effective control —

- (a) by confining it within an enclosed area from which it would be impossible for the dog to escape;
- (b) by tying it up securely; or
- (c) by leading it with a chain or lead of strong cord or leather properly secured to a collar or harness worn by the dog:

Provided that the veterinary authority, if he is satisfied that any dog or class of dogs, whether by reason of prophylactic treatment or otherwise, is immune from infection by rabies, may exempt that dog or class of dogs from the requirements of this subsection, subject to such conditions as may be imposed by him.

(4) Any dog found within a rabies-infected area which is not under effective control in accordance with subsection (3) may be destroyed by any person authorised in writing in that behalf by the veterinary authority, and any person so authorised may enter any land, building or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subsection:

Provided that that person shall not enter into any dwelling-house for that purpose, except during the day and shall, if required, produce and show his written authority to the owner, occupier or person for the time being in charge of the land, building or premises.

(5) Any person who acts in contravention of subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

(6) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with subsection (3) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

39.—(1) Whenever a veterinary authority reasonably suspects that any animal may be infected with rabies or has been exposed to rabies infection he may, in his discretion, either cause the animal to be destroyed forthwith or may give written directions to the owner or person in charge of the animal requiring that owner or person to take it forthwith to any animal quarantine station for detention and observation.

Destruction
or detention
of animal
suspected to
be infected
with rabies.

(2) If the owner or person in charge of the animal fails to comply with the written directions given under subsection (1) the veterinary authority may forthwith either cause the animal to be destroyed or take possession of the animal and remove it to an animal quarantine station.

(3) The veterinary authority may either destroy the animal in the animal quarantine station or may detain it until he is satisfied that it is free from disease.

(4) The veterinary authority may take possession of the body of any animal that has died or has been destroyed and which is reasonably suspected to have been infected with rabies and may dispose of it in such manner as he may think fit.

(5) No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the destruction of any animal under subsection (1), (2) or (3).

(6) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with any written directions given under subsection

(1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(7) For the purposes of this section “animal” means any four-footed beast in captivity or under control.

Detention of
any dog that
has bitten a
person.
21/73.

40.—(1) A veterinary authority or police officer may give directions requiring the owner or person in charge of any dog that has or is reasonably believed to have bitten any person to produce the dog at such place and time as he may determine. If the owner or person in charge of the dog fails to comply with those directions, the veterinary authority or police officer may forthwith take possession of the dog and remove it to an animal quarantine station.

(2) Any person who fails without lawful excuse to comply with the directions given under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200.

Anti-rabies
vaccination
of dogs.

41.—(1) The Minister may make an order requiring that all dogs within Singapore or any part thereof specified in the order shall be submitted to anti-rabies vaccination.

(2) Whenever an order has been made under subsection (1) the veterinary authority may specify periods of time within which, and the place at which, dogs or groups of dogs, shall be produced for the purpose of such vaccination.

(3) All such arrangements for vaccination of dogs shall be published in such manner as the veterinary authority may determine.

(4) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, require that every dog which has been vaccinated in accordance with the order shall, after such date as may be specified in the notification, at all times during the continuance in force of the order and within the area to which the order applies, carry upon it a serially numbered badge, mark, tag or other evidence of vaccination. Any dog within that area after the date specified in the notification, whether the dog is at large or not, which does not carry the proper evidence of vaccination may be destroyed.

(5) The veterinary authority may authorise in writing any person to destroy dogs to give effect to subsection (4). Any person so authorised may enter any land, building or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subsection:

Provided that that person shall not enter into any dwelling for that purpose, except during the hours of daylight and shall, if required, produce and show his written authority to the owner, occupier or person for the time being in charge of the land, building or premises.

(6) If any person in charge of a dog fails to comply with any order or requirement under subsection (1) or (4), as the case may be, the veterinary authority may forthwith destroy that dog.

(7) Any owner of or person in charge of a dog who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with an order made under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(8) Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with a requirement contained in a notification made under subsection (4) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(9) Any dog which has been vaccinated in any year in accordance with the provisions of an order made under subsection (1) and which is carrying the proper evidence of that vaccination shall be deemed to be licensed under this Act.

PART IV

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

42. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires, “animal” includes any beast, bird, fish, reptile or insect, whether wild or tame. Interpretation.

43.—(1) Any person who —

(a) cruelly beats, kicks, ill-treats, over-rides, over-drives, over-loads, tortures, infuriates or terrifies any animal;

Cruelty to animals.

- (b) causes or procures or, being the owner, permits any animal to be so used;
- (c) being in charge of any animal in confinement or in the course of transport from one place to another neglects to supply the animal with sufficient food and water;
- (d) by wantonly or unreasonably doing or omitting to do any act, causes any unnecessary pain or suffering or, being the owner, permits any unnecessary pain or suffering to any animal;
- (e) causes, procures or, being the owner, permits to be confined, conveyed, lifted or carried any animal in such a manner or position as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering;
- (f) employs or causes or procures or, being the owner, permits to be employed in any work of labour, any animal which in consequence of any disease, infirmity, wound or sore, or otherwise is unfit to be so employed; or
- (g) causes, procures or assists at the fighting or baiting of any animal, or keeps, uses, manages, or acts or assists in the management of any premises or place for the purpose, or partly for the purpose, of fighting or baiting any animal, or permits any premises or place to be so kept, managed or used, or receives or causes or procures any person to receive money for the admission of any person to the premises or place,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both:

Provided that where an owner is convicted of having permitted cruelty to an animal under subsection (2), he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$500.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), an owner shall be deemed to have permitted cruelty to an animal, if he has failed to exercise reasonable care and supervision in respect of the animal.

(3) Nothing in this section applies to the commission or omission of any act in the course of the destruction, or the preparation for destruction of any animal as food, unless

that destruction or preparation was accompanied by the infliction of unnecessary suffering.

44.—(1) Any veterinary authority and any police officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he sees committing an offence under section 43 and may seize any animal in respect of which, and any conveyance or article with or by means of which, that offence has been committed.

Power of veterinary authorities and police officers.

(2) Any person so arrested and any conveyance or article so seized shall forthwith be taken to a police station.

(3) Any animal so seized shall be taken to a police station or pound or a veterinary centre and may, subject to any order made in respect thereof by a Magistrate, be there detained until the accused has been tried by a court.

(4) Any veterinary authority and any police officer may stop in any street or public place and examine any animal in respect of which he has reason to believe that an offence has been or is being committed under section 43.

45.—(1) When any person has been convicted of an offence under section 43, the court may order —

Orders by a Magistrate when an offence has been committed.

- (a) that the animal in respect of which the offence was committed be taken to a veterinary centre and there detained and treated by a veterinary authority for any period stated in the order, or until released by further order of a Magistrate or until a veterinary authority has certified in writing that it may properly be released;
- (b) that the animal be treated by a veterinary authority and not used during such period as may be stated in the order or until permission to use it has been given by a Magistrate or a veterinary authority; or
- (c) if satisfied that the animal is incurably diseased or injured, that it be destroyed forthwith by or under the direction of a police officer or veterinary authority and that the cost of burying or otherwise disposing of the carcase be borne by the person convicted.

(2) If any animal is taken to a veterinary centre or treated by a veterinary authority in accordance with an order made

under subsection (1), any person who has been convicted of an offence in respect of the animal is liable to pay the prescribed fees for its maintenance and treatment until it is declared fit for release or use:

Provided that if the owner of the animal requests in writing the officer in charge of the veterinary centre to destroy the animal and pays to the officer the prescribed fees for its destruction or burial, the officer shall forthwith cause the animal to be destroyed, and no fee shall be payable in respect of the maintenance or treatment of the animal for any time subsequent to the request and payment.

(3) Any person who acts in contravention of the provisions of an order made under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Power to
order
destruction of
animals.
21/73.

46.—(1) A veterinary authority or police officer who has satisfied himself by personal inspection —

- (a) that an animal is diseased or injured and that the disease or injury from which the animal is suffering is incurable or that it is cruel to keep the animal alive; or
- (b) that an animal is so diseased or so severely injured or in such a physical condition that, in his opinion, having regard to the means available for removing the animal there is no possibility of removing it without cruelty and that it is cruel to keep it alive,

may give written directions requiring the animal to be destroyed and those directions may forthwith be carried out by or under the supervision of that veterinary authority or police officer or any other person authorised in that behalf by the veterinary authority or police officer:

Provided that if the animal so diseased or injured is in any house, stable, shed, or enclosure proper for that animal and not in a public thoroughfare, market or place, no written directions shall be given until the owner of the animal (if known) or person in charge (if any) has been duly notified of the state of the animal.

(2) If any animal is destroyed in pursuance of written directions given under subsection (1), the expenses of the

removal and burial of the carcass of the animal shall be paid by the owner or person in charge thereof and the amount thereof may be recovered from that owner or person in charge in a summary manner before a Magistrate.

47. No compensation shall in any case be payable to any person in respect of the destruction of any animal in pursuance of an order made under section 45 (1) (c) or in accordance with written directions given under section 46 (1) or in compliance with a request in writing to an officer in charge of a veterinary centre as provided for in section 45 (2) by any person professing to be the owner of the animal.

No compensation for destruction of an animal incurably diseased or injured or destroyed at request of professed owner.

48. The court before which any person is convicted of an offence under this Part may direct any fine or portion of any fine imposed and levied under this Act to be paid to the informer.

Award to informer.

49.—(1) No person shall keep in captivity for sale, export or exhibition any animal or bird in any place which has not been licensed in that behalf under this Act.

Animals and birds not to be kept in captivity for sale, export or exhibition without licence.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

PART V

CONTROL OF LIVESTOCK

50.—(1) The Minister may by order—

(a) prohibit for such period as may be specified in the order the movement of any animals and birds from one part of Singapore to another except under a licence;

(b) prohibit during such period or periods as may be specified in the order the slaughter of any animal or bird except under a licence.

(2) A licence issued in accordance with an order made under subsection (1) shall be subject to such conditions as may be contained in the order or the licence.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of an order made under this section shall be guilty of an offence

Movement or slaughter of animals and birds may be prohibited.

and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

PART VI

SEARCH, SEIZURE AND ARREST

Power of search for diseased animals or birds.

51.—(1) For the purpose of ascertaining whether any animal or bird is suffering from disease or for the purpose of ascertaining whether any offence under this Act has been or is being committed —

- (a) any veterinary authority or police officer may enter and examine any land, building or premises on or in which he suspects any animal or bird is being kept for the purpose of examining the animal, bird, land, building or premises and the owner of the land, building, premises, animal or bird shall render the veterinary authority or police officer all necessary assistance and furnish such information as may be required of him; and
- (b) any veterinary authority, police officer or officer of customs may stop, enter and examine any conveyance used for carrying animals.

(2) Any person in charge of a conveyance who does not stop when he is required to do so by a veterinary authority, police officer or officer of customs under subsection (1) (b) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Seizure of animal, bird, carcasses or articles.

52.—(1) When any veterinary authority or police officer has reason to believe that any offence under this Act has been or is being committed or when any officer of customs has reason to believe that an offence under this Act relating to importation or exportation has been or is being committed, the veterinary authority, officer of customs or police officer may seize any animal, bird, carcase or article, the subject-matter of such an offence and may remove that animal, bird, carcase or article to any compound, enclosure or other place selected by the veterinary authority and there detain it.

(2) Whenever any animal, bird, carcase or article has been seized and detained under subsection (1), the

veterinary authority, officer of customs or police officer shall report the same to a Magistrate and the Magistrate may make such order for the further detention or release of the animal, bird, carcase or article as he may think fit.

(3) The owner of the animal, bird, carcase or article shall pay such sum as the Magistrate may consider reasonable to cover the expenses connected with its removal to a place of detention and unless that sum is paid within a specified time the animal, bird, carcase or article shall be forfeited.

53.—(1) Any veterinary authority, officer of customs or police officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he sees or finds committing or attempting to commit or whom he reasonably suspects of being engaged in committing or attempting to commit any offence under this Act, if the person refuses to furnish his name and address or furnishes an address out of Singapore or there are reasonable grounds for believing that he has furnished a false name or address or that he is likely to abscond.

Powers of
arrest.

(2) Any veterinary authority, officer of customs or police officer making an arrest without warrant shall, subject to subsection (3), without unnecessary delay bring the person arrested before a Magistrate's Court.

(3) No person who has been arrested by a veterinary authority, officer of customs or police officer shall be released, except on his own bond or on bail or on the special order in writing of the Magistrate or the Director.

