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Title: Need to create Indian Agriculture service in the Civil Service Examination to boost agricultural production.

SHRI RAJAIAH SIRICILLA (WARANGAL): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak now. Today, being the International Women's Day, I extend my best wishes and hearty congratulations to women and men also.

Today, I rise to share my views on the formation of the Indian Agricultural Service. Not only I but the entire august House will appreciate and agree with me that there is no culture without Agriculture. India is predominantly an agricultural country. More than 70 per cent people depend on agriculture and the population in our country is increasing considerably day by day. As of today, we stand second in the globe. So, there is a new challenge for the country to provide food grains to the growing population.

If we look at the agricultural scenario, the varietal potentiality available in the plants and their variety, due to the research work done in the country, has been exploited and it is coming close to saturation level. Nothing can be done now. If you look at the geographical area under agriculture, the 90 per cent cultivable area has been brought under cultivation and it is getting reduced. It is at the level of saturation. The ground water availability also has been exploited to the maximum extent. Now, it is also close to saturation. So, there is a need and urgent demand to look forward to exploit the available area. We have to look forward to improve production and productivity in the animal husbandry sector wherein 90-95 per cent gap is there. Our country has to look at it and work on that.

Fortunately India is a peninsular country. We have oceans on three sides and there is enough fish and fish products which can be tapped. There is enough science and technology available in our country. To use all this, we need to move in a new direction and for this purpose, there is an urgent need to have an Indian Agriculture Service on par with other All India Services like IAS, IPS, IES etc. Dr. Swaminathan, the renowned scientist of our country, has also recommended for the creation of this service. The All India Federation of Agriculturists Associations has also recommended for the creation of Indian Agriculture Service. But due to the bureaucratic bottleneck, this matter is not being taken forward. So, we have to urgently create this Indian Agriculture Service.

Secondly, the Technology Missions like the National Horticulture Mission, Food Security Mission, Cotton Technology Mission, Technical and Oilseeds Mission, Pulses and Technology Mission shall have to be handled by professionals. Now these are being handled by people who do not have knowledge on these subjects. Then, there is also an urgent need for restructuring the Ministry of Agriculture. So, I would request this august House to think over this matter and resolve to have an Indian Agriculture Service.

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMRAJANAGAR): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Rajaiah Siricilla.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (IDUKKI): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Rajaiah Siricilla.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (VIZIANAGARAM): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Rajaiah Siricilla.

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (SUPAUL): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Rajaiah Siricilla.

SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY (MATHURA): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Rajaiah Siricilla.