

LAWS OF GUYANA

GOVERNMENT AND CONTRACT STEAMER (TRAFFIC)
ACT

CHAPTER 49:06

Act
18 of 1914

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Note
On
Subsidiary Legislation

Rules for the regulation of traffic by and in connection with the Government railway and the Government steamer services will be found under c. 49:04.

Note
on
Repeal

This Act repealed the Colonial Steamer Traffic Ordinance (4 of 1885).

CHAPTER 49:06

GOVERNMENT AND CONTRACT STEAMER (TRAFFIC) ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

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1923 Ed.

c. 120

1953 Ed.

c. 264

18 of 1914

An Act to provide for the proper regulation of the Traffic on Steam Vessels of the Government and on Steam Vessels worked under Contract with the Government.

[30TH JUNE, 1914]

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Government and Contract Steamer (Traffic) Act.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act—

“Government steamer” means any steamer the property of or

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chartered by the Government;

“contract steamer” means any steamer permanently or regularly worked on any river or creek of Guyana, or along the coasts of Guyana, in pursuance of any contract with or on behalf of the Government;

“the contractor” means any person or persons working a contract steamer;

“steamer” includes any vessel mechanically propelled.

By-laws by
Minister.

3. The Minister may make by-laws for the proper regulation of the traffic on or by any Government steamer for keeping the approaches to the stellings provided by the Government for the use of any Government steamer free from obstruction to their convenient use by those steamers, and generally for the purposes of this Act.

By-laws by the
contractor.

4. The contractor may make by-laws for the proper regulation of the traffic on or by contract steamers and for keeping the approaches to the stellings provided by him for their use free from obstruction to convenient use by them.

By-laws by
Commissioner
of Police.

5. The Commissioner of Police may make by-laws for the proper regulation of the traffic on or by Government or contract steamers and on any stelling and on or along any street or road leading to a wharf or stelling at which any of those steamers stop.

Infringement of
by-laws.
[6 of 1997]

6. Any by-laws made under this Act may impose on offenders against them a fine of four thousand eight hundred and seventy-five dollars, and they may provide for the detention of any vehicle, animal, craft, or thing.

Summary
jurisdiction.

7. Everyone offending against any by-law made under this Act shall be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction.

Confirmation of by-laws.

8. No by-law made under this Act by the contractor or by the Commissioner of Police shall take effect unless and until it has been submitted to and confirmed by the Minister, who may allow, or disallow, or alter it as he thinks proper.

Steamers temporarily worked by contractor to be deemed contract steamers.

9. Any steamer temporarily worked by the contractor in pursuance of any contract with the Government shall, while it is actually employed, be deemed a contract steamer and be subject to this Act and to the regulations or by-laws now or hereafter in force relating to contract steamers and shall during that time be deemed to be one of the steamers referred to in clause 18 of the contract of the 30th June, 1913, between Messrs. Sprostons, Limited, and the Government.

Effect and evidence of order and by-laws.

10. (1) Every order made and every-by-law approved by the Minister under this Act, when published in the *Gazette* shall, until the Minister revokes or alters it, have the same effect as if expressed in an Act and be binding on all persons.

(2) The production of the *Gazette* containing any order purporting to be made, or any by-law purporting to be approved, by the Minister shall be conclusive evidence that the order or by-law was rightly made.

Provisions as regards the Demerara river ferry.
[6 of 1997]

11. (1) Everyone not employed on any Government or contract steamer who, without authority to do so by any contract now or hereafter existing with the Government or by the Minister, carries any passenger across the Demerara river for money or reward, from or to any place on the east bank thereof between the fort in Kingston, in the City of Georgetown, and the north-side line of plantation La Penitence, to or from any place on the west bank thereof within one mile on either side of the public ferry stelling there, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of nine thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, and the boat or craft used by that person may be seized and detained by any police or rural constable until the fine is paid.

(2) The magistrate shall order the boat or craft to be sold within eight days after the conviction of the offender, unless the fine and all costs (including the cost of taking care of the boat or craft) are sooner paid.

(3) When the boat or craft is sold, the proceeds arising from the sale, after deducting all expenses aforesaid, shall, so far as they suffice for the purpose, be applied to paying those costs and thereafter to paying the fine.

(4) If the proceeds are not sufficient, the offender may be committed to prison for the same period as that for which he might have been committed in default of paying a fine equal to the amount of the fine remaining unpaid, after deducting whatever portion of the proceeds may have been available for that purpose.

Change of
venue.

12. Where an offence under this Act or any by-law made under it has been committed within the jurisdiction of one magistrate and the Director of Public Prosecutions certifies in writing that in his opinion the complaint for that offence can be more conveniently or fairly heard and determined by the magistrate of any other district, the magistrate of that other district may, and he is hereby required to do so, hear and determine the complaint as if the offence had been committed within his jurisdiction.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

By-laws
15/6/1920

**GOVERNMENT STEAMERS (CARRIAGE OF
DANGEROUS GOODS) BY-LAWS**

made under section 3

Citation.

1. These By-Laws may be cited as the Government Steamers (Carriage of Dangerous Goods) By-Laws.

List of
dangerous
goods.
Special
conditions of
carriage.

2. The Government will not be common carriers of any of the goods, articles, matters or things hereinafter mentioned or of any other things of a dangerous nature and will only carry them at owner's risk by special agreement and under special conditions:

- (a) explosives of all kinds including nitro-compounds chlorate-mixtures, fuses, detonators, gunpowder, blasting powder, fog-signals, and fireworks;
- (b) petroleum and all inflammable and volatile products, of petroleum, coal, wood, and shale or other bituminous substance; including gasoline, petrol, benzoyl and spirits of turpentine, and all products and mixtures containing them;
- (c) compressed and liquefied gases including ammonia solution;

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- (d) corrosive acids and corrosive chemicals of all sorts; including acetic, hydrochloric, hydrofluoric, nitric and sulphuric acids; caustic potash and caustic soda, bromine, bleaching powder and bleaching liquids, chloride of sulphur, perchloride and nitrate of iron, chloride of tin (bloomer), and all similar products;
- (e) alcohol and similar liquids and their products including methylated spirits, wood naphtha, ethers, and all preparations containing them;
- (f) lucifer matches, phosphorus, sulphur, and all chlorates and nitrates;
- (g) all oily substances such as oiled canvas, oiled packing paper, and oiled felt, rags and waste.

Failure to label
package an
offence.

3. Every person who ships any package containing any of the above articles or things for storage in any bond, warehouse, or stelling, pending carriage or ships for carriage by any Government steamer, unless such package is distinctly marked to that effect and is specially placed in charge of the captain, clerk-in-charge or other duly authorised person, shall be guilty of an offence against these By-laws.

Penalty for
offence.

4. Every person who is guilty of an offence against these By-laws shall be liable to a fine of seventy-five dollars.

[Subsidiary]

Trading on Government Steamers By-Laws

By-Laws
27/6/1922.

TRADING ON GOVERNMENT STEAMERS BY-LAWS

made under section 3

Citation.

1. These By-laws may be cited as the Trading on Government Steamers By-laws.

Penalty for
selling wares
on Government
steamer.

2. Every person who, without the consent of the Government sells, or offers or exposes for sale, any produce, goods, wares or merchandise, or who carries on or attempts to carry on the business of catering, on any government steamer or on any stelling provided by the Government for the use of any government steamer, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of seventy-five dollars and, if not known may be arrested without warrant by any police officer or constable seeing the offence committed or on a charge made by the General Manager of the Transport and Harbours Department or any person authorised by him.

(Rules for the regulation of traffic by and in connection with the government railway and the Government steamer services will be found under c. 49:04 (Supra).)