ANNEXURE ‘A’

‘VIEWS’ OF SOME IMPORTANT LOCAL DAILIES/SEMINARS REPORTS ABOUT AGRICULTURAL-INFORMATION AND OTHER ALLIED TOPICS REGARDING MANIPUR (1988-95)

Lack of information and negligence of Dept. of Agriculture.

i) “As almost the people in rural areas are illiterate, they do not understand about the facilities they can get from the Govt. schemes. The ignorance has put them to what they were”. (Manipur Mail. Editorial, 02 July 1990)

ii) “Modelled after the Agri. Dept. of the erstwhile Soviet Union, the (Agriculture) offices were to provide our farmers with the know-how of the latest trend in agriculture besides serving as outlets for fertilizer, insecticides, weedicides etc. Today, all that remains are dilapidated signboards a stark reminder of irresponsibility of another era”. (Freedom 17 July, 1994)

iii) “The officers of Agriculture Department are not sincere enough. They seem to have taken interest in calculating the expected food grain only on their table. They even do not care to visit the work site”. (Freedom, Letter to editor, 20 July, 1994)

iv) The Government employee feel as though they are asked to die when they are asked to go to hills. B.Sc. Agri. degree holders could be sent to the hills to dissuade people from resorting to Jhum cultivation. (Manipur Mail, Editorial column, 11 June, 1989)

Road Communication.

v) The state has worst road communication compared with other states. It is also really unfortunate that large number of place in the state are not connected by jeepable roads. As a result of which development programmes of the Govt. cannot reach such places. (Manipur Mail, Editorial column, 31 Jan., 1993)
vi) There are villages in the hill areas to which vehicular traffic cannot touch. Doctors for medicine service, teachers for education of children and other Govt. officials on duty for different purposes have to go miles of difficult steep terrain to reach the villages. (*Manipur Mail. Public distribution system in interior areas. 25 May, 1994*)

vii) In fact, the inhabitation of Jhumias is scattered in the remote hill areas where road communication is extremely poor. Reaching messages to them is not easy.

Newspaper are not regularly read in these areas. Film is far away from them. Television programmed cannot be beamed to these areas nor can these people afford T.V. set. Mediamen or extension worker can not easily motivate them through inter-personal communication facilities and other reason. (*MANGI SINGH (S). The role of media in anti Jhuming campaign. Manipur Mail, 26 Jan, 1995*)

**Cropping pattern**

viii) The single cropping pattern of the rice cultivation in the Kharif season is generally practiced. The farmers of Manipur are advancing older forms of shifting cultivation and cultivating on their own land. Most of their farm holdings are comparatively smaller size and most of them are using a pair of bullock for preparing soil for cultivating. (*HAZARIKA (B.P) For well being of the farmer of Manipur. Manipur Mail 18 Oct. 1992*)

ix) The practice of double or triple cropping is not unknown to the farmers of Manipur. But most farmers appear to be satisfied with what they produce in a single cropping a year. And we cannot blame them for what they are doing. They perhaps believe that they are producing enough food grains when populations continues to grow unchecked and demands for food go on increasing, the state need to produce more food grains to meet the demands. At present cereals, pulses and vegetables are being imported from other States of
the country as the local product are not sufficient. The State Government will have to take steps to produce more food grains to meet the ever increasing demands. The first step towards more food production is to create awareness among the farmers. Because it is the farmers who play the most significant role in the State's food production. The State Government, therefore must try to understand the difficulties facing the farmers and solve them. (Manipur Mail, 30 Dec., 1988)

**Jhuming**

x) Most of the tribals in Manipur practice Jhum cultivation in hill slops. Jhum cultivation has harmed in measurably in respect of forest economy. The traditional system of Jhuming, or migratory of shifting cultivation be discouraged as far as practicable. The forest wealth is buried to ashes. This is our loose. Jhuming sites be terraced and be made-semi-permanent to reduce shifting yearly cultivation site to the minimum.

xi) Primitive method of cultivation be made substituted by induction of modern method either collectively privately, or by the help of the Govt. self sufficiently programme to be taken up.

xii) Proper and intensive utilisation programme of land be taken up in every village so that cultivation sites be reduced to minimum and the forest reserve land be increased to the maximum to stabilise the economy of village. (PETER (P.R). Land use system of the Tangkhuls. In State level two-days seminar on Tribal land use system in Manipur. M.U. 24-25 Sept., 1993. P 11-12.)

xiii) Jhuming cultivation has effected about 3.16 hectares of the land in the State. The State tops in the N.E. Region in the improper utilization of the land available. (Manipur Mail, 20 Jan. 1995)
xiv) Manipur is said to be number one in the list of State indulging in shifting cultivation. This type of cultivation is found only in the hill areas. Since many years the hill people had restored to this method of cultivation known otherwise as shifting cultivation. Huge and rich forest areas have to be destroyed by burning the valuable forest wealth including big giant trees and other items of vegetable including rare creeper, orchids etc. for facilitates jhuming. The destruction of forest wealth for shifting cultivation is a definite harm to wild life.

The Government has to draw up a time bound programme for the restoration of forest in all parts of the State affected by the merciless destruction of forests done during the last decades since the second world war. (Manipur Mail, 22 May, 1995)

Low Productivity

xv) In fact the basic problem of agriculture in the Manipur is low productivity yield per hectare of land is much lower than all India, average rates. Green Revolution was not introduced in this region, as high-yielding seeds, fertilizer, irrigation and other improved inputs are beyond the reach of the average cultivators (Manipur Mail, Agriculture focus on fellow North East. 6 Sept., 1993)

Irrigation

xvi) Traditional agriculture are mainly dependent upon rain led rice crop grown in every monsoon. In the hilly areas of Manipur increasing production by making large scale irrigation is impossible. The only means of irrigation is the traditional open well tapping uncertain squirt. It means irrigation potential must be created. Cucha dams or Puca dams should be created at different places of the State to block the water and to serve them into the field. The ongoing projects which will be able to irrigate the agricultural land must be completed,
canals must be dug, and the regular availability of fertilizer must be ensured

(Manipur Mail. Editorial column. 6 Sept., 1992)

Multiple-cropping and Irrigation

xvii) There is no use repeating that multiple cropping in most of the places depends on availability of irrigation facilities. In Manipur rabi crops are not economic proposition. The farmers sit idle for many months and their agricultural fields also lie waste during the period of the framers idleness. The idleness is not voluntary but imposed by circumstances of which the lack of irrigation facilities is the most important. The Govt. is therefore urged to address itself to this extremely urgent task of constructing more irrigation projects. It should not be difficult to convince the Centre on the subject. More self employment facilities will be generated by the multiple cropping schemes. (Manipur Mail. Farm correspondent Multiple cropping and irrigation. 23 Dec., 1994.)

Resources

xviii) What widely observed is that paddy field cultivated by resourceful families are showing better growth and promising good harvests, while those cultivated by families who, resources are limited are presenting poor prospects. What is actually desirable an abundant flow of fertilizers to reach the poor farmers who need good harvests more than the richer ones for obvious reason. The rich people can depend upon their resources even if the harvest fail short of expectations while poor farmers have no other means to look upon when his harvest fall. The main objective of the official assistance and subsidy programme should be the saving of the poor farmer who should not be exposed to the mercy of the money lenders. The little harvest they would make would not even be enough to repay their debts incurred during the cultivation reason. In spite of expectations following the promises by the Govt. in regards to cultivations in its various aspects like irrigation, improved seed, fertilizers and
improved and less costly mechanical devices, the situation leaves must to be
desired. Those concerned must look at the scenario afresh for future
improvements. (Manipur Mail. Editorial column. 27 Aug., 1993)

