

**Grant of Financial Assistance to
Sheep breeders**

1291. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to "declare wool as an agricultural commodity for financial assistance to sheep breeders by the National Cooperative Development Corporation/ national banks for agriculture and rural development/commercial banks;

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

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) Under the existing provisions of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Act, 1962, wool cannot be declared as a notified commodity. However, NCDC can provide financial assistance to plan and promote programmes, through co-operative societies, for the production, processing, marketing, storage, export and import etc., *inter-alia*, of foodstuffs, which includes meat, whether fresh, frozen dry or preserved. It has, therefore, been considered that the NGDC can provide financial assistance to sheep breeders cooperative societies as meat is also a product of sheep. The NCDC has accordingly been advised to entertain proposals for financing sheep breeders - cooperative societies received from the State Governments.

The position regarding the availability of financial assistance to sheep breeders, whether by declaring wool as an agricultural commodity or otherwise from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) /commercial banks is being ascertained from NABARD/RBI and the information when received from them

will be placed on the Table of the House.

Central School for Avikanagar

1292. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research received a request from the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar, Rajasthan for opening of a Central School at the campus of the Institute; and"

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration of the Council in consultation with the Department of Agriculture (Finance Division).

Funds for Nhava Sheva Satellite Port

'1293. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

, (a) whether the Planning Commission had been approached for allocation of funds for the Satellite port at Nhava Sheva;

(b), if so, what proposal was made-in this regard; and

(c) what has been the Planning Commission's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) Yes, a provision of Rs,

25.29 crores was proposed to the Planning Commission for inclusion in the Annual Plan 1983-84 for Nhava Sheva Port Project. Taking into account the delay in acquisition of land etc., an outlay of Rs. 16.65 crores has been approved in Annual Plan 1983-84 and a provision of Rs. 30 crores has been included in the Annual Plan 1984-85.

Tension in North Eastern Hill University

1294. SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a committee of the University Grants Commission there is a sign of rising tension in the North Eastern Hill University which will have serious consequences; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission's Committee on the working of the Central Universities had, among others, made the following observations, on the working of the North Eastern Hill University;

"In our meeting with the students who come from Meghalaya, Naga-land and Mizoram, it was impressed upon us, (by all the three groups that they have been (brought together and were 'forced to live together' in spite of different cultures because there is a design to create tensions amongst them. In fact, there are signs of inter-tribal tensions which may have serious consequences, if not attended to urgently and carefully."

While the report of the Committee is yet to be considered by the Government, the North-Eastern Hill University, has been established for the intellectual, academic and cultural advancement of the people of the hill areas in the region, and in pursuance of this objective, is making all efforts for the fulfilment of the same.

गुजरात में कच्छ-मांडवी-ओखा फेरी सेवा

1295. श्री मीर्जा ईशविभेग ऐय्यबेग : क्या नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार से गुजरात में कच्छ-मांडवी-ओखा-फेरी सेवा पुनः शुरू करने के लिए कोई अनुरोध किया गया है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार उक्त फेरी सेवा को फिर से शुरू करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जियाउर रहमान अंसारी): (क) हाँ।

(ख) और (ग) इस अनुरोध पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

Oilseeds Production

1296. SHRI RAMESHWAR SINGPI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item