

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2370
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the status of agricultural education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the areas in which the country is lagging behind in the field of agricultural education alongwith the proposals received by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the funds allocated/assistance provided under the schemes for agricultural education;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any comprehensive scheme on the basis of the said proposals; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Agricultural Education is a State subject. However, DARE/ICAR organizes an annual conference of Vice –Chancellors primarily to discuss the implementation of the Govt. of India scheme for assisting the state agricultural universities, which also provides the forum and occasion to get feedback on the status of agricultural education in India.

(b) It has been generally observed that infrastructure and capacity building needs improvement. More residential facilities for girl students is also required. Vacant faculty positions need to be filled up by Agricultural Universities.

(c) & (d): Being state universities, agricultural universities are primarily funded by the State Governments. However, DARE/ICAR implements a centrally sponsored plan scheme "Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India" with a view to providing limited financial assistance for upgradation of infrastructure and quality of certain programmes. The assistance provided under the scheme during the XI Plan is as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)
2007-08 (RE) 2008-09 (RE) 2009-10 (RE) 2010-11 (RE) 2011-12 (BE) Total
26349.56 31197.94 35502.96 44600.00 48730.00 186380.46

(e) The budgetary allocation for this scheme in the current financial year is Rs.487.30 crores.