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Title: Introduction of the Central Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): Sir, I beg to move*:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Central Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill is a small Bill. Basically, when the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992 was enacted in 1992 for a Central Agricultural University for the North-Eastern Region for the development of agriculture and advancement of learning and prosecution of research in agriculture and allied sciences in that region.

Sir, in this Act, the North-Eastern Region States, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura were included but at that point of time the Government of Assam and the Government of Nagaland opted out. They had not given the consent. It is because as per Schedule VII of the Indian Constitution, Parliament cannot extend the area till a State gives its consent. Now, the Nagaland Government is going for a veterinary college and for that purpose they have already allotted 200 acres of land and they want to start the college. But to start the college and run the college, they need a university and recognition. Now that they have given the consent, all right, we are ready to accept this university and we can take this university as one of the Central Agricultural Universities. The headquarters will be in Imphal, and the institution which they are proposing will be in Nagaland. So, that is the reason which necessitated the amendment in this 1992 Act. We have to just add after 'Mizoram' the word, 'Nagaland'.

I request the House to pass this Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): He is an experienced leader. When the Minister himself is there, why does the Parliamentary Affairs Minister go on explaining?

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: I am also the Minister of State for Agriculture.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is a Minister of State for Agriculture also.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: As a Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Ministry, I am looking after education. That is the reason I am piloting this Bill. If the House desires, this Bill can be passed. If it is not passed and if it is delayed, that particular college will not get the recognition. We have to get it cleared from Lok Sabha as well as Rajya Sabha so that they get the recognition. They are delaying the session in their college. Therefore, if without discussion it is passed, I will be highly obliged. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the hon. Members want discussion on it, we can do it.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no problem if the hon. Members pass it unanimously without discussion. That is left to the House. If you want to discuss it, you can discuss. We can extend the time and the Members can speak on it.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: We extend the time till the Bill is passed.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (INNER MANIPUR): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to intervene in the consideration and passing of the Central Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill, 2016 moved by the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the very fact that this Central Agricultural University at Imphal was for the Northeastern region. We would like to inform the august House that Nagaland now wants to have a veterinary college at Nagaland. The inaugural function of the college has already been done. It was inaugurated on 6th of August by the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Radha Mohan ji. The Bill is now going to be amended today.

I am very respectfully putting my opinion to the House. I wish the Act could have been amended and the college started after that. Even then, it is good that Nagaland Government has agreed to come under the Central Agricultural University.

I will just tell a little story about how this college came up. At the very outset, I would like to draw the attention of the august House that the Northeastern region is more or less an agricultural region. Agriculture is the most important occupation of this region.

I would like to add a very important chapter to the history of the Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal at Manipur. It was in early 70s when Manipur attained statehood. The need to establish an agriculture college at Manipur was very much felt. Following this, the then Minister of Education, Shri H. Thoithoi Singh started the Manipur Agricultural College at Moia, Imphal West, which happen to be my village. I was on the governing body. This college was run under the private management of Manipur Rural Institute, Imphal and it became a semi-Government college under Manipur University. When the Government of India wanted to have a Central Agriculture University at Imphal to be established under the Act of 1992, there was one institute in Nagaland under the name of the College of Agriculture Science and Rural Development in Nagaland.

It was also affiliated to the Nagaland Central University. By that time, the Government of India, in the project report, wanted to have both the Manipur Agriculture College at Imphal and this institute in Nagaland to be the affiliated colleges of the Central Agricultural University, but the Agriculture College of Nagaland opted to stay with the Nagaland Central University. That is how, it could not become a constituent college. That is the historical part of it.

Therefore, the Central Agricultural University, Imphal was established in 1993 under the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992 of Parliament (Act No. 40 of 1992) and has its jurisdiction over the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura. This University has got a veterinary college in Mizoram, a horticulture college in Arunachal Pradesh, a fishery college in Tripura and other three colleges in other states. This is the reason, how it missed it. Now, it is good that in July this year, the Government of India has started consultation with many areas and a proposal from the Nagaland Government has come. The College of Veterinary Science and Husbandry has already been inaugurated by the hon. Minister, as I mentioned earlier.

Once this Act is amended, perhaps that will take retrospective effect. Normally, laws take effect prospectively, not retrospectively. I am very respectfully putting before the Government that this Act could have been amended and the college could have been inaugurated in time. This is the process I would like to say.

While mentioning this, I would like to mention in the end that for the inhabitants of my State, Manipur, the staple food is rice and fish. Anyway, we have an agriculture college. We did have a good harvest of indigenous fish. Even then, the production we have is not enough for our consumption. So, we depend mostly on the fish coming from Andhra Pradesh and Myanmar. In this connection, I would like to request the hon. Minister, particularly the Ministry here, to consider to expand the area of research and development of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal where they can do research in respect of pisciculture, fisheries and animal husbandry. Here, in that case, they can expand it to research and development activities so that the quality of our fish and their species are protected and preserved and their production can be enhanced. At the same time, we have animals, birds and other things which can also be preserved and their species maintained. So, research and development activities in the areas of fisheries and animal husbandry would help us meet the ever growing demand of the population of the State. This is very important.

With these few words, since the Minister is in a hurry, and perhaps the House is also in a hurry, I stand here to support the Bill. There is no problem in doing that. I am very happy that our neighbour State of Nagaland has already agreed to come and join the Central Agricultural University which is the pride of our State and pride of our area. We look forward to the college, which the hon. Minister has inaugurated recently, getting recognition without any problem so that we can grow together.

