

Other Infrastructure

**SEC.46. *Agriculture and Fisheries Infrastructure Support Services.*** - The Department of Public works and Highway, the Department of Transportation and Communications, the Department of Trade and Industry and the LGUs shall coordinate with the Department to address the infrastructure requirements in accordance with this Act: Provided, That, the Department and the LGUs shall also strengthen its agricultural and engineering group to provide the necessary technical and engineering support in carrying out the smooth and expeditious implementation of agricultural infrastructure projects.

**SEC. 47. *Criteria of Prioritization.*** - The prioritization of Government resources for rural infrastructure shall be based on the following criteria.

- a) Agro-industrial potential of the area;
- b) Socio-economic contributions of the investments in the area;
- c) Absence of public investment in the Area; and
- d) Presence of agrarian reform beneficiaries and other small farmer and fisherfolk in the area.

**SEC. 48. *Public Infrastructure Facilities.*** - Public infrastructure investment shall give preference to the kind, type, and model of infrastructure and facilities that are cost-effective and will be useful for the production, conservation, and distribution of most commodities and should benefits the most number or agriculture and fisheries producers and processor.

**SEC. 49. *Private Infrastructure Facilities.*** - For infrastructure facilities primarily benefiting private investors, the State shall facilitate the purchase and use of such facilities and shall keep to the minimum, the bureaucratic requirement for these types of investments. Private investors include cooperatives or corporations of agriculture and fisheries producer and processor.

**SEC. 50. *Public Works Act.*** - The Department of Public Works and Highways shall coordinate with the Department of the purpose of determining the order of priorities for public works funded under the Public Works Act, which directly or indirectly affect agriculture and fisheries.

**SEC. 51. *Fishports, Seaports and Airports.*** - The Department of Transportation and Communications, Philippine Ports Authority and Philippine Fisheries Development Authority shall coordinate with the Department for the purpose of determining priority fishports, seaports and airports and facilitating the installation of bulk-handling and storage facilities, and other post-harvest facilities needed in order to enhance the

marketing of agriculture and fisheries products: Provided, That fishports, seaports and airports are also equipped with quarantine, sanitary and phytosanitary centers.

The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) shall have the mandate to cancel arrastre and cargo handling franchises among operators whom it deems inefficient and/or ineffective owing, but not limited to, a past history of under capitalization, lack of equipment and lack of professional expertise. The DOTC shall recommend to the Philippine Ports Authority and consult with ship-owners and ship-operators in assessing the cargo-handling capabilities of cargo operators prior to extending new franchises or awards.

**SEC. 52. *Farm-to-Market Roads.*** - The Department shall coordinate with the LGUs and the resident-farmers and fisherfolk in order to identify priority locations of farm-to-market roads that take into account the number of farmers and fisherfolk and their families who shall benefit therefrom and the amount, kind and importance of agricultural and fisheries products produced in the area.

Construction of farm-to-market roads shall be priority investment of the LGUs which shall provide a counterpart of not less than ten percent (10%) of the project cost subject to their IRA level.

**SEC. 53. *Rural Energy.*** - The Department shall coordinate with the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the National Electrification Administration (NEA) and the National Power Corporation (NAPOCOR) for the identification and installation of appropriate types of energy sources particularly in the use of non-conventional energy sources for the locality in order to enhance agriculture and fisheries development in the area.

**SEC. 54. *Communications Infrastructure.*** - The Department shall coordinate with the DOTC to facilitate the installation of telecommunication facilities in priority areas, in order to enhance agriculture and fisheries development.

**SEC. 55. *Water Supply System.*** - The Department shall coordinate with the DPWH and the LGUs for the identification and installation of water supply system in the locality for agro-industrial uses to enhance agriculture and fisheries development in the area.

**SEC. 56. *Research and Technology Infrastructure.*** - The Department in coordination with other government agencies shall give priority and facilitate the funding of infrastructure necessary for research ventures such as farm laboratories and demonstration farms with state colleges and universities that derive their core funds from the Department.

**SEC. 57. *Post-Harvest Facilities.*** - The Department shall coordinate with the Bureau of Post-Harvest for Research and Extension and the Post-harvest Horticulture, Training and Research Center of the University of the Philippine Los Baños, to identify

appropriate post harvest facilities and technology needed to enhance agriculture and fisheries development in the area.

**SEC. 58. *Public Market and Abattoirs.*** - The Department shall encourage the LGUs to turn over the management and supervision of public markets and abattoirs to market vendors' cooperatives and for that purpose, the appropriation for post-harvest facilities shall include the support for market vendors cooperatives.

The Department shall coordinate with the LGUs in the establishment of standardized market systems and use of sanitary market facilities, and abattoirs, intended to ensure food safety and quality.

All markets shall have a sanitation unit, proper and adequate drainage and sewerage system, ample water supply, public toilets with lavatories, garbage receptacles, ice plants and cold storage, adequate lighting and ventilation and supply of electricity to ensure cleanliness and sanitation. Price monitoring bulletin boards for selected commodities and weighing scales accessible to the public shall also be established.

Proper protection and preservation of agriculture and fisheries products being sold in the market shall also be observed. All foods which require no further cooking, shall be wrapped, covered or enclosed in containers to preserve the freshness and prevent contamination. Selling of product on market floors shall be prohibited.

**SEC. 59. *Agricultural Machinery.*** - The Department shall give priority to the development and promotion of appropriate agricultural machinery and other agricultural mechanization technologies to enhance agricultural mechanization in the countryside.