The Punjab Livestock and Birds Diseases Act, 1948

Act 47 of 1948

Keyword(s):
Livestock, Bird, An Effective Livestock or Bird, Scheduled Disease
THE PUNJAB LIVESTOCK AND BIRDS DISEASES ACT, 1948

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APPENDIX I

Schedule of diseases referred to in section 4 of the Livestock and Birds Diseases Act, 1948.
1948 : East Pb. Act 47.] LIVESTOCK AND BIRDS
DISEASES

THE PUNJAB LIVESTOCK AND BIRDS
DISEASES ACT, 1948.

EAST PUNJAB ACT NO. 47 OF 1948

[Received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on
the 15th November, 1948, and was first published in the
East Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary) of
November 20, 1948.]

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An Act to provide for the prevention and control of 4[diseases affecting livestock and birds].

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the prevention and control of 4[diseases affecting livestock and birds],
it is hereby enacted as follows:

CHAPTER I—PRELIMINARY

1. 5[(1) This Act may be called the Punjab Livestock and Birds Diseases Act, 1948.]

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2 For statement of Objects and Reasons, see Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), 1961, page 173.


4 Substituted for the word “contagious diseases affecting animals” by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, section 2.

5 Sub-section (1) substituted by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, section 3.
(2) It extends to the whole of the [State] of [Punjab].

(3) This section shall come into force at once and the [State] Government may by notification bring the rest of the Act, or any part of it, into force in the [State] or in any area in the [State] on such date and for such period as may be specified in the notification.

2. Notwithstanding anything contained in section 1, the [State] Government may by notification exempt any area from any or all of the provisions of this Act, or direct that any provision of this Act shall apply to any area with such modifications as may be specified.

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

4[(a) ‘livestock’ means all domesticated animals maintained on farms or by individuals including horses, donkeys, mules, elephants, cattle, buffaloes, goats, sheep, dogs, cats or such other animals as may from time to time be specified by the State Government by notification;

(aa) ‘bird’ means a domesticated fowl, goose or chick, and includes such other bird as may from time to time be specified by the State Government by notification;]

(b) ‘an infective [livestock or birds]’ is one which is affected with a scheduled disease or has recently been in contact with or in close proximity to [livestock or bird] so affected;

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1Substituted for the word “Province” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

2Substituted for the words “East Punjab” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

3Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

4Substituted for clause (a) by Punjab Act 23 of 1961, section 5.

(c) 'prescribed' means prescribed by regulations or rules made under this Act;

(d) 'scheduled disease' means any disease for the time being included in the schedule in Appendix I.

4. The diseases specified in the Schedule in Appendix I shall in the first instance be scheduled diseases for the purpose of this Act, but the [State] Government may, by notification—

(a) delete any entry from the Schedule, or

(b) include in the Schedule any communicable disease of [livestock or birds] to which it is expedient in their opinion that the provisions of this Act should apply.

5. (1) The [State] Government may either by name or designation appoint any person holding the office of Veterinary Assistant or Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, or any graduate of a recognised veterinary college whom they think fit to be a Veterinary Surgeon for the purposes of this Act, and may define the area within which he shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of a Veterinary Surgeon under this Act.

(2) A Veterinary Surgeon shall have all the powers of an Inspector under this Act, and may exercise such powers concurrently with his powers as Veterinary Surgeon.

6. The [State] Government may either by name or designation appoint any person it thinks fit to be an Inspector for any or all of the purposes of this Act, and may define the area within which he shall exercise the powers and perform the duties incidental to such purposes.

7. Any person appointed under section 5 or section 6 shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

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1Substituted for the word "Provincial" by the Adaption of Laws Order, 1950.

2Substituted for the word "animals" by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, section 4.
8. An Inspector may, subject to any rules made in this behalf by the 1[State] Government, enter and inspect any land or building or other place or any vessel or vehicle, for the purpose of exercising the powers or performing the duties conferred and imposed on him by or under this Act.

CHAPTER II—THE CONTROL OF DISEASE.