At the same time, please also remember that this North-Eastern part of the country has been in news for no reason almost all the time. This is because of our looks. Whenever we go there, we need to be identified. Suppose, I go there like this, wearing pyjama and dhoti, and stand there as an MP, nobody will recognise. They will say 'Okay, it is fine.' Suppose, I go there wearing a suit and tie, it is very dangerous. They will insist on my identity card. I do produce my identity card and cross the hurdle. But the young people, who are going there, are facing a lot of problem.

So, as per my opinion, you consider this area together along with other parts of the country for inclusiveness. I always suggest that the geography and history of this part of the country should be in the curriculum of students in the mainland so that we mix with each other and have the emotional integration.

With these words, I support the Bill and wish all the best.

Thank you very much.

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAG): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Central Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill, 2016. The purpose of the Bill is to include the State of Nagaland under the jurisdiction of the Central Agricultural University having its headquarter in Imphal. This will help to impart education in different branches of agriculture and allied sciences, undertake research in agricultural programmes and extension of education in North Eastern hilly regions with national and international institutes.

Agriculture is the main economic activity in Nagaland, and more than 90 per cent of the population is employed within it, with more than 16 Tribes and Sub-Tribes who have their own culture, tradition and language. The wide-spread practice of jhoom cultivation has led to soil erosion and loss of soil fertility. It needs to do research to retain its fertility.

Imphal, with a hot and humid rainy season during summer and cool dry winter, with fertile land made up of alluvial soil will help the farmers with new techniques thereby contributing to the production and productivity of agriculture of the region. This would help in getting over the shortage of technical manpower and infrastructural facilities and would contribute for the development of agriculture, including animal husbandry, horticulture, plant pathology, plant breeding, soil science, and agricultural chemistry.

After inclusion of the State of Nagaland under the jurisdiction of the Central Agricultural University, the College of Veterinary Science in Nagaland will produce professional manpower in the field of animal husbandry, which will facilitate the social, economic growth in the region thereby contributing to the production and productivity of animals in Nagaland, and will be a great blessing to the people of the State. According to the Twelfth Plan, Rs. 14.31 crore shall be expended after the establishment of the College of Veterinary Science in Nagaland, which is a very welcome initiative.

The State of Nagaland has enormous potential for productive season and off-season agricultural crops, fruits and vegetables, which have a demand in the State and also in the adjoining States, but due to improper storage and harvest handling, there is a huge loss, especially of the perishable items. Funds should be provided for purchase of machinery and equipment with reasonable, affordable subsidy policy. The connectivity to the potential areas from village to village, to highway and to market should be well connected, to boost the economy of the rural farmers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the State does not have industries to absorb the educated, unemployed youth because the State has no proper infrastructural and institutional set up. So, they have every reason to take up agriculture seriously. Addressing the Fifty-fourth Convocation of the Indian Agricultural Research on 6th February, hon. President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, said that agricultural education in our country must conform to global standards and we need to create a large pool of competent faculty in our institutions of technology to promote agriculture nation-wide.

In West Bengal, the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya is doing good research work and is one of the best in the country. Its research work with modern techniques is helping the farmers. It is a State University. The Government should take measures to reduce discrimination among various sections of people, especially the Dalit students and create an environment for studies and research in the universities to shape India into a developed nation.

So, I welcome the initiatives taken by the Government. On behalf of my Party, All India Trinamool Congress, I support the Bill. Thank you.

SHRI NAGENDRA KUMAR PRADHAN (SAMBALPUR): Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this subject. Initially, it was the University Act of 1992, and now the Government of India has brought this amendment Bill. I support this Bill, on behalf of my Party, Biju Janata Dal.

Sir, I wish to share with you that Nagaland is a State where 80 per cent of the people is dependent on agriculture. Seasonal fruits and horticulture products are the main source for their livelihood. In the last Budget, this Government had provided Rs.115 crore for developing organic value chain in the North-East region. It means that probably the Central Government is giving thrust to the North-East because the people in that region believe in organic product. Now, some States are producing some items but they do not use those items. I do not like to name those States. They are purchasing the same thing from other States. This is happening because their produced items are prepared by using fertilizers. This is the state of affairs. That is why, I would congratulate the Government of India on providing Rs.115 crore for this purpose. Nagaland will be the role model for other states and encourage them to produce hygienic organic products.

I fully support this Bill because Nagaland will come to the mainstream. I would like to make one or two points. Some days back, hon. Agriculture Minister Shri Radha Mohan ji visited our State and he visited the OUAT. On behalf of the Government of Odisha, the OUAT have given a memorandum for establishment of a Central University. But, unfortunately, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have given a report against this and the Minister has also sent the reply accordingly.

As you know, the Eastern part of Odisha is a coastal belt where we find one type of climate. The other part is the Western side. That consists of 13 districts is having other type of climate. On different occasions, the Western districts are demanding for a Central University in the Assembly. Our hon. Chief Minister has also written a letter to the Government of India for establishment of a Central Agricultural University in remote area of the State. Hon. Agriculture Minister has visited the Agriculture University. He might have seen that memorandum. I think, during his reply, he would answer to this point.

As you know, the issue of Mahanadi River dispute is raised both in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. It is a known fact that the water source is coming down. So, I demand for a Regional Water Research Institute at Sambalpur. There is one such Institute in Bhubneswar. The said Institute cannot cater to the needs of the Western side. That is why, a separate Regional Water Research Institute has to be sanctioned so that the production of the western Orissa will be increased and huge self employment will be created.

As everybody is saying that my constituency Sambalpur city is the second Capital of Odisha. Hirakud Project is there. About 90 per cent of irrigation is because of the Hirakud Project. There is one Agricultural and one Horticulture College in Chiplima. About 351 acres of land is with Agriculture and Horticulture College. The institute cater up to B.Sc. Ag. The above institution should be upgraded to M.Sc. Ag. in agriculture and horticulture. Research wings of different subjects should be opened so that scientists can be produced, as a result of which people will be trained in scientific ways for having their livelihood by agriculture and horticulture.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Odisha Government can do that because this is under the State.

SHRI NAGENDRA KUMAR PRADHAN (SAMBALPUR): Without assistance of the Centre nothing can be done as fund is required. On this occasion I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this issue and request him to make a statement during his reply keeping in view of the difficulties being faced by the people of Western Odisha. Thank you.

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि अपना देश कृषि प्रधान देश है और इस कृषि प्रधान देश में महाराष्ट्र राज्य जैसे कई गिने-चुने राज्य हैं, जिन्होंने खेती के क्षेत्र में अच्छी प्रगति की है। दुर्भाग्य से पिछले कई वर्षों से, चाहे वह ग्लोबल वार्मिंग की वजह से हो या जलवायु परिवर्तन के दुष्परिणामों की वजह से हो, खेती करने वाले किसानों को या बागवानों को बहुत कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है। सीजनेबल खेती अब नहीं रही। पहले ऐसा होता था कि कम पानी में या ज्यादा पानी में भी किसानों को अच्छी तरह से खेती करने के लिए प्रोत्साहन होता था। लेकिन, अब जो ऋतु चक्र बदल चुका है, उससे खेती में समग्र बदलाव करने की जरूरत है। सरकार को भी कृषि विश्वविद्यालय के माध्यम से किसानों को सही वक्त पर सही मार्गदर्शन करने की जरूरत है।

महोदय, जिस तरीके से आज निर्सर्ग ने अपना बदलाव कर दिया है, किसानों के ऊपर उसका काफी प्रभाव हुआ है और ऐसे वक्त में बदलते हुए ऋतु चक्र को सामने देखकर किसानों को सही वक्त पर सही मार्गदर्शन अगर कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों के माध्यम से मिलता है तो किसान उस माध्यम से खेती करने के लिए आगे आ सकते हैं और किसानों को नुकसान नहीं हो सकेगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले कई महीने पहले माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने 'मिष्टी मित्र' की संकल्पना को स्वीकार किया था। इस 'मिष्टी मित्र' की आज बहुत जरूरत है क्योंकि मिष्टी के ऊपर ही किसान पूरे तरीके से निर्भर रहते हैं, मैंने कहीं पढ़ा है कि कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों का निर्माण करने के लिए भारत के कई राज्यों से ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रस्ताव केन्द्र सरकार के पास आ चुके हैं। मेरी विनती है कि हर जिले में कृषि विद्यालय निर्माण करने की जरूरत है। उस कृषि विद्यालय में 'मिष्टी मित्र' की संकल्पना बहुत तेजी से अमल में लाने की जरूरत है। किसानों को जो घाटा हो रहा है, जो नुकसान हो रहा है और किसान आत्महत्या की तरफ बढ़ते जा रहे हैं, उसे संभालने के लिए कृषि विद्यालय एक महत्वपूर्ण जिम्मेदारी संभाल सकते हैं।

महोदय, इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए मैं एक बार फिर विनती करना चाहता हूँ कि हर एक जिले में, खासकर जो कृषि प्रधान राज्य हैं, उनके हर जिले में कृषि विश्वविद्यालय का निर्माण किया जाए।

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Central Agricultural Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

First of all I stand here on behalf of Telugu Desam Party and my leader Nara Chandrababu Naidu-garu and I wholeheartedly support this Bill which is very important not just for Nagaland or the North-Eastern region but the whole country itself. The hon. Minister while introducing the Bill said this is a very small amendment. But I hope the impact that this Bill is going to have on the North-Eastern States in terms of agriculture or on the farmers is not going to be small but is going to have a huge impact. That is the expectation from our party and our Members here.

There is a reason I stand here to speak on this Bill though our State is not related to this. This entire House took responsibility to pass the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act in 2014. The 13th Schedule of that Bill which is regarding the education, clearly mentions that the Government of India is going to take the responsibility to establish 11 institutions in the bifurcated State of Andhra Pradesh which has the likes of IIT, AIIMS, IISER and all these institutions including one tribal university and one agricultural university. It has been mentioned in letter and spirit that the Government of India is going to establish a Central University which is of national importance. Now it has been two years.

The State, taking that clause, has requested the Government of India to establish a Central University in the State. First of all, the Central Government came up and said that 500 hectares of land is needed for this. The State said that we are ready to provide 500 hectares of land. Again the Central Ministry came to the State Government and said that they require only 500 acres of land. We agreed to that also and we were ready to give that also. Now the Centre is taking a step back and is saying that they can't give a Central University because they are not giving Central University anywhere in the country. I would like to ask not only the hon. Minister but the whole House whether this House does not have the responsibility to fulfil each and every provision given in an Act which this very House has passed. It is the responsibility of all the Members here.

We are bringing a Bill and we are thinking that it is related to Nagaland; there is no importance of this Bill and only Members from Nagaland or north-eastern region will speak. We are passing the Bill. It means that every Member sitting here has an equal responsibility. Similarly, when Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Bill came in this very House, people felt that this is about Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and they don't have to care about it; they passed the Bill. Now we are facing the consequences. If the House which sat at that time under the Congress Government had taken the responsibility of doing justice to both the States while preparing the draft Bill, we would not have had the requirement to stand up here and shout slogans in this very House. We are taking up the responsibility for whatever problems have been created from the Bill.

According to the Bill, a Central University has been promised to Andhra Pradesh. Earlier, we had an agricultural university in the State also. That has been given to Telangana. With that institution, 30 other research stations have also gone to Telangana. How will we be compensated for that unless the Central Government takes interest in doing this? Now, the Central Government has said that they will develop one State University. Then we took up that idea and we prepared a DPR and gave a requirement of Rs. 1500 crore. What has the Central Government done? They have given just Rs. 85 crore in two years. This is a grave injustice done to the State of Andhra Pradesh. We want the Central Government to take up complete responsibility in doing justice to the State of Andhra Pradesh. We have high hopes on this Government which is being led by the dynamic Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. We require full support from the Central Government. Even though this Bill does not relate to us, we require complete support from the Minister of Agriculture also.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY (CHEVELLA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, firstly I would like to state that I fully share the sentiment of our neighbouring State of Andhra Pradesh and the hon. MP Shri Ram Mohan Naidu. Speaking on the Central Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill 2016, there is an agricultural university in Imphal and presently the university covers Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura. The present Bill wants to include the State of Nagaland. I do not think anyone in this House will oppose this. We also rise to support this Bill on behalf of the TRS party.

As per the study, India is going to be the most populous country in 2050. With growing population, demand for food and agricultural products is going to rise. To handle such a huge demand, we need to not just include one more state in the existing university, but we need to have investments and have more agricultural universities both in Nagaland and Andhra Pradesh. But, not only we have to set up institutions and colleges in Nagaland, research and development needs to be focused on in agriculture sector.

In the recent years, agriculture research has been plagued by severe underinvestment and neglect. For example, even Bangladesh spends more

percentage of money on agriculture research; not only do they spend money on agriculture research but their policies are also driven by research in agriculture universities in Bangladesh.

The other day, we had the debate on price rise. Actually, I really do not know who to support. Price rise to an urban consumer is a very popular thing to take up for urban based political parties. But farmers in the rural areas in my constituency actually want the prices to rise. They are abysmally low in our country. If there is one thing compared to any other commodity, the prices have not risen in agricultural produce. They are sometimes going up and sometimes coming down but overall the average is very low.

The agriculture education and research is plagued by resource crunch, difficulty in attracting talented faculty, limited linkages and collaborations with international counterparts. The weakening of lab to land connect is a very important thing. In my own constituency, we have one of the largest agriculture universities, the Rajendranagar Agriculture University but there is no lab to land connect; besides, there is lack of innovation.

Today, many young people are not much interested in studying agriculture. We have to make it popular. First of all, students studying agriculture are not seen with the same respect as accorded to other disciplines, like IT, engineering and medicine. What is most important is not sufficient research is being done on native species whether they are of grains or vegetables. I think, that needs to be done since Nagaland has many native species of local vegetables and fruits.

The jhum practice in Nagaland, which is the slash and burn technique, has come down clearly because of loss of awareness in ancient agriculture practices brought out by modern agriculture practices. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY : So, just like they need a university, they also need a separate high court; we also need a separate high court.

Thank you.

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Thank you. I will be very brief.

I support the Bill moved by the hon. Minister but I would like to point out some four or five points within two minutes. First, as my learned friends have already suggested, the lack of funds for agriculture research. It is a very important factor. Even though we would be completing the legislative process within ten minutes, as he insists and we all wish, this is a very important matter and I hope my very senior learned friend Shri Ahluwalia will take up this matter with his colleagues and the Government of India may take up this issue with prime importance.

Secondly, in the Central universities and Central research institutes there is lack of manpower – academic as well as non-academic. We are facing acute shortage in IISERS, IITs, Central universities and other research institutions. If we do not recruit adequate manpower – professors and other scientific research officials – our position will be very unpleasant.

Thirdly, regarding research scholars, there is a situation in many of the Central research universities and institutes of which I may point out one example from Thiruvananthapuram in my district. It was earlier in my constituency but now that place is now in the constituency of my learned friend Dr. Shashi Tharoor; this is the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute. Here, quite a number of Ph.D. students under the University of Kerala are also doing research but what now happens is that the research scholars coming from outside have to pay quite a large sum as fees. So, these people who are doing research here from University of Kerala and those from Anna University are also bound to pay more fees. So, they have taken loans from banks as education loans. It has become very much difficult for them as they are not from any private sector agency. They are actually the research scholars from the university. So, this matter has to be taken up seriously. There are some missing links between the field and research. Whatever research is going on has to directly go to the fields but that is not happening.

Last but not least, as my learned friend has just now stated, nowadays, the brilliant students do not want to become agriculture scientists. It is true with Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, UP, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, in fact with all the 29 States and the Union Territories. If you ask a brilliant student what does he or she want to be, the answer will be he wants to be a doctor. If you do not become a doctor then what do you want to be? That student would like to be an engineer. The third option will be an advocate. It is because they think that if they retire as an agriculture scientist they do not have any job to do. If they retire as a doctor they can practice after retirement. As an engineer also they can do something. If they retire as lawyer either they have to leave the court or leave this world. ...(*Interruptions*) But in the case of an agriculture scientist there is no job after retirement. These things must also be considered by the hon. Minister.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI VARAPRASAD RAO VELAGAPALLI (TIRUPATI): Sir, this Bill is not as simple as the hon. Minister is saying, for the simple reason that the entire North-East deserves much better consideration which we have been repeatedly telling. North-East definitely depends mostly on agriculture. For these two reasons we consider this Bill as the most important one. We are very happy that the jurisdiction of the Central Agricultural University is being extended up to Nagaland.

What is most important here is that the modern technology and the techniques that are lacking in the North-East are to be considered by the Government of India. The purchasing capacity of North-East is very less. Therefore, if you really want to make use of the land available in the North-East, the Government of India has to come in a big way to implement the modern technology and the techniques. The subsidies have to be given to the North-East for more than one reason; to infuse confidence in the people of North-East and also to bring them on to the mainstream.

As every other speaker has mentioned, in North-East more than 70-80 per cent of the people depend only on agriculture, therefore, the importance

of the Bill is very high. Although infrastructure is not very much relevant to the Bill, but development of the North-East is extremely important as it is lacking in infrastructure; be it the storage facility, cold storage facility or the last mile land for the roads. It is extremely important and if it is not done the people of the North-East will feel differently and India might find it difficult later.

As the earlier speaker was mentioning, shifting cultivation, zoom cultivation are extremely outdated and, therefore, the modern technology is very much required. Hence, the importance of the agriculture university is more relevant now. I feel that the North-East very much requires an institution like the ICRISAT, which is in Hyderabad now, so that the entire area could be put into use.

Similarly, as my earlier speaker, the young, dynamic MP, has spoken, we need a Central Agricultural University for Andhra Pradesh. And, the Government of India should consider giving the Special Status that we require the most.

Thank you.

डॉ. अरुण कुमार (जहानाबाद) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पूर्वोत्तर राज्य आजादी के बाद से ही विकास के रास्ते में उस इलाके में कमजोरी होती रही है। डॉ. लोहिया ने पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के विकास के लिए बराबर चिंतन किया था। मैं उस इलाके में समाजवादी चिंतक जार्ज फर्नानडीज के साथ जाने का काम किया था।

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पूर्वोत्तर के इलाके में जब भी कोई संकल्प केन्द्र की ओर से होता है, तो मुझे अपार खुशी होती है। केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय (अमेंडमेंट) बिल, 2016 जो लाया गया है, यह सरकार के दृढ़ संकल्प का द्योतक है। पूर्वोत्तर के राज्य में एनडीए-1 द्वारा भी गंभीर तवज्जुह दी गई थी और माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी की सरकार में पूर्वोत्तर के राज्यों का विकास हमारे एजेंडे में है। इसलिए निश्चित तौर से इस विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना से एक व्यापक फलक का निर्माण होगा। इससे मुख्य धारा में लोग आएं और यह मानना कि एग्रीकल्चर में हमारे युवाओं की अभिरुचि नहीं है, मैं इससे असहमति व्यक्त करता हूँ। एग्रीकल्चर पर हमें पूरी तवज्जुह देनी चाहिए और युवा वर्ग में इसके लिए काफी उत्साह है और इस क्षेत्र में युवा वर्ग के लिए काफी संभावनाएं हैं।

महोदय, आज जो वलाइमेटिक वेंजेज हो रहे हैं और टेक्नोलॉजी के प्रयोग से वैल्यू एडीशन होगा। इससे पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों की युवा शक्ति मुख्य धारा में आएगा। इससे देश मजबूत होगा और उस इलाके में मुख्य धारा में हमें नौजवानों को ताने का एक और मौका मिलेगा। इसलिए मैं इस बिल का हृदय से स्वागत करता हूँ।

श्री कौशलेन्द्र कुमार (नालंदा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने केन्द्रीय कृषि विश्वविद्यालय (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2016 पर बोलने का मौका दिया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। नागालैंड राज्य में भी कृषि के विकास के लिए एक केन्द्रीय कृषि विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना किए जाने का विचार अच्छा है। पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में कृषि एवं पशुपालन की अपार संभावनाएं हैं, लेकिन अभी तक इस दिशा में वहां कोई कार्य नहीं किया गया है, जिसके कारण पूरे के पूरे पूर्वोत्तर राज्य आज उग्रवाद से ग्रस्त हैं। मैं मानता हूँ कि नागालैंड के इम्फाल में केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय के खुलने से वहां के किसानों को लाभ होगा और पशुपालन में भी वृद्धि होगी, जिससे इस क्षेत्र में सामाजिक एवं आर्थिक विकास का मार्ग प्रशस्त होगा। नए कृषि विश्वविद्यालय एवं पशु चिकित्सा विज्ञान का कॉलेज खोलने से विशेषकर नागालैंड राज्य में किसानों को नई कृषि प्रौद्योगिकियों से परिचित करवाने में मदद मिलेगी। यह घरेलू पशुओं की उत्पादकता और उत्पादन को बढ़ाने में काफी सहायक होगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बिहार से आता हूँ। बिहार में, माननीय मंत्री जी के प्रयास से राजेन्द्र प्रसाद कृषि विश्वविद्यालय को केन्द्रीय कृषि विश्वविद्यालय का दर्जा मिला है, लेकिन उसका अभी भी विकास नहीं हो पाया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि वहां आज भी पुरानी बिल्डिंग है, उसका रख-रखाव नहीं है, वहां स्थिति जर्जर है और वहां फेकल्टी की भी कमी है। हमारा अनुरोध होगा कि वहां पर भी ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

महोदय, मैं बिहार के नालंदा से आता हूँ, जहां आतू काफी मात्रा में होता है। मैं माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि नालंदा में आतू अनुसंधान केन्द्र की स्थापना पहले से प्रस्तावित है। इसलिए मैं प्रार्थना करना चाहूंगा कि नालंदा में आतू अनुसंधान केन्द्र खोल कर बिहार को आने बढ़ाने का प्रयास करें। आपका समय देने के लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): Sir, I thank you for allowing me to participate in the discussion on the amendment to the Central Agricultural University Act of 1992.

The proposed amendment is to include the State of Nagaland under the jurisdiction of the Central Agricultural University. No doubt the Central Agricultural University is having its headquarters in Imphal and is playing a major role for the development of agriculture in the North-East region of the country. Through this amendment, the State of Nagaland will also get the benefits of the Central Agricultural University.

Since the discussion is related to the Agricultural University, I would like to share a few thoughts on the state of agricultural research in the country. As we all know, India is an agrarian country and the majority of our fellow citizens earn their daily bread from the agricultural sector. Therefore, the agricultural research institutions have to play a vital role in ensuring the food security and economic growth of the country.

19.00 hours

However, today there is a reverse trend in agricultural growth which has adversely affected the income and confidence of our farmers. Reports say that climate change will have adverse impact on agriculture in 150 districts in the country which would in turn have serious implications on the livelihood of 45 million people. The Indian Academy of Science also has come out with similar findings.

There are tens and thousands of acres of virgin land are lying unused. If we are able to support the farmers in the North-Eastern region, then we will be able to produce more food and it will benefit the country.

Sir, I support the Bill.

Thank you.

श्री प्रेम सिंह चन्दमाजरा (आनंदपुर साहिब) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी (अमेंडमेंट) बिल, 2016 का स्वागत करता हूँ। 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में कहा गया था कि एग्रीकल्चर सेंटर को रियाइव करने के लिए आर एंड डी एजेंसियों को स्ट्रॉंग करना चाहिए और उनके काम पर सरकार को निगरानी रखनी चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि यूनिवर्सिटीज़ बनाई जा रही हैं, बात यह नहीं है, पहले भी 20 एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज़ बनी हुई हैं। स्टेट एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी अलग है।

में आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन यूनिवर्सिटियों की तरफ सरकार को जो ध्यान देना चाहिए था, वह नहीं दिया गया है। यह बहुत दुःख की बात है क्योंकि एग्रीकल्चर को बैंक बोन आफ इकोनामी माना जाता है, 70 परसेंट लोग इस क्षेत्र पर निर्भर करते हैं। लेकिन रिसर्च के लिए एग्रीकल्चर जीडीपी का 0.7 खर्च किया जाता है, यह बहुत ही दुःख की बात है।

सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी में जो फंड दिए जाते हैं, उसमें सेंटर के 68 परसेंट और स्टेट के 22 परसेंट ही पिछली दो पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में इन्वर्ज्ड हुए हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे स्टैग्नेशन आ गया। पंजाब जैसा प्रदेश जो कि एग्रीकल्चर एडवांस स्टेट है, जिसने ग्रीन रिवोल्यूशन लाकर देश की भुखमरी को दूर किया, इसे कम्पेनसेट नहीं किया गया। पंजाब एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी सबसे पहले बनाई गई थी, लेकिन रिसर्च के लिए कोई मदद नहीं की गई। यहां जो सीड बनते हैं, सरकारी एजेंसी नहीं बनाती, है बल्कि प्राइवेट लोगों ने इसका व्यापार शुरू कर लिया। एग्रीकल्चर के नाम पर प्राइवेट लोगों ने व्यापार शुरू किया और बहुत मालामाल हो गए, जबकि किसान को इनपुट्स महंगी मिलती हैं।

मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन है कि सीड्स के क्षेत्र में नई रिसर्च पर जोर देना चाहिए। पेरिस्टाइड्स को लेकर प्राइवेट एजेंसियां और कंपनियां किसानों को लूटती हैं। यदि एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी रिसर्च करें तो इनपुट्स किसानों को सस्ती मिल सकती हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष जी, आप भी इससे सहमत होंगे कि आज सबसे बड़ी किसान की त्रासदी यह है कि पिछले वर्षों में इनपुट्स के रेट बढ़ते गए और किसान की उपज के दाम उस अनुपात में बढ़ नहीं पाए जबकि कन्ज्यूमर को इसका ध्यान रखना पड़ता है।

हम सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी अमेंडमेंट बिल का स्वागत करते हैं, लेकिन मैं यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्रदेश और सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटीज की रिसर्च के लिए स्पेशल फंड रखा जाए ताकि एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर में आई स्टैग्नेशन को तोड़ा जा सके।

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, आज का विधेयक कृषि शिक्षा से संबंधित है। माननीय राज्य मंत्री जी ने इसे प्रस्तुत किया है और इसके संबंध में विस्तार से बताया है। माननीय सदस्यों ने अभी जो चर्चा की है, उससे मेरी दुविधा थोड़ी बढ़ गई कि कृषि शिक्षा, कृषि अनुसंधान और कृषि विस्तार तीन पार्ट हैं, कृषि शिक्षा राज्य का विषय है, जैसे जनरल एजुकेशन राज्य का विषय है। जनरल एजुकेशन में 2009 में यह हुआ कि सभी राज्यों में कम से कम एक सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी निश्चित रूप से होगी। क्योंकि कई राज्यों में चार-पांच यूनिवर्सिटीज थीं। आज जनरल एजुकेशन में उनकी संख्या 50-60 हो गयी होगी। लेकिन एग्रीकल्चर एजुकेशन की स्थिति यह है कि देश में इसके 73 कृषि विश्वविद्यालय हैं और ये सारे कृषि विश्वविद्यालय राज्यों के अधीन हैं। जैसे जनरल यूनिवर्सिटीज को यूजीसी के द्वारा सहायता मिलती है, वैसे ही आई.सी.आर. द्वारा हम कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों की सहायता करते हैं। हालात यह हैं कि हम यदि दो-तीन राज्यों को छोड़ दें, तो मैक्सिमम राज्य, जहां यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, वे कम पूंजी लगाते हैं और उस पर ध्यान नहीं देते हैं। जैसे यू.जी.सी. से जनरल यूनिवर्सिटीज को सहायता जाती है, वैसे ही आई.सी.आर. से उन यूनिवर्सिटीज को सहायता मिलती है, उसी भरोसे वे चल रही हैं। महाराष्ट्र के चार कृषि विश्वविद्यालय हैं, जिनका किसी जमाने में बहुत बड़ा नाम था और आज भी है। उनमें हजारे एकड़ के फैम्पस हैं। वह महान्मा फूले कृषि विश्वविद्यालय है। मुझे जानकारी मिली कि सहायता देने वाली आई.सी.आर. की जो टीम अध्ययन करती है, उसने एक रिपोर्ट दी कि इन चार विश्वविद्यालयों को आगे सहायता नहीं दी जायेगी। यह मेरे लिए बड़ा आश्चर्य का विषय था। मैं यहां गया तो मुझे पता चला कि उस विश्वविद्यालय में 80 प्राइवेट कालेज भी खुल चुके हैं, जिसकी चर्चा हमारे पंजाब के मितू कर रहे थे। वह एक दूसरा घंटा है। लेकिन आई.सी.आर. सभी विश्वविद्यालयों की सहायता करती है।

हमारे एक मित्र बोल रहे थे कि इस वर्ष भारत सरकार ने कृषि शिक्षा में 40 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि की है। जब आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना का बंटवारा हुआ था, उस समय शिक्षा के बारे में बहुत बातें हुई थीं। मुझे स्मरण है कि जब आंध्र प्रदेश एक था, तब वहां एक हार्टिकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी थी और एक एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी थी। लेकिन बंटवारे के बाद एक राज्य में हार्टिकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी चली गयी और दूसरे राज्य में एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी चली गयी। जब मोदी सरकार बनी, तब हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने घोषणा की कि हम आंध्र प्रदेश में एक हार्टिकल्चर कालेज और तेलंगाना में एक एग्रीकल्चर कालेज के लिए सहायता करेंगे। ... (व्यवधान) तेलंगाना में हार्टिकल्चर कालेज चाहिए, क्योंकि एग्रीकल्चर कालेज तेलंगाना में रह गया था। वहां पर एग्रीकल्चर कालेज के लिए सहायता करेंगे। मैं जिस दिन आंध्र प्रदेश गया था, उस दिन वहां बहुत बड़ी भीड़ थी। अब चूंकि हम पहले एमपी रहे, फिर मंत्री बने। लेकिन वहां 20-25 हजार लोगों की भीड़ थी। वहां मुख्य मंत्री जी थे, वैकेया जी थे। उस कालेज का शिलान्यास हुआ। हालांकि वह कालेज राज्य को खोलना था, लेकिन बंटवारे के समय भारत सरकार ने 200 करोड़ रुपये की सहायता देने के लिए कहा था, तो हम एक वर्ष में 100 करोड़ रुपये दे चुके हैं। जैसे-जैसे खर्च की रिपोर्ट आयेगी, वैसे-वैसे हम पैसे देते रहेंगे। आपने अभी आठ महीने पहले ही उस कालेज को शुरू किया है। हमें 100 करोड़ रुपये देने थे, लेकिन जैसे-जैसे रिपोर्ट आयी, वैसे-वैसे हमने पैसे दे दिये। हम आठ-दस महीने में 85 करोड़ रुपये दे चुके हैं। इसी तरह तेलंगाना सरकार को भी हम बधाई देंगे, क्योंकि वहां भी बहुत बड़ा कार्यक्रम हुआ। वहां भी कालेज का शिलान्यास हुआ और हम उसे भी पैसे दे रहे हैं। अब 200 करोड़ रुपये की घोषणा है, लेकिन हम आगे भी आई.सी.आर. से सहायता देना जारी रखेंगे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कृषि शिक्षा पर सरकार का कितना जोर है, इसे समझने के लिए मैं आपको एक-दो बातें आपको निश्चित रूप से बताना चाहूंगा। हमारे मित्र बता रहे थे कि कृषि शिक्षा की ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा। इसका मतलब है कि कृषि शिक्षा का आकर्षण नहीं है या खेती में शिक्षित लोगों का आकर्षण नहीं है। यह धारणा भी बनी कि लोग खेती करना छोड़ रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं जब सैंकड़ों कार्यक्रमों में किसानों को पुरस्कृत करने के लिए गया, तो मैं यही सोचता था कि पुरस्कार लेने वाला व्यक्ति कोई धोती-कुर्ता वाला होगा। लेकिन आये व्यक्ति ऐसे थे, जो जींस-पैंट पहने हुए होते थे। उन्होंने नयी टेक्नोलॉजी से खेती करना शुरू किया। ... (व्यवधान) यह इस बात का सबूत है कि अब पढ़े-लिखे नौजवान बड़ी तेजी से नई टेक्नोलॉजी के साथ खेती की ओर अग्रसर हो रहे हैं। हमने सिलेबस में कुछ परिवर्तन किए हैं, कृषि को व्यावसायिक बनाया है। पहले भी ग्रेजुएशन की जब डिग्री मिलती थी, तो उसे छः महीने के लिए ग्रामीण कार्य अनुभव करना पड़ता था। उसके लिए उसे 750 रुपये प्रतिमाह मिलते थे। सरकार बनते ही हमने उसे बढ़ाकर 3000 रुपये प्रतिमाह कर दिए। पीजी के विद्यार्थियों को कुछ नहीं मिलता था, लेकिन हमने तय किया कि जो अपना राज्य छोड़कर दूसरे राज्य में जाएगा, उसे 3000 रुपये प्रतिमाह दिए जाएं। अब इन चीजों के लिए अलग से कृषि शिक्षा पर चर्चा हो तो इन विषयों पर हम विस्तार से बात कर सकते हैं। हमारे एक मित्र कह रहे थे कि हर जिले में एक कृषि विश्वविद्यालय होना चाहिए। मैं बताना चाहूंगा विश्वविद्यालय की बात छोड़िए, जिस दिन हर जिले में एक कृषि कॉलेज हो जाएगा, देश नई उचाइयों के चरम पर पहुंच जाएगा। निश्चित रूप से हम विश्वविद्यालयों की सहायता करते हैं और आप सभी माध्यम से, सदन के माध्यम से राज्य सरकारों से भी अपील करते हैं। जैसा पंजाब से हमारे मित्र चंद्रमाजरा जी बता रहे थे, यदि गोरखधन्दा चलाने के लिए विश्वविद्यालय खोलते जाएंगे तो मुश्किल होगी। हमने महान्मा फूले विश्वविद्यालय को देखा है, जो अहमदनगर जिले में है, मैं वहां गया था।

जहां तक पूर्वोत्तर का सवाल है, मणिपुर के माननीय मित्र को स्मरण होगा, इनके साथ मैंने दो दिन तक मणिपुर का भ्रमण किया था। अभी तक पूर्वोत्तर में, मणिपुर के अलावा, सभी राज्यों में कम से कम दो दिन एवं एक रात मैंने अवश्य बिताई है और 150 से 200 किलोमीटर दायरे में जाने का अवसर मिला। मैं वहां गया था। हमारे प्रधानमंत्री जी ने पूर्वोत्तर में दो रात बिताई हैं, वहां गांव के खेत पर भी गए हैं। आपने जहां तक नागालैण्ड की चर्चा की कि मैं वहां गया और उद्घाटन कर दिया, नागालैण्ड की सरकार अपनी व्यवस्था से वेटरनरी की शिक्षा देने का काम कर रही है। उसके लिए बिल्डिंग भी बनाई है, सत्र भी शुरू किया है। उसका फंक्शन उन्होंने किया था, उसमें मुझे ले गए थे। जब वहां दोनों सदनों से मंजूरी मिलेगी, फिर हम पैसे देंगे। चूंकि पूर्वोत्तर में हम 100 प्रतिशत देते हैं, इसलिए केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय के माध्यम से हम 100 प्रतिशत देते हैं, तो निश्चित रूप से जब वह बनेगा, उसका उद्घाटन करेंगे। उस समय हम और आप दोनों साथ चलेंगे। पहले से हमने ऐसा काम नहीं किया है। पहले से वे अपना प्राइवेट रूप से चला रहे हैं, उसके फंक्शन में मैं गया था।

आज से 22-23 वर्ष पहले जब इम्फाल में यूनिवर्सिटी की स्थापना हुई थी, उसके बाद इन 22 वर्षों में पूर्वोत्तर में सात कॉलेज खोले गए, लेकिन इन पिछले दो वर्षों में हमने पांच कॉलेजों को प्रारम्भ किया है और छठे कॉलेज को भी प्रारम्भ करने जा रहे हैं। पूर्वोत्तर के विकास के लिए हमारी सरकार की पूरी प्रतिबद्धता है। पूरे देश में यह सोच है कि पूर्वोत्तर का विकास होगा, तभी देश का विकास होगा।

हमारे प्रधानमंत्री जी की पहली प्राथमिकता है कि यदि देश को आगे ले जाना है तो पूर्वोत्तर को आगे ले जाना होगा, इसीलिए वहां जाते हैं, रात भी वहां बिताते हैं। अब हर महीने भारत सरकार का कोई न कोई मंत्री आपको पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में निश्चित रूप से घूमते हुए दिखाई देगा। यह हमारी प्रतिबद्धता का प्रमाण है। नागालैण्ड, जो 20-21 वर्षों से कृषि शिक्षा एवं एलाइड सेक्टर की शिक्षा से दूर रहा है। वहां के मुख्यमंत्री जी दो-तीन बार आए, उन्होंने सहमति दी और आज का यह विधेयक नागालैण्ड की कृषि क्षेत्र में एवं एलाइड सेक्टर में विकास को गति देगा। इसीलिए मैं सदन से

* गृहकार्य पत्रक सत्रकार्यक्रमों के लिए पत्रक सत्रकार्यक्रमों के लिए.