

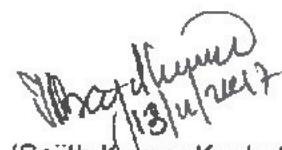
F.No.3-3/2017-EM  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare  
Directorate of Extension

Krishi Vistar Bhawan  
Pusa, New Delhi – 110012  
Dated, the November 13, 2017

**Subject: Declaration of UG Courses in Agriculture and Allied subjects as Professional Degree Courses – Reg.**

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the letter issued to all States/UTs / Commissions and other related institutions to take necessary steps to amend the required documents on the basis of an order issued by Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) declaring all UG Courses in Agriculture and Allied Subject Courses which include Agriculture, Horticulture and Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology, Forestry, Veterinary & animal Science, Food Technology, Biotechnology, Fisheries, Sericulture, Home/Community Science, and Food Nutrition & Dietetics as Professional Degree Courses. It is requested to kindly make necessary arrangements to upload the letter along with the attachments in the websites of DOE and DAC&FW.

Encl: As above



(Sajith Kumar Kunhalath)  
Joint Director (Extension Management)  
Ph.No. -25848949  
Mail: jdext-agri@gov.in

To

✓ Dr. R.G. Hatwar  
Joint Director (EM)

**F.No.3-3/2017-EM**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**  
**Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare**  
**Extension Division (Directorate of Extension)**

**Room No.18, Krishi Bhawan**  
**New Delhi - 110001**  
**Dated, the November 06, 2017**

**Subject: Declaration of UG Courses in Agriculture and Allied subjects as Professional Degree Courses - Reg.**

Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has declared all UG Courses in Agriculture and Allied Subject Courses which include Agriculture, Horticulture, Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology, Forestry, Veterinary & Animal Science, Food Technology, Biotechnology, Fisheries, Sericulture, Home Science, Community Science and Food Nutrition & Dietetics as Professional Degree Courses. A copy of the Order is attached. This will bring a paradigm shift in the status of Agricultural Graduates working in the State/ UT Agriculture/ Horticulture Departments in various capacities and their nomenclatures. Instantly, the declaration has impact in the wake of action being taken throughout the country for doubling the income of farmers by 2022 in which quality extension services through technically qualified Extension Workers can contribute much.

As such all the States/UTs/ Commissions and other related institutions are requested to make note of the order issued by ICAR and take necessary steps to amend the required documents accordingly.

It is also mentioned referring to a letter with D.O.No.5-41/85-T&V dated 29.1.1986 issued by the then Secretary (A&C), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, quoting the recommendations of National Commission of Agriculture for parity of B.Sc.(Agri.) with Degrees of Medical, Engineering and Veterinary Disciplines, that, for Agricultural Extension Services, candidates with professional degree qualifications in Agriculture and Allied Subjects are to be recruited to ensure quality extension services to the farmers simultaneously keeping them on par with other Professional / Technical Cadres.

This issues with the approval of Joint Secretary (Extension)

**Encl: As above**

  
**(Dr. Shailesh Kumar Mishra)**  
Director (Extension Management)  
Tele No.: 011-25847660  
[shaileshk.mishra29@gov.in](mailto:shaileshk.mishra29@gov.in)

**To**

1. The Principal Secretaries (Agri.)/Agril. Production Commissioners of All States/ UTs
2. DG (MANAGE), Hyderabad / DG(NIAM), Jaipur/ DG(NIPHM), Hyderabad
3. The Chairman, UPSC/ SSC, Govt. of India
3. Directors of all Directorates under MOA&FW, Govt. of India
4. Directors (Agri.)/ Directors (Hort.)/Director (SAMETIs) of All States/UTs

**Copy for information:**

1. All Addl. Secretaries/ Joint Secretaries, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary (AC&FW), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
3. Director General (ICAR), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
4. Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs
5. Vice-Chancellor of all Central Agricultural Universities/ State Agricultural Universities



Indian Council of Agricultural Research

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan-II, Pusa, New Delhi-110012

कृषि अनुसंधान भवन - II, पूसा, नई दिल्ली - 110012

Website: [www.icar.org.in](http://www.icar.org.in)

F. No. Edn/13/1/2016-IIRD

Di. 06<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

To,

All Vice – Chancellors of Agricultural Universities under ICAR-AU System.

**Subject: Declaration of UG degrees in Agriculture and Allied subjects as Professional Degree.**

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to inform that the Governing Body of ICAR Society in its 237<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 has approved UG degrees in Agriculture and Allied subjects (Agriculture, Horticulture, Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology, Forestry, Veterinary & Animal Science, Food Technology, Biotechnology, Fisheries, Sericulture, Home/Community Science, and Food Nutrition & Dietetics) as Professional Degree Courses. This is for your kind information and necessary action as deemed fit.

Yours faithfully,

(Roja Sethumadhavan)

Deputy Secretary (Agrl. Edn.)

Telefax: 25848033



श्री. श्री. श्री. श्री.  
SECRETARY  
Government of India

D.O. No. 5-41/95-28V

January 20, 1986.

Dear

Please refer to my d.o. letter of even number dated 29.10.1985 forwarding to you a report on Extension Cadre Management prepared by Shri Suresh Kumar, ex-Director of Agriculture, Maharashtra. I trust you have had the report examined with a view to implementing the recommendations in the context of your State administration.

2. We also took the opportunity of discussing this report in detail with the representatives of a few State Governments in a meeting held in New Delhi on 23.12.1985 and I enclose a copy of the minutes of the meeting which list the recommendations on which there was a complete consensus among the delegates. As the staff of the Agriculture Department have, for long, been somewhat at a disadvantage in respect of matters as compared to other Departments, I would request you to kindly move the State Government to implement these recommendations.

3. I may mention here that the following recommendations were made in the report:

- (i) There is an acute stagnation among the extension staff which, at base level, is as much as 20 to 25 years. Immediate steps are needed for removing the stagnation particularly in the cadre of village extension workers. Selection grade needs to be provided for those who cannot get promotion for 10 years.
- (ii) To build and maintain the morale of extension staff and encourage them to perform better, adequate incentives need to be given to outstanding workers. This could be achieved through giving merit promotions, advance increments and other methods of recognition.
- (iii) For effective performance of field duties, extension staff needs to be made fully mobile. It is essential, therefore, to provide rickshaws to the VWs and motor-cycles to VWs.
- (iv) Effectiveness of extension depends upon technical competency of the VWs. It is necessary that the minimum qualifications to be possessed by the candidates for recruitment to VWs should be a diploma in Agriculture or BSC/SSLC.
- (v) There are a large number of non-graduates in the extension cadre. It is necessary to provide professional training for them without diluting technical competence. Short-term effective steps are, therefore, required to be taken for enabling non-graduates to acquire professional equivalent to B.Sc. Agriculture.

(vi) All India Commission on Agriculture has recommended that B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree should be recognised on a par with those of medical, engineering and veterinary disciplines. As that most of the States have switched over from a 3 to 4 year B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree course, it should be possible to make out a strong case for parity of agricultural staff with other technical cadres.

(vii) Even where functional separation at State level became necessary and separate Departments/Directorates of Horticulture, Social Forestry, Soil Conservation, etc. are necessary, field level extension system for the farmers should be through a single line extension system only. It would be prohibitively expensive for parallel lines of extension to be established by each of these Departments.

(viii) There is need for direct recruitment at Class II and Class I level which should be through competitive examination.

(ix) There is need for a more decentralised system of written annual assessment reports, constitution of departmental promotion committees, the powers to make appointments and transfers and other staff matters.

(x) To ensure a fair system of recruitment for unappointed staff, the recruitment should be on the basis of tests and the written qualifying examinations rather than interviews.

It will be seen that several of these recommendations for improving the cadre management of extension staff do not have any financial implications but would greatly improve the efficiency of the staff as well as lessen the concentration of administrative responsibilities at the State Headquarters. Since the development of agriculture depends crucially on the morale and enthusiasm of the extension machinery, it is necessary for us to undertake an in-depth review of their service conditions. I would be grateful if you could have these recommendations considered in your State and let us know the action proposed to be taken to implement them.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

M. Subramanian  
(M. Subramanian)



Department of Agriculture & Cooperatio  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi - 110 001

SECRETARY  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

D.O. 5-41/85-T&V

January, 29, 1986.

Dear,

Please refer to my D.O. letter of even number dated 28.10.1985 forwarding to you a report on Extension Cadre Management prepared by Shri. Suresh Kumar, Ex-Director of Agriculture, Maharashtra and you have had the report examined with a view to implementing the recommendations in the context of your state administration.

2. We also took the opportunity of discussing this report in detail with the representatives of a few State Governments in a meeting held in New Delhi on 23.12.1985 and I enclose a copy of the minutes of that meeting which list the recommendations on which there was a complete consensus among the delegates. As the staff of the Agriculture Department have, for long, been somewhat at a disadvantage in service matters as compared to other departments. I would request you to kindly move the State Government to implement these recommendations.

3. I may mention here that the following recommendations seem to be most crucial;

- (i) There is an acute stagnation among the extension staff, which, at some levels, is as much as 20 to 25 years, immediate steps are needed for removing the stagnation particularly in the cadre of village extension workers, Selection grade needs to be provided for those who cannot get promotion for 10 years.
- (ii) To build and maintain the morale of extension staff and encourage them to perform better, adequate incentives need to be given to outstanding workers. This could be achieved through giving merit promotions, advance increments and other methods of recognition.
- (iii) For effective performance of field duties, extension staff needs to be made fully mobile. It is essential, therefore, to provide mopeds to the VEWs and motor-cycles to ADOs.
- (iv) Effectiveness of extension depends upon technical competence of the VEWs. It is necessary that the minimum qualification to be possessed by the candidates for recruitments as VEWs should be a diploma in Agriculture after SSC/SSLC.
- (v) There are a large number of non-graduates in the extension cadre. It is necessary to provide, promotional avenues to them without diluting technical competence. Urgent and effective steps are, therefore, required to be taken for enabling non-graduates to acquire qualifications equivalent to B.Sc. (Agriculture).

- (vi) National Commission on Agriculture has recommended the B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree should be recognized on a par with those of medical, engineering and veterinary disciplines. Now that most of the States have switched over from a 3 to 4 year B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree course, it should be possible to make out a strong case for parity of agricultural staff with other technical cadres.
- (vii) Even where functional separation at state level becomes necessary and separate Departments/Directorates of Horticulture, Social Forestry, Soil Conservation, etc. are setup, field level extension system for the farmers should be through a single line extension system only. It would be prohibitively expensive for parallel lines of extension to be established by each of these Departments.
- (viii) There is need for direct recruitment a class II and Class I level which should be through competitive examination.
- (ix) There is need for a more decentralized system of writing annual assessment reports, constitution of departmental promotion committees, the powers to make appointments and transfers and other staff matters.
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- (x) To ensure a fair system of recruitment for non-gazetted staff, the recruitment should be on the basis of marks in the written qualifying examination rather than interviews alone.

4. It will be seen that several of these recommendations for improving the cadre management of extension staff do not have any financial implications but would greatly improve the efficiency of the staff as well as lessen the concentration of Administrative responsibilities at the State Headquarters. Since the development of Agriculture depends crucially on the morale and enthusiasm of the extension machinery, it is necessary for us to undertake an indepth review of their service conditions. I would be grateful if you could have these recommendations considered in your state and let us know the action proposed to be taken to implement them.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-  
(M. SUBRAMANIAN)

Note

For the sake of legibility, the true copy of the D.O. letter bearing No. 5-41/85-T&V dated 29<sup>th</sup> January 1986, of the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation, New Delhi has been attached herewith. However, a copy of the original Letter is also annexed for reference.