Government Policy

xix) The Govt. of Manipur should pay a serious attention on the agricultural sector.
After all the majority of the people are farmers and farming is the source of
livelihood for terms of thousands of people of the State. The Govt. should think
for this majority of people. (Manipur Mail. Editorial column. 6 Sept., 1992)

xx) The lands of the Rongmeis and the Puimeis are vast and spacious. Thick jungle
are found in it. The trees of high classes, bamboo, cane etc. are abundantly
grown. If the Government in sincere enough and if they really want to develop
the people, the potentialities are there in this land. Instead of trying to extend the
MIR & LR ACT in this area, it would be worth while to help the people to
exploit the forest produces in proper and profitable way. (PAMEI (D). Land use
system of the Rongmeis and Puimeis. In State level two day seminar of tribal land use-
system in Manipur, M.U 24-25 Sept., 1993 P.7)

xxi) Twenty percent of Zeme cultivators engaged in wet-cultivation, but no
enrichment is made from government’s side. (ZEME (D.H). Land use system of the
Zeme. In State level two-day seminar on tribal land use-system in Manipur. M.U. 24-25
Sept., 1993. P.4)
ANNEXURE ‘B’

Agricultural Research Information System for Punjab Agricultural University

The Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana is reported to have received a research project worth Rs 162.99 lakhs. According to its VC, Dr. A.S. Khehra, the ICAR has sanctioned a project for the establishment of an Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS) at the zonal research stations as well as on the campus. The establishment of ARIS will help coordinate research activities being carried out on the campus and at regional research stations. The ICAR has provided a sum of Rs 50 lakhs for this project.
ANNEXURE ‘C’

Desired ‘services’ from Agricultural University Library and ‘services’ rendered by other Agricultural University Libraries in India.

1 Indexing Services

A monthly indexing service called Indian Agricultural Index was started in 1978 at G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology Library. It indexes all English and Hindi language articles on agriculture, which are published in Indian periodicals and are received in the University Library. Perhaps, this is the only secondary publication now, which aims at bibliographical control of Indian agricultural literature.

The Assam Agricultural University, Central Library, Jorhat, has started in 1974, the Index to selected current periodical literature. It is essentially a monthly current awareness service for the local clientele.

The current periodicals Index is a fortnightly service form the Haryana Agricultural University, Nehru Library. It was started in 1983 and appears in a mimeographed form.

2 Compilation of Subject Bibliographies.

The library of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, compile bibliographies on the on-going research projects, in the university. This service, aiming to disseminate research project, in the university. This service, aiming to disseminate research project information, is of great value to active research groups.
3 Catalogue of Theses and Dissertations

Kesarwani and Bhat have recommended compilation of a catalogue of theses accepted by each University in India. A few Agricultural University Libraries have compiled catalogue/index/bibliography of theses and dissertations accepted by the concerned University. It is pointed out here that the Directorate of Extension, Haryana Agricultural University has been bringing out a publication. These Abstracts, whose coverage need to be improved.

4 Local Tools

A number of Agricultural University Central Libraries have compiled catalogues of periodical holdings of their library system including constituent College libraries/research station libraries.

5 Special role of Agricultural University Libraries

Keeping in view the changing needs of agricultural-information users, the Agricultural University Libraries are required to develop their resources and services appropriately. Agricultural information is a vital input to development process and the Agricultural University Libraries have a special role as provider of information assets.

6 Collection Development

A comprehensive and up-to-date collection of information sources would serve as a document base for offering various information services. Special attention needs to be paid to the followings:
i) Efforts should be made for exchanging publications with other organisations and is able to supplement its acquisition by purchase. The University Central Library should for this purpose, retain at least ten copies of all the publications of the university.

ii) The University Central Library should be designated as clearing house for all publications of the university.

iii) The University Central Library should collect extension bulletin of the university and other organisations. If the extension bulletins are in the regional language of the state, a copy of each such bulletin should be sent to all agricultural research station and rural public libraries located in the State, so as to facilitate maximum use of information contained in extension bulletins.

iv) Audio-visual materials have an impact while imparting instruction to students and in disseminating extension information. All Agricultural University Libraries should maintain a good collection of audio-visual materials.

v) The Agricultural University Central library should co-ordinate the library responses and services of constituent colleges for avoiding duplication of effort.

vi) The co-ordination mentioned in (v) above should even be extended to other Agricultural Libraries in the country. Resource sharing and networking among libraries are imperative to make optimum use of national collection of information sources.