PART VII

SUPPLEMENTAL

54. Any person who without lawful excuse obstructs or impedes or assists in obstructing or impeding any veterinary authority, officer of customs or police officer in the exercise of his duties under this Act or any rule or order made thereunder shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Obstructing
officers in the
execution of
their duties.

55. Any person who without lawful authority alters any licence or permit issued under this Act or knowingly makes use of any licence or permit so altered shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not

Altering
licences.

exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Penalties for offences for which no expressed penalty is provided.

56. Any person guilty of an offence under this Act, or any rule or order made thereunder for which no expressed penalty is provided shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Forfeiture.

57.—(1) Whenever any person has been convicted of an offence under this Act, the court may, in addition to or in lieu of imposing any other punishment, order that any animal, bird, carcase or article in respect of which the offence was committed shall be forfeited.

(2) When any animal, bird, carcase or article has been seized under section 52, but the person who is alleged to have committed the offence is unknown or cannot be found the Magistrate may, if it is proved to his satisfaction that an offence has been committed in respect of the animal, bird, carcase or article, order that the animal, bird, carcase or article be forfeited:

Provided that no order shall be made under this subsection unless the owner, if his name and place of residence are known, has had an opportunity of appearing to show cause why the order should not be made.

(3) Any animal, bird, carcase or article forfeited under this section or under section 52 (3) shall be disposed of in accordance with an order of the Magistrate.

Presumptions.

58.—(1) Where the owner or person in charge of a diseased animal or bird is charged with an offence under this Act in respect of the disease, he shall be presumed to have known of the existence of the disease in the animal or bird until he shows to the satisfaction of the court before which he is charged that he had no such knowledge and could not with reasonable diligence have obtained such knowledge.

(2) Where there is any doubt regarding the ownership of any animal or bird, the person found in possession of the animal or bird, or the occupier of the premises frequented by it may be presumed to be the owner thereof until the contrary is proved.

59. Any prosecution in respect of an offence under this Act may be conducted by a veterinary authority or a police officer not below the rank of sergeant.

Conduct of prosecutions. 21/73.

60. Any expense incurred by a veterinary authority or other officer in the exercise of the powers conferred on him by this Act or any rule, order or direction made or given thereunder shall be charged against the owner, consignor, consignee or importer, as the case may be, of the animal, bird, carcase, article, building or conveyance concerned and may be recovered as a civil debt.

Expenses.

61.—(1) Any action taken under the provisions of this Act or of any rule, order or direction made or given thereunder in respect of any animal, bird, carcase, article, building or conveyance shall be at the risk of the owner thereof.

Action to be at risk and expense of owner.

(2) No liability shall attach to the Government or to any officer thereof in respect of any expense, loss, damage or delay arising in or from the lawful exercise of the powers under this Act.

62.—(1) The veterinary authority may, if he considers it necessary for purposes of identification, brand, label or otherwise mark either permanently or temporarily any animal.

Brands or other identification marks may be applied to animals.

(2) Any person who counterfeits, copies, alters, defaces or erases, any brand or mark applied by a veterinary authority shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

63.—(1) Quarantine stations for animals or birds shall be established and maintained by the Government.

Quarantine stations for animals and birds.

(2) In addition to the quarantine stations for animals or birds established and maintained under subsection (1), the Director may appoint suitable places or premises to be temporary or emergency quarantine stations for animals or birds.

64.—(1) The Minister may make rules for regulating the management and maintenance of quarantine stations for animals or birds.

Rules for management of quarantine station for animals or birds.

(2) Any charges incurred on account of transport of any animal or bird to or from a quarantine station shall be paid by the owner or person in charge of the animal or bird.

Establishment of veterinary centres.

65. The Minister may appoint a suitable place or places to be a veterinary centre or centres for animals and birds or for any kind of animal or bird and may make rules for the management thereof, and may prescribe the fees to be paid for the maintenance and treatment therein of any kind of animal or bird and the fees to be paid for the destruction or burial of the carcase of any animal or bird treated or detained therein.

Certificates of freedom of Singapore from disease.

66. A veterinary authority may on payment of the prescribed fees issue to the exporter of any animal, bird or goods, a certificate certifying that Singapore is free from such disease as may be specified in the certificate.

Importation of noxious insects or pests.

67.—(1) No person shall knowingly import into Singapore or shall have in his possession any living noxious insect, or any living pest, or any living disease germ or virus or any bacterial culture, of a nature harmful or dangerous to animals or birds without the prior written consent of the Director.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

Licences to treat animals or birds.

68.—(1) The Director may issue licences permitting the holder thereof to treat, vaccinate or inoculate animals or birds and no person other than a veterinary authority shall treat, vaccinate or inoculate any animal or bird unless he has been so licensed.

(2) Any person treating, vaccinating or inoculating any animal or bird in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Licences to possess veterinary biologics.

69.—(1) The Director may issue licences permitting the holders thereof to possess veterinary biologics and to inoculate animals or birds with such veterinary biologics.

(2) No person other than a veterinary authority shall have in his possession any veterinary biologics or shall inoculate any animal or bird with any veterinary biologics unless he has been licensed in that behalf under subsection (1).

(3) Any person —

- (a) having in his possession any veterinary biologics; or
- (b) innoculating any animal or bird,

in contravention of subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

70.—(1) The Minister may make rules for or with respect to every purpose which is considered by him necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act, for the prescribing of any matter which is authorised or is required under this Act to be prescribed, and in particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing for or with respect to any of the matters specified in the Schedule. Power to make rules.

(2) The Minister may from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, add to, alter or amend the Schedule.

(3) Such rules may provide —

- (a) that any act or omission contravening the provisions of any rule shall be an offence; and
- (b) for the imposition of penalties, which shall not exceed a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both.

(4) The Minister may, in lieu of making any rules prescribing forms which by this Act are required to be or may be prescribed, authorise the Director to prescribe such forms as he thinks fit.

(5) All such rules shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall be presented to Parliament as soon as possible after publication.

THE SCHEDULE

SUBJECT-MATTERS OF RULES

1. Placing vessels carrying animals, birds or carcasses in quarantine.
2. Regulating the landing of animals, birds or carcasses from vessels.
3. Regulating the importation, transshipment or exportation of animals, birds or carcasses by land, sea or air.
4. Prescribing the examination of animals, birds or carcasses on importation, transshipment or exportation, the test to be applied and the measures to be taken.

Section
70 (1).
S 259/79.

5. Regulating the landing and movement of animals and birds imported for slaughter.

6. The cleansing or disinfection of buildings, ships, places or conveyances in which diseased animals, birds or carcasses have been kept or carried.

7. The cleansing or disinfection of markets, sale yards, railway premises and railway vans or trucks where any animals, birds or carcasses have been kept or carried.

8. The disinfection of contacts of animals or birds or carcasses which have been kept in an infected area.

9. The disinfection of persons and the clothing of persons who have been in contact with diseased or suspected animals or birds or carcasses or contacts.

10. The seizure, disinfection and, if expedient, the destruction, with or without compensation, of litter, fodder or other article which has been in contact with any diseased animal, bird or carcase, or which is reasonably suspected of being a means of spreading disease.

11. The conditions and regulations under and in accordance with which dogs may be kept and the circumstances in which they may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, and such provisions as may be deemed necessary for their licensing.

12. The licensing, control, supervision and inspection of places in which animals or birds are or may be kept in captivity for sale, export, exhibition, production, or any other purpose and such rules may —

- (a) prescribe the conditions under which animals or birds may be so kept;
- (b) specify the authorities who may issue licences; and
- (c) prescribe the circumstances in which licences may be revoked or suspended.

13. The control and eradication of any disease of animal or bird.

14. The control of pollution caused by animals and the imposition of fees and charges for the purpose of such control together with the time, place and manner of collection.

15. The control and improvement of animal or bird production in respect of breeding, nutrition, health, management, husbandry and method of production.

16. The supply, collection and compilation of information and statistics of animals and birds and their products.

17. The control of sale, marketing and distribution of animals and birds and their products and to appoint such authority as may be required to effect such control.

18. The control of erection, maintenance and repair of buildings of animals and birds.

19. The prescribing of forms for licences and for other purposes for use in connection with the Act.
20. The prescribing of fees and charges for the purposes of the Act.
21. The exemption from the requirements of any rules made under the Act.