

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cash and kind components of crop loans are fixed by a technical group consisting of the representatives of the Agriculture Department, Cooperative Department and Cooperative institutions and a few progressive farmers on the basis of agricultural practices followed, the type of seed used, availability of irrigation facilities etc. in each district. Therefore, there is no need for any change in the existing system.

Sugar Quota for the Festivals

417. DR. SHANTI G. PATEL:

SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the quota of sugar for ration card holders for the festival season—Diwali and Dussehra; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to restore the reduction made earlier in the quota?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MISS KAMLA KUMARI): (a) The levy sugar quota is worked out on the basis of 425 grams per capita. For the present, there is no proposal to increase this. However, with the release for October, 1982, an additional 50,000 tonnes of levy sugar has been released as a special festival quota.

(b) Does not arise.

Ban on Cow-Slaughter

418. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an official level Committee has recently recommended

complete ban on the slaughter of cows and its progeny;

(b) if so, what was the composition and status of the Committee and the text of its recommendations; and

(c) whether the recommendations of the High Powered Committee established in 1967 and reconstituted in 1972 have been implemented wholly or partially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No official level Committee has been constituted to look after matters exclusively concerning cow slaughter.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee on cow protection constituted in 1967 and reconstituted in April, 1972 did not finalise any recommendation and was wound up with effect from 17th May, 1977.

Setting up of Agriculture Scientific Centres

419. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

SHRI T. CHANDRASHEKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Agricultural Research Institute propose to set up 50 Agriculture Scientific Centres in the country during the current year to help farmers in backward areas;

(b) if so, what are the locations of the centres, State-wise; and

(c) the manner in which these centres propose to coordinate their activities with the States extension services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) is one of the Institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). It is the