

**TRUCK ACT**

**CHAPTER 88:07**

**Act**

**34 of 1918**

Amended by

21 of 1940

45 of 1979

23 of 1982

**Current Authorised Pages**

<i>Pages (inclusive)</i>	<i>Authorised by L.R.O.</i>
1-6	..

**Note on Subsidiary Legislation**

The following Orders have been omitted:

- (1) Trinidad Petroleum Development Company Limited Order (G.2.6.38).
- (2) United British Oilfields of Trinidad Limited Order (G.22.12.38).
- (3) Trinidad Leaseholds Limited Order (G.22.10.42).
- (4) Apex (Trinidad) Oilfields Limited Order (GN197/1949).

**Note on Adaptation**

Under paragraph 6 of the Second Schedule to the Law Revision Act (Ch. 3:03) the Commission amended certain references to public officers in this Chapter. The Minister's approval of the amendments was signified by LN 52/1980, but no marginal reference is made to this Notice where any such amendment is made in the text.

**CHAPTER 88:07**

**TRUCK ACT**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

**SECTION**

1. Short title.
  2. Interpretation.
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  4. Agreements as to place or manner of spending wages, illegal.
  5. Wages to be paid entirely in money.
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  8. Worker's right to recover.
  9. Deductions from wages.
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CHAPTER 88:07

TRUCK ACT

1950 Ed.  
Ch. 22 No. 12.  
34 of 1918.

**An Act to prohibit the payment of wages otherwise than in money.**

Commencement.

[1ST JANUARY 1920]

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Truck Act.

Interpretation.  
[45 of 1979]  
23 of 1982].

2. In this Act—

“employer” includes any master, manager, foreman, clerk, or other person engaged in the hiring, employment, or superintendence of the service, work, or labour of any worker within the meaning of this Act;

“Minister” means the Minister to whom responsibility for the administration of labour is assigned;

“money” means notes and coins issued by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and includes valid cheques;

“valid cheque” means a cheque which is capable of being honoured by the bank upon which it is drawn at the time of its presentation for payment;

“worker” means any person employed for wages in work of any kind, and whether under or above the age of eighteen years, but does not include domestic servants.

Agreements to pay wages otherwise than in money, illegal.  
[23 of 1982].

3. In every agreement or contract for the hiring of any worker or for the performance by any such worker of any work within Trinidad and Tobago, except as otherwise provided in this Act, the wages of such worker shall be made payable in money, and not otherwise, and if in any such agreement or contract the whole or any part of such wages shall be made payable in any other manner, the agreement or contract shall be illegal, null, and void.

Agreements as to place or manner of spending wages, illegal.  
[23 of 1982].

4. No employer shall, directly or indirectly, by himself or his agent, impose as a condition, expressed or implied, in any agreement or contract for the employment of any worker, any terms

as to the place or the manner in which, or the person with whom, any wages or portion of wages paid to the worker are or is to be expended, and every agreement or contract between an employer and a worker wherein any such terms are expressed or implied shall be illegal, null, and void.

**5.** Except where otherwise permitted by this Act, the entire amount of the wages earned by or payable to any worker in respect of any work done by him shall be actually paid to him in money, and every payment of or on account of any such wages made in any other form shall be illegal, null, and void.

Wages to be paid entirely in money. [23 of 1982].

**6.** Nothing contained in this Act shall render illegal an agreement or contract with a worker for giving to him food, a dwelling-place, or other allowances or privileges in addition to money wages as a remuneration for his services.

Allowances other than wages. [23 of 1982].

**7.** Nothing contained in this Act shall be held to apply to any body of persons working on an agreement of co-operation.

Persons working in co-operation.

**8.** Every worker shall be entitled to recover in an action so much of his wages, exclusive of sums lawfully deducted in accordance with this Act, as shall not have been paid to him in money.

Worker's right to recover. [23 of 1982].

**9.** Nothing contained in this Act shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent any employer of any worker, or agent of such employer, from making any stoppage or deduction from the wages of such worker for or in respect of any tools and implements to be used by such worker in his occupation as such, or for land rent then due and payable.

Deductions from wages. [23 of 1982].

**10.** Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed so as to render illegal deductions from wages of fines incurred by workers under any contract or Regulations governing their employment or in respect of negligent work or damage to materials.

Fines for negligence or damage. [23 of 1982].

Interest,  
discount, etc.,  
forbidden.  
[23 of 1982].

**11.** Whenever any advance of money or of any of the articles specified in section 9 is made by an employer to a worker, the employer shall not make any deduction in respect of such advance on account of poundage, discount, interest, commission, or any similar charge.

Penalties.  
[23 of 1982].

**12.** Where any employer or his agent contravenes any of the foregoing provisions of this Act, such employer or agent, as the case may be, is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars for the first offence, to a fine of five thousand dollars for the second offence, and in the case of a third offence, such employer or agent is liable on conviction on indictment, to a fine of twenty thousand dollars and to twelve months imprisonment.

Exemption  
from provisions  
of Act for  
protection of  
workers.  
[23 of 1982].

**13.** (1) The Minister, if satisfied that all or any of the provisions of this Act are unnecessary for the protection of the worker employed in any trade or business, or in any branch or department of any trade or business, either generally or within any specified area, or of the worker employed by any specified employer in any specified trade or business, or in any branch or department of any such trade or business, either generally or within any specified area, may by Order grant an exemption from those provisions in respect of the worker engaged in any such specified trade, business, branch or department, either generally or within any such specified area, as the case may be, or of the worker employed by such specified employer in such specified trade, business, branch or department, either generally or within any such specified area, as the case may be. Such Order may be made subject to such terms and conditions, to be specified therein as the Minister may think fit to impose.

(2) The Minister may at any time amend or revoke any such Order.

(3) An Order made under this section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament.