



PARLIMEN MALAYSIA



BILL

Control of Supplies 1961

D.R.09/1961

A BILL
intituled **D. R. No.**

9 61

An Act to provide for the control and rationing of supplies.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong with the advice and consent of the Dewan Negara and Dewan Ra'ayat in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

1. This Act may be cited as the Control of Supplies Act, 1961, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may by notification in the *Gazette* appoint.

Short title
and com-
mencement.

PART I
GENERAL

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

Interpreta-
tion.

“animal” includes birds, reptiles, fish and every kind of vertebrate animal and the young thereof, and the eggs of birds, reptiles and fish;

“controlled article” means any article or food which has been declared to be a controlled article by an order under section 5, and includes a rationed article;

“Controller” means the officer appointed to be Controller of Supplies, under the provisions of section 3 and includes a Deputy Controller of Supplies and any person to whom the Controller has delegated any of his powers, duties or functions in accordance with the provisions of section 13, to the extent of such delegation;

“food” includes any animal, whether alive or dead, and any substance or commodity, which is used as food by man, or which is used for feeding any animal which serves some purpose for the use of man, whether as food or otherwise, or which ordinarily enters into the composition or preparation of human food or of the food of any such animal;

“licensed premises” means any premises in respect of which a licence issued under section 7 is in force;

“Minister” means the Minister charged with responsibility for the control of supplies;

“offence against this Act” includes any contravention of or failure to comply with any provisions of any order, or regulation made under this Act and any contravention or of failure to comply with the terms and conditions of any licence or permit issued or authority granted in pursuance

of the provisions of this Act and any failure to comply with any request or direction lawfully made or given thereunder;

“rationed article” means any article or food, or any kind, type, quality or brand of article or food which has been declared to be a rationed article by an order made under section 5;

“retail dealing” includes every sale of any article or food other than wholesale dealing;

“supplies” includes every kind and type of article, food, commodity or thing whatsoever;

“supplies officer” means any officer appointed under section 3;

“wholesale dealing” means any sale of any article or food in whatever quantity for resale in the same form or state or as part of a manufactured product.

3. The Yang di-Pertuan Agong may appoint a Controller of Supplies, Deputy Controllers of Supplies, Assistant Controllers of Supplies and such other officers as he may consider necessary or expedient for the purposes of this Act.

4. (1) The Controller shall, subject to the general direction and control of the Minister, perform the duties and exercise the rights and powers imposed and conferred upon him by this Act.

(2) The Deputy Controllers, Assistant Controllers and all other officers appointed under section 3 shall be under the direction and control of the Controller.

(3) All officers appointed under section 3 shall be deemed to be public servants for the purposes of the Penal Code.

5. The Yang di-Pertuan Agong may, by order notified in the *Gazette*, declare any article or food to be a controlled article or to be a rationed article or both, either generally or with reference to some specified part of the Federation.

6. (1) The Minister may make regulations generally for carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), any regulations made under this section may provide for—

(a) prohibiting, either absolutely or subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, the purchase, sale or barter of any controlled article without the written permission of the Controller;

Appoint-
ment of
officers.

Responsi-
bilities of
officers.

Declaration
of con-
trolled and
rationed
articles.

Regulations.

- (b) prohibiting, regulating or controlling the import or export of any controlled article;
- (c) prohibiting, regulating or controlling the movement of any controlled article;
- (d) limiting wholesale or retail dealing in any controlled article to such persons as shall hold such licences or permits therefor, as such regulations may prescribe;
- (e) restricting the sale of any controlled article either by any individual or generally by all persons dealing in such article in any manner as he shall deem fit;
- (f) prohibiting, restricting or otherwise regulating or controlling the manufacture or production of any controlled article either generally or as regards form, shape, quantity, quality, constituents or otherwise;
- (g) regulating and controlling the rationing of any rationed article and, without prejudice to such general power, providing for the registration of all or any persons, or any class or classes of persons, for the purposes of such rationing and for the issue of registration cards, ration cards and other ration documents;
- (h) appointing enumerators to enumerate the public for the purposes of registration and rationing;
- (i) regulating the distribution of any controlled article;
- (j) regulating and controlling the milling of padi and the polishing of rice and the sale thereof;
- (k) limiting the quantity of any controlled article which may be acquired or held by any person;
- (l) providing for the keeping of books of account and other records relating to any trade or business in the course of which controlled articles are sold, and prescribing the manner in which such books shall be disposed of or preserved;
- (m) prescribing the period and fees to be paid in respect of the issue or renewal of any licence to sell controlled articles;
- (n) providing for exemption from all or any of the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder;
- (o) prescribing such forms as he may think necessary for use in connection with any of the matters referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this sub-section

PART II

POWERS OF CONTROLLER

Licences
to sell
controlled
articles.

