

11. Nothing in this Part shall render it an offence to kill any animal in a manner required by the religion or religious rites and usages of any race, sect, tribe or class.

Saving with respect to religious rites and usages.

12. Notwithstanding anything in section 1, sections 9, 10 and 11 shall extend to every local area in which any section of this Part constituting an offence is for the time being in force.

Provision supplementary to section 1 with respect to extent of Part.

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## THE WILD LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

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### CONTENTS.

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#### CHAPTER I.

##### PRELIMINARY.

*Sections.*

1. Exclusion of certain areas from operation of Act.
2. Definitions.

#### CHAPTER II.

##### GENERAL PROTECTION OF ANIMALS, THEIR PARTS AND PRODUCTS.

###### *Sanctuaries.*

3. Power to declare sanctuaries.
4. Acts prohibited in sanctuaries,

###### *Reserved Forests.*

5. Acts prohibited in reserved forests.

###### *Outside Sanctuaries and Reserved Forests.*

6. Completely protected animals.
7. Protected animals.
8. Close seasons during which other animals will be protected.
9. Prohibition against snaring and the possession and selling and buying of certain live animals.

*General.**Sections.*

10. Unlawful methods of hunting.
11. Prohibition of export and import of animals.
12. Exemption under certain conditions.

## CHAPTER III.

## PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

*Penalties, Police Powers and Protection and Seizure of Property.*

13. Penalties.
14. Power to prevent commission of offence.
15. Power to arrest without warrant.
16. Seizure of property liable to confiscation.

*Compounding of, and Compensation for, Offences.*

17. Power to compound offences.

*Disposal of Property Seized.*

18. Animals, weapons, tools, etc. when liable to confiscation.
19. Disposal, on conclusion of trial for offence, of produce in respect of which offence was committed.
20. Procedure when offender is not known or cannot be found.
21. Procedure as to perishable property seized under section 16.
22. Appeal from order under section 16, 18, 19 or 20.
23. Vesting of confiscated property in the State.
24. Saving of power to release property seized.
25. Recovery of penalty due under bond.

## CHAPTER IV.

## FOREST OFFICERS, GAME WARDENS AND POLICE-OFFICERS.

26. Investiture of officers with certain powers.
27. Officers to be deemed public servants.

CHAPTER V.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

*Rules.*

*Sections.*

28. Power to make rules.
29. Publication and effect of rules.
30. Indemnity for acts done in good faith.
31. The Government and its officers not liable for loss or damage in respect of certain produce.

*Acquisition of Land.*

32. Land required under this Act to be deemed to be needed for a public purpose.

*Saving Clause.*

33. Saving.

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THE WILD LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

[BURMA ACT VII, 1936.] (7th November, 1936.)

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. The President of the Union may, by notification, exclude any area from the operation of this Act. Such exclusion shall not affect anything done, or the liability for any offence committed, or any fine or penalty imposed, in such area before such exclusion. Exclusion of certain areas from operation of Act.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,— Definitions.

- (a) "to hunt" with its grammatical variations includes hunting, wounding, killing, capturing or (in reserved forests) fishing by any method ; "To hunt."

" Forest Officer."	(b) " Forest Officer " means a Forest Officer as defined by sub-section (5) of section 3 of the Forest Act ;
" Police-officer."	(c) " police-officer " means a police-officer in charge of a police-station or other police-officer of and above the rank of sub-inspector ;
" Game Warden."	(d) " Game Warden " means any person appointed to be a Game Warden under this Act ;
" Offence."	(e) " offence " means anything made punishable under the provisions of this Act ;
" Reserved forest."	(f) " reserved forest " means a reserved forest as defined by sub-section (11) of section 3 of the Forest Act ;
" Sanctu-ary."	(g) " sanctuary " means any area which has been or may be declared by the President of the Union, by notification, to be a sanctuary for the preservation of animals ;
" Magis-trate."	(h) " Magistrate " means a Magistrate of the first or second class, and any Magistrate of the third class specially empowered by the President of the Union to try offences punishable under this Act ;
" Animal."	(i) " animal " includes all birds, mammals and reptiles, other than snakes, that are found in a wild state in the Union of Burma, and also includes fish in reserved forests.

## CHAPTER II.

## GENERAL PROTECTION OF ANIMALS, THEIR PARTS AND PRODUCTS.

*Sanctuaries.*

**Power to declare sanctuaries.** 3. The President of the Union may, by notification, declare any land which is at the disposal of the [State]<sup>1</sup>, and, subject to the consent of the owner and to such conditions as may be determined by mutual agreement, any land which is private property, to be a sanctuary :

Provided that before any area is declared to be a sanctuary, notices of the proposal to declare such area as a sanctuary shall be published for a period of not less than three months calling for objections to such proposal.

**Acts prohibited in sanctuaries.**

4. No person shall in a sanctuary—

- (a) hunt any animal except with the special permission of the President of the Union which shall be granted only for scientific purposes or to preserve the balance of animals ;
- (b) drive, stampede or wilfully disturb any animal.

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by the Union of Burma (Adaptation of Laws) Order, 1948.

*Reserved Forests.*

5. Subject to any right created by grant or contract in the manner prescribed in section 23 of the Forest Act, no person shall in a reserved forest, save under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence,

Acts prohibited in reserved forests.

- (a) hunt, drive, stampede or wilfully disturb any animal ; or
- (b) remove any animal or part or product thereof.

*Outside Sanctuaries and Reserved Forests.*

6. No person shall hunt any of the following animals, or knowingly possess, sell or buy them alive or dead, or any part or product thereof, save under and in accordance with the conditions of a special licence issued by the President of the Union for scientific purposes,—

Completely protected animals.

Rhinoceros, tapir, argus pheasant, masked finfoot, and any other animals that the President of the Union may, by notification, declare to be completely protected animals under this section :

Provided that it shall not be an offence for any physician or druggist to possess or sell, or for any person to possess for private medical purposes, rhinoceros blood or any preparation thereof :

Provided further that it shall not be an offence for any person to continue in the possession of any article which he possessed before this Act came into force, or to possess or sell or buy any part or product of any animal specified therein which has by a process of *bonâ fide* manufacture lost its original identity.

7. No person shall hunt any of the following animals, or knowingly possess or sell or buy them alive or dead, or any part or product thereof, save under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence,—

Protected animals.

Elephant, bison, *saing*, *thamin*, serow and goral, and any other animals that the President of the Union may, by notification, declare to be protected animals under this section :

Provided that it shall not be an offence to possess, buy or sell any domesticated elephant or any part or product thereof :

Provided further that it shall not be an offence for any person to continue in the possession of any article which he possessed before this Act came into force, or to possess or sell or buy any part or product of any animal specified therein which has by a process of *bonâ fide* manufacture lost its original identity.

8. No person shall hunt any of the following animals, or sell or buy or possess them alive or dead, during the close seasons specified against them below ; and no person shall possess or sell or buy any part or product of any such animal if it has been killed or captured during the close season, and, if the corpse or flesh of any such animal is found in the possession of any person

Close seasons during which other animals will be protected.

during a close season, it shall be presumed until the contrary is proved that the animal was unlawfully killed or captured by him during the close season :—

Hog-deer	}	15th June to 30th September.
Sambhur		
Barking deer		
All species of :—		
Peafowl	}	15th March to 30th September.
Pheasant (except Argus pheasant)		
Partridge		
Jungle fowl		
Quail		
Wild duck		
Teal		

Provided that the President of the Union may, by notification, vary the close seasons given above, or add any other animal to the list of animals protected therein and prescribe the close seasons therefor.

Prohibition  
against  
snaring and  
the posses-  
sion and  
selling and  
buying of  
certain live  
animals.

9. No person shall capture or possess or sell or buy any live animal herein specified during any part of the year :—

All species of snipe, wild duck, teal, wild geese :

Provided that the President of the Union may, by notification, add any other animal to the above list of animals protected therein.

#### General.

Unlawful  
methods of  
hunting.

10. No person shall do any of the following acts, namely :—

- (a) lay down poison for any animals except as permitted under section 11A, sub-section (3), of the Fisheries Act ; or
- (b) hunt any animal by means of pitfalls ; or
- (c) hunt any animal other than carnivora from any platform or *machan*, hide or pit ; or
- (d) use artificial light for the purpose of hunting any animal other than carnivora ; or
- (e) shoot any animal other than carnivora from the back of an elephant or from any kind of wheeled vehicle or aircraft ; or
- (f) use any elephant, wheeled vehicle or aircraft in such manner as to drive, stampede or disturb any animal other than carnivora for any purpose whatsoever, including that of filming and photographing ; or
- (g) hunt within two hundred yards of the compound of an inhabited Buddhist monastery or of a religious edifice for which trustees have been appointed ; or
- (h) use explosive for fishing in reserved forests ; or
- (i) hunt with dogs any animals except carnivora, hares and birds :

Provided that the President of the Union may, by notification, prohibit any other method of hunting.

11. (1) No person shall export from or import into the Union of Burma any of the following animals or any part or product thereof—

Prohibition  
of export  
and import  
of animals.

- (i) rhinoceros ;
- (ii) except under licence issued by an officer empowered to do so by the President of the Union—
  - (a) any living animal other than rhinoceros ;
  - (b) any part or product of elephant, and egret's feathers :

Provided that this section shall not apply to any such part or product which has by a process of *bonâ fide* manufacture lost its original identity :

Provided further that the President of the Union may, by notification, extend this section to any animal not specified therein.

(2) Any Customs Officer or other officer authorized by the President of the Union may detain any animal or any part or product of any animal specified in clause (i) and sub-clause (ii) (b) of sub-section (1) unless a licence has been obtained as herein required.

12. Nothing in this Chapter shall be deemed to apply to the killing or wounding of any animal by any person in defence of himself or of any other person, or in *bonâ fide* defence of property :

Exemption  
under  
certain  
conditions

Provided that—

- (a) any such person killing, capturing or wounding any animal protected under sections 6, 7 and 8 shall at once report the fact to the nearest Magistrate, Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer, and
- (b) that the animal so captured or destroyed and all parts thereof, other than parts subject to speedy decay, shall be the property of the [State]<sup>1</sup> but such animal or any part thereof may at the discretion of a Forest Officer specially empowered by the President of the Union in this behalf be given to the person who has killed it.

### CHAPTER III.

#### PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

##### *Penalties, Police Powers and Protection and Seizure of Property.*

13. Whoever commits or attempts to commit an offence under this Act shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend, where the damage resulting from the offence amounts to more than two hundred and fifty rupees, to double the amount of such damage, and in any other case, to five hundred rupees, or with both :

Penalties.

Provided that for the offence of illegal possession under sections 6, 7, 8 and 9 no person shall be prosecuted without the prior sanction of the District Magistrate.

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by the Union of Burma (Adaptation of Laws) Order, 1948.



Power to prevent commission of offence.

14. Every Magistrate, Forest Officer, Game Warden and police-officer shall prevent, and may interfere for the purpose of preventing, the commission of any offence under this Act.

Power to arrest without warrant.

15. (1) Any Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer may, without orders from a Magistrate and without a warrant, arrest any person reasonably suspected of having been concerned in any offence under this Act if such person refuses to give his name and residence, or gives a name or residence which there is reason to believe to be false, or if there is reason to believe that he will abscond.

(2) Every officer making an arrest under this sub-section (1) shall, without unnecessary delay, take or send the person arrested before a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the case or the officer in charge of the nearest police-station.

Seizure of property liable to confiscation.

16. (1) When there is reason to believe that an offence has been committed in respect of any animal, such animal or any part or product thereof, together with all hunting implements, as well as all tools, animals, vehicles, vessels or other conveyances used in the commission of such offence, may be seized by any Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer.

(2) Every officer seizing any article or thing under this section shall place on such article or thing, or the receptacle, if any, in which it is contained, a mark indicating that the same has been so seized, and shall, as soon as may be, make a report of such seizure to the Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the offence on account of which the seizure has been made :

Provided that when the offender is unknown it shall be sufficient if the officer makes, as soon as may be, a report of the circumstances to his official superior.

*Compounding of, and Compensation for, Offences.*

Power to compound offences.

17. (1) The President of the Union may, by notification, empower any Forest Officer of or above the rank of Extra Assistant Conservator and any Game Warden—

- (a) to accept from any person against whom a reasonable suspicion exists that he has committed an offence under this Act, a sum of money not exceeding fifty rupees by way of compensation for the offence which such person is suspected to have committed, and
- (b) when any property has been seized as liable to confiscation, to release the same on payment of the value thereof as estimated by such officer.



(2) On the payment of such sum of money, or such value, or both, as the case may be, to such officer, the suspected person, if in custody, shall be discharged, the property, if any, seized shall be released, and no further proceedings shall be taken against such person or property.

*Disposal of Property Seized.*

18. (1) When any person is convicted of an offence under this Act, any animal and any part or product thereof in respect of which such offence has been committed, and all hunting implements, as well as all tools, animals, vehicles, vessels or other conveyances used in the commission of such offence, may be confiscated by order of the Court.

Animals, weapons, tools, etc., when liable to confiscation.

(2) Such confiscation may be in addition to any other penalty prescribed for such offence.

19. When the trial of any offence under this Act is concluded, any thing or animal confiscated under section 18 may be disposed of in such manner as the Court may order.

Disposal, on conclusion of trial for offence, of produce in respect of which offence was committed.

20. (1) When the offender is not known or cannot be found, the Magistrate inquiring into the offence may, if he finds that an offence has been committed and on application in this behalf, order any thing or animal liable to confiscation under section 18 to be confiscated and taken possession of by a Forest Officer or Game Warden specially empowered in this behalf, or to be made over to such Forest Officer or Game Warden or other person as the Magistrate considers entitled to the same :

Procedure when offender is not known or cannot be found.

Provided that no such order shall be made till the expiration of one month from the date of the seizure of such thing or animal and without hearing the person, if any, claiming within that period any right thereto, and the evidence, if any, which he may produce in support of his claim.

(2) The Magistrate shall either cause a notice of any application under sub-section (1) to be served upon any person whom he has reason to believe to be interested in the thing or animal seized, or publish such notice in any way which he thinks fit.

21. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the Magistrate may at any time direct the sale of any thing or animal seized under section 16, if such thing or animal is subject to speedy decay, and may deal with such thing or animal if it has not been sold.

Procedure as to perishable property seized under section 16.

22. Any person claiming to be interested in any article, thing or animal seized under section 16 may, within one month from the date of any order passed by a Magistrate under section 18, 19 or 20, present an appeal therefrom to the Court to which orders made by such Magistrate are ordinarily appealable, and the order passed on such appeal shall be final.

Appeal from order under section 16, 18, 19 or 20.

Vesting of  
confiscated  
property in  
the State.

23. When an order for the confiscation of any article, thing or animal has been passed under section 18 or section 20, and the period limited by section 22 for presenting an appeal from such order has elapsed and no such appeal has been presented, or when, such an appeal being presented, the appellate Court confirms such order in respect of the whole or a portion of such thing or animal, such thing or animal or portion, as the case may be, shall vest in the [State]<sup>1</sup> free from all claims.

Saving of  
power to  
release  
property  
seized.

24. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, any Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer empowered in this behalf by the President of the Union may direct at any time the immediate release of any thing or animal seized under section 16 which is not the property of the [State]<sup>1</sup> and the withdrawal of any charge made in respect of such property.

Recovery of  
penalty due  
under bond.

25. When any person, in compliance with any rule under this Act, binds himself by any instrument to perform any duty or act, or covenants by any instrument that he, or that he and his servants and agents, will abstain from any act, the whole sum mentioned in such instrument as the amount to be paid in case of a breach of the conditions thereof may, notwithstanding anything in section 74 of the Contract Act, be recovered from him in case of such breach as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

#### CHAPTER IV.

##### FOREST OFFICERS, GAME WARDENS AND POLICE-OFFICERS.

Investiture  
of officers  
with certain  
powers.

26. The President of the Union may invest<sup>2</sup> any Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer with all or any of the following powers, to be exercised for the purposes of this Act, namely :—

- (a) the powers of a Demarcation Officer under the Boundaries Act ;
- (b) the powers of a civil Court to compel the attendance of witnesses and production of documents ;
- (c) power to hold inquiries into offences under this Act, and in the course of such inquiries to receive and record evidence ;
- (d) power to take possession of property under this Act ;
- (e) power to direct the release of property or withdrawal of charge ;
- (f) power to Forest Officers and Game Wardens only to issue licences referred to in sections 5 and 7.

Officers to be  
deemed pub-  
lic servants.

27. All Forest Officers, Game Wardens and police-officers performing functions under this Act shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Penal Code.

<sup>1</sup> Substituted by the Union of Burma (Adaptation of Laws) Order, 1948.

<sup>2</sup> See the rules published in the *Burma Gazette*, 1941, Part I, p. 35.

CHAPTER V.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.

Rules.

28. (1) The President of the Union may make rules<sup>1</sup> to carry out the objects and purposes of this Act. Power to make rules.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may—

- (a) declare by what Forest Officers, Game Wardens or police-officers the powers or duties conferred or imposed by or under this Act on a Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer are to be exercised or performed ;
- (b) regulate the rewards to be paid to officers and informers from the proceeds of fines and confiscations under this Act or from the public treasury ;
- (c) prescribe the form and conditions of licences and provide for the issue, production and return of licences for regulating any matter provided for in this Act and fix the fees payable for such licences ;
- (d) regulate the appointment and prescribe the duties of Game Wardens ;
- (e) prescribe the measures to be taken in areas adjacent to sanctuaries to prevent the occurrence or spread of diseases in sanctuaries.

(3) The President of the Union may, by a rule under this section, attach to the breach of any rule under this section any punishment not exceeding imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or both.

29. All rules made by the President of the Union under this Act shall be published in the Gazette and shall thereupon have the same effect as if enacted in this Act. Publication and effect of rules.

30. No suit or criminal prosecution shall lie against any public servant for anything in good faith done or purported to be done under this Act. Indemnity for acts done in good faith.

31. The Government shall not be responsible for any loss or damage which may occur in respect of any thing or animal while detained for the purposes of this Act, and no Forest Officer, Game Warden or police-officer shall be responsible for any such loss or damage unless he causes the same negligently or maliciously. The Government and its officers not liable for loss or damage in respect of certain produce.

Acquisition of Land.

32. Whenever it appears to the President of the Union that any land is required for any of the purposes of this Act, such land shall be deemed to be Land required under this Act to be deemed to be

<sup>1</sup> For such rules, see *Burma Gazette*, 1941, Part I, p. 35.

needed for a public purpose, needed for a public purpose within the meaning of section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act.

*Saving Clause.*

**Saving.** 33. (1) Nothing in this Act shall apply to the acquisition, possession, sale, exchange, import and export of any animals by or on behalf of the Trustees of the Victoria Memorial<sup>1</sup> in good faith for the purposes laid down in the Rangoon Victoria Memorial Act.<sup>2</sup>

(2) Nothing in sections 8 and 9 shall apply to the keeping in captivity of animals kept for purposes of display, educational purposes or in public parks and gardens.

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**THE GLANDERS AND FARCY ACT.**

[INDIA ACT XIII, 1899.] (20th March, 1899.)

1. \* \* \* \*

**Definition of "diseased".** 2. (1) In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, "diseased" means affected with glanders or farcy, or any other dangerous epidemic disease among horses which the President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, specify in this behalf.

(2) The provisions of this Act relating to horses shall apply also to camels, asses and mules.

**Application of Act to local areas by President.** 3. (1) The President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, apply this Act or any provision of this Act to any local area, to be specified in such notification, within the Union of Burma.

(2) In any such notification the President of the Union may further direct that the Act or any provision so applied shall apply in respect of—

(a) all or any of the diseases mentioned or specified in a notification under section 2, sub-section (1),

(b) all animals or any class of animals mentioned in section 2, sub-section (2).

**President, to appoint inspectors.** 4. (1) When this Act has been so applied to a local area, the President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, appoint such persons as he thinks fit to be inspectors under this Act and to exercise and perform, within the whole of the local area or such portions thereof as he may prescribe, the powers conferred and the duties imposed by this Act on such officers.

(2) Every person so appointed shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Penal Code.

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<sup>1</sup> Now the Trustees of the Rangoon Zoological Gardens.

<sup>2</sup> Now the Rangoon Zoological Gardens Act (Burma Act I, 1908).