9. (1) The 1[State] Government for the purposes of preventing the outbreak or spread of any scheduled disease, may, by notification prohibit or regulate in such manner and to such extent as they may think fit—

(a) the bringing or taking into the 2[State] of 3[Punjab] or any specified place therein of any 4[livestock or birds], alive or dead or of any parts of animals, or of any kind of fodder, bedding or other thing which may, in their opinion, carry infection;

(b) the removal from any specified part of the 2[State] of 3[Punjab] of any such 4[livestock or birds], parts of 4[livestock or birds], or things.

(2) The 1[State] Government may, by notification, specify the season or seasons during which and the route or routes by which 4[livestock or birds] may be imported into the 2[State] and no person shall import 4[livestock or birds] into the 2[State] otherwise than during the season and by the route so appointed.

(3) The 1[State] Government may establish quarantine stations for the inspection and detention of such 4[livestock or birds] along the route appointed under sub-section (2).

(4) The period of detention of 4[livestock or birds] at a quarantine station for the purpose of inspection, vaccination, if necessary, marking and issuing of a permit for the release of 4[livestock or birds] from the station shall be such as may be prescribed by the 1[State] Government.

1Substituted for the word "Provincial" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
2Substituted by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, for "Province".
3Substituted by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, for "East Punjab".
4Substituted for the word "Animals" by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, section 4.
(5) The ¹[livestock or birds] so detained shall remain under the care of the person incharge who shall be responsible for their feeding and upkeep and for the payment of fee for their vaccination and marking as may be prescribed by the ²[State] Government.

10. The ²[State] Government, for the purpose of preventing the outbreak or spread of any scheduled disease, may, by notification, prohibit or regulate, in such manner and to such extent as it may think fit, the holding of ³[markets, fairs, exhibitions or other concentrations of livestock or birds] in any specific area.

11. The ²[State] Government may by regulations prohibit or limit the sale of or other traffic in infective ¹[livestock or birds], or in the carcasses of ¹[livestock or birds] which at the time of their death were infective or in any parts of such ¹[livestock or birds], or litter, feeding utensils or other things which may carry infection.

12. (1) Every vessel or vehicle used by a common carrier for the transport of ¹[livestock or birds] shall be cleansed and disinfected periodically in such manner as the ²[State] Government may by regulations prescribe. Power to control the holding of markets, fairs, etc.

(2) The ²[State] Government may appoint places, where an Inspector may detain and inspect any such vessel or vehicle and, if it is not in a sanitary condition, the Inspector may require it to be cleansed and disinfected in the manner prescribed within such time as he may appoint.

(3) If such vessel or vehicle is not so cleansed and disinfected within the appointed time the Inspector may cause it to be cleansed and disinfected at the expense of its owner.

(4) This section shall not apply to the rolling stock of any railway or any aircraft.

²Substituted for the word "Animals" by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, section 4.
³Substituted for the word "Provincial" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950
⁴Substituted for the words “animal markets, animal fairs, animal exhibitions or other concentrations of animals” by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, section 6.
DUTY OF CERTAIN PERSONS TO REPORT SCHEDULED DISEASE.

13. Every owner or person in charge or every person bringing into the [State] of [Punjab] and every veterinary practitioner who has been called to treat, [livestock or bird] which he has reason to believe to be infective shall forthwith report the fact to the Inspector exercising powers in the area.

POWER OF VETERINARY SURGEON TO HOLD POST-MORTEM.

14. Subject to such rules as may be made in this behalf by the [State] Government, the Veterinary Surgeon may make or cause to be made a post-mortem examination of any [livestock or bird] which at the time of its death was infective, or is suspected to have been then infective and for this purpose he may cause the carcass of any such animal to be exhumed.

POWER TO ISOLATE INFECTIVE [LIVESTOCK OR BIRDS].

15. (1) Where an Inspector has reason to believe that any [livestock or bird] is infective he may, by order in writing, direct the owner or person in charge of such [livestock or bird] to keep it where it is for the time being or to remove it or allow it to be removed to such place of isolation or segregation and within such period as may be specified in the order:

Provided that where there is no person in charge of the [livestock or bird], and the owner is unknown or the order cannot be communicated to him without undue delay or the person in charge of the [livestock or bird] refuses to do as ordered above the Inspector may seize the [livestock or bird] and remove it to a place of isolation or segregation.

(2) The Inspector shall forthwith report every order of seizure under this section to the Veterinary Surgeon.

EXAMINATION BY THE VETERINARY SURGEON.

16. On receipt of a report under sub-section (2) of section 15 the Veterinary Surgeon shall examine the [livestock or bird] as soon as possible and may also examine all [livestock or birds] which it has been in

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1Substituted for the word "Province" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

2Substituted for the words "East Punjab" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

3Substituted for the words "animal" or "an animal" and "animals" by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 4.

4Substituted by Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, for "Provincial".
contact with or in close proximity to, and for this purpose may submit any [livestock or bird] to any test which the Government may by regulations prescribe in this behalf.

17. (1) If, after such examination the Veterinary Surgeon is of opinion that any [livestock or bird] is not infective, the Inspector shall forthwith return it to the person who in his opinion is entitled to possession of it:

Provided that where such person cannot without undue inconvenience be found, the Inspector shall send the [livestock or bird] to the nearest cattle-pound, or deal with it in such other manner as the Government may by rules prescribe in this behalf.

(2) If after such examination, the Veterinary Surgeon certifies in writing that any [livestock or bird] is affected with a scheduled disease, deal with it in such other manner as the Government may by rules prescribe in this behalf.

(3) If, after such examination, the Veterinary Surgeon certifies that the [livestock or bird] is infective though not diseased, the animal shall be dealt with in such manner as the Government may, by rule, prescribe in this behalf.

18. Compensation may be paid to the owner of [livestock or bird] if destroyed under section 17, and such compensation shall be determined in accordance with rules to be made in this behalf by the Government:

Provided that—

(i) no compensation shall be paid to any person convicted of any offence punishable under this Act, committed in respect of such [livestock or bird];

(ii) no compensation shall be paid in respect of any [livestock or bird] which, when it was brought into the [State] of [Punjab], was affected with the disease on account of which it was destroyed.

1Substituted for the words “animal” or “an animal” and “animals” by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 4.
2Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
3Substituted for the word “local” by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 7.
4Substituted for the word “Province” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
5Substituted for the words “East Punjab” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
19. (1) Subject to rules to be made in this behalf by the [State] Government, the Veterinary Surgeon may, by order in writing, require the owner, occupier or person in charge of any building, yard, vessel or vehicle in which there has been an infective [*livestock or bird] to have such building, yard, vessel or vehicle disinfected, and the internal fittings thereof and other things found therein or near thereto be disinfected or destroyed in such manner and to such extent as may be specified in the order.

(2) Subject as aforesaid, if such owner, occupier or person fails to comply with the requirements of such order within a reasonable time, the Inspector may cause such building, yard, vessel or vehicle to be disinfected, and the internal fittings and other things to be disinfected or destroyed at the expense of the owner.

20. (1) If the Inspector has reason to believe that there is an infective [*livestock or bird] in any field, yard or building in which [*livestock or birds] are kept, temporarily or otherwise, he shall at once by order in writing, declare the place to be an infected place and shall deliver a copy of the order to the owner, occupier or person in charge of the place and report his action to the Veterinary Surgeon.

(2) This section shall not apply to any place owned by or under the control or management of any local authority or railway administration or to any airfield where [*livestock or birds] are temporarily kept for safe, exhibition or in transit.

21. (1) The Veterinary Surgeon shall, as soon as possible, examine the infected place and the [*livestock or birds] kept therein, and may cancel or confirm the order of the Inspector.

(2) If he confirms the order he may cause notice to be served on the owners, occupiers or persons in charge of all places in which [*livestock or birds] are kept temporarily or otherwise, within a radius not exceeding one mile from the infected place, declaring such places to be infected places.

*Substituted for the word “Provincial” by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
*Substituted for the words “animal” and “animals” by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 4.
in charge of such livestock or bird or thing to return it to such area or place, and if the owner or person in charge fails to do so within a reasonable time, may cause it to be returned at the expense of the owner without further delay:

Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the powers of an Inspector under section 15 to deal with infective livestock or birds.

26. Where by any notice, requisition, or order under this Act or under any notification or rule issued thereunder any person is required to take any measures or to do anything in respect of any property owned or occupied by him or in his charge, a reasonable time shall be specified in such notice, requisition or order within which such measures shall be taken or such thing shall be done, as the case may be.

27. Where any action may be taken under this Chapter in respect of any property at the expense of the owner thereof, the officer taking such action may frame a certificate stating the amount of the expense incurred and the person from whom such amount is recoverable, and any Magistrate to whom such certificate is presented may, after such inquiry as he may think fit, recover such amount as if it were a fine imposed by him on such person.

CHAPTER III—PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE

28. Whoever—

(a) removes from any part of the State of Punjab any livestock or bird, alive or dead, or any part of livestock or bird, or any fodder, bedding or other thing in contravention of a notification issued under section 9, or imports livestock or bird in contravention of sub-section (2) of that section;

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1Substituted for the words "animal" or "an animal" and "animals" by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 4.

2Substituted for the word "Province" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.

3Substituted for the words "East Punjab" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
(b) holds or promotes or takes part in any market, fair, exhibition or other concentration of livestock or birds in contravention of a notification issued under section 10;

(c) sells or otherwise traffics in, or attempts to sell or traffic in, an infective livestock or bird, or in anything mentioned in section 11 which may carry infection, or the carcass of livestock or bird which at the time of its death was infective in contravention of section 11;

(d) being a common carrier fails to cleanse or disinfect any vessel or vehicle used for the transport of livestock or birds in such manner as may be required under sub-section (1) of section 12 or as may be required by the Inspector under sub-section (2) of that section;

(e) fails in contravention of section 13, to report that livestock or bird is infective;

(f) fails to comply with an order made by an Inspector under sub-section (1) of section 15;

(g) fails to comply with an order made by the Veterinary Surgeon under sub-section (1) of section 19;

(h) removes any livestock or bird or thing from any infected place in contravention of section 24; shall be punishable with fine which may extend, in the case of a first conviction, to one hundred rupees, and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to five hundred rupees.

29. Whoever keeps or grazes in or on any forest, open field, roadside, or other unenclosed land to which other persons have a right of access for their livestock or birds any livestock or birds which he knows to be infective shall be punishable with fine which may extend in the case of a first conviction to one hundred rupees or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to five hundred rupees.

1Substituted for the words "Animal" or "an animal" and "animals" by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 4.
30. Whoever brings or attempts to bring into any market, fair, exhibition or other concentration of livestock or birds any livestock or bird which he knows to be infective shall be punishable with fine which may extend in the case of a first conviction to one hundred rupees or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to five hundred rupees.

31. Whoever places, or causes or permits to be placed, in any river, canal, or other water, the carcass or part of the carcass of any livestock or bird which at the time of its death was infective or which has been destroyed as being infective or suspected of being infective shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend in the case of a first conviction to one hundred rupees or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to five hundred rupees, or with both imprisonment and fine.

32. Whoever, without lawful authority, disinters or causes to be disinterred the carcass or part of the carcass of any livestock or bird which at the time of its death was infective or which has been destroyed as being infective or suspected of being infective shall be punishable with fine which may extend in the case of a first conviction to one hundred rupees or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to five hundred rupees.

33. (1) Whoever being an Inspector maliciously and vexatiously enters or inspects any land or building or other place or any vessel or vehicle or seizes or detains any livestock or bird shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

(2) No prosecution under this section shall be instituted after the expiry of one month from the date on which the offence is alleged to have been committed.

34.

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1 Substituted for the words "animal" or "animals" by Punjab Act, 33 of 1961, Section 4.

2 Section 34 omitted by Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 8.
35. No prosecution under this Act, except under section 33 shall be instituted except by or under the authority of the Veterinary Surgeon \(^1\) [or the Inspector].

36. No magistrate shall try any offence under this Act unless he is a \(^2\) [Judicial Magistrate of the First class or a Judicial Magistrate of the second class specially empowered in this behalf by the High Court.]

37. Save as provided for in section 18 no person shall be entitled to any compensation in respect of the destruction of any \(^3\) [livestock or bird] and thing or in respect of any other loss, injury, detriment or inconvenience caused to him by reason of anything done under this Act in good faith.

\(^4\) [37.A. The State Government may, by notification, delegate all or any of its powers under this Act to any of its officers.

38. (1) The \(^5\) [State] Government may make \(^6\) rules consistent with this Act for all or any of the following purposes, namely:

(a) to define the powers of entry and inspection of an Inspector under section 8;

(b) to prohibit or regulate the holding of markets, fairs, exhibitions or other concentrations of \(^7\) [livestock or birds] under section 10;

(c) to appoint places for the disinfection of vessels or vehicles under sub-section (2) of section 12, and for the isolation or segregation of \(^8\) [livestock or birds] under section 15;

(d) to regulate post-mortem examination of \(^8\) [livestock or birds] under section 14, and the disposal of \(^8\) [livestock or birds] under sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) of section 17;

(e) to provide for the determination of the compensation payable under section 18;

(f) to regulate the exercise of the powers of the Veterinary Surgeon and Inspector under Section 19;
(g) to prescribe the authority referred to in sub-section (2) of section 21 and sub-section (2) of section 22;

(h) to prescribe the form and contents of the licences to be granted by an Inspector under section 24 and the circumstances under which they may be granted;

(i) to prescribe scales of charges to be followed in certificates under section 27 for expenses incurred on behalf of an owner;

(j) to regulate the isolation, detention, treatment (including sterilization and inoculation), and disposal of [livestock or birds] which are infective or suspected of being infective, and the disposal of carcasses and parts of carcasses;

(k) to regulate the duties and powers of inspectors and prescribe their qualifications;

(l) to prescribe the manner in which any report or notice under the Act shall be made or given; or

(m) to prohibit or regulate the entry into the [State of Punjab] or any specified part or place thereof, and the movement from one place to another, in the [State of Punjab] of [livestock or birds] alive or dead, or parts of [livestock or birds] or fodder, bedding or other thing;

(n) to prohibit or limit sale or traffic in infective [livestock or birds] or carcasses of infective [livestock or birds];

(o) to regulate the disinfection of vessels or vehicles used by common carriers, the cleansing and disinfection of buildings, yards and

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*Substituted for the word "Animals" by Punjab Act 39 of 1961, Section 4.
*Substituted for the word "Province" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
*Substituted for the words "East Punjab" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
other places, used for livestock or birds] and the destruction of infected matter or things found therein or near thereto; 

(p) to prescribe the tests to be applied to livestock or birds] suspected of being infective; 

(q) to prescribe the manner in which livestock or birds] shall be destroyed, and the manner in which carcasses or parts of carcasses, fodder, bedding or other things seized under the Act shall be disposed of; and 

(r) to prescribe the period of detention and the amount of fee for vaccination and marking at the inter—State] quarantine stations.

(2) In making a rule under this section the State] Government may direct that a breach of it shall be punishable with fine which may extend in the case of a first conviction to one hundred rupees or in case of a second or subsequent conviction to five hundred rupees.

39. (1) The power to make regulations and rules conferred by this Act is given subject to the condition of the regulations or rules being made after previous publication.

(2) All regulations and rules made by the State] Government under this Act shall be published in the official Gazette.

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

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1Substituted for the word "Animals" by the Punjab Act 33 of 1961, Section 4. 
2Substituted for the word "Provincial" by the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950.
**APPENDIX I.**

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<td>1. Rinderpest or Cattle Plague</td>
<td>1. Mata, Wah, Sitla, Mok, Zehmat</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Anthrax</td>
<td>5. Sat, Goli.</td>
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<td>11. Rabies</td>
<td>11. Halkapan, Bawlapan, Pagalpan</td>
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