

ing to Scheduled Castes from selling land given to them and providing for punishment for those who buy such land, has been enacted; and

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Central Government to the States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Lands are allotted to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes either out of the waste-land available with the Government or out of the ceiling surplus lands vested in the State. Provisions have been made either in the assignment rules or in the statutes of a number of States prohibiting alienation of the land allotted. These restrictions apply to all allottees. From the information available with the Government of India, it appears that such provisions exist in all States except Gujarat and Haryana. In Meghalaya and Nagaland the problem is said to be non-existent and in Jammu & Kashmir all transfers are subject to prior permission of the State Government. The provisions make unauthorised transfers 'null and void'. A specific provision in the statute for punishing the purchaser exists in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

(b) According to the National-Guidelines issued after the Chief Ministers' Conference on ceiling legislation held on July, 23, 1972, priority in assignment of ceiling surplus land should be given to "the landless agricultural workers, particularly these belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes". No guidelines suggesting punishment of transfers have issued.

Farm Mechanization

2548. **SHRI HITENDRA DESAI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission is not in favour of farm mechanisation and the use of tractors; and

(b) if so the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The Planning Commission is not against farm mechanisation as such; but it disfavours the use of such farm machinery like Combine Harvestors and it is substantially labour-displacing. As regards tractors, it favours their use in limited and difficult situations. It is, however, willing to modify its present views, should properly-designed fresh studies so warrant it.

(b) The above views of the Planning Commission are engaging the attention of the Government.

Quantum of Additional Land Allotted to Gujranwala House Building Co-operative Society

2549. **CHOWDHRY BALBIR SINGH:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of additional land allotted to the Gujranwala House Building Co-operative Society, Delhi and the condition for allotment;

(b) the quantum of land and sizes of plots already available with the Society separately pending development allotment;

(c) the number and size of plots carved out of the additional land as per the layout plan approved by DDA and whether those are as per the requirements of the Members registered with the Society; and

(d) whether copies of the layout plan were made available to the Members of the Society and their suggestions/comments invited, and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR