

CONTENTS

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FOCUS ON UNIVERSITIES

Central Universities

DRPCAUI, Pusa

Deemed to be University

IVRI, Izatnagar

Universities

AAU, Anand
 CSKHPKV, Palampur
 GBPUAT, Pantnagar
 JAU, Junagadh
 KUFOS, Panangad
 MAFSU, Nagpur
 OUAT, Bhubaneswar
 PAU, Ludhiana
 TNFU, Nagapattinam
 UUHF, Bharsar

Awards

AAU, Anand
 DRPCAUI, Pusa
 GBPUAT, Pantnagar
 PAU, Ludhiana

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Focus on Universities: Events and Achievements

Central Universities

DR RAJENDRA PRASAD CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, PUSA

Visit of DBT Officers

The Advisory Committee meeting of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, supporting M.Sc. in Agricultural Biotechnology programme of the university, was held on 25 Feb. 2017 under the chairmanship of Dr R. C. Srivastava, VC. The meeting was attended by external experts viz., Dr Anil Kumar, Professor and Head, Molecular Biology and Genetic Engineering, GBPUAT, Pantnagar; Dr Manoj Prasad, Scientist V, National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi, Dr Ashok Mishra, Advisor, Jain Irrigation, Baroda; besides other officers and faculty members of the university. It was informed that Dr Rajeev Kumar, had visited University of Helsinki, Finland for 2 months under BRAVE fellowship.



DBT Officers in meeting with Dr Srivastava

Foreign Visit

Dr S. P. Singh, Junior Scientist, Soil Science, participated in 'Frontiers of potassium science: an International conference during 25-27 Jan. 2017 at Rome (Italy). He presented a paper 'Response to potassium fertilization in hybrid rice-maize cropping system in calcareous soil of eastern India' The conference was organized by International Plant Nutrition Institute, Georgia, the USA. Dr Singh discussed about the role of potassium in hybrid rice-maize cropping system. Omission of potassium decreased the grain yield of hybrid rice-maize system from 5 to 15% at different farmers' fields.



Dr T.L. Roberts, interacting with Dr Singh

Stress-resilient Wheat: International Symposium

An International Symposium on 'Stress-resilient wheat in the Regime of climate change' was organized by the university during 22-24 April 2017. In the symposium a galaxy of experts of the relevant field participated and deliberated on the pressing problems.



Symposium on Stress-resilient wheat

Governor's Visit

Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the Governor of Bihar, visited the university on 3 Mar. 2017. He inaugurated a brain-storming session on 'New paradigm in production and value chain management for achieving targeted growth of maize'. In his inaugural address he said that Bihar represents an agriculture-based economy, and hence has great potential to become a leading state in maize production. The second Green Revolution is expected to occur in eastern India, with joint efforts of both state and central governments. The conversion of Rajendra Agricultural University to Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University is a welcome step. He said that this brain-storming session on such an



H.E. Shri R.N. Kovind being welcomed by Dr Srivastava

important theme involving various stakeholders would come up with concrete suggestions for improving the maize productivity, reducing production cost and thus increasing the farmers' income. He also visited Gorai Ghat, to see boat-mounted solar power pump developed by the scientists of the university for irrigation in *dhab* areas. He also inaugurated the newly developed park and renovated Vidyapati auditorium in the university premises.

Saraswati Udyan

Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the Governor of Bihar, inaugurated *Saraswati Udyan* in the university HQ premises on 3 Mar. 2017. This garden has completely changed the outlook of the campus with its green lawns, lights and fountains.



Shri Ram Nath Kovind inaugurating Udyan

Crop Seminar

The KVK, Saraiya organized Crop Seminar on 15 Feb. 2017 at its premises Saraiya, Muzaffarpur, in collaboration with DurDarshan, Muzaffarpur and CSISA. The title of the Seminar was 'Ek mulakat krishi vaigyanikon ke sath'. The programme was inaugurated by DEE, DRPCAU, Pusa. Total 14 scientists of different KVKs and the university along with 100 farmers participated. During the seminar the farmers' problems were solved on the spot.



