4471. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:
SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:

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

(a) the role of agricultural universities in the development of the agriculture sector in
the country particularly of Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour in Bhagalpur, Bihar;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to modernize the agriculture
universities to accelerate agricultural activities and research particularly in the said
university in Sabour;

c) if so, the details thereof;

d) the current number of vacant posts of researchers in the said universities;

e) the steps taken by the Government to fill the said posts;

(f) whether the Government proposes to set up an All India Body on the line of All India
Council of Technical Education (AICTE) to monitor the functioning of agriculture
university in Sabour; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): The Agricultural Universities (AUs) including Bihar Agricultural University,
Sabour have rendered a great service to the nation in the field of Higher Agricultural
Education, Research & Extension. Their contribution to the Agricultural growth in India
is immense.

The quality manpower produced by the AUs in the field of agriculture and allied
areas have resulted in achieving food security and improved nutrition, promoting
sustainable agriculture through development of newer and better varieties, increased
yield and productivity, adaptation policies aligning with the on-going development
programmes. Skilling and encouraging entrepreneurship have stimulated innovation
and domestic demand leading to increased opportunities for productive employment
through decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

(b) and (c): Agriculture including Agricultural Education is a state subject. The Indian
Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the aegis of Department of Agricultural
Research & Education (DARE) supports in terms of financial grants for strengthening
and development of higher agricultural education in India. The details of infrastructure
supported for modernizing AUs across states including Bihar Agricultural University,
Sabour under the schemes “Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural
Education in India (SDHAEI)” and “National Agricultural Higher Education Project
(NAHEP)” are as under:

i. Establishment of smart and virtual classrooms, library automation, Industry
Interaction Cells, Placement cells, alumni cells.

ii. Establishment of Learning and Assessment Centres, E-learning studios, Career
Development Centres, Faculty Development Centres, Artificial intelligence and
Robotics Labs, 3D printing Labs, Student hostels, Examination Halls, Auditoriums etc.

iii. Capacity building of faculty in various cutting-edge areas.

iv. Upgradation and strengthening of laboratories with latest equipment.

v. Attracting talented students towards higher agricultural education, through
fellowships/scholarships & admission though national level exam in Agricultural
Universities (AUs).

(d) and (e) The State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) function under the control of
respective State Governments. Creation and filling up of posts of teachers/researchers
in SAUs is the responsibility of the State Governments. The current status of vacant
posts of researchers/teachers in Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs) and ICAR
Deemed Universities (DUs) is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Vacancy position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03 CAUs</td>
<td>489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 DUs</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the pandemic, the process of filling up of vacant posts could not be carried
out. The Government has now started the process of filling up of vacant posts in
CAUs and DUs.

(f) and (g) There is no proposal to set up an All India Body on the line of All India
Council of Technical Education (AICTE) to monitor the functioning of agriculture
universities including Bihar Agricultural University in Sabour. New Education Policy
(NEP) – 2020, envisages a General Education Council (GEC) and sectoral
Committees such as Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for Agricultural
Education as Professional Standard Setting Bodies (PSSBs) and PSSBs as members
in the GEC to lay down academic standards and to coordinate between teaching,
research and extension of their domain/discipline.

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