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STATUTES OF THE IMPERIAL SERVICE ORDER.

EDWARD, R. and I.

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, to all to whom these presents shall come. Greeting:

Whereas, we are desirous of recognising more fully than has hitherto been possible the faithful and meritorious services rendered to Us by Members of the Civil Services of the various parts of Our Empire, We do by these presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, institute and create a new Civil Order of Distinction,—to be designated as hereinafter described,—and We are graciously pleased to make, ordain, and establish the following rules and ordinances for the Government of the same:—

Firstly.—It is ordained that this Order shall henceforth be styled and designated “The Imperial Service Order.”

Secondly.—It is ordained that the Order shall consist of the Sovereign, the Prince of Wales, and such Companions as We, Our Heirs and Successors, shall appoint.

Thirdly.—It is ordained that We, Our Heirs and Successors, Kings and Queens Regnant of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperors and Empresses of India, are and for ever shall be Sovereigns of this Order.

Fourthly.—It is ordained that only the members of the administrative or clerical branches of Our Civil Services shall be eligible for the distinction of Companions of this Order.

Fifthly.—It is ordained that the number of Companions of the Order shall not exceed four hundred and twenty-five, of whom two hundred and fifty shall belong to Our Home Civil Service, and one hundred and seventy-five to the Civil Services of Our Colonies and Protectorates.

Sixthly.—It is ordained that no person shall be eligible to be a Companion of the Order whose name has not been laid before us, Our Heirs and Successors, by one of Our or Their Principal Secretaries of State, and who has not at the time of his nomination rendered at least twenty-five years’ meritorious service in the United Kingdom. Provided that in a Colony or Protectorate which, under the Pension Acts or Regulations applying to that Colony or Protectorate, is recognised as unhealthy, the minimum period of service shall be sixteen years: Provided also that it shall at any time be competent to Us, Our Heirs and Successors, to appoint specially to the Order persons who, not having completed the aforesaid periods of service, have rendered such eminently meritorious service as to qualify them in Our opinion to become recipients of this distinction.

Seventhly.—It is ordained that when We, Our Heirs and Successors, shall be pleased to appoint any person to be a Companion of the Order, such appointment shall be made by Warrant under Our Sign Manual and countersigned by one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.