

Ministry to promote research and development of drought resistant crop varieties, particularly paddy.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what hon. Member, Shrimati Kanimozhi, has said.

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what hon. Member, Shrimati Kanimozhi, has said.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I associate myself with what hon. Member, Shrimati Kanimozhi, has said.

**Demand for transferring centre's slum encroached lands to Tamil Nadu
Government for implementation of the Slum Upgradation Programme**

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL (Tamil Nadu): During the recent Conclave of Ministers of Housing and Urban Development of States and Union Territories held in New Delhi, it was decided to achieve the objective of slum-free cities before 2023. The Government of Tamil Nadu under the able leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, has been tirelessly working on providing a dignified living to slum dwellers through various schemes. In this connection, the Tamil Nadu Government has urged upon the Centre to transfer its lands, encroached by slums to implement the Slum Upgradation Programme. The State had also demanded that the share for the schemes under the Rajiv Awas Yojana be sanctioned based on the proposals of Slum Free Cities Programme (SFCP). It has also been suggested to the Centre that the sanctioning process must be delegated to a State-level committee. Tamil Nadu Government has further suggested an exclusive housing scheme for tenants living in slum hutments because tenants living in slum houses on rent also require houses under the Rajiv Awas Yojana. Since the hut owners cannot share their accommodation with tenants for holistic slum upgradation, an exclusive housing scheme may be formulated as a relocation scheme to attain the objective of slumfree cities. It has also been urged upon the Union Government to immediately launch a massive urban development programme with substantially higher Central share of funding, after correcting the discrepancies of the old JNNURM Scheme. I appeal to the Centre to transfer its lands, encroached by slums, to Tamil Nadu Government for implementing the slum upgradation programme.

Demand for establishing an All India Institute of Homoeopathy in Kerala

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, Kerala is the first State in India which recognized homoeopathy as a system of medicine in 1928. In 1943, homoeopathy got included in the Travancore Medical Practitioners Act. In 1953, the TC Act was extended to the Malabar area through Kerala Adaptation Rules. The first elected Government of the State, headed by E.M.S. started a homoeopathy dispensary under Government sector in India. A separate