

&gt;

Title: Need to establish a Central Agriculture University in Santhal Pargana region of Jharkhand.

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Sir, seventy per cent of the Jharkhand State's population lives in rural areas and is primarily dependent on agriculture, but unfortunately, the condition of agriculture is not good in the State. The State lacks critical inputs such as new technology, good quality seeds, research, and extension network to transform its agricultural practices in a big way. The Government is focussing on agriculture in a major way; but we need more support from the Government.

I would, therefore, request the Government to kindly consider setting up a Central Agriculture University in Jharkhand on the same lines as is being planned for Meghalaya. Both Meghalaya and Jharkhand have a large tribal population and both the States are rich in forest and mineral wealth, but lag far behind in agricultural production. It will be in the interest of the State if a Central Agriculture University is established in Santhal Pargana region of Jharkhand State, which is a historically deprived and backward region of the State.