

The 29th Convention was held at Ch. Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar on 12-13 January 2005

Theme:- "Quality of Agricultural Education in the context of National and International Commitments"

Sub Themes:-

1. Governance
2. Accountability
3. Relevance of Education in SAUs

Major Recommendations

1. ICAR should have a major role in regulatory planning, formulation of norms, accreditation and integrated development of education and avoidable proliferation of the institutes. ICAR should have statutory powers.
2. Specific commitments covering education in GATS be made in consultation with stake holders before making commitments on commercialization of education and training which may pose risks to public sector education.
3. Education as service has a huge global market. In this industry, students are consumers, teachers are service providers and institutions are organizers. GOI through extensive privatization, commercialization and deregulation should encourage this process in higher education.
4. In light of provisions included in GATS.
 - A. Affirm Public Sector Agricultural Education (PSAE) as a social good, since it influences lives of millions of small and marginal farmers,
 - B. Closely monitor the futuristic discussions/negotiations to safeguard Indian interest,
 - C. Create a discussion forum to play a proactive role to impress upon the importance of PSAE.
 - D. IAUA and ICAR should coordinate the work.
5. Education for entrepreneurship should be promoted. It should include changes in market place through change in education system.
6. SAUs should sign exchange agreements with international and national institutions with cosmopolite outlook.
7. Our education system should have paradigm shift based on faculty-student model, ICT application in agricultural, education for professional farmers, education for competitiveness, education for executives, education for serving the poor, education for voluntary sector, education for human values and ethical conduct and education for educators.
8. Outsourcing of faculty and networking among SAUs and national institute should be encouraged to prepare students for MNCs.
9. SAUs should have Think Tank, Task Force and WTO cell/agribusiness Centre.
10. We should have task force at national level to prepare ourselves for international Negotiation, modernize and reorient mindset for capital investment.
11. Mobility within and between NARs/SAUs/DUs networking and ICAR/SAUs participation of Ph.D. students in academic activities should be encouraged.
12. India can be service provider in developing countries for helping HRD in Africa, Middle East etc. in that context, India should set up a consortium for logistic support. Exchange of students and faculty with foreign institutes should be institutionalized.

13. International research should be more strategic in its application, and we should move from commodity centre to system approach, disciplinary to inter-disciplinary research, combine traditional knowledge with modern science and bring in right balance between national and international agenda.
14. We should adopt quality improvement as a comprehensive international goal, develop appropriate learning environment, establish educational technology and establish quality circles for total quality management. Improvement in quality should be viewed in context of measurable parameters like accountability, creativity, leadership, appreciation, team work.
15. A uniform work load system for teachers/scientists/extension workers should be followed in all SAUs.
16. Changing technologies and globalization requires holistic approach to cater to quality in agricultural education vis-a-vis international commitments, food security and frontier sciences, i.e. biotechnology, remote sensing, I.T. connectivity, etc. to ultimately benefit our rural people.
17. A draft proposal on accountability in SAUs be prepared by ICAR for uniform measure of accountability and this be debated by SAUs for consensus.