

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

AGRARIAN SERVICES ACT No. 58 OF 1979

L.D.—13/79.

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Agricultural Development and Research under Section 66 of the Agrarian Services Act, No. 58 of 1979 as amended by Agrarian Services (Amendment) Act, No. : 9 of 1990 and Agrarian Services (Amendment) Act No. 4 of 1991.

Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research,
Gatenbe,
Paradeniya.
01st July 1993.

R. M. DIARMADASA BANDA,
Minister of Agricultural Development
and Research.

Regulations

1. These regulations may be cited as the Agrarian Services (Farmers Organizations) Regulations of 1993.
2. There may be established one or more Farmers' Organizations in any area determined by the " Commissioner " of Agrarian Services (hereinafter referred to as the " Commissioner") under section 56 A of the Act.
3. Every Farmers' Organization (hereinafter referred to as " the Organization ") shall elect a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer and a Committee consisting of at least seven members including the President, Secretary and Treasurer.
4. The Organization shall have the power to do anything necessary for or conducive or incidental to the carrying out of its objects, including the power—
 - (a) to acquire, in any manner whatsoever, and hold, take or give on lease or hire, mortgage, pledge, sell or otherwise dispose of any immovable or movable property;
 - (b) to appoint, employ, exercise disciplinary control over and dismiss its officers, servants and agents; and
 - (c) to enter into and perform all such contracts or agreements as may be necessary for the exercise of its powers and carrying out of its objects.
5. An organization registered under Section 56 B may borrow without prior approval of the Commissioner such sums as may be required for carrying out its objects, subject to the limits set by the rules of such organization.
6. The Committee shall prepare the rules of the organization before the expiry of one month after its election and submit them for the approval of the general membership. Subject to these regulations, such rules shall provide for the following matters :—
 - (i) the name and address of the organization and its area of operation ;
 - (ii) the objectives of the organization which shall include the objectives of Farmers Organization set out in Sub-section (4) of Section 56 A of the Act ;
 - (iii) the powers and duties of the organization ;
 - (iv) the eligibility, rights and duties of members of the Organization and loss of membership ;
 - (v) the powers and duties of office bearers and the committee including the appointment and functions of sub-committees ;
 - (vi) the holding of General Meetings at least once in every four months and the transaction of business at such meetings ;
 - (vii) the raising of funds for the organization ;
 - (viii) use of funds of the organization ;

- (ix) keeping the accounts, preparation of statements of accounts, inspection of accounts, preparation of annual statement of accounts and the reports; and
 - (x) amending the rules of the organization.
7. A member may be expelled or his membership suspended only by a resolution passed at a general meeting.
 8. The programmes of work shall be prepared and submitted by the committee for the approval of the organization at a general meeting.
 9. Where the Organization establishes a credit scheme for the members, the rules of such scheme shall require the prior approval of the Commissioner and shall be passed by not less than two-thirds of the members of the organization present at a general meeting.
 10. The annual accounts, audited by or on behalf of the Commissioner, shall be presented to the general meeting for approval.
 11. The organization shall keep the use of the funds of the organization constantly under review.
 12. The organization in employing any person to perform any of its duties under the Act or its rules shall act in accordance with the general administrative regulations.
 13. The organizations may appoint delegates to represent them and form such federations of organizations as may be established by the Commissioner at the district, provincial or national level with rules approved by the Commissioner.
 14. The rules of a registered organization shall be subject to the approval of the Commissioner who may suggest amendments of such rules.
 15. The Committee may meet as often as may be necessary and shall hold at least one meeting in a month.
 16. The Committee shall be responsible for the proper use of the funds of the organization.
 17. A registered Organization shall not grant a loan to any person if he is not a member of the organization.
 18. Every organization shall maintain proper accounts if its transactions according to recognized accounting principles.
 19. The financial year of every organization shall be from the 1st of January to the 31st of December each year.
 20. The audit of the accounts of every organization shall be performed by the Commissioner or by an officer authorised by him.
 21. The statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet of the organization shall be approved by the Committee signed by the Treasurer and President and submitted for auditing to the Commissioner or to an Officer authorised by him in that behalf.
 22. The audit report shall be accompanied with the Statement of income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet presented at the general meeting.
 23. The Commissioner or any officer authorised by him has the right to inspect the books, documents and assets of the Organization at any time.
 24. The Commissioner or any officer authorised by him may at any time inform the organization of the shortcomings revealed by the audit and give instructions to rectify such shortcomings.
 25. The Commissioner may at any time and in addition to the annual audit order the preparation of the accounts in respect of any period or hold an audit inspection.