

**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**CUSTOMS ACT**

**(CHAPTER 70)**

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# Customs Act

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An Act relating to customs.

[26th September 1960]

## PART I

## PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the Customs Act. Short title.
2. This Act shall not apply to — Extent of operation.
- (a) such off-shore islands as the Minister may by notification in the *Gazette* specify, in respect of the importation, exportation, manufacture or use of petroleum; and
- (b) subject to this Act or any other written law, any act or thing lawfully done or permitted to be done within a free trade zone.

Interpre-  
tation.  
24/81.

3.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“agent”, in relation to a vessel, includes a chinchew and a comprador;

“aircraft” includes any kind of craft which may be used for the conveyance of passengers or goods by air;

“alcohol” means ethyl alcohol;

“beer” includes ale, stout, porter, shandy and all other fermented liquors made from malt, and cider and perry;

“bottle” includes any container for intoxicating liquors capable of being corked or sealed;

“bottled beer” means beer contained in bottles in which it has been released from customs control;

“bottling”, in the case of intoxicating liquors, includes blending, compounding and varying any intoxicating liquor with intent that the blend, compound, or varied intoxicating liquor so formed shall be sold for human consumption, but does not include any such blend, compound or varied intoxicating liquor prepared at the order of a purchaser, and for immediate consumption;

“bottling warehouse” means a warehouse licensed by the Director-General for the bottling, blending, compounding or varying of intoxicating liquor under section 66 (1);

“captain of an aircraft” means every person having or taking command or charge of an aircraft;

“complete month” means the period from the first day of a month to the last day of the month, both days inclusive;

“customs airport” means any place which has been designated as a customs airport;

“customs duty” means any import or excise duty imposed by or under this Act;

“customs territory” means Singapore and the territorial waters thereof but excluding any free trade zone;

“deleterious substance” means any matter —

(a) which is unfit for human consumption; or

(b) the consumption of which is harmful to human beings,

as certified by the Director of Scientific Services;

“denatured” means rendered unfit for human consumption to the satisfaction of the Director-General;

“Director-General” means the Director-General of Customs and Excise appointed under section 4 (1);

“Director of Scientific Services” includes the Deputy Director of Scientific Services, the Principal Scientific Officer, the Senior Scientific Officer and the Scientific Officer of the Department of Scientific Services;

“dutiabale goods” means any goods subject to the payment of customs duty on entry into customs territory or manufactured in Singapore including any free trade zone and on which customs duty has not been paid and includes goods manufactured in a free trade zone from materials of a class dutiable on entry into customs territory for consumption within the customs territory;

“excise duty” means duty on goods manufactured in Singapore;

“export”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means to take or cause to be taken out of the customs territory by any means or to place goods in any form of conveyance for the purpose of taking the goods out of the customs territory by any means to any place including a free trade zone:

Provided that goods bona fide in transit, including goods which have been transhipped, shall not be deemed to be exported unless they are or become uncustomed goods;

“free trade zone” means any area in Singapore which has been declared to be a free trade zone under the Free Trade Zones Act;

Cap. 114.

“goods” includes animals, birds, fish, plants and all kinds of movable property;



- “Government warehouse” means a warehouse established by the Minister under section 49 for the deposit of dutiable goods;
- “heavy oil or diesel oil” includes any liquid, other than petroleum as defined in this Act, which is or may be used as a fuel in the engine of a traction engine or motor vehicle;
- “import”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means to bring or cause to be brought into the customs territory by any means from any place including a free trade zone:
- Provided that goods bona fide in transit, including goods which have been taken into any free trade zone from outside the customs territory or transhipped, shall not, for the purpose of the levy of customs duties, be deemed to be imported unless they are or become uncustomed goods;
- “importer” includes and applies to any owner or other person for the time being possessed of or beneficially interested in any goods at and from the time of importation thereof until the goods are duly removed from customs control;
- “intoxicating liquor” means liquor of any description containing more than 2% of proof spirit which is fit, or intended, or can by any means be converted, for use as a beverage, but does not include toddy, bottled toddy or denatured spirit;
- “in transit” means taken out or sent from any country and brought into Singapore by land, sea or air (whether or not landed or transhipped in Singapore) for the sole purpose of being carried to another country either by the same or another conveyance;
- “licensed factory warehouse” means any place or premises licensed under section 50 for the warehousing of dutiable goods, which goods may be removed by a licensee for the purpose of manufacture of goods for export or otherwise before payment of the customs duty payable thereon, and also for the warehousing of finished

and semi-finished products, partly or wholly manufactured from dutiable raw materials;

“licensed warehouse” means a warehouse or other place licensed for the warehousing of dutiable goods under section 51 (1);

“local craft” means any junk, tongkang, prahu, or other similar type of vessel, and any steam or motor vessel under 75 net registered tons and includes any type of motor vessel whether fitted with inboard engine or outboard motor;

“manufacture”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions —

(a) in the case of intoxicating liquors, includes the process of distillation, fermentation and any process of converting raw materials into an intoxicating liquor, but does not include blending, compounding and varying of any intoxicating liquor;

(b) in the case of tobacco, includes the process of converting any raw or leaf tobacco into tobacco fit for smoking, snuffing or chewing and the making of cigarettes by power-operated machinery; and

(c) in the case of any other goods or substitutes thereof, includes any process of converting the raw materials or components of such goods or substitutes into a finished product;

“master” means any person (except a pilot or harbour master) having for the time being control or charge of a vessel;

“motor spirit” includes gasoline, petrol, motor fuel or any inflammable hydrocarbon liquid fuel for spark ignited engines;

“motor vehicle” means a mechanically-propelled vehicle primarily intended or adapted for use in the conveyance of goods or in the carriage of passengers (including any person driving the vehicle) on roads maintained at the public expense and includes any vehicle constructed to tow any other vehicle along such roads but does not include

such vehicles as excavators, crawlers, bull-dozers, tractors and any similar vehicles which are not primarily intended for use on such roads;

“officer of customs” means —

- (a) the Director-General;
- (b) the Deputy Director-General, any Senior Director and any Director of Customs and Excise appointed under section 4 (1);
- (c) any Senior Superintendent, Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Customs and Excise appointed under section 4 (4);
- (d) any Chief Customs Officer, Senior Customs Officer or Customs Officer appointed under section 5; and
- (e) any police officer;

“owner” includes a hirer under a hire-purchase agreement;

“petroleum” includes the liquids commonly known by the names of rock oil, Rangoon oil, Burma oil, kerosene and kerosene substitutes, paraffin oil, petrol, gasoline, benzol, benzoline, benzine, naphtha and any other like inflammable liquid, whether a natural product or one that is made from petroleum, coal, schist, shale or any other bituminous substance, or from any products thereof;

“preventive vessel” means any vessel employed for the prevention of smuggling or for any other purpose relating to this Act;

“prohibited goods” means goods the import or export of which is prohibited either conditionally or absolutely by notification under section 38 or by any other written law for the time being in force in Singapore;

“proof spirit” means that mixture of alcohol and distilled water which at the temperature of 11° Celsius weighs exactly twelve-thirteenth parts of an equal measure of distilled water at the same temperature;

“proper officer of customs” means any officer of customs acting in the fulfilment of his duties under

this Act, whether such duties are assigned to him specially or generally or expressly or by implication;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of Vehicles or a Deputy Registrar of Vehicles or Assistant Registrar of Vehicles appointed under the Road Traffic Act; Cap. 276.

“senior officer of customs” means —

- (a) the Director-General;
- (b) the Deputy Director-General, any Senior Director and any Director of Customs and Excise appointed under section 4 (1);
- (c) any Senior Superintendent, Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Customs and Excise appointed under section 4 (4);
- (d) any officer of customs vested with the powers of a senior officer of customs under section 4 (5); and
- (e) any police officer having the powers of a senior officer of customs by virtue of section 7;

“tobacco” includes all tobacco other than growing tobacco, whether manufactured or not;

“toddy” means the fermented juice of the coconut or other palm;

“tourist” means any person whose entry into Singapore is dependent upon the presentation of a passport or other travel document and whose stay in Singapore does not exceed 6 months, and includes persons in transit and such other class of persons as the Director-General may specify by notification in the *Gazette*;

“uncustomed goods” means goods in respect of which a breach of the provisions of this Act or of any subsidiary legislation made thereunder has been committed.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, goods shall be deemed to be under customs control while they are deposited or held in any Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse, or bottling warehouse or post office or in any vessel, train, vehicle or aircraft or any place from which they may not be removed except with the permission of the proper officer of customs.

## PART II

## APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Appointment of Director-General, Deputy Director-General, Senior Directors and Directors.

4.—(1) The Minister may appoint an officer to be styled the Director-General of Customs and Excise and may appoint a Deputy Director-General of Customs and Excise and such number of Senior Directors and Directors of Customs and Excise as he may think fit.

(2) The Director-General shall have the superintendence of all matters relating to this Act, subject to the direction and control of the Minister.

(3) The Deputy Director-General, Senior Directors and Directors shall be subject to the general direction and supervision of the Director-General and, subject thereto, shall have and exercise all the powers conferred on the Director-General by this Act.

(4) The Minister may appoint so many Senior Superintendents, Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Customs and Excise as he may think fit for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Power to invest certain officers of customs with the powers of senior officers of customs.

(5) The Minister may invest any officer of customs, not being a senior officer of customs, with all or any of the powers of a senior officer of customs.

(6) All appointments made under this section shall be published in the *Gazette*.

Appointment of other officers.

5. The Minister may appoint so many Chief Customs Officers, Senior Customs Officers and Customs Officers as he may think fit for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Officers of customs to be public servants.  
Cap. 224.

6. All officers of customs shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Penal Code.

Powers of police officers.

7. For the purposes of this Act, all police officers not below the rank of sergeant shall have and may exercise all the powers conferred by this Act on senior officers of customs, and all police officers below the rank of sergeant shall have and may exercise all the powers conferred by this Act on officers of customs.

8.—(1) Every officer of customs when acting against any person under this Act shall, if not in uniform, on demand declare his office and produce to the person against whom he is acting such authority card as the Director-General or, in the case of a police officer, the Commissioner of Police, may direct to be carried by such officers.

Authority to be produced.

(2) It shall not be an offence for any person to refuse to comply with any request, demand or order made by any officer of customs acting or purporting to act under this Act if the officer is not in uniform and refuses to declare his office and produce his authority card, on demand being made by the person.

9. Every person employed on any duty or service relating to the customs by the orders or with the concurrence of the Director-General (whether previously or subsequently expressed) shall be deemed to be the proper officer of customs for that duty or service, and every act required by law at any time to be done by or with any particular officer nominated for such purpose, if done by or with any person appointed by the Director-General to act for such particular officer shall be deemed to be done by or with that particular officer.

Persons employed on customs duty to be deemed proper officers of customs for such service.

### PART III

#### LEVYING OF DUTY AND TAX

10.—(1) There shall be charged, levied and paid to the Director-General such customs duties on any goods imported into the customs territory or manufactured in Singapore as may be prescribed by the Minister by order published in the *Gazette*.

Levying of duties.

(2) Without prejudice to any other remedy, any customs duty or any tax, fee or other charge payable under this Act may be recovered by the Minister as a civil debt due to the Government.

(3) All amounts collected as duties, taxes, fees and other charges under this Act shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

11. The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, prescribe the duty to be levied on tobacco grown in Singapore, and may in such order make provision for securing and collecting the duty.

Duty on locally-grown tobacco.

Measuring  
and testing by  
proper  
officers of  
customs.

**12.—(1)** The proper officer of customs may value, weigh, measure, test or otherwise examine, or may cause to be weighed, measured, tested or otherwise examined, any dutiable or uncustomed goods for the purpose of ascertaining the customs duty leviable thereon.

(2) When a valuation of any goods has been made by the proper officer of customs, the valuation shall be presumed to be correct until the contrary is proved.

Power of  
Minister to  
exempt.

**13.—(1)** The Minister may, by order, exempt, subject to such conditions as he may consider fit to impose, any class of goods or persons from the payment of the whole or any part of any customs duties, taxes, fees or other charges which may be payable.

(2) The Minister may in any particular case —

(a) exempt any person from the payment of the whole or any part of the customs duties, taxes, fees or other charges which may be payable by that person; or

(b) direct the refund to any person of the whole or any part of the customs duties, taxes, fees or other charges which have been paid by that person,

and in granting an exemption or directing a refund the Minister may impose such conditions as he may consider fit.

(3) Any goods in respect of which an exemption from the payment of customs duties, taxes, fees or other charges has been granted under subsection (1) or (2) shall be deemed to be dutiable goods until the conditions, if any, subject to which the exemption from duties, taxes, fees or other charges was granted are fulfilled and shall be liable to all other charges, not being customs duties, taxes, fees or other charges, to which they would be subject if no such exemption had been granted.

Reimposition  
of customs  
duty.

**14.—(1)** If any goods, on which customs duty has not been paid by reason of an exemption granted under section 13, cease to comply with the conditions subject to which the exemption was granted or cease to be kept or used by the person or for the purposes qualifying them for the exemption, those goods shall, upon such cesser, become liable to the customs duty to which they would have been liable if they had not been the subject of an exemption, and

the person to whom the exemption was granted and any person found in possession of those goods shall be jointly and severally liable to pay the customs duty.

(2) If any goods, which are liable to customs duty under subsection (1) and on which customs duty has not been paid, are found in the possession or on the premises of any person other than the person authorised to possess them under the terms of the exemption, those goods shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be uncustomed goods. Presumption.

**15.** Goods manufactured, assembled or produced in Singapore which are not subject to excise duties and which have been exported may be imported or brought back into Singapore without payment of import duty if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Director-General — Relief from duty on Singapore-made goods reimported.

- (a) that the goods were manufactured, assembled or produced in Singapore; and
- (b) that the goods have not undergone any processing or manipulation outside Singapore since their exportation.

**16.—(1)** If any dutiable goods are by unavoidable accident lost, damaged or destroyed or are lost through theft or through evaporation at any time before removal from customs control, the Director-General may remit the whole or any part of the customs duty payable thereon. Remission of customs duty on goods lost, damaged or destroyed before removal from customs control.

(2) After removal of any goods from customs control no abatement of customs duties shall be allowed on any such goods on account of loss or damage, or on account of any claim — No abatement of duty after removal from customs control.

- (a) to pay customs duty at a preferential rate; or
- (b) that the weight, measure, volume or value as determined by the proper officer of customs for the purpose of ascertaining the customs duty on such goods, or any other factor affecting the goods, is incorrect,

unless notice in writing of the claim has been given at or before the time of the removal.

**17.—(1)** Notwithstanding and in addition to any tax, duty, fee or other charge leviable on any mechanically-propelled vehicle under any other Act or any rule, Tax on motor vehicles using heavy fuel oil, etc.



regulation or scale of fees made thereunder, a special tax shall be imposed on motor vehicles which are equipped with engines using heavy oil, diesel oil, liquefied petroleum gas or any other gas as fuel or fitted with producer gas or other gas attachments.

(2) Such special tax shall be levied in accordance with such scales as may from time to time be prescribed by the Minister by order published in the *Gazette*.

(3) Such special tax shall be payable in advance to the Registrar in one or two equal instalments. An instalment shall be paid in the month succeeding the expiry of the period in respect of which the previous instalment was paid:

Provided that, when any motor vehicle is first licensed in Singapore otherwise than at the commencement of a half-year, the instalment of the special tax for the current half-year shall be payable immediately but with a reduction of one-twelfth of the annual tax for each complete month during the half-year which has expired before the vehicle is first licensed in Singapore.

(4) The Registrar may allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the tax payable annually on any such vehicle for each complete month in respect of which it is proved to his satisfaction that the vehicle has not been or will not be used in Singapore:

Provided that no person shall be entitled to claim a refund —

- (a) after 6 months from the expiration of the period in respect of which the claim is made; and
- (b) unless the claim, or notice of intention to make a claim, has been given in writing to the Registrar not later than 5 days after the commencement of the period to which the claim relates.

(5) No motor vehicle to which this section applies shall be used after the latest date appointed for payment of the special tax until the tax has been paid and no such vehicle shall be used during any period in respect of which a refund of any such tax has been made.

(6) If any motor vehicle to which this section applies is knowingly used in contravention of subsection (5), the person driving the vehicle or the owner thereof shall be guilty of an offence.

(7) The Registrar shall for the purposes of this section have all the powers of the Director-General under this Act.

**18.—**(1) Any sum payable in respect of the special tax levied under section 17 which remains due and unpaid on the day when it should have been paid in advance shall be deemed to be in arrears for the purposes of this section and may be recovered in the manner hereinafter provided.

Recovery of special tax in arrears.

(2) For the recovery of arrears of the special tax, the Registrar may seize and sell any vehicle in respect of which the special tax is in arrears and shall apply the proceeds of the sale in satisfaction of the arrears and all licence fees and other taxes due and owing in respect of the vehicle under any other written law and shall refund the balance thereof (if any) to the owner of the seized vehicle.

(3) Where the seized vehicle is a public service vehicle, the Registrar may, pending the sale of the vehicle, use or permit any other person to use the vehicle for the purpose of maintaining or providing an essential public transport service upon such terms and conditions as the Registrar may determine until such time as the vehicle can be sold.

(4) A vehicle seized under this section shall be returned to the owner thereof if the special tax and all licence fees and other taxes due and owing in respect of the vehicle have been paid at any time prior to the sale of the vehicle.

(5) Whenever any vehicle is seized under this section, the Registrar shall forthwith give notice in writing of the seizure and the ground thereof to the owner of the vehicle, either by delivering the notice to him personally or by post at his place of abode.

(6) The purchaser of a vehicle sold by the Registrar under this section shall be deemed to have acquired a good title to the vehicle free from all encumbrances created over it.

(7) No proceedings shall be brought by any person for the return of the seized vehicle or for any damages or for any other relief arising out of the seizure and use of the vehicle:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall preclude any person from bringing any proceedings in respect of any damage to property or any injury to or loss of life to any

person arising out of the use of the seized vehicle for providing an essential public transport service.

(8) For the purposes of exercising the power of seizure under this section, the Registrar may authorise any officer of customs or police officer to seize any vehicle on his behalf.

(9) The power of seizure and sale conferred by this section shall be in addition to any other remedy conferred by this Act.

Return of duties, taxes, fees or other charges overpaid or erroneously paid.

**19.** It shall be lawful for the Director-General, if it is proved to his satisfaction that any money has been overpaid or erroneously paid as customs duties, taxes, fees or other charges, or that any money was erroneously collected for the composition of offences under this Act, to order the refund of the money so overpaid or erroneously paid:

Provided that no such refund shall be allowed unless a claim in respect thereof is made in writing within one year after the overpayment or erroneous payment was made.

Payment of duty, etc., short levied or erroneously refunded.

**20.** Whenever any customs duty, tax, fee or other charge under this Act has been short levied or erroneously refunded for any reason or owing to any cause, the person who should have paid the amount short levied or to whom the refund has erroneously been made shall pay the deficiency or repay the amount erroneously refunded to him on demand being made within one year from the date of the short levy or refund, and without prejudice to any other remedy for the recovery of the amount due, any dutiable goods belonging to that person which may be in customs control may be detained until the deficiency is paid or the refund is repaid, as the case may be:

Provided that where the short levy or erroneous refund does not exceed \$5 in any one case, the Director-General may waive the recovery of the short levy or erroneous refund.

Calculation of duty.

**21.** The rate of customs duty and the valuation, if any, applicable to any goods shall be —

(a) in the case of goods lawfully imported or manufactured in Singapore —

(i) if the goods are in a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or

licensed warehouse, the rate and valuation in force at the time when those goods are removed from the Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse, as the case may be;

- (ii) if the goods are imported by post, the rate and valuation in force at the time when customs duty is assessed by the proper officer of customs; and
  - (iii) in any other case, the rate and valuation in force at the time when the goods are released by the proper officer of customs; and
- (b) in the case of uncustomed goods, the rate and valuation in force at the time when the goods became uncustomed goods, if known, or the rate and valuation in force at the time of seizure, whichever is the higher.

22.—(1) For the purposes of this Act, the value of any imported goods other than motor spirit shall be taken to be the normal price, that is to say, the price which they would fetch at the time when the duty becomes payable on a sale in the open market between the buyer and the seller independent of each other.

Value of imported goods other than motor spirit.  
24/81.

(2) The normal price of any imported goods shall be determined on the following assumptions:

- (a) that the goods are treated as having been delivered to the buyer at the place of importation; and
- (b) that the seller will bear the freight, insurance, commission and all other costs, charges and expenses incidental to the sale and the delivery of the goods at that place; but
- (c) that the buyer will bear any duty or tax chargeable in Singapore.

(3) A sale in the open market between the buyer and the seller independent of each other presupposes —

- (a) that price is the sole consideration;
- (b) that the price made is not influenced by any commercial, financial or other relationship,

whether by contract or otherwise, between the seller or any person associated in business with him and the buyer or any person associated in business with him other than the relationship created by the sale of the goods in question; and

- (c) that no part of the proceeds of the subsequent resale, use or disposal of the goods will accrue either directly or indirectly to the seller or any person associated in business with him.
- (4) Where the goods to be valued —
- (a) are manufactured in accordance with any patented invention or are goods to which any registered design has been applied; or
  - (b) are imported under a foreign trade mark or trade name, or are imported for sale (whether or not after further manufacture) under a foreign trade mark or trade name,

the price shall be determined on the assumption that the price covers the right to use the patent, design, trade mark or trade name in respect of the goods.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4), a “foreign trade mark” means a trade mark used for the purpose of indicating that goods in relation to which it is used are those of —

- (a) a person by whom the goods to be valued have been grown, produced, manufactured, selected, offered for sale or otherwise dealt with outside Singapore;
- (b) a person associated in business with any such person as is referred to in paragraph (a); or
- (c) a person to whom any such person as is mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) has assigned the goodwill of the business in connection with which the trade mark is used.

(6) Two persons shall be deemed to be associated in business with one another if, whether directly or indirectly, either of them has any interest in any business or property of the other, or both have a common interest in any business or property, or some third person has an interest in the business or property of both of them.

(7) In the case of goods imported under a contract of sale and about to be removed from customs control for use in

Singapore, duty shall be deemed to have been paid on their value, if, before the goods are delivered from a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse for home use, duty is tendered, accepted and paid on a declared value based on the contract price.

(8) For the purpose of subsection (7) —

- (a) the declared value of any goods shall be their value as declared by or on behalf of the importer in making the goods available for home use;
- (b) that value shall be deemed to be based on the contract price if, but only if, it represents the price properly adjusted to take account of circumstances differentiating the contract from such a contract of sale as is contemplated by subsections (1) to (6); and
- (c) the rate of exchange to be used for determining the equivalent in Singapore currency of any foreign currency shall be the current selling rate in Singapore at the time when customs duty is paid.

**23.** For the purposes of this Act, the value of any grade of imported or locally-manufactured motor spirit with a trade name or trade mark shall be taken to be the price inclusive of customs duty for that grade with that trade name or trade mark prevailing in Singapore at retailers' motor spirit pumps at the time when customs duty becomes payable.

Value of imported and locally-manufactured motor spirit.  
24/81.

[22A

**24.** For the purpose of section 23, if there is any difference in the price of a grade of motor spirit with the same trade name or trade mark, the highest price inclusive of customs duty for that grade with that trade name or trade mark shall be taken to be the value of that grade of motor spirit.

Value of motor spirit where variation in price.  
24/81.

[22B

**25.** Notwithstanding sections 23 and 24, the value of any grade of motor spirit which is uncustomed or which is not being retailed in Singapore under a trade name or trade mark or which is being retailed in Singapore under a trade name or trade mark but the retailer's motor spirit pump price is not available, shall be the highest price inclusive of customs duty for that grade regardless of trade names or trade marks prevailing in Singapore at retailers' motor spirit pumps.

Value of motor spirit which is uncustomed, not retailed in Singapore under a trade name or where the retailers' pump price is not available.  
24/81.

[22C

Question as to price of motor spirit to be decided by Director-General. 24/81.

**26.** If any question arises as to the price of motor spirit at the retailers' motor spirit pumps, the question shall be decided by the Director-General. [22D]

Removal of dutiable goods from customs control.

**27.—(1)** No dutiable goods shall be removed from customs control except —

- (a) after payment of the customs duty payable thereon;
- (b) under such conditions as the Director-General may impose for deposit in a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse; or
- (c) under such conditions as the Director-General may impose in any particular case,

and in no case shall any goods be removed from a Government warehouse until all warehouse rent and other charges due in respect thereof have been paid.

(2) The Director-General may allow dutiable goods in a licensed warehouse to be removed therefrom before payment of the customs duty but before doing so the Director-General may in his discretion require that security be lodged to his satisfaction to guarantee the payment of the customs duty within such time as he may allow. [23]

Time of importation when duty is imposed.

**28.** When by virtue of an order made under section 10 (1) a customs duty is fixed on any goods which previously were not dutiable goods or any customs duty on goods is abolished or when the importation or exportation of any goods is prohibited or any such prohibition abolished by an order made under section 38 and it becomes necessary for the purpose of this Act to determine the time at which an importation or exportation of any goods made and completed shall be deemed to have had effect, such importation or exportation shall, notwithstanding anything in this Act, be deemed to be —

- (a) in the case of importation by sea, the time at which the vessel importing the goods had actually come within the limits of the port of Singapore to which the goods are consigned;
- (b) in the case of importation by road or rail, the time at which the goods come within Singapore;

- (c) in the case of importation by air, the time at which the aircraft lands at a customs airport;
- (d) in the case of importation from a free trade zone, the time at which the goods enter the customs territory;
- (e) in the case of exportation by sea, the time at which shipment of the goods on board the vessel by which they were exported commenced;
- (f) in the case of exportation by road or rail, the time at which the goods leave Singapore;
- (g) in the case of exportation by air, the time at which the aircraft leaves a customs airport; and
- (h) in the case of goods removed from the customs territory into a free trade zone for export, the time at which the goods are brought into the free trade zone. [24

**29.—**(1) If any question arises as to whether any particular goods are or are not included in a class of goods appearing in an order made under section 10 (1), such question shall be decided by the Director-General.

Questions in respect of goods deemed to be dutiable.

(2) Any certificate purporting to be signed by the Director-General stating his decision under subsection (1) shall be admitted in evidence without proof of signature for the purpose of any proceedings under this Act. [25

**30.—**(1) Where dutiable goods are declared at the time of their importation to be bona fide trade samples, the Director-General may allow such goods to be imported without payment of customs duty subject to such conditions as he considers fit to impose.

Import of trade samples.

