अखिल भारतीय कृषि छात्र संघ



All India Agricultural Students Association (AIASA)

(Registered Society under Societies Registration Act XXI, 1860)

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No. 01/AIASA/2023/01

To.

Dr. Himanshu Pathak.

Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR)

Chairman (Additional charge),

Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB),

Department of Agricultural Research and Education,

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,

New Delhi –110 012

Subject: Request to maintain existing eligibility criteria for ICAR's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Examination and National Eligibility Test (NET) and age relaxation due to covid pandemic – Reg.

Hon'ble Sir.

Greetings from All India Agricultural Students Association!!

With respect to the subject cited above, I would like to bring to your kind attention that in its recent meeting of Governing Body Meeting of ICAR-DARE, it has been decided to make PhD degree as the minimum eligibility criteria for appearing in the ARS Examination.

In this regard, we would like to bring your kind notice that the UGC has maintained master's degree as a minimum qualification for recruitment of Scientists/Assistant professors in all universities. DST and CSIR are having Master's degree as a minimum requirement for the selection of entry-level scientists. Moreover, many organizations like DRDO, ISRO, ICFRE, BARC, Botanical Survey of India, Zoological Survey of India, Indian Statistical Services, Central Silk Board, Coffee Board, Coconut Development Board etc. have notified Master's degree in the concerned subject as the minimum qualification for entry-level scientists.

In the agricultural institute, many students belong to agricultural families and Below Poverty Line, so it will be difficult for them to pursue PhD due to financial responsibilities of family. Most of the female students are facing family pressure for their marriage. Due to such types of situations, many talented students get distracted from higher education and do not able to take admission and complete their PhD.

Upgradation of minimum eligibility criteria from master's degree to PhD will affect the candidature and future of brilliant aspirants, and the recruiter may lose talented students who aspire to serve as Research Scientists/ Assistant professors to contribute to the development of the nation.

Therefore, In the national interest, it is requested to you, kindly maintain the current eligibility criteria (master's degree) in relevant subjects of Agriculture and Allied Sciences as minimum qualification to appear for ARS and NET examinations or allow PhD. II year onwards students for writing ARS examination. It is also here to mention that ARS notification was discontinued in last few years and several talented students lost their chance to appear in the ARS examination during covid pandemic, therefore, it is requested on behalf of agricultural community to provide age relaxation for five years, irrespective of category for the welfare of the students community.

Thanking You

Yours faithfully,

Vivek Sawalth (Vivek Saurabh)

Dated: 09.01.2023

National President, AIASA Email: natioalpresident@aiasa.org.in