

The twenty-fourth Convention of Indian Agricultural Universities Association was held at Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa at Patna during 12-14 December 1997. The following topics were selected for discussion at the Convention.

THEME

Agricultural education in the twenty-first century.

SUB-THEMES

1. Agricultural education in the twenty-first century.
2. Education for sustainability in agricultural development.
3. Partnership between State agricultural universities, ICAR, Non-Government Organizations and the industrial and commercial enterprises.
4. Inter-university mobility of teachers and students.
5. Manpower planning.
6. Agricultural education for women.

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Programmes should be strengthened for research on integrated management of nutrients, pests, weeds and farming systems, and on location- specific agricultural package of practices.
2. Schools of agri-business be established that will have linkage with and support from private sector.
3. Researches on tissue-culture technology for banana and sugarcane for export production should be strengthened.
4. There should be some percentage of reservation of women, based on the nature of duties, at the time of recruitment both in State Agricultural Department and State agricultural universities in the country.
5. Home Science courses should include Biotechnology and Information Technology.
6. Priority attention is needed on well-equipped laboratories, modernization of facilities, development of education technology cell and skill-development programme through rural experience.
7. Education should be reoriented to develop capabilities for evolving new plant types with in-built potential for disease and pest resistance, resistance to abiotic stresses etc.