

## Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS)

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### ORIGIN

In early 1991, the Government of India (GOI) decided to undertake a major project to bring the power of new information technology to the NARS. This project has been dubbed “ARIS”, an Agricultural Research Information System

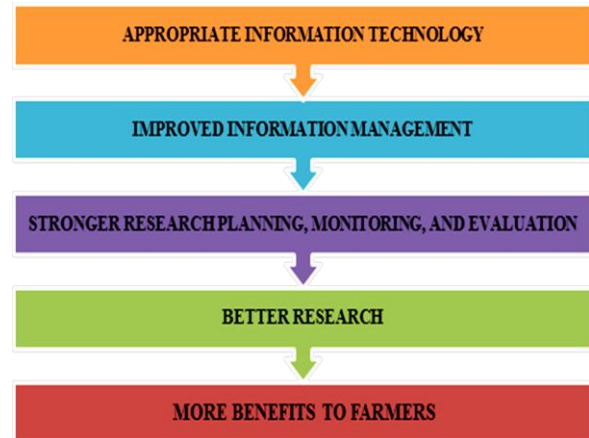
### GOALS AND OBJECTIVE

The goal of the ARIS is to strengthen information management (IM) within the Indian NARS. There are four specific objectives.

- i. To put information close to the managers and scientists who will use it.
- ii. To improve the capacity of research organizations to organize, store, and retrieve information relevant to their mandates.
- iii. To develop regular procedures and mechanisms for those organizations to share information.
- iv. As a result of the first three to improve the capacity of those organizations to plan, monitor, and evaluate their research programs.

The ARIS is primarily concerned with information management, not information

technology (IT). The following simple tree of means and ends makes this point.



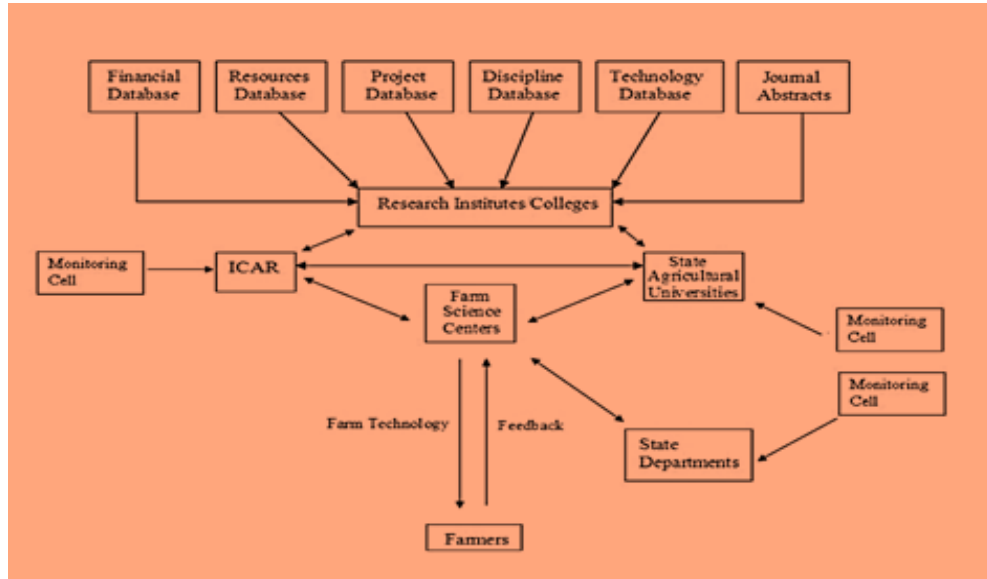
### Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS)

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed an Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS) in order to help the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) and its network of universities and research institutes.

The objectives of the specific information system are better dissemination of the research results, improved research, improvement in the provision of feedback, and the development of effective information exchange mechanisms (Singh and Pal, 1998).

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### Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS)

The information system includes four information modules.

1. These modules are the Agricultural Research Personnel Information System (ARPIS) which is responsible for the storage of data related to ICAR staff,
2. Agricultural Research Financial Information System (ARFIS) which is used to store the monthly accounts of the ICAR institutes,
3. Agricultural Research Library Information System (ARLIS) which is used for the modernization of the libraries used by ICAR,
4. Agricultural Research Management Information System (ARMIS) which will provide access from the research managers' computerized management

tools to information stored under different databases (Singh and Pal, 1998).

The information used by the ARIS modules are stored in databases which are classified depending on the type of data they contain. Different database types include agricultural project information databases which are used by the Agricultural Projects Information System (APIS) which is part of ARMIS, scientific databases used by ARLIS, and financial databases used by ARFIS (Sreenivasulu and Nandwana, 2001). Monitoring cells offer computing services to different parts of ARIS (Singh and Pal, 1998).

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