

High priority is being accorded to the development of Agriculture and other allied fields. The measures taken include provision for adequate inputs and incentive for higher production, dissemination of technical know-how, price support at remunerative level, regulation of imports and exports, building up of buffer stock etc. The overall availability of a number of these commodities is quite satisfactory at present.

Interest subsidy for Agro-service Centre

*758 SHRI A ASOKARAJ Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether any clarification was issued by the Government of India to Agro Entrepreneurs under the Self Employment Scheme that the interest subsidy for Agro-Service Centre will be available only for three years from the date of availing first loan and it is not for 3 years for each loan

(b) if so whether any representation was received by Government from the entrepreneurs on the difficulties of the above said clarification, and

(c) whether the Government of India propose to reconsider the difficulties and issue fresh orders?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) (a) to (c) The interest subsidy on loans taken by agro service entrepreneurs under the scheme is allowed for 3 years from the date of the first loan. Accordingly, a representation from an agro-entrepreneur requesting that the period of 3 years should be counted from the date of last loan was not accepted and the entrepreneur was suitably advised. However, as in a recent meeting of agro-entrepreneurs this matter was brought up again, Government are examining whether the subsidy should be allowed for a

period of 3 years on each instalment of the loan

Arrears of Rent in Vithal Bhai Patel House

*759 SHRI KIRIT BIKRAM DEB BURMAN Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) the details of the Vithalbhai Patel House Suites and other residential units allotted to different parties for their offices or their workers,

(b) whether huge arrears of rent have accumulated against the parties including those which have since merged in the Janata Party,

(c) the criteria or rules governing these allotments, and

(d) the steps taken to recover the arrears of rent and eviction of the occupants of the units which stand in the name of the extinct parties?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT) (a) and (b) A statement is attached

(c) Generally, Government residential accommodation is made available to the staff of the recognised Political Parties in Parliament to the extent of 33-1/3 per cent of the total number of their staff. However, Political Parties in Parliament having a strength of less than 50 members but recognised by the Speaker are allotted one set of rooms in the Vithal Bhai Patel House. Garages and servant quarters are also allotted on demand, subject to availability. Requests for allotment of office accommodation are considered on merits.

(d) Steps are being taken both for eviction of unauthorised occupants and for the recovery of arrears of rent/damages under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.