

- ❖ For extension of fellowship tenure, fellows would have to apply to DARE/ICAR in writing, giving justifiable/valid reasons for seeking such extension. They should also invariably route their applications, enclosing all supporting documents, through the Head of the Departments, Dean of Faculty and the Registrar of the University for consideration.
- ❖ Mere sending the request for extension of tenure of fellowship should not be construed grant of extension of tenure. Specific permission needs to be obtained from the competent authority in DARE/ICAR/MEA.

Travel/Visit to home country

- ❖ Fellows should leave the country immediately after the completion of their studies.
- ❖ A fellow wishing to travel outside India during the course of study for personal reasons may do so at his/her own expense and with the prior permission of the concerned University where he/she is studying with intimation to DARE/ICAR. However, he/she will have to keep the attendance and other requirements of University in view.
- ❖ If a fellow decides to return his/her country before the completion of the course, he/she would not be entitled to a return passage, and the expenditure would need to be borne by the candidate.
- ❖ Fellows are permitted to go to their home country during vacations without any financial liabilities on the DARE/ICAR. Fellowship will not be paid for this ex-India period. Prior intimation regarding such departures must be conveyed to the ICAR/University they are studying. The fellows must submit a copy of their passport as well as the related original documents, for verification of the ex-India period. Only on completion of such verifications, further fellowship dues will be released.

Discontinuation/Cancellation of Fellowship

- ❖ Generally DARE/ICAR discontinues fellowship payment when a fellow fails in his/her examination. The student is then asked to clear his/her examination as per the University norms within the stipulated time period as a self financing student, with a clear understanding that DARE/ICAR would revive his/her fellowship once he/she clears the examination successfully.
- ❖ Fellowship will be cancelled if the fellow fails repeatedly or is involved in exam-malpractices/anti-social activities, or is found violating ICAR/University norms.

Medical Treatment

- ❖ In case of illness, a fellow should first visit the University dispensary for treatment. The ailing fellow may, however, visit a civil or private hospital on the University's panel on the certification/recommendation of the University's Medical Officer, and only if that particular medical treatment or procedure is unavailable in the University dispensary.
- ❖ On completion of treatment, fellow should submit the medical claim to DARE/ICAR along with all original vouchers, prescriptions, cash memos for medicines and test reports duly signed by the attending doctors and the International Students Advisors of the University. No claim will be entertained with only the hospital stamp.



- ❖ Medical reimbursement for treatment taken will be made as per University norms. All fellows are advised to avoid visiting private hospitals.
- ❖ Fellows availing of medical treatment outside the State where they are pursuing their studies need to obtain approval of DARE/ICAR. It may be noted that to and fro train/air fare is not permissible to them for this purpose.
- ❖ No reimbursement is admissible for expenditure incurred on tonics, dental, artificial aids, spectacles, acne treatment and on family members who accompany the fellow to India.
- ❖ All claims to be submitted within one month of the treatment for reimbursement.
- ❖ A provision for group medical insurance of the students under the programme is under consideration.

B. For Universities

- ❖ The Universities will communicate its acceptance for admission, date of joining, admission requirements, fee structure, hostel & mess facilities, how to reach the University and the name and contact details of nodal person etc. to the candidate and the concerned authority at DARE/ICAR well in advance (at least one month before). The acceptance letter must be accompanied with a copy of ICAR recommendation letter, and the fellowship guidelines.
- ❖ After receipt of travel plan of the candidate, the University may make proper arrangements for receiving the candidate.
- ❖ Proper accommodation facilities are to be provided to the candidates.
- ❖ Medium of instruction in the University must be English.
- ❖ Due care should be taken by the candidate/University while sending joining report regarding duration (date of joining and completion of degree programme). The DARE/ICAR provides fellowship up to declaration of result only.
- ❖ The University may admit the student, in case he/she does not have enough money to pay immediately, the funds may subsequently be adjusted from the fellowship amount of the candidate.
- ❖ The candidates have to be paid fellowship on regular monthly basis. The fellowship is to be paid after completion of the month and not in advance except during initial stage of joining, when the fellows may be provided with three months advance fellowship in order to facilitate him/her to settle down. In case of non-receipt of fellowship grant from DARE, the universities may pay the monthly fellowship at the prescribed rate out of the ICAR development grant available with them which may be recouped/adjusted from the fellowship grant whenever received from DARE.
- ❖ Progress report, along with certified copy of mark-sheet, must be submitted every semester/annually to ensure continuation of fellowship by the DARE/ICAR.



