

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2224  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015  
POLICY FOR AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS  
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking any initiative to attract researchers/ scientists of Indian origin working in the premier foreign laboratories to the national agricultural research and education system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any policy has been framed by Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB) to attract such talent;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to raise the standards of education and research in State Agriculture Universities at par with ICAR institutes; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A specific alternative eligibility provision has been made in the model qualification for posts of Senior Scientist so that Indian Origin Scientists engaged in high quality post-doctoral research in premier foreign laboratories are eligible to compete for selection. All Research Management as well as Senior Research Management scientific posts are being filled through direct recruitment where a specific provision for an alternative eligibility criteria for eminent scientists has also been made.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. In Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB), all direct recruitment of scientific posts are widely advertised in all leading national newspapers, employment news, Rojgar Samachar and put up on the websites of ASRB and ICAR. In the model qualifications for filling up senior scientific positions on direct recruitment, a provision has been introduced since September 2013, making eligible Post-doctoral fellows and other suitably qualified scientists of Indian origin working in premier foreign universities and global research institutions. Specific provisions for payment of fee in foreign currency is made and extra time over and above the normal closing date is given to Indian origin candidates applying from abroad. Further for entry level Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Examination, provision is made for online registration of application as well as payment of fee.

(e) & (f): Yes, Madam. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has prepared syllabi for post graduate (PG Education for all disciplines of Agricultural Sciences so that standards of Agricultural Education and Research in State Agricultural Universities become uniform and at par with ICAR institutes. The syllabi for Under Graduate (UG) courses are also revised by the Dean's Committees from time to time so that the standard of Agricultural Education is uniform throughout the country across all SAUs. The SAUs are accredited by the Council in order to maintain standards of Education and Research.