7. (1) The Controller may, subject to the provisions of this Act and to such conditions as he may think fit, by written licence authorise any person to sell wholesale or retail any controlled article in any premises or at a place or places specified in such licence.

(2) The Controller may issue or renew licences to deal in controlled articles.

(3) Every licence issued under this section shall be valid for such period as may be expressed therein and may, subject to any order made by any court under sub-section (3) of section 22, be renewed for such further period as the Controller thinks fit.

(4) Whenever, under any provision of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder, any person is required to obtain a written licence or permit such person shall, on demand, produce such licence or permit to the Controller or to any police officer or to any person acting under authority of the Controller and authorised to examine any person or supplies, or to any person designated by the Controller to demand such production.

(5) The Controller may at any time, without any reason assigned, vary the conditions of or suspend or revoke or refuse to renew any licence or permit which he may have granted under this Act.

(6) Any person aggrieved by the refusal of the Controller to issue or renew a licence under this section or by any action of the Controller under sub-section (5), may appeal against such refusal or action to the Minister, whose decision shall be final.

Power of
Controller
to obtain
information.

8. (1) The Controller or any person authorised by him in writing in that behalf may by writing under his hand or by notification in the *Gazette* require any person or class or description of persons or all persons—

(a) to furnish him or such public officer as may be specified in such requisition with full and accurate periodical or other returns or information in respect of any supplies specified therein, showing all or any of the following particulars—

- (i) the quantity thereof in his or their possession or under his or their control;
- (ii) the cost thereof or expense incurred in respect thereof;
- (iii) the price charged or received by him or them therefor;

- (iv) any other information which the Controller may deem necessary to request in respect thereof;
- (b) to produce for inspection all or any books or documents relating to any supplies in his or their possession or under his or their control;
- (c) to register his or their name and address and such other particulars and in such manner as the Controller may specify;
- (d) to maintain such records or to make such returns containing such particulars relating to the acquisition, disposal, deposit, withdrawal, production, treatment, keeping, storage, movement, transport, distribution, use and consumption of any supplies as the Controller may specify.

(2) Any person to whom a requisition has been made under sub-section (1) shall comply therewith within such time as may be specified in the requisition or, if no time is specified, without unnecessary delay.

(3) The Controller or any person authorised by him under sub-section (1) may impound and detain any book or document produced in compliance with any requisition made under sub-section (1) if in his opinion it contains evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act.

(4) Any person who—

- (a) contravenes or fails to comply with the provisions of sub-section (2) or obstructs or impedes the Controller or any person authorised by him in the lawful exercise of any of his powers under this section; or
- (b) refuses to answer or knowingly gives a false answer to any question or refuses to produce any book or document required for obtaining any information to be furnished in pursuance of an offence;

shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

9. (1) For the purposes of testing the accuracy of any record kept or return made or information given to the Controller under section 8 or of obtaining information or in any case where the Controller or any person authorised by him has reasonable grounds for believing that an offence has been committed, the Controller, or any person authorised in that behalf in writing by or on behalf of the Controller, after producing to the occupier such written authority, may enter any premises belonging to or in the occupation of, any person keeping or making or who has failed to keep or to make, such record or return or has failed

Power of
Controller
to enter
premises.

to give such information or in which the Controller or such authorised person has reason to believe that any supplies, with respect of which a requisition under section 8 has been made are kept, stored, manufactured or produced or in which he has reasonable grounds for believing that an offence against this Act is being or has been committed and may carry out such inspections and examination (including the inspection and examination of books) as he may consider necessary and may seize and detain any books, documents or other things or supplies found in such premises which may furnish evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act.

