

[Shri Harish Rawat]

as Vice Chancellors who win our favour, i.e. politicians' favour. This has caused great resentment among the agricultural scientists. I want that you should ask the State Government to appoint agricultural scientists as Vice Chancellors of their agriculture universities.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : I rise to support the demands of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

I congratulate the Prime Minister and the hon. Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development for introducing the crop insurance scheme. At present this scheme is restricted to only four crops—paddy, wheat, oilseeds and pulses. I would request that this scheme should be extended to cover other crops as well like maize, bajra and sugar-cane which are also exposed to natural calamities.

The Government is fixing the prices of agricultural produce on the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission on which the farmers are not represented. I demand that the farmers should be represented on it. The number of members on the Commission at present is three. This number should be increased to five and three of them should be from the farmers' side so that the farmers' interest is safeguarded.

India has emerged as one of the major producers of fish in the world. Among the Commonwealth countries, India must be in the first position. It is the eighth largest producer of fish in the world. During 1983-84, the country produced 21.4 lakh tonnes of fish of which 16.4 lakh tonnes was contributed by the marine sector and 10 lakh tonnes by the inland sector. It was expected that the country would earn Rs. 400 crores of foreign exchange through export of marine products. The poorest of the poor of the society are engaged in fish production. Now, in the States like Orissa, the fishermen are much more in number and so I would request that the fisheries development schemes which have been submitted by the State Government of Orissa to the Central Government may be approved soon.

In this connection I would like to mention about one project in my own

constituency, Kasafal, in Balasore district. That is to be implemented with the financial assistance from the Norwegian Government. That scheme needs to be cleared by the Government and the agreement needs to be executed soon.

One word about rural development. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for Rural Development for his wise decision of allotting 20 per cent of the NREP funds for raising social forestry which will be extended to all the villages from this year. It is a very wise decision and I should congratulate him for that.

Apart from this, one more word regarding RLEGP. I am very grateful to our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who was the only person who knew the misery of the rural poor, for which the RLEGP programme was introduced. I would request the hon. Minister to allot more funds to the backward States like Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar etc. for this purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister will reply to the debate day after tomorrow.

20.08 hrs.

[English]

#### ARREST OF MEMBER

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to inform the House that the following telegram dated 29 April, 1985, addressed to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, has been received from the Commissioner of Police, Egmore, Madras, today :—

"I have the honour to inform you that Shri N. V. N. Somu, M. P., was arrested at about 10.10 hours today, 29.4.85, at E. V. R. Salai near Ribbon building, Madras, in G2 Police Station, crime No. 402/85, under section 143 IPC, 41 Madras City Police Act read with section 7 (1) Criminal Law (Amendment) Act when he along with others assembled there in order to go in a procession to picket the Southern Railway Office, Madras, in violation of the orders under section 41 of Madras City Police Act in force."

20.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, May 2, 1985/ Vaisakha 12, 1907 (Saka).