

Dhanruablock in Patna district in Jahanabad constituency, are bringing water from outside to save their lives.

The State Government is unable to provide drinking water to all these villages. Therefore, my submission to the Central Government is that the long term scheme be prepared and implemented soon to make available the drinking water there.

13.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then Adjourned for Lunch till Thirty minutes past fourteen of the clock

14.35 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Bills for considering and passing.

Shri Balram Jakhar.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move: *

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of a University, for the North-Eastern region for the development of agriculture and for the furtherance of the advancement of learning and prosecution of research in agriculture and allied sciences in that region, be taken into consideration."

The North Eastern Region States namely Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur,

Nagaland, Tripura and Mizoram have no State Agricultural University to cater to their needs. And it was a long-standing desire and a practical need to have an agricultural set-up for coming out with the required knowledge so that it could be percolating down to the general farmers of that area. The requirements of manpower in the years to come in the technical sphere was much more needed. And I would give the figures, about 500 agricultural graduates and 300 each in other areas of specialisation such as Horticulture, Forestry, Animal Production, Veterinary Science, Fisheries, Agriculture Engineering and Home Sciences. So, it was a long-standing desire of that area also. Other States in the country as a whole have had their share; they have Agricultural Universities. In certain States, there are two. Even there are other set-ups, a sort of mini University, extension service. But this part of the country was denied of this.(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Why?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It was due to the smaller size of the States. There were no other provisions for that. So, I am going to make it up. We will have to erase that imbalance. We have to create an atmosphere, whereby they can rub shoulders with the other advanced regions of the country and we cannot neglect that sector.....(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Very late wisdom.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Better late than never. It must be done. I have felt that there is a need. I had to do a lot of things, preparing the ground and all that. I think, this is a right step in that direction. Even we have got some other colleges to be affiliated with this. In each State, practically we have got College of Agriculture in Manipur; College of Veterinary Sciences in Mizoram; College of Fisheries Sciences in Tripura; College of Horticulture and Forestry in Arunachal Pradesh; College of Home Sciences in

*Moved with the recommendation of the President of India.

Meghalaya; College of Agricultural Engineering and Post Harvest Technology, Sikkim and College of Post Graduate Studies in Meghalaya under the ICAR research complex at Barapani. All these will be coordinating with each other; cooperating with each other. There will be a sort of infrastructure for teaching the students and preparing the ground for furtherance of our extension services. If you do not know, then you cannot. People who have taken up this knowledge to their hearts have come up; their incomes are higher and they are contributing a lot to the welfare of the community as a whole to the nation's kitty.

Naturally, it was a long-standing desire of the region. I think, we have met it at this time. And though it is late, I think we will make

up for the lost time, we will hasten the steps and create an infrastructure where we will be proud of it. I think, this is not a thing which can be debated. There can be no two opinions about it. All of us wanted that region to come up and be one with us.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of a University, for the North-Eastern region for the development of agriculture and for the furtherance of the advancement of learning and prosecution of research in agriculture and allied sciences in that region, be taken into consideration."

The time allotted for this Bill is two hours. Each political party is allotted the following time:

Congress (I)	-	52 minutes
B.J.P.	-	25 minutes
Janata Dal	-	12 minutes
CPI (M)	-	7 minutes
CPI	-	3 minutes
AIADMK	-	2 minutes
And other political parties	-	one minute each

Shri Shivalal Nagjibhai Vekaria.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA (Rajkot): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak on the Bill regarding Central Agriculture University.

There is no proper arrangement to impart training to farmers regarding the adoption of scientific methods for cultivation. The steps taken to remove the backwardness in the eastern region was very essential. For that I would like to congratulate the Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the basis of 45 years of experience after independence we can say that we have been lagging behind in the field of agriculture. We could not make such progress in the field of agriculture as that was required. Concrete steps have not been taken in this field. It is a matter of pleasure that the steps have been taken to develop the eastern region though belated. The countries in the world where there is less rainfall have made much progress. There is less rainfall in Australia. It too exports flowers to the entire world as a result of its much

developed horticulture whereas it is our misfortune that we import wheat and other commodities despite adequate area of agricultural land, much rainfall and availability of other resources. We should be self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains. But it is not so. Ours is an agricultural country. But agriculture has been neglected here. It is the only reason that we are not self-reliant in respect of foodgrains and are bound to import foodgrains.

I hope that we would be able to achieve objectives of the Bill that is about Central Agricultural University. But there is a need to include some more things in its objectives. Different items are produced in different States in the country. Therefore, knowledge relating to products produced in every area should be made available to the people living there. If there is a scheme of the Central Government to provide such facilities to each district of every State, the objectives of the Bill can be achieved otherwise not. Therefore, there is a need to pay attention towards it.

The President is the Chancellor of this institution. But the Government should avail the services of such people who have scientific knowledge of agriculture. As the hon Minister has also said that special attention should be paid in this direction. The achievements should be made public throughout the country so that people may be benefited. All these things should be included in the Bill.

Time is short. That is why I could not express my views completely. With these words I conclude expressing my gratitude to you.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with great pleasure I support this Bill and heartily congratulate the Government of India, particularly our hon. Minister of Agriculture for having come to the House with this present Bill.

This is a welcome Bill. The hon. Minister

in his initial remarks has already observed that in the absence of a University of this sort in the North-Eastern region, naturally there was some sort of imbalance and this Bill is aimed to remove that.

As you know, Sir, ours is an agricultural country. Agriculture is the mainstay of our economy and all our efforts have to be made for the advancement of agriculture, which means production has to be increased and together with that, we have to give emphasis on raising the productivity and improving the quality.

We had our first Agricultural University in the country in Pantnagar in U.P. and since then the Government has been encouraging the setting up of Agricultural Universities - at least one in every State - and by now there are universities of this kind established in almost all the States, except in eight small States.

As has been pointed out, because of the size, population etc., it was not possible earlier for the Agricultural Universities to be set up in every North-Eastern State. Now the Government of India is going to set up a Central University. As you know, 'Agriculture' is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and by this act of Parliament, we will be authorising the Government of India for such a welcome measure to materialise. So, there is no controversy about it and it is a very welcome measure. At the same time, I would like to make some observations. We are having so many agricultural - universities - and the objective is quite clear, that is, to impart agricultural education to our young educated persons, young educated graduates. Those who want to devote themselves to agricultural job, they are to be imparted this training. They will be given agricultural education. Secondly, they will be given practical training in respect of problems pertaining to agriculture. They will be acquainted with field problems. Thirdly it is also very important that to integrate this research knowledge with practical outlook, to have a combination of these things, to carry the fruits of the research to the fields, which is an extension, there should be some

sort of happy integration between the agricultural research work and also its expertise which is to be carried to the field. But what is painfully being observed is that in the field we do not see this happening. The Universities are there. There is something being done there. There is no doubt. There is a lot of scope for improvement in the research work being done in this area. Much remains to be done in this area. Greater coordination is called for between our agricultural scientists and also the officers of the agricultural department who are in the field. I would request the hon. Minister also to do something about it. He is a 'Krishi Pandit'. He knows the problems quite well, much more than we do. He should also address himself to these problems.

In Eastern India, in States like Bihar, Orissa or West Bengal and in North Eastern States, the main crop is paddy. The productivity or the per-acre yield there is quite below than what is in some States like Punjab, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh. The irrigation in the North East and North Eastern region is not adequate. There is some facility; but it is not adequate. That is far below the national average in terms of irrigation facilities. The productivity is not there. I would again request the hon. Minister that while this is a Bill pertaining to establishment of agricultural university which will be dedicated to the advancement and cause of agriculture in those far and remote areas, the conditions obtaining there cannot be compared or are not comparable with the conditions which are there in Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh etc. The same is the case with regard to Orissa, parts of Bihar and West Bengal. These are specific problems. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly do something about the productivity.

This is also a challenge because in some parts you put more fertiliser for better yield. We agree that fertiliser is a must. We agree that pesticides must be used. But there has to be realisation as to how much an agriculturist or a farmer can spend in various areas which differs from area to area. The

input cost, the agricultural cost etc. will have a bearing on the output and also the yield.