(2) Where, as a result of any inspection and examination made under sub-section (1), there is any discrepancy between the quantity or quality of any supplies found and any record or return required to be kept or made or any information given in respect of such supplies, the person required to keep such record or to make such return or to give such information shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

(3) Any person who obstructs or impedes the Controller or any person authorised by him in the lawful exercise of any of his powers under this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

10. (1) The Controller and any supplies officer authorised in that behalf by the Controller in writing, or any police officer, or customs officer if so authorised by the Controller in writing, may—

(a) arrest without warrant any person whom he has reason to believe to have committed an offence against this Act, if such person refuses to furnish his name and address or furnishes an address out of the Federation or there are reasonable grounds for believing that he has furnished a false name or address or that he is likely to abscond:

Provided that when any person has been arrested as aforesaid he shall be thereafter dealt with as provided by the Criminal Procedure Code; and

(b) seize any supplies which he considers it necessary to seize in relation to the evidence necessary to establish the commission of any such offence.

(2) The Controller and any supplies officer authorised in writing by the Controller in that behalf, and any police officer not below the rank of Inspector, may in relation to any investigation in respect of any offence against this Act without order of the Public Prosecutor exercise the special

Power of
arrest,
seizure,
investigation and
prosecution.

*F.M.S.
Cap. 6,
S.S. Cap. 21.*

powers in relation to police investigations given by the Criminal Procedure Code in any seizable case.

(3) Any prosecution in respect of an offence against this Act may be conducted by the Controller, a Deputy Controller or other supplies officer, or by any person authorised to conduct prosecutions under the Price Control Ordinance, 1946. 26 of 1946.

11. (1) If the Controller has reason to believe that any person is committing an offence against this Act he may—

Powers of Controller to take possession of controlled articles and to give orders and directions.

(a) take possession in such manner as he shall deem fit of any controlled article in respect of which he has reason to believe such an offence has been committed or if any vehicle, vessel or other article by means of which any such offence has been committed or which he has reason to believe is intended to be used for the commission of such offence; or

(b) give such orders and directions and take such measures in relation to supplies of that controlled article as may appear to him necessary or expedient in order that any such controlled article may be placed on the market.

(2) Where, under the provisions of this section, possession has been taken of any controlled article, vehicle, vessel or other article by or on behalf of the Controller, then the Controller—

(a) if in his opinion the owner of such controlled article has been guilty of an offence against this Act and criminal proceedings have been instituted against such owner in respect of such offence, may retain such controlled article until the conclusion of such criminal proceedings and unless the Court orders confiscation thereof, shall dispose thereof in such manner as the Court may order and in default of any order of the Court, shall dispose thereof under paragraph (b) of this sub-section; or

(b) in any case, may restore possession to the owner, or where a maximum price has been fixed by any written law in respect of such controlled article, may pay to the owner of such controlled article the price so fixed less an amount not exceeding twenty-five *per centum* thereof being the expenses certified by the Controller to have been incurred by the Controller in taking possession, storing and restoring possession of such controlled article as aforesaid.

(3) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any order or direction given by the Controller under the provisions of paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) or who obstructs or impedes the Controller or any person authorised by him to take possession of any controlled article under paragraph (a) of sub-section (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Power of
Controller
to sell
animals or
perishable
articles.

12. If possession has been taken of any controlled article in circumstances in which the Controller has reason to believe that an offence against this Act has been committed and criminal proceedings have been instituted against any person in respect of such offence, then if such controlled article is a live animal or if the Controller is satisfied that such controlled article, by reason of its perishable nature or otherwise, is liable to deteriorate, the Controller may order that the controlled article shall be sold in such manner as may be specified by him, and the proceeds of sale shall be kept until the conclusion of such criminal proceedings and, except where the court orders confiscation of such proceeds under section 26, shall be disposed of in such manner as the court may order.

Delegation
of Powers.

13. (1) The Controller may in writing delegate all or any of his powers, duties or functions under this Act or any regulation made thereunder to any supplies officer, and may at any time revoke any such delegation.

(2) No delegation under sub-section (1) shall be deemed to divest the Controller of any of his powers, duties or functions and he may, if he thinks fit, exercise such powers, duties and functions notwithstanding any such delegation.