(2) For the purpose of this section, “trade samples” means articles which are imported solely —

- (a) for the purpose of being shown or demonstrated in Singapore to enable manufacturers in Singapore to produce those articles to fulfil orders from abroad or for the soliciting of orders for goods to be supplied from abroad; or
- (b) by a manufacturer for the purposes of copying, testing or experimenting before he produces those articles in Singapore,



and which are used solely for the purposes set out in paragraph (a) or (b) and are not sold or consumed or put to normal use or used in any way for hire or reward while in Singapore. [26]

## PART IV

## IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION

Place of import, export or transshipment.

**31.**—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other written law, no person shall import or export dutiable goods or tranship goods of a class dutiable on import except —

- (a) by sea, at such authorised piers and places in Singapore as may be prescribed for the purposes of this section;
- (b) by air, at a customs airport;
- (c) by rail, at the Singapore Railway Station, or at any other railway station approved by the Director-General; or
- (d) by road.

(2) No dutiable goods, other than accompanied personal effects and baggage, shall be imported by road except during such times and under such conditions as may be approved by the Director-General. [27]

Registration of importers and agencies in respect of goods made dutiable.

**32.** Where any goods previously not dutiable have become dutiable by virtue of an order published under section 10 (1), a senior officer of customs may require any importer importing the goods or local agency acting on behalf of a foreign exporter of the goods to register his business particulars at a customs office. [28]

Import and export to be in accordance with regulations.

**33.** No person shall import or export dutiable goods or tranship goods of a class dutiable on import except under and in accordance with such regulations or restrictions as are prescribed. [29]

Permits to remove.

**34.**—(1) No dutiable goods imported and no goods of a class dutiable on import intended for transshipment or in transit shall on arrival be removed from the ship on which they arrived or from the customs airport at which they arrived or from the Singapore Railway Station, or beyond the Customs Station at Woodlands, if imported by road, as the case may be, except under a permit in the form

approved by the Director-General issued by the proper officer of customs and in accordance with the condition contained in such permit:

Provided that no permit shall be required for the removal by an authority administering a free trade zone of any dutiable goods from a vessel direct into the free trade zone, if a full and correct inward manifest as required under section 39 has been furnished to the proper officer of customs.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), no permit shall be required for the removal of —

- (a) dutiable goods (other than intoxicating liquors or tobacco) the duty on which does not exceed \$300 in the possession or in the baggage of any person arriving in Singapore;
- (b) an amount not exceeding 10 litres of intoxicating liquors and 2 kilogrammes of tobacco in the possession or in the baggage of any person arriving in Singapore;
- (c) petroleum carried in the supply tank or in a spare container of not more than 10 litres capacity of a motor vehicle or in the supply tanks of aircraft for use in the propulsion thereof; and
- (d) dutiable goods imported by post unless so required by the proper officer of customs.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), an authority administering a free trade zone or any person authorised by the Director-General may, without a permit, remove goods of a class dutiable on import and intended for transhipment or in transit from an aircraft into the free trade zone in a customs airport to be transhipped from the free trade zone direct to another aircraft at the same airport. [30]

**35.** Any person who has obtained a permit to remove any goods from customs control and has not availed himself thereof shall, within 24 hours of the expiry of the permit, or as soon thereafter as the office of the proper officer of customs is open for business, return the permit to the office of the proper officer of customs. [31]

Permit not used to be returned within 24 hours.

**36.** No person shall reland or permit the relanding of any goods placed on any ship or aircraft or loaded into any railway wagon in accordance with any declaration made under section 59, or knowingly neglect or omit to cause the

Goods removed in accordance with declaration not to be relanded.

goods to be exported or transhipped, as the case may be, in accordance with the declaration without the prior consent of the proper officer of customs. [32]

Declaration and permit.

37. Every importer or exporter of dutiable goods and every person transhipping goods of a class dutiable on import shall, before removing any such goods or any part thereof from customs control, make personally or by his agent to the proper officer of customs a declaration substantially in the form approved by the Director-General of the goods imported or exported or to be transhipped.

[33]

Power to prohibit imports and exports.

38.—(1) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, prohibit either absolutely or conditionally the importation into, or exportation from, Singapore of such dutiable goods as are specified in the notification.

(2) If any question arises as to whether any particular goods are or are not included in a class of goods appearing in a notification made under subsection (1), that question shall be decided by the Director-General. [34]

Particulars of goods inwards to be furnished.

39. The master, owner or agent of every vessel and the pilot, owner or agent of every aircraft arriving in Singapore, and the station-master at the railway station on the arrival of every train, shall, within 24 hours after the arrival of the vessel, aircraft or train, or within such further period as the Director-General may in his discretion allow, furnish to the proper officer of customs at the customs office designated by the Director-General —

- (a) a full and correct inward manifest, certified by the master, pilot, owner, agent or station-master, containing full particulars as to the quantities, marks and description of goods destined for Singapore;
- (b) a full and correct statement of goods in transit discharged in Singapore; and
- (c) if so required by the Director-General, —
  - (i) a full and correct manifest of all goods in transit not landed in Singapore; and
  - (ii) a correct list of sea, air or railway stores on board the vessel, aircraft or train.

**40.**—(1) Within one month of the arrival of a vessel, aircraft or train, the master, owner or agent of the vessel or the pilot, owner or agent of the aircraft or the station-master shall present to the proper officer of customs a certified amendment to the manifest required by section 39 due to short-shipment, short-landing, overlanding or any other cause.

Correction to be made on completion of discharge.

(2) If any dutiable goods are not accounted for to the satisfaction of a senior officer of customs —

(a) within two months of the presentation of the amendment or within such further period as the officer may allow; or

(b) in any case where the amendment has not been presented within 3 months of the completion of the discharge of cargo from a vessel or an aircraft or a railway train,

the master, owner or agent of the vessel or the pilot, owner or agent of the aircraft or the station-master shall be liable to pay on demand to the senior officer of customs twice the amount of duty leviable thereon or, when the correct duty cannot be assessed, an amount not exceeding \$1,000.

(3) Should the person liable to the penalties laid down in subsection (2) refuse or fail to pay the penalties demanded of him, any senior officer of customs may sue for and recover the penalties in a court.

Recovery of penalties.

[36

**41.** Within 48 hours of the departure of every ship, aircraft or train or within such further period as the Director-General may in his discretion allow, the owner or agent of the vessel or aircraft or the station-master of the railway station shall furnish to the proper officer of customs a full and correct outward manifest of all goods exported thereon, or which have been taken aboard the ship or aircraft as sea or air stores, and shall in like manner furnish a full and correct statement of all goods transhipped. [37

Particulars of goods exported to be furnished.

**42.**—(1) All dutiable goods unshipped or landed in a free trade zone or approved landing place, or deposited in a transit warehouse, shall, until lawfully removed therefrom for export or entry into customs territory or until received for storage by the authority administering the free trade zone, be at the risk of the master, owner or agent of the

Liability of master or agent of vessel in respect of goods unaccounted for.

vessel as if they had not been unshipped, and the master, owner or agent of the vessel shall be liable to pay the duty on such goods as are not accounted for to the satisfaction of a senior officer of customs.

24/81.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1) and section 45 —

- (a) the value of any grade of motor spirit which is not being retailed in Singapore under a trade name or trade mark shall be the highest price inclusive of customs duty for that grade regardless of trade names or trade marks prevailing in Singapore at retailers' motor spirit pumps; and
- (b) the value of any grade of motor spirit which is being retailed in Singapore under a trade name or trade mark shall be determined in accordance with section 23. [38

## PART V

### GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING AIRCRAFT AND VESSELS IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

Master of vessel to obey signals from preventive vessels and instructions by an officer of customs.

**43.** The master of any vessel in the territorial waters of Singapore shall obey any signal made to him from a preventive vessel or any instructions given by an officer of customs in uniform from any other vessel or any place requiring him to stop or to heave to or to perform any other act. [39

Goods not specified in manifest to be deemed uncustomed.

**44.** If dutiable goods, or goods in transit of a class dutiable on import, other than bona fide sea, air or railway stores, are found by a proper officer of customs in any vessel, aircraft or train in Singapore and those goods are not specified in the manifest of the vessel, aircraft or train, then those goods shall be deemed to be uncustomed goods and shall be liable to seizure and the vessel, aircraft or train may be detained by the proper officer of customs. [40

Missing goods deemed to have been illegally landed.

**45.** If in any vessel, aircraft or train in Singapore the quantity of dutiable goods, or goods of a class dutiable on import intended for transshipment or in transit, entered in the manifest or other document of the vessel, aircraft or train, is found missing and the deficiency is not accounted for to the satisfaction of the proper officer of customs, then the master, owner or agent of the vessel, or the pilot, owner

or agent of the aircraft, or the station-master of the railway station, shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have illegally removed those goods and landed them in Singapore, and shall, without prejudice to any proceedings under this Act, be liable to pay forthwith to the proper officer of customs the duty leviable on the goods found deficient or missing and the vessel, aircraft or train may be detained by the proper officer of customs until the customs duty has been paid. [41]

**46.** When in exercise of the powers conferred by this Act a proper officer of customs boards any vessel, the master of the vessel shall provide the officer with suitable shelter and accommodation on the vessel while the vessel remains in the territorial waters of Singapore. [42]

Accommodation in vessel to be provided for proper officer of customs.

**47.—(1)** When in exercise of the powers conferred by this Act a proper officer of customs boards any vessel, aircraft or train, he shall have free access to every part of the vessel, aircraft or train, and shall have the power to mark any dutiable goods before landing, and to lock up, seal, mark or otherwise secure any dutiable goods, including sea, air or railway stores on board the vessel, aircraft or train and no lock, seal or mark shall be opened, broken or altered without the consent of the proper officer of customs while the vessel, aircraft or train is within the limits of the port or airport or before any such goods are delivered to be landed.

Power to lock up goods dutiable on import.

(2) The Director-General may, in his discretion, permit or refuse to permit the taking of any dutiable goods without payment of duty into a ship or aircraft as sea or air stores and in granting permission for the embarkation of any dutiable goods under this subsection impose such conditions as he may consider fit.

(3) The Director-General may, in his discretion, permit or refuse to permit the use, within the territorial waters of Singapore, of any sea or air stores on which duty has not been paid.

(4) All goods dutiable on import which are part of any air, sea or railway store on board —

(a) a vessel or train shall be secured in a locked store specifically provided for the purpose; and

(b) an aircraft shall be secured in a locked cabin box or other receptacle specifically provided for the purpose.

(5) If any air, sea or railway stores are found in any place other than those stated in subsection (4), such air, sea or railway stores shall be deemed to be uncustomed goods.

[43]

Prohibition  
of carriage of  
dutiabale  
goods in local  
craft.

**48.**—(1) No goods of a class dutiable on import shall be carried in any local craft except with the permission in writing of the Director-General and subject to such conditions as the Director-General may impose.

(2) This section shall not apply to any local craft lawfully engaged in transporting cargo from or to a vessel within the limits of the Port of Singapore.

[44]

## PART VI

### WAREHOUSING

Government  
warehouses.

**49.**—(1) The Minister may establish and maintain Government warehouses in which dutiable goods may be deposited and kept without payment of duty.

(2) The Director-General may, in his discretion, limit the quantity of dutiable goods which, and the period during which any such dutiable goods, may be deposited and kept in any Government warehouse, at any customs office or customs station.

(3) The Director-General may, in his discretion, permit the storage of non-dutiabale or duty-paid goods in a Government warehouse subject to such conditions as he may impose.

[45]

Licensed  
factory ware-  
houses.

**50.**—(1) The Director-General may, in his discretion, grant a licence to any person (referred to in this section as the licensee) to operate a licensed factory warehouse and may, in his discretion, suspend or withdraw any such licence.

(2) Such licence shall be granted upon payment of the prescribed fee and shall be for such period and subject to such conditions as the Director-General may in each case specify in the licence.

(3) A senior officer of customs, or any officer of customs deputed by him for the purpose, shall at all times have

access to any licensed factory warehouse for the purpose of checking accounts and records and for such other purposes as may be considered necessary.

(4) If it appears at any time that in any licensed factory warehouse there is a deficiency in the quantity of dutiable goods which ought to be found therein, the licensee of the warehouse shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be presumed to have illegally removed the goods and shall, without prejudice to any proceedings under this Act, be liable to pay forthwith to the proper officer of customs the duty leviable on the goods found deficient:

Provided that if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Director-General that the deficiency has been caused by theft or by unavoidable leakage, breakage or other accident, or by evaporation, the Director-General may remit the whole or any part of the duty leviable on the goods found deficient.

(5) The licensee shall not be entitled to any compensation for the suspension or withdrawal of any licence granted under subsection (1), or for the surrender of the licence, but the Director-General may, in his discretion, allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the licence fee for each complete month in respect of which the licence would have remained valid had it not been suspended, withdrawn or surrendered. [46

**51.—**(1) The Director-General may, in his discretion, on payment of such fees as may be prescribed, grant a licence to any person (referred to in this section as the licensee) and when granted suspend or withdraw any licence for warehousing goods liable to duty in a place or places specified in that licence.

Licensed  
warehouses.

(2) Any such licence shall be for such period and subject to such conditions as the Director-General may in each case specify in the licence.

(3) A senior officer of customs, or any officer of customs deputed by him for the purpose, shall at all times have access to any licensed warehouse.

(4) If it appears at any time that in any licensed warehouse there is a deficiency in the quantity of dutiable goods which ought to be found therein, the licensee of the warehouse shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be



presumed to have illegally removed the goods and shall without prejudice to any proceedings under this Act be liable to pay forthwith to the proper officer of customs the duty leviable on the goods found deficient:

Provided that if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Director-General that the deficiency has been caused by theft or by unavoidable leakage, breakage or other accident, or by evaporation, the Director-General may remit the whole or any part of the duty leviable on the goods found deficient.

(5) The licensee shall not be entitled to any compensation for the suspension or withdrawal of any licence granted under subsection (1), or for the surrender of the licence, but the Director-General may, in his discretion, allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the licence fee for each complete month in respect of which the licence would have remained valid had it not been suspended, withdrawn or surrendered.

[47]

Dutiable goods to be deposited in a free trade zone.

52.—(1) All dutiable goods imported into Singapore —

(a) by sea, shall on first arrival be landed and deposited by the importer or his agent in a free trade zone; and

(b) by any other means, shall on first arrival or landing be deposited by the importer or his agent in a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse or, if so required, a customs office or customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing.

(2) If the Director-General is satisfied that for any reason it is not practicable to land or deposit any dutiable goods in a free trade zone or in a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse, or a customs office or a customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing, he may exempt those goods from being so landed or deposited, subject to such conditions as he may impose.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), such goods as may be prescribed by the Minister under section 5 (4) of the Free Trade Zones Act, shall be deposited in a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse and shall be liable to warehouse rent at the prescribed rates applicable to those goods.

(4) Any dutiable goods imported by rail may be consigned to, and shall be deemed to have first arrived on reaching, the Singapore Railway Station.

(5) This section shall not apply to goods lawfully imported —

(a) by post; and

(b) by rail as stores for use in railway restaurant cars.

[48

**53.**—(1) A warehouse deposit receipt shall be issued by the proper officer of customs for all goods deposited in a Government warehouse or a customs office or customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing.

Warehouse deposit receipts.

(2) Where the warehouse deposit receipt is lost, a copy of the receipt, duly certified by the proper officer of customs, shall be supplied to the owner of the goods or his agent on delivery to a senior officer of customs at the customs office of an indemnity bond approved by the senior officer of customs, securing the Government against any claim for loss owing to wrong delivery of the goods deposited.

Copy of lost deposit receipt to be supplied upon indemnity bond.

(3) The holder or endorsee in due course of a warehouse deposit receipt or a certified copy thereof granted under subsection (2) shall be deemed, for the purposes of this Act, to be the owner of the goods deposited, and delivery to the holder or endorsee or the agent of the holder or endorsee of the warehouse deposit receipt or certified copy thereof or delivery against the production of a delivery order authenticated by the holder or endorsee or the agent of the holder or endorsee of the warehouse deposit receipt or certified copy thereof shall be a good and lawful delivery.

(4) When delivery is made against such delivery order, the quantity of goods covered by the deposit receipt or certified copy thereof shall be deemed to have been endorsed accordingly and when all the goods have been so delivered the warehouse deposit receipt or certified copy thereof shall be deemed to be cancelled.

[49

**54.** A senior officer of customs may, at any time, direct that any goods or package lodged in any Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse or customs office or customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing shall be

Power to open and examine packages.

opened, weighed or otherwise examined, and, after the goods or package has been so opened or examined, may cause the same to be sealed or marked in such manner as he thinks fit. [50]

Detention of goods where doubt exists.

**55.—**(1) The proper officer of customs may detain in a Government warehouse or customs office or customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing any goods if he is in doubt whether the goods are dutiable or not.

(2) In every such case the proper officer of customs shall forthwith make a report to a senior officer of customs, who shall, without undue delay, decide whether the goods are dutiable or not.

(3) If any such goods are found not to be dutiable, no warehouse rent shall be payable in respect thereof. [51]

Protection of Government from liability.

**56.** The Government shall not be liable to make good any loss sustained in respect of any goods by fire, theft, damage or other cause, while the goods are in any Government warehouse or customs office or customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing or in the lawful custody or control of any officer of customs, unless the loss has been caused by the wilful neglect or default of an officer of customs or of a person employed by the Government in connection with the customs. [52]

Protection of officers of customs from liability.

**57.** No officer of customs or other person employed by the Government in connection with the customs shall be liable to make good any loss sustained in respect of any goods by fire, theft, damage or other cause while the goods are in any Government warehouse or customs office or customs station or in any other place approved by the Director-General in writing or in the lawful custody or control of such officer or any other officer of customs or person employed in connection with the customs unless the loss has been caused by his wilful neglect or default.

[53]

Payment of warehouse rent.

**58.—**(1) The owner of any goods deposited in a Government warehouse, or his agent, shall pay to the proper officer of customs at the prescribed rates the warehouse rent which may be due in respect of the goods. Such rent shall be payable on demand, and in any event before the goods are removed from the Government warehouse.

(2) If any bill for warehouse rent presented in accordance with subsection (1) is not discharged within 14 days from the date of its presentation, the Director-General may forthwith order the goods in respect of which the warehouse rent is payable to be forfeited to the Government, with effect from the day next following that, if any, in respect of which storage charges have been paid. [54]

**59.** Every owner of goods warehoused under sections 50, 51, 52 and 60 shall, before removal of the goods or any part thereof from customs control, make personally or by his agent to the proper officer of customs a declaration substantially in the form approved by the Director-General of the goods to be removed: Removal of dutiable goods from customs control.

Provided that goods deposited in a licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse may be removed therefrom without such prior declaration subject to such conditions as the Director-General may impose. [55]

**60.** Dutiable goods arriving in Singapore for transshipment and landed to await the arrival of the vessel in which they are intended to be transhipped shall be landed and deposited in a free trade zone: Landing of dutiable goods for transshipment.

Provided that the Director-General may exempt any particular goods from the operation of this section. [56]

**61.** No person shall store, keep or have in his possession any dutiable goods except under customs control. [57] Storage of dutiable goods.

**62.—(1)** All necessary operations relating to the loading, shipping, unloading, unshipping, landing, carrying, weighing, measuring, testing, opening, unpacking, repacking, bulking, sorting and marking of goods, including passengers' baggage, whether warehoused or not, shall be performed by or at the expense of the owner, importer, exporter, consignor, consignee or agent, as the case may be. Weighing and handling.

(2) Where the presence of officers of customs is required or necessary for the proper performance of such operations as are described in subsection (1), the owner, importer, exporter, consignor, consignee or agent, as the case may be, shall at his own expense provide such officers of customs with the necessary transport between the customs office and the place where those operations are to be performed.

[58]

## PART VII

## MANUFACTURE AND BOTTLING

Licence to distil, ferment or otherwise manufacture intoxicating liquor.

**63.—(1)** No person shall distil, ferment or otherwise manufacture any intoxicating liquor or manufacture any tobacco or any other dutiable goods except under and in accordance with the provisions of a licence granted by the Director-General and at the distillery, brewery or other place of manufacture specified in the licence.

(2) Such licence shall, with the approval of the Minister, be granted at the discretion of the Director-General, and upon payment of the prescribed fee and shall be for such period and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations made under this Act, and to such further conditions as the Minister may direct to be endorsed on the licence.

(3) Such licence may be suspended or withdrawn at any time by the Minister.

(4) A licence to distil, ferment or otherwise manufacture intoxicating liquor or to manufacture tobacco or any other dutiable goods shall be deemed to include a licence for warehousing such intoxicating liquor or tobacco or other dutiable goods, as the case may be, as provided for by section 50 (1) and by section 51 (1) and also a licence for the bottling of intoxicating liquors as provided for in section 66 (1).

(5) Any regulations made under section 143 (1) to regulate the control of licensed warehouses or bottling warehouses shall apply to warehouses deemed to be so licensed under subsection (4) to such an extent as the Director-General may direct.

(6) The licensee shall not be entitled to any compensation for the suspension or withdrawal of any licence granted under subsection (2) or for the surrender of such licence, but the Director-General may, in his discretion, allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the licence fee for each complete month in respect of which the licence would have remained valid had it not been suspended, withdrawn or surrendered. [59

No person except a licensee to keep a still, etc.

**64.—(1)** No person other than the holder of a licence under section 63 (1) shall knowingly keep or have in his possession any still, utensil or other apparatus for distilling, fermenting or otherwise manufacturing intoxicating liquors

or any power-operated machinery for the manufacture of tobacco or any other apparatus for the manufacture of dutiable goods.

(2) The owner and the occupier of any land or premises upon which any still, utensil or other apparatus for distilling, fermenting or otherwise manufacturing intoxicating liquors or any power-operated machinery for the manufacture of tobacco or any apparatus for the manufacture of dutiable goods is found shall each be deemed, until the contrary is proved, knowingly to have kept or had in his possession such still, utensil or other apparatus or power-operated machinery for the manufacture of tobacco or apparatus for the manufacture of dutiable goods, as the case may be.

[60]

**65.**—(1) Nothing in this Act shall apply to any distillation by a legally qualified medical practitioner or by any chemist in the service of the Government or by any person registered as a pharmacist under the Pharmacists Registration Act or, with the approval of the Director-General, by a qualified chemist which is proved to be for genuine medicinal or scientific purposes or, with the approval of the Director-General, to any distillation of essential oils.

Exemptions.

Cap. 230.

(2) Nothing in section 64 (1) shall apply to stocks held by a bona fide trader in scientific apparatus or in machinery or, with the approval of the Director-General, to stills, utensils or other apparatus for distilling, fermenting or otherwise manufacturing intoxicating liquors or machinery for the manufacture of tobacco or any other apparatus or machinery for the manufacture of dutiable goods in the possession of a person constructing a distillery, brewery or other factory with the approval of the Director-General or of a person in occupation of premises temporarily closed down, in respect of which a licence had previously been held.

[61]

**66.**—(1) No person shall bottle any intoxicating liquors imported or manufactured in Singapore, or blend, compound or vary any intoxicating liquors except under and in accordance with the provisions of a licence granted by the Director-General and at the bottling warehouse specified in the licence.

Bottling  
warehouse.

(2) Such licence shall be granted at the discretion of the Director-General upon payment of the prescribed fee, and shall be for such period and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations made under this Act, and may be suspended or withdrawn at any time by the Director-General.

(3) The licensee shall not be entitled to any compensation for the suspension or withdrawal of any licence granted under subsection (2) or for the surrender of the licence, but the Director-General may, in his discretion, allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the licence fee for each complete month in respect of which the licence would have remained valid had it not been suspended, withdrawn or surrendered. [62]

No person except a licensee to keep utensil, apparatus, etc., for bottling, blending, etc.

**67.**—(1) No person other than the holder of a licence under section 66 (1) shall knowingly keep or have in his possession any utensil, apparatus, material or ingredient for bottling, blending, compounding or varying intoxicating liquors.

(2) The owner and the occupier of any land or premises upon which any utensil, apparatus, material or ingredient for bottling, blending, compounding or varying intoxicating liquors is found shall each be deemed, until the contrary is proved, knowingly to have kept or had in his possession such utensil, apparatus, material or ingredient for the bottling, blending, compounding or varying of intoxicating liquors, as the case may be. [63]

Exemptions.

**68.**—(1) Nothing in this Act shall apply to any bottling, blending, compounding or varying of intoxicating liquors by a legally qualified medical practitioner or by any chemist in the service of the Government or by any person registered as a pharmacist under the Pharmacists Registration Act or, with the approval of the Director-General, by a qualified chemist which is proved to be for genuine medicinal or scientific purposes.

Cap. 230.

(2) Nothing in section 67 (1) shall apply to stocks held by a bona fide trader in scientific apparatus or in machinery or, with the approval of the Director-General, to any utensil, apparatus, material or ingredient for bottling, blending, compounding or varying intoxicating liquors in the possession of a person constructing a bottling warehouse,

distillery, brewery or other factory with the approval of the Director-General or of a person in occupation of premises temporarily closed down, in respect of which a licence had previously been held. [64]

**69.** A senior officer of customs, or any officer of customs deputed by him for the purpose, shall at all times have access to any premises licensed under this Part. [65]

Power to enter licensed premises.

## PART VIII

### SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS

**70.**—(1) There shall be a Liquors Licensing Board (referred to in this Act as the Board) which shall consist of a chairman, a vice-chairman and 5 other members to be appointed by the Minister. [66]

Liquors Licensing Board.

(2) With the exception of the chairman, no public servant shall be appointed to the Board who, in his official capacity, has any dealings or is in any way concerned with the sale or purchase of intoxicating liquors or with premises in which the sale or purchase is or may be carried on.

(3) The Secretary of the Board shall be such person as the Minister appoints. [66]

**71.**—(1) Subject to this section, no person shall sell by retail or offer for sale by retail, or permit to be sold or offered, or have in his possession, for sale by retail, any intoxicating liquors except under and in accordance with a licence in that behalf issued under this Act and in a place specified in the licence. [66]

Retail sale to be licensed.

(2) No licence under this section shall be required in respect of the sale by retail, in premises authorised in writing for such sale by the commanding officers of the Singapore Armed Forces or of any visiting forces lawfully present in Singapore of intoxicating liquors to officers and men of the Singapore Armed Forces or of the visiting forces serving in Singapore on full pay and to such civilian employees of the visiting forces as are authorised by the commanding officer concerned to purchase intoxicating liquors at those premises.