Therefore, there should be research. Then only our poor farmers will stand to gain to a large extent in different backward areas. It again calls for a revolutionary change in cropping pattern, dryland farming etc. Today we are discussing about import of wheat. In certain areas, in command areas, if the farmer grows paddy in the entire area it may not yield much. Instead of that there is a sort of formula by which they can go for 60 per cent for heavy duty and 25 per cent medium duty or light crop. Due because of lack of coordination and proper publicity and encouragement by the Government in different States it is not achieved and everybody goes for heavy duty. Also when it is dry in summer, there is dearth of water and the crop also withers away from the fields. On the other hand, instead of paddy if they grow something like wheat etc., there will not be any harm to the crop.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I am coming to a close, Sri. Again, when we are talking of the University, we know, Sir, that there is another very heartening feature in this field and that is that when the University is going to be located at one place, all its affiliated colleges, all its components, are not going to be centralised at one place. The Headquarters in this case will be at Imphal, the Capital of Manipur, with different colleges at different States. The College of Agriculture will be in Manipur as the Minister was also telling, and the College of veterinary Science will be at Mizoram. Like this in all other States also we will have some colleges. It is a very very welcome measure.

With regard to big states, when we have the University Headquarters in different State Capitals, as for example, we have at Bhubaneswar the Headquarters of the University, similarly different disciplines should be adopted out in different important places. So, this is a very good thing. But, regarding the appointment of personnel, Sir,

the President of India will be the Visitor and he will appoint of Vice-Chancellor etc. *About the appointment of Vice-Chancellor, you know, when we talk of a University, the concept of autonomy naturally comes into our mind. But the real autonomy is not * there in the field. Earlier, Sir, eminent educationists and other people of eminence were being persuaded and appointed as Vice-Chancellor etc., but today in different States, only because somebody is close to some Minister or bureaucrat, mediocre are being appointed with the result the University does suffer and the noble purpose underlying the establishment of the University to give them autonomy and also to do research work and so on is defeated and the University becomes a centre of nasty politics etc. in many places.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are many Members to speak. Please conclude.

SHRISRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, right type of people should be chosen and in the Agricultural University people who are well qualified in this particular discipline should be appointed. In some areas I find generalists are being appointed whereas Agricultural Scientists are being appointed as Vice-Chancellors of some Universities other than the Agricultural Universities. This is also happening. So, care should be taken to see that the right type of people are appointed in this University. Agriculture is one area which was neglected. There is lot of scope for improvement in the field of agriculture. This very measure of establishing the Agricultural University is a welcome measure. So, I give all support to this Bill.

With these words, Sir, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for introducing a well intentioned Bill, after deep thinking on the issue, in the House for setting up a university for the development of agriculture in the remote areas of Eastern India.

I would like to submit that a sum of only Rs. 64 crores has been allocated for the same in the Eighth Five Year Plan. I think this amount is quite insufficient for setting up the proposed university, especially when its campuses are also proposed to be set up in 6 other States. Therefore, this meager allocation needs to be revised upwards.

15.00 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

In addition to it, I would like to submit that regarding admission policy the hon. Minister should announce a clear cut policy. Because it has been seen that for admission in engineering and medical colleges in northern and eastern States of India names are forwarded by other States too, where such technical colleges are already functioning, on the basis of production of fake domicile certificates by students thereby causing widespread discontentment in these States. The Government should seriously ponder over these points because as per the provisions of the Bill every year 600 Agricultural Graduates and 300 specialists/experts will come out of the university. When such a low number of farm experts are likely to come out of the university then it should be guaranteed that only permanent resident students of these States will be admitted in the university. I think this way discontentment simmering among the permanent residents of these States can easily be checked.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, further I would like to submit that the accepted structure of the proposed university is just the prototype of the structure of the Kendriya Vidyalaya. Regarding the appointment of the Chancellor, it has been stated that:

[*English*]

"The Chancellor shall hold office for a term of five years and shall not be eligible for reappointment"

[Translation]

It is quite justified that the Chancellor shall hold office for a term of five years and shall not be eligible for reappointment. Further it has been said that -

[English]

"Provided that notwithstanding the expiry of his term of office, the Chancellor shall continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office."

[Translation]

It means the Chancellor will continue to hold office until the appointment of his successor. This way a scope for the continuation in office of a Chancellor, even after the expiry of his 5 years term, has been made. However, there is no mention in the Bill nor in the Objects and Reasons of the Bill about the maximum period upto which a Chancellor can continue to hold office even after the expiry of his 5 year term. Similar provision too has been made regarding the appointment of the Vice Chancellor.....

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Sir, I am on a point of order. Shri Mohan Singh belongs to my party, but while he is making his speech, a few Members of the B.J.P. have left the House.....

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Sir, I am not one of those who can easily be discouraged and discouraged from making their point in the House.

Regarding the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor it has been proposed in the beginning that

[English]

"The vice-chancellor shall hold office for a term of five years."

[Translation]

In all the universities the term of the Vice-Chancellor has been fixed at 5 years. In my opinion the 3 years' term for a Vice-Chancellor is sufficient, but in the Bill the 5 years' term has been proposed for a Vice-Chancellor. Further the Bill says that -

[English]

"Provided that notwithstanding the expiry of the said period of five years, he shall continue in office until his successor is appointed and enters upon his office."

[Translation]

Till the new incumbent enters upon office the Vice-Chancellor will continue in office even after the expiry of his 5 year term. Further the Bill says that -

[English]

"Provided further that the visitor may direct any Vice-Chancellor after his term has expired, to continue in office for such period, not exceeding a total period of one year, as may be specified by him."

[Translation]

Therefore, this way, for all practical purposes the term of the Vice-Chancellor has been extended by one year viz has been made 6 years, as per the provisions of the Bill. I think this is against the conventions in vogue in the country. It should not have been provided because I think in no circumstances the term of the Vice-Chancellor should exceed 3 years and if the term has really been praiseworthy and outstanding then the person holding the office could be reappointed. However, if such a provision is made for one term, then I think it will prove to be counter productive. Therefore, if appointment is made straightaway for 6 year term then it will not be in the fitness of things and will also be against the established conventions of first appointing the Vice-Chancellor for 5 years and then extending the tenure by one year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these suggestions, I broadly welcome the Bill introduced in the House.

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on the Central Agricultural University Bill.

It is welcome the Central Government has come with the present Bill to set up Central Agricultural University in the North-Eastern region which is a very long-standing demand of the people of that area. You are all aware that the entire area is broadly dependent on agriculture and practically there is no industry worth the name. The people of that area, as mentioned by the hon. Minister, belong to different nationalities and are at different levels of development. At the same time, the production and productivity in the area is also very poor. Assam also, which is adjacent State of that area, is very poor in production and productivity. It is said that Assam which is close to this region has to spend more than Rs. 700 crores annually on poultry, horticulture, fish etc. All these items are bought from outside. Therefore, setting up of the University will give ample opportunity for the local students and their talent can be fully harnessed. The University may go a long way in fulfilling their aspirations. But what I think is, only setting up of the University cannot fulfill the entire hopes and aspirations of the people of that area. I have already said that the entire area is poor in production and productivity because practically there is no irrigation arrangement. Even the fertilizer use in the area is very low and is used mostly in tea gardens, not to speak of hilly areas. In Assam also, the irrigation was about eight percent to ten percent. Only setting up of the university will not fulfill the hopes and aspirations of the people unless the fruits of the research work done in the university are not adopted to suit the local conditions in the area.

What we have seen is, about Rs. 64000 crores will be spent during the Eighth Plan and the other expenditure would be spent

from the subsequent plan. But it is not enough. I hope the Minister will think about it. What we have seen is, already some of the Agricultural Universities are starving of funds for starting the work in research and developmental work. I think, along with the setting up of the University, the Central Government should arrange to provide funds so that adequate funds are given for research work and the work can be conducted properly. Again, the entire area of the different regions depends on horticulture, in fishery, animal husbandry forest produce etc. So, what is important is that agriculture and other allied subjects should be taken up separately and attention to research work in agriculture and other allied subjects should be conducted separately.

I hope this Bill will go a long way not only in setting up of the University but also in fulfilling the aspirations of the people of this area because in this area, there is a feeling that the Centre is neglecting that area and there is lot of discontent because of absence of agricultural, educational and industrial development in the region and taking cover of all these things, the secessionist and extremist forces are getting very much active and there is lot of violence taking place there. It is said already that the political leaders in Delhi are very much insensitive to the feelings and problems of the people of that area and this feeling is gaining ground and the people are getting alienated.

So, along with the setting up of new University, the Central Government will think over so that other problems of that area are properly and urgently attended to and ways and means are found out to solve the problems and to remove the discontent of the people of that area.

With these words, I welcome this Bill and hope that it will help in the development of that area.

DR. C. SILVERA (Mizoram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill and I congratulate the hon. Minister and the Government of India for introducing the Bill and I request hon. Members of the House to

support this Bill.

