

The Cotton Cloth Act, 1918

(ACT NO. XXIII OF 1918)

1. An Act to take powers to provide for the cheap supply of cotton cloth to the poorer classes of the community.

WHEREAS it is expedient to take powers for the purpose of encouraging or maintaining the supply, at reasonable rates, to the poorer classes of the community, of cotton cloth manufactured in this country; It is here by enacted as follows:-

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| Short title | 1. This Act may be called the Cotton Cloth Act, 1918. |
| Definitions | 2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-
(a) "Controller" means a Controller appointed under this Act;
(b) "cotton cloth" means cotton cloth manufactured in this country; and
(c) "standard cloth" means any kind of cotton cloth which a Controller may, from time to time, declare to be standard cloth. |
| Power to appoint Controllers | 3. The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint one or more persons as it may think fit to be controllers for the purposes of this Act, and shall specify in any such notification the area in which any controller so appointed shall exercise his powers. |
| Powers of the Controller | 4.(1) Whenever it appears to a Controller that such a course is necessary or expedient for the purpose of encouraging or maintaining the supply of standard cloth, at reasonable rates to the poorer classes of the community, he may (subject to this Act and the rules made thereunder and to the control of the Government), make general or special orders regulating or giving directions within the area in which he is empowered, with respect to the manufacture, transport, distribution and sale or purchase of, or other |

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, orders may be made by a Controller-

(a) declaring and defining the classes of standard cloth;

(b) prescribing distinctive indications which shall be woven into, impressed or otherwise displayed upon, different classes of standard cloth;

(c) requiring any person, who ordinarily manufactures cotton cloth, to manufacture, or provide for the manufacture of, standard cloth in such quantity, of such quality and by such date as the Controller may direct; and

(d) fixing the prices to be paid to the manufacturer for standard cloth or for any particular class of standard cloth, and providing for the payment thereof on delivery:

Provided that in fixing prices the Controller shall have regard to the cost of production and to the allowance of a reasonable profit, without necessarily taking into consideration the market-price, and if the Controller is satisfied that the manufacturer has incurred actual loss arising out of forward contracts entered into before the commencement of this Act, and that such loss is immediately attributable to an order under this Act, he may take such loss into account:

Provided further that the Controller may fix different prices in the case of different localities or, if special reasons exist, in respect of different manufacturers in the same locality.

Appointment of Advisory Committees

5. Where a Controller is appointed in exercise of the power conferred by section 3, the Government shall appoint a Committee consisting of such number of persons having knowledge of the cotton or cotton cloth trade as it thinks fit to assist the Controller with their advice in the performance of his duties. Before a Controller issues any order declaring and defining the classes of standard cloth or fixing the prices to be paid to the manufacturer, he shall consult the Committee, and he may consult the Committee on any other matter connected with his duties: