

**TRADE UNIONS ACT  
(CHAPTER 333, SECTION 28(3))**

**TRADE UNIONS (GOVERNMENT OFFICERS — EXEMPTION)  
NOTIFICATION**

**ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS**

**Paragraph**

1. Citation
  2. Categories of exempted Government officers and employees
  3. Membership of unions
  4. Government officers and employees who are tradesmen or professional persons
- 

[1st November 1985]

**Citation**

**1.** This Notification may be cited as the Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) Notification.

**Categories of exempted Government officers and employees**

**2.** Subject to paragraph 3, all Government officers and employees are exempted from section 28(3) of the Act with the exception of —

(a) all members of the Singapore Police Force, the Civil Defence Force and the Singapore Armed Forces;

*[S 332/2015 wef 01/06/2015]*

(b) all officers in the Prisons Service and the Narcotics Service; and

*[S 290/99 wef 01/07/1999]*

*[S 332/2015 wef 01/06/2015]*

(c) all public officers appointed as forensic specialists under section 65A(1)(a) of the Police Force Act (Cap. 235).

*[S 332/2015 wef 01/06/2015]*

### **Membership of unions**

3.—(1) The Government officers and employees exempted under paragraph 2 may join or be members of a trade union only where the membership of the union is confined to persons employed by any one or more or all of the following:

- (a) the Government;
- (b) Government-Aided Schools (non-teaching staff);
- (c) the Board of Commissioners of Currency, Singapore;
- (d) the Central Provident Fund Board;
- (e) the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS);
- (f) the Economic Development Board;
- (g) the Institute of Education (non-teaching staff);
- (h) the Jurong Town Corporation;
- (i) the Monetary Authority of Singapore;
- (j) the National Maritime Board;
- (k) the National Productivity Board;
- (l) the National Theatre Trust;
- (m) the National University of Singapore (non-academic staff);
- (n) the Rubber Association of Singapore;
- (o) the Sentosa Development Corporation;
- (p) the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE);
- (q) the Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research (SISIR);
- (r) the Singapore Polytechnic;
- (s) the Singapore Science Centre;
- (t) the Singapore Sports Council;
- (u) the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board;
- (v) the Timber Industry Board of Singapore;

- (w) the Vocational and Industrial Training Board (non-training staff);
- (x) the Nanyang Technological Institute (non-teaching staff);
- (y) the National Computer Board;
- (z) the Trade Development Board;
- (za) the Construction Industry Development Board;
- (zb) Mass Rapid Transit Corporation;
- (zc) the Science Council of Singapore;
- (zd) National Parks Board;
- (ze) Temasek Polytechnic;
- (zf) National Arts Council;

*[S 47/92 wef 31/01/1992]*

- (zg) National Science and Technology Board;

*[S 432/92 wef 16/10/1992]*

- (zh) Institute of Technical Education, Singapore;

*[S 432/92 wef 16/10/1992]*

- (zi) Nanyang Polytechnic;

*[S 432/92 wef 16/10/1992]*

- (zj) National Heritage Board;

*[S 484/93 wef 03/12/1993]*

- (zk) Singapore Broadcasting Authority;

*[S 256/95 wef 09/06/1995]*

- (zl) Civil Service College;

*[S 52/2002 wef 29/01/2002]*

- (zm) National Environment Agency;

*[S 450/2002 wef 05/09/2002]*

- (zn) Singapore Workforce Development Agency;

*[S 563/2003 wef 03/12/2003]*

- (zo) Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority;

*[S 404/2004 wef 02/07/2004]*

(zp) Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board;

*[S 503/2004 wef 24/08/2004]*

(zq) Council for Estate Agencies;

*[S 429/2011 wef 25/07/2011]*

(zr) Republic Polytechnic (non-teaching staff).

*[S 429/2011 wef 25/07/2011]*

(2) Any such trade union whose membership is so confined may only amalgamate with or agree to act on the instructions of a trade union whose membership is similarly restricted.

### **Government officers and employees who are tradesmen or professional persons**

4.—(1) Notwithstanding paragraph 3 and with the prior approval of the Minister for Finance —

(a) Government officers and employees exempted under paragraph 2 who are tradesmen or professional persons may join a union composed of craftsmen or of members following a professional occupation, as the case may be, whose membership is not confined to persons employed by or under the Government; and

(b) any trade union whose membership is confined to the persons set out in paragraph 3(1) may affiliate to or federate with a trade union or federation of trade unions whose membership is not so restricted.

(2) The approval granted under sub-paragraph (1) may, at any time in the discretion of the Minister for Finance, be withdrawn.

*[G.N. Nos. S 313/85; S 63/87; S 89/88; S 161/90;  
S 282/91]*

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
TRADE UNIONS (GOVERNMENT OFFICERS — EXEMPTION)  
NOTIFICATION  
(CHAPTER 333, N 2)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) Notification. It is not part of this Notification.

**1. G. N. No. S 313/1985 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) Notification 1985**

Date of commencement : 1 November 1985

**2. G. N. No. S 63/1987 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1987**

Date of commencement : 27 February 1987

**3. G. N. No. S 89/1988 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1988**

Date of commencement : 8 April 1988

**4. G. N. No. S 161/1990 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1990**

Date of commencement : 12 April 1990

**5. G. N. No. S 282/1991 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1991**

Date of commencement : 21 June 1991

**6. G. N. No. S 47/1992 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1992**

Date of commencement : 31 January 1992

**7. 1990 Revised Edition — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) Notification**

Date of operation : 25 March 1992

**8. G. N. No. S 432/1992 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment No. 2) Notification 1992**

Date of commencement : 16 October 1992

- 9. G. N. No. S 484/1993 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1993**  
Date of commencement : 3 December 1993
- 10. G. N. No. S 256/1995 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1995**  
Date of commencement : 9 June 1995
- 11. G. N. No. S 290/1999 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 1999**  
Date of commencement : 1 July 1999
- 12. G. N. No. S 52/2002 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 2002**  
Date of commencement : 29 January 2002
- 13. G. N. No. S 450/2002 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment No. 2) Notification 2002**  
Date of commencement : 5 September 2002
- 14. G. N. No. S 563/2003 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 2003**  
Date of commencement : 3 December 2003
- 15. G. N. No. S 404/2004 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 2004**  
Date of commencement : 2 July 2004
- 16. G. N. No. S 503/2004 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment No. 2) Notification 2004**  
Date of commencement : 24 August 2004
- 17. G.N. No. S 429/2011 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 2011**  
Date of commencement : 25 July 2011
- 18. G.N. No. S 332/2015 — Trade Unions (Government Officers — Exemption) (Amendment) Notification 2015**  
Date of commencement : 1 June 2015