Farmers attending Crop Seminar at KVK, Saraiya

National Conference

A national conference on 'Perspective of challenges and options in maize production and utilization' was organized by the University, in collaboration with Confederation of Horticulture Associations of India, Trust for Advancement in Agricultural Sciences, Jain Irrigation Systems Limited and ASM Foundation during 3-4 Mar. 2017. Dr R. S. Paroda, former DG, ICAR & Chairman, TAAS, New Delhi inaugurated the conference. Dr R.C. Srivastava, VC, DRPCAU; Dr H. P. Singh, Chairman, CHAI; Dr G. Trivedi, Chairman, ASM foundation; Dr S. K. Varshney, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, graced the occasion. In the conference, Dr N.N. Singh, former VC, BAU, Ranchi and Dr H. S. Gupta, former Director, IARI, were honoured with CHAI Life-Time Achievement Award. Dr T. P. Singh, former Dean, PGS; and Dr P. B. Jha, former Maize Breeder, RAU were presented with CHAI Certificate of Appreciation for their contribution to maize research.



Dr R.S. Paroda addressing

Boat-mounted Solar Pumping System

On 10 Jan. 2017, a boat-mounted solar pumping system was launched during a ceremony organized at Gorai Ghat (Pusa) of the river Burhi Gandak. The system was developed by a team of scientists led by Dr R. C. Srivastava, VC, Dr Sudhir K Jain, Dr Ravish Chandra and Dr Pramod Kumar, with objective of providing irrigation to *diara* and *dhab* lands along the river. Preliminary result is encouraging and indicates its economical feasibility. A team, consisting of Mr James Falik, Ms Melissa Cooperman and Ms Vaishali Dassani, of International Food Policy



Launching of boat-mounted solar pumping system



Visit of IFPRI team

Research Institute, visited the university recently in connection with a documentary and appreciated this project.

Development of Self-reliant Banana Farming Module for Bihar

As banana is a major fruit crop of the state, a project was undertaken by the university from its own resources to develop a self-reliant banana-farming module. The objectives of the project are to standardize the processes for extraction of fibre, pulp and sap from the pseudo-stem, explore the possibilities of using some parts of the plant as a cattle feed, and to exhibit the impact of modern irrigation methods on banana production. This project may show a path to the banana-growers for a self-reliant and self-sustainable banana-farming system, which can help in the developing entrepreneurship in the agriculture sector.



Shri Radha Mohan Singh, inspecting self-reliant banana farming

Fellowship to Students

During the calendar year 2016-17, four undergraduate students from TCA, Dholi (dist. Muzaffarpur), viz. Miss Rabina Gupta, Miss Sargam Swami, Miss Savita Kumari and Mr Vivek Dubey, got selected under Erasmus Mundus fellowship for their higher studies under BRAVE project in University of Milan (Italy) under RAWE programme of the DRPCAU for 5 months.



Students selected for higher studies under BRAVE Project, with Principal and staff members

Deemed-to-be- Universities

INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, IZATNAGAR

World Veterinary Day, 2017

As a part of World Veterinary Day celebrations-2017, a rally was organized on 28 Apr. 2017 which was flagged off by Dr R. K Singh, Director, ICAR-IVRI. As per the theme of WVD-2017; Antimicrobial resistance-from awareness to action, the students generate awareness among the public in the nearby areas and distributed hand-bills on various aspects of animal care and health, public health and hygiene, fatal zoonotic diseases like rabies and the consequences of AMR etc. On 29 Apr. 2017 an anti-rabies



Dr R.K. Singh inaugurating the session

vaccination camp was inaugurated by Dr R.K. Singh, Director, at Referral Veterinary Polyclinic and Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, IVRI, Izatnagar. The faculty members and students actively participated in the vaccination camp. The pet owners attended the event with zeal and interest, and total 220 vaccinations were done. A clinical case competition was organized for the students of clinical disciplines. While addressing the gathering, Dr R.K. Singh emphasized the need and importance of accurate diagnosis and humane approach for the treatment of the animals.

