

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1975  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010  
INFRASTRUCTURE IN AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITIES  
Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to strengthen the infrastructure and ensure quality education in the agricultural universities of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to link the institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the State Agricultural Universities through electronic digital broadband network in order to share the resources for research; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Agriculture is a State subject. ICAR provides technical and financial support under the scheme 'Strengthening and Development of Agricultural Education'. The State Agricultural Universities are encouraged to interact with line departments of States, mobilize their own resources and strengthen the linkages with KVKs and ICAR institutes.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam, as follows:-

- # 274 ICAR institutes/SAUs/Agril. Colleges & their Centers are being connected through ERNET connectivity.
- # Nine ICAR institutes/SAUs are being linked in National Knowledge Network (NKN).
- # 23 ICAR institutes/SAUs are being provided video-conferencing/IP telephony.
- # All ICAR institutes/SAUs are being linked with ICAR website ([www.icar.org.in](http://www.icar.org.in)).