It is a long-felt need of the North-Eastern people. The people of North-Eastern region feel neglected because of inadequate materials and facilities to educate our people and also improving the economy of the people of North-Eastern India.

As you are aware, North-Eastern States are mainly hilly areas. The communication system is very bad and also because of its topography and geographical nature, it is very difficult to compete with the rest of the country. Most of the people living in North-Eastern areas are of tribal origin and it is because of the feeling of this negligence that lot of insurgency has come up in various States.

I am very grateful to the Government for fulfilling this long-felt need of the setting up of this University.

As you are very much aware, 80 per cent of the people of North-Eastern area are agriculturists and there is no infrastructure as in other parts of the country.

According to the Bill, almost all the States in India, except eight States have Agricultural Universities and this Central Agriculture University which is to be situated at Imphal in the North-Eastern region is to be shared by six States of the North-Eastern area.

I think the Government will have to be very careful in handling this University because, from past experience, we have this sort of difficulty. We had a University called North-Eastern Hill University which is supposed to be for four State and after it comes into existence, almost all the constituent States have their own Universities. It is meant for Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram and for Meghalaya. Of course, Arunachal Pradesh have got their own University. Now, Nagaland has got its own University. This NEHU is how

shared by only two States - Meghalaya and Mizoram. Mizoram is also trying to have its own University because of various reasons. This Central Agricultural University which is to be established at Imphal, I am afraid and I hope not, will face the same fate as the NEHU. When the University is shared by different States, there is a lot of competition. I may say that there is a lot of jealousy among the constituents States because, usually, the lion's share is owned by the State where the University is situated. That is what happened in the NEHU also. A State like Mizoram does not have any University. It does not have any technical college, not to speak of Medical College or any Engineering colleges. It does not have a University of its own. It does not have a technical college at all. I am surprised that when the other States are having their own Universities and technical colleges like in Manipur where they have already got the Regional Medical College, to give another University for six States to share is strange and I feel that some injustice has been done to some of the States. I would like to warn the Central Government that the Government will have to be very very careful in handling this University. Of course, it is welcome. Something is better than nothing. But, I think the Central Government will have to see to its smooth running. I hope that a time will not come when each State is compelled to demand an Agricultural University of its own. That will certainly depend on the Central Government how it is going to handle this University.

Sir, as I said earlier, the North-Eastern States have been neglected and that is why the insurgency has come up. With this gesture, I hope and pray that the people of the North-Eastern States would have some sort of a satisfaction and they will try to make the best use of this University.

As I said earlier, almost all the Eastern States are of hilly regions. Of course, the potential is very good. The only problem is that we do not have any technical infrastructure facilities. If infrastructure is established in the North-Eastern areas, I think a lot could be expected from them. I

also feel that the Government will have to be very careful in selecting the staff of this University because, as we said, the constituent States of this University are going to be of rather backward States like Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya. There will be a lot of competition regarding the appointment of staff. Of course, the qualification will have to be considered, but while considering the qualification, the distribution of seats among the States will have to be considered very seriously. The question of seat allotment of the University and the Colleges also will have to be thought of carefully.

Sir, according to the Bill, the headquarters of the University shall be at Imphal in the State of Manipur and it can also establish Campuses at such other places within its jurisdiction as it may deem fit. The Campuses will have to be established in various States. I do not know how the Central Government is going to consider this. There is a talk that an Agricultural College will be established in Mizoram. And the people are very anxious to have this agriculture college. Unless and until this University is established it will not be possible to establish campuses in various States. I urge upon the Central Government to start this University as early as possible.

About the staff members, I want to say one thing. North-Eastern States being isolated some people from the plains- thinking that the price is risky or not - do not like to be in the North-Eastern States. Just to make a point is not enough. I have read an article by name, 'Suitcase officers'. It said that most of the IAS and IPS officers who are posted in the North-Eastern States, they go there only with their suitcase and having their quarters retained in Delhi, they put their families there. And the moment they land in the North-Eastern region, they try for transfer either to Delhi or to some other place. Even if they are there they remain there for a few days and try to come back to Delhi at the slightest excuse. I hope that all those people who are going to be in the University and the college will not be like the suitcase officers who want to be there for the purpose of

appointment and most of the time somewhere else.

I have many things to say. But I would like to take this opportunity to say that the Mizoram State is asking for a university and that is also mentioned in the Memorandum of Settlement between the MNF and the Central Government. It is in Clause 12 (ii) of the Memorandum of Settlement wherein a university is promised by the Central Government and a detailed project report has been submitted to the Central Government. I hope that the Central Government will seriously consider granting a university as promised in the Memorandum of Settlement between the MNF and the Central Government.

Once again, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity and the people of North-Eastern States, I am sure, will join me in thanking the Central Government. I hope and pray that all the Members of this House will support this Bill.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Sir, it is a welcome measure to set up a Central Agricultural University catering to the needs of the entire North-Eastern region comprising of States like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Tripura. While welcoming this venture of setting up a new agricultural university, I hope that this will not be just another agricultural university as we have established many of such universities all over the country. Specially, the North-Eastern region is a beautiful part of India. The land is fertile. There is plenty of water resources. In fact, the people, as being mentioned, living in this region have not very much taken to this agricultural operations. What I mean to say is that the activities of this new university will have to be divided more and more into allied activities like the crop production, water management and also controlling of plants, pests and diseases. More attention will have to be given for development of horticultural and floricultural activities, side by side encouraging the animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry etc.

Today, we have been seeing that a number of students are coming out of these universities, getting degrees after degrees and holding bachelor's or master's degree in agricultural sciences. But it is a sorry state of affair that a number of such graduates, they either wander for jobs or they are employed not actually in the agricultural operations but they are sometimes found employed in the banks and in some other engineering industries. So, what I would suggest is that more attention will have to be devoted for imparting extension education as contemplated in the Bill itself. More and more men should be trained for the development of farms, land management, water management, pest control, development of agriculture, horticulture etc. and due importance should also be given for marketing.

So, rather than giving more attention for admitting a number of students and ultimately conferring them with the degrees, the university shall endeavour to pick up such able bodied people from the area, give them proper training and make them to take up agricultural development work. The resources available should be properly exploited and that way, this should be developed into a modern university.

With regard to admission to the university, various courses that would be conducted and the education that would be imparted by this university, as was being mentioned a little while ago, the Bill does not specify as to whether the admission to this university is specifically limited to this region or it is open to all. As I can see from the provisions of the Bill, in one breath, it says that it is open to all. A careful examination is required when the intention in setting up of this university is to give the benefit to the people living in this region and people who can devote more and more attention to the developmental activities in this part of the country. Definitely, a provision will have to be made in the Bill and in the Act giving certain percentage of reservation to the people from the region. Then only, probably, the benefit

that is envisaged in setting up of this university particularly for the region could be made available or could be availed by the people of the region.

The other provisions are routine and most of them are concerned about the management of the university, appointment, the way to impart education, etc. By experience we may look into all these at a later date and if necessary certain changes and modifications could be made. Now, as it is, when the Government of India has come forward to make an investment of the order of more than Rs. 65 crore, a major portion of which would be spent by the Government of India itself, care should be taken to see that the money is properly utilized and the basic infrastructures are obtained in the beginning stage itself. We find normally in such cases that most of the funds would be utilized for construction of buildings and construction of residential provisions for the teachers and other people working in such universities. Naturally now in the beginning we may have to get in people from other parts of the country to work in this university. But care should be taken to see that minimum requirement only is provided and the major portion of the funds that would be allocated should be spent for obtaining the infrastructure for giving more and more training, for research work and for developmental activities.

It has been said that the major portion of the amount is likely to be spent in the course of the 8th Five Year Plan itself. I would suggest to the Government that let the university be set up as early as possible without waiting for the whole period of the 8th Plan and let this basic work be taken up as early as possible.

With these words I support this Bill.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. Almost all the hon. Members who spoke before me have supported the Bill and also they have emphasized about the necessity of the establishment of an

agricultural university for the north-eastern States. So I need not elaborate it further.

This Bill proposes for the establishment of an agricultural university for the advancement of learning and for carrying of research work in agricultural and allied sciences. The establishment of this agricultural university has been a long felt need and also a long-standing demand of the people of that region. As you know and almost all the hon. Members of the House know, the people of that region feel that they are neglected in all respects. When the youth, mostly the students, who come back from their studies from far off places to their States find that they do not have enough opportunities when compared with their counterparts in other States, they are very much disappointed. So they take up arms because of their frustration and they turn out to be extremists. Some of them have gone underground and have revolted also. So, this is the unrest that is happening there. Politically, it will be beneficial to the nation, to the country, to set up this University. It will very much help in satisfying the youths who are frustrated and disappointed. In this context, I think, not only from the academic considerations but also from the consideration of setting the unrest in the region, it will be very helpful. So, I welcome this.

We, the people on that side of the region, do not want to be ungrateful. We are very much grateful to the Central Government, particularly to the hon. Minister who is looking after the agriculture portfolio. We consider that it is a gift, it is a generous gift to the people of that region because we think that the establishment of this University will further the advancement of the people of that area. It is correct to say this. Some other hon. Members also stated that more than 80 per cent of the population of the North-Eastern region - of these States - are agriculturists.

There are not big industries; but small scale industries are there. So, agriculture is the very important subject for making the people of that area establish well. So, we are very much grateful to the Central Government

and particularly to the hon. Minister-in-charge of agriculture.

It is correct to say that this region is really neglected. Whenever any problem is considered or discussed, the region is not mentioned. Even for example, when we discuss the damages by flood and damages by drought, the area is not mentioned, as if there has not been any drought and there has not been any flood. Really there has been flood in Manipur, there has been drought in the area and the people have suffered greatly on account of these. We have also approached the Central Government for relief; but much attention is not paid to the problems of these States. There are so many big States and big problems are there. If there is any flood in big States and if there is any drought in big States, the attention of the Central Government is drawn towards them and much attention is not paid to North-Eastern region. In the North-Eastern region, small States are there and people are not so aggressive, as they have a few representatives in this House. I represent Manipur here and mine is a lone voice; so, I cannot impress much in this House. Even when we discussed this in the morning, they have referred to Bihar, UP and some other big States. They have not mentioned about Manipur. As a matter of fact, there has been drought; as a matter of fact, there has been flood. Much damages have taken place, but who cared? People in that region, mostly the youth and grown-ups, feel very much neglected, disappointed and frustrated.

In this context, such gifts from the hon. Agriculture Minister will be taken very warmly. I will not make a lengthy speech because I have sensed that the House will support and pass this Bill. I will touch upon only a few points.

As regards the necessity, it has almost been mentioned. Even our hon. Minister has stated elaborately that there is a necessity here. At one time, the region, particularly Manipur, was regarded as the eastern granary of the country. It was stated by our late lamented Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, when he visited the area. When he found the

fields of paddy, he remarked, oh, that is the eastern granary of this country. Now it becomes a deficit State. We have to ask for foodgrains from the Centre and from any other places. So, it becomes a deficit area.

By establishing this university with headquarters at Imphal, capital of Manipur, I think, much will come to this north-eastern region.

I would like to join with our other hon. Members who have cautioned the Government for taking care while making appointments of the Vice-Chancellor and also others. I also agree to that. We want persons to be appointed as Vice-Chancellor or any responsible officer who will think that this university is their house. Just now, as my colleague has mentioned, the officers who have come from Delhi, are briefcase or suitcase officers. If they are appointed, they will try to offer excuses for not attending their office or they will take leave so many times. So, it is an experience. It is a much spoken remark against them. Therefore, while making appointments, I will request the hon. Minister to look into it.

Lastly, I come to the execution part of it. We would rather urge the Government to take immediate steps to set up a university at the earliest possible time so that the wishes of the people can be fulfilled.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister of Agriculture for brining forward this Bill. I wish that all the hon. Members of this House will support this Bill because this is a popular Bill.

First of all, the hon. Minister has tried to remove the regional imbalance. In south-eastern States, for eight States, there was no university. Central agricultural university was not there. The Minister has considered and our hon. Prime Minister has also agreed to establish this university there in this region.

The Government is also going to spend Rs. 64.30 crore. That is why all the Members of this House should congratulate the Minister.

One thing is there. After careful consideration by the committee under national agricultural research project, they had disclosed that in these eight States, there is much potentiality. If it could be tapped, then it could be much more beneficial for this country. Sir, you know that though our population is exceeding more than 84 crores now, we are still better than the people of Russia and other big countries of the world because by agricultural research, by extending and expanding agricultural production, we are assured of our own food. That is why, our country is much more safer than some other countries of the world.

Regarding import of wheat, you have argued that wheat is available in our country. We are not to support the purchase of wheat from outside. This is the matter of debate on the Floor now. We are not far behind in agricultural production in comparison to other countries of the world.

You have selected the site as Imphal, Manipur. I have heard the speeches of the hon. Members. Though they were stressing on their own State, they were agreeable on one point that there should be one University Commission. The Committee has chosen this place because this might be the central place and for all the other eight States, there will be a campus of the Central Agricultural University. So, there will not be much difficulty for other States. In Clause 6, it is said:

"The jurisdiction and responsibility of the University with respect to teaching, research and programmes of extension education at the University level in the field of agriculture shall extend to the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura."

In my opinion, one thing is lacking. Reservation of seats in the eight States should be pointed out in the Bill. In future,

there will be a chaotic situation and every State will fight for their seats to be reserved. That is why, from the beginning, this House should give its recommendation that seats should be reserved for the eighth States. Capacity of seats in each faculty should also be mentioned. Clause 23 says:

"The University shall have such faculties as may be prescribed by the Statute."

This Bill has been prepared in the form of other Central Agricultural University Bills which were placed before this House for its sanction earlier. Our motto should be to see that new faculties are included in this Bill. Sir, agricultural universities and also KVIC centres which also come under Central Agricultural University are serving agricultural development in our country by way of science, research production and productivity. I have nothing to say against the Bill and I have only to support this Bill. We are striving hard so that our agricultural development keeps pace with the agricultural development of the world. And we are coming up and improving gradually.

One of the hon. Members has stated that there is no university in Mizoram, therefore this university should be situated in Mizoram. Sir, there is a University in Mizoram. There is one agricultural college also. The only thing that I would suggest is that there should also be a campus near that college so that there will not be any difficulty with regard to agricultural development, research work, etc.

As regards the tenure of the Vice-Chancellor and other officials who conduct the day to day business and who would be in charge of administration, etc. I have no objection whatsoever. There is only one thing. I would like to impress here that the money provided should be earmarked specifically and it should be clearly indicated as to within how many years, this work should be completed and it would come into action or start functioning. That should be stipulated here. Otherwise, if these things are delayed, there is no use of bringing this

Bill and pressing for its passage with these words, I once again thank the Chairman and conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank the hon. Minister that he is going to fulfill the demands of the people of an Eastern State. Ours is an agricultural country and we always claim that 70-75 per cent of our total population is in agriculture. But we have not been able to make development in this sector to the extent we should have made. We have an example for it. China became free only after we got independence; and it made such a speedy development in agriculture that it has attained the top position in the world. We are at lower position in comparison to that country. Our land is very fertile; it cannot be matched with that of China; even then our production is very low. The reason behind it is that the agricultural experts have not been able to develop techniques to increase the production to the required extent or if developed, these benefits have not been made available in the rural areas are to be trained as to how they should use the techniques and increase production. Punjab is a state in our country where production is adequate; however the main hurdle in the development has been the non-availability of good quality of seeds. Since we have been unable to develop good quality of seeds in the country, we fail to fulfill the requirements of farmers in this respect throughout the county. The other mistake is committed when officers purchase sub-standard seeds and provide them at block levels. This decreases the production rate to less than 30 per cent. Besides, whatever the produce is, it is of substandard quality and also inadequate due to which farmers find themselves incapable to get even the cost price of their produce. The hon. Minister should look into all these things because he always emphasizes that he is after all, a farmer and thus it does not matter whether he is a minister or holding some other post.

Funds earmarked for this purpose in the Eighth Five Year Plan are inadequate; and it

would take years together to complete this project. Therefore, the Government should allocate adequate funds for the purpose so that the project is started and also completed in time.

The crops our farmers grow, suffer from many diseases, due to which our production decreases by 20 per cent. Therefore, the scientists from Agriculture Universities and colleges who are engaged in the research work should go to villages and make the rural people aware of such diseases so that more and more people may detect the diseases and cure them in time. Though it is very much in the knowledge of the hon. Minister that most of the pesticides being manufactured for the purpose are spurious which rather increase the pests instead of killing them but it is beyond his power to control the situation. Pesticide manufacturers have conspiratorial alliance with the concerned officials and dump such spurious pesticides in the market. How can agriculture develop and farmers prosper in such a circumstances. Until attention is paid to such matters agriculture cannot develop. It has been 40-45 years since we got independence. Had we paid attention to these aspects earlier we would have been at the top in regard to the agricultural production because maximum agriculture is done in our country. Hence all these shortcomings which come in the way of agricultural development should be removed and more and more agricultural scientists should be prepared. Agriculture college or university should be reopened in all the States - whether big or small - where experts in this field are there. This will encourage them to work in this field and provide more and more co-operation.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Central Agriculture University Bill 1992 has been introduced in the House, we welcome it. I am glad that this Bill has been presented by a person who is basically a farmer, and thus he has a considerable knowledge about the condition of the farmers and the prevailing

situation in agriculture. It would have been better if he himself had prepared the prospectus of the proposed Agriculture University.