C. Indian Mission in Afghanistan

- ❖ The Indian Mission has to verify the English Proficiency of the candidate as required in the application form.
- ❖ In addition to the normal medical certificate of fitness, Indian Mission may advise the candidates to obtain a medical fitness test that they are free from AIDS and any other ailment, before issue of visa and air ticket.
- ❖ The Indian Mission will issue visa to the candidate after receiving confirmation from University/DARE/ICAR for admission. The Mission will send the travel plan of the candidate to the concerned University well in advance so that University can make proper arrangements for his/her reception and accommodation.

For further details visit

www.icar.org.in
or write to
ADG (EQR), ICAR, New Delhi
(adgqr222@gmail.com) Tel. Fax: 011-25848045

or
Under Secretary (IC.III-Trg.), DARE, New Delhi
(vksingh.icar@nic.in) Tel: 011-23383327; Fax: 011-23383327

India-Afghanistan Fellowship Programme



Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Department of Agricultural Research & Education

India-Afghanistan Fellowship Programme started in 2010-11 with 115 fellowships every year for pursuing Master's and Ph.D in Indian Agricultural Universities, to support the agricultural human resource development in Afghanistan through formal education of Afghanistan scientists/faculty and students in India. The programme has been revised to offer 276 fellowships (including backlog) (154, Bachelor's; 61, Master's and 61, Ph.D. programmes) from 2012-13; 277 fellowships (153, Bachelor's; 62, Master's and 62, Ph.D. programmes) in 2013-14 and 61 (Master's) in 2014-15 to pursue degree programmes in Agriculture and allied sciences in identified Indian Agricultural Universities (AUs), from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Agricultural Universities (AUs) system.

The system comprises of 54 State Agricultural Universities, five Deemed-to-be-Universities including four of the ICAR Institutes, one Central Agricultural University and four Central Universities with Agricultural Faculty. Many of them are internationally recognized for their contribution to research and human resource development. The Indian AUs spread over the entire length and breadth of the country and cater to Human Resource Development for different agro-climatic regions. All Indian AUs have excellent laboratory and other infrastructural facilities including instructional farms, good libraries, computer laboratories, boy's and girl's hostels and sports and recreational facilities. To provide better amenities to the international students, well furnished international students' hostels are available in many AU campuses.

Eligibility

- Must have good knowledge of English for all programmes.
- Bachelor's degree Programme
 - For admission in B.Sc. programme in Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry and Bachelor of Technology/Biotechnology, the candidate must have passed in 10+2 examination with Physics, Chemistry and Biology/Mathematics or both.
- Master's degree Programme
 - For admission in M.Sc. programme in Agriculture and allied fields, the candidate must have a four year bachelor's degree in the agriculture/related subject.
 - For admission in M.V.Sc. programme, the candidate must have passed B.V.Sc. & A.H. with internship before the date of registration in the University under 5 years degree programme.
 - For admission in M.Tech. programme, the candidate must have passed B.Tech. or B. E. programme.
 - Overall Grade Point Average (OGPA) of 5.50/10 or equivalent percentage of marks at Bachelor's degree level.
- Doctoral Programme
 - Master's degree in respective/related subject.
 - OGPA of 6.5/10 or equivalent percentage of marks at Master's degree level.



Duration of Course

Bachelor's degree programme is of four years and Master's degree programme is of two years whereas, Ph.D programme is of three years duration. No fellowship will be provided for any extended period under normal circumstances.

Fellowship Amount

- A fellowship will be awarded to Bachelor's degree programme for four years and for Master's degree programme for two years @ INR 12,000 per month in each case and @ INR 15,000 per month for three years for Ph.D Programme, out of the India-Afghanistan Fund of the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India. Any change in Fellowship amount will be informed to the candidates.
- All expenditure towards tuition fee, hostel fee, mess, medical, contingency and travel within country etc. during the course will be borne by the student utilizing the consolidated fellowship amount. However, a provision of research contingency grant of INR 6,000 and INR 10,000 per year for M.Sc. and Ph.D. candidate's respectively and group insurance are under considerations.
- Annual charges of bench fee (US \$2000 per candidate per year) as per SAARC countries shall be payable to the Indian AUs, will be covered under the India-Afghanistan Fund.
- The fee structure for fellows will be as per the norms of the University.
- There is no provision to change the University, once the admission is granted. However, candidate can show his/her preferences at the time of submission of Application form; the Screening Committee may consider the request, depending upon the availability of seat in respective University.



