

THE SUGAR CANE ACT.

[INDIA ACT XV, 1934.]

Commencement.

1. This Act shall come into force on such date as the President of the Union may, by notification¹, appoint in that behalf.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

- (1) ‘**controlled area**’ means any area specified in a notification issued under sub-section (1) of section 3;
- (2) ‘**factory**’ means any premises (including the precincts thereof) wherein twenty or more workers are working or were working on any day of the preceding twelve months, and in any part of which any manufacturing process connected with the production of sugar is being carried on or is ordinarily carried on with the aid of power; and
- (3) ‘**sugar**’ means any form of sugar containing more than ninety per cent. of sucrose.

Declaration of controlled areas, and fixing of prices.

3. (1) The President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, declare any area specified in the notification to be a controlled area for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) The President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, fix a minimum price or minimum prices for the purchase in any controlled area of sugar cane intended for use in any factory.
- (3) The President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, prohibit in any controlled area the purchase of sugar cane intended for use in

¹ No notification under this section has so far been issued.

any factory otherwise than from the grower of the sugar cane or from a person licensed by the President of the Union to act as a purchasing agent.

Previous publication of notifications under section 3.

4. Not less than thirty days before the issue of any notification under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) of section 3, the President of the Union shall publish in the Gazette and in such other manner (if any) as he thinks fit a draft of the proposed notification, specifying a date on or after which the draft will be taken into consideration, and shall consider any objection or suggestion which may be received from any person with respect to the draft before the date so specified.

Penalty for purchase of sugar cane in contravention of notification under section 3.

5. Whoever in any controlled area purchases any sugar cane intended for use in a factory at a price less than the minimum price fixed therefor by notification under sub-section (2) of section 3, or in contravention of any prohibition made under sub-section (3) of section 3, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees.

Sanction for prosecution under this Act.

6. No Court shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under section 5 except upon complaint made by order of, or under authority from, the District Magistrate.

Power of President to make rules.

7. (1) The President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, make rules for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects of this Act.
- (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for-
- (a) the carrying out of inquiries preliminary to the exercise of the powers conferred by section 3;

- (b) establishing advisory committees for any purpose connected with the administration of this Act and defining the powers, functions and procedure of such committees;
 - (c) the issue of licences to purchasing agents, the fees for such licences, and the regulation of the purchase and sale of sugar cane by and to such agents;
 - (d) the organisation of growers of sugar cane into societies for the sale of sugar cane to factories;
 - (e) the authorities by which any functions under this Act or the rules made thereunder are to be performed; and
 - (f) the records, registers and accounts to be maintained for ensuring compliance with the provisions of this Act.
- (3) In making any rule under sub-section (1), or under clause (c) or clause (f) of sub-section (2), the President of the Union may provide that a breach of the rule shall, where no other penalty is provided by this Act, be punishable with fine not exceeding two thousand rupees.

Power of President to make exemptions.

8. The President of the Union after previous publication may, by notification in the Gazette, make rules providing for the exemption of factories or any class of factories from the provisions of this Act.
