

**Agricultural practices requiring lesser water**

1857. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain World Bank projects have been launched in different States in the country calling upon the farmers to adopt agricultural practices involving lesser amount of water for agriculture to control exploitation of ground water in such areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether objective of these projects is to increase agricultural production, control wastage of water and augment income of farmers;

(d) whether such projects have proved successful in certain regions of the country; and

(e) if so, the action plan of Government to encourage such projects in other regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (e) No specific World Bank projects are under implementation to adopt agricultural practices involving lesser amount of water for agriculture to control exploitation of ground water. However in the national and bilateral programmes/projects including World Bank supported projects in agriculture and irrigation sector, emphasis is given for enhancing agricultural productivity and resource conservation technologies.

**Setting up of agricultural university in Andhra Pradesh**

1858. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Central Government intends to accord its approval to the proposal for setting up of an Agricultural University in Andhra Pradesh consequent upon the bifurcation, the details thereof;

(b) the latest position of this proposal; and

(c) the reasons for delay in establishing the University and the action taken to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Central Government has already issued