

(b) whether the committee has been asked to frame a policy for conducting periodic checks to detect pesticide residues; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In pursuance to High Court of Delhi Order dated 23rd February, 2012 in Writ Petition No. (C) No. 7495/2010 Court on its own motion versus Union of India, a Committee comprising of technical persons was constituted on 15th March, 2012 for framing a policy for periodic check to detect pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables. The matter is subjudice and the composition of the full Committee will be finalized on the basis of further directions of the Hon'ble High Court.

Launch of multi disciplinary research project 'AICHA'

4677. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-French Centre for promotion of Advanced Research has launched a multi-disciplinary research project titled Adaptation of Irrigated Agriculture to Climate Change (AICHA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the study aims at developing an integrated model for analyzing the impact of climate change on ground water-irrigated agriculture in the country; and

(d) if so, whether the study group has selected any area for field study under the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The bilateral Indo-French Centre for promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR) has approved a project titled 'Adaptation of irrigated Agriculture to Climate Change'.

(b) This is a joint project between Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India and Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France and was approved by the Scientific Council of IFCPAR in its 48th meeting in November, 2011.

(c) The project proposes a multidisciplinary approach, involving hydrology, agronomy and socio-economics for studying the impact of climate change on cropping systems and water resources in the context groundwater irrigated

agriculture of Peninsular India, taking into account the direct effects of land use on groundwater resources as well as the feedback effects.

(d) The studies will be undertaken on the nested watersheds of Maddur (6 Sq km) and Berambadi (84 Sq km) in Bangalore.

Status of abattoirs

4678. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of abattoirs in the country;
- (b) the status of modernization of abattoirs;
- (c) whether there is any record of illegal abattoirs running in different States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Status of abattoirs and their modernization is not reported to this Department. The total number of abattoirs in the country as on 1.4.2011 is 2336. However, Ministry of Food Processing Industries reported that assistance has been provided by them for 10 projects under the scheme for Infrastructure Development for Modernization of Existing Abattoirs/Setting up of Modern Abattoirs during 11th Plan of which two projects at Dimapur (Nagaland) and Ahmednagar (Maharashtra) have been completed.

(c) and (d) Data on illegal abattoirs is not available with the Department since authorization of slaughter houses is in the domain of State Governments.

Micro irrigation system

4679. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether research and actual practice have established the fact micro-irrigation systems are highly water saving as also enhancing productivity and income; and
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering wide spread use of the system through extension services, cost reduction of equipments involved through sponsored R&D and spread of technologies through institutional support system?