Proceedings

Conference of the Vice Chancellors

of

State Agricultural Universities & Deemed Universities

19 – 20 January 2008

Held at

National Agricultural Science Center, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, New Delhi – 110012



Education Division

Indian Council of Agricultural Research New Delhi-110012

Agenda Items

Agenda	Item			
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2	Action Taken Report on the recommendations of VCs' Conference held on 21-22 February 2007, ADG (EPD)			
3	Climate change: Mitigation and adaptations, Dr. P. K. Aggarwal			
4	Bio-resources including registration of germplasm and extant and notified varieties, DDG (Crops)			
5	Filling up of the positions of AICRPs and KVKs – Follow-up, DDG (Engg)			
6	Rating of SAUs, Director NAARM			
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11	Establishing Educational Museum in Agricultural Universities, ADG (EPD)			
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17.1	Improvement and Strengthening of Veterinary Clinical services: GADVASU, Ludhiana			
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18	Preparation and implementation of NAIP programmes, ND (NAIP)			
19	Organizing the 10 th AgriSports and 10 th AgriFest, ADG (EPD)			
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Programme

19 January 2008

10.30 hrs	Inaugural Session		
11.45 hrs	Tea		
12.15 hrs	Introductory remarks by the DG , ICAR		
12.25 hrs	Confirmation of the Proceedings and Action Taken Report of the last VC' Conference:		
	ADG (EPD)		
12.30 hrs	Climate change: Mitigation and adaptations, Dr. P. K. Aggarwal		
13.20 hrs	Bio-resources including registration of germplasm and extant and notified varieties,		
	DDG (Crops)		
13.45 hrs	Lunch		
14.30 hrs	Filling up of the positions of AICRPs and KVKs – Follow-up, DDG (Engg)		
14.45 hrs	Rating of SAUs, Director NAARM		
15.30 hrs	Reducing inbreeding depression in faculty of SAUs, DDG (Edu)		
16.00 hrs	Status of IP management programme: Adoption and implementation of ICAR		
	guidelines, ADG (IPR)		
16.10 hrs	XI Plan for strengthening and development of agricultural education, DDG (Edu)		
16.30 hrs	Utilizing RKVY provisions for expansion of teaching & research capability of SAUs in		
	identified priority areas, DDG (Edu)		
16.40 hrs	Establishing Educational Museum in Agricultural Universities, ADG (EPD)		
16.50 hrs	Review of Niche areas of Excellence, ADG (EPD)		
17.00 hrs	Establishment of Experiential Learning units, ADG (EPD)		
19.30 hrs	Dinner		

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9.30 hrs	Accreditation, ADG (EQR)		
9.45 hrs	NET requirement for Assistant Professor and equivalent positions, ADG (EQR)		
10.00 hrs	Adoption of revised curricula and syllabi, ADG (EQR)		
10.15 hrs	Exchange of students and faculty AUs. WBUAFS, Kolkata		
10.30 hrs	Modalities to bring out international competitiveness in education, CIFE , Mumbai		
11.00 hrs	Tea		
11.15 hrs	Creation of fund for area-specific project, AAU , Jorhat		
11.30 hrs	Introduction of practical / experiential courses in SAUs, AAU, Jorhat		
11.45 hrs	Modernization of research infrastructures of AUs, AAU, Jorhat		
12.00 hrs	Preparation and implementation of NAIP programmes, ND (NAIP)		
12.15 hrs	Organizing the 10 th AgriSports and 10 th AgriFest, ADG (EPD)		
12.25 hrs	Development grant: Effective utilization and other related issues: ADG (EPD)/ Dir (F)		
13.00 hrs	General issues: All universities		
13.30 hrs	Lunch		
	Valedictory Function		
14.30 hrs	Welcome and summing up of the deliberations: Dr. S.P. Tiwari, DDG (Edn)		
14.40 hrs	Address: the Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR		
15.15 hrs	Vote of thanks: ADG (EPD)		

Proceedings of the Agricultural Universities' Vice Chancellors Conference held on 19-20 January 2008

Annual Conference of the Vice Chancellors (VCs) of the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Central Agricultural University (CAU) and Vice Chancellors / Directors of the Deemed Universities (DUs) was held at the National Agricultural Sciences Centre, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, New Delhi on 19-20 January, 2008.

Hon'ble Union Minister of the Agriculture, Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs, Govt. of India Shri Sharad Pawar Ji inaugurated the conference on 19th January 2008. The Vice Chancellors of the SAUs and CAU and Directors of the DUs; Deans and Directors of the SAUs/CUs, the Chairman and the members of the ASRB, DDGs, ADGs of and other senior officers of the ICAR participated in the Conference (**Annexure I**).

Dr. S. P. Tiwari, DDG (Education), ICAR, in his welcome address highlighted the agenda for the deliberations of the Conference, which besides other subjects included "Climate Change: Mitigation and adaptations". He presented in brief the achievements of the Education Division. Dr. S. A. Patil, the President Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA) made a brief presentation on the activities of the IAUA and appreciated ICAR for its role to the cause of agricultural education. He underscored the need for short-term training for university teachers at NAARM, Hyderabad. Mr. P.K. Mishra, Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in his address emphasized the need for reorientation in approaches by AUs to meet present challenges, technical backstopping by AUs for RKVY and the renewed efforts on agricultural extension.

Dr. Mangala Rai, Secretary DARE & DG, ICAR, in his address, stressed the importance of the VC conference and said that this forum has continually served the cause of the ICAR-AU System of higher agricultural education in an effective partnership mode. He appreciated that AUs are imparting education in 11 faculties and providing master degree in 95 subjects and doctorate in 80 subjects. He called for reducing the inbreeding depression both at faculty and student levels. He said that very good progress has been made in the field of gender equity in Agriculture Education as some universities showed more than 50% girl students and the average girl student in AUs is around 35%. Dr. Rai also informed the august gathering that nearly 58% of the ICAR budget is going to SAUs. He stated that a significant increase in the education budget is slated in 11th five-year plan. He wanted long-term goals to be set as gestation period in agriculture research is a long one. Nevertheless, the investment in education would always remain to be the best investment. The DG Stated that this year's VCs conference assumes a special significance as it coincides with the launch of the XIth five-year plan. He exhorted that AUs should provide technological backstopping to all KVKs, including those outside the control of the AUs, to make district-level development possible. He also suggested that AUs should take advantage and provide technical backstopping for the two major initiatives taken by the Ministry of Agriculture viz., Food Security Mission and the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Union Minister of Agriculture Sri Sharad Pawar urged the congregated Vice-Chancellors to bring strategic transformation in agricultural research, education and development systems for an accelerated and inclusive growth in agriculture. He said that the agricultural universities should take advantage and provide technical backstopping for Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna. He desired that there should be periodic revamping of agricultural education to continuously improve its content and quality, to maintain its relevance, and further stressed that the need is to reorient courses for students and provide real-life project situations. The youth should posses the required skills in tune with contemporary and futuristic needs of job markets and also for self-employment. He also emphasized on degradation of natural resources, climate change, new challenges faced in the wake of national priorities and the emerging global issues of concern. He also stressed that globalization has generated specific demand for agriculture graduates in the areas of natural resource management with precision, trade related regulations, intellectual property management, commercialization of technologies, etc. He stressed on modernization of research and instructional farms of new teaching methodologies like E-learning hubs, online education, visual classrooms and food processing units in AUs. He exhorted that the AUs should also enhance the IP-protections and patents.

Dr. P. K. Aggarwal, National Professor, IARI, New Delhi presented a special theme paper on 'Climate change: mitigation and adaptations'. He highlighted the importance of climate change on agriculture and its future impact. He discussed the role of Indian agriculture in relation to global warming and the various initiatives taken by the ICAR on mitigation. He brought about the IPCC recommendation as well as the recommendations of ICAR Conference, 2007. In these, he emphasized on mitigation and adaptation strategies such as developing new heat and drought tolerant genotypes, and intensifying search of stress tolerance across plant and animal kingdom, marker aided selection and transgenic development for biotic and abiotic stress management, transformation of C3 plants to C4 plants, evolving new agronomy for climate change and exploring maintenance/restoration/enhancement of soil properties.

Sri A.K. Upadhyay, Additional Secretary, DARE & Secretary, ICAR proposed the Vote of Thanks. He stressed the need for periodically revising the higher agricultural education system of the country for keeping pace with the contemporary and future challenges.

Technical Session

Dr. Mangala Rai, Secretary, DARE and D.G. ICAR, while chairing the technical session, appreciated the services of SAUs and Directors of ICAR, DUs who completed their tenure during the year goneby and extended warm welcome to the VCs / Directors who were attending the conference for the first time. The regular agenda was taken up thereafter:

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the proceedings of the last VCs Conference held on 21-22 February 2007

The proceedings of the last Vice Chancellors' Conference held on 21-22 February 2007 were taken as confirmed by agreement of the house.

Agenda 2: Action Taken Report on the recommendations of VCs conference held on 21-22 February 2007

The house noted with satisfaction the actions taken by the Council and all concerned on the recommendations of the VCs' Conference held last year.

Agenda 3: Climate Change: Mitigation and adaptations

Dr. P. K. Aggarwal, National Professor, IARI, New Delhi presented a lecture on "Climate Change: mitigation and adaptations". He discussed global climate changes and Indian Agriculture, Impact, Adaptation and mitigation by covering the various heads like observed trends in climate (IPCC, 2007); Future projections and climate Change (IPCC, 2007), Projected Impact on Indian Agriculture and finally concluded by providing various recommendations for the mitigation of global climate change, he also presented the recommendations of ICAR Conference (2007). The presentation evoked lot of interest that led to discussions on climate change. Following points emerged for adoption and action:

The network project on the subject established by the ICAR with the involvement of research institutes and SAUs for critical research on crops, livestock, and fisheries will appropriately be expanded.

Action: All VCs / DDG (NRM)

National Agricultural Innovations Project (NAIP) of ICAR has identified climate change as a thrust area and funds are especially available for climate change related research and development projects. The AUs may effectively avail the provisions made for accelerating research efforts in this area.

Action: All VCs/ND (NAIP)

Group Meeting for carbon trading may be organized. Training courses would be organized for capacity building in climate change and related areas.

Action: DDG (NRM)

A multi-disciplinary expert group in ICAR would be constituted for developing short-term programmes for XI Plan and a road map for medium- and long-term programmes.

Action: DDG (NRM)

Agenda: 4 Bio-resources including registration of germplasm and extant and notified varieties

The Deputy Director General (Crop Science), Dr. Gautam, presented the agenda. He highlighted various issues and management options in respect of genetic resources for food and agriculture (GRFA) including the current practices at the ICAR Bureaus on Plant, Animal, Fish and Microbial Genetic Resources in harmony with the international agreements / conventions / treaties such as World Trade Organization - Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (WTO-TRIPs), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) etc. Following recommendations were made:

Registration and Protection of Plant Varieties under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Framers' Rights (PPV&FR) Act, 2001: Presently all applications for extant and new varieties of ICAR are being filed at the PPV&FR Registry through NBPGR. The procedures have been standardized. All Vice-Chancellors of SAUs unanimously conveyed their conscious decision, requesting ICAR to allow filing of applications of extant and new varieties of notified crops also through NBPGR. This request was agreed. The SAUs should prepare and file their applications through

NBPGR, strictly according to the PPVFR Act / Rules. The NBPGR may also provide any need based guidance / instructions on request from SAUs. For effective implementation of this provision, all SAU should identify nodal officers responsible for the registration of plant varieties to work in liaison with NBPGR.

Action: All VCs / Director NBPGR

Ownership of Plant Varieties: This will be according to the ICAR Guidelines on IP Management and Technology Transfer / Commercialization, 2006. Accordingly, ICAR and the SAUs may be the sole or joint partners (applicants) in the individual PVP applications, depending upon their contribution in the development of a particular plant variety.

Action: All VCs/Director NBPGR

Benefit Sharing: Benefit sharing from commercialization of protected varieties shall be done according to the ICAR Guidelines for IP Management and Technology Transfer / Commercialization, 2006. The share of individuals will be decided on mutually agreed terms among the concerned partner ICAR institute(s) and SAU(s).

Action: All VCs / All concerned Directors/PDs/PCs of ICAR

Payment of Fees for Registration and Protection of Plant Varieties: In case of centrally released varieties / varieties released on regional basis, the application fee / maintenance fee etc. shall be paid from the respective Project Coordinator's budget. Further, for the State released varieties such fees shall be met from the respective AICRP Centers budget.

Action: All VCs / All concerned Directors/PDs/PCs of ICAR

Human Resource Development in IP Management: On the recommendations of the Central technology Management Committee (CTMC), ICAR has already initiated action to train more than 500 scientists from different parts of the country during the year 2008. The SAUs should take advantage of the opportunity to train their scientists in IPR related issues.

Action: All VCs / All Directors/PDs/PCs/ ADG (IPR&P)

HRD in Cutting Edge of Science particularly Biotechnology: ICAR has already laid emphasis on training young scientists in advance tools of biotechnology and other cutting-edge of science. The expertise gained by scientists trained abroad in advance techniques such as molecular aided selection (MAS) should be effectively and gainfully used by SAUs/ICAR institutes.

Action: All VCs / All Directors/PDs/PCs/ ADG (IPR&P)

Documentation and database of existing varieties: The NBPGR has developed a database of all the released and notified varieties (NoRV). The SAUs must actively pursue to update the database particularly for the State Release Varieties, and assist NBPGR in the strengthening the database by providing required information of the varieties released at the level of their respective State.

Action: All VCs / Director NBPGR

Registration of breeds/strains of animal and fish genetic resources: The SAUs should contribute to the development and maintenance of germplasm registration of animals and fish / aquatic fauna so as to forestall any unauthorized use / IP protection on these

valuable sovereign resources. The issues of ownership should be sorted out and the respective ICAR Bureaus should also work out descriptor details for this mechanism.

Action: All VCs/All Directors of Bureaus

Microorganisms: The SAUs should lay emphasis on the IPR on microorganisms and, wherever needed, transfer of critical bioagents in public domain to farmers be done. A national database of the proprietary and public information on microorganisms should be developed.

Action: All VCs / Director, NBAIM

Plant Germplasm Explorations and Management: It was agreed that a single window mechanism through NBPGR would be helpful. The Scientists / breeders of SAUs should undertake germplasm explorations only in consultation with NBPGR to avoid duplication of efforts or repetition of areas already explored and to ensure that the material collected is provided National Identity Number (IC) and a referral sample is also conserved in National Genebank for present and future use in NARS. The NBPGR should develop and issue detailed guidelines/instructions to this effect. A regular feedback for germplasm use must be ensured by all breeders/scientists of SAUs/ICAR institutes.

Action: All VCs/Director NBPGR/All Directors/PDs of ICAR

Molecular Genome Bank: The Biotechnology Units at all SAUs should contribute towards genebanking of national genomic resources

Action: All VCs/Director NBPGR

Agenda 5: Filling up of the positions of AICRPs and KVKs

The DDG (Eng) presented the agenda. He explained that a large number of scientific and non-scientific positions at most of the centers still remained vacant under All India Coordinated Research Projects of ICAR (AICRPs). Similar was the case under KVKs. The situation is seriously affecting the resultant output. It was decided that the latest vacancy position under AICRPs and KVKs is to be provided by all the universities in the format developed and circulated for the purpose. The vacant positions should not be kept vacant for long and the speedy action at appropriate level may be taken for filling of the vacant positions latest by June 2008, positively

Action: All VCs/DDG (Eng)

Agenda 6: Rating of SAUs

Director, NAARM presented the agenda. After a detailed discussion it was opined that there is an urgent need to develop an appropriate methodology for qualitative rating for SAUs and to assess qualitative rating in terms of inputs, output, commercial and social acceptance of its graduates, and competitiveness and career development of graduates globally. The performance assessment of AUs would be indicated by output, outcome and management assessment. A brainstorming workshop may be organized by NAARM in which AUs could deliberate on the appropriate benchmark indicators, their weightages and various parameters under each benchmark indicator. The parameters listed in the agenda can be enlarged or bunched or merged appropriately to suit the requirements of the rating of AUs. It is suggested that required flexibility could be incorporated in the indicators keeping in view the activities like research and extension as per the mandate and specialization of the AUs.

Action: All VCs/Directors (NAARM)

Agenda 7: Reducing Inbreeding depression in faculty of SAUs

The DDG (Edu)) made a presentation on the subject. The issues related to quality of teaching faculty right from the time of recruitment. It was unanimously voiced that unrestricted preference to local candidates overshadows merit for selection leading to mediocrity whereby quality of education becomes causality. This unwritten repression on the entry of faculty from outside impedes infusion of state of the art theoretical and experiential insights into the academia. Inbreeding mars national integration and understanding among diverse cultural backgrounds. It was agreed that academic positions, desirably upto 20%, be feasibly taken from outside at entry level. Positions meant exclusively for field-level extension and excluding academic positions in the colleges, however, could be filled by the candidates of the home state. It was desired that apart from the action at respective VC / State level, the Honorable Agriculture Minister may be requested to take up this issue with the respective Agriculture Ministers of the states.

Action: All VCs/President IAUA

Agenda 8: Status of IP management programme: Adoption and implementation of ICAR guidelines

The agenda was presented by the ADG (IPR&P). He briefed the status of adoption and implementation of ICAR guidelines on IP management by various agricultural universities. It was recommended that the ICAR guidelines or suitably modified guidelines be put into feasible implementation by all the universities at the earliest.

Action: All VCs/Directors of DUs

Agenda 9: XIth Plan proposal for strengthening and development of agricultural education

The DDG (Edn.) highlighted that the project envisages enhancing the breadth, relevance and quality of education, training and research through modernization of instructional and research farms of the agricultural universities. As a synthesis, the following eleven areas are identified that need financial support, target-setting and effective monitoring for much desired output, outcome and long-term impact:

- 1. Modernization of farms and laboratories including provision for refurbishing, renovation, equipments, implements and farm machinery.
- 2. ICTs, connectivity, video conferencing and modern delivery systems
- 3. Training, reorientation and faculty development especially in frontier areas of science and technology
- 4. Provision of Visiting Faculty and Adjunct Professorship to fill the critical gaps and excellence-promotion.
- 5. E-learning tools and course-content development, digitization, E-subscription and networking and overall library strengthening.
- 6. Development of learning resources, Experiential Learning and Hands-on-Training facilities.
- 7. Niche Area of Excellence and development of disciplines in a phased manner
- 8. Region-, situation-, and system-specific integrated technology development with programme/project-based specific funding
- 9. Overseas Fellowships/scholarships
- 10. Gender mainstreaming including girls' hostel and other amenities and facilities
- 11. Sports and games facilities including gymnasiums.

With the pre-determined relevant parameters, benchmarking of each of the universities would be basic. For attaining much needed success on a time scale, commitment of the institution would be ensured. Funds released would be regulated with respect to the attainment of the targets set and with respect to well-set output and outcome indicators pre-determined on a time scale. It was suggested to feasibly link the Centers of Advance Studies with Niche Areas of Excellence programme during the XI Plan. Also, it was suggested to explore the possibility of linking up of RAWE and Internship programmes with the Experiential Learning units.

Action: All VCs/DDG (Edu)

Agenda 10: Utilizing RKVY provision for expansion of teaching research capability of SAUs in identified priority area

DDG (Edu) while putting the agenda explained the provision of additional sum of Rs.500 crores carved out of the RKVY provisions by the Planning Commission to cater to the needs for expansion of teaching facilities and enhancing research capability of SAUs in identified priority areas. He stated that this fund is to be used as complementary funding through proposals submitted by State Government / State Agriculture Universities for the purpose, including any time-bound research or proposals received from SAUs on strategic research. It was suggested that States and SAUs (through State) might effectively avail of funds under RKVY by formulating appropriate proposals.

Action: All VCs

Agenda 11: Establishing Educational Museum in Agricultural Universities

ADG (EPD) presented the Agenda. He explained that establishing an Educational Museum in each of the Agricultural University is a new concept proposed in the XIth Plan. The proposed Educational Museum may include digital video films, digital still photographs, digital microphotographs, instructional models, etc. across the subjects for teaching and learning. The Educational Museum at each university with 100% funding by ICAR under the Plan scheme of "Strengthening and Development of Agricultural Education" is proposed with the objectives viz. to setup a state of art museum as a major educational and training spot; to identify and develop appropriate instructional strategies and methods for enhancing efficacy and scope of teaching learning; to develop digital video films, digital still photographs, digital microphotographs, instructional models, etc. of agricultural importance for disseminating knowledge to Undergraduate and Postgraduate students and to evolve continuously in developing appropriate instructional strategies and methods for enhancing scope of teaching. The financial components of Educational Museum will include new civil work for the establishment of Museum building, contingency for preparation of gross specimens using advance fixation techniques, macro- and micro-photography of specimens and slides, development of advanced educational aids, etc. and equipments like audio-visual equipments, VCD/DVD and computers. All the universities were requested for the specific suggestions, if any for inclusion while drafting the XI Plan proposal.

Action: All VCs

Agenda 12: Review of Niche areas of excellence

ADG (EPD) presented the Agenda. He explained that the programme on Niche areas of Excellence was launched in the Xth Plan for the first time with the objective to achieve educational excellence in teaching, research, consultancy and other services. It was stipulated while formulating the programme that this excellence should update itself in accordance with best of global experiences and trends and of being responsive to regional

and national and social and economic needs. The contemplated strategy for building excellence included aspects like niche area identification-brand equity; management of facilities and faculty; limit inbreeding; inputs- public and self-generated; linkages-interfacing and collaborating. It was opined that most of the universities have implemented the Niche Area of Excellence as a research project only. The vision and scope of the Niche areas of excellence as understood today by most centers needs review so that the objectives as envisaged are truly achieved. It was recommended that a team of 7-8 people specifically constituted for the purpose would look after the issue and suggested ways and means to make the programme more effective. Also, specific suggestions were invited from the AUs.

Action: All VCs

Agenda 13: Establishment of experiential learning units

ADG (EPD) presented the Agenda. He informed that a provision of establishment of Experiential Learning units and hands-on-training was made in the Xth Plan for the first time to link education with building professionalism among agricultural graduates. In this backdrop, the ICAR sanctioned a total 183 Experiential Learning units for in 43 Agricultural Universities. All the AUs were highly appreciative of the programme and need for more such units was stressed in XI Plan period. Also, need for some recurring contingency to such units was considered important. Working out possibility of linking objectives of present programme on RAWE and internship with the Experiential Learning units was also recommended.

Action: DDG (Edu)/All VCs

Agenda 14: Accreditation

ADG (EQR) presented the Agenda. He explained that with a view to enhancing the quality and relevance of agricultural education in the country, ICAR started accreditation of Agricultural Universities in 1996. Total 14 Agricultural Universities have so far been accredited and proposals for another 5 Agricultural Universities have been finalized. The other Agricultural Universities have yet to pursue the submission of the self-study report so that the accreditation process is completed in the shortest possible time. All the universities were requested to accord high priority to complete the Accreditation process at their earliest.

Action: All VCs

Agenda 15: NET requirement for Assistant Professor and equivalent positions

ADG (EQR) presented the Agenda. He informed that in order to maintain the educational standards and also for reducing inbreeding, National Eligibility Test (NET) has been prescribed as an essential qualification in addition to Master's degree in the relevant discipline for recruitment of Assistant Professors or equivalent posts in the SAUs. The decision was taken on the basis of the meeting of the Vice Chancellors of SAUs held in 1994 and has been communicated to all the Vice Chancellors during 1994, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2005 and 2006. Many agricultural universities have already implemented the decision. A few universities however, have yet to implement the NET essentiality. The issue of non-implementation of NET as an essential qualification for recruitment to the post of Assistant Professor and equivalent was discussed in detail. President, IAUA steered the discussion and it was reiterated by the VCs that the AUs agree to adopt the NET essentiality for all the subjects in which the NET examinations are held. The essentiality of NET will, however, not be applicable to Technical cadre positions of KVKs etc. It was added that implementation of NET essentiality may be linked with the financial support provided by the ICAR. Also, the NET examinations need to be held regularly. The

need was felt for manpower assessment availability and planning by NAARM in order to get discipline wise spectrum.

Action: All VCs/ASRB/NAARM/DDG (Edu)

Agenda 16: Adoption of revised curricula and syllabus

ADG (EQR) presented the Agenda. He informed that report on Norms, Standards, Academic Regulations and UG Curricula and Syllabi submitted by the Fourth Deans' Committee on Agricultural Education in India was approved by the ICAR for implementation in all agricultural universities. Many Universities have already adopted the recommendations. The recommendations should be adopted by all AUs for required quality, acceptability and relevance of education and also keeping in view the employability of the graduates. A National Core Group has been appointed by the ICAR that has initiated the revision of Masters and Doctoral Course Curricula and Syllabi. Specific suggestions with regard to curriculum and syllabus of the course(s) may be communicated to ADG (EQR) who is the Member Secretary of the National Core Group.

Action: All VCs/ADG (EQR)

Agenda 17.1: Improvement and strengthening of Veterinary Clinical services / delivery in SAU/SVU

The GADVASU, Ludhiana presented the Agenda. It was explained that basic aim of veterinary clinical service in the universities is to evolve a viable and sustainable institution setting for enhancement of delivery of animal health services in the universities teaching programme and strengthen research in order to serve the mankind and society. It was recommended that veterinary clinical service might be included as an activity under experiential learning programme and funds for up-gradation of clinical services may be made available. It was recommended that the grant provided for equipments also covers equipments needed in veterinary clinics and the universities were advised to effectively utilize this grant for the purpose.

Action: All VCs/ADG (EPD)

Agenda 17.2: Exchange of students and faculty AUs

The WBUAFS, Kolkata presented the Agenda. It was emphasized that the students within this internship period may be allowed to take part in the similar programme at least for some period in other universities through students' exchange. It was recommended that a small group consisting of President IAUA, Drs Tej Pratap, J. C. Katyal and one or two more members, if needed would look into the modalities and fund requirements for this. To start with, the exchange programme is to be made applicable to PG students only. The committee will suggest appropriate guidelines for exchange of Indian students and also the faculty in Indian universities. It was suggested that the committee might like to consider the existing Niche Area of Excellence and Experiential Learning units to be appropriately linked with the proposed exchange programme

Action: All VCs/IAUA/ADG (HRD)

Agenda 17.3: Modalities to bring out international competitiveness in education

The agenda was presented by the CIFE, Mumbai. It was stressed that in the emerging new environment in higher education due to globalization India agricultural universities have to equip themselves by putting in place necessary structure and policy reforms. It was

explained by the ND (NAIP) that 30 Institutes already connected for video conferencing and there is scope to enhance the E-connectivity further to more Institutions. *It was recommended that bandwidth be increased from 2 mbps to 10 mbps. Also, the nodal officers of all the AUs are to be redefined / re-designated.*

Action: All VCs/ND (NAIP)/PD (DIPA)

Agenda 17.4: Creation of fund for area-specific project

The AAU, Jorhat, presented the agenda. The idea of making provision for fund for undertaking identified zone specific problems by the AUs was well appreciated. It was explained that the provision of sum of Rs.500 crores from RKVY has already been made by the Planning Commission to cater to the needs for expansion of teaching facilities and enhancing research capability of SAUs in identified priority areas. It was recommended that this fund be used for funding of proposals of such kind including any time-bond research from SAUs on strategic research. SAUs, through respective States, might effectively avail funds under RKVY by formulating appropriate proposals.

Action: All VCs

Agenda 17.5: Introduction of practical/experiential courses in SAUs

The AAU, Jorhat, presented the agenda. The need was felt for more practical and experiential courses for better employability or enable the students for establishing self-employment. It was expressed that the existing Experiential Learning units are addressing the issue and procession will continue in XI Plan also.

Action: All VCs/DDG (Edu)

Agenda 17.6: Modernization of research infrastructures of AUs

The AAU, Jorhat, presented the agenda. The proposal for strengthening research infrastructure of AUs to keep pace with the present needs was well appreciated. It was recommended that the requirements and the provisions for adequate central support for infrastructures be reflected in the XI Plan proposal of the plan scheme of ICAR on Strengthening and Development of Agricultural Education. The AUs, however, may also take up with the respective States to address the needs of the agricultural education and research out of the state funds.

Action: All VCs/DDG (Edu)

Agenda 17.7: Agricultural Bio-security

The CCS HAU, Hisar presented the agenda. It was felt that with the increasing global trade and movement of vast variety agricultural commodities in bulk; there are increased risks of the entry of many exotic/invasive pests and diseases of crops and livestocks. Inspection and phytosanitary certification requirements have increased. Scientific surveys are necessary for certifying areas as known to be free or a particular pest of disease, rather than depending on records of not known to be infested. Pre-export, pre-entry, port of entry and post-entry level awareness, research and methodologies are necessary for safer imports as well as for exports of agricultural commodities. There is an urgent need to establish a national agri-biosecurity center with regional laboratories having trained manpower, equipment and databases on distribution, diagnosis and treatments of various pests, pathogens and invasive species known to be present in India or those absent in India but present in other parts of the world. A brainstorming session was suggested to discuss bio-security related issues and identify needed undergraduate courses on bio-

safety within 2-3 months. The NBPGR was identified for organizing the brainstorming session.

Action: Director (NBPGR)

Also, it was recommended to hold an interface of Directors of ICAR Institutes and Director of Research of SAUs for discussion on the possible collaboration between the two for research.

Action: ADG (C)

Agenda 17.8: Application of new tools in agricultural research and education

The CCS HAU, Hisar presented the agenda. It was concluded that it is now necessary to harness the benefits of the more modern tools such as biotechnology and nanotechnology for developing agricultural technologies. The need to set up special centers for high-level research and development in leading universities and institutes was considered important. Human resource development with exposure to the latest technologies was also considered necessary. It was recommended that the requirements and the provisions for adequate central support be reflected in the XI Plan proposal of the plan scheme of ICAR on Strengthening and Development of Agricultural Education.

Action: All VCs/DDG (Edu)

Agenda 18: Preparation and implementation of NAIP programmes, ND (NAIP)

The ND (NAIP) briefed the house regarding the development in NAIP programme for the information for all the AUs. The issues flagged requiring immediate attention by AUs included: Personal attention of the senior officials in the preparation and revision of the project proposals; Early compliance for submission of MOUs, Annual Accounts with audit reports, AUCs for the last 3 years (2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07), undertaking to open separate account for NAIP project/s, undertaking to follow double entry system of accounting; Constituting CMU/PME cells, regularly holding CIC meetings, constant review of budget utilization, procurement, training and other approved activities as per the time schedule; Deputing officials involved in the project to training /M&E workshops whenever organized and Promptly sending reports / documents to PIU, NAIP as and when requested. All the universities were requested for the completing the requirements and utilize the processions of NAIP at the earliest.

Action: All VCs

Agenda 19: Organizing the 10^{th} Agrisports and 10^{th} Agrifest

After a thorough discussion, following decisions were taken unanimously for hosting the two events for the years to come:

AgriSports: CSAUAT, Kanpur: 2008; MAU, Parbhani: 2009; KAU, Thrissur: 2010

AgriFest: UAS, Bangalore: 2008; AAIDU, Allahabad: 2009; AAU, Anand: 2010

Action: VCs of CSAUAT, MAU, KAU, UAS (B), AAIDU, AAU (A) /ADG (EPD)

Agenda 20: Discussion on issues related to ICAR development grant: All universities

The Director Finance, ICAR and ADG (EPD), explained the requirement of Audit Utilization Certificate, return of unspent balance, if any and outcome report for the previous year. It was explained that drawn of grant in excess of 50% of the budget in a financial year, the ICAR is required to submit Audited Utilization Certificate to the Govt. of India for the grants drawn by it in previous financial year. Since the grant is drawn by

the ICAR from the GOI as per the approved pattern, the SAU's need to furnish AUC latest by June of the following year in respect of grant released to them in previous financial year. It was pointed out that if any additional demand for RAWE for the present year is pending the same may be sent quickly so that grant is released for the purpose. It was agreed that necessary steps might be initiated for timely release of remaining part of the grants.

Action: All VCs/Directors of DUs/ADG (EPD)

Agenda 21: General issues

It was recommended that the tenure of VCs may be uniformly for 5 years and the upper age limit should be uniformly 70 years. It was recommended that the IAUA would take it up at appropriate level for the implementation of the recommendation.

Action: All VCs/President IAUA

It was resolved that in the State budget, there should be a specific budget line for SAUs for research and education. IAUA may take up the issue.

Action: All VCs/President IAUA

It was resolved to institute ARS performance awards unanimously for the candidates based on the merit in ASRB examinations.

Action: ASRB

Chairman ASRB desired that a list of all PG teachers be sent by the AUs to the ASRB.

Action: All VCs

The Conference ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair, participants and organizers.

Annexure I

List of participated in the Vice-Chancellors' Conference held on January 19-20, 2008

No.	Name	Designation	Address
A.	Vice-Chancellors of SAUs / CA	Us / CUs / DUs	
1.	Dr. S.S. Bhaghel	Vice-Chancellor	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat-785013
2.	Dr. N.L. Mauraya	Vice-Chancellor	Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa-848125
3	Dr. C.R. Hazra	Vice-Chancellor	Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Raipur- 492012
4.	Dr. M.C. Varshneya	Vice-Chancellor	Anand Agricultural University, Anand -388110
5.	Dr. B.K. Kikani	Vice-Chancellor	Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh
6.	Dr. R.P.S. Ahalawat	Vice-Chancellor	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari-396 450
7.	Dr. R.C Maheshwari	Vice-Chancellor	Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada-385506
8.	Dr. J.C. Katyal	Vice-Chancellor	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar- 125004
9.	Dr. Tej Pratap	Vice-Chancellor	Ch. Sarwan Kumar Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Palampur- 176062
10.	Dr. Jagmohan Singh Chauhan	Vice-Chancellor	Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar Uni of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan- 173230
11.	Dr. Nagendra Sharma	Vice-Chancellor	Sher-e-Kashmir Uni of Agricultural Sci & Technology, Jammu-180004
12.	Dr. Anwar Alam	Vice-Chancellor	Sher-e-Kashmir Uni of Agricultural Sci & Technology, Srinagar-191121
13.	Dr. N.N. Singh	Vice-Chancellor	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi-834006
14.	Dr. P.G. Chengappa	Vice-Chancellor	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore-560065
15.	Dr. J.H. Kulkarni	Vice-Chancellor	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad-580005
16.	Dr. R.N. Sreenivas Dowda	Vice-Chancellor	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal & Fisheries Sciences Univ, Bidar - 585401
17.	Dr. K.R. Vishwambhaan	Vice-Chancellor	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur-680656
18.	Dr. G. Kalloo	Vice-Chancellor	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur-482004
19.	Dr. Vijay Mehta	Vice-Chancellor	Dr Balaesahib Sawant Kokan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli-415712
20.	Dr. Arun S. Ninawe	Vice-Chancellor	Maharastra Animal & Fisheries. Sciences University, Nagpur-440006
21.	Dr. S.S. Kadam	Vice-Chancellor	Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani-431402
22.	Dr. R.B. Deshmukh	Vice-Chancellor	Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri-413722
23.	Dr. V.M. Mayande	Vice-Chancellor	Dr Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Akola - 444104
24.	Dr. D.P. Ray	Vice-Chancellor	Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneshwar- 751003
25.	Dr. Manjit Singh Kang	Vice-Chancellor	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana- 141004
26.	Dr. V.K. Taneja	Vice-Chancellor	Guru Angad Dev Veterinary & Animal Sciences Uni, Ludhiana- 141004
27.	Dr. S.L. Mehta	Vice-Chancellor	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur-313001
28.	Dr. Pratap Narain	Vice-Chancellor	Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner-334002
29.	Dr. P. Thangaraju	Vice-Chancellor	Tamil Nadu Veterinary& Animal Sciences University, Chennai-600051
30.	Dr. V.K. Suri	Vice-Chancellor	Chandra Shekhar Azad Univ of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur-208002
31.	Dr. M.L. Madan	Vice-Chancellor	DD Upadhaya Veterinary &Animal Sciences Uni, Mathura-281001
32.	Dr. Basant Ram	Vice-Chancellor	Narendradeo University of Agriculture &Technology, Faizabad- 224229
33.	Dr. M.P. Yadav	Vice-Chancellor	S Ballabh Bhai Patel Univ of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut- 250110
34.	Dr. A.P. Sharma	Vice-Chancellor	GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar- 263145
35	Dr. R.K. Samanta	Vice-Chancellor	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur-741252
36.	Dr. C.S. Chakrabarti	Vice-Chancellor	West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata-700037
37.	Dr. S.N. Puri	Vice-Chancellor	Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur-795004
38.	Dr. S.A. Patil	Director	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
39.	Dr. S.P.S. Ahlawat	Director	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar - 243122
40.	Dr. Shushil Kumar	Director	National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal - 132001
41.	Dr. Dilip Kumar	Director	Central Institute of Fisheries Education. Mumbai - 400061
42. 43.	Dr. R.B. Lal Dr. P.K. Abdul Azis	Vice-Chancellor	Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Allahabad - 211007 Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
43. B.	Other officers of SAUs / CAU /	Vice-Chancellor	Allyan iviusiin oniversity, Allyan
44.	Dr. M. Sudarshan Reddy	Dean Agriculture	Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad-500030
45.	Dr. A.M. Sheikh	Dean Agriculture	Anand Agricultural University, Anand
46.	Dr. J.V. Solanki	Dean Veterinary	Anand Agricultural University, Anand
47.	Dr. D.B. Kuchhadiya	Director Research	Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh
48.	Dr. R.B. Patel	Director Extension	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari-396 450
49.	Dr. N.N. Singh	Professor	Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada-385506
50.	Dr. V.N. Patil	Director Instruction	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad-580005
51.	Dr. P.K. Ashokan	Director, PGS	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur-680656
52.	Dr. K.D. Kokate	Director, FG3 Director Extension	Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri-413722
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53.	Dr. A.S. Jadhav	Dean Agriculture		atma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri-413722
54.	Dr. P. Santhana Krishnan	Registrar		il Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
55.	Dr. M. Thangaraju	Director, Stu Welfare Ex- Principal Scientist		il Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
56.	Dr. C.S. Singh	•		il Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
57.	Dr. A.N. Tiwari	Dean Agriculture		ndra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur
58.	Dr. Mukesh Srivastava	Professor		ndra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur
59.	Dr. S.K. Yadav	Principal Scientist		Upadhaya Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Mathura - 281001
60.	Dr. Y.P. Singh	Dean (PGS)		allabh Bhai Patel Univ of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut- 250110
61.	Dr. A.K. Agnihotri Dr. Drameshwar Das	Professor		Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar- 263145
62.		Joint Director		an Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar - 243122
63.	Dr. Imnayongdang Dr. S.K. Sharma	Dean Agriculture		aland University, Medziphema
64. 65.	Dr. Javed Musarrol	Professor Professor		aland University, Medziphema
66.	Dr. Shiv Raj Singh	Professor		arh Muslim University, Aligarh aras Hindu University, Varanasi
67.	Dr. R.P. Singh	Dean Agriculture		aras Hindu University, Varanasi Aras Hindu University, Varanasi
68.	Dr. Alok Jha	Prof.& Coordinator		aras Hindu University, Varanasi aras Hindu University, Varanasi
69.	Dr. N.C. Mandal	Professor		wabharti, Shantiniketan
70.	Dr. R.S. Biradar	Principal Scientist		tral Institute of Fisheries Education. Mumbai - 400061
70.	Dr. H.S. Gaur	Joint Director (Res)		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
72.	Dr. K.R. Koundal	Joint Director (Res)		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
73.	Dr. P.S. Deshmukh	Head		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
74.	Dr. V.P. Singh	Principal Scientist		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
75.	Dr. A.S. Hari Prasad	Senior Scientist		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
76.	Dr. Ajay Arora			an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
77.	Dr. Tej Pal Singh	Technical Officer		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
78.	Dr. T.P. Singh	Technical Officer		an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
79.	Dr. R.P. Singh	Secretary, IAUA		onal Agricultural Science Center, New Delhi – 110012
С	National Professors			
80.	Dr. P.K. Aggarwal	National Professor	India	an Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
81.	Dr. Bijay Singh	National Professor		ab Agricultural University, Ludhiana- 141004
82.	Dr. T.C. Thakur	National Professor	•	Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar- 263145
83.	Dr. V.K. Gupta	National Professor	India	nn Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
84.	Dr. Ramesh Chand	National Professor		onal Center for Agricultural Economics & Policy Research, New Delhi
D	Directors / Project Directors / of		<u>nstitu</u>	
85.	Dr. S. M. Ilyas	Director		National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad
86.	Dr. S.K. Sharma	Director		National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources - New Delhi- 110012
87.	Dr. S.D. Sharma	Director		Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
88.	Dr. P.K. Joshi	Director		National Center for Agricultural Economics & Policy Research, New Delhi
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90.	Dr. P.S. Dutta	Project Director, NRL		Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi- 110012
91.	Dr. Naved Sabir	Senior Scientist		National Center for Integrated Pest Management, New Delhi- 110012
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91. 92.	Dr. Mangala Rai Sh. P. K. Mishra	Secretary DARE & DG		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
92.	Dr. C. D. Mayee	Secretary Chairman ASDR		Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, New Delhi
93.	Sh. A. K. Upadhyaya	Chairman, ASRB		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi Department of Agricultural Research & Education, New Delhi
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100.	Dr. Nawab Ali	DDG (Fy)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
101.	Dr. H. P. Singh	DDG (Eng)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
102.	Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah	DDG (AS)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
103.	Dr. A. K. Singh	DDG (NRM)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
104.	Dr. Mruthyunjaya	ND(NAIP)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
105.	Dr. B. S. Bisht	ADG (HRD)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
106.	Dr. G. C. Tewari	ADG (EPD)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
107.	Dr. R. K. Mittal	ADG (EQR)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
108.	Dr. J. P. Mishra	ADG (C&ESM)		Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
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109.	Dr. K. S. Khokhar	ADG (PIM)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
110.	Dr. S. Mauria	ADG (IPR&P)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
111.	Dr. T. P. Trivedi	Project Director (DIPA)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
112.	Sh. H.C. Pathak	Director (Finance)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
113.	Sh. V.P. Kotiyal	Director (Works)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
114.	Dr. Sudhir Kochhar	Principal Scientist	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
115.	Dr. G.D. Diwakar	Principal Scientist	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
116.	Dr. B.N. Chattopadhya	CNO	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
117.	Sh. Anil Kumar Sharma	PRO	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
118.	Dr. Sanjeev Saxena	Principal Scientist	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
119.	Dr. Vinod Kumar	Senior Scientist	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
120.	Sh. Roshan Lal	F&AO (Edn.)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
121.	Dr. Aruna T. Kumar	Editor (DIPA)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
122.	Sh. R.V.S. Nagar	Technical Officer	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
123.	Sr. Bhagwat Singh	Technical Officer	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
124.	Sh. S.P. Singh	Technical Officer	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
125.	Sh. S.K. Mitra,	Under Secretary (Edn.)	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
126.	Sh. Shashi Kant	Under Secretary	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
127.	Ms. Tulsa Gupta	Section Officer	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
128.	Sh. S.D. Meena	Education Division	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
129.	Smt. Monika Mohale	Education Division	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
130.	Sh. Jitender Kumar	Education Division	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
131.	Sh. Jagdish Chand	Education Division	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
132.	Sh. Kishan Gopal	Education Division	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
133.	Sh. Arun Goel	Education Division	Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi