

**LAND DEVELOPMENT****AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE SYSTEMATIC DEVELOPMENT AND ALIENATION OF CROWN LAND IN CEYLON.**

Ordinance Nos,

19 of 1935

3 of 1946

Act Nos,

49 of 1953

22 of 1955

**[15<sup>th</sup> October , 1935 ]**

Short title.

**1.** This Ordinance may be cited as the Land Development Ordinance.

Interpretation.

**2.** In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires-

" alienation" with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions means the alienation of Crown land under this Ordinance ;

" Ceylonese " means a person of either sex domiciled in Ceylon and possessing a Ceylon domicile of origin ;

" condition of ownership" means a condition contained in a grant at the time it is issued ;

" court" means any Court of Justice constituted under the Courts Ordinance, and includes a Rural Court ;

" Crown land " means all land to which the Crown is lawfully entitled together with all rights, interests and privileges attached or appertaining thereto ;

" disposition" with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions means any transaction of whatever nature affecting land or the title thereto and includes any conveyance, devise, donation, exchange, lease, mortgage or transfer of land;

" divisional revenue officer " has the same meaning as in the Village Communities Ordinance ;

" Government Agent" includes an Assistant Government Agent;

" grant " means a grant of land from the Crown under this Ordinance ;

" holding " means land alienated by grant under this Ordinance, and includes any part thereof or interest therein ;

" kachcheri" means the office of a Government Agent;

" land " includes-

(a) the bed of any waterway or of any collection of water, whether natural or artificial,

(b) things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth, and

(c) any title to land or any interest in the crops growing or to be grown thereon ;

"Land Commissioner" means the officer appointed under section 3 of this Ordinance, and includes any officer of his department authorized by him in writing in respect of any particular matter or provision of this Ordinance ;

" Land Kachcheri" means a meeting held in the prescribed manner for the purpose of alienating Crown land ;

" land officer" means an officer appointed under section 6 for the purposes of this Ordinance and the expression " the land officer " means the officer dealing with the particular land which is referred to in the context in which such expression is used ;

" local authority " includes a Municipality, an Urban Council established under the Urban Councils Ordinance, a Town Council, and a Village Committee ;

" mapping-out" with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions means the reservation of Crown land for one or more of the purposes specified in section 8 or for any purpose prescribed under that section ;

" middle-class Ceylonese" does not include a Ceylonese who is not qualified to be deemed a " middle-class Ceylonese" under the provisions of section 171;

" minimum fraction " means the smallest fraction of a holding which can lawfully be held in undivided ownership ;

" owner " means the owner of a holding whose title thereto is derived from or under a grant issued under this Ordinance;

" peace officer " means a police officer and includes any headman appointed by the Government Agent in writing to perform police duties ;

" permit" means a permit for the occupation of Crown land issued under Chapter IV ;

" permit-holder " means any person to whom a permit has been issued ;

" prescribed" means prescribed by this Ordinance or by the regulations made thereunder ;

" protected holding" means a holding alienated by grant in which is inserted a condition prohibiting the disposition of the holding except with the prior permission in writing of the Government Agent;