

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2240**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/11/2016

**AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION**

2240. SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to popularize the agricultural education;
- (b) whether teachers and other facilities are available for new curriculum in the agricultural institutes, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the key recommendations of the committee constituted by Agriculture Research Council to bring change in the curriculum of agricultural education and the details of the recommendations implemented by the Government thereon?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री  
**(SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)**

(a) (i) To popularize and promote Higher Agricultural Education in the country, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) conducts the All India Entrance Examination annually for admissions to 15% seats in Bachelor degree programmes, 25% seats each in Master's and Ph.D. degree programmes in Agricultural Universities. ICAR awards National Talent Scholarship (NTS) in Agriculture & Allied Science subjects for pursuing UG and PG programmes outside their state of domicile, Junior Research Fellowships (JRFs) for pursuing Masters programme and Senior Research Fellowships for pursuing Ph.D. degree programmes in Agriculture & Allied Sciences. In addition, Merit-cum-Means and Post-Metric Scholarships are also given to attract meritorious undergraduate students belonging to below poverty line and from the weaker section of the society.

(ii) Student READY (Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana) Programme to develop Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness among agricultural students has been launched by Hon'ble prime Minister on 25.07.2015

(iii) The ICAR provides limited need based funding for student and faculty amenities, renovation, modernization of laboratories, smart classrooms modernization of farms and state of art equipments for Central instrumentation laboratory and UG and PG laboratories for strengthening of teaching and learning by providing support for curriculum development and to support PG research in basic and frontier science subjects under its Plan scheme, 'Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India'.

(iv) The confidence and skill of the students is enhanced through Experiential Learning Modules.

(v) To enhance the research capabilities and capacity building the centres, Niche Area of Excellence have been identified and the programme is aimed to achieve global competitiveness in agricultural education and research.

(b) The new curriculum is being implemented by the agricultural universities/institutes and the requirement of teachers and other facilities are taken care of by the respective universities/institutes.

(c) The Fifth Deans Committee Report has been approved to bring uniformity and upgradation in curricula to meet the present day demand of higher agricultural education in the country. The recommendations have been circulated to all Agricultural Universities for implementation. The key recommendation of committee is annexed (**Annexure**).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Key Recommendations of Fifth Deans Committee**

**1. Student READY (Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana)**

In compliance with the Student READY programme launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, the following components are recommended for conducting one year program in all the UG disciplines:

- Experiential Learning
- Rural Agriculture Work Experience
- In Plant Training/ Industrial attachment
- Hands-on Training ( HOT) / Skill development training
- Students Projects

**2. Common Courses-** It was a general consensus that students of all disciplines need to be taught the courses on the following topics. The title of the course may, however, be kept as per the feasibility of the Institute.

1. Environmental Studies and Disaster Management
2. Communication Skills and Personality Development
3. Information and Communication Technology
4. Entrepreneurship Development and Business Management
5. Agricultural Informatics
6. Economics and Marketing

**3. New Programmes-** Fifth Deans' Committee has introduced the following new courses:

- B. Tech. (Biotechnology)
- B.Sc. (Hons) Sericulture
- B.Sc. (Hons) Home Science rechristened as Community Science
- B.Sc. (Hons) Food Nutrition and Dietetics

**4. Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Establishment of new Colleges:**

Fifth Deans' Committee has Developed DPRs for establishment of colleges by integrating the recommendations of Committee on Minimum Standards on Higher Agricultural Education in terms of faculty strength, land requirement, departments and infrastructure.

**5. Holistic distribution of courses:**

The Committee recommended to distribute courses in the following format to inculcate the Basics, Principles and Skills in a systematic way.

- I year – Basic and fundamental courses
- II Year – Principles
- III Year – Production system
- IV Year – Skill and entrepreneurship development

**6. Declaring degrees in Agricultural Sciences as professional:**

The committee recommended that all degrees in the disciplines of Agricultural Sciences be declared as professional courses, which include undergraduate in:

- 1) Agriculture
- 2) Agriculture Engineering
- 3) Biotechnology
- 4) Dairy Technology
- 5) Fisheries
- 6) Food Technology
- 7) Forestry
- 8) Home Science( Community Science)
- 9) Horticulture
- 10) Sericulture

\*\*\*\*\*