Opening of new Cooperative Management Institutes

† 1790. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open new Cooperative Management Institutes in some States to improve and strengthen the cooperative education and training system, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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Written Answers to

(b) the States from where proposals for opening cooperative institutes have been received and Government's action plan for opening new cooperative institute in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) No, Sir.

Two proposals one each from Sikkim and Tripura for opening of Cooperative Management Institutes have been received by the Government during last one year. As reported by National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT), proposals have also been received from State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand for opening of Institute of Cooperative Management (ICM) in their respective States. No proposal has been received from Bihar. The DNS Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Shastri Nagar, Patna is catering to the cooperative training needs for the cooperative personnel in the State of Bihar. There is no proposal at present to open any new cooperative management institute.

Research and exploration in Agricultural Universities

1791.SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers are made aware of the researches and exploration being made in agriculture sector in Agricultural Universities, if so, the manner thereof; and
- (b) the policy of Government to bring farmers into direct contact with Agricultural Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of institutional mechanisms are in place to make farmers aware of the researches, technologies and best practices generated by Agricultural Universities (AUs) in the country. The manner in which these institutional mechanisms create awareness to farmers include frontline extension educations programmes of the Directorates of Extension of the AUs; Agricultural Technology Information Centers (ATICs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning under AUs. The frontline extension programmes include on-farm testing and demonstration of technologies on farmers' field, training of farmers; organization of various extension activities like farmers fair, Krishi Mahotsav, exhibitions, exposure visits, animal camps; and diagnostic services for soil, water and infected plant samples. Besides, the experts from AUs also provide information to farmers through print and