

facilities are not existing/are not fully functional.

(ii) Training programmes are regularly organised by the Central Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage for the benefit of the State functionaries who are notified for the enforcement of quality control of pesticides.

(iii) The Indian Standards Institution has also been requested to enforce their certification mark licensing scheme rigorously in respect of pesticides.

(iv) The States and Union Territories have been requested to strengthen the laboratory facilities for the analysis of pesticides.

(v) The Government has sanctioned a Scheme for setting up of 5 Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories and Insecticides Enforcement Units at Calcutta, Bombay, Hyderabad, Kanpur and Chandigarh during current Five Year Plan, with an outlay of Rs. 300 lakhs to ensure rigorous quality control measures in pesticides and the action has been initiated to set up these Units.

The State/UT Governments have notified the functionaries under the Insecticides Act, 1968, who are required to enforce various provisions of the Act, including quality control measures. A total number of 29 Pesticide Testing Laboratories by various States/UTs to take care of quality control of pesticides, have been set up.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of Superior Variety of Rice by IARI

3236. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Agricultural Research Institute has been successful in producing superior variety of rice combining nuclear and conventional breeding methods with yield potential of 7 tonnes per hectares ;

(b) if so, the areas in the country considered suitable for cultivation of this variety of rice ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for popularising cultivation of this variety of rice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. In the Nuclear Research Laboratory, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, a number of strains of rice have been developed through the combined use of nuclear and conventional breeding methods.

(b) At present, these rice strains are under trial at various locations in the country. The areas in the country where they are considered suitable for cultivation cannot, therefore, be indicated at this stage.

(c) Steps will be taken for promotion and popularization through documentation and multiplication after the varieties are approved for release by the concerned authorities.

Gross Irrigated Area under Cultivation

3237. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have collected information indicating gross irrigated area under cultivation, State-wise, particularly in the State of Orissa for the years 1981-82 and 1982-83 ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). Available data on gross irrigated area during 1981-82 for major States is as below ;