

**Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Krishi Bhavan : New Delhi**

F.No.Admn./10/3/2010-W.S.

Dated the 28th February, 2017

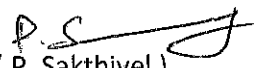
Sub: Request of Agricultural Research Service Scientists' Forum for implementing five working days a week at all ICAR institutes - reg.

A request for implementing five working days a week at all ICAR institutes instead of six working days a week being followed in ICAR institutes, has been received in the Council from Agricultural Research Service Scientists' Forum. The said forum is of the view that five working days a week is in practice in all Central Government Organizations. Many State Agricultural Universities have also adopted five working days a week system. The experience say that SAUs and organizations which have switched over from six working days a week to five working days a week have gained significantly in terms of quality publications and research output and outcome. The five working days a week is most scientific that is why most of the countries in the world is practising it including corporate and MNCs.

The said request of Agricultural Research Service Scientists' Forum was placed in the 238th meeting of the Governing Body of ICAR Society held on 18th October, 2016. It was decided in the said meeting of Governing Body that this issue needs to be discussed first in the Directors' Conference and the recommendations of the Directors' Conference may again be put up to Governing Body for appropriate decision.

The request with regard to "implementing five working days a week at all ICAR institutes" was also received in the past from Agricultural Research Service Scientists' Forum and was discussed in the Director's Conference, Central Joint Staff Council meeting and in the meeting of DG, ICAR with the representatives of ARSS Forum earlier. It was observed that ICAR institutes deal with Agricultural as well as Animal Farms which contain live materials and animals. They are to be provided with watering/ manuring/ weeding and other kind of maintenance on Saturdays as well. Animal livestock need to be provided with feed and maintenance on Saturdays. The functional needs of ICAR institutes requires the presence/ attendance of staff on Saturdays at the Institutes. In view of the functional need as stated above, it was decided not to introduce five day working week in ICAR institutes in view of the large scale operations being carried out by the ICAR institutes in fulfilment of the objectives of the ICAR.

As decided in the 238th meeting of the Governing Body of ICAR held on 18th October, 2016, the request for implementing five working days a week at ICAR Institutes received from ARSS Forum was placed in the Directors' Conference held on 14-15 February, 2017. It did not come up for discussion due to paucity of time. As this item is required to be placed in the forthcoming meeting of Governing Body of ICAR, all the Directors of ICAR Institutes are requested to send their views (with justification) with regard to implementation of five working days a week at ICAR institutes so that this item could be placed in the next meeting of the Governing Body of ICAR. **The comments/ views on the said issue may please be sent to the undersigned latest by 10th March, 2017.**


(P. Sakthivel)

Deputy Secretary(WS)

Distribution:-

1. All the Directors of ICAR Institutes/ NRCs/ PDs/ Bureaux/ ATARI.
2. ADG(TC)/ OSD to DG, ICAR/ PPS to Secretary, ICAR.
3. ISO, DKMA, Pusa, New Delhi for placing this letter on the ICAR website.