

ACT No. XXIII OF 1932.

[PASSED BY THE INDIAN LEGISLATURE.]

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 19th
December, 1932.)

An Act to supplement the Criminal Law.

XXIII of 1931. (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, and further to amend
XIV of 1908. temporarily the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908,
for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1932.

Short title,
extent,
duration and
commencement.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India, including British Baluchistan and the Sonthal Parganas.

(3) It shall remain in force for three years from its commencement.

(4) The whole of the Act except section 4 and section 7 shall come into force at once, and the Local Government may, by notification in the local official Gazette, direct that section 4 or section 7 shall come into force in any area on such date as may be specified in the notification.

2. Whoever wilfully dissuades or attempts to dissuade the public or any person from entering the Military, Naval, Air or Police service of His Majesty shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

Dissuasion
from
enlistment.

Exception 1.—This provision does not extend to comments on or criticisms of the policy of Government in connection with the Military, Naval, Air or Police service made in good faith and without any intention to dissuade from enlistment.

Exception 2.—This provision does not extend to the case in which advice is given in good faith for the benefit of the individual to whom it is given or for the benefit of any member of his family or of any of his dependants.

3. Whoever

1

Price 1 anna or 1½d.

Tampering
with public
servants.

3. Whoever induces or attempts to induce any public servant to fail in his duty as such servant shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section, a public servant denotes a public servant as defined in section 21 of the Indian Penal Code, a servant of a local authority or railway administration, a village choukidar, and an employee of a public utility service as defined in section 2 of the Trade Disputes Act, **XIV of 1860.** **VII of 1929.** 1929.

Boycotting a
public servant.

4. (1) Whoever, with intent to harass any public servant in the discharge of his duties, or to cause him to terminate his services or fail in his duty, refuses to deal with, whether by supplying goods to, or otherwise, or to let on reasonable rent a house usually let for hire or land not being cultivated land to, or to render any customary service to such public servant or any member of his family, on the terms on which such things would be done in the ordinary course, or withholds from such person or his family such medical services as he would ordinarily render, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section “public servant” has the same meaning as in section 3 but includes also a person in the Military, Naval or Air service of His Majesty.

(2) No Court shall take cognizance of an offence punishable under this section unless upon complaint made by order of or under authority from the Local Government or some officer empowered by the Local Government in this behalf.

Dissemination
of contents of
proscribed
document.

5. (1) Whoever publishes, circulates or repeats in public any passage from a newspaper, book or other document copies whereof have been declared to be forfeited to His Majesty under any law for the time being in force, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both.

(2) No Court shall take cognizance of an offence punishable under this section unless the Local Government has certified that the passage published, circulated or repeated contains, in the opinion of the Local Government, seditious or other matter of the nature referred to in sub-section (1) of section 99A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, or sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931. **V of 1898.** **XXIII of 1931.**

Dissemination
of false
rumours.

6. (1) Whoever makes, publishes or circulates any statement, rumour or report which is false and which he has no reasonable ground to believe to be true, with intent to cause or which

which is likely to cause fear or alarm to the public or to any section of the public or hatred or contempt towards any class of public servants or any class of His Majesty's subjects shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section public servant means a public servant as defined in section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

XLV of 1860.

XLV of 1860.

(2) So long as this section remains in force, clause (b) of section 505 of the Indian Penal Code shall be inoperative.

7. (1) Whoever—

(a) with intent to cause any person to abstain from doing or to do any act which such person has a right to do or to abstain from doing, obstructs or uses violence to or intimidates such person or any member of his family or person in his employ, or loiters at or near a place where such person or member or employed person resides or works or carries on business or happens to be, or persistently follows him from place to place, or interferes with any property owned or used by him or deprives him of or hinders him in the use thereof, or

Molesting a person to prejudice of employment or business.

(b) loiters or does any similar act at or near the place where a person carries on business, in such a way and with intent that any person may thereby be deterred from entering or approaching or dealing at such place,

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

Explanation.—Encouragement of indigenous industries or advocacy of temperance, without the commission of any of the acts prohibited by this section is not an offence under this section.

(2) No Court shall take cognizance of an offence punishable under this section except upon a report in writing of facts which constitute such offence made by a police officer not below the rank of officer in charge of a police station.

8. (1) Where any young person under the age of sixteen years is convicted by any Court of an offence which, in the opinion of the Court, has been committed in furtherance of a movement prejudicial to the public safety or peace and such young person is sentenced to fine, the Court may order that the fine shall be paid by the parent or guardian of such young person as if it had been a fine imposed upon the parent or guardian.

Power to order parent or guardian to pay fine imposed on young person.

Explanation.—In

Explanation.—In this section the word “guardian” includes any person who, in the opinion of the Court, has for the time being the charge of or control over the offender.

