

Setting up of agricultural university in Odisha

3888. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government is contemplating to open Central Agricultural Universities in different agricultural backward regions of the country to usher in green revolution, especially in Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether demand of Government of Odisha for Agricultural University is pending with the Centre;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time-frame within which such university would be set up in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Agriculture including agricultural education, is a state subject and agricultural universities in the states are set up by their respective Governments. It has been decided however to set up a Central Agricultural University each for Bundelkhand region at Jhansi and North Eastern region at Barapani.

(c) and (d) Yes, suggestions in this regard have been received: (i) by letter dated 14.3.2012 from Chief Minister, Odisha, (ii) through matter raised in Lok Sabha on 22.3.2012 by Shri Amarnath Pradhan, MP and also in his letter dated 25.4.2012.

(e) There is no proposal at present to set up a Central Agricultural University in Odisha.

Subsidy for anti-hail nets

3889. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are demanding a major subsidy for anti-hail nets on the lines of Government-aided Poly Houses Scheme for apple farmers;