

## **Draft Press Release**

# **ICAR–IARI Makes Historic Debut in QS World Rankings 2026**

New Delhi, March 26, 2026:

During Chief Secretaries' conference in December 2025, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India particularly emphasized upon need to focus on developing skilled human capital in order to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat. In this context, strengthening Agricultural Higher Education in country is the top priority of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers welfare, govt of India. ICAR is tirelessly working towards strengthening the world class multidisciplinary research-intensive education ecosystem in the Higher Education Institutions under the ambit of National Agricultural Research Education and Extension System (NAREES).

For the first time, ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), the 121 years old premier research intensive deemed to be university institute of ICAR has achieved a landmark global recognition by entering the QS World University Rankings 2026 in the subject category of Agriculture & Forestry. The premier institute has been placed in the 151–200 band, wherein only four Indian institutions have been placed. Alongside IARI, the other institutions in this band include Banaras Hindu University, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, and University of Delhi. This highlights IARI's standing among the leading agricultural and multidisciplinary institutions.

The QS Rankings by Subject category evaluate institutions worldwide on parameters such as academic reputation, employer reputation, research citations, and international collaboration. IARI's debut reflects its sustained multidimensional and quality contributions to the science applied to agri-food systems, skilled human resource development and sustainable development goals.

The achievement is particularly noteworthy given the competitive global landscape of agricultural sciences, where institutions are assessed for both research excellence and societal impact. IARI's strong performance reflects its integrated approach combining fundamental research, translational science, and field-level outreach, including contributions to national programmes on crop improvement and climate-resilient agriculture. The very strong base of alumni and trust of stakeholders have also contributed to the visibility of institute on world map.

This debut marks a proud moment for Indian agriculture, positioning ICAR-IARI as a global leader in advancing science led agriculture for food security and sustainability.