

CHAPTER 146

AGRICULTURE AND FISHING INDUSTRIES (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) ACT

To authorise the provision of financial assistance to farmers and Fishermen and persons to engage in the agricultural or fishing Industry.

(28th January, 1956)*

Enacted by ACT II of 1956, as amended by Acts: XIII of 1956, VI of 1957; Emergency Ordinance XIV of 1958; Ordinance: VIII of 1960, XXV of 1962; Legal Notices: 4 of 1963 and 46 of 1965.

1. This Act may be cited as the Agricultural and Fishing Industries (Financial Assistance) Act.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires –

“agricultural industry” means the business of growing crops, cultivation of fruit-trees, and of breeding livestock;

“fishing industry” means the business of catching any description of fish or shell-fish by means of fishing boats registered as such in Malta;

“Malta” has the same meaning as is assigned to it by section 124 of the Constitution of Malta;

“person” includes a body of persons.

3. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Minister responsible for the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Fisheries, hereinafter referred to as “the Minister”, may, with the approval of the Minister responsible for finance, make arrangements for the provision of financial assistance for persons engaged in the agricultural or fishing industry and persons desiring to engage therein, including in particular persons who have previously been so engaged.

(2) Assistance may be given under this Act to any such persons as aforesaid:

(a) in regard to the agricultural industry, in connection with the acquisition of livestock, machinery, tools, implements, equipment, fodder, seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides or any other thing which in the opinion of the Minister is useful to the agricultural industry, or in connection with the acquisition or improvement of land or the improvement of animal husbandry;

- (b) in regard to the fishing industry, in connection with the acquisition of boats or equipment for use for the purpose of the said industry, or in connection with the improvement of such boats or equipment;
 - (c) in regard to both the agricultural and the fishing industries, in connection with the repayment of any sum which, before the coming into operation of this Act, may have been borrowed for any of the purposes specified in the two preceding paragraphs of this subsection or in connection with the payment of any sum which, before that date, was due for or in relation with any of those purposes.
- (3) Assistance as aforesaid shall be by way of loan. But, if the Minister is satisfied that the object for which the assistance is sought would effect an appreciable improvement in the industry, he may authorize assistance to be given by way of grant, or partly by way of loan and partly by way of grant, so however that the amount of grant shall not exceed one-half of the price or expense involved.
- (4) Any sums required by the Minister for making grants or loans in accordance with arrangements made under this section shall be paid out of moneys appropriated for the purpose.
4. Any sums received in payment of the interest or in repayment of the principal in respect of any loan made under this Act, and any sums which may be repaid in accordance with the terms of any grant made under this Act, shall be paid into Consolidated Fund.
5. The Minister shall lay on the Table of the House of Representatives, as soon as may be after the close of each financial year, a statement showing the amounts of loans and of grants made under this Act in the course of that year as well as the amounts received in the course of that year as provided in section 4 of this Act.

Short title

Interpretation

Financial assistance for the
Agriculture and fishing industries.

Amended by:

XIII. 1956.2;

XIV. 1958;

VIII. 1960.2;

XXV. 1962.2;

L.N. 4 of 1963.

Payment of principal and interest
Into Consolidated fund. Substituted by:
VIII. 1960.3. Amended by L.N.46 of 1965.

Statement to be laid before House
Of Representatives. Added by:
VIII.1960.4. Substituted by XXV.1962.5.
Amended by: L.N. 46 of 1963.