

ACT No. XII OF 1932.

[PASSED BY THE INDIAN LEGISLATURE.]

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 8th April, 1932.)

An Act to provide against the publication of statements likely to prejudice the maintenance of friendly relations between His Majesty's Government and the Governments of certain foreign States.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide against the publication of statements likely to prejudice the maintenance of friendly relations between His Majesty's Government and the Governments of certain foreign States; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Foreign Relations Act, 1932. Short title and extent.

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

2. Where an offence falling under Chapter XXI of the Indian Penal Code is committed against a Ruler of a State outside but adjoining India, or against the consort or son or principal Minister of such Ruler, the Governor General in Council may make, or authorise any person to make, a complaint in writing of such offence, and, notwithstanding anything contained in section 198 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, any Court competent in other respects to take cognizance of such offence may take cognizance thereof on such complaint. Power of Governor General in Council to prosecute in certain cases of defamation.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this Act Aden is not included in India.

3. The provisions of sections 99A to 99G of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and of sections 27B to 27D of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, shall apply in the case of any book, newspaper or other document containing matter which is defamatory of a Ruler of a State outside but adjoining India or of the consort or son or principal Minister of such Ruler. Power to forfeit certain publications or to detain them in the course of transmission through post.

1

Price 1 anna or 1½d.]

XLV of 1890.

V of 1898.

VI of 1898.

Foreign Relations. [ACT XII OF 1932.]

Ruler and tends to prejudice the maintenance of friendly relations between His Majesty's Government and the Government of such State, in like manner as they apply in the case of a book, newspaper or document containing seditious matter within the meaning of those sections :

Provided that for the purposes of this section the said provisions shall be construed as if for the words " Local Government " wherever they occur, the words " Governor General in Council " were substituted.

4. Where, in any trial of an offence upon a complaint under section 2, or in any proceeding before a High Court arising out of section 3, there is a question whether any person is a Ruler of any State, or is the consort or son or principal Minister of such Ruler, a certificate under the hand of a Secretary to the Government of India that such person is such Ruler, consort, son or principal Minister shall be conclusive proof of that fact

Proof of status
of persons de-
famed.