

The seventh Convention of the Indian Agricultural Universities Association was held at Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati, during 15-18 April 1976. The following topics were selected for discussion at the Convention.

THEME

Role of agricultural universities, Model Act and philosophy of post-graduate education.

SUB-THEME

1. Role of agricultural universities in rural and agricultural development.
2. Revision of Model Act and strengthening of agricultural education system at university level.
3. Philosophy of post-graduate education in agricultural universities.
4. Institution building in agricultural universities.
5. Population education.

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Each agricultural university as a leader, should identify a backward area in the respective State or region, prepare a resource inventory in collaboration with other organizations like CSIR and State Government Departments, and formulate an action programme as well as implement it in collaboration with District Administrative Group and Social Action Group.
2. In the Model Act of the ICAR, there should be provision for non-lapsable grants to be given by the State Government for the maintenance of university as well as a Foundation Fund in each university.
3. Integration of teaching, research and extension cannot be done unless it is done at the departmental level.
4. Each university should streamline and monitor all research stations and farms, their size, location and the nature of research/experimental activity conducted in relation to their infrastructure, agro-climatic or agro-ecological requirements, major problems in the area and the nature of crops grown.
5. Agricultural universities should be involved in shaping the curricula for the primary and secondary schools, and planning a model curricular programme for 10+2+3 system of education.
6. The concept of population education should be in the training of students in the agricultural universities, though without making it a compulsory credit requirement.