

the contrary they are demanding that they should be given 100 per cent relief. Will the Hon. Minister use his good offices with the Finance Minister and will the Finance Minister use his good offices with the Prime Minister to see that these fishermen's demands can be met?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : It is quite a long chain.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : It is true that there is a scheme for providing rebate on central excise duty on high speed diesel used by vessels of 13.7 fitted with engines 150 horse power. This scheme came into effect in 1968 and it is continuing. It contains a rebate of 50 per cent excise duty whether exports are made or not. The additional rebate of 50 per cent excise duty is given on each 108 kilo litre of diesel for per tonne prawn exported. As the Hon. member has made this request, the Hon. Finance Minister is very much here. I am sorry, he is not here, but the Hon. Prime Minister is here. If the request can be considered for the smaller boats which are using lesser horse power capacity engines, it will go a long way in helping the fishermen.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I would request the Agriculture Minister to do as Prof. Dandavate said and then go through the Finance Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : He has steered the right course.

[*Translation*]

Agricultural University For Rajasthan

*264. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no full-fledged Agricultural University in Rajasthan and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government propose to

set up an Agricultural University in Rajasthan also like other states; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) There is at present no separate Agricultural University in Rajasthan. An Agricultural University viz. Rajasthan Agricultural University, Udaipur was established in the year 1962. It was however, converted by the State Government into a general university named the "Udaipur University" in 1963. In August 1983 the university was again converted into the Mohan Lal Sukhadia Agricultural University but after a few months the university was renamed as Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, in the year 1983 itself.

(b) Agricultural Universities are State Government institutions to be established under an Act passed by the State Legislature. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been constantly urging the State Government to establish a separate Agricultural University in the State. The Government of Rajasthan, however, have not done so till now.

(c) Specific action in this regard is to be taken by the State Government. All the other Sixteen major States have established separate Agricultural Universities.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir Twenty two Agriculture Universities have been established in 16 States, but there is none in Rajasthan. Sir, you and the Hon. Minister

have been elected from Rajasthan. The Minister has given a very good reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Have you read the reply or not ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I have read it. He says—

[*English*]

“Indian Council of Agricultural has been constantly urging the State Government”...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : What has been your and our role ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I would like to know what are the dates on which you wrote to the Rajasthan Government and when did you write last ? What were their replies to the first and the last letters ?

[*English*]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : ICAR has been constantly pursuing with the state Government of Rajasthan the question of establishment of a separate Agricultural University in the state. From here, you will yourself kindly come to the conclusion that the boot is on this leg, and not on that leg. We have been pursuing with the State Government to have a separate Agricultural University.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : The name has not been changed, rather the concept has been changed.

[*English*]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : The Government of Rajasthan, through an ordinance, partially restored the agricultural character of the University through changes in the Act. With this amendment, the University had two wings, viz. Agricultural Wing and

Educational Wing, constituting College of Agriculture and related disciplines, and the College of Basic Sciences and the College of Law.

The Agricultural Wing of the University comprised two Agricultural colleges at Udaipur and Jobner, and a College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, College of Technology and Agricultural Engineering and the College of Home Science.

However, in October 1983, through another ordinance, they again changed the name of the University as Mohanlal Sukhadia University; and they dropped the name ‘Agriculture’ from the University. In 1984, also, they took a major decision of discontinuing the courses—this is very important—the credit and internal evaluation system, and reverted back to the traditional system of study and evaluation. Therefore, the very purpose, the philosophy behind the Agricultural University was taken away from the Mohanlal Sukhadia University. Therefore, it did not continue to be an Agricultural University. I need not spell out the basic principles governing the need for an Agricultural University. Then, the Government of India took up the matter....

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I have put a specific question....

SHRI BUTA SINGH : I am coming to your question.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : What is the answer to it ? I do not want all this.

