

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:196

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) proposes to reorient its research and development programme in the field of agriculture so as to bridge critical gaps between labs and farms during the XIth Five Year Plan period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also proposed to revise and reorient the course curriculum of agricultural education in the country to make it more relevant and farmers' friendly;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria fixed for the purpose; and
- (e) the details of the other steps taken by the Government to improve agricultural education in the country?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is taking initiatives to bridge the critical gaps between the labs and farms through prioritization with stake holder interactions, validation of results in farmers' fields, scaling up of models through agri-incubators and Farmer First Programme.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) & (e): The revision of curriculum is need based continuous process. Presently, to make it more farmers' friendly, the reorientation and revision of curriculum is proposed to equip the students with knowledge along with associated skills in production, processing, value addition, marketing and services. Besides, initiatives for enhancing system efficiency, attracting young talent, academic excellence through faculty, students development programmes, networking and linkages of agriculture universities with public, private R&D institutions and farmers and the quality assurance through accreditation are being taken up.