

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 817**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22/12/2017

**CHANGES IN AGRICULTURAL COURSES**

817. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made agricultural Courses as professional Course recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the benefits extended/provided to agricultural Students due to this change?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

**(a) & (b):** The Governing Body of ICAR Society in its 237<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 has approved UG degrees in Agriculture and allied subjects (Agriculture, Horticulture, Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology, Forestry, Veterinary & Animal Science, Food Technology, Biotechnology, Fisheries, Sericulture, Home/Community Science, and Food Nutrition & Dietetics) as Professional Degree Courses vide letter No. Edn./13/1/2016-HRD of Education Division dated 06<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.

(c) Professional degree is an academic degree that gives students an opportunity to practice in actual condition.

- It extends more opportunities to start entrepreneurship and avail benefits as other professional degree holders are getting i.e. adequate bank loan to start entrepreneurship with less rate of interest as medical professional, etc.
- By obtaining Professional degree, students become more competitive and have a better chance of finding job.
- Gives more opportunities for study abroad and getting better chances of fellowships, etc.
- Easy availability of getting licence for agriculture input dealership including sale of insecticides and pesticides.
- Custom hiring centre dealership for agricultural tools and equipments.
- Scope for starting industries for processing and value addition.

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