

the housing requirements of the economically weaker sections of society through low cost schemes like sites and services under the housing sector, which is also operated as part of State Plan schemes.

**Promotion to post of Professional Assistants/Proof Readers**

4101. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jawaharlal Nehru University, while promoting/giving senior scale to the departmental candidates to the post of Professional Assistants/Proof Readers, has not adhered to the guidelines/directions laid down in this respect by the University Grants Commission and give relaxation thereto; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and what steps the Government propose to take to give similar relaxations to the Professional Assistants/Proof Readers in other Central Universities?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the Jawaharlal Nehru University, the University has, in relaxation of the conditions prescribed by the University Grants Commission, placed some Professional Assistants in the pay scale of Rs. 550—900 in view of their long and meritorious service and the fact that they had already been promoted to the post of Professional Assistant in relaxation of the prescribed qualifications. Similarly the University has, without approval of the University Grants Commission, revised the pay scale of the post of Proof Reader to Rs. 425—700 and the Selection Grade thereof to Rs. 550—900 in view of the representations made by the incumbent of the post, his record of service and the fact that the post was earlier equated with Senior Assistants for the purpose of promotion.

The University Grants Commission has addressed the Jawaharlal Nehru University on the subject and will take further action on receipt of the University's reply. It is for the Commission to consider the question of relaxation of the conditions earlier prescribed by it.

**Reduction in capacity of foodgrain storage project financed by World Bank**

4102. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:  
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capacity of foodgrains storage project financed by World Bank in India has been scaled down;

(b) whether the mid-term review by the Bank has reduced the capacity of the scheme;

(c) if so, to what extent this has been reduced;

(d) what were the main causes of this reduction; and

(e) whether India badly need to improve the storage capacity in North and South in view of the proposed bumper crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) to (d). The World Bank assisted project for building foodgrains storage capacity of 35.75 lakh tonnes by Food Corporation of India is being reviewed, in view of the difficulties in the availability of land, non-availability of railway sidings, cost escalation etc. The proposal of the Food Corporation of India in regard to scaling down of the capacity will be firmed up only after consultation with the World Bank and consideration and approval of Government of India.