(2) Before making an order under this section the Court shall give the parent or guardian an opportunity to appear and be heard, and no such order shall be made if the parent or guardian satisfies the Court that he has not conduced to the commission of the offence by neglecting to control the offender, or that the offence was not committed in furtherance of a movement prejudicial to the public safety or peace.

(3) Where a parent or guardian is ordered to pay a fine under this section, the amount may be recovered in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898. V of 1898.

Procedure in offences under the Act.

9. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898,— V of 1898.

- (i) no Court inferior to that of a Presidency Magistrate or Magistrate of the first class shall try any offence under this Act;
- (ii) an offence punishable under section 2, 3, 5, 6 or 7 shall be cognizable by the police;
- (iii) an offence punishable under section 4 shall be an offence in which a warrant shall ordinarily issue in the first instance; and
- (iv) an offence punishable under section 7 shall be non-bailable.

Power of Local Government to make certain offences cognizable and non-bailable.

10. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the local official Gazette, declare that any offence punishable under section 186, 188, 189, 190, 228, 295A, 298, 505, 506 or 507 of the Indian Penal Code, when committed in any area specified in the notification shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, be cognizable, and thereupon the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, shall, while such notification remains in force, be deemed to be amended accordingly. XLV of 1860. V of 1898. V of 1898.

(2) The Local Government may, in like manner and subject to the like conditions, and with the like effect, declare that an offence punishable under section 188 or section 506 of the Indian Penal Code shall be non-bailable. XLV of 1860.

Amendment of section 16, Act XIV of 1908.

11. So long as this Act remains in force, section 16 of the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, shall be deemed to be re-numbered as sub-section (1) of section 16 and to that section as so re-numbered the following sub-section shall be deemed to be added, namely:— XIV of 1908.

“(2) The Governor General in Council, if satisfied to the like effect, may, by notification in the Gazette of India,

India, declare an association to be an unlawful association, and thereupon such association shall be, so long as the declaration remains in force, an unlawful association for the purposes of this Act throughout the whole of British India."

XIV of 1908. 12. So long as this Act remains in force, to section 17 of the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, the following sub-section shall be deemed to be added, namely:—

Amendment of section 17, Act XIV of 1908.

V of 1908. "(3) An offence under sub-section (1) shall be cognizable by the police, and notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, shall be non-bailable."

XIV of 1908. 13. So long as this Act remains in force, after section 17 of the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, the following sections shall be deemed to be inserted, namely:—

Insertion of new sections 17A, 17B, 17C, 17D, 17E and 17F in Act XIV of 1908.

"17A. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the local official Gazette, notify any place which in its opinion is used for the purposes of an unlawful association.

Power to notify and take possession of places used for the purposes of an unlawful association.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section 'place' includes a house or building, or part thereof or a tent or vessel.

(2) The District Magistrate or in a Presidency-town the Commissioner of Police, or any officer authorised in this behalf in writing by the District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police, as the case may be, may thereupon take possession of the notified place and evict therefrom any person found therein, and shall forthwith make a report of the taking possession to the Local Government:

Provided that where such place contains any apartment occupied by women or children, reasonable time and facilities shall be afforded for their withdrawal with the least possible inconvenience.

(3) A notified place whereof possession is taken under sub-section (2) shall be deemed to remain in the possession of Government so long as the notification under sub-section (1) in respect thereof remains in force.

17B. (1) The District Magistrate, Commissioner of Police or officer taking possession of a notified place shall also take possession of all moveable property found therein, and shall make a list thereof in the presence of two respectable witnesses.

Moveable property found in a notified place.

(2) If, in the opinion of the District Magistrate, or in a Presidency-town the Commissioner of Police, any articles specified in the list are or may be used for the purposes of the unlawful association, he may proceed subject to the provisions hereafter contained in this section to order such articles to be forfeited to His Majesty.

(3) All

(3) All other articles specified in the list shall be delivered to the person whom he considers to be entitled to possession thereof, or, if no such person is found, shall be disposed of in such manner as the District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police, as the case may be, may direct.

(4) The District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police shall publish, as nearly as may be in the manner provided in section 87 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, for the publication ^{v of 1898,} of a proclamation, a notice specifying the articles which it is proposed to forfeit and calling upon any person claiming that any article is not liable to forfeiture to submit in writing within fifteen days any representation he desires to make against the forfeiture of the article.

(5) Where any such representation is accepted by the District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police, he shall deal with the article concerned in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (3).

(6) Where any such representation is rejected, the representation, with the decision thereon, shall be forwarded to the District Judge, in the case of a decision by a District Magistrate, or, to the Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, in the case of a decision by the Commissioner of Police, and no order of forfeiture shall be made until the District Judge or Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, as the case may be, has adjudicated upon the representation. Where the decision is not confirmed the articles shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (3).

