

Sheep Research Farm at Tal (H.P.)

846. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sheep Research Farm at Tal (H.P.) has been in a very bad shape since its establishment in 1972;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to remedy the situation;

(c) whether Government propose to shift the Sheep Research Farm to a more suitable area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) During 1972-73 when a large number of Gaddi (Local) sheep were purchased, the mortality among them was negligible. However, next year, viz. in 1973-74, the mortality rate had been high, which adversely affected the performance.

(b) The performance of the unit has been reviewed from time to time at the Workshops of the Project held in 1975, 1977 and 1979. A special committee was also appointed, which submitted its report in June, 1978. It was then considered that the unit should be shifted to some other congenial environment of implement the technical programme effectively. Subsequently, the Governing Body of the Council appointed in 1979, another high powered committee under the chairmanship of Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu, M.P. to look into the working of this unit. This committee has suggested that the unit may be handed over to Himachal Pradesh Government as early as possible. The unit was visited by Project Coordinator (S.B.), Director, C.S.W.R.I., Assistant Director General (AP&B) and the Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences) and advice rendered from time to time.

(c) Yes, the proposal to shift the unit to a better location was made to

the Himachal Pradesh Government on the basis of the recommendation of the Expert Committee, which were submitted in 1978.

(d) The Committee of Experts had recommended that the work of this unit be kept at one farm only and that Jeori Farm in Simla District would be the appropriate location. The Director of Animal Husbandry, H.P., has since taken over the unit under his administrative control as reported by the Project Coordinator vide his letter of October 9, 1980.

Scheme of payment of 100 per cent Realisation on non-levy Sugar as Incentive to Cane Growers

847. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation on behalf of National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories met him and suggested to work out a scheme of payment of 100 per cent realisation of non-levy sugar by the sugar factories to the cane growers as an additional cane price in the form of an incentive and to meet the cost of production; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) and (b). The proposal is under examination.

Coconut Board and its Cultivation

848. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the causes for the delay in forming the Coconut Board;

(b) how much cess had been collected from the milling copra—(dried coconut); and

(c) the total amount spent during 1980 by the Central Government for the promotion of Coconut cultivation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The main reasons for delay in constituting the Coconut Development Board are as follows:—

(i) The Coconut Development Board Act, 1979, envisages representation, among others, of State Governments, Union Territories, growers, coconut processing industry and other interests. It was therefore, necessary to consult the State Governments, Union Territories and other agencies concerned who took some time in sending their nominations to the Board.

(ii) The Act envisages framing of rules to deal with several procedural, administrative and financial aspects, in order to regulate the functioning of the Board. Framing of these rules, in consultation with the Ministry of Law, also took a certain amount of time.

(b) An estimated sum of Rs. 96 lakhs was collected as cess till August, 1980 under the Copra Cess Act which came into effect from 1st April, 1979. In addition, a sum of Rs. 130 lakhs was also collected as cess on Copra under the Produce Cess Act, 1966 during the period 1966-67 to 1978-79.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 31,41,550/- was made available to the States during 1979-80 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Package Programme for Development of Coconut. A sum of Rs. 52.95 lakhs was spent during 1979-80 on coconut research by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. In addition, a sum of Rs. 24.29 lakhs was spent by Indian Council of Agricultural Research under the World Bank-aided Kerala Agricultural Development Project which relates primarily to coconut.

Water Supply Unit in West Bengal

849. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) when the construction work was taken up for the Sultanpur water supply unit in Mandirbazar P.S., Distt. 24 Parganas of West Bengal under the Rural Water Supply Scheme;

(b) what is the tentative date of completion of the construction work of the said units;

(c) the particulars of the villages which will be benefited under this Water Supply Scheme; and

(d) whether Bejoygunj which is the most popular market place and business centre of the area has been as one of the beneficiaries of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the Government of West Bengal and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

बाढ़ के कारण जोधपुर डिवीजन के दूर-संचार विभाग को हानि

850. श्री अशोक महलोत : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जुलाई, 1979 में वर्षा और बाढ़ के कारण जोधपुर डिवीजन में दूर-संचार विभाग को कितनी हानि हुई थी, और तत्संबंधी जिलावार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) बाढ़ और भारी वर्षा के कारण दूर-संचार सेवा कितने दिन तक ठप्प रही और उस में सुधार करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई और क्या सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में समूचा कार्य पूरा कर लिया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने भविष्य में बाढ़ और भारी वर्षा के दौरान