I have put a specific question : when did you write the first letter, and when did you write the last letter; and what is the answer ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : I am coming to the last letter. About the first letter, I have replied. The decision of the Government was conveyed to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan in a d. o.

letter from the Minister of Agriculture on the 28th March, 1984. With this decision, the grants to the universities were temporarily suspended; and they were asked to bring back the character of the University to that of an agricultural university, for which we had an assurance. We do not know whether that assurance has been fulfilled or not. But we continued the grants after the Chief Minister intervened to say that the grants should not be stopped—on the assurance that the University will be given back its agricultural status.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : A new agricultural university should be established.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : According to the decision of the Government, there should be a full-fledged university in each State. The above decision was taken in 1967. I have asked whether you have written to the Rajasthan Government in pursuance of that decision. I am asking when you wrote to them and what their reply thereto was.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : The Hon. Minister has given the right suggestion, and it should be taken.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : The letter written in 1984 was our last letter, in reply to which an assurance was given by the Hon. Chief Minister.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : What is the reply from the Rajasthan Government ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : An assurance was given.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen. They have given an assurance. Rajasthan Government had said that they would establish the university, but it has not been established so far.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what are the criteria for establishing a full-fledged university ? To what extent are they not in a position ready to fulfill the criteria ? What is your condition which is not being fulfilled by the Rajasthan Government ?

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : The Government of Rajasthan have made a demand for the establishment of a separate university.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will agree that Rs. 10.18 crores have been allocated for the establishment of this university through I.C.A.R. Besides, there are several other research projects also. If after such a massive investment, the university is not given the character of an agricultural university, then it is for the State Government to ensure that the agricultural character of the university is restored. An amount of Rs. 18 crores has been spent on a new university. A number of works have already been completed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I would like to know by what time a full-fledged university would be established in Rajasthan ? What is the Government's decision ?

MR. SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister is in favour of making it a full-fledged university.

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, our new Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and other persons have given a call to the scientists of the agricultural universities to develop high-yielding varieties of oilseeds and pulses. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the progress made so far in this regard ?

MR. SPEAKER : The question is whether a university will be set up or not.

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : The Hon. Minister might be having information in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : You please speak about the establishment of the university.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : We have established a university. It is for the Rajasthan Government to give it an agricultural character.

[English]

It is a full-fledged University and so much money has been spent.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Hon. Minister state when the university will be established ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has already said that they will make this very university an agricultural university. Its name should be agricultural university and it is already there.

[English]

Import of Newsprint by the Newspaper Industry

*265. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether newspaper has desired to import newsprint directly ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the decision of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. There have been demands from a section of the press, especially big newspapers, for allowing newspapers to import newsprint directly from foreign suppliers.

(b) This section of the press is generally of the view that direct import of newsprint may enable them to secure

newsprint at better terms. The Government has not yet taken any decision in the matter.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : The Newsprint Fixation Advisory Committee of the Information & Broadcasting Department, which is a new Department; has fixed up for this quarter from January to March, Rs. 5,990 for the standard newsprint and Rs. 6,300 for glazed newsprint including the custom duty. It is also a fact that in the open market newsprints are going to be sold at a very lower rate than the note you have fixed up. (Interruptions) It is there in the market. You can deny it. What is the total quantum of newsprint that is going to be imported and who are the agencies who are importing this newsprint ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : The estimates that was made for the year 1984-85 was that the requirement would be of the order of 3.85 lakh metric tonnes. Out of this, it is expected that indigenous production would be 2 laka metric tonnes. So, the import requirement would be 1.85 lakh metric tonnes. This entire quantity is imported through the STC. There is no other agency for canalization. As far as the early part of the Hon. member's question is concerned, the price is decided in consultation with the newsprint industry. Their two representatives are in the Pricing Committee. There are two representatives on the Pricing Committee. As far as I can know, there has never been any discrimination. There are two representatives of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, two representatives of STC and of the Newspaper industry on the committee ; that Committee decides the price.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : I wanted to know whether the Government is ready to supply newsprint to the small newspaper at a subsidised rate.

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : It is already supplied to them at a sub-