THE EAST PUNJAB DRUGS (CONTROL) ACT, 1949.

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**THE EAST PUNJAB DRUGS (CONTROL) ACT, 1949.**

EAST PUNJAB ACT NO. 30 OF 1949.

[Received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 29th October, 1949, and first published in the East Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary) of November 2, 1949.]

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<th>Year</th>
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2 For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), 1950, page 840; for proceedings in the Assembly, see Punjab Legislative Assembly Debates, Volume 2, 1950, pages (4)43-(4)44. (Repealed Ordinance No. 7 of 1950).

3 For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary) 1958, page 546-k.

An Act for the Control of the Sale, Supply and Distribution of Drugs.

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be called the East Punjab Drugs (Control) Act, 1949.

(2) It extends to the whole of the [State] of [Haryana].

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

(a) “dealer” means a person carrying on, either personally or through any other person, the business of selling any drugs, whether wholesale or retail;

(b) “drug” means any drug as defined in clause (b) of section 3 of the Drugs Act, 1940 (23 of 1940), in respect of which declaration has been made under section 3;

(c) “offer for sale” includes a reference to an intimation by a person of the price proposed by him for a sale of any drug, made by the publication of a price list, by exposing the drug for sale in association with a mark indicating price, by the furnishing of a quotation or otherwise howsoever;

(d) “producer” includes a manufacturer.

(2) A drug shall be deemed to be in the possession of a person—

(i) when it is held on behalf of that person by another person;

(ii) notwithstanding that it is mortgaged to another person.

3. The [State] Government may, by notification, declare any drug to be a drug to which this Act shall apply.


(a) the maximum price or rate which may be charged by a dealer or producer;

(b) the maximum quantity which may at any one time be possessed by a dealer or producer;

(c) the maximum quantity which may in any one transaction be sold to any person.

(2) The prices or rates and the quantities fixed in respect of any drug under this section may be different in different localities or for different classes of dealers or producers.

5. No dealer or producer shall—

(a) sell, agree to sell, offer for sale or otherwise dispose of to any person any drug for a price or at a rate exceeding the maximum fixed by notification under clause (a) of sub-

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1 Substituted for the word “Province” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2 Substituted for the word “Punjab” by the Haryana Adaptation of Laws Order, 1968.
3 Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
section 4.

(b) have in his possession at any one time a quantity of any
drug exceeding the maximum fixed by notification under
clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 4; or

(c) sell, agree to sell or offer for sale to any person in any one
transaction a quantity of any article exceeding the
maximum fixed by notification under clause (c) of sub-
section (1) of section 4.

6. (1) No person shall have in his possession at any one time a
greater quantity of any drug to which this section applies than the
quantity necessary for his reasonable needs.

(2) This section shall apply only to such drugs as the [State]
Government may, by order published in the official Gazette, specify for
the purpose:

Provided that nothing contained in this section shall apply to a
dealer or producer in respect of any drug sold or produced by him.

7. Any person having in his possession a quantity of any drug
exceeding that permitted by or under this Act shall forthwith report the
fact to the [State] Government or other officer empowered in this behalf
by it, and shall take such action as to the storage, distribution or disposal
of the excess quantity as the [State] Government or such officer may
direct.

8. No dealer or producer shall, unless previously authorised to do
so by the [State] Government or an officer empowered in this behalf by
it, without sufficient cause, refuse to sell to any person any drug within
the limits as to quantity, if any, imposed by this Act.

Explanation. The possibility or expectation of obtaining a higher
price for a drug at a later date shall not be deemed to be a sufficient cause
for the purpose of this section.

9. (1) Every dealer or producer when selling any drug for cash
shall, if the amount of the purchase is five rupees or more, in all cases,
and, if the amount of the purchase is less than five rupees, when so
requested by the purchaser, give to the purchaser a cash memorandum
containing particulars of the transaction.

(2) The [State] Government may, by notification, prescribe the
particulars to be contained in any such cash memorandum.

(3) The [State] Government may, by notification, exempt
specified areas, classes of dealers or producers, or classes of drugs from
the operation of this section.

10. (1) The [State] Government, or an officer empowered in this
behalf by it, may direct dealers or producers in general, or any dealer or
producer in particular, to mark any drug exposed or intended for sale
with the sale prices or to exhibit on the premises a price list of drugs held
for sale, and may further give directions as to the manner in which any
such direction as aforesaid is to be carried out.

1 Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
(2) No dealer shall destroy, efface or alter any label or mark affixed to a drug and indicating the price marked by a producer.

11. Where a dealer or producer makes an offer to enter into a transaction for a consideration to be given as whole in respect both of a sale of any drug and of some other matter, the dealer or producer making the offer shall state in writing the price which he assigns to that drug, if he is required to do so by any person to whom the offer is made, and the offer shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to be an offer to sell that drug at the price so stated.

12. (1) If in the opinion of the [State] Government or an officer empowered in this behalf by it, it is necessary or expedient so to do, it or as the case may be such officer may, by order in writing, —

(a) prohibit the disposal of any drug except in such circumstances and under such conditions as may be specified in the order;

(b) direct the sale of any drug to any such dealer or class of dealers and in such quantities as may be specified in the order;

and make such further orders as appear to the [State] Government or such officer to be necessary or expedient in connection with any order issued under this sub-section.

[xx]

13. (1) Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or of any direction made under authority conferred by this Act shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

(2) A court convicting any person of an offence punishable under this Act may order that the whole or any part of the stock or drugs in respect of which the offence was committed shall be forfeited to the Government.

(3) It shall not be a defence for a person charged with a contravention of any of the provisions of this section to prove that, in relation to the matter in respect of which he is charged, he acted in the course of his employment as a servant or agent of another person on the instructions of his employer or of some other specified person.

14. Where a person committing an offence punishable under this Act is a company or an association or a body of persons, whether incorporated or not, every director, manager, secretary, agent or other officer or person concerned with the management thereof, shall, unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he has exercised all due diligence to prevent its commission, be deemed to be guilty of such offence.

15. (1) No person other than a police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police or other officers of corresponding rank

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1 Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2 Clause (c) of sub-section (1), and sub-sections (2), (3),(4) and (5) omitted by Punjab Act 14 of 1950, section 2.
authorised in this behalf by the [State] Government by notification, shall investigate any offence under this Act.

(2) No prosecution for any offence punishable under this Act shall be instituted except with the previous sanction of the District Magistrate.

16. Any person competent to investigate any offence under this Act may search any place in which he has reason to believe that an offence under this Act has been, or is being committed, and take possession of any stock of drugs in respect of which the offence has been or is being committed.

17. (1) The [State] Government may make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely,—

(a) the maintenance by dealers and producers generally, or by any dealer or producer in particular, of records of all sale and purchase transactions made by them;
(b) the furnishing of any information as may be required with respect to the business carried on by any dealer or producer;
(c) the inspection of any books of account or other documents belonging to or under the control of any dealer or producer.
(d) [x x x x x x x]

18. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

19. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force regulating any of the matters dealt with in this Act.

20. The East Punjab Drugs (Control) Ordinance, 1949, is hereby repealed but the repeal shall not affect the previous operation or the validity of anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance.

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1 Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2 Clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 17 omitted by Punjab Act 14 of 1950, section 3.