PART III

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Prohibition
against
selling
greater
quantity of
controlled
articles than
required for
ordinary
use.

14. Any person who sells any controlled article to any other person in excess of the quantity which may be lawfully acquired by such other person in accordance with the provisions of any regulations made under section 6 shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Prohibition
of conceal-
ment or
destruction
of controlled
article.

15. Any person who conceals or destroys any controlled article in order to withhold such article from the market shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

16. Any person, not being the holder of a valid licence issued in accordance with the provisions of section 7, who, either on his own behalf or on behalf of any body corporate of which he is a director or officer or on behalf of any firm of which he is a partner, sells by wholesale or retail any controlled article or any person, being the holder of such licence, who so sells any controlled article in any premises or at a place other than the premises or place specified in such licence, or who so sells any controlled article contrary to any conditions expressed in such licence, shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Offence to sell controlled articles without a licence.

17. (1) Any person carrying on retail business in any premises or at any place in respect of which a licence has been issued in accordance with the provisions of section 7, shall display in a conspicuous position, so that they may be easily read by any person purchasing controlled or rationed articles in such premises or at such place—

Retailers to display licence and list of controlled and rationed articles.

(a) the original of such licence;

(b) a list in romanised Malay and English of the controlled articles or rationed articles sold in such premises or such place and a translation thereof in any language which the Controller may direct.

(2) Any person who fails or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

18. (1) Except under the authority of the Controller or under and in accordance with the provisions of this Act or of any direction or licence issued thereunder, no person shall obtain or attempt to obtain, and a retailer shall not supply or offer or attempt to supply, any rationed food for household consumption.

Supply of rationed foodstuffs.

(2) For the purposes of this section—

“household consumption” means all consumption of food other than food consumed in or supplied by residential establishments, institutions and catering premises;

“catering premises” means any business or undertaking established for the purpose of serving meals to the public, and includes a restaurant, coffee stall, buffet, inn, public house or any place or refreshment open to the public, but does not include a hotel or boarding house which provides meals for persons resident therein for more than one day.

19. Any person who, in selling any controlled article, imposes, except with the permission of the Controller, any condition of sale other than a condition of sale—

Illegal conditions.

(a) requiring immediate payment therefor; or

(b) prescribing the time within which payment must be made or delivery taken; or

(c) requiring a deposit in respect of sale of any such goods,

shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Removal of controlled articles from business premises and storage of controlled articles in premises other than licensed business premises, and dealing in controlled articles otherwise than in normal course of business.

20. (1) Any person who removes any controlled article or causes or permits any controlled article to be removed from any licensed premises or stores any controlled article or causes or permits any controlled article to be stored in any premises, other than licensed premises or premises approved by the Controller for such storage, shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

(2) The Controller, or any police officer not below the rank of sub-Inspector, if he suspects that any controlled article is being stored or dealt in in any premises in contravention of the provisions of this section, may, notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary for the time being in force, without a search warrant enter upon such premises for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not any such controlled articles are in such premises.

(3) In any prosecution for an offence under this section it shall be sufficient for the prosecution to prove that any controlled article, to the ownership or possession of which the defendant was entitled, was found in premises other than licensed premises or premises approved by the Controller, and the burden of proving that the defendant is not guilty of an offence against this section shall then lie upon the defendant.

(4) Any controlled article found in the course of a search under sub-section (2) upon premises other than licensed premises or premises approved by the Controller, in regard to which an offence against this section is reasonably suspected to have been committed, may be removed by the Controller or other person authorised by the said sub-section to carry out such search and, if not claimed within one month of such removal, may be sold by order of the Controller, and the proceeds of any such sale shall be paid into the Treasury.

Unlawful possession of controlled articles.

21. Any person in possession or control of any controlled article in such circumstances as to raise a reasonable suspicion that an offence against this Act has been or is intended to be committed by him in relation to such controlled article, shall be guilty of an offence against this Act unless he satisfies the Court that such offence has not been and was not intended to be committed by him.

