

The second Convention of the Indian Agricultural Universities Association was held at Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, during 20-23 April 1971. The following topics were selected for discussion at the Convention.

THEME

Financial and administrative as well as the research and extension set-up.

SUB-THEMES

1. General administration.
2. Research and extension.
3. Resident instruction.
4. Student affairs.

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Enthused by the report that the Government of India is actively considering the creation of an Endowment fund, the Convention Group urged that it should be a net addition to the resources presently available with the university and should be utilized by adopting a project approach. A Planning Cell created at the Centre should assist in formulation of university development projects and in securing the necessary financial commitment from the Centre and the States.
2. The total Plan provision for agricultural universities should be at least 50% more than the floor-level Rs 2 crore per university. The principle of matching contribution by the ICAR/ State Government for any project receiving public contribution should be accepted to create incentive for greater public support.
3. All research in the university must originate in the subject-matter departments only, in the form of projects under the leadership of individual faculty members. The Directorate of Experiment Station should exercise full control on financing the research projects and provision of physical facilities.
4. The agricultural university should be responsible to make available necessary staff of the co-ordinated projects. The ICAR can specify the nature and volume of work to be done by a particular centre, not the categories of staff for the project.
5. The activities of the universities in the area of extension should be restricted only to its educational part, whereas the services and supply function, financial assistance and regulatory duties should be handled by the government and the private agencies.
6. The ICAR should conduct common examination for admission and award of ICAR Fellowship to Postgraduate students in time, and there should be a common calendar, grading system, basis of equivalence of OGPA and the percentage of marks, as well as a system of pooled admissions in various universities. To maintain certain minimum standard of instructions, a common minimum programme must be evolved for all agricultural universities in the different degree programmes and the system of grading in multi-campus universities should be uniform.
7. A Council of Students should be formed to serve as a common forum for student welfare, and there should be closer contact between Teacher-Taught-Parent through counselling and advisement. Their curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities should be properly integrated. 'Earn while you learn' and a comprehensive Placement Service Cell are essential components of student welfare that deserve better attention.