Selection and Admission Procedure

The Afghan nationals will be admitted to Indian AUs on the recommendations of the Government of India following their nominations by the Afghanistan Govt. Information about the Universities is available at ICAR website (www.icar.org.in) and the details of their programmes, courses and admission requirements are available on the websites of respective Universities. The Afghan candidates desiring admission in Indian Agricultural universities will apply to their government for sponsorship. After scrutiny, the applications and recommended nominations will be sent through their Embassy to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Govt. of India. The MEA will send them to the Director, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Govt. of India, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. All the applications will then be sent to Education Division, ICAR for consideration of eligibility and recommending admission in Indian AUs. The final selection will be communicated by the University along with the recommendation letter of ICAR/DARE.

Facilities

All the Indian AUs have residential requirements and students have to stay in the hostels. All the admitted students are provided accommodation in the University campus. Some universities offer hostel for married students also.

Time Schedule

Notification of the fellowships by Afghanistan Government	End of December
Last date for receipt of applications in Afghanistan	End of February
Scrutiny of applications and forwarding nominations to the DARE, Govt. of India	Middle of March
Communication of selection for admission and the name of AU where admitted	Middle of May/June
Confirmation/acceptance of admission by the AUs	End of June
Commencement of academic session	End of July/First week of August

GENERAL GUIDELINES

A. For Fellows

- Agricultural Universities (AUs) are autonomous and independent and hence, have their own eligibility criteria. Forwarding of applications is thus not a guarantee of admission. A fellowship is awarded only when admission is confirmed by the University and the ICAR.
- Once admitted, the candidates have to abide by the rules and regulations of the University.
- Candidates must carry a proper visa for the entire duration of the course. They should ensure that they get the correct visa from the Indian Embassy in their country. Guidelines issued by Government of India stipulate that if a fellow arrives without proper visa and his/her actual admission at the University/ Institute does not materialize, he/she will be deported back.
- Before departing for India, the fellows should seek a full briefing from the Indian Diplomatic Mission in Afghanistan about living conditions in India, the details of fellowship, the type and duration of the course to which he/she is admitted.
- Fellows should inform the Indian Embassy in Afghanistan about their travel schedule, and send copies to the ICAR/DARE and the concerned University well in advance so that the University can make reception and other arrangements for them. Fellows should also request the Indian Embassy to forward their travel plan to the concerned University and DARE/ICAR well in advance.
- Fellow should ensure that the University forwards his/her Joining Report (format provided in application) to the ICAR immediately after his/her joining the course, duly signed and stamped by college authorities, to enable DARE/ICAR to release the fellowship amount to the Universities.
- Upon arrival in India all fellows should register themselves with local FRRO within 7 days or within the stipulated time as directed by the Indian Embassy in Afghanistan, while issuing visa.

- The fellows who are awarded fellowship should bring with them all documents relating to their qualifications in original for verification by the respective College/University at the time of admission. Many Indian AUs require that these original documents be deposited with them which will be returned to the candidate at the time of departure after completion of the course.
- Fellows are advised to carry some money (about INR10,000/-) with them to meet some initial expenditure while joining the course. However to avoid financial hardship at initial stages, there is a provision of advance payment of fellowship to the candidate by the concerned Universities, which shall be adjusted from the fellowship released subsequently.
- A candidate may bring his/her family only after permission of the University authorities. The expenditure on family travel and sustenance throughout the period will be met by the candidate out of his/her own resources.
- All tuition fees, University exam fee, hostel and mess fee and caution money/security deposits etc. are to be paid by the candidates utilizing the consolidated fellowship amount paid to them on monthly basis.
- Fellowship commences from date of joining the University. The fellowship is released on receipt of joining report and is paid monthly through the concerned University, as per its rules.
- Traveling expenses for outside or within the country during the course of study for personal reasons or data collection etc., are to be borne by the fellows themselves.
- The fellowship will be paid only up to the declaration of result/receipt of provisional certificate and not till the issuance of degree by the University.
- No fellowship is payable for ex-India period.
- If a fellow is hospitalized in India for a period of one month or longer, the fellow's living allowance will be reduced by 50%.

Mandatory Attendance

- Fellows must ensure that they have completed the mandatory attendance as required by the particular University to be eligible to take their exams. DARE/ICAR will not issue any recommendation letter if the fellow is short of attendance.
- DARE/ICAR would not extend the fellowship period if the fellow is detained/debarred from sitting in the exam due to shortage of attendance.

Change of University /Course

- Once a fellow is admitted in a particular University/course, he/she is not allowed to change the course or the University even if the duration and the tuition fee is the same. If any student is found violating this norm, his/her fellowship would immediately be cancelled.

Extension of Fellowship period

- Request for extension of fellowship though is not permissible, but may be considered on case-to-case basis by the competent authority of DARE/ICAR in consultation with MEA.