

Organization and Management

DARE

The Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) was established in the Ministry of Agriculture in December, 1973. Subjects allotted to the DARE as per the Government of India (Allocation of Rules) are specified in Appendix I of DARE.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous body under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education. The Secretary to the Government of India in the DARE functions as the Director-General of the ICAR. The Financial Advisor of the DARE is the Financial Advisor of the ICAR. Generally single-file system is followed between DARE and ICAR.

The Department has one more autonomous body viz. the Central Agricultural University, Imphal under its administrative control. The University, which was established in 1993, has its jurisdiction over Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura and is wholly financed by the Government of India.

The DARE has 17 Group A, 14 Group B, 6 Group C, and 6 Group D employees. The recruitment to the post in the Group A, B, C is being made centrally, either through the Department of Personnel and Training or through the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, depending on the level of the post. The DARE makes direct recruitment only to Group D posts. Such recruitments are being made in accordance with the orders of the Government of India regarding reservations for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. Presently, DARE has 6 Scheduled Caste and 2 Scheduled Tribe employees.

A detailed break up of the posts and names of the important functionaries is given in Appendix II of DARE. The financial requirement (Grant

No. 2) includes Budget Estimate (BE) and Revised Estimate (RE) of DARE and ICAR (Plan and Non-Plan) 2007-2008 respectively and BE for 2008-09 (Plan and Non-Plan). The detailed break up of these financial figures is given in Appendix III of DARE.

ICAR

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is an apex organization at the national level for promoting Science and Technology Programmes in the agricultural research and education.

The ICAR was set up on 16 July 1929, as the Registered Society abide by the Societies Registration Act 1860, on the recommendations of the Royal Commission of Agriculture. It was reorganized twice, in 1965 and 1973. The ICAR (Hq) is located at Krishi Bhavan and its other buildings are Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan I and II, and NASC Complex, all in New Delhi.

The Union Minister of Agriculture is the President of the ICAR. The Principal Executive Officer of the ICAR is the Director-General, who is also the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Agricultural Research and Education.

The General Body (GB) of the ICAR Society is the supreme authority of the ICAR, and the Minister for Agriculture, Government of India, heads it. Its members are the Ministers for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, and the Senior Officers of the various state governments, representatives of Parliament, industry, educational institutes, scientific organization and farmers (Appendix 1).

The Governing Body (Appendix 2) is the chief executive and decision-making authority of the ICAR. It is headed by the Director-General. It consists of eminent agricultural scientists, educationists, legislators and representatives of

the farmers. It is assisted by the Standing Finance Committee, Accreditation Board, Regional Committee, Policy and Planning Committee, several Scientific Panels, and Publications Advisory Committee. In the scientific matters, the Director-General is assisted by 8 Deputy Directors-General, one each for (i) Crop Science (ii) Horticulture, (iii) Natural Resource Management, (iv) Agricultural Engineering, (v) Animal Sciences, (vi) Fisheries, (vii) Agricultural Education, and (viii) Agricultural Extension. The Deputy Directors-General are responsible for the Institutes, National Research Centres, and the Projects Directorates in their respective fields. The Senior Officers, posted at the ICAR (Hq), are listed in Appendix 3.

The ICAR received funds from the Government of India and from the proceeds of the Agricultural Produce Cess.

The ICAR develops technologies and disseminates knowledge to farming community not only for increasing yields of crops and maintaining natural resources but also for elevating community's economics status.

The Research set-up of the ICAR includes **48** Institutes (Appendix 4), **5** National Bureaux (Appendix 5), **12** Project Directorates (Appendix 6), **30** National Research Centres (Appendix 7), and **77** All-India Co-ordinated Research Projects (Appendix 8).

The Directorate of Information and Publications of Agriculture is working independently with the approval of the Competent Authority. The Media and Information Unit, ARIS Unit and Library at ICAR (Headquarters) which were earlier functioning separately, are now working under the supervision of the Project Director (DIPA). This integration of various units under DIPA will provide

organized strength and efficient use of human, financial and infrastructural resources for creating public awareness through dissemination of information globally by print media as well as electronic media.

