

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4436

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH POLICY

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

(a) whether all the State Agricultural University (SAU) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has a research policy unit to ensure research relevant to farmers' need and encourage interaction between research and providing feed back mechanism for farmers;

(b) if so, the States where these units are in operation;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the relevant Acts to grant full administrative and financial autonomy to ICAR with enhanced funding; 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. For addressing the farmers' need and encourage interaction between researchers and farmers, all the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) are having Research Council and Extension Council, both having progressive farmers as representatives. The research programmes are oriented to meet the needs of farmers and other stake holders and emphasis is also laid on farmers' education, training and advisory services. The SAUs are operational in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal. Besides, a Central Agricultural University at Imphal covers the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura, and the Central University, Medziphema covers Nagaland.

Each of the 97 institutes under DARE/ICAR, situated across the country, also has a Research Advisory Committee comprising eminent scientists and two persons representing agricultural/rural interests, who actively take part in deciding the research agenda of the institutes.

Besides, the National Research Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi, established under ICAR, assists in agricultural research policy support keeping in view the farmers' perspective.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 568 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in rural districts of the country as an innovative institutional model for assessment, refinement and frontline demonstration of technologies/products and training of farmers and extension personnel.

(c) & (d): No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.