

INTOXICATING SUBSTANCES ACT
(CHAPTER 146A, SECTION 28)

INTOXICATING SUBSTANCES (DISCIPLINE IN APPROVED
CENTRES) REGULATIONS

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[1st December 1987]

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) Regulations.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —
- “Director of Prisons” has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Prisons Act (Cap. 247);
- “medical officer” means a registered medical practitioner who is for the time being appointed by the Director of Prisons to

perform the functions of a medical officer under these Regulations;

[S 404/2003 wef 26/08/2003]

“officer” means the officer-in-charge of an approved centre and includes any police officer, any officer of the Central Narcotics Bureau or any rehabilitation or custodial officer who is attached to the approved centre;

“officer-in-charge” means a person appointed under section 18A(2) of the Act to be the officer-in-charge of an approved centre;

“visitor” means a member of the board of visitors appointed under regulation 3 of the Intoxicating Substances (Board of Visitors for Approved Centres) Regulations (Rg 1) and includes any other person authorised by the Minister or the Director of Prisons or the person appointed under section 18A(1)(b) of the Act to visit an approved centre.

Work

3.—(1) An inmate of an approved centre shall work in a workshop or do such work as may be assigned to him by the officer-in-charge of the approved centre.

(2) An inmate shall keep his bedding, personal effects and all the surrounding areas and the toilets of his living quarters clean and tidy.

Fair discipline

4. Every officer shall treat every inmate justly and firmly in the enforcement of discipline.

Use of force

5.—(1) Every officer may use reasonable force against any inmate who —

(a) is escaping or attempting to escape from an approved centre;

(b) is engaged in a mutiny or an outbreak by himself or with other inmates;

- (c) attacks the officer or any other person; or
- (d) without any reasonable excuse, refuses to obey a lawful order given by the officer.

(2) Where force is used against an inmate under paragraph (1), the inmate shall be examined by a medical officer as soon as possible.

Discipline of inmates outside approved centre

6. Every person, while being taken to or from any approved centre to which he has been lawfully committed under the Act or is otherwise beyond the premises thereof, under the lawful charge or control of an officer, shall be subject to the same discipline and to the same constraints as if he were within the approved centre.

Punishment for minor offences

7. An inmate of an approved centre who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of regulation 3 or commits any of the minor offences in Part I of the Schedule shall be liable, in addition to or in lieu of any other punishment which may be imposed under the Act or any other written law, to any one or more of the following punishments to be imposed by the officer-in-charge of the approved centre:

- (a) deprivation of not more than 2 visits by relatives of the inmate;
- (b) deprivation of the privilege to use or patronise the canteen in the approved centre for a period not exceeding one month;
- (ba) confinement in a punishment cell for a period not exceeding 7 days;

[S 486/2024 wef 01/06/2024]

- (c) stoppage or reduction of earnings for a period not exceeding one month;
- (d) a written warning.

[S 486/2024 wef 01/06/2024]

Punishment for major offences

8.—(1) Subject to this regulation, an inmate of an approved centre who commits any of the major offences in Part II of the Schedule shall be liable, in addition to or in lieu of any other written law, to any one or more of the following punishments to be imposed by the officer-in-charge of the approved centre:

- (a) deprivation of not more than 4 visits by relatives of the inmate;
- (b) deprivation of the privilege to use or patronise the canteen in the approved centre for a period not exceeding 2 months;
- (c) confinement in a punishment cell for a period not exceeding 7 days;

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- (d) stoppage or reduction of earnings for a period not exceeding 2 months;
- (e) caning not exceeding 6 strokes of a light rattan.

(2) No corporal punishment shall be inflicted on any woman inmate.

Recording of punishment

9.—(1) Any punishment imposed on an inmate under these Regulations shall be recorded in a register.

(2) The number and name of the inmate, the nature of the offence for which the punishment is imposed and such other details as the Director of Prisons or the person appointed under section 18A(1)(b) of the Act may require, shall also be recorded in the register.

