

**Rubber Dealers Act
(CHAPTER 279)**

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RUBBER DEALERS ACT

(CHAPTER 279)

(Original Enactment: Ordinance 27 of 1921)

REVISED EDITION 1985

(30th March 1987)

An Act to control dealings in rubber.

[28th November 1921]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Rubber Dealers Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context —
 - “licence” means a licence granted under this Act, and “licensee” means the person to whom a licence is granted;
 - “licensed dealer” means a licensee holding a licence to purchase rubber;
 - “licensing officer” means any Collector of Land Revenue;
 - “purchase” means purchase of specific rubber pursuant to any contract or agreement providing for completion by delivery of the rubber but does not

include purchase of unascertained rubber by description by means of a forward contract;

“rubber” includes marketable rubber prepared from the leaves, bark or latex of any rubber plant, and the latex of any such plant, whether fluid or coagulated, in any stage of the treatment to which it is subjected during the process of conversion into marketable rubber, but does not include any manufactured article wholly or partly made of rubber;

“rubber plant” includes any of the following plants:

- (a) *Hevea brasiliensis* (Para rubber);
- (b) *Manihot glaziovii* (Ceara rubber);
- (c) *Castillos elastica*;
- (d) *Ficus elastica* (Rambong);
- (e) any other plant which the Minister by notification in the *Gazette* declares to be a rubber plant for the purposes of this Act;

“treat”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means to subject to any process whatsoever.

Prohibition of purchase, treatment or storage except under licence

3. No person shall purchase, treat or store rubber unless he has been duly licensed in that behalf by a licensing officer.

Licence to purchase rubber

4.—(1) A licence to purchase rubber (referred to in this Act as a licence to purchase) shall include the right to keep a place or places for the treatment and also for the storage of rubber, and shall be in such form as may be prescribed.

(2) The fee payable for such licence shall be \$600, but no such licence shall be granted until the applicant therefor has made a deposit of \$1,000 to be returned as hereinafter provided.

(3) The deposit shall be by cash paid to the Land Office, or by delivery at the Land Office of a receipt from any bank in Singapore appointed by the Minister to receive the deposit evidencing the payment of that amount to the credit of the Government with that bank.

(4) Interest allowed by the bank on the amount referred to in such a receipt shall be payable to the depositor.

General licence to treat and store rubber

5.—(1) A licence to treat and store rubber or a licence to store rubber, when the rubber to be treated and stored or to be stored, as the case may be, consists wholly or partly of rubber which is not grown or produced on land in the occupation of the licensee, shall confer the right to keep a place or places for the treatment and also for the storage of rubber, and shall be in such form as may be prescribed.

(2) The fee payable for such licence shall be \$200.

Licence to treat and store rubber produced on licensee's land

6.—(1) A licence to treat and store rubber solely grown or produced on land in the occupation of the licensee shall confer the right to keep a place or places for the treatment and also for the storage of rubber so grown or produced. The licence shall be in such form as may be prescribed and may be issued as a separate document or may, if so prescribed, be entered in, endorsed on or affixed to the certificate of registration issued under section 15.

(2) The fee payable for such licence shall be \$3.

Duration of licence

7.—(1) Every licence shall expire on 31st December of the year in respect of which it is granted and shall be valid only for the place or places and purpose specified therein.

(2) No licence shall be assignable, or shall confer any rights upon any person by reason of his being the executor or administrator of the person to whom the licence was granted.

Refusal to grant and revocation of licence

8.—(1) A licensing officer may in his discretion refuse to grant a licence or to renew any licence which has expired, and may revoke any licence already granted.

(2) Any person aggrieved by such refusal or revocation may appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

Provisions with regard to partners

9.—(1) Two or more persons carrying on business in partnership shall not be obliged to obtain more than one licence appropriate to the circumstances in respect of which the licence is granted, and a licence to two or more persons shall not be determined by the death or retirement from business of any one or more of the partners.

Responsibility of partners

(2) When a licence is granted to two or more persons carrying on business in partnership, every such person shall be liable for the acts and omissions of the other or others of them, unless the person charged with liability for the acts or omissions of his partner proves to the satisfaction of the court that he acted bona fide and in no way directly or indirectly contributed to the breach of the provisions of the Act with which his partner is charged.

Words to be painted on certain licensed premises

10. Every holder of a licence —

- (a) to purchase rubber;
- (b) to treat and store rubber, which consists wholly or partly of rubber not grown or produced on land in the occupation of the holder of the licence;
or
- (c) to store rubber, which consists wholly or partly of rubber not grown or produced on land in the occupation of the holder of the licence,

shall cause the words “Licensed to purchase rubber” or the words “Licensed to treat and store rubber” or the words “Licensed to store rubber”, as the case may be, to be painted in conspicuous letters in the English and Malay languages upon his licensed premises.

Duties of licensee

11.—(1) Every licensee shall allow at all times the inspection of his licensed premises by any Magistrate or any Land Office bailiff or any police officer not below the rank of inspector or by any other person authorised thereto in writing by a licensing officer.

(2) No licensee shall take delivery of any rubber at any place other than his licensed premises.

(3) Every licensee shall, on demand produce for the inspection of any such officer as is mentioned in subsection (1), all rubber on his premises.

(4) Any such officer may enter any licensed premises and search any such premises if he has reason to believe that all the rubber on the premises has not been produced for inspection, in breach of subsection (3).

Books of account

12.—(1) Every licensee mentioned in section 10 shall keep books of account in which shall be entered day by day the following particulars concerning all purchases, deliveries, sales, shipments and other consignments of rubber;

- (a) the date of purchase, delivery, sale or consignment;