7 Union Catalogues

The Central Libraries of Agricultural Universities should compile union catalogue of periodicals received in their library system including constituent colleges/research stations and make it available for use by all concerned. With computer application, the Union Catalogue data may be stored for on-line access. The University Libraries should also collected Union catalogues of periodicals holdings of other Agricultural Libraries in
India towards developing and maintaining a national Union catalogue of agricultural literature.

8 Current Awareness Services

Guha has stressed that Current Awareness Services is a useful device, through which users can be informed promptly about informating generated on a subject or on an area in which a group of scientists are involved in research pursuits. Kumar draws attention to the fact that Current Awareness Services aim at bridging the time lag between the publication of primary documents and their coverage in secondary information services. Roy has further printed out that the task of agricultural libraries is to disseminate pertinent information to the scientists at the right time through Current Awareness and Selective Dissemination of Information Services. Therefore, it is impressed that all Agricultural University Libraries should offer Current Awareness Services as an important dissemination function. When a majority of the clientele is not located in the main campus of the Agricultural University, services like Current Awareness Service have a great relevance and utility.

9 Reprographic Services

The development of adequate reprographic service in all the agricultural libraries is a necessity Reddy has pointed out that the advent of automatic plain paper copiers has changed the concept of lending of documents by libraries for a specified period by helping the user to possess a copy of the sought document. The reprographic facilities in all the
libraries of agricultural universities should be strengthened to operate as efficient document delivery system.

10 Microfilming Service

Basak and Das have drawn attention to the fact that about 30 percent of total scientific journals are available in microforms. The Agricultural University Libraries may subscribe to microform copies of the journals wherever possible because of the advantages. Back volumes of low use journals and newspapers may be converted into microforms for purpose of compact storage. It is suggested that all Agricultural University Libraries may acquire microfiche reader-cum-printers for meeting the demand for hard copy of documents stored in microform.

11 Computer Application

Rajasekharan has foreseen that use of computers and other modern technologies in information handling is expected to be widespread. In view of the several advantages in application of computers for bibliographical information services and other library operation, all the Agricultural university libraries should introduce computerisation in their library operations for rendering efficient and speedy information dissemination services.
12 CD-ROM (Compact Disc-Read Only Memory)

CD-ROM is a highly capacity low distortion extremely durable and transferable information carrier. It is a new publishing medium capable of containing enormous quantity of information. A standard CD-ROM disc (12cm) contains approximately 2,50,000 pages of A-4 size information. The softwares required are a micro-computer, a CD-ROM player and a printer. The future points out to wide spread use of CD-ROM as a publication medium for both primary and secondary information. It is suggested that major Agricultural university libraries may develop facilities for applying CD-ROM technology for information storage and dissemination services.

13 Extension Services

In, India, most of the Agricultural Universities have established a separate Directorate of Extension. The University Central Library, in liaison with Directorate of Extension, should help the farmers to be aware of the latest information available in various sources. The University Library can provide back-up support in regard to literature to all extension activities.

14 State Central Library for Agriculture

Some of the State Departments of Agricultural Libraries have very poor library collection and no worth-while service. The Agricultural University Libraries may, therefore, assume responsibility to cater to the information needs of the Assistant Directors of Agriculture and the Staff
below, working at Mandal/Block level, by extending to them the use of available information services in agriculture and allied sectors.

The Central Library of Agricultural Universities should function as the State Central Library for Agriculture. It should have at least one copy of all books and periodicals published on agriculture in the State. The State Central Library for Agriculture should take care of information needs of all the users in the State. However, in case of states that have more than one Agricultural University, any one of the Agricultural University Central Libraries may be designated as the State Central Library for Agriculture after considering the document collection, technical staff, geographical location and other potentials.

(Reference: NAIDU (G.H) and GUNJAL (S.K.), Agricultural Library and Information Services in India: Growth, Development and Contribution of Agricultural University Libraries. ILA Bulletin v.24,4; Jan-March, 1989; 188-191.)