Variation of punishment

10.—(1) Where the officer-in-charge of an approved centre has found an inmate thereof guilty of an offence, he shall notify the Director of Prisons or the person appointed under section 18A(1)(b) of the Act of the facts of the case not later than 7 days after the inmate has been found guilty of the offence.

(2) The Director of Prisons or the person appointed under section 18A(1)(b) of the Act may amend, alter or vary any punishment imposed by the officer-in-charge of an approved centre under these Regulations.

Inmate may make his defence

11. No inmate shall be punished under these Regulations until he has had an opportunity of hearing the charge and the evidence against him and of making his defence.

Articles not to be conveyed into or out of approved centre

12.—(1) Any person who without lawful authority —

- (a) conveys, supplies or causes to be conveyed or supplied to any inmate or hides or places for the use of any inmate any letter, document, intoxicating liquor, intoxicating substance, tobacco, drug, money, clothing, provisions or any other article;
- (b) brings or attempts by any means to introduce into any approved centre, any letter, document, intoxicating liquor, intoxicating substance, tobacco, drug, money, clothing, provisions or any other article to be sold or used therein;
- (c) brings or attempts to bring out of any approved centre or conveys from any inmate thereof, any letter, document or other article; or
- (d) communicates with any inmate,

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.

(2) Every officer of an approved centre who without lawful authority —

- (a) knowingly suffers any intoxicating liquor, intoxicating substance, tobacco, drug, money, clothing, provision, letter, document or other article to be sold to or received or used by any inmate;

- (b) lends or gives to any inmate any such intoxicating liquor, intoxicating substance, tobacco, drug, money, clothing, provision or other article; or
- (c) knowingly suffers any letter, document or other article to be brought out of any centre, or to be conveyed from any inmate,

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.

THE SCHEDULE

Regulations 7 and 8(1)

PART I

MINOR OFFENCES

For the purposes of regulation 7, the minor offences are —

- (1) behaving in a disorderly or indecent manner;
- (2) talking without any reasonable cause during working hours, during an assembly or during physical exercise, or talking loudly, laughing or singing at any time after having been ordered by an officer to desist from doing so;
- (3) leaving his place in a file or any seat or berth assigned to him without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable cause;
- (4) omitting or refusing, without any reasonable excuse, to march in a file when moving about an approved centre or when proceeding to or returning from work;
- (5) committing a nuisance in any part of an approved centre;
- (6) secreting any article without any reasonable excuse;
- (7) omitting or refusing, without any reasonable excuse, to be clean or tidy or disobeying, without any reasonable cause, an order relating to the cutting of hair;
- (8) smoking a cigarette or any form of tobacco in an approved centre;
- (9) doing any act which is injurious to his health;
- (10) refusing to undergo any medical treatment or examination when required by an officer to do so;

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

- (11) doing any act or using any language calculated to offend or insult any other inmate;
- (12) quarrelling with any other inmate;
- (13) doing any act calculated to create unnecessary alarm in the mind of any other inmate or an officer;
- (14) visiting a toilet without the permission of an officer or remaining there longer than is necessary without any reasonable cause;
- (15) mixing or adding any substance to any material issued for work without the permission of an officer;
- (16) leaving a place of work or that part of an approved centre in which he is confined without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable cause;
- (17) performing any work allotted to another inmate, or obtaining his assistance to do any work without any reasonable excuse;
- (18) malingering, loitering about during working hours, idling or refusing to work or being negligent when engaged in work;
- (19) defacing or damaging any wall, furniture or other property of an approved centre;
- (20) eating or appropriating any food not assigned to him, or increasing or decreasing the portion of any food assigned to another inmate, without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable excuse;
- (21) removing any food or drink from a kitchen or from a place where meals are served in an approved centre without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable cause, or disobeying any order of an officer in respect of the issue and distribution of any food or drink in the approved centre without any reasonable excuse;
- (22) introducing into any food or drink in an approved centre anything likely to render it unpalatable or unwholesome;
- (23) refusing, without any reasonable cause, to eat any food assigned to him in accordance with the diet scale used at an approved centre;
- (24) wilfully destroying any food in an approved centre or throwing away such food without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable cause;
- (25) omitting or refusing to wear any clothing issued to him in an approved centre or exchanging the clothing for that of another inmate, or damaging