(7) In making an adjudication under sub-section (6) the procedure to be followed shall be the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, for the investigation of claims so ^{v of 1908.} far as it can be made to apply, and the decision of the District Judge or Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, as the case may be, shall be final.

(8) If the article seized is livestock or is of a perishable nature, the District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police may, if he thinks it expedient, order the immediate sale thereof, and the proceeds of the sale shall be disposed of in the manner herein provided for the disposal of other articles.

Trespass upon notified places.

17C. Any person who enters or remains upon a notified place without the permission of the District Magistrate, or of an officer authorised by him in this behalf, shall be deemed to commit criminal trespass.

The relinquishment of property.

17D. Before a notification under sub-section (1) of section 17A is cancelled, the Local Government shall give such general or special directions as it may deem requisite regulating the relinquishment by Government of possession of notified places.

17E. (1) Where

17E. (1) Where the Local Government is satisfied, after such inquiry as it may think fit, that any monies, securities or credits are being used or are intended to be used for the purposes of an unlawful association, the Local Government may, by order in writing, declare such monies, securities or credits to be forfeited to His Majesty.

Power to
forfeit funds of
an unlawful
association.

(2) A copy of an order under sub-section (1) may be served on the person having custody of the monies, securities or credits, and on the service of such copy such person shall pay or deliver the monies, securities or credits to the order of the Local Government:

Provided that, in the case of monies or securities, a copy of the order may be endorsed for execution to such officer as the Local Government may select, and such officer shall have power to enter upon and search for such monies and securities in any premises where they may reasonably be suspected to be, and to seize the same.

(3) Before an order of forfeiture is made under sub-section (1) the Local Government shall give written notice to the person (if any) in whose custody the monies, securities or credits are found of its intention to forfeit, and any person aggrieved thereby may within fifteen days from the issue of such notice file an application to the District Judge in a District, or to the Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court in a Presidency-town, to establish that the monies, securities or credits or any of them are not liable to forfeiture, and if any such application is made, no order of forfeiture shall be passed in respect of the monies, securities or credits concerned until such application has been disposed of, and unless the District Judge or Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court has decided that the monies, securities or credits are liable to forfeiture.

(4) In disposing of an application under sub-section (3) the procedure to be followed shall be the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, for the investigation of claims so far as it can be made to apply, and the decision of the District Judge or Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, as the case may be, shall be final.

(5) Where the Local Government has reason to believe that any person has custody of any monies, securities or credits which are being used or are intended to be used for the purposes of an unlawful association, the Local Government may, by order in writing, prohibit such person from paying, delivering, transferring or otherwise dealing in any manner whatsoever with the same, save in accordance with the written orders of the Local Government. A copy of such order shall be served upon the person to whom it is directed.

(6) The

(6) The Local Government may endorse a copy of an order under sub-section (3) for investigation to any officer it may select, and such copy shall be warrant whereunder such officer may enter upon any premises of the person to whom the order is directed, examine the books of such person, search for monies and securities, and make inquiries from such person, or any officer, agent or servant of such person, touching the origin of and dealings in any monies, securities or credits which the investigating officer may suspect are being used or are intended to be used for the purposes of an unlawful association.

(7) A copy of an order under this section may be served in the manner provided in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, ^{v of 1898.} for the service of a summons, or, where the person to be served is a corporation, company, bank or association of persons, it may be served on any secretary, director or other officer or person concerned with the management thereof, or by leaving it or sending it by post addressed to the corporation, company, bank or association at its registered office, or, where there is no registered office, at the place where it carries on business.

(8) Where an order of forfeiture is made under sub-section (1) in respect of any monies, securities or credits in respect of which a prohibitory order has been made under sub-section (3), such order of forfeiture shall have effect from the date of the prohibitory order, and the person to whom the prohibitory order was directed shall pay or deliver the whole of the monies, securities, or credits forfeited, to the order of the Local Government.

(9) Where any person liable under this section to pay or deliver any monies, securities, or credits to the order of the Local Government refuses or fails to comply with any direction of the Local Government in this behalf, the Local Government may recover from such person, as arrears of land-revenue or as a fine, the amount of such monies or credits or the market value of such securities.

(10) In this section, 'security' includes a document whereby any person acknowledges that he is under a legal liability to pay money, or whereunder any person obtains a legal right to the payment of money; and the market value of any security means the value as fixed by any officer or person deputed by the Local Government in this behalf.

(11) Except so far as is necessary for the purposes of any proceeding under this section, no information obtained in the course of any investigation made under sub-section (6) shall be divulged by any officer of Government, without the consent of the Local Government.

17F. Every

17F. Every report of the taking possession of property and every declaration of forfeiture made, or purporting to be made under this Act, shall, as against all persons, be conclusive proof that the property specified therein has been taken possession of by Government or has been forfeited, as the case may be, and save as provided in sections 17B and 17E no proceeding purporting to be taken under section 17A, 17B, 17C, 17D or 17E shall be called in question by any Court, and no civil or criminal proceeding shall be instituted against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done under the said sections or against Government or any person acting on behalf of or by authority of Government for any loss or damage caused to or in respect of any property whereof possession has been taken by Government under this Act." Jurisdiction barred.

14. In the long title and in the preamble of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, for the words "against the publication of matter inciting to or encouraging murder or violence" the words "for the better control of the Press" shall be substituted. Amendment of title and preamble of Act XXIII of 1931.

15. For sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:— Amendment of section 1, Act XXIII of 1931.

"(3) It shall remain in force until the expiration of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1932."

16. In sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931,— Amendment of section 4, Act XXIII of 1931.

(a) after clause (b) the following words and clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

"or which tend, directly or indirectly,—

- (c) to seduce any officer, soldier, sailor or airman in the military, naval or air forces of His Majesty or any police officer from his allegiance or his duty, or
- (d) to bring into hatred or contempt His Majesty or the Government established by law in British India or the administration of justice in British India or any class or section of His Majesty's subjects in British India, or to excite disaffection towards His Majesty or the said Government, or
- (e) to put any person in fear or to cause annoyance to him and thereby induce him to deliver to any person any property or valuable security or to do any act which he is not legally bound to do, or to omit to do any act which he is legally entitled to do, or

(f) to encourage

- (f) to encourage or incite any person to interfere with the administration of the law or with the maintenance of law and order, or to commit any offence, or to refuse or defer payment of any land-revenue, tax, rate, cess or other due or amount payable to Government or to any local authority, or any rent of agricultural land or anything recoverable as arrears of or along with such rent, or
- (g) to induce a public servant or a servant of a local authority to do any act or to forbear or delay to do any act connected with the exercise of his public functions or to resign his office, or
- (h) to promote feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of His Majesty's subjects, or
- (i) to prejudice the recruiting of persons to serve in any of His Majesty's forces, or in any police force, or to prejudice the training, discipline or administration of any such force,";
- (b) the *Explanation* shall be numbered as *Explanation 1*, and after the *Explanation* as so numbered the following *Explanations* shall be inserted, namely:—

Explanation 2.—Comments expressing disapprobation of the measures of the Government with a view to obtain their alteration by lawful means without exciting or attempting to excite hatred, contempt or disaffection shall not be deemed to be of the nature described in clause (d) of this sub-section.

Explanation 3.—Comments expressing disapprobation of the administrative or other action of the Government without exciting or attempting to excite hatred, contempt or disaffection, shall not be deemed to be of the nature described in clause (d) of this sub-section.

Explanation 4.—Words pointing out, without malicious intention and with an honest view to their removal, matters which are producing or have a tendency to produce feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of His Majesty's subjects shall not be deemed to be words of the nature described in clause (h) of this sub-section."

Cessation of effect of section 62, Ordinance X of 1932.

17. On the commencement of this Act section 62 of the Special Powers Ordinance, 1932, shall cease to have effect.

X of 1932.

18. Anything

of 1932.]

Criminal Law Amendment.

18. Anything done or any proceedings commenced in pursuance of the provisions of Chapter VI of the Special Powers Ordinance, 1932, shall, upon the commencement of this Act, be deemed to have been done or to have been commenced in pursuance of the corresponding provisions of the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, as amended by this Act, and shall have effect as if this Act was already in force when such thing was done or such proceedings were commenced.

Adoption and continuance of action taken under Ordinance X of 1932.

19. Anything done or any proceedings commenced in pursuance of the provisions of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, as amended by section 77 of the Special Powers Ordinance, 1932, shall, upon the commencement of this Act, be deemed to have been done or to have been commenced in pursuance of the corresponding provisions of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, as amended by this Act, and shall have effect as if this Act was already in force when such thing was done or such proceedings were commenced.

Adoption and continuance of action taken under Act XXIII of 1931 as amended by Ordinance X of 1932.

20. Any person accused of the commission of an offence punishable under section 24, 25, 26, 28, 67 or 70, or by reason of the provisions of Chapter VI of the Special Powers Ordinance, 1932, may, notwithstanding the expiry of the said Ordinance, be tried and punished as if such offence were an offence punishable under or by reason of the corresponding enactment of this Act, and as if this Act had been in force at the time of such commission; and any trial of any such offence begun but not completed at the expiry of the Special Powers Ordinance, 1932, may be continued and completed as if it had been begun after the passing of this Act:

Trial of, and completion of trials of, offences against Ordinance X of 1932.

Provided that no trial of an offence punishable under section 67 or 70 of the said Ordinance shall be begun, continued or completed in any area in which section 4 or section 7, as the case may be, is not in force.