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CHAPTER 192

STATISTICS

An Act to provide for the taking of censuses and for the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of certain statistical information and for other matters relating thereto.

1958-18.
L.N. 168/
1967.
1980-67.
S.I. 1984/
55.

[4th August, 1958]

Commence-
ment.

1. This Act may be cited as the *Statistics Act*. Short title.

2. For the purposes of this Act, the expression Interpre-
tation.
 - “Director” means the Director of Statistical Service;
 - “person”, where it is used in relation to a person furnishing or required to furnish particulars or information under this Act, includes all or any of the individuals constituting a firm or the person having the control or management of a partnership business and, in the case of a company or corporation, association or body or society of persons, includes any director, manager or secretary of the company or corporation or head (by whatever name called) of the association or body of persons or society;
 - “statistics” means information in connection with or incidental to any census or all or any of the matters specified in the First Schedule; First
Schedule.
 - “undertaking” means any undertaking by way of a trade or business whether or not the trade or business is carried on for profit.

3. For the purposes of this Act, there shall be a Statistical Service the duties of which shall be Functions
of Statis-
tical Service.
 - (a) to take any census in Barbados;
 - (b) to collect, compile, analyse, abstract and publish statistical information relating to the social, agricultural, mining, commercial, industrial and general activities and conditions of the inhabitants of Barbados;

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- (c) to collaborate with departments of Government in the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of statistical records of administrations and departments; and
- (d) generally to organise a co-ordinated scheme of social and economic statistics relating to Barbados.

Delegation of functions of Director.

4. The Director may delegate in writing his powers and functions under this Act.

Power to direct that a population census be taken.

5. The Minister may by order direct that a census shall be taken for Barbados or any part thereof or any class of inhabitants thereof, and any such order may prescribe

- (a) the date or dates on or between which such census is to be taken;
- (b) the information to be obtained in such census.

Collection and compilation of statistics.

6. (1) Subject to this Act, the Director may, and on the direction of the Minister shall, collect, whether in conjunction with any census or not, statistics relating to all or any of the matters set out in the First Schedule either in Barbados generally or in any part thereof.

(2) The Director shall cause the statistics collected under this Act to be compiled, tabulated and analysed and, subject to this Act, may cause such statistics or abstracts thereof to be published, with or without comments thereon, in such a manner as he may determine.

Power to obtain information.

7. (1) It shall be lawful for the Director or any person acting on his behalf to require any person

- (a) to furnish, in such form and manner and within such time as may be specified by any notice in writing, such periodical or other information, estimates or returns, concerning such of the matters set out in the First Schedule as may be so specified; and
- (b) to supply him with particulars, either by interviewing such person personally or by leaving at the last known address or by posting under registered cover to the last known address of such person a form having thereon a

First Schedule.

notice requiring such form to be completed and returned in the manner and within the time specified in the notice.

(2) Any such notice under subsection (1) shall state that it is served in exercise of the powers conferred by that subsection.

(3) Any person having the custody or charge of any public records or documents or of any corporation, person, partnership, firm, company, society or association from which, in the opinion of the Director, information in respect of the matter in relation to which the collection of statistics is required can be obtained or which would aid in the completion or correction of such statistics, shall, notwithstanding the provisions of any other law enjoining secrecy, grant to the Director or any officer acting on his behalf, access to such records or documents for the purpose of obtaining therefrom such information.

(4) The Director may, by advertisement in the *Official Gazette* and in such newspapers as may appear to him to be sufficient for notifying the persons concerned, publish a list of any classes or descriptions of businesses or callings in relation to which particulars or information will be required for the purpose of any statistical enquiry under this Act.

(5) Upon such publication it shall be the duty of every person carrying on a business or calling of any such class or description as aforesaid, who has not received a notice under subsection (1) to inform the Director or any person specified in the advertisement within such period, being not less than 28 days after the date of publication of the advertisement, as may be specified therein, that he is carrying on such a business or calling as specified and to give the Director such particulars or information of the business or calling as may be so specified.

8. The Director or any person acting on his behalf may, after giving such notice as may be prescribed, upon production of his authorisation, for any purpose connected with

Powers of entry.

- (a) the taking of a census;
- (b) the collection of other statistics,

enter, at such times as may be prescribed, any dwelling-house or any premises where persons are employed or any premises where it appears to him likely that persons are employed and in either such case may make such enquiries as may be necessary for the performance of his duties.

Restriction
on
publication.

9. (1) Except for the purposes of a prosecution under this Act

- (a) no individual return, or part thereof, made for the purposes of this Act;
- (b) no answer given to any question put for the purposes of this Act;
- (c) no report, abstract or other document, containing particulars comprised in any such return or answer so arranged as to enable identification of such particulars with any person, undertaking or business,

shall be published, admitted in evidence or shown to any person not employed in the execution of a duty under this Act, unless the previous consent in writing thereto has been obtained from the person making such return or giving such answer or, in the case of an undertaking or business, from the owner for the time being of the undertaking or business.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prevent or restrict the publication of any such report, abstract or other document without such consent where the particulars in such report, abstract or other document enable identification merely by reason of the fact that the particulars relate to an undertaking or business which is the only undertaking or business within its particular sphere of activities, so, however, that in no case shall such particulars enable identification of the costs of production, the capital employed, or profits arising, in any such undertaking or business.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Chief Electoral Officer may, in order to perform his functions under section 13 of the *Representation of the People Act*, have access to the information obtained in any census for the registration of Barbadian residents.

