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Title: Need to establish an institute for research on sheep at Kathlapur mandal of Karimnagar district in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (KARIMNAGAR): The Sheep husbandry plays an important role in the economic sustenance, livelihood and security of poor farmers in harsh climatic zones of the country, especially in regions like Telangana of Andhra Pradesh.

Andhra Pradesh is well known for two important breeds of Sheep viz. Deccani and Nellore. Deccani is one of the best dual purpose breeds. Nellore breed of sheep is the tallest Indian sheep breed and is known as the best mutton breed. Till now, the research on sheep and goat has been confined to the breeds of sheep and goat in the northern parts of the country, through Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (CSWRI) Bikaner and Central Institute for Research on Goats (CIRG) Makhdoom, Mathura. There is a need to focus on research to improve the productivity of Sheep in Southern India, where the gap between demand and supply of mutton is very high, and hence there is great scope for improvement. My Karimnagar Parliamentary constituency is the breeding tract for Deccani sheep and of late it has been observed that farmers are inclined to introduce Nellore breed into this breeding tract for further improvement. Sufficient land is available at Kathlapur Mandal of my Constituency, which is nearer College of Veterinary Science, Korutla and 180 Kms away from Hyderabad. This place is very much suitable to establish national level research station for Sheep or a southern regional station of CSWRI.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, to kindly consider the proposal to establish national level research station for sheep at Kathlapur Mandal of Karimnagar district., Andhra Pradesh.