



# THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

## CENSUS ACT 1973

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# Census Act 1973

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An Act relating to the taking of a census in Singapore from time to time.

[7 September 1973]

### **Short title**

1. This Act is the Census Act 1973.

### **Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“census officer” means any person appointed under section 4, 5 or 6;

“competent authority” means any public officer or any statutory body established by or under any written law or any officer of the statutory body, being under any obligation imposed by any written law to observe secrecy in respect of any particulars or information obtained by the public officer or the statutory body or officer of the statutory body in the administration of that written law;

“dwelling house” means a building, erection or tenement, whether permanent or temporary, which is wholly or partly used for the purpose of human habitation and includes any ship or vessel in Singapore;

“schedule” means a schedule in the prescribed form in which are, or are to be, entered the prescribed particulars required for the purposes of a census;

“Superintendent” means the Superintendent of Census appointed under section 4.

### **Power to direct census to be taken**

3. The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, direct that a census be taken throughout Singapore or of any specified area of Singapore of the population, housing, agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, trade, labour, industry, building and construction, commerce, education, health and family planning, transportation or

any other matters that the Minister may consider necessary or desirable and may by the same or a different notification prescribe —

- (a) the date on which the census is to be taken; and
- (b) the particulars to be obtained for the purposes of the census.

### **Appointment of Superintendent of Census**

4.—(1) The Minister may appoint a Superintendent of Census to supervise the taking of any census directed to be taken under the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Superintendent, in the exercise of his or her powers and in the performance of his or her duties under this Act or any rules made under this Act, is subject to the control of, and must comply with any directions given by, the Minister.

### **Appointment of Deputy Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Census**

5. The Minister may appoint for specified areas such Deputy Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Census, and assign any functions to them that the Minister considers necessary for the purpose of any census directed to be taken under the provisions of this Act.

### **Appointment of supervisors and enumerators**

6. The Superintendent may, by writing under the hand of the Superintendent, appoint such supervisors, enumerators and other census officers as the Superintendent considers necessary to supervise or take or aid in the taking of a census within any specified area, and may at any time revoke those appointments.

### **Census officers**

7.—(1) Every census officer is deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Penal Code 1871.

(2) Every census officer appointed under section 6 must carry with him or her at all times when on duty the letter of appointment furnished to him or her under that section and must produce the letter