16.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no doubt that ours is an agricultural country and about 3 out of 4 persons depend on agriculture. Agriculture universities are already there in most of the states of the country but it is a matter of regret that no Agriculture University is there in the eastern border regions. Keeping in view the climate,

geographical conditions and the production of that region Agriculture University was necessary for that region. Since an Agriculture University has been opened now that shortcoming has also been removed. The hon. Minister should be congratulated for this. But on this occasions I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that special attention should be paid to provide technical know-how and practical training there. As the other hon. Members have also suggested and I also agree that it should be comprehensive and special attention should be paid on horticulture, Animal husbandry, forest-life etc.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, referring to the targets fixed for the university. Bill says that 500 graduates would be produced in this university by the year 2000. But, in my opinion, this number would be inadequate by the year 2000 or afterwards and that the target should be further increased. Therefore the range of this University should be widened.

You have said that an estimated expenditure of Rs. 64 crores and 30 lakh is involved in establishment this University. I would like to remind you that a university like this was also envisaged to be set up in U.P. in the name of Ambedkar. The then Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had remarked that it would stand among the best universities

not only of India but of the world also. All sort of subjects would be taught in that university. A sum of Rs. 25 crores was fixed for it. In the beginning, all sort of good things were said about it but later on the fund meant for it was reduced to Rs. 9 crores 50 lakhs and thereafter it was reduced to Rs. 5 crores and further it was reduced to Rs. 2.5 crores. Now the very existence of this university is kept in abeyance. The U.P. Government has been asking the Central Government to take it over. A period of 5-6 years has been passed. No progress has been made in this regard, because no new college has so far been opened and even the classes were not started. You should be much cautious about it otherwise this idea of setting up the university may meet the same fate. It should also be ensured that the estimated amount Rs. 64.30 crores may not be reduced and the existence of it may not be in doldrums.

DR. RAMESH TOMAR (Hapur): The U.P. Government has provided Rs. 300 crores for Ambedkar University....

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: When....

You say that a sum of Rs. 300 crores is given. We do not know about it, but we have just heard about it that Kalyan Singh Government has written a letter whose certified copy is with us. Regarding that University he has written to the central Government that the U.P. Government is unable to run the University. So the Central Government should take over the same. It is one month old affair. In spite of it if you claim that the Central Government has provided a sum of Rs. 300 crores to the U.P. Government and if there is some sense of truth in your statement we are thankful for the Central Government that it has provided financial assistance to the Kalyan Singh Government, which calls itself the champion for the cause of the scheduled castes.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to prolong this issue, I just want to request the hon. Minister to take some concentrate steps so that this scheme does not go into smoke like Ambedkar University scheme.

Sir, lastly I would like to request that you have fixed the tenure of Vice-Chancellor for 5 years under section 4 page 14 of the bill. Just now, some of my colleagues have also stated that you have mentioned about the tenure as 5 years or upto 65 years, whichever is less, in this bill. There are so many universities in the country and moreover we also have been students of these universities by there is no such University in India whose Vice-Chancellor is appointed for 5 years at a stretch. Generally, this tenure is for three years. I would like to request you to kindly consider this point otherwise it may cause a lot of problems.

Sir, the provision clearly states that either it is five year period or to the age of 65 years, whichever is less. Secondly, you have created a post of Director of Education under section 5, page 17. I am unable to understand the justification of creating this post in this university, when there are separate departments for Horticulture, Forestry, Animal Husbandry, Veterinary Science. There will be a head of department in every department and that is more than sufficient. Sir, there are also some other points mentioned in the bill, which are praiseworthy. The Bill consists also a provision regarding maintaining discipline among the students. This is very relevant in the present circumstances. If we can maintain it, it will be a big achievement but you have not made it clear as to how you are going to achieve it, and what steps in particular would be taken. It may be that steps in particular would be taken. It may be that you may set a separate university for it but you must give special attention to it. You have also mentioned about students' organisations, I would like to know, whether there will be an election for this students Organisation and will you make arrangements for this election. A point has been made about students' councils. You have stated that a student can raise any of the issues related to the University before the council. But one does not understand whether this right would be exercised through the students' association or the students union. Why would be its form and which subjects would be covered by it. This may also lead to some agitation in the university.

One last point, and I would like to conclude.

You have not mentioned anything about scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in this Central Agricultural university Bill. In this bill you have provided for the posts of Vice-Chancellor, Director (research), Head of the faculty, Register, Head of Departments as in the case of other universities. Here, I would like to suggest through you that generally, in border areas the number of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is more and therefore due representation should be given according to their percentage of population. An amendment should be made to this effect.

With these words, I express my gratitude you for presenting such a nice bill for the development of border areas. On the very first day of this session you have presented this Bill for the development of agriculture in border areas. I, therefore, welcome it and once again congratulate you.

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): At the outset, I congratulate Shri Balram Jakhar for introducing this Bill, which will be very helpful to the North East Region.

I will not take much time to discuss this Bill. But I would like to point out certain other fields in agriculture which need special consideration, One is the Fisheries.

In Fisheries, there is fish farming, fishing, fish processing and exports. In India, we have got a number of institutions like Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Technology (CIFNET), Central Marine Fisheries research Institute (CMFRI) and Integrated Fisheries Project (IFP). These institutions are functioning separately.

My suggestion to the hon. Minister is whether it is possible to bring all those institutions under a single umbrella and a Central Fisheries University or Institution is

formed so that all these institutions can function under a single body.

There is one more suggestion, in Kerala when the admissions are given to the fisheries schools, the children of the fishermen are given a priority. Similarly, whether it is possible to give some reservation or priority to the children of the farmers when admissions are given to the Agricultural Universities.

Sir, a large number of agricultural universities, like Pantnagar Agriculture University are institutions of par-excellence. But we fail to recognise the professors and teachers who have done enormous work in these universities. These universities have produced very eminent professors, very eminent teachers and their research work is well recognized throughout the world.

So, my request is that the Government of India should take some measures so that these eminent professors are recognised at a proper time.

Coming to this particular Bill, there is nomination of Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors of the universities. When such nominations are made, there should be no political consideration. Many of our universities could not function because the Vice-Chancellors are selected on the basis of political consideration. So., at least for these agricultural universities, when the Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors are selected, it should be on the basis of merit and merit alone.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank the hon. Minister, who has won the election from my neighbouring constituency, for accepting a long standing demand of opening a Central Agriculture university in North-Eastern region and for bringing a Bill in this regard. He has said that 500 students will be able to get education from this university. At this point, I would like

to say that I welcome the Bill introduced by the Hon. Minister. But some things have not been included in it. If those things are included in this Bill, it will be very good for this area. Now it will become possible to conduct agriculture research work in the States and new knowledge in the field of agriculture education and research will be imparted and benefits of research work will be extended to the farmers of that area.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the area will also be provided extensive facilities of training and research in agriculture which did not exist earlier I would like to ask about the location of its headquarters. In this regard no information has been given in the Bill. The hon. Minister has also not said anything in this Bill about the number of laboratories and faculties to be opened in this university. Based on my experience, I would like to say that equipments worth lakhs of rupees are imported from abroad for the laboratories but they remained unutilized because of shortage of power. There is also not any reference to the effect in the Bill that it will not be repeated in this university. I would like to submit on more thing that if the Government appoints Vice-Chancellor of the university from outside the area then its consequences will be the same as have been in other universities. Therefore, it should also be ensured that the person of this area will only be appointed Vice-Chancellor of the university. So far as the term of the Vice-Chancellor is concerned it depends on the Government whether it should be 5 years or 3 years. But the person who performs his duties properly should not removed. The Government may give him as long a terms as it wishes. We have no objection in it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now it should also be considered as to what will be its source of income. Unusually there are two types of expenditure, the first is non-planning expenditure which includes salary, allowances of university employees and maintenance of laboratories and other services of university. The second is the
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so that this university may get assistance from Indian Council of Agriculture Research and International Agriculture Development Agency for its development works. In this field Pusa Institute which is 50 years old and International Crop Research Institute are working in our country under which there are 15-20 agriculture universities I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that agriculture scientists may get training in India, there should extensive facilities of research work and there should be co-ordination with foreign agriculture research institutes and international research institutes. I hope because our past experience shows that the agriculture universities working in India have done such research works during the past in the field of rice, cotton, potato and wheat crops that it created a sort of confidence in India.

I would like to say that the success of Green Revolution in India is the result of the policies of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and his colleagues as a result our agriculture production has reached more than 200 lakh tonnes. I would like to say that the benefits of the new agriculture policy which the Government is preparing do not reach the farmers because adequate publicity has not been given to technical research. There are a few means of publicity as a result adequate publicity is not given and they can't also meet each individual.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation has pointed out two things. Agriculture universities fail due to financial difficulties in running them. Therefore, I hope that the Government will remove their financial difficulties. These universities cannot get required number of scientists and employees. These are the two shortcomings. These two shortcomings should be removed and experienced scientists and employees should be appointed there. I think this university which the Government has opened for the North-eastern region will work properly. The Government has paid attention to this demand after so many years. I welcome it

also give attention to what I have said and will also make reference to the constructive suggestion given by me in this regard.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting this Bill, I like to say that Agricultural University concept has been brought from USA. And when compared to USA conditions, our country's conditions are completely different. The USA experts had visited our country a number of times and they had given some different opinion that it is not suited to our agricultural environment. I would like to mention here that just after independence Jawaharlal Nehru had said that everything else can wait but not agriculture. Even Mahatma Gandhi also has said in some of his speech that both intellect and land should be very much in cooperation; otherwise country cannot develop. With this view, the Agricultural University process is very much helpful.

The process of socio-economic evolution took different forms starting with steps for the transfer of assets like land, livestock to those who had no asset base.

The programme of land reforms instituted at the beginning of the planning era involved the abolition of the Zamindari and intermediary tenures. Latter tenancy reforms protection of sharecroppers, land ceiling and land consolidation measure were introduced. Even after 45 years of independence still there is no proper land reform in the country.

An Agricultural University is going to be set up in Imphal. It is a very good step. But it will not be fruitful if we do not go through the change in the course curricular. The students who are coming from the University should know the different local languages, different regional systems land reforms and social system of our country. The course curriculum which is at present being taught is not suitable for the present day agriculture environment. So, I request the Minister to look into this

matter.

Another thing is about nomenclature of the University.

That has been mentioned here. The Bill says:

"Agriculture " means the basic and applied sciences of the soil and water management, crop production including production of all garden crops, control of plants, pests and diseases, horticulture including floriculture, animal husbandry including veterinary and dairy science, fisheries, forestry including farm forestry...."

There should be two different types of Universities. One University should be completely on agriculture. I have mentioned that name. And another university should be like animal science or veterinary science including dairy science, fisheries and other agricultural products like animal husbandry. The University should develop some feelings to the student through their course. Curricular that they have to work in the village.

Moreover, nothing is mentioned about the sports and extra curricular activities which is very much essential to the students. Thousands and thousand of our students are remaining unemployed. After completion of their course, they should get some job and the course should be job oriented.

There is one and the only Agricultural University in our State and that is the Vidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, there are a lot of problems. The University is suffering for want of funds and sometimes the funds have been diverted to other purposes. This has happened to other universities also. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this matter, so that the Agricultural Universities are able to develop.

Lastly, I would like to say something about the Dunkel proposal. It is very much coming to the agricultural field. Pesticides, fertilisers and other agricultural input cannot

be sufficiently used for agricultural development. The Dunkel proposal is going harm to the total agricultural economy of our country. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this matter.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the people of North-East and thank the hon. Minister of Agriculture for brining forward this Bill. I thank him for accomplishing this task which was initiated by the Government of Shri V.P. Singh. The idea that university be set up in North-East was first mooted by V.P. Singh Government and a beginning was made in that direction. The credit now goes to the hon. Minister for giving it a practical shape. I am thanking him for that. It is significant development for the people of North-East. It will fulfil the aspirations of the people there. I would once again like to congratulate the people of the area.

I would like to give one or two suggestions. The head-quarters of the central Agricultural University would be at Imphal in Manipur. I would like to point out that there are five other States, besides Assam in the North-East. Since the headquarters would be at Imphal and every State in the North-East has special significance, there is need to be more careful in running the University. The Government should establish research centres in there remaining five States under the Central Agricultural University. Keeping in view the requirement of these States. My suggestion is that such research work should be undertaken so as to cater to the needs of the people there.

Secondly, when the Central Agricultural University would be set up large scale appointments would be made. The temptation of the people sitting in Delhi would be to get their own people appointed. I would like to bring this fact to the notice of Shri Jakhar who is present here. Many persons working in the Ministry of Agriculture might think that this is a rare opportunity as schemes are being

formulated these days to abolish posts and through other means to cut down Government expenditures and as a result many persons occupying key positions are getting unemployed. Under such circumstances if a university is being set up there would be abundant employment opportunities also. The lure of getting their own men appointed has always been there. It has affected the working of the Public Sector. It is a different subject. I would not like to digress. There is an apprehension that if the university is set up in North-east, the people belonging to other parts of the country would be given appointment in the name of experts and scientists. It has been observed that generally the appointing officer recruits the people belonging to this State or area even to the class III and class IV posts. I would like to caution them that they must avoid this temptation, and provide employment opportunity to the people of North-East. If there are irregularities in the appointments, the people may launch agitation and revolt even though this university is being set up to fulfill their aspirations.

Regarding admission I would like to submit that the students belonging to North-East were earlier sent through I.C.A.R., quota and other means to different places to get agricultural education because there was no Agricultural University there. It is but natural that the central Government would like to provide the admission facility to students of the entire country in the name of national integration. Since the University is being set up in a special area and under special circumstances, 90 per cent reservation for admission should be made for the people belonging to that area. If we provide admission facility on All India basis, the students of that area would not be able to get admission there. Many people who are posted there also get their wards admitted. It can lead to resentment?

Through you, I would like to place two things before the Government. Action must be initiated keeping in view the apprehension regarding nomination, admission and appointments.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras should be set up on a large scale with the help of voluntary organisations and under the auspices of this university in the North-East so that farmers could be trained in advanced methods of farming and allied sectors. The Government must take note of it. While setting up the university attention should be paid particularly to three fields i.e., forestry, dairy farming and horticulture so that research work could be carried out as per their requirement and the area could progress. These are some of the suggestions in the field of agriculture.

Objections can be on many provisions of the Bill. I feel that not much pains have been in drafting this Bill. It has been based on the model Bill on Central Universities and not much attention has been paid to it.

There is need for amendments in many areas of the Bill. Shri George Fernandes will highlight these amendments. I don't want to go into that. There is need for improvements in many provision so that the Bill becomes dynamic and effective. Basically all of us overcome the decision of opening the agricultural University.

It seems that dreams of the people will be realised. The work which we had initiated has got a practical shape. Therefore, we again thank the hon. Minister, welcome the Bill and broadly support it.

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do join hands with all friends who have congratulated the hon. Minister Shri Balram Jhakar for bringing this Bill. It is a long-awaited Bill. In fact we remember with fond memories of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi when we discuss this Bill because it was mooted out right from those days that there is a need for a central agricultural university which is to be developed in the North Eastern region.

Congratulating the Congress Government for the bold decision that it has

taken to establish this university, I must say that the Bill will fulfill the aspirations of the people involved in agriculture, people involved in research in agriculture and people involved in the teaching of agriculture in the North Eastern region.

In the North Eastern region, we have sent students all over India and when they come back we find that the learning that they received in those universities especially the practical learning is not applicable in the hill areas especially of the North Eastern region. Therefore, this university at Imphal will fulfill our aspirations. This is being set up at Imphal, though I would have urged the hon. Minister to bring it to Shillong because in Shillong we have a very big complex of I.C.A.R. which has been there for the last 15 to 20 years now. It is doing very good work in research of different crops grown in the North Eastern region to know how to make them more fruitful. Though Imphal has been taken as the main campus, I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to please remember that one of the campuses of this university should be located at Shillong. They have a very big building, their own farms and everything in that complex. It is a very big complex which is located near Shillong airport. This will help to identify the different disease of plants that have come up in the North Eastern region, especially in Meghalaya.

Some time ago I raised in this august House the issue of the disease that has occurred in Acaranut- betel nut plants in the North Eastern region of Meghalaya which has killed nearly there lakh trees of Acaranut. There is a need to go into the problem and to identify the disease and to find out measures how to overcome this disease.

