

MEMORANDUM BY THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

As Honourable Ministers are aware taximeters have been fitted to all taxis plying for hire in Malta. Indeed the only one not so fitted had been suspended from operating as from 1962.

Unfortunately taxi-owners in Gozo had not been as recipient to the introduction of taxi-meters as their counterpart in Malta.

As matters stand the omission to operate the taxi-meter in a taxi car on hire is not illegal.

This state of affairs has brought in its wake some very bad publicity in the local and United Kingdom press. Tourists have been lodging protests against excessive fares charged by unscrupulous taxi-drivers.

It has been thought to be appropriate to amend the Police Code with a view to making it compulsory on taxi-drivers to use the taxi-meters and to charge the fares shown thereon with such additions in accordance with the fares provided for in tariff D of the First Schedule to the Police Code.

Honourable Ministers had already agreed to the principle contained in the draft bill (Memo No. 166 of the 24th June 1963 refers). The Bill was, however, caught up in the Independence doldrums and owing to the extra-pressure of work it was not proceeded with.

The Bill has now been re-drafted and Honourable Ministers are invited to recommend.

4th January, 1966.

OPM/1361/65

NI

A BILL
entitled

AN ACT further to amend the Code of Police Laws, Cap. 13.

ENACTED by the Legislature of Malta:

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as the Code of Police Laws (Amendment) Act, 1966, and shall be read and construed as one with the Code of Police Laws, hereinafter referred to as "the principal law".

Insertion of
Section 64A
in the
principal
law.

2. Immediately after section 64 of the principal law there shall be inserted the following new section:-

"Fare leviable for hire of taxi cars.

64A. Notwithstanding anything contained in the last preceding section, no fare shall be leviable for the hire of any vehicle licensed as a taxi-car other than the basic fare shown on the taxi-meter, and such additions as are appropriate, in accordance with the fares provided for in tariff D of the First Schedule to this Code."

Objects and Reasons

The object of this Bill is to make illegal the charging of fares in respect of taxi-cars other than in accordance with the tariff of fares and it makes illegal the omission to operate the taximeter in a taxi-car on hire.

MEMORANDUM BY THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

As Honourable Ministers are aware taximeters have been fitted to all taxis plying for hire in Malta. Indeed the only one not so fitted had been suspended from operating as from 1962.

Unfortunately taxi-owners in Gozo had not been as recipient to the introduction of taxi-meters as their counterpart in Malta.

As matters stand the omission to operate the taxi-meter in a taxi car on hire is not illegal.

This state of affairs has brought in its wake some very bad publicity in the local and United Kingdom press. Tourists have been lodging protests against excessive fares charged by unscrupulous taxi-drivers.

It has been thought to be appropriate to amend the Police Code with a view to making it compulsory on taxi-drivers to use the taxi-meters and to charge the fares shown thereon with such additions in accordance with the fares provided for in tariff D of the First Schedule to the Police Code.

Honourable Ministers had already agreed to the principle contained in the draft bill (Memo No. 166 of the 24th June 1963 refers). The Bill was, however, caught up in the Independence doldrums and owing to the extra-pressure of work it was not proceeded with.

The Bill has now been re-drafted and Honourable Ministers are invited to recommend.

4th January, 1966.

OPM/1361/65

A BILL
entitled

AN ACT further to amend the Code of Police Laws, Cap. 13.

ENACTED by the Legislature of Malta:

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as the Code of Police Laws (Amendment) Act, 1966, and shall be read and construed as one with the Code of Police Laws, hereinafter referred to as "the principal law".

insertion of section 64A in the principal law
2. Immediately after section 64 of the principal law there shall be inserted the following new section:-

"Fare leviable for hire of taxi cars. 64A. Notwithstanding anything contained in the last preceding section, no fare shall be leviable for the hire of any vehicle licensed as a taxi-car other than the basic fare shown on the taxi-meter, and such additions as are appropriate, in accordance with the fares provided for in tariff D of the First Schedule to this Code."

Objects and Reasons

The object of this Bill is to make illegal the charging of fares in respect of taxi-cars other than in accordance with the tariff of fares and it makes illegal the omission to operate the taximeter in a taxi-car on hire.