

(c) whether Indian representative had advocated for this pesticide when a proposal was submitted to ban this and finally global community passed the resolution to ban this; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) In writ petition (civil) No. 213 of 2011 "Democratic Youth Federation of India vs Union of India & Ors", Hon'ble Supreme Court passed an ad-interim order on 13.05.2011 banning production, sale and use of Endosulfan in the country till further orders and appointed a Joint Committee headed by the Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Agriculture Commissioner to conduct a scientific study on the question whether the use of Endosulfan would cause any serious health hazard to human beings and would cause environmental pollution. The Committee was also directed by the Court to suggest alternatives to Endosulfan. Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on 14.05.2011 to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to implement interim order of the Court in toto, which are binding on all manufacturers.

(b) Against the back drop of illness in certain villages of Kasargod District of Kerala allegedly due to aerial spraying of Endosulfan over cashew plantation, its use was reviewed by several committees including the Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. C.D. Mayee, the then Agriculture Commissioner, in 2004. Use of Endosulfan was continued in the country on the basis of recommendations of Mayee Committee, except in Kerala where use of Endosulfan was kept on hold vide notification dated 31.10.2006.

(c) and (d) Earlier, India had opposed listing of Endosulfan in Annex A of the Stockholm Convention as well as inclusion of Endosulfan in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention. However, India did not oppose the decision to include Endosulfan in Annex A of Stockholm Convention with specific exemptions taken during fifth meeting of the Conference of Parties held in April, 2011. India also accepted the decision to include Endosulfan in Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention in fifth meeting of Conference of Parties held in June, 2011.

#### **Insufficient rainfall in Northern and Central India**

2030. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government is aware that rainfall in Northern and Central parts of the country is insufficient during the current monsoon season resulting in drought like situations;

(b) if so, whether Union Government has conducted any survey or asked a detailed report from State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Union Government proposes to take to provide assistance to those States where adequate rainfall has not been reported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) As per the daily rainfall summary of India Meteorological Department (IMD) on 15th August, 2011, the cumulative rainfall of North West Region and Central region of the country is within the normal range. However, the cumulative rainfall as on 15th August, 2011 is deficient in the Meteorological sub-Divisions of Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi by 35% and Orissa by 23%. None of the State Government in these regions has declared drought so far due to deficient rainfall during the current South-West monsoon season.

(b) to (d) Since no State Government has reported about drought to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, no action is required.

#### **Setting up of business planning and development units by ICAR**

2031. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) in which States of the country the Time Business Planning and Development Units were started by ICAR under the national fund;

(b) the aims and objectives of such institutes/units and to what extent their research is going to help the country in real terms; and

(c) whether any such institutes have been planned to set up in Orissa and Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No Time Business Planning and Development Unit has been set up, under any "National Fund".