**TOPIC(129) ▶A university plans to develop a new research center in your country. Some people want a center for business research. Other people want a center for research in agriculture (farming). Which of these two kinds of research centers do you recommend for your country? Use specific reasons in your recommendation.**

It would be very difficult for the professionals to answer if people ask whether business research or agricultural research is more necessary for Korea. Both fields are one of the most essential parts of the Korean economy. However, I believe that agricultural field needs more advancement than the business field since Korean is experiencing severe food self-sufficiency issues, there are already a lot of business researching companies, and technology can advance along with the agriculture.

First of all, Korea is currently undergoing with severe food self-sufficiency issues. In other words, most of the foods eaten or used in Korea are usually an imported food from foreign countries. Specifically, Korea relies upon over 77% of the agricultural crops on the imported goods from countries such as Vietnam, France and etc. In addition, Korea’s food self-sufficiency rate is in the lowest rank in OECD. The important thing is that these can cause problems in the situations of when Korea has diplomatic conflicts or aggravation of the relationships with those countries. For example, food exporting countries can have domination or control upon the Korea’s food exports by demanding more money or beneficial things for their foods. In order to prevent these catastrophes, there must be an establishment of the food self-producing system in Korea.

Second of all, there are already a lot of business researching institutes in Korea. It is not an exaggeration to say that almost all companies in Korea has a fundamental business research system. For instance, securities companies such as Kiwoom Co. Ltd, Samsung Securities and KB Company instruct the customers’ stock investment by recommending them to invest certain stocks which will be beneficial for the customers.

Lastly, the entire technology of Korea can be advanced by conducting the agricultural studies and research. Agricultural fields are deeply related to the field of science due to the fact that most scientific technologies are utilized in farming. For example, AI related technology is utilized in the automatic farms while temperature maintaining technology is utilized in the vinyl house farming.

In conclusion, I believe that the introduction of the agricultural research center is more necessary in Korea because of the low self-sufficiency rate of food, a lot of pre-existing business researching associations, and the relevance between the agriculture and technology. I hope the agricultural research center will contribute a lot to the enhancement of the food producing system in Korea.