Three years ago there was a disease that had attacked the oranges trees. Until today no today no remedy has been found out for this. These are very important plants that we have. In Meghalaya and in the larger parts of the North-eastern region I feel that if a more detailed research is gone into, I am very sure that we will be able to help the agriculturists. Also I am, very happy to see in the Bill that a special provision is made from

giving training in advanced learning to social workers and other people. There are people, many B.Sc. (Agriculture) graduates who really need special training of and on in the North-eastern region and I would request the hon. Minister to go into its aspect of the need to further giving teaching and training to the Graduates in Agriculture.

Sir, I heartily congratulate the Congress Government for brining out the Bill and also congratulate Shri Balram Jahkar, out hon. Minister, who always thinks for the advancement and development of the North-eastern region.

I support this Bill wholeheartedly.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATE-SWARLU (Tenali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill that has been brought about. I congratulate the hon. Minister for Agriculture and not only I congratulate him on this occasion, I also thank him for the steps that he has taken in brining this Bill and creating a Central Agricultural University in the North-eastern region.

Sir, with the establishment of this Agricultural University, a long cherished desire of the people of the North-eastern region will be fulfilled in providing opportunities for the advancement of learning, prosecution of research and also in providing extension services in Agriculture and allied sciences in the region which have been hitherto lacking in that region. Sir, this will certainly eliminate the regional imbalances in providing opportunities for agricultural extension research and education. This steps goes a very long way not only in creating technical manpower but also in generating the required technical know-know which ultimately leads to stepping up agricultural productivity and production.

Sir, in this connection I am not gong to make a big speech, but I will just make suggestions in three or four areas where most of the Agricultural Universities have been suffering in the country.. with certain amount of discrepancies between one University and the other University. The

Universities are lacking uniformity either in a curriculum or in a syllabus or in admissions or providing finances and also in the tenure of some of the officers at the hierarchy. In most of these universities when the officers have been appointed at the level of the Vice-Chancellors, Deans and other persons, in most of the universities the tenure is only three years, in some of the universities it is five years. Sir, I take this opportunity to make a suggestion to the hon. Minister that let it be a uniform tenure of five years for all universities, whether it is the Central Agricultural University or the Agricultural University which is being managed by the State Government. So, let the tenure be five years. In APAU, for example, the tenure of the Vice-Chancellor is three years whereas the tenure of the Deans and Directors is five years. So, I suggest that it should be five years in all the universities in making appointments, to the post of Vice-Chancellors, Registrars, Deans and Directors and they should all be technocrats.. In some of the universities some bureaucrats are being posted as registers which is not conducive for agricultural education, research and extension.

Then, in admissions also, in some universities 25 per cent reservation is reserved for the children of the agriculturists and in some universities it is not available. So, that should be taken care of and there should be reservation for the children of the agriculturists and agricultural families, so that it goes a along way in the rural upliftment and the rural development.

Again in the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, at the end of the training programme, Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme-just like Intership in the medical science-has been introduced and it is functioning very successfully. Let this be uniform to all the universities. Let there be a practical training programme for the agricultural students which is called as ' Rural Agricultural Work Experience Programme ' which is functioning very well on very sound lines in the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University.

[Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu]

Secondly, an agricultural scientist should also be an extension worker. In most of the universities, the coordination between the research scientists and the extension workers is lacking. This is a two-way process. Both the scientists should be educated by the extension workers by bringing the problems from the field to the laboratory or to the notice of the scientists and similarly the extension workers should be educated by carrying the results of the research projects from laboratory to the field from. Here, in most of the cases, this feedback is not there to the extent that it is required. The field problems are not actually being transmitted to the scientists.

Sir, I would make only one suggestion out of my experience of having worked in the agricultural university for about three decades. A scientist should always be entrusted with the job of having his own demonstration farm at the field level. He should also be an extension worker. So, a scientist should not merely be confined to the four walls of the laboratory, but he should also be exposed to the field work. So, I suggest that it should be a uniform policy that every scientist should have his own demonstration plot or demonstration farm in his own field of excellence or specialisation, so that he will have the feedback. It is not only a transmission from the laboratory to land, but it should also be from the land to the laboratory.

Then, there is a murmur in most of the agricultural universities that the scientists are not being treated to the extent that they deserve it. In promotions also, uniform policy is not being adopted. In several universities, the State Government is not coming up in time to provide the funds. Particularly, in merit promotion scheme and career development Scheme there is a lot of discrepancy from one university to the other university and this is causing a lot of inconvenience. In States like Andhra Pradesh, there is no coordination between the Government and the agricultural universities in finalising and financing the

promotion policy. So, I suggest that it should be a uniform promotion policy for all the agricultural universities.

With these few observations, I thank once again the Agriculture Minister for having brought about this central Agricultural Research University Bill for the establishment of an Agricultural University in the North Eastern Region.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I heartily thank to all those hon. Members who participated in this debate and discussions. I do not have words to express thankfulness to them and the manner in which they have appreciated the Bill. This Bill was about such an issue that there just could not be difference of opinions and in that very spirit it has been supported by one and all.

What was required was to establish it in the North-Eastern region, as soon as possible. It was a long pending issue. It was under the consideration for a long time, but it was not being implemented. I would like to thank the hon., Prime Minister and the Planning Commission for the solid steps taken by them to full support, I put my heart and soul to bring forward the present Bill. I thought that the facilities which is a rightful claim of theirs. The latent talents of that region have to be brought up. So that they also may have a sense of participation what has been done today was much required. I am extremely happy. From the core of my heart I thank all the hon. Members for their support to the Bill. Some hon. Members have given some more suggestions. Suggestions are always welcome because they help to improve the process. They help to remove the shortcomings. I would like to assure the hon. Members that we have worked meticulously on this Bill to avoid any shortcomings. The ex-Speaker has left, he was telling that in Shillong also there should be one such university. Some persons will say that there is no such university in many other places whereas some other places have the privilege of having such universities.

It is not like that. There is a proposal to set up such universities in the four states viz Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura. Tripura, however, withdraw and I was thinking that the Nagaland should have a university there itself. In Meghalaya

[*English*]

a good number of central institutions finally gave the consent in favour of this. Naturally, this was consensus.

[*Translation*]

They decided everything in good brotherhood and there is no dispute on this issue. Opening of such institutions in due everywhere. We have marked that-

[*English*]

Each college has proposed one thing. This Council has already established regional research stations on location specific basis.

[*Translation*]

Cultivation of different things have to be undertaken in different ways in different States. For example, at a particular place we can go for fisheries, at other place we can prefer development of medicinal plants and at other places we can open dairy and undertake that cultivation of rice. There is a plain land in Manipur which is suitable for the cultivation of rice and also there are resources for irrigation. In this way, cultivation of different things have been prescribed for different places depending upon condition of those places. Care will be taken in this regard that nobody should have any objection. It has been argued that students from outside the State should not be admitted in this institution. It is not so. This country is one and it has its dignity; The North Eastern Region will have its major share of seats there will be a board which will decide as to what should be the criteria of selecting the candidates. Care will be taken that no irregularity is committed causing damage to the North Eastern Region. My colleague was telling that he is afraid of nepotism when there is appointment of

candidates. Every candidate should be treated equal. This is not his criterion. Only worthy and able persons would be placed there. The Government proposes to place strong-willed persons there. When new seeds are sown is required and when it is the period of fruition everyone of that region would be benefited. It is, however, not an easy task. The hon. Members said that here was a paucity of funds, but it is not like that, the work will not be left incomplete. It will be completed. It has to be done any how. There is a phrase in English.

[*English*]

A thing built for ever is the thing which is really built.

[*Translation*]

There will be no hindrance in it. I would like to assure that it would be made and it would be run. The Government is bound to remove the backwardness of the particular regions., So that they may come at par with the other States. Now the Country is in such a State that if regional imbalances are not removed it would lead to the condition as we experienced in the morning. Only three States of the country cannot feed the whole country. Population is constantly increasing every year there is an increase of two crore persons. Is it proper that for food grains we should only depend on Haryana, Punjab and Western Uttar Pradesh. Things cannot go like this for a long time. Every State should be self-reliant. Regional imbalances have to be done way with. They have to be lifted up. Our colleague was right, he has the experience of working in an agriculture university. I agree with him that things should be done practically.

[*English*]

Extension Service is the best.

[*Translation*]

Unless we set up a demonstration plot meant in every village, we cannot convince them that each and every man can do it and

has to do it. This is simply because every one can do labour. Therefore, they have to be taught and encouraged. I would like to spread the network of extension. Services through out the country., It does include agriculture science.

