

Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand) and Shri Sant Balbir Singh (Punjab).

धन्यवाद, माननीय सतनाम सिंह संघू जी। ऑनरेबल श्री संदोष कुमार पी।

**Concern over MoUs signed between Indian Council of Agriculture
Research (ICAR) and MNCs**

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR, P (Kerala): Sir, the ICAR is one of the prestigious institutions in our country with an impressive track record of more than 125 years. The ICAR has contributed tremendously in making the Green Revolution a reality and in ensuring food security of our country. And, ICAR should play a more important role in the coming days, because we have a huge population and 54 per cent of it depending on agriculture. Agriculture is the most important provider of employment in this country. We all know that our farmers are in distress. Every day, on an average, 30 farmers are compelled to commit suicide in our country. It is so unfortunate.

Sir, I wish to express my serious concern on certain MoUs signed between the ICAR and some notorious multinational companies. Why I call these companies 'notorious?' One company is Bayer, the other one is Syngenta and the third one is Dhanuka Agritech. Sir, the ICAR is having a very good network. More than 700 KBKs are connected to it. So, why ICAR, funded by our people and is a public institution, should enter into MoUs with these notorious companies? The track record of these companies is very bad. They always stand only for profit and never care for people and planet. For example, Dhanuka Agritech is supposed to provide natural farming with farmers. But, the company is ill-famous for toxic chemicals. This is the paradox. And, another company, Bayer, is ill-famous for deadly poisonous products and has violated basic human rights of people across the world. So, I take this opportunity to demand the immediate withdrawal of these MoUs signed with the multinational companies.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the issue raised by hon. Member, Shri Sandosh Kumar P: Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Sant Balbir Singh (Punjab), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu) and Shri P.P. Suneer (Kerala)