22. (1) Any person, other than a body corporate, but including a director or officer of a body corporate, who commits an offence against, or who fails to comply with, any of the provisions of this Act or of any regulation made thereunder, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine, and for a second or subsequent offence, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years and to a fine not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) Any body corporate which commits an offence against, or fails to comply with, any of the provisions of this Act or of any regulation made thereunder shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars and, for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand dollars.

(3) Where any person is convicted of an offence against this Act, the Court by which he is so convicted may, whether or not it imposes any other penalty, make an order cancelling any licence issued under section 7 to him, or to any firm of which he is a partner, or to any corporation of which he is a director or officer, and debarring him or such firm or corporation from obtaining a new licence either absolutely or for such period as the Court may determine, or may suspend such licence for such period as the Court may determine.

(4) Where a person charged with an offence against any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule or regulations made thereunder is a body corporate every person who, at the time of the commission of such offence is a director or officer of such body corporate may be charged jointly in the same proceedings with such body corporate, and where the body corporate is convicted of the offence charged, every such director or officer shall be deemed to be guilty of such offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he took reasonable precautions to prevent its commission.

(5) Any person who would have been liable under any of the provisions of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder to any penalty for anything done or omitted if such thing had been done or omitted by him personally, shall be liable to the same penalty if such thing has been done or omitted by his partner, agent or servant, unless he proves that he took reasonable precautions to prevent the doing or omission of such thing.

Saving.

23. No proceedings shall be instituted under this Act against any person duly authorised in that behalf by the Controller who has knowingly done or omitted to do any act which would, but for the provisions of this section, have been an offence, provided that he has done or omitted to do such act with the intention of procuring evidence for the purpose of prosecuting the seller for an offence against this Act or of any regulation made thereunder.

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS AND REPEAL

Minister
may appoint
Boards and
Committees.

24. (1) The Minister may appoint such Boards or Committees as he may think fit for the purpose of assisting him in carrying into effect the provisions of this Act and may delegate to them such of his powers (other than those conferred by section 6) and may require them to perform such of his duties as he may think necessary.

(2) No delegation under sub-section (1) shall be deemed to divest the Minister of any of his powers or duties and he may, if he thinks fit, exercise such powers and perform such duties notwithstanding any such delegation.

Burden of
proof.

25. In any prosecution in respect of an offence against this Act upon a charge of doing any act which is unlawful unless the person doing such act is entitled to do so by reason of his being the holder of a licence, permit or written permission, consent, authorisation or exemption entitling him to do such act, it shall be sufficient for the prosecution to allege and prove his doing such act and the onus shall then be upon the accused to show that he was entitled to do such act.

Power of
Court to
confiscate.

26. (1) Where any person is convicted of an offence against this Act the Court may order the confiscation in whole or in part of—

(a) any controlled article in respect of which the offence has been committed which has been seized by, or has otherwise come into the possession of the Controller or any person acting under his authority or any vehicle, vessel or other article, the property of the accused, by means of which such offence has been committed or which is intended to be used for the commission of an offence against this Act; or

(b) the proceeds of sale of any such controlled article if it has been sold under section 12.

(2) Where confiscation is ordered under sub-section (1), the Court shall deliver such controlled article or the proceeds of the sale thereof (if not already in possession of the Controller) to the Controller or to any person designated by him, and shall give directions as to their disposal.

27. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Courts Ordinance, 1948, a Sessions Court shall have jurisdiction to pass any sentence provided in this Act for any offence against this Act.

Jurisdiction
of Sessions
Courts.
*F.M. 43 of
1948.*

28. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary for the time being in force, when a person is accused of more offences than one against the provisions of this Act or of any regulation made thereunder he may be charged with and tried at one time for any number of such offences.

Joinder of
offences.

29. (1) Except as hereinafter mentioned, no evidence as to any written or oral information in respect of any offence alleged to have been committed against this Act shall be admitted in evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings whatsoever, and no witness shall be obliged or permitted to disclose the name or address of any informers or to state any matter which might lead to the discovery of the identity of the informer.

Protec-
tion of
informers.

(2) If any books, documents or papers which are in evidence or liable to inspection in any civil or criminal proceedings whatsoever contain any entry in which any informer is named or described or which might lead to the discovery of his identity, the Court shall cause all such passages to be concealed from view or to be obliterated so far as may be necessary to prevent the discovery of the identity of the informer, but no further.