(3) No licence under this section shall be required in respect of the sale by retail by a person registered as a



Cap. 230. pharmacist under the Pharmacists Registration Act of alcohol exempted from payment of duty in accordance with an order made under section 13, and in accordance with the terms of the exemption.

(4) Subject to section 72 (2), the delivery of intoxicating liquors in quantities of 30 litres or less shall, in any proceedings under this Act, be taken to be prima facie evidence of sale by retail and that money or other consideration was given for the same. [67

Sale by  
wholesale to  
be licensed.

**72.**—(1) No person shall sell by wholesale or offer for sale by wholesale or permit to be so sold or offered, or have in his possession for sale by wholesale, any intoxicating liquors except under and in accordance with a licence in that behalf issued under this Act and in a place specified in the licence.

(2) The delivery of intoxicating liquors in any quantity to the licensee of a public house, beer house, samsu shop, retail liquor shop or retail beer shop and the delivery of intoxicating liquors to any other person in quantities exceeding 30 litres in any one day shall be taken in any proceedings under this Act to be prima facie evidence of sale by wholesale and that money or other consideration was given for the same. [68

Storage of  
liquors.

**73.** No person licensed to sell intoxicating liquors by retail or by wholesale shall keep or store such liquors, on which duty has been paid, elsewhere than in such premises as shall be specified in his licence:

Provided that this section shall not apply to intoxicating liquors bona fide and actually in course of transit or kept solely for private consumption. [69

Licences.

**74.**—(1) The Board shall have authority in its discretion to issue or transfer the following licences in such form as may be approved by the Board and on payment of the prescribed fees:

- (a) a public house licence for the sale by retail of intoxicating liquors for consumption on the premises or at the place where they are sold;
- (b) a beer house licence for the sale by retail of beer for consumption on the premises or at the place where it is sold;

- (c) a samsu shop licence for the sale by retail of samsu for consumption on or off the premises where it is sold;
- (d) a retail liquor shop licence for the sale by retail of intoxicating liquors for consumption elsewhere than on the premises or at the place where they are sold;
- (e) a wholesale liquor shop licence for the sale by wholesale of intoxicating liquors;
- (f) a retail beer shop licence for the sale by retail of beer for consumption elsewhere than on the premises or at the place where it is sold; and
- (g) a wholesale beer shop licence for the sale by wholesale of beer.

(2) The Board may in its discretion issue in respect of any premises or place more than one of the categories of licences referred to in subsection (1):

Provided that the Board shall not issue a retail liquor shop licence for premises in respect of which a beer house or samsu shop licence is in force, or a beer house licence authorising the sale of beer on premises in respect of which a samsu shop licence is in force beyond the hours provided for in the samsu shop licence.

(3) The Board may in its discretion subject the issue or transfer of any licence under this section to such restrictions or conditions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder, to be endorsed on the licence, as it may think fit to impose.

(4) The Board may in its discretion refuse to issue or transfer any licence, and shall not be compelled to assign reasons for any decision to refuse the issue, including renewal or transfer, of a licence, and may suspend or cancel a licence at any time.

(5) The licensee shall not be entitled to any compensation for the suspension or cancellation of his licence under subsection (4), but the Board may allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the licence fee for each complete month in respect of which the licence would have remained valid had it not been suspended, cancelled or surrendered.

(6) In case of the death, mental disorder, illness or bankruptcy of any licensee, the Board may, by endorsement

on the licence, authorise any other person to exercise the rights conferred by the licence until the expiration of the term for which it was originally granted, or for any shorter period, and subject to all the conditions originally imposed by the licence and to such further conditions as the Board may think fit to impose.

(7) The Board may, if it thinks fit, require as a condition of issue of any licence that the applicant shall enter into recognizances with sureties in the form approved by the Board.

(8) Any person affected by such issue, transfer, refusal, suspension or cancellation, shall, if he so desires, be heard by the Board either in person or by an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court. [70

Duties of  
licensee.

**75.**—(1) Subject to this section, every person licensed under this Part shall —

- (a) exhibit his licence at all times in a conspicuous place on the licensed premises;
- (b) maintain over the principal entrance to the licensed premises and in the case of a beer house (outdoor beer stall) in a conspicuous place specified by a senior officer of customs a board in a form approved by the Board stating in Malay, Chinese, Tamil and English his name and the nature of the business which he is licensed to transact and such other matters as may be required by the Board;
- (c) maintain at all entrances to the licensed premises and in the case of a beer house (outdoor beer stall) in a conspicuous place or a place specified for that purpose by a senior officer of customs, a board in a form approved by the Board stating in Malay, Chinese, Tamil and English that no person under the age of 18 years is allowed to buy or consume intoxicating liquors at those premises or at that stall;
- (d) keep in English such books of account in which shall be set out detailed particulars of all his purchases and sales of intoxicating liquors other than beer as may be prescribed; and

(e) permit, at any time at which he is authorised by his licence to sell intoxicating liquors, any member of the Board or the Secretary of the Board or the proper officer of customs, to enter his licensed premises and inspect the premises and any intoxicating liquors therein and all accounts kept in connection therewith and to take such copies or extracts thereof as the member of the Board or the Secretary of the Board or proper officer of customs may think fit.

(2) The Director-General may in his discretion exempt any person to whom a temporary licence has been issued from compliance with subsection (1) (b) and (c). [71]

76. No person licensed under this Part shall supply or permit to be supplied to any person on or from his licensed premises any intoxicating liquors in exchange for any article except such money as is legal tender within Singapore. [72]

Prohibition on licensee.

77. No person other than a person licensed under this Part shall display any sign, writing, painting or other mark which may imply or give reasonable cause to believe that his premises are so licensed or that intoxicating liquors are sold therein. [73]

Unlicensed person not to exhibit sign.

## PART IX

### DRAWBACK

78. Where any tobacco on which duty has been paid is manufactured in Singapore and is re-exported as part or ingredient of the manufactured tobacco, the Director-General may, on such re-export, allow to the manufacturer a drawback of the whole or such proportion of the duty paid as the Minister may prescribe if —

Drawback on imported tobacco manufactured in Singapore.

- (a) the tobacco has been manufactured in a factory licensed under section 63 (1);
- (b) provision to the satisfaction of the Director-General has been made for the control and supervision in the factory of the deposit and issue for use of the tobacco on which duty has been paid;

- (c) such tobacco has been imported by the manufacturer or purchased by him before removal from customs control;
- (d) such tobacco is re-exported within 6 months from the date upon which customs duty was paid; and
- (e) the prescribed monthly supplementary licence fee has been paid before the removal into the factory of the tobacco as it is intended to re-export after manufacture. [74

Drawback on imported goods on which duty has been paid.

**79.**—(1) This section and sections 80, 81 and 132 shall apply to all goods which have become dutiable by virtue of an order published under section 10 (1).

- (2) This section shall not apply to goods affected —
  - (a) by section 13, unless the Minister otherwise directs; or
  - (b) by section 16 or 28.

(3) When any goods, referred to in subsection (1), upon which customs duty has been paid and not drawn back are re-exported, the whole or such proportion of the duty paid as the Minister may prescribe calculated in accordance with subsection (4) may in the discretion of the Director-General be repaid as drawback, if —

- (a) the goods are identified to the satisfaction of a senior officer of customs at the Port of Singapore or any customs airport at which goods are shipped or loaded for re-export, or at the place of re-export;
- (b) the drawback claimed in respect of any one consignment of re-exported goods is not less than \$100;
- (c) the goods are re-exported within 6 months of the date upon which the customs duty was paid;
- (d) payment of drawback upon goods of a class to which the goods to be re-exported belong has not been prohibited by any order or regulation made under this Act;
- (e) written notice has been given to a senior officer of customs at or before the time of re-export that a claim for drawback will be made and established to the satisfaction of a senior officer of customs within 3 months of the date of re-export;

- (f) the goods have not been used after importation; and
- (g) a declaration has been made by the person entitled to drawback that the conditions on which drawback is payable have been fulfilled.

(4) The amount of drawback allowed shall be calculated at the rate of customs duty levied at the time of import or at the rate of import duty leviable on goods of a like description at the time of re-export of the goods, whichever is the lower. [75]

**80.** Every person claiming drawback on any goods re-exported shall, personally or by his agent, make to a senior officer of customs a declaration, in duplicate, substantially in the form approved by the Director-General that the goods have actually been re-exported and have not been relanded and are not intended to be relanded at any place in Singapore. [76]

Declaration  
by claimant.

**81.** Where any goods are prescribed to be goods in respect of which drawback may be allowed on exportation as part or ingredient of any goods manufactured in Singapore and the prescribed goods are so exported by the manufacturer as part or ingredient of any goods manufactured in Singapore, then if customs duty has been paid on the prescribed goods and not drawn back the Director-General may, on such exportation, allow to the manufacturer a drawback of the duty so paid at such rates as may be prescribed, if —

Drawback on  
goods used in  
manufacture.

- (a) the goods exported have been manufactured on premises approved by the Director-General;
- (b) provision to the satisfaction of the Director-General has been made for the control and supervision on the premises of the deposit and issue for use of the prescribed goods;
- (c) such books of account are kept as the Director-General may require for the purpose of ascertaining the quantity of the prescribed goods used in the manufacture;
- (d) such prescribed goods are exported within 12 months from the date upon which customs duty was paid or within such further period as may be approved by the Director-General; and

- (e) a declaration has been made by the person entitled to drawback that the conditions on which drawback is payable have been fulfilled. [77

## PART X

### DUTY FREE SHOPS FOR TOURISTS

Duty free shops for tourists.

**82.—**(1) The Director-General may, in his discretion, on payment of such fees as may be prescribed, grant a licence to any person (referred to in this Act as the licensee) to sell goods to tourists and returning or departing residents of Singapore free of duty in such premises as may be designated in the licence.

(2) Any such licence shall be for such period and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the licence.

(3) Such premises shall be deemed to be a licensed warehouse for the purposes of section 51 except that a licensee of those premises shall not be required to take out a separate licence for warehousing goods in those premises.

(4) A senior officer of customs, or any officer of customs deputed by him for the purpose, shall at all times have access to any such licensed premises for the purpose of checking accounts and records and for such other purposes as may be considered necessary.

(5) The licensee shall, for the proper conduct of his business, furnish such security as may be required by the Director-General.

(6) Any licence granted under subsection (1) may in the discretion of the Director-General be suspended or withdrawn at any time.

(7) The licensee shall not be entitled to any compensation for the suspension or withdrawal or for the surrender of any such licence, but the Director-General may, in his discretion, allow a refund of one-twelfth of the amount of the licence fee for each complete month in respect of which the licence would have remained valid had it not been suspended, withdrawn or surrendered.

(8) No person, other than a licensee, shall issue, display or distribute or cause to be issued, displayed or distributed any advertisement, writing, pamphlet, price list or other document which may imply or give reasonable cause for the

public to believe that he has for sale on his premises goods which are duty free or tax free.

(9) Any person who contravenes subsection (8) shall be guilty of an offence. [78]

**83.** The Director-General may allow a drawback to a licensee of the duty paid on goods which a senior officer of customs is satisfied have been sold to a tourist: Drawback on goods sold to tourists.

Provided that no such drawback shall be allowed unless a claim is made in the form approved by the Director-General within 6 months from the date of the sale. [79]

## PART XI

### TODDY

**84.—(1)** The exclusive right of selling toddy by retail is hereby vested in the Director-General who may establish and operate shops, to be known as Government Toddy Shops, for the sale of toddy by retail for consumption on the premises. Sale by retail vested in Director-General.

(2) The price at which toddy shall be sold by retail shall be fixed by the Minister.

(3) No person other than a person appointed by the Director-General in that behalf shall sell or offer for sale by retail any toddy.

(4) Persons appointed for the sale of toddy by retail shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Penal Code. Cap. 224.

(5) No person shall remove any toddy from a Government Toddy Shop.

(6) No woman or child under 16 years of age shall enter a Government Toddy Shop. [80]

**85.** The Director-General may issue to any person, to whom a contract has been awarded for the supply to the Director-General of toddy by wholesale, a permit to tap for toddy a specified number of palm trees growing on specified lands and may subject the permit to any conditions he may consider fit. Permits to tap for toddy for sale by wholesale. [81]

**86.** No person to whom a permit to tap palm trees has been issued under section 85 and no person duly employed by the Government for the sale of toddy shall have in his Toddy not to be adulterated.



possession any toddy with which there has been mixed any extraneous substance. [82]

Prohibition of possession by unauthorised persons.

**87.** No person other than —

- (a) a person employed by the Government for the sale of toddy by retail, while acting in that capacity;
- (b) a person being on the premises of a Government Toddy Shop and in possession of toddy purchased for consumption on the premises;
- (c) a person to whom a permit has been issued in accordance with section 85 while acting in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit; or
- (d) a duly authorised agent or employee of the permit holder while acting in that capacity,

shall be in possession of toddy. [83]

Prohibition of tapping for toddy without a permit.

**88.**—(1) No person, other than a person to whom a permit has been issued in accordance with section 85 or a duly authorised agent or employee of that person while acting in that capacity, shall tap or prepare for tapping any palm tree for toddy.

(2) Where any palm trees growing on land not specified in any such permit are found being tapped for toddy or being prepared for such tapping, the owner and the occupier of the land shall be deemed, until the contrary is proved, to have knowingly permitted the tapping or preparation for tapping, as the case may be. [84]

Supply of toddy for manufacture of other products or for bottling toddy for retail sale.

**89.**—(1) Notwithstanding sections 84 and 87, the Director-General may permit the supply of toddy solely for use in the manufacture of other products or for the purpose of bottling toddy in a modified form (referred to in this section as bottled toddy) for retail sale in premises so authorised by him or in Government Toddy Shops or in both such premises and shops, and for export.

(2) Any permission granted by the Director-General under subsection (1) shall be subject to such conditions as he may consider fit to impose.

(3) The supply of toddy for use in the manufacture of other products or for the purpose of bottling shall be by a person to whom a contract has been awarded, and the

quantity of toddy supplied shall be determined by the Director-General. The Director-General may issue to that person a permit to tap toddy subject to section 85.

(4) It shall be lawful for the Minister to grant a franchise for the bottling of toddy for retail sale or for export to a person who shall receive his supply of toddy from the contractor who has been awarded a contract under subsection (3). Any toddy received by the person granted that franchise shall be used only for bottling and for no other purpose.

(5) Any senior officer of customs may inspect any factory permitted to use toddy for the manufacture of other products or for manufacturing bottled toddy, and he may examine any documents or accounts therein relating to the manufacture and to the removal of the manufactured products from the premises of the factory and to subsequent sales thereof.

(6) The Minister shall fix the price at which bottled toddy may be sold by retail.

(7) The Director-General may subject any premises authorised to sell bottled toddy to such control as he considers necessary to ensure proper sales, and in so doing he may require the premises to be registered. [85

## PART XII

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**90.**—(1) On demand by the proper officer of customs, the importer or exporter of any dutiable goods or his agent shall produce to that officer all invoices, bills of lading, certificates of origin or of analysis and any other documents, which that officer may require to test the accuracy of any declaration made by the importer or exporter to any officer of customs.

Documents  
to be  
produced on  
demand.

(2) On demand by a senior officer of customs, the importer or exporter of any dutiable goods or his agent shall produce to that officer all books of accounts, invoices, bills of lading, certificates of origin, or of insurance or of analysis and any other documents including documents on terms of trade relating to the purchase, importation or sale of the goods by the importer or exporter or his agent. [86

Persons bound to give information or produce documents.

**91.** Every person required by the proper officer of customs to give information or to produce any document on any subject into which it is the officer's duty to inquire under this Act and which it is in that person's power to give or produce shall be bound to give such information or produce such documents. Such officer of customs may specify the customs office or station or other place at which that person is required to give information or produce documents. [87]

Service of notices.

**92.** Every notice or document, required by this Act or by any regulation made thereunder to be served on any person, may be served personally upon the person or may be served by sending the notice or document to him by registered post at his usual or last known place of abode, and in the latter case shall be deemed to have been served on him at the time at which it would have been delivered to him in the ordinary course of the post. [88]

Baggage of passengers.

**93.—(1)** Notwithstanding anything in this Act, every passenger or other person arriving in Singapore shall declare all dutiable goods in his possession, either on his person or in any baggage or in any vehicle, to the proper officer of customs, and shall pay the customs duty leviable thereon before he proceeds and if he fails to do so those goods shall be deemed to be uncustomed goods.

(2) The baggage of passengers may be examined and delivered in such manner as a senior officer of customs may direct, and it shall be the duty of the person in charge of the baggage to produce, open, unpack and repack the baggage. [89]

Proper officer of customs may take samples.

**94.—(1)** The proper officer of customs may at any time, if his duties so require, take samples of any goods to ascertain whether they are goods of a description liable to any customs duty, or to ascertain the customs duty payable on the goods or for such other purposes as the proper officer of customs may consider necessary, and the samples may be disposed of in such manner as the Director-General shall direct.

(2) No payment shall be made for the cost of any sample taken but the proper officer of customs shall give a receipt for any sample so taken. [90]

**95.**—(1) Where any new customs duty is imposed or where any customs duty is increased, and any goods in respect of which the customs duty is payable are delivered on or after the day on which the new or increased customs duty takes effect in pursuance of a contract made before that day, the seller of the goods may, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, recover from the purchaser as an addition to the contract price, a sum equal to any amount paid by him in respect of the goods on account of the new customs duty or the increase of the customs duty, as the case may be.

Addition or deduction of new or altered duties in the case of contract.

(2) Where any customs duty is decreased or abolished, and any goods affected by the customs duty are delivered on or after the day on which the decrease or abolition takes effect in pursuance of a contract made before that day, the purchaser of the goods, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, may, if the seller has had in respect of those goods the benefit of the decrease or abolition of the customs duty, deduct from the contract price a sum equal to the amount of the decrease of customs duty or the customs duty, as the case may be. [91]

**96.**—(1) The declarations referred to in sections 37 and 59 shall give a full and true account of the particulars for which provision is made in the respective forms approved by the Director-General.

Declarations to give a full and true account.

(2) Every such declaration shall be in duplicate or in such other number of copies as the person to whom the declaration is required to be made may direct. [92]

**97.**—(1) The agent or employee of any person or firm may transact business generally at any customs office on behalf of the person or firm:

Agents and employees.

Provided that —

- (a) a senior officer of customs may refuse to transact business with the agent or employee unless the person or a member of the firm identifies the agent or employee to the officer as empowered to transact such business and deposits with that officer a signed authority authorising the agent or employee to transact such business on behalf of that person or firm; or

- (b) a senior officer of customs may in addition require that person or firm to give such security as he may consider adequate for the faithful and incorrupt conduct of the agent or employee acting on behalf of that person or firm.

(2) The Director-General may forfeit the whole or such part of the amount secured under subsection (1) (b) as the Director-General may think fit if he is satisfied that the agent or employee has committed or attempted to commit or abetted the commission of an improper or corrupt act. [93]

Power of  
Director-  
General to  
charge fees.

**98.** The Director-General may, with the approval of the Minister, charge such fees as he may consider reasonable in respect of any act or service done or rendered by the Customs and Excise Department for which no fee is prescribed by any written law. [94]

Securities for  
payment of  
duty and  
compliance  
with this Act.

**99.—**(1) The Director-General shall have the right to require and take securities for payment of duty and generally for compliance with this Act and for the protection of the revenue and pending the giving of the required security, a proper officer of customs may refuse to do any act in the execution of his office in relation to any matter in respect of which the security is required.

(2) The security shall be given in the manner and form approved by the Director-General and may, subject to that approval, be by bond, guarantee, cash deposit or any other method or by the combination of two or more such methods.

(3) Any such security may be given in relation to any particular transaction or generally with respect to any class of transactions or to all transactions and for such period and amount as the Director-General thinks fit and under such conditions as to forfeiture, penalty or otherwise as he may determine.

(4) If at any time the Director-General is not satisfied with the sufficiency of any security, he may require a new security in substitution for or in addition to the security which has been given. [95]

**100.** Where it is provided in this Act that the decision on any matter rests with the Director-General then unless it is specifically provided that the decision is at the discretion of the Director-General, any person aggrieved by his decision may appeal therefrom to the Minister whose decision shall be final. Appeal from decision of Director-General.

[96]

## PART XIII

## SEARCH, SEIZURE AND ARREST

**101.—(1)** Whenever it appears to any Magistrate, or any senior officer of customs not below the rank of Senior Superintendent of Customs and Excise, upon information and after any inquiry which he may think necessary, that there is reasonable cause to believe that in any dwelling-house, shop or other building or place, there are concealed or deposited any — Issue of search warrant.

- (a) dutiable or uncustomed goods;
- (b) goods liable to forfeiture under this Act or any regulations made thereunder;
- (c) goods as to which any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder has been committed; or
- (d) books, records, documents or other articles directly or indirectly relating to any transaction or dealing in any of the goods mentioned in this subsection,

the Magistrate or the senior officer of customs may issue a warrant authorising any officer of customs, named therein, by day or by night and with or without assistance —

- (i) to enter the dwelling-house, shop or other building or place and there to search for and seize any goods reasonably suspected of being dutiable or uncustomed goods, or goods liable to forfeiture under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, or goods as to which any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder is suspected to have been committed, or any books, records, documents or other articles which may reasonably be believed to be directly or indirectly relating to any transaction or dealing in any of the goods mentioned in this subsection; and

- (ii) to arrest any person or persons being in such dwelling-house, shop, building or place, in whose possession the goods, books, records, documents or other articles may be found, or whom the officer may reasonably suspect to have concealed or deposited the goods, books, records, documents or other articles.
- (2) Such officer may if it is necessary to do so —
- (a) break open any outer or inner door of the dwelling-house, shop or other building or place and enter therein;
  - (b) forcibly enter that place and every part thereof;
  - (c) remove by force any obstruction to such entry, search, seizure and removal as he is empowered to effect; and
  - (d) detain every person found in that place until that place has been searched. [97]

Power of Magistrate, etc., to enter and search.

**102.** A Magistrate or senior officer of customs not below the rank of Senior Superintendent of Customs and Excise may himself do what he may under section 101 empower an officer of customs to do whenever the Magistrate or senior officer of customs is competent to issue a warrant under that section. [98]

When search may be made without warrant.

**103.** Whenever it appears to any senior officer of customs that there is reasonable cause to believe that in any dwelling-house, shop or other building or place there are concealed or deposited any —

- (a) dutiable or uncustomed goods;
- (b) goods liable to forfeiture under this Act or any regulations made thereunder;
- (c) goods as to which any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder has been committed; or
- (d) books, records, documents or other articles directly or indirectly relating to any transaction or dealing in any of the goods mentioned in this subsection,

and if he has reasonable grounds for believing that by reason of the delay in obtaining a search warrant the goods, books, records, documents or other articles are likely to be

removed, the officer may exercise in, upon and in respect of that dwelling-house, shop or other building or place all the powers mentioned in section 101 as if he were authorised to do so by a warrant issued under that section. [99

104.—(1) A proper officer of customs may —

Power to search vessels and aircraft.

- (a) go on board any vessel or aircraft in the Port of Singapore or in any customs airport or place or within the territorial waters of Singapore and remain on board as long as the vessel or aircraft remains in Singapore;
- (b) require the master of the vessel or the captain of the aircraft to give such information relating to the vessel or aircraft, cargo, stores, crew, passengers or voyage as he may consider necessary;
- (c) rummage and search all parts of the vessel or aircraft for uncustomed goods;
- (d) examine all goods on board and all goods then being loaded or unloaded;
- (e) demand all documents which ought to be on board the vessel or aircraft;
- (f) require all or any such documents to be brought to him for inspection; and
- (g) if necessary, retain any such documents brought to him for inspection,

and the master of any vessel and the captain of any aircraft refusing to allow the officer to board or search the vessel or aircraft, or refusing to give such information or to produce such documents on demand shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If any place, box or chest on board the vessel or aircraft is locked and the key withheld, the officer may open any such place, box or chest.

(3) If any goods of a class dutiable on import are found concealed on board any vessel or aircraft, they shall be deemed to be uncustomed goods. [100

105.—(1) Every senior officer of customs shall be entitled to exercise in and upon and in respect of any vessel, aircraft, islet, landing place, wharf, free trade zone or railway all the powers mentioned in section 101 in as full and ample a manner as if he were authorised to do so by a warrant issued under that section.

Senior officer of customs to exercise powers of search.



(2) Notwithstanding anything in any other written law, every senior officer of customs, or any officer of customs deputed by him for the purpose, in exercise of his powers under subsection (1) shall have free access to the vessel, aircraft or any of the places specified in that subsection.

Cap. 263. (3) In this section, “railway” shall have the meaning assigned to it by the Railways Act. [101

Officers of  
customs may  
stop and  
search  
conveyances.

**106.**—(1) Any officer of customs may stop and examine any vehicle for the purpose of ascertaining whether any dutiable or uncustomed goods are contained therein, and the person in control or in charge of the vehicle shall, if required to do so by the officer, stop the vehicle and allow the officer to examine the same or move his vehicle to another place for examination, and shall not proceed until permission to do so has been given by the officer.

(2) The person in control or in charge of any vehicle stopped for examination under subsection (1) shall on request by the proper officer of customs open all parts of the vehicle for examination by the officer and take all measures necessary to enable such examination as the officer considers necessary to be made. [102

Road barrier.

**107.**—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other written law, any senior officer of customs may, if he considers it necessary to do so for the prevention of smuggling of dutiable goods or detection of revenue evasion, erect or place barriers in or across any public road or street or in any public place in such manner as he may think fit and may take all reasonable steps to prevent any vehicle from being driven or ridden past any such barrier.

(2) Any driver or rider of any vehicle who fails to comply with the signal of an officer of customs requiring the person to stop his vehicle before reaching any barrier referred to in subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(3) Any officer of customs may, without warrant, arrest any driver or rider referred to in subsection (2) unless he gives his name, identity card number and a place of address within Singapore and if the officer of customs has reason to believe that the name and address so given by the driver or

rider is false he may exercise such power of arrest and detention or seizure of the vehicle.

(4) No officer of customs shall be liable for any loss or damage resulting to any vehicle or for any injury to the driver or rider or any other occupant of the vehicle or pillion rider as a result of any barrier erected by any officer of customs in pursuance of subsection (1). [103]

**108.** Any proper officer of customs may examine any goods in the course of being imported or exported or intended to be imported or exported and may for the purposes of such examination direct the goods to be brought to a customs office or a customs station and may open any package or receptacle. [104]

Power to open packages and examine goods.

**109.** Any person landing, or being about to land, or having recently landed, from any vessel or aircraft, or leaving any vessel or aircraft in the territorial waters of Singapore, whether for the purpose of landing or otherwise, or entering or having recently entered Singapore by road or rail shall, on demand by any proper officer of customs either permit his person, goods and baggage to be searched by the officer, or together with the goods and baggage accompany the officer to a customs office or customs station or police station and there permit his person, goods and baggage to be searched by an officer of customs:

Search of persons arriving in Singapore.

Provided that —

- (a) any person who requests that his person be searched in the presence of a senior officer of customs shall not be searched except in the presence of and under the supervision of that officer, but the person may be detained until the arrival of that officer, or taken to any customs office or customs station or police station where that officer may be found;
- (b) the goods and baggage of any person who requests to be present when they are searched and so presents himself within a reasonable time shall not be searched except in his presence; and
- (c) no woman shall be searched except by a woman.

[105]

Seizure of  
goods the  
subject of an  
offence.

**110.**—(1) All goods in respect of which there has been, or there is reasonable cause to suspect that there has been, committed any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder or any breach of the provisions of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder or of any restriction or condition subject to or upon which any licence or permit has been granted, together with any receptacle, package, vehicle, vessel not exceeding 200 tons net registered tonnage, or aircraft, in which the same may have been found or which has been used in connection with the offence or breach, and any books or documents which may reasonably be believed to have a bearing on the case may be seized by any officer of customs in any place either on land or in the territorial waters of Singapore.

(2) All such goods and such receptacles, packages, vehicles, vessels or aircraft shall, as soon as practicable, be delivered into the care of a proper officer of customs whose duty it is to receive the same.

(3) Whenever any goods, vehicles, vessels or aircraft are seized under this Act, the seizing officer shall forthwith give notice in writing of the seizure and the grounds thereof to the owner of the goods, vehicles, vessels or aircraft, if known, either by delivering the notice to him personally or by post at his place of abode, if known:

Provided that the notice shall not be required to be given where the seizure is made on the person, or in the presence of the offender or the owner or his agent, or in the case of a vessel or an aircraft, in the presence of the master or pilot, as the case may be.

(4) The provisions of this section relating to the seizure of goods shall apply to all the contents of any package or receptacle in which the same are found and to any article used to conceal the same.

(5) The provisions of this section relating to the seizure of any vessel or aircraft shall apply also to the tackle, equipment and furnishings of the vessel or aircraft.

(6) The provisions of this section relating to the seizure of conveyances shall apply to all equipment thereof and to any animal by which the same is drawn.

(7) Any goods of a perishable nature or any animal or bird seized under this section may be sold forthwith and the

proceeds of sale held to abide the result of any prosecution or claim.

(8) Any goods which are of a dangerous character or which cannot be removed without undue expense may be destroyed on the instructions of a senior officer of customs.

(9) A senior officer of customs may in his discretion release any goods seized under this section to the importer or owner thereof subject to such conditions and on such security as that officer may determine.

(10) The security required under subsection (9) may be by cash deposit or bank guarantee or both. [106

**111.** When any vehicle, vessel or aircraft has been seized under this Act, a senior officer of customs may, in his discretion, temporarily return the vehicle, vessel or aircraft to the owner of the same on security being furnished to the satisfaction of the officer that the vehicle, vessel or aircraft shall be surrendered to him on demand. [107

Release of vehicle, vessel or aircraft under bond.

**112.—(1)** Any officer of customs may arrest without warrant — Powers of arrest.

(a) any person found committing or attempting to commit, or employing or aiding any person to commit, or abetting the commission of, an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder;

(b) any person whom he may reasonably suspect to have in his possession any dutiable or uncustomed goods or any goods liable to seizure under this Act; or

(c) any person against whom a reasonable suspicion exists that he has been guilty of an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder,

and may search or cause to be searched, any person so arrested:

Provided that no woman shall be searched except by a woman.

(2) An officer of customs making an arrest without warrant shall, without unnecessary delay and subject to this section as to bail or previous release, take or send the person arrested before a Magistrate's Court.

(3) No officer of customs shall detain in custody a person arrested without a warrant for a longer period than under the circumstances of the case is reasonable.

(4) Such period shall not exceed 24 hours exclusive of the time necessary for the journey from the place of arrest to the Magistrate's Court.

(5) No person who has been arrested by an officer of customs shall be released except on his own bond or on bail or under the special order in writing of a Magistrate or a senior officer of customs.

(6) If any person liable to arrest under this Act is not arrested at the time of committing the offence for which he is so liable, or after arrest makes his escape, he may at any time afterwards be arrested and be dealt with as if he had been arrested at the time of committing the offence.[108

#### PART XIV

##### PROVISIONS AS TO TRIALS AND PROCEEDINGS

Who may prosecute.

**113.** Prosecutions, in respect of offences committed under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, may be conducted by a senior officer of customs or any officer of customs specially authorised in writing in that behalf by the Director-General. [109

District or Magistrate's Court to have full jurisdiction.

**114.** Notwithstanding the provisions of any written law to the contrary, a District Court or a Magistrate's Court shall have jurisdiction to try any offence under this Act and to award the full punishment for any such offence, excepting that a Magistrate's Court shall not impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term exceeding 2 years. [110

Burden of proof.

**115.** If in any prosecutions in respect of any goods seized for non-payment of customs duties or for any other cause of forfeiture or for the recovery of any penalty or penalties under this Act, any dispute arises whether the customs duties have been paid in respect of those goods, or whether they have been lawfully imported or lawfully landed, or lawfully manufactured, or whether any goods are exempt from customs duty under section 13, or concerning the place from where those goods were brought, or whether drawback has been lawfully claimed, then and in every such case

the burden of proof thereof shall lie on the defendant in such prosecution. [111

**116.** When any goods suspected of being uncustomed or otherwise liable to seizure have been seized, it shall be sufficient to open, examine, and if necessary test the contents of such proportion of the goods seized as the proper officer of customs may determine and the court shall presume that the goods contained in the unopened packages or receptacles are of the same nature, quantity and quality as those found in the similar packages or receptacles which have been opened. [112

Proportional examination or testing of goods seized to be accepted by courts.

**117.** Where in any prosecution under this Act it is relevant to ascertain particulars as to the registration or licensing of any vehicle, vessel or aircraft registered or licensed in Singapore or in Malaysia, a certificate purporting to be signed by the officer responsible under any written law for the time being in force in Singapore or in Malaysia or any part thereof for such registration or licensing shall be prima facie evidence as to all particulars concerning such registration or licensing contained therein, and the burden of proving the incorrectness of any particulars stated in the certificate shall be on the person denying the same. [113

Proof as to registration or licensing of vehicles, vessels and aircraft.

**118.—(1)** A certificate purporting to be signed by a Scientific Officer and purporting to be a report by him upon any matter or thing duly submitted to him for examination or analysis may be used as evidence in any proceedings for an offence under this Act on its production by the prosecution without proof of signature and shall be prima facie evidence of all matters contained therein.

Scientific Officer's certificate.

(2) Where the accused person desires to examine a Scientific Officer on his report he may require the court to summon that Scientific Officer to give evidence and the court shall thereupon summon that Scientific Officer as a witness for the prosecution.

(3) A Scientific Officer shall be bound to state the truth in a report made under his hand. [114

**119.** Notwithstanding the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, the period of imprisonment imposed by any court in respect of the non-payment of any fine under this Act, or in respect of the default of a sufficient distress to

Imprisonment for non-payment of fine. Cap. 68.

satisfy any such fine, shall be such period as in the opinion of the court will satisfy the justice of the case, but shall not exceed in any case the maximum fixed by the following scale:

Where the fine	The period may extend to
does not exceed \$50	2 months
exceeds \$50 but does not exceed \$100	4 months
exceeds \$100 but does not exceed \$200	6 months

with one additional month for every \$100 after the first \$200 of the fine until a maximum period of 3 years is reached.

[115]

Manner of seizure not to be inquired into on trial before court or on appeal to Supreme Court.

**120.** On any trial before any court and in any proceedings on appeal in the Supreme Court, relating to the seizure of goods subject to forfeiture under this Act, the court shall proceed to the trial or hear the appeal on the merits of the case only, without inquiring into the manner or form of making any seizure, except in so far as the manner and form of seizure may be evidence on such merits. [116]

Protection of informers from discovery.

**121.—(1)** Subject to this section, no witness in any civil or criminal proceedings shall be obliged or permitted to disclose the name or address of an informer or the substance of the information received from him or to state any matter which might lead to his discovery.

(2) If any books, documents or papers which are in evidence or liable to inspection in any civil or criminal proceedings whatsoever contain any entry in which any informer is named or described or which might lead to his discovery, the court shall cause all such passages to be concealed from view or to be obliterated so far only as may be necessary to protect the informer from discovery.

(3) If, on the trial for any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, the court, after full inquiry into the case, believes that the informer wilfully made in his complaint a material statement which he knew or believed to be false or did not believe to be true, or if in any other

proceedings the court is of opinion that justice cannot be fully done between the parties thereto without the discovery of the informer, it shall be lawful for the court to require the production of the original complaint, if in writing, and permit inquiry, and require full disclosure, concerning the informer. [117]

**122.—**(1) All goods liable to seizure under the provisions of this Act shall be liable to forfeiture.

Goods liable to seizure liable to forfeiture.

(2) For the purposes of this section and of sections 123, 124 and 127, “goods” shall be deemed to include receptacles, packages, vehicles, vessels not exceeding 200 tons net registered tonnage and aircraft, other than aircraft engaged on international carriage. [118]

**123.—**(1) An order for the forfeiture or for the release of anything liable to forfeiture under the provisions of this Act shall be made by the Court before which the prosecution with regard thereto has been held.

Court to order disposal of goods seized.

(2) An order for the forfeiture of goods shall be made if it is proved to the satisfaction of the court that an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder has been committed and that the goods were the subject-matter of, or were used in the commission of, the offence, notwithstanding that no person may have been convicted of the offence.

(3) All goods forfeited shall be delivered to a proper officer of customs and shall be disposed of in accordance with the directions of the Director-General. [119]

**124.—**(1) If there is no prosecution with regard to any goods seized under this Act, the goods shall be taken and deemed to be forfeited at the expiration of one month from the date of seizure unless a claim thereto is made before that date in the manner hereinafter set forth.

Goods seized in respect of which there is no prosecution, deemed to be forfeited if not claimed within one month.

(2) Any person asserting that he is the owner of the goods may personally or by his agent authorised in writing give written notice to a senior officer of customs that he claims the goods.

(3) On receipt of the notice the senior officer of customs shall refer the claim to the Director-General who may direct that the goods be released or may direct the senior officer of customs, by information in the prescribed form, to refer the



matter to a District Judge or Magistrate for his decision.

(4) The District Judge or Magistrate shall issue a summons requiring the person asserting that he is the owner of the goods and the person from whom they were seized, if the person is known, to appear before him, and upon his appearance or default to appear, due service of the summons being proved, the District Judge or Magistrate shall proceed to the examination of the matter and on proof that an offence under this Act has been committed and that the goods were the subject-matter, or were used in the commission, of the offence, shall order the goods to be forfeited, or may in the absence of such proof order their release.

(5) In any proceedings under subsection (4), section 115 shall apply to the person asserting that he is the owner of the goods and to the person from whom they were seized as if the owner or person had been the defendant in a prosecution under this Act. [120]

Conviction  
under other  
law.

**125.** Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prevent the prosecution, conviction and punishment of any person according to the provisions of any other written law for the time being in force in Singapore; except that no person shall be punished more than once for the same offence. [121]

Compound-  
ing of  
offences.

**126.—(1)** Any senior officer of customs may compound any offence which is prescribed to be a compoundable offence, by accepting from the person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum of money not exceeding \$2,000.

(2) On payment of such sum of money the person reasonably suspected of having committed an offence, if in custody, shall be discharged, any properties seized shall be released and no further proceedings shall be taken against that person or property unless the property consists of goods the import of which is absolutely prohibited under section 38 or of goods the manufacture of which is prohibited except under licence in which case the goods shall be forfeited. [122]

**127.** No person shall, in any proceedings before any court in respect of the seizure of any goods seized in exercise or the purported exercise of any power conferred under this Act, be entitled to the costs of the proceedings or to any damages or other relief other than an order for the return of the goods or the payment of their value unless the seizure was made without reasonable or probable cause. [123

No costs or damages arising from seizure to be recoverable unless seizure without reasonable or probable cause.

## PART XV

### OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

**128.—(1) Whoever —**

- (a) makes, orally or in writing, or signs any declaration, certificate or other document required by this Act, which is untrue or incorrect in any particular or which is incomplete by omitting any material particular therefrom;
- (b) makes, orally or in writing, or signs any declaration or document, made for consideration of any officer of customs on any application presented to him, which is untrue or incorrect in any particular or which is incomplete by omitting any material particular therefrom;
- (c) counterfeits or falsifies, or uses, when counterfeited or falsified, any document which is or may be required under this Act or any document used in the transaction of any business or matter relating to customs;
- (d) being required by this Act to make a declaration of the value of dutiable goods imported into or manufactured in Singapore for the purpose of assessment of customs duty, fails to make the declaration as required or makes such declaration which is untrue or incorrect in any particular or which is incomplete by omitting any material particular therefrom;
- (e) fraudulently alters any document, or counterfeits the seal, signature, initials or other mark of, or used by, any officer of customs for the verification of any such document or for the security of any goods or any other purpose in the conduct of business relating to customs;

Penalty on making incorrect declarations and on falsifying documents.

