

MR. SPEAKER : I think, Mr. Patel knows these things.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Sir, he has mentioned some of the important conditions. But the State Government has not yet approached the UGC. The UGC has had no opportunity to go into the matter. He has mentioned two or three important conditions, namely, that the survey shall be made in accordance with the guidelines prescribed, a Planning Board shall be established, and so on. In view of that, how is it proper for the State Government to say that the University shall be established under Central Government assistance?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : The question of establishment of a State University is, according to the Constitution, within the purview of the State Assembly. What this parliament has decided through the NGC Act is that the Central Government assistance can be made available only if the pre-conditions are fulfilled. *(Interruptions)* We have not given any commitment to give any assistance.

SANCTION FOR PROJECT REPORT ON EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN GUJARAT

*598. **SHRI D. P. JADEJA :**

SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of project reports from the Government of Gujarat for the exploitation of natural resources pending for sanction before the Ministry of Agriculture; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in taking decision and the time by which a final decision is expected in cash project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b). Government of Gujarat has requested for provision of harbour facilities at a number of sites including Porbander and Veraval. The Project on Pre-investment Survey on Fishing Harbours has, in this connection, already prepared the necessary designs in respect of Veraval, Mangrola and Porbander. Comments as well as clarification on some points from Gujarat Government are awaited to work out the economic evaluation for fishing harbour construction. These projects would be considered when the project reports are ready, depending on their economic viability and the allotment of funds in the Fifth plan for fishing harbours. Government of India has also separately under consideration a proposal for survey of the North West Coast of India with foreign assistance in addition to the exploratory programmes undertaken by Deep Sea Fishing Organization. The scheme has been posed for financial support to a number of agencies and their reaction is awaited.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : The statement that has been laid on the Table is not very clear because every sentence says either that the project is under consideration or that clarifications are awaited. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware that, 15 years back, the Indo-Norwegian team had recommended that the richest fishing grounds in India are off the coast of Saurashtra? Along with the three ports that he has mentioned namely, Veraval, Mangrola and Porbander, would they also consider provision of harbour facilities at Dwaraka and Okha?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We shall examine the suggestion of the hon. Member. But already about ten small fishing ports are being constructed.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Coming to the Indo-Norwegian project as well as development of coastal fisheries, the hon. Minister has mentioned that ten fishing ports are being constructed. Will he be

able to specify which are these fishing ports? We have got a coastline of 3,500 miles and establishment of ten ports would mean one port for a coastal length of every 350 miles, which is woefully inadequate. Can he tell us which are these....

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about Gujarat.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I thought it was a question about Indian ports, whether they are for Gujarat for any other State.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have only mentioned about Gujarat, the ten small fishing ports being constructed related to Gujarat only.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: How many for India as a whole?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: That is a different matter. I do not have the exact number....

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Roughly

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: At the moment more than 150 are contemplated, and about half of them are almost completed. But the precise figure, I cannot give.

INDO-SOVIET SYMPOSIUM ON METHOD OF SELECTION OF SHORT STEM VARIETIES OF WHEAT

*599. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indo-Soviet Symposium on Method of Selection of short stem varieties of wheat has taken place recently in India; and

(b) if so, the varieties of Russian wheat which have been tested and their use in breeding programmes in India?
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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) Yes, Sir. A Symposium on this topic was held at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi on December 11 and 12, 1973.

(b) The introduction of Russian wheat varieties has been considered desirable with a view to incorporating their winter-hardiness and deeper root system in our spring wheats, particularly for *barani* areas. Accordingly several wheat varieties, viz., Bezostaya-1, Mironovskaya 808, Mironovskaya Jubilejnaya 50, Saratovskaya 29, Odesskaya 16, Kavkaz, Skoroshelka 35, Avrora etc. have been imported from the U.S.S.R. for being used in hybridization programme with Indian spring wheats, in the plains as well as in the northern hill areas of India. The hybrid derivatives are presently being tested. Their relative merits will, however be known when the experiments on them are concluded.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: How long will it be by which time adequate quantities will be available for use by the farmers of Northern India?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: It is too early a stage to say precisely about that. We are doing this in an experimental basis. As I said, winter hardiness and deep root system have to be experimented in the farming areas and I think it is too early a stage to make any precise statement to what extent it can be released.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: The hon. Minister said about winter-hardiness and deep-root system in respect of these varieties. How far these new strains would be an improvement as far as the productivity goes especially when local hybrid varieties are already available?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: The hon. Member is a very knowledgeable person. Unfortunately in this country even today very large wheat