Today my colleague was telling that I should also take up the issue of agricultural. Science centre. In this regard I would like to say that I am myself very much concerned about it. I also held talks with the hon. Prime Minister. I told that unless the people are awakened there cannot be any development of rural areas. As the purpose of going to schools is to get knowledge. Similarly, there is a need of opening such a Centre in the field of agriculture to impart knowledge in this regard being conducted by the experts. Different training courses, say of one week, one month 6 months may be arranged for different categories of persons-whether they are youngster or grownups. In this way the purpose of the Government may be served. My colleague told that there should be a guarantee of employment to those who receive education there. I would say rather it is simply a matter of great regret. I really fail to understand what is all this. I am incidentally reminded of an anecdote of Maithlisarn Gupta. A mother told that no restriction should be imposed upon her son for he did not bother for employment. At this Maithlisaran Jee reacted in his own way and said " O Education dam on you, you are not meant for education ". Do we impart education for employment? Are the experts prepared in agricultural science centers only to sit well dressed in the offices. The Government needs a support from you all. I propose that a written assurance should be obtained from those receiving education in such educational Centres fifty percent of them would be working in fields. The Government aims at preparing such experts who can be self-reliant and that they might not be lagging behind anybody else. When the world has done this, can't we do? We can certainly do it. There has been a revolution in the field of agriculture in the world. Why should we lag behind. Three states in our country have moved ahead only

because they were guided in a proper direction, though other States also have the capability to do the same. Therefore, we and our leaders have to show a proper path to the people and tell them that they could also do something worthwhile. We have to give practical guidance to them in a fields. For instance of Shri Chavan takes the initiative, I should also have a spirit of competition and try to do the same -the Members should develop this type of spirit among them. It would be a healthy trend; it would encourage development and to destruction. I would like the agriculture scientists trained; in Krishi Kendras to work in the fields and set an example to the people that a vast quantity of foodgrains could be produced just in an area of two, five or ten acres of land. Similarly, it would be of great utility if they set up agriculture based industries. I want to prepare specialists; I want to find out a new alternative; I want to diversify it.

[English]

The whole approach is wrong.

[Translation]

17.00 hrs .

I would like to change this approach. Nitish ji has left, he said that he had dreamt of it, while his dream remained unfulfilled, I have fulfilled it. We have been trying to mend the ways of those who were engaged in futile exercises. We are engaged in reforming the system which had totally collapsed. We always try our best that the farmers do get at least the cost price of their produce. We do talk of creation and take everyone with us.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Members had doubt that the Government would not be able to succeed in implementing the Fifth Five Year Plan. But my submission is that the Government would take every possible step to implement it at war level and would take measures which help fulfill our motive at the earliest. I would like to give an example it. The foundation stone will be laid in January. It is not a matter of only Rs. 64 crore 30 lakh. This is the amount allocated for the purpose

so far, more funds will be allocated for the purpose in future. This would encourage others to move ahead. I will look into the shortcomings. I am also thankful to you for giving me precious suggestions, I would think over them. So far as your proposal for keeping its term to 5 years or 3 years is concerned, my submission is that its term is already 5 years in most of the States with an exception of Maharashtra and Uttarpradesh where its term is 3 years. Everything would be meaningful only if capable persons are given the charge, the Government would take every precaution that right decisions are taken. I have noted down the suggestions given by you and if there are any shortcomings, they would be removed. I would request you that when this Bill is passed in the House you may congratulate the people of North Eastern regions that ultimately they got a university and that now they should move ahead together with other regions. It is not a matter related either to smaller or bigger States, it is a radical step. Thank you.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of a University, for the North-Eastern regions for the development of agriculture and for the furtherance of the advancement of learning and prosecution of research in agriculture and allied sciences in that region, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 to 43 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 43 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved.

"That the Bill be passed."

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it would have been better if you had given me an opportunity earlier. However, still I am thankful to you that you did give me an opportunity to speak.

I have an objection to a clause in the Bill which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister with a hope that it would be rectified after the Bill is passed.

[*English*]

Clause 31 (1) "Every employee of the University shall be appointed under a written contract, which shall be lodged with the University and a copy of which shall be

furnished to the employee concerned.

31(2) "Any dispute arising out of the contract between the University and any employee shall, at the request of the employee, be referred to a Tribunal of Arbitration consisting of one member appointed by the Board, one member nominated by the employee concerned and an umpire appointed by the Visitor."

31(3): "The decision of the Tribunal shall be final, and no suit shall lie in any civil court in respect of the matters decided by the Tribunal."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir I have an objection that the Bill creates an impression that the persons employed in the University would be treated not more than slaves; they will be deprived of all the rights guaranteed to them under the Constitution of India. It may be that the hon. Minister might say that the employees in other teaching institutions, no more, enjoy the same rights as provided to them in the Constitution after the verdict given by Supreme Court. But having no right is different thing. The employees of Delhi University Grants Commission despite having no such right and the members raise them in the House. But here the clause added recently to it warns the employees that they would be appointed under a written contract. The country where the number of educated unemployed people runs in crores where the number of educated unemployed people,

runs in crores and where crores of unemployed people., whether seeking job of a higher post or of Mali, would be ever ready either to mark the thumb-impression or to append signature on the contract and again I reiterate that they would surrender all their rights, guaranteed to them under the Constitution., to the Government. The Clause 31(2) in the Bill is like " adding insult to injury ". The Government holds complete authority to suspend them- whenever it finds them not behaving properly or receives a complaint against any employee. What will be arbitration if the suspended employee wants to get its case reconsidered by the board of arbitrators? The arbitrators will comprise of the Members — one from the Board, which is a body to suspend him, other from Visitor, i.e., the President of India who will again be a member from the same Board, and the third will be the person whom the suspended employee to represent him and his voice would carry no value as the Board has already decided to suspend him under the contract and got it already endorsed by the President. Then what is the meaning of the appeal, why this cruel joke with the poor employee? If the Government wants to treat him slave, then the clause 31(2) is just like " adding insult to injury". Therefore, the Government should delete the clause. Mr. Chairman, Sir, since it is mentioned in sub-clause (3) that the decision of the Tribunal shall be final and no appeal shall be made, I strongly oppose this clause 31.

The Central Government employees and others are likely to come to Delhi tomorrow to stage demonstration for their rights. And here in the House a Bill is being passed for the establishment of a university in the eastern region whose employees shall have no right. This is an injustice to the employees. as they would have no right even to seek justice.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I strongly oppose the Bill on this point. If the hon. Minister gives an assurance in this regard, I would happily support this Bill, because it is meant for removing the backwardness of the Eastern region through concrete development plans. Please forgive me for asking you to remove

the clause, which contains the word "stigma" from this very good proposal. I request the hon. Minister to comment on it.

I heard Shri George There is a provision of appeal and arbitration in the Bill which need to be looked into. It would be duly considered. Let me find out the practice obtaining in other universities. I will discuss it later on as to how can it be done. At the moment, I am not in a position to give full assurance in this regard because it is not good to say anything in correct. I will thoroughly look into it and discuss it with you.

SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): You should accept it as it is in the public interest.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I said that I would like into it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.11 hrs.

CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Government proposes to amend Section 4(1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955. The Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was adopted by Resolution No. 34/1980. of the U.N. General Assembly on the 22nd January, 1980. India was the Chairman of the Working Group which had drafted the Convention.

The Preamble of the Convention notes that the State Parties to the International Convention of Human Rights have the obligation to ensure equal rights of men and women to enjoy all economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights. The term discrimination against women " has been defined to mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has effect on purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on the basis of equality of men and women of human rights and fundamental freedom in the political, economic, social cultural, civil or any other field. The ratification of this Convention by the Government of India had, however, been held up due to a conflict between Article 9(2) of the Convention and Section 4 (1) of the Indian Citizenship Act, 1955. Article 9 (2) of the Convention reads:

" State parties shall grant women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children."

This is in conflict with existing Section 4(1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955, which provides that 'a person born outside India on or after the 26th January, 1950, shall be a citizen of India by decent, if his father is a citizen of India at the time of his birth'. Ratification of the Convention would require an amendment of the Citizenship Act so as to grant women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of children.

There will be no expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India.

Accordingly, it is proposed to enact the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 1992. The proposed legislation which is by way of amendment to the citizenship Act, 1955, seeks that in future a child born abroad may become an Indian citizen of either of his parents is an Indian citizen at the time of his birth and also to make necessary consequential amendments in the Act.

With these few words, I commend the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 1992, for the consideration of the House.