

PUNJAB SPECIAL POWERS (PRESS) ACT, 1956

THE PUNJAB SPECIAL POWERS (PRESS) ACT, 1956. Arrangement of sections Secnons 2. 3

4. Short title, extent and commencement.Power to control publications. Power to prohibit entry into Union Territory of Chandigarh of news papers, etc. Penalty. ITIIE I'thN.JA1) SPECIAL POWERS (PRESS) ACT, 1956. (PUNJAB ACT No. 38 OF 1956) t Received the assent of the President of India on the 19th October, 1956, and first published for general infor- mation in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extra- ordinary) of the 25th October, 1956] 3 2 Short title Yer No. 1956 38 The Punjab Special Pow. ers (Press) Act, 1956 4 Whether affected by later legislation Extended to the territories which, immediately before the 1st November, 1956, were comprised in the State of Patiala and East Punjab States Union by Punjab Act No. 5 of 1957.' Amended by— Punjab Act No. 40 of 1957.' Punjab Act No. 29 of 1960.' Amended by the Punjab tion (Chandigarh) (Adaption of Laws State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968. BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows 1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Speical Powers (Press) Act, 1956. (2) It extends to the 5[Union territory of Chandigarh]. (3) It shall come into force at once. iFor Statement of Ob'ects and Reason, see Punjab Geyernment Gazette (Ezra- ordinary), 1956, page 1143. 'For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), 1957, page 339. •.Por Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Punjab Govertvnt Gautt. (Extraordinary), 1957, page 1662. 'For Statement Of Objects and Reasons, see Punjab Governme't Gazette (Extraordinary), 1960, page 1912. S.Substituted for the words "State of Punjab" by the Punjab Reorganisation (Chandigarh) (Adaptation of Laws on State and Concurrent SubJects) Order, 1968. 2. (1) The Central Governmentl or any authority so authorised in 1 lis behalf if satisfied that such action is necessary for the purpose of proventing or combating any activity prejudicial lo the maintenance of communal harmony affecting or likely to affect public order, may, by order in writing addressed to a printer, publisher or editor. (a) prohibit the printing or publication in any document or any class of documents of any matter relating to ä particular subject or class of subjects for a specified period or in a parti- cular issue or issues of a newspaper or perio- dical . Provided that no such order shall remain in force for more than two months from the making thereof 2[unless before the expiry of such period the 1[Central Government], by atl order made in the like manner, extends it by any period not exceeding two months at a time as it thinks fit so, however, that the total period of the original order does not exceed six months:] Provided further that the person against whom the order has been made may within ten days of the passing of this order make a representation to the 1[Central Governmentl which may on consideration thereof modify, confirm or resind the order (b) require that any matter, covering not more than two columns, be published in any particular issue or issues of a newspaper or periodical payment of adequate remuneration, and may while doing so, specify the period (not excee- ding one week) during which and the manner take place in which such publication shall (c) require that any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, shall before publi- cation be submitted for scrutiny by an autho- rity appointed by the 1[Central Government] in its behalf and published only in accordance with (he directions given thereat. (2) Jn the event of disobedience of an order under (his section, the 1[Central Government] or the authority issuing the order may, without prejudice to the other penalty to which the person guilty of the disobedience is liable under this Act, order the seizure of all copies of any publication concerned and of any printing press or other instrument or apparatus used in the publication. 3.2[(1) The 1[Central Government] or any authority aut- horised by it in this behalf, if satisfied that such action is necessary for the purpose of preventing or combating any activity prejudicial to the maintenance of communal harmony affecting or likely to affect public order, may by order notified m the official Gazette, prohibit the bringing into 31 Union territory of Chandigarh] of any newspaper, periodical, leaflet or other publication: Provided that no such order shall remain in force for more than two months from the making thereof 3[unless before the expiry of such period the 1[Central Government], by an order made in the like manner, extends to by any period not exceeding two months at a time as it thinks fit so, however, that the total period of the origirfal order does not exceed six months] Provided further that a person aggrieved by such order may, within ten days of the passing thereof, make a representation to the 1[Central Government] which may on consideration thereof modify, confirm or rescind the order. •Substituted for the words "State Government" by the Punjab Re-organisa- lion (Chandigarh) (Adaptation of Laws on State and Concurrent

Subjects) order. 1968. •Substituted by Punjab Act NO. 40 of 1957 section 2. Wubitituted for the word "Punjab" by the Punjab Re-organisation (Qandinrh) (Adaptation of Laws on State and Concurrent Subject) Order, 1968* (2) In the event of disobedience of an order under this section, the 1[Central Government] or the authority issuing the order, may, without prejudice to the other penalty to which the person guilty of the disobedience is liable under this Act, order the seizure of all copies of any newspaper, periodical, leaflet or other publication cerned

4. Whoever contravenes, disobeys or neglects to comply with any order made or direction given under sections 2 and 3 of this Act, shall, on conviction, be liable to be punished with imprisonment of either description which may extend to one year or with fine up to one thou- sand rupees or with both.1Substituted for the words "State Government" 'by the Punjab Re-organisation (Chandigarh) (Adaptation of Laws on State and Concurrent Subjects) Order, 1968.