10. Any person being a person employed in the execution of any duty under this Act, who— Major offences.

- (a) by virtue of such employment becomes possessed of any information which might exert an influence upon or affect the market value of any share, interest, product or article and, before such information is made public in accordance with this Act, directly or indirectly uses such information for personal gain;
- (b) without lawful authority publishes or communicates to any person otherwise than in the ordinary course of such employment any information acquired by him in the course of his employment;
- (c) knowingly compiles for issue any false statistics or information,

shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable on conviction thereof to imprisonment for two years or to a fine of five hundred dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) Any person, being in possession of any information which to his knowledge has been disclosed in contravention of this Act, who publishes or communicates such information to any person shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable on conviction thereof to imprisonment for two years or to a fine of five hundred dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

11. Any person who—

- (a) hinders or obstructs the Director or any person duly authorised in the execution of any power conferred under this Act;
- (b) refuses or neglects to fill up and supply the particulars required in any schedule, form or other document lawfully left with or sent to him, or who refuses or neglects to answer any question or enquiry addressed to him under the authority of this Act or to supply the information required in accordance with subsection (3) of section 7;
- (c) knowingly makes, in any schedule, form or other document filled up or supplied pursuant to this Act or in any answer to any question asked him under the authority

Miscellaneous offences.

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of this Act, any statement which is untrue in any material particular;

- (d) without lawful authority, destroys, defaces or mutilates any schedule, form or other document containing particulars collected under this Act, or writes or makes on any schedule, form or other document issued for the purposes of this Act and furnished to the Director any indecent, obscene, blasphemous or insulting remarks, drawing or other matter,

shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

Penalties.

12. Subject to this Act, every person who is guilty of an offence under this Act for which no penalty is specially provided shall be liable on conviction thereof by a court of summary jurisdiction to a fine of two hundred dollars for each such offence and in default of payment to imprisonment for six months and, if the offence is continued after the conviction, then to a further fine of ten dollars for each day on which the offence is continued after conviction.

Regulations.

13. The Minister may make regulations for the purpose of carrying out this Act and, in particular, may make regulations prescribing—

- (a) the particulars and information to be furnished on the taking of a census or concerning any matter in respect of which statistics may be collected under this Act;
- (b) the manner and form in which, and the times and places at which, such particulars and information shall be furnished;
- (c) the manner in which notice shall be given to persons on whose premises entry is desired;
- (d) the times at which entry may be effected on premises.

Oath of office.

Second Schedule.

14. (1) Subject to subsection (2), every person employed in the execution of any duty under this Act shall, before entering on his duties, take an oath in the form in the Second Schedule and such oath shall be administered by the Director.

(2) The Director shall before entering on his functions or duties under this Act take an oath or make an affirmation in the form in the Second Schedule and such oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Registrar.

15. The Minister may from time to time by order published in the *Official Gazette* revoke or amend the First Schedule or substitute a new Schedule therefor.

Power to
revoke or
amend First
Schedule.

FIRST SCHEDULE

ss. 2, 6(1), 7
(1) & 15.

Matters in relation to which statistical information is to be collected

1. Population and housing.
2. Vital occurrences and morbidity.
3. Immigration and emigration.
4. Internal and external trade.
5. Primary and secondary production.
6. Agriculture, including dairying, horticulture, pastoral and allied industries.
7. Fishing.
8. Factories, mines and productive industries generally.
9. Employment, unemployment and under-employment.
10. Salaries, wages, bonuses, fees, allowances and any other payments and honoraria for services rendered.
11. Income, earnings, profits and interest.
12. Social, educational, labour and industrial matters, including co-operative groups and societies, associations of employers, employees and other persons generally.
13. Industrial disturbances and disputes.
14. Banking, insurance and finance generally.
15. Commercial and professional undertakings.
16. Distributive trades.
17. Health.
18. Transport and communication in all forms by land, water and air.
19. Wholesale and retail prices of commodities, rent and cost of living.

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- 20. Injuries, accidents and compensation.
- 21. Stocks of manufactured or unmanufactured goods.
- 22. Sweepstakes, lotteries, charitable and other public collections of money.
- 23. Land tenure, and the occupation and use of land.
- 24. Local government.
- 25. Orders, work in progress, outgoings and costs (including work given out to contractors) and details of capital expenditure.
- 26. Debts outstanding, fixed capital assets and plant (including the acquisition and disposal of those assets and plants).
- 27. Criminal, judicial and penal matters.

S.I. 1984/55.

s.14.

SECOND SCHEDULE

OATH OF OFFICE

I,

swear

..... that I will faithfully and solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm

honestly fulfil my duties as

.....

in conformity with the requirements of the *Statistics Act* Cap. 192 and that I will not without due authority in that behalf disclose or make known any matter or thing which comes to my knowledge by reason of my employment as such.

Sworn before me this day of 19

Declared

.....

Registrar

Statistician