- (f) being required by this Act to make a declaration of dutiable goods imported, exported or transhipped, fails to make the declaration as required; or
- (g) fails or refuses to produce to a proper officer of customs any document required to be produced under section 90,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or the equivalent of the exact amount of customs duty or tax payable, whichever is the greater, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

(2) When any such declaration, whether oral or written, or any such certificate or other document as is referred to in subsection (1) (a), (b), (c) and (d) has been proved to be untrue or incorrect or incomplete or counterfeited or falsified in whole or in part, it shall be no defence to allege that the declaration, certificate or other document was made or used inadvertently or without criminal or fraudulent intent, or that the person signing the same was not aware of, or did not understand the contents of, the document, or where any declaration was made or recorded in English by interpretation from any other language, that the declaration was misinterpreted or not fully interpreted by any interpreter provided by the declarant. [124

Penalty on refusing to answer questions or on giving false information.

**129.**—(1) Whoever, being required by this Act to answer any question put to him by any proper officer of customs, or to give any information which may reasonably be required of him by the officer and which it is in his power to give, refuses to answer the question or does not truly answer the question or refuses to give such information or furnishes as true information which he knows or has reason to believe to be false, 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 6 months or to both.

(2) When any such answer or any such information is proved to be untrue or incorrect in whole or in part, it shall be no defence to allege that such answer or such information or any part thereof was made or furnished inadvertently or without criminal or fraudulent intent, or was misinterpreted or not fully interpreted by an interpreter provided by the informant.

(3) Nothing in this section shall oblige a person to answer any question which would have a tendency to expose him to a criminal charge or to a penalty or forfeiture. [125

**130.—(1) Whoever —**

Penalty for various offences.

- (a) is concerned in importing or exporting, or ships, unships, loads, unloads, lands or delivers or assists or is concerned in the shipping, unshipping, landing or delivery of, any uncustomed or prohibited goods whether the goods are shipped, unshipped, loaded, unloaded, landed, delivered or not;
- (b) illegally removes or withdraws or in any way assists or is concerned in the illegal removal or withdrawal of any goods from any customs control;
- (c) stores, keeps or has in his possession any dutiable or prohibited goods except under customs control, or stores, keeps or has in his possession any uncustomed goods;
- (d) is in any way concerned in conveying, removing, depositing or dealing with any dutiable, uncustomed or prohibited goods with intent to defraud the Government of any customs duties thereon, or to evade any of the provisions of this Act;
- (e) being a passenger or other person, is found to have any dutiable or prohibited goods in his baggage or upon his person or otherwise in his possession, after having denied that he has any dutiable or prohibited goods in his baggage or upon his person or otherwise in his possession;
- (f) is in any way concerned in any fraudulent evasion or attempt at fraudulent evasion of any customs duty;
- (g) is in any way concerned in distilling, fermenting or otherwise manufacturing any dutiable or prohibited goods or manufacturing any tobacco in contravention of section 63;
- (h) is in any way concerned in bottling, blending, compounding or varying any intoxicating liquors in contravention of section 66;

- (i) knowingly harbours or conceals or permits, suffers, causes, or procures to be harboured or concealed any dutiable, uncustomed or prohibited goods; or
- (j) being a tourist, sells, exchanges or gives away, or offers to sell, exchange or give away to any person in Singapore, goods which he has purchased free of duty in Singapore,

shall for any such offence be liable —

- (i) on the first conviction to a fine of not less than 10 times the amount of the customs duty or tax or \$5,000 whichever is the lesser amount, and of not more than 20 times the amount of the customs duty or tax or \$5,000 whichever is the greater amount:

Provided that when the amount of customs duty cannot be ascertained the penalty may amount to a fine not exceeding \$5,000; and

- (ii) on the second or subsequent conviction to such fine or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

(2) In any prosecution against a person for committing, attempting or abetting an offence under this section, any dutiable, uncustomed or prohibited goods shall be deemed to be dutiable, uncustomed or prohibited goods to the knowledge of the defendant unless the contrary is proved by the defendant. [126

Penalty for adding deleterious substances to intoxicating liquor, or storing, keeping, etc., such liquor.

**131.—(1) Whoever —**

- (a) is in any way concerned in adding deleterious substances to any intoxicating liquor for consumption or for sale; or
- (b) stores, keeps or has in his possession any intoxicating liquor to which has been added deleterious substances,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

(2) The owner or occupier of any premises upon which any intoxicating liquor to which has been added deleterious substances is found or which has been used for the sale of

such intoxicating liquor shall be deemed, until the contrary is proved, to have knowingly kept, used or permitted the use of the premises for such purposes.

(3) In any prosecution against a person for committing, attempting to commit or abetting an offence under this section, any intoxicating liquor to which has been added deleterious substances shall be deemed to have been so added with the knowledge of the person unless the contrary is proved by him. [127

132. If any person obtains, attempts to obtain or abets in obtaining, or does anything whereby there might be obtained by any person, any amount by way of drawback of any duty in respect of any goods which is not lawfully payable or allowable in respect thereof or which is greater than the amount so payable or allowable, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of 3 times the value of the goods or \$5,000, whichever is the greater. [128

Offence in connection with claims for drawback.

133. Every person other than a person licensed under —

(a) section 63 (1) who knowingly keeps or has in his possession any still, utensil or other apparatus for distilling, fermenting or otherwise manufacturing intoxicating liquor or any power-operated machinery for the manufacture of tobacco; or

(b) section 66 (1) who knowingly keeps or has in his possession any utensil, apparatus, material or ingredient for bottling, blending, compounding or varying intoxicating liquor,

Penalty for possession of a still, etc.

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 18 months or to both. [129

134. Every person found in possession of toddy contrary to section 86 or 87 shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both. [130

Penalty for possession of toddy, etc.

Penalty for supplying toddy for manufacture of other products or for bottling for sale, etc.

**135.** Every person who supplies toddy or who sells or arranges to sell bottled toddy by retail contrary to section 89 and every person who is supplied with toddy whether for manufacture of other products or for bottling and who disposes of or sells the toddy in contravention of that section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500 and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[131

Penalty for tapping palm trees for toddy.

**136.** Every person found to be tapping or preparing for tapping or knowingly permitting the tapping of any palm tree for toddy contrary to section 88 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 6 months or to both.

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Penalty for assaulting or obstructing officers of customs and rescuing goods.

**137.** Every person who —

- (a) assaults, abuses or obstructs any officer of customs or other public servant or any person acting in his aid or assistance, or duly employed for the prevention of offences under this Act in the execution of his duty or in the due seizing of any goods liable to seizure under this Act;
- (b) rescues or endeavours to rescue, or causes to be rescued, anything which has been duly seized; or
- (c) before or after any seizure, staves, breaks or otherwise destroys any package or goods to prevent the seizure thereof or the securing of the same,

shall for any such offence be liable —

- (i) on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 9 months or to both; and
- (ii) in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 18 months. [133

Penalty for offering or receiving bribes.

**138.**—(1) If any officer of customs or other person duly employed by the Customs and Excise Department —

- (a) makes any collusive seizure or delivers up or makes any agreement to deliver up or not to seize any

vessel or aircraft or other means of conveyance, or any goods liable to seizure;

- (b) accepts, agrees to accept, or attempts to obtain, any bribe, gratuity, recompense or reward for the neglect or non-performance of his duty; or
- (c) conspires or connives with any person to import or export or is in any way concerned in the importation or exportation of any dutiable goods for the purpose of seizing any vessel, aircraft or conveyance or any goods and obtaining any reward for such seizure or otherwise,

every such officer or person so offending shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both, and shall be interdicted from holding office in the public service of the Government and every person who gives or offers or promises to give or procures to be given any bribe, gratuity, recompense or reward to, or makes any collusive agreement with, any such officer or person to induce him in any way to neglect his duty or to do, conceal or connive at any act whereby any of the provisions of any other law relating to imports or to exports may be evaded, shall be guilty as an abettor and so punishable under this Act.

(2) Any officer of customs or other person duly employed by the Customs and Excise Department who is found when on duty to have in his possession any moneys in contravention of any departmental regulations issued in writing shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to have received the moneys in contravention of subsection (1) (b).

(3) If any officer of customs has reasonable suspicion that another officer of customs junior in rank to him or any other person duly employed by the Customs and Excise Department has possession of any money received in contravention of subsection (1) (b), he may search that officer or person.

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**139.** Every omission or neglect to comply with, and every act done or attempted to be done contrary to, the provisions of this Act, or any breach of the conditions and restrictions

Penalty for offences not otherwise provided for.



subject to, or upon which, any licence or permit is issued under this Act, shall be an offence and in respect of any such offence for which no penalty is expressly provided the offender shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$3,000.

[135]

Attempts and abetments.

**140.** Whoever attempts to commit any offence punishable under this Act, or abets the commission of the offence, shall be punished with the punishment provided for the offence.

[136]

Offences by bodies of persons and by agents and employees.

**141.—(1)** Where an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder has been committed by a company, firm, society or other body of persons, any person who at the time of the commission of the offence was a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer or a partner of the company, firm, society or other body of persons or was purporting to act in that capacity shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his consent or connivance and that he exercised all such diligence to prevent the commission of the offence as he ought to have exercised, having regard to the nature of his functions in that capacity and to all the circumstances.

(2) Where any person would be liable under this Act to any punishment, penalty or forfeiture for any act, omission, neglect or default he shall be liable to the same punishment, penalty or forfeiture for every such act, omission, neglect or default of any agent or employee, or of the employee of the agent provided that the act, omission, neglect or default was committed by the employee in the course of his employment or by the agent when acting on behalf of the person or by the employee of the agent when acting in the course of his employment in such circumstances that had the act, omission, neglect or default been committed by the agent his principal would have been liable under this section.

[137]

Action of officers no offence.

**142.** Nothing done by an officer of the Government in the course of his duties shall be deemed to be an offence under this Act.

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## PART XVI

## REGULATIONS

- 143.—(1) The Minister may make regulations — Power to  
make  
regulations.
- (i) to regulate the powers and duties to be exercised and performed by officers of customs;
  - (ii) to regulate the conduct of all matters relating to the collection of duties and taxes under this Act;
  - (iii) to prescribe customs offices and customs stations;
  - (iv) to prescribe customs airports for the import, export and transshipment of dutiable goods by air;
  - (v) to specify the goods dutiable on import in respect of which drawback may be allowed on re-export as part or ingredient of any goods manufactured in Singapore and to fix the rate of drawback thereon and to prohibit the payment of drawback upon the re-export of any specified goods or description of goods;
  - (vi) to prescribe the method of importing, exporting or removing any dutiable goods;
  - (vii) to prescribe the manner in which goods of a class dutiable on import may be transhipped;
  - (viii) to prescribe the procedure relating to documentation, storage, movement, examination, sealing and security of containers and containerised cargoes;
  - (ix) to prescribe the payment of duty on cigarettes by means of customs stamps and the manner in which the stamps are to be used;
  - (x) to prescribe the flag to be flown by vessels employed for the prevention of smuggling of dutiable goods;
  - (xi) to prescribe the days and times during which any customs office, customs station, Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse or bottling warehouse may be open for business;

- (xii) to regulate the deposit, custody and withdrawal of goods in and from Government warehouses, licensed factory warehouses and licensed warehouses and bottling warehouses and the management and control of the same;
- (xiii) to prescribe the amount to be paid as warehouse rent on goods deposited in a Government warehouse;
- (xiv) to prescribe the manner in which intoxicating liquor shall be denatured in a Government warehouse, licensed factory warehouse or licensed warehouse;
- (xv) to regulate the erection, inspection, supervision, management and control of distilleries, breweries, or tobacco or other factories and the fittings, implements, machinery and apparatus maintained therein;
- (xvi) to regulate the hours during which manufacture may or may not take place and during which goods may be removed from a distillery, brewery or tobacco or other factory;
- (xvii) to prescribe what accommodation the distiller, brewer or other manufacturer shall provide free of cost for such officers of customs as the Director-General may consider to be necessary for the control of the distillery, brewery, or tobacco or other factory;
- (xviii) to regulate the blending, compounding, varying and bottling of intoxicating liquors in bottling warehouses and to fix the fees to be paid for bottling dutiable intoxicating liquor;
- (xix) to prescribe the books to be kept by licensees, other than licensees under Part VIII;
- (xx) to regulate the issue and transfer of licences other than licences under Part VIII;
- (xxi) to prescribe the rates of overtime fees to be paid when officers of customs are required to work beyond the ordinary hours prescribed and the conditions under which the overtime shall be permitted;

- (xxii) to regulate the proceedings of the Liquors Licensing Board, the election of their members, the issue and transfer of licences under their authority and the fees for the licences or transfers of licences;
- (xxiii) to regulate the management of premises licensed by the Liquors Licensing Board;
- (xxiv) to prescribe the fees to be paid for the survey of dutiable goods;
- (xxv) to prescribe the offences which may be compounded and the manner in which, and the officers of customs by whom, they may be compounded;
- (xxvi) to prescribe penalties for any contravention or failure to comply with any of the provisions of the regulations made under this section:  
    Provided that no such penalty shall exceed the penalty prescribed under section 139;
- (xxvii) to prescribe anything which is to be or may be prescribed under the provisions of this Act; and
- (xxviii) generally to give effect to this Act.

(2) All regulations and orders made under this Act shall be published in the *Gazette* and shall be presented to Parliament as soon as possible after publication. [139