

Some of the State governments, notably, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Karnataka pleaded for an upward revision in the definition of the small and marginal farmers. The definition of small farmers has been revised for different agro-climatic zones. For the desert areas, the upper limit for the small farmers has been revised to 7 hectares dry and 3 hectares irrigated, except for Jaisalmar district where according to the definition the upper limit is 10 hectares of dry land. In all the semi-arid tracts, the limit has been revised to 3 hectares dry and 1½ hectares wet. The marginal farmers will be those who have land holdings up to half the size of holdings mentioned for the small farmers. The States which will be benefited are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Haryana and Rajasthan.

Guidelines to States for sanctioning Building Plans

489. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have issued any guidelines to the State Governments for sanctioning building plans on vacant lands in excess of the ceiling prescribed under the law; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) and (b) Yes Sir; a copy of the guidelines issued with the Ministry of Works and Housing's Circular letter No. 1/50/76-UCU, dated the 31st December, 1976, is annexed. (See Appendix C1, Annexure No. 32).

Demand for butter oil in the country

490. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import butter oil to meet the shortage in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government propose to take for attaining self-sufficiency in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Butter oil is being imported primarily for purposes of recombination into milk. Small quantities were released for use as cooking medium. The question of import of butter oil for use as cooking medium is under consideration.

(b) 3,000 tonnes of butter oil for cooking purposes is being received as gift from EEC shortly. Details regarding normal imports have not so far been worked out.

(c) There are no proposals under consideration for attaining self-sufficiency in butter oil.

Possession of land in Khichripur

491. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people who purchased land for building houses in Khichripur and other adjoining villages in the trans-Jamuna areas of Delhi have not yet been given possession of land even though registration of sale deeds of their lands have been completed;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Because the land has since been acquired for resettlement scheme as per the awards announced by the Land Acquisition Collector.

(c) No action appears called for.