

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**DEVB(PL)189****(Question Serial No. 0868)**

Head: (91) Lands Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Thomas CHAN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the following:

- 1) The respective numbers of applications for repairing surveyed squatter structures on agricultural land received, approved and refused by the Government in each of the past three years, and the reasons for refusal;
- 2) The respective numbers of applications for issuance of Letter of Approval received, approved and refused by the Lands Department in each of the past three years, and the reasons for refusal.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

- 1) Information on applications for repairs of surveyed squatter structures on private agricultural land processed by the Lands Department (LandsD) during the period from 2016 to 2018 is tabulated below:

Year	Number of applications received	Number of applications approved	Number of applications rejected / withdrawn	Reasons for rejection
2016	12	9	3	Two applicants withdrew their applications; one applicant failed to provide documents to prove that he/she was the resident of the surveyed squatter structure.

Year	Number of applications received	Number of applications approved	Number of applications rejected / withdrawn	Reasons for rejection
2017	15	11	4	One applicant failed to provide documents to prove that he/she was the resident of the surveyed squatter structure; three applicants failed to obtain consent of the registered owners of the private agricultural land for repairs of the surveyed squatter structures.
2018	28	24	4	One applicant failed to provide documents to prove that he/she was the resident of the surveyed squatter structure; three applicants failed to obtain consent of the registered owners of the private agricultural land for repairs of the surveyed squatter structures.

2) Information on applications for Letters of Approval for Agricultural Structures on private agricultural land processed by LandsD during the period from 2016 to 2018 is tabulated below:

Year	Number applications received	Number of applications approved	Number applications rejected/ withdrawn	Reasons for rejection
2016	30	8	3	The applicants failed to provide sufficient information and/or unauthorised structure(s) was(were) found on the lot(s) under application.
2017	23	14	23	Unauthorised structure(s) was (were) found on the lot(s) under application.

Year	Number applications received	Number of applications approved	Number applications rejected/ withdrawn	Reasons for rejection
2018	63	24	25	The applicants failed to provide sufficient information or unauthorised structure(s) was(were) found on the lot(s) under application.

Note: Since it takes time to process an application, the applications approved and rejected during the above-mentioned periods may not correspond to the applications received during the same period. According to our records, 39 applications are still being processed at present. Most of the cases are pending supplementary information to be provided by the applicants. District Lands Offices can only continue processing the applications upon receipt of the required information.

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