The ICAR promotes research, education and extension education in **41** State Agricultural Universities, **5** Deemed Universities, **1** Central Agricultural University for the North-Eastern Hills Region, and **4** Central Universities by giving financial assistance in different forms (Appendix 9).

For effective communication of research findings among farmers, the ICAR maintains an effective network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Trainers' and Training Centre along with Zonal Co-ordinating Units.

The total sanctioned as well as existing strength of the employees of the ICAR system, including scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes, is given in Appendix 10.

Thus with an extensive network of research infrastructure, backed by an excellent team of scientists and other employees, the ICAR is making rapid strides in agricultural research, and provides support to the national efforts in achieving food security and self-sufficiency.

IPR AND POLICY

IPR titles on inventions/innovations

Patents: The ICAR's intellectual property (IP) portfolio has been firming up since the implementation of its management guidelines w.e.f. 2 October, 2006. This visibility has further enhanced with the release of some global and national IP databases and search tools. The patent search database of 'Intellectual Property India'

Table 18.1 Granted Indian Patents

Field of Invention	Patent Number	Title of Invention
Veterinary Medicine	IN210526	A process for preparing a novel herbal formulation for the treatment of mange in animals.
Processing (Feed Industry)	IN210528	Cold process technology for the preparation of urea molasses mineral block.
Pharmacy/ Biopesticides	IN211204	Process for purification of solanesol (95%) from crude/enriched extracts of tobacco green leaf/ tobacco cured leaf/ tobacco waste.
Pest Management/ Research Tools	IN213744	Egg cleaning device.
Processing in edible oil industry	IN216982	Development of a process for conversion of paddy husk ash into bleaching material for edible oil.
Processing in edible oil industry	IN217106	Pre-grinding of oilseeds prior to mechanical expelling – a new process of energy saving.
Biopesticides	IN217763	Process for the preparation of pesticidal oxime esters.
Biopesticides	IN218031	Process for the preparation of mono/di/polyol ester pesticides.
Processing fibre industry	IN220787	Method of degumming of decorticated ramie fibre by recycling of degumming liquor.
Dairy beverages/ Processing in dairy industry	IN222587	Process for the manufacture of shelf-stable whey-mango beverage.
Hybrid seed production – research tools	IN223253	A composition for hybrid seed production.

(<http://www.ipindia.nic.in/>), which is an upcoming site maintained by the Indian Patent Office where uploading of records is in progress, has published under the head 'patent search for public (new records)' eleven patents granted to ICAR in various fields of invention (Table 18.1). There is a listing as well of some previously granted ICAR patents on the same site, which mainly covered the fields of cotton, jute and shellac processing.

Besides, the world patent search for ICAR as the applicant, at the European free search facility (<http://ep.espacenet.com/>), revealed 35 patent records, out of which 4 patents/patent families are at the stage of either international applications under the Patent Co-operation Treaty (PCT) or granted patents in various jurisdictions – USA, European Union, China, South Africa, Republic of Korea, and Mexico (Table 18.2). The recent national and foreign records of 16 inventions in ICAR covered the fields of biopesticides (4), biotechnology/research tools (1), dairy beverages (1), hybrid seed production/ research tools (1), pearl culture (1), pharmaceuticals (1), processing industry for edible oils (2), fibre (1) and feed (1), transgene detection (1), and veterinary medicine (2).

Besides the Indian Patent Office issued 2 more letter patents to ICAR for the respective inventions in environmental sciences and agro-chemicals/pesticides, viz. (i) 'A hyper-spectral data analyzing method for characterization and discrimination of natural/man made resources from air borne platforms', and (ii) 'A process for the preparation of mosquito larvicidal formulations based on *Rabdosia melissoide* ingredients'. Further, 80 Indian patent applications filed by ICAR were published in the official gazette for public information to facilitate the grant of patents abide by the law.

Plant varieties: The process of registration and protection of varieties under the law started in the country in May 2007 and presently varieties of only 14 crops (18 species) are notified for the purpose

(ICAR has already standardized national test guidelines for 35 crops and recommended for notification thereof). By the middle of October, 2008, ICAR had filed applications for the protection of 546 extant and 27 new varieties of the notified crops and the process of registration is on. The pie diagram indicates that maximum applications have been filed for the extant varieties of rice (125) followed by that of wheat (83), maize (71) and pearl millet (53). The process of filing of applications of extant varieties of cotton has also begun; the

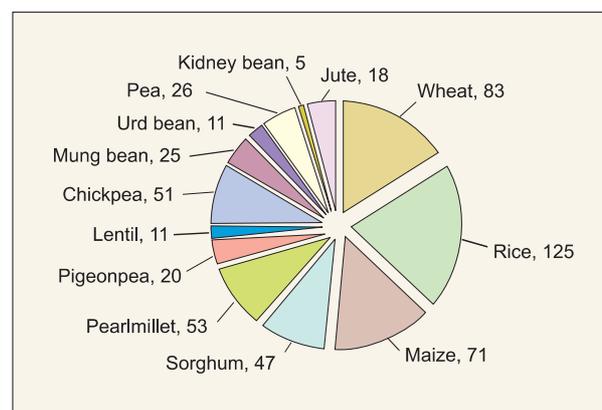


Fig. 18.1. Number of applications for the Registration of Extant Varieties filed

law provides 3 years for the completion thereof.

Other forms of IPR: Trademark protection for services and products of various institutes has been secured to enhance market goodwill and safeguard quality assurance. These included label PUSA by IARI, New Delhi; biopesticide formulations TRIVIR 1% WP (*Trichoderma viridae*) and KNOCK WP (*Bt* formulation) by DOR, Hyderabad; and antibiotic formulation CIFAX for use in fisheries and aquaculture, and label Jayanti Rohu by CIFA Bhubaneswar. A part of Copy Right Protection for Softwares (developed at NRC for Soybean, Indore; NBFGR, Lucknow; and NBPGR, New Delhi) was secured.

Table 18.2 PCT applications at various stages and patents granted in other countries

Field of Invention	Patent/Application number	Title of Invention
Pearl culture	WO2008062248	<i>In-vitro</i> pearl production using marine organisms.
Veterinary Medicine	WO2008041047	An artificially synthesized peptide.
Transgene detection tool	ZA200410268 [South Africa], WO03102208 [PCT], MXPA04011769 [Mexico], KR20050026396 [Republic of Korea], CN1672049 [China]	Rapid detection of Bt-cry toxins.
Biopesticides	EP1734817(A1) [European Union], WO2006064511 [PCT]	A pesticidal composition containing thymol/ P-cymene.
Hybrid seed production – research tools	US2003192070 [USA]	Composition for hybrid seed production, process for the preparation of such composition and use thereof.

Capacity building

A new Plan Scheme is a unique in Public-Public Partnership mode (having total project outlay of Rs 486 million in XI Plan), has been initiated, which has a contribution (in 2:1:1 ratio) from the Central Government (Plan Funds), the National Agriculture Innovation Project, and the ICAR's internal resource generation. This Intellectual Property Management and Transfer Commercialization of Agricultural Technology Scheme broadly aims at up-scaling of existing component of IPR previously handled under

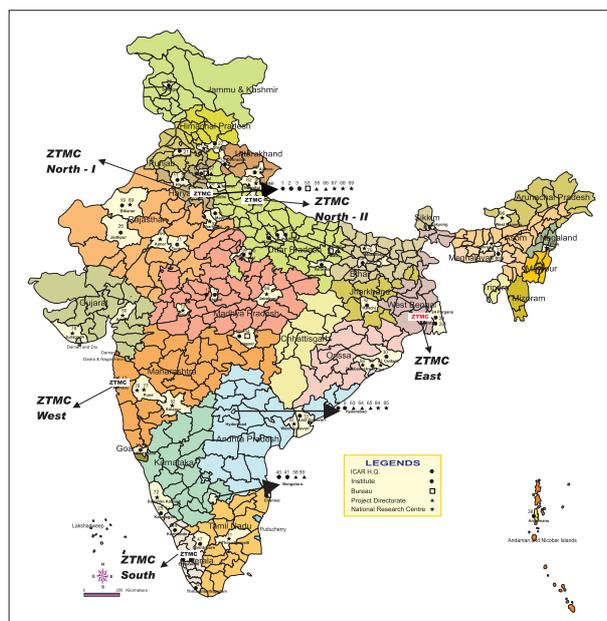


Fig. 18.2 Location of ICAR institutes and Zonal Technology Management Centres

the ICAR (Hq) Scheme on Management of Information Services.

More specifically, the scheme envisages setting up of the 3-tier institutional mechanism to protect/manage the IP generated within the ICAR system, including that in the collaborative research. Accordingly, at the base level, 95 Institute Technology Management Units have been established and empowered by the appropriate delegation of powers to enhance the institutional IP management capacity. In the middle-tier, 5 Zonal Technology Management Centres have been established at the identified ICAR institutes in different zones for building capacity for business planning and development in association with NAIP (Fig. 18.2). The zonal centres and the central IPR and Policy establishment help the Institute Technology Management Unit on a case to case basis. In the initial phase, these units would use the resources allocates under the scheme to enhance their IP search and data management capacities.

Human resource development

The Central Technology Management

Committee, the highest decision making body on IP matters in ICAR, recommended to lay emphasis on HRD in IPR and orientation with its Guidelines for IP Management and Technology Transfer/Commercialization in 2008 so as to soon catch up with the national and global IPR regimes. IP management training-cum-workshops were also approved under the Indo-US Agricultural Knowledge Initiative in which ICAR further provided the entire logistic support. Thus, the IPR and Policy Unit, ICAR has conducted 12 such programmes all over the country for upgrading the knowledge base of 574 scientists and other concerned staff from ICAR institutes and State Agricultural Universities (including 132 participants in 3 Indo-US AKI programmes) and exposing them to the nuances of the overall subject of IPR. These programmes were structured to provide a special focus on various thematic areas (Table 18.3) within the IPR domain such as the protection of IPR in biotechnological innovations, or in microorganisms or patent writing or other forms of IPR etc. Besides, a due exposure was given to the participants of the core areas of IPR and technology transfer, as per *ICAR Guidelines, 2006*.

The programmes also helped in identification and consolidation of the team(s) of competent resource persons from within ICAR as well as outside the ICAR system, being from government departments, public sector research and development organizations, academia, law experts and attorneys, business experts, etc. for meeting the present and future HRD requirements in IP and Technology Management. Also, in the 3 programmes under the Indo-US AKI Project, contracted to CCS Haryana Agricultural University by ICAR, there was a good exposure of the IPR domains on reciprocal basis among the outside faculty from Michigan State University, United States Department of Agriculture, and Association of Universities for Technology Management of USA, and the core ICAR resource persons' team.

Further, to cater to the HRD needs in IP management, ICAR scientists and other concerned staff were nominated for training in Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad; Society for Technology Management, Ooty; and in foreign countries, viz. Cornell University, Ithaca, USA; and World Intellectual Property Organization, Geneva. The Deemed Universities of ICAR (IARI, New Delhi; IVRI, Izatnagar; NDRI, Karnal; and CIFE, Mumbai) have also started teaching courses in IPR at Post-Graduate level. NAARM, Hyderabad has initiated the process for launching one-year fully residential diploma course on 'IP and

Table 18.3 ICAR Training-cum-workshop on IP and Technology Management held in 2008

Thematic Area	Host Institute	Participants
Patenting/ IPR in Genetic Engineering	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	(68)
Essentials of Patenting	CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar	(55)
Procedural requirements of Patents	National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad	(49)
Drafting Specifications and Claims	Central Institute of Fisheries and Education, Mumbai	(46)
Copyright Protection	National Institute of Research on Jute and Fibre Technology, Kolkata	(31)
Trademark Protection	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram	(50)
Protection of IPR on Microorganisms	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani	(68)
Protection of Designs and ICs Designs	Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal	(35)
Protection of Geographical Indications	National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow	(40)
*Training-cum-Workshops under 3 Indo-US-AKI CCSHAU, Hisar, NAARM, Hyderabad; and KAU, Thrissur		(132)

Technology Management' with campus placement facility in early 2009.

Policy issues

Guidelines for management of ICAR services and contracts: A Committee has been constituted in ICAR to review and recommend suitable improvements in the existing Rules and Guidelines for Training, Consultancy, Contract Research and Contract Services, 1997, and to harmonise these guidelines with the key policy elements, as per *ICAR Guidelines on IP Management and Technology Transfer/Commercialization, 2006*. The draft report is in circulation for discussion, finalization and making final recommendations to ICAR.

IPR clearance of collaborative research projects: Institutional streamlining of the process has been carried out and awareness has been created in harmony with the *ICAR Guidelines, 2006*, particularly its key policy element on the much-needed Joint Intellectual Property Management Plan.

Business Planning and Development: Besides identification and notification of the five zonal technology management centres in respective ICAR institutes, the IPR and Policy Unit of the ICAR (Hq), in close association with the NAIP, has facilitated for the setting up of their respective BPD Units and to take initiatives for greater interactions within the zones.

ADMINISTRATION

Filling up of vacant posts

A good number of vacant posts like Under-Secretaries, Senior Administrative Officers, Administrative Officers/Finance and Accounts Officers/Section Officers/Private

Secretaries/Assistants/Personal Assistants/UDCs/Stenographers /Group 'D' posts were filled up.

Financial upgradation granted under ACP Scheme

As per the Government of India instructions Financial Upgradation was granted to many eligible employees in various grades during this period viz. Section Officers/Assistant Administrative Officers/Assistant Finance and Accounts Officers/Assistant Directors (OL)/Stenographers/ Lower Division Clerks and Group 'D' employees.

Staff Welfare Fund Scheme

- (i) As per the recommendations of the Managing Committee of ICAR (Hq) Staff Welfare Fund financial assistance of Rs 25000/- was extended to the family of one deceased employee of the ICAR (Hq). Further Rs17,000/- was also given as financial assistance in case of illness of two Temporary Status Labourers of Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore.
- (ii) An amount of Rs 4,70,000/- was transferred to different ICAR institutes that were not able to generate sufficient fund under the head "Staff Welfare Fund" to have a minimum balance of Rs 25,000/- under this fund.
- (iii) Under Staff Welfare Fund Scheme 45 Scholarships (Rs 2,500/- each) were awarded to the meritorious wards of the Council's employees.

Total number of employees in the ICAR and its research institutes and number of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are given in Tables 18.4 and 18.5.

Table 18.4 Total number of employees in ICAR (Hq) and Research Institutes mentioning SC/ST/OBC

Categories/posts	Posts		Scheduled castes		Scheduled tribes		OBC	
	Sanctioned	In position	Number	% to total employees	Number	% to total employees	Number	% to total employees
Scientific Posts								
Scientists	3881	3258	432	13.2%	96	2.9%	352	10.8%
Senior Scientists	1651	510	62	12.1%	07	1.3%	54	10.5%
Principal Scientists	749	263	45	17.1%	05	2%	18	6.8%
RMP Scientists	147	134	03	2.2%	02	1.5%	07	5.2%
Total	6428	4165	542	13.1%	110	2.6%	431	10.3%
Administrative Posts								
Directors / Dy. Secretaries/ L.A. / Under Secretaries / Sr. Admn. Officer / Sr. Finance & Accounts Officer / Admn. Officer/ F&AO / Law Officer/ SA to Chairman, ASRB	181	160	22	13.75	11	6.87	7	4.40
AAOs / AF&AOs / AD(OL) / PS / SO / DO / JA(WS) / Protocol Officer	645	571	88	18.34	294	7.93	359	9.68
Assistant / UDC / PA / JAO / Steno / Sr. S.A. / UDC / LDC	4199	3706	680	18.34	294	7.93	359	9.68
Total	5025	4437	790	17.8	599	13.5	725	16.3
Supporting Staff in ICAR Institutes								
Grade I	3299	2567	696	27.11	179	6.97	508	19.78
Grade II	4025	3063	864	28.20	217	7.08	180	5.87
Grade III	1925	1773	526	29.66	141	7.95	90	5.07
Grade IV	966	889	247	27.78	104	11.69	46	5.17
Total	10215	8292	2333	28.13	641	7.73	824	9.93

Table 18.5 The total number of Group 'C' and 'D' employees and number of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes (as on 31.3.2008) at ICAR (Hq)

Posts	Posts		Scheduled castes		Scheduled tribes		OBCs	
	Sanctioned	in position	No.	% to total employees	No.	% to total employees	No. among them	% to total employees
Lower Division Clerk	94	58	13	22.41%	5	8.62%	5	8.62%
Peon	76	66	21	31.81%	2	3.03%	5	7.57%
<i>Farash</i>	11	10	5	50%	2	20%	1	10%
<i>Mali</i>	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Packer	5	4	1	25%	-	-	-	-
Studio Attendant	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Store Attendant	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Daftry</i>	45	45	8	17.77%	1	2.22%	-	-
Head Packer	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Jamadar</i>	8	8	1	12.5%	-	-	-	-
Jr. Gestetner Operator	2	2	2	100%	-	-	-	-
Franking Machine Operator	1	1	1	100%	-	-	-	-
Library Attendant	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	50%
Despatch Rider	1	1	1	100%	-	-	-	-
Record Keeper	1	1	1	100%	-	-	-	-
Sr. Gestetner Operator	2	2	-	-	2	100%	-	-
<i>Safaiwala</i>	12	12	12	100%	-	-	-	-

Table 18.6 Budget estimate and Revised estimate of DARE (Rupees in lakh)

Items	Budget estimate 2007-08		Revised estimate 2007-08		Budget estimate 2008-09	
	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan
	Major Head '3451' Secretariat 090	-	165	-	165	-
Major Head '2415' General International Co-operation 80 (010032) – India's membership Contribution to Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau	-	10	-	10	-	10
India's membership Contribution to Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (020032)	-	380	-	380	-	380
Other Programmes (030032)	950	-	1470	-	*1100	-
India's contributions to Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Institutions (040032)	-	5	-	5	-	5
India's contributions to NACA (050032)	-	12	-	12	-	9
India's contributions to CGPRT (060032)	-	5	-	5	-	5
India's contributions to Seed Testing Association (070032)	-	2.25	-	2.25	-	2.25
ISHS Belgium (080032)	-	0.75	-	0.75	-	0.75

*Includes Rs 10.00 crore for National Fund for basic and strategic research in agriculture.

Finance and Audit

The Budget estimate and Revised estimate of DARE and ICAR (Plan and Non-Plan) for 2007–08 are Rs 2,460 crore and Rs 2,337 crore respectively and Budget estimate for 2008–09 (Plan and Non-Plan) is Rs 2,680 crore (Table 18.6).

PROGRESSIVE USE OF HINDI

DARE

The Department of Agricultural Research and Education has an Official Language Section for the compliance and implementation of the Official Language Policy of the Government of India. It consists of one post each of Assistant Director (Official Language), Junior Hindi Translator and Hindi Typist. Besides the Hindi translation of the Budget, compilation and preparation of the Annual Report of the Department etc. also take place. The functioning of this section also includes holding Hindi workshops, meetings, reports, organizing *Hindi Pakhwada* to encourage the employees for doing their official work in Hindi.

ICAR

- ICAR observed 2008 as 'Hindi year' at ICAR (Hq) and organised several programmes for staff to promote the progressive use of Hindi in official business. Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture issued a message at this occasion. The Director-General (ICAR) also issued an appeal requesting the officers/staff to do their maximum official work in Hindi. ICAR Institutes/Research Centres also organized Hindi Day/Week/Month.

- ICAR Institutes/Research Centres (4) were notified in the Gazzette of the Government of India thus raising the total number of notified Institution to 108 under rule 10(4) of the Official Language Rule, 1976.
- Joint Official Language Implementation Committee of the DARE and the ICAR working under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary (DARE) and Secretary (ICAR) met fourth time in 2008. Similarly, Official Language Implementation Committees constituted at ICAR Institutes/Research Centres convened its meetings.
- Proceedings of the Official Language Implementation Committee meetings, held by the Institutes etc. as well as the quarterly progress reports regarding the use of Official Language Hindi, received from various institutes at the ICAR (Hq), were reviewed and proper measures were suggested to overcome the shortcomings found therein.
- In accordance with the recommendations made by the Department of Official Language and the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language, to assess the progressive use of Hindi at the ICAR (Hq) as well as its institutes during 2008, 34 offices were inspected and suggestions were given to improve the shortcomings. Second Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Official Language Committee inspected 8 Institutes/Research Centres during 2008.
- Rosters were maintained for imparting training in Hindi, Hindi typing and Hindi Stenography and officials were accordingly

deputed for training during 2008. This year, 14 stenographers and 16 typists were nominated for Hindi Stenography and Typing respectively.

- Hindi Workshops (4) were also organised for officers/staff.
- During 2007-2008 cash awards will be given to 10 officials at ICAR (Hq) for doing their maximum official work in Hindi.
- *Rajshri Tandon Rajbhasha Puruskar* will be given in 2009 for doing maximum work in Hindi.
- *Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Utkrist Hindi Krishi Partika Puruskar* includes Hindi publications, published during 2007-08 (assessment will be done in 2009).
- XI issue of the *Rajbhasha Alok* will be published shortly.
- The Council and its institutes are organizing regular training programmes for farmers in Hindi, and in other regional languages; and in Hindi speaking region remarkable progress has been made at Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the use of Hindi, and in the other regional languages in their day-to-day official work.
- Besides material regarding Parliament, Annual Plan Report, Review of Demands for Grants, General Body, Standing Finance Committee, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, Annual General Meeting of ICAR Society, and other meetings were prepared bilingually. The Hon'ble Agriculture Minister and other higher officials delivered many of their speeches in Hindi. The drafts of speeches of Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister and other higher officials of ICAR were prepared originally in Hindi also.

ICAR AWARD CEREMONY, 2008

The 'ICAR Award, 2007' function was held at NAAS Complex, Pusa, New Delhi on 16th July, 2008. The Chief Guest of the function, Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister, Shri Sharad Pawar, gave away the awards. Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, Union Minister of Agriculture (State), graced the occasion. Dr Mangala Rai (Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR) and several other dignitaries were also present on the occasion. In his address, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar,

said that the recognition through Awards should lead to enhanced zeal and creative work by the Awardees, enthuse confidence in them and encourage others to strive harder for greater accomplishment. One Hundred eleven awardees under twelve different categories were conferred awards. These comprised four Institutions, 103 scientists, 3 farmers and one journalist. Out of 103 scientists there were 13 women scientists.

TECHNICAL CO-ORDINATION

The Co-ordination work comprised the work of financial support to 57 journals for publication, 7 societies/associations/universities for holding National Seminars/Symposia/ Conferences and 9 societies/associations/universities for holding International Seminars/Symposia/Conferences. It also included work related to selection of Best Annual Report of Institutes, preparation of ICAR International Training Calender for conducting training, replies to Parliament Questions, VIP references and queries under RTI Act regarding Awards. Two Regional Committee meetings were organized during this period and proposals for organizing two more Regional Committee meetings were also finalized which were held in October and November, 2008.

Each month the Co-ordination Unit prepares monthly report of major breakthroughs achieved in research and other related matters at various ICAR Institutes/NRCs/Project Directorates which is submitted by the Secretary (DARE) and DG (ICAR) to the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India. Copies were also circulated to various Ministries and other related Departments. The Co-ordination Unit prepared the monthly report timely in each month during the year.

Assistance of technical nature was rendered to DST, DSIR DAC and other Departments of the Government of India. The Co-ordination Unit assists in preparation of Memoranda of Understandings and formulation of Work Plans for technical co-operation between DARE and various collaborating partners from abroad. There are 36 such MoUs with Work Plans between DARE/ ICAR and foreign countries. Besides, the Co-ordination Unit made preparations for organizing Director's Conference which was held in 2008.