

- (e) prescribe ports or places through which hides or skins may be exported;
- (f) provide for the registration and inspection of premises where hides or skins are treated or stored;
- (g) require such records and books to be kept and such returns to be rendered as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act;
- (h) provide for and regulate the sale of hides by auction or otherwise;
- (i) prescribe by whom rules for the manner in which hides or skins shall be baled or otherwise packed for export may be made;
- (j) regulate, control or prohibit the movement of hides or skins from one place to another within the Sudan.

THE COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ACT, 1954

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Title.
2. Repeal.
3. Powers of appointment of Commissions.
4. Contents of order of appointment.
5. Vacancies in a Commission.
6. Oath of office by members of the Commission.
7. Duties of Commission.
8. Division of opinion of Commissioners.
9. Powers with which a Commission may be invested.
10. Duty of witnesses summoned.
11. Offences.
12. Statements in an inquiry inadmissible before a Court of Law.

THE COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ACT, 1954

[15. 6. 1954]

An Act to provide for the setting up of Commissions of Inquiry with special powers to inquire into matters of public interest.

1. This Act may be cited as the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1954.
2. The Investigation of Accidents Ordinance, 1952 (1952 Ordinance No. 17) is repealed.
3. (1) The President of the Republic may issue an order appointing one or more Commissions for the purpose of inquiring into any occurrence or matters in which an inquiry would in his opinion, be for the public welfare; and the Commission so appointed may inquire in any Ministry or any other body.¹
 (2) Any Minister concerned may, in the same manner and for the same reasons provided for in sub-section (1),

1. 1969 Act No. 26; 1969 Act No. 44; 1973 Act No. 11.

appoint a Commission for the purpose of inquiring into what falls within his jurisdiction.

- Contents of order of appointment.
4. (1) Every order made under section 3 shall specify—
- (a) the name or names of the member or members of the Commission;
 - (b) in the case of more than one member, which member shall be Chairman;
 - (c) the terms of reference of the Commission;
 - (d) the powers with which the Commission is invested in accordance with the provisions of this Act;
 - (e) whether or not the inquiry shall be held in public, with the reservation nevertheless to the Commission to exclude any person or persons if it deems fit for the due conduct of the inquiry, for the preservation of order or for any other reason; and
 - (f) matters generally for the better giving effect to the purpose of the inquiry.

(2) Every order made under this section and any alterations thereof shall be published in the Gazette.

Vacancies in a Commission.

5. In the event of the death or resignation of any of the members or of his being otherwise unable to act, the President of the Republic or the Minister concerned may fill any vacancy so caused by an order of appointment made in accordance with section 3.2

Oath of office by members of the Commission.

6. (1) Each member of the Commission appointed under this Act shall take an oath according to his religion or belief that he will faithfully, fully, impartially, and to the best of his ability discharge the trust, and perform the duties devolving upon him by virtue of such Commission.

(2) Such oath shall be taken by the member before the President of the Republic or the Minister concerned, or before such person as the President of the Republic or the Minister concerned may appoint.

Duties of Commission.

7. It shall be the duty of the members of the Commission, after taking such oath to make a full, faithful and impartial

2. 1969 Act No. 26; 1969 Act No. 44; 1973 Act No. 11.

3. 1969 Act No. 26; 1969 Act No. 44; 1973 Act No. 11; 1974 Act No. 40.

inquiry into the matter specified for such Commission, and to conduct such inquiry in accordance with the directions in the Commission; and in due course, to report to the President of the Republic or the Minister concerned the result of such inquiry.⁴

8. If the members of the Commission shall, in any case, be equally divided on any question that arises during the proceedings of the Commission, the Chairman of the Commission shall have a second or casting vote.

9. A Commission appointed under the provisions of this Act shall have such of the following powers as may be conferred upon it by the order of appointment:—

(a) to issue summons requiring the attendance before it of any person whom it reasonably believes can give any evidence which may assist the inquiry and to examine any such person on oath according to his religion or belief;⁵

(b) to require and enforce the production of all books, papers and documents which it considers necessary for the purpose of the inquiry;

(c) to issue a warrant of arrest to compel the attendance of any person who, after having been summoned to attend fails to do so and does not excuse such failure to the satisfaction of the Commission;

(d) to award any person who has attended any meeting of the Commission such sum or sums as in the opinion of the Commission may have been reasonably incurred by such person by reason of such attendance;

(e) representation by Advocates.

10. (1) All persons summoned to attend and give evidence or to produce books, papers or documents shall be bound to attend and produce such books, papers or documents.

(2) Every witness shall answer fully and truly to the best of his knowledge and belief all questions put to him by the Commission.

4. 1969 Act No. 26; 1969 Act No. 44; 1973 Act No. 11; 1974 Act No. 40.

5. 1974 Act No. 40.

Provided that no person giving evidence before the Commission shall be compelled to incriminate himself, and every such person shall, in respect of any evidence given by him before the Commission, be entitled to all the privileges to which a witness giving evidence before any Court of Law in the Sudan is entitled in respect of evidence given by him before such Court.

11. (1) Every person refusing or omitting without sufficient cause to attend at the time and place mentioned in the summons served on him, and every person refusing without sufficient cause to answer or to answer fully and truly, to the best of his knowledge and belief all questions put to him by the Commission and every person refusing or omitting without sufficient cause to produce any books, papers or documents in his possession or under his control, and mentioned or referred to in the summons served on him, and every person who shall at any sitting of the Commission wilfully insult any Commissioner, or wilfully interrupt the proceedings of the Commission shall be liable to be punished with a fine not exceeding LS. 50 or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with both.

(2) Offences under sub-section (1) may be tried by a Magistrate of the Second Class.

(3) No proceedings shall be initiated for any offence under this Act without the previous sanction of the Attorney-General.

12. No statement made in the course of any inquiry under this Act shall be admissible as evidence in any Court of law, whether civil or criminal.

Statements in an inquiry inadmissible before a Court of Law.

THE RATES ACT, 1954

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Title.
 2. Repeal.
 3. Interpretation.
 4. Power to add to the Schedule.
 5. Power to levy general and latrine rates.
 6. Power to levy special rates.
 7. Consent necessary before levying or altering rates.
 8. Methods of expressing rates.
 9. Exemptions from levy of rates.
 10. Constitution of Assessment Commissions.
 11. Assessment Commissions to assess annual rental value.
 12. Publication of Assessment Lists.
 13. Appeals.
 14. Revision of individual assessments.
 15. Revision of Assessment Lists.
 16. Payment of rates.
 17. Exemptions from payment of rates.
 18. Power to order payment of rates by occupier.
 19. Effect of agreement that occupier will pay rates.
 20. Implied term in existing contracts.
 21. Duty to notify change of ownership.
 22. Enforcement of payment of rates.
 23. Rates cases.
 24. Special Commissioners to hear rates cases.
 25. Sittings of Rates Courts.
 26. Notice of intention to refer claim to a Rates Court.
 27. Documents to be supplied to a Rates Court.
 28. Procedure when claim is disputed.
 29. Procedure in default of appearance of defence.
 30. Minister's power of delegation.
 31. Penalties.
 32. Power to make regulations.
 33. *Repealed.*
- The Schedule.