

Aid to Sher-E-Kashmir Agricultural University

*109. SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the help in kind and cash being rendered to the Sher-E-Kashmir Agricultural University of Jammu and Kashmir ; and

(b) in view of its endeavour to make research on Himalayan terrain which varies from place to place and its feasibility for agricultural growth and output, what special measures are being envisaged to equip the University with necessary technical know-how and other preferential treatment to be meted out to it being first of its kind in that peculiar terrain ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Sher-E-Kashmir Agricultural University was established on 1st August, 1982. At present no assistance is being given by the Government of India/Indian Council of Agricultural Research for this University, since any new University established in the country can be given central assistance by the Government of India only after it is declared fit to receive such assistance by University Grants Commission under Section 12-A of UGC Act.

After approval of UGC, this university would receive central assistance for the following according to prescribed pattern and relevant guidelines :-

- (a) Establishment & Development of Agricultural University.
- (b) Research grant for participating in the All India Coordinated Research Projects on Crops/Animals etc.
- (c) Ad-hoc Research grants from cess funds of ICAR for taking up specific research projects.

(d) National Agricultural Research Project for strengthening regional research capabilities of Agricultural University through establishment of Regional Research Stations in various agro-climatic regions of the State to deal with the specific development problems of the region.

(b) At present in the J & K region, there are 3 Regional Research Stations of ICAR Institutes, 18 units of ICAR All India Coordinated Research Projects on various Crops and disciplines, 8 Ad-hoc Research Projects and one Krishi Vigyan Kendra. When the new Agricultural University is fully established, the same is expected to give emphasis to education on hill agriculture, temperate horticulture and animal production and health management. The ICAR assistance under the scheme "Establishment & Development of Agricultural Universities" will be provided to fulfil these objectives. The new Agricultural University would also be eligible to receive central assistance for strengthening its regional research capabilities through the establishment of Regional Research Stations in various agro-climatic regions of the State. The Regional Research Stations envisaged under the National Agricultural Research Project are expected to take up research on the developmental needs of each specific region. As this project is expected to take up research on the immediate needs of the individual zones it will help in improving the agricultural growth and output of the State. In addition it is also proposed to establish a multi-disciplinary ICAR Research Complex in Ladakh for the improvement of livestock and agriculture in the cold-desert area.

Government Accommodation to Employees having their own Houses

*110. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to deny Government accommodation to the employees who own houses near the place of employment ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?