



भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

कृषि भवन, डॉ. राजेन्द्र प्रसाद मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110001

Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi

F.No. 1(7)/85 Per-IV

Dated 7th August, 2017

Notice

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and fully funded by the Government of India. The Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE) is its Nodal Department. The recruitment to the Research Management Positions (RMPs) and various other scientific positions in ICAR is made by an independent Board known as Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board.

2. A Committee has been constituted on the recommendation of the Governing Body (GB) of ICAR and with the approval of Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare & President, ICAR Society vide office order no. F.No.1(7)/85-Per.IV dated 17/07/2017 for restructuring and revamping of ASRB in ICAR System. The Terms of Reference of the Committee are as under:

- i. To examine the Administrative structure of the Board, including composition of the ASRB, number of members & their tenure and other functionaries of the Board.
- ii. Independence of ASRB *vis-à-vis* ICAR, administratively and financially.
- iii. Functions of ASRB and ways to improve transparency, efficiency & accountability in the overall functioning of the ASRB.
- iv. Any other issue related to or incidental to the functioning/ revamping/restructuring of the ASRB.

3. First meeting of the Committee was held on 24.07.2017 in Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi wherein it was decided to invite suggestions/comments from the stakeholders. Accordingly, a brief note giving background information is attached herewith and suggestions/comments are invited from all stake-holders in the matter. The suggestions/comments should **preferably be in one/two page and in bullet form on each of the Terms of Reference**, and may be addressed to Secretary, ICAR and send at e-mail: rakeshbhardwaj.icar@nic.in.

It is requested that the suggestions may be provided by **31.08.2017**.

Sujit K. Mitra
Director (Personnel)

**Brief Background Note for Inviting Comments on each of the terms of reference of
Committee constituted for Revamping of ASRB**

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and fully funded by the Government of India. The Council is the apex body for the Agricultural Research, Education and Extension. The activities of ICAR are carried out through a network of Research Institutes, Project Directorates, Directorates, Bureaux and ATARI etc. spread across the country. The recruitment to the Research Management Positions (RMPs) and various other scientific positions in ICAR is made by an independent Board known as Agricultural Scientists recruitment Board.

On the basis of recommendation of Justice P B Gajendragadkar Committee, the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB) was constituted with the approval of the Union Cabinet accorded on 01.11.1973 on the pattern of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) to act as independent recruitment body for ICAR.

Initially, ASRB was a single member board. However, with the increase in number of ARS disciplines and other related work, the need for re-structuring the composition of the Board was strongly felt. Accordingly, a proposal was sent to Union Cabinet on 23.07.1986 for restructuring of ASRB. The Union Cabinet approved the proposal on 6.10.1986 restructuring the Board consisting of a Chairman and two Members. The Chairman and Members, between them are to possess specialization in the following three major areas:

- (i) Crop Sciences
- (ii) Animal Sciences and
- (iii) Soil Sciences, Engineering and Production Technology

Selection to the post of Chairman and Members of ASRB is made through Search-cum-Selection Committee (SCSC) with the approval of Appointment Committee of Cabinet (ACC). The tenure of the office of Chairman and Member is governed by Rule 25 (b) of Rules & Bye-laws of ICAR Society. Initially, tenure was six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. However, later on it was slightly amended and tenure of Chairman was made as seven years. Recently *the GB in its 239th Meeting held in February, 2017 approved that the term of office of these positions will be amended to 5 years or until the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. The notification in this regard is about to be issued shortly.*

In order to ensure a transparent and efficient working of ASRB periodical reviews of working of ASRB have been done through high level Committees like Dr. G.V. K. Rao Committee, 1987 and Dr. C. Srinivasa Sastry Committee, 1997. Now the President, ICAR Society and Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.S. Paroda, Former Director General, ICAR & Secretary, DARE. This Committee will review the functioning of the ASRB and suggest measures for revamping and restructuring of ASRB in a holistic manner to increase transparency, efficiency & accountability in the functioning of ASRB and to strengthen its structure focusing on all relevant aspects.

