

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE ( SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Sir, some representations alleging irregularities have been received.

(b) The allegations relate to administrative and financial irregularities like, misuse of Government money, purchases made without following the laid down procedure, irregular appointments etc.

(c) In order to facilitate an inquiry into the allegations, orders have been issued transferring the present Director and Chief Admn. Officer of Indian Veterinary Research Institute. A Senior Officer has been nominated to inquire into the allegations. A special Audit Team had also been deputed to audit the various transactions made by the institute during the relevant period.

[English]

**Demarcation of Indo-Bangladesh Borders in Murshidabad District, West Bengal**

516. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware the change in the course of the river Padma in the Nirmalchor area in Murshidabad district, west Bengal results in the occupation of the newly created land in the left bank of the river by Bangladesh;

(b) if so whether Government propose to take up the survey work for the permanent demarcation of the border in that area; and

[c] if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI J.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c). The survey work for the permanent demarcation of the border in Nirmalchor area in Murshidabad district, West Bengal, has already

been completed in 1975-76. The boundary is thus a fixed boundary which would not change even if the river were to change its course.

**Empowered Committee on Assam-Nagaland Boundary Issues**

517. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had formed an 'Empowered Committee' in 1989 consisting of high officials of Union Government and State Government to look into the Assam Nagaland boundary issues;

(b) if so, the number of meetings of the Committee held so far, and

(c) if no meeting has been held, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) An Empowered Committee has been constituted in accordance with the decisions taken in a meeting held by Home Minister with Chief Ministers of Assam and Nagaland to deal with the problems arising out of Assam-Nagaland Boundary issue.

(b) and (c). The meeting were fixed on several occasions but had to be postponed due to unavoidable reasons.

**Declaration of Madras-Gooty Highway as National Highway**

518. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare Madras-Gooty Highway in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh as a National Highway ;and