

facilities to the college. The qualified and eligible teachers do not wish to go to such a remote and an isolated area. The administration will not face this problems if college is shifted at Rangat; Moreover, Rangat will be the most suitable place for a degree college in all aspects. Therefore, this college at Mayabunder may kindly be shifted to Rangat as early as possible.

**II. Polytechnic College at Mayabunder :** The second polytechnic college was proposed at Mayabunder for North and Middle Andamans. Buildings were constructed for the same. The degree college from Car Nicobar has been shifted to the proposed building at Mayabunder in 1994 and the second polytechnic college has been established at Port Blair. Hence, the second polytechnic college may kindly be shifted to the existing college buildings at Mayabunder as per the wish of the people of North and Middle Andamans.

**III. School Education :** Thirdly, the school education in the rural areas need better attention in these islands. Very poor performance of the schools in rural areas of A & N Islands is a matter of great concern. Quality of education in these schools is very poor and need immediate remedial measures. The administration has completely failed to stop the private tutions by government school teachers in these islands. On the otherhand, the administration has encouraged the commercialisation of education in these islands by organising a seminar on private tutions in 1997 where many speakers had supported the illegal private tutions by the teachers of government schools. It should be condemned by one and all. The administration should take stern action and stop such illegal activities by the so called nation builders.

Regional languages eg. Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam etc. may be introduced as optional subjects in all English-Medium schools in this territory.

#### 5) PROBLEMS OF FARMERS:

The farmers are neglected the most in these islands. They have to depend completely on rain-water for cultivation. In many areas the land is not suitable for seasonal crops and they depend on annual crops only. Unfavourable monsoon (e.g. drought, flood etc) and crops affected by pests in any year may make a farmer indebted for generations.

The farmers are not provided with seedlings, fertilizers and pesticides in time in these islands.

There is no proper marketing facilities of farm produce. As a result, the farmers are not getting the appropriate price for their produce and the middlemen earn the maximum. The government agencies may directly purchase the farm products from farmers for marketing and the middlemen (except co-operative societies by unemployed youth of these islands) should not be allowed to create crisis in the market to get higher prices.