(3) If in any civil or criminal proceedings whatsoever the Court, after full enquiry into the case, is of the opinion that the informer wilfully made in any information furnished by him a material statement which he knew or believed to be false or did not believe to be true, or the Court is of the opinion that justice cannot be fully done without the discovery of the identity of the informer, it shall be lawful for the Court to require the production of the original information, if in writing, and to permit enquiry and require full disclosure concerning the informer.

(4) For the purpose of this section "informer" includes every person who is not called as a witness for the prosecution in a criminal case and who has made any complaint or

report or furnished any information, oral or documentary, in respect of any offence against this Act alleged to have been committed by any person.

Repeal and
saving.

30. (1) The written laws specified in the Schedule are hereby repealed.

B.M.A.
No. 10.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal of the Food Control Proclamation the following provisions shall have effect:

(a) any rule, regulation or order made under the said Proclamation and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act shall, so far as it is not inconsistent with this Act, be deemed to have been made under the corresponding provisions of this Act, and shall continue in force until it has been revoked, amended or replaced by orders or regulations made under this Act;

(b) any licence, permit or authority granted or issued under the said Proclamation shall, so far as it could have been granted or issued under this Act, continue in force until superseded, revoked or otherwise terminated and shall have effect as if granted or issued under this Act:

Provided that any such licence, permit or authority which is expressed to remain in force for a definite period shall not remain in force after the expiration of that period unless it shall be renewed in accordance with this Act;

(c) any person appointed to any office under or by virtue of the said Proclamation shall be deemed to have been appointed to that office under or by virtue of this Act.

SCHEDULE
(Section 30)

S.S. Ord. No. 16 of 1939	...	Food Control Ordinance, 1939
F.M.S. En. No. 21 of 1939	...	Food Control Enactment, 1939
Johore En. No. 15 of 1939	...	Food Control Enactment, 1939
Kedah En. No. 15 of 1358	...	Food Control Enactment
Kelantan En. No. 25 of 1939	...	Food Control Enactment, 1939
Perlis En. No. 5 of 1358	...	Food Control Enactment, 1358
Trengganu En. No. 10 of 1358	...	Food Control Enactment, 1358
B.M.A. Proclamation No 10	...	Food Control Proclamation.

CONTROL OF SUPPLIES ACT, 1961

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EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Food Control Proclamation of the British Military Administration, promulgated in 1945, which is still in force, provides for the control and rationing of foodstuffs. It is proposed, by the above Bill, to repeal that Proclamation but, at the same time, to extend the machinery of control to include not only food but any article. This has been done in order to avoid the enactment of parallel legislation in respect of articles other than food, since the necessary ancillary powers can conveniently be contained in one single law.

2. It is proposed (after providing by *clauses 3 and 5* for the appointment and responsibilities of a Controller of Supplies and other supplies officers) that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong should have power, by order notified in the *Gazette*, to declare any article or food to be a controlled or rationed article, or both, either in relation to the whole or any specified part of the Federation (*clause 5*). Once such an order has been made the Minister may then make regulations to provide for the control and rationing of such article or food: a power set out in *clause 6* of the Bill.

3. Part II of the Bill (*clauses 7 to 13*) sets out the powers of the Controller of Supplies in relation to controlled articles: *clause 7* empowering the Controller to issue wholesale or retail licences for the sale of controlled articles; and if he refuses to issue or renew such a licence an aggrieved party may appeal against the Controller's decision to the Minister. Part III of the Bill (*clauses 14 to 23*) deals with offences and penalties, and Part IV contains various miscellaneous provisions, and repeals (*clause 30*) the B.M.A. Proclamation of 1945.

4. It must be emphasised that the draft Bill is not intended to impose immediate or new restrictions or in any way to impede the policy of de-control of supplies. It is merely designed to replace obsolete legislation, to transfer to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Minister powers at present conferred on the Controller of Supplies, and to provide machinery for the control, with or without rationing, of the supply and distribution of supplies. The Bill is based upon the Food Control Proclamation of 1945 (which it is intended to repeal), the Food Control Ordinance, 1949, of the State of Singapore, and the Price Control Ordinance, 1946, of the Malayan Union.

[A.G. 293/52.]