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

or altering any clothing issued to him or another inmate in the approved centre without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable excuse, or losing or discarding the clothing;

- (26) removing, defacing or altering without any reasonable excuse any distinctive number, mark or badge to be attached to, or worn on, the body or any clothing issued in an approved centre;
- (27) omitting or refusing to keep any utensil or clothing clean or disobeying any lawful order as to the arrangement or disposition of the utensil or clothing or any blanket, bedsheet or personal belonging in an approved centre;
- (28) tampering with any lock, lamp or electrical fitting in an approved centre or any other property in the approved centre;
- (29) damaging, omitting or refusing to take due care of any property of an approved centre which has been entrusted to him;
- (30) spitting on or otherwise soiling or befouling any floor, door, wall or other part of the building of an approved centre or any article therein;
- (31) littering;
- (32) omitting to report at once or as soon as possible any loss, destruction, breakage or damage which he has caused to any property in an approved centre;
- (33) stealing any property within an approved centre or that of another inmate;
- (34) damaging or destroying a tree or plant within the enclosure of an approved centre without the permission of an officer or without any reasonable excuse;
- (35) showing disrespect to any officer or visitor;
- (36) answering untruthfully any question put to him by any officer or visitor;
- (37) omitting, without any reasonable excuse, to assist in the maintenance of discipline by not reporting the commission of an offence in an approved centre, or failing to assist an officer in the investigation of an offence when called upon to do so;
- (38) making any instrument for shooting, cutting or stabbing or any weapon without the knowledge or permission of an officer;
- (39) causing violence or insubordination of any kind in an approved centre or omitting, without any reasonable excuse, to assist in the suppression of

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

violence or insubordination of any kind when called upon by an officer to do so;

- (40) omitting or refusing, without any reasonable excuse, to help an officer to prevent another inmate from escaping from an approved centre;
- (41) any other act, conduct or neglect to the prejudice of good order or discipline in an approved centre; and
- (42) abetting the commission of a minor offence.

PART II

MAJOR OFFENCES

For the purposes of regulation 8(1), the major offences are —

- (1) bringing any intoxicating substance or drug into an approved centre without the permission of an officer or concealing any intoxicating substance or drug in an approved centre;
- (2) aggravated or repeated assault on another inmate;
- (3) striking or otherwise using violence on or offering violence to any officer or visitor;
- (4) escaping or attempting to escape from an approved centre;
- (5) mutiny;
- (6) any other act of gross misconduct or gross insubordination; and
- (7) abetting the commission of a major offence.

[G.N. No.S 318/87; S 58/99]

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
INTOXICATING SUBSTANCES (DISCIPLINE IN APPROVED
CENTRES) REGULATIONS
(CHAPTER 146A, RG 2)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) Regulations. It is not part of these Regulations.

1. G. N. No. S 318/1987 — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) Regulations 1987

Date of commencement : Date not available

2. 1987 Revised Edition — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) Regulations

Date of operation : 25 March 1992

3. G. N. No. S 58/1999 — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) (Amendment) Regulations 1999

Date of commencement : 9 February 1999

4. 1999 Revised Edition — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) Regulations

Date of operation : 1 April 1999

5. G. N. No. S 404/2003 — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) (Amendment) Regulations 2003

Date of commencement : 26 August 2003

6. 1995 Revised Edition — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) Regulations 1995

Date of operation : 31 December 9999

7. G.N. No. S 486/2024 — Intoxicating Substances (Discipline in Approved Centres) (Amendment) Regulations 2024

Date of commencement : 1 June 2024