In the concluding session, Prof. Ved Prakash Sharma, Head, Department of Microbiology, Rohilkhand Medical College and Hospital, Bareilly, delivered a lecture on Antimicrobial resistance and its consequences. Dr Sharma enumerated the causes of development of antibiotic resistance in the micro-organisms.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra and Division of Veterinary Public Health, ICAR-IVRI, also organized an awareness programme for the students of Savitri Inter College, Kargaina, (dist. Bareilly). The scientists and PG scholars of IVRI apprised the students about the importance of the animals for the society, and the contribution of the Veterinarians towards animals and human health. A drawing competition on the subject "Swachh Bharat" was also conducted for the students, wherein about 150 students participated.

Universities

ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND

Visit of State Minister of Agriculture

Shri Vallabhbhai Vaghasiya, State Minister, (Agriculture) visited AAU, Anand on 2 Feb. 2017. He had an interaction meeting with Dr N. C. Patel, VC, all the university officers, Deans, Directors and Head of Department of AAU campus. Dr Patel, highlighted the salient achievements and activities of the university. Shri Vaghasiya discussed the challenges faced by the farmers, He also visited Sardar Patel Educational Museum, Bio-fertilizer Research Project and Tissue Culture Laboratory.



Shri Vaghasiya with Dr Patel with senior staff members

Visit of Delegation of Copenhagen, Denmark

Prof. Morten Pejrup, Vice Dean for Research, Faculty of Science; and Mr Erik Bisgaard Madsen, Vice Dean for Business Collaboration, from University of Copenhagen, Denmark; along with Mr Sune Kaur-Pedersen, Counsellor, Innovation & Research, Embassy of Denmark, New Delhi, visited the university, on 10 Jan. 2017. They visited Sardar Patel Agri-cultural Educational Museum, Vidya Dairy and College of FPT & BE. They had an interaction meeting with all the university officers of AAU, followed by discussion on various areas on which collaborative educational and research programmes can be taken up jointly. This visit was also in relation to the MoU to be signed between AAU and University of Copenhagen, Denmark during Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2017 at Gandhi Nagar.



Dr Patel, briefing members of delegation

Visit of USA Students

The under-graduate and post-graduate students of various disciplines from World Learning Institute, the USA visited the university campus on 17 March 2017. They were on tour of various countries such as Tanzania, India, Italy etc. under the theme: "Rethinking food security". They visited Educational Museum and

Tissue-culture laboratory and got inspired deeply by the services rendered by agricultural universities of India, especially of Gujarat, for practical benefit of farmers and contribution towards food security.



Group of USA students

Inauguration of Sandipani Teaching Complex and Sarojini Girls' Hostel

H.E. Shri. O.P. Kohli, the Governor of Gujarat and Chancellor of University, inaugurated the newly constructed buildings, Sandipani Teaching Complex and Sarojini Girls' Hostel at College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry on 6 Jan. 2017. The dignitaries present on this occasion were: Shri Chimanbhai Sapariya, Minister of Agriculture and Energy, Gujarat State; Dr Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, New Delhi and Dr N. C. Patel, VC, AAU.



Shri O.P. Kohli, inaugurating

13th Convocation of AAU

The 13th Annual Convocation of the University, was held on 6 Jan. 2017, (Friday) at 10.45 hr at the Gymkhana ground, Sports complex, AAU, Anand. H.E. Shri O. P. Kohli, Governor of Gujarat, and the Chancellor, presided over the convocation. Dr Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, New Delhi, was the chief guest; while in his convocation address, he inspired the young graduates and post-graduates. Shri Chimanbhai Sapariya, Minister of Agriculture & Energy, was the guest of honour.



Shri O.P. Kohli awarding degrees (along with Dr T. Mohapatra and Dr N.C. Patel)

In this convocation, degrees were conferred to 585 students, including 399 graduates and 186 post-graduate who had completed their studies and passed their examination from various faculties. Total 88 medals and cash prizes were awarded to the achievers.

CHAUDHARY SARWAN KUMAR HIMACHAL PRADESH KRISHI VISHWAVIDYALAYA, PALAMPUR

Visit of Dr G.S. Khush

Dr Gurdev Singh Khush, an internationally acclaimed farm scientist, visited CSKHPKV, Palampur during 27-31 Mar. 2017. He visited Department of Crop Improvement. He also delivered a talk on "Biotechnology for food security" and had interaction with the faculty members and students of the constituent colleges of the university.



Dr G.S. Khush, with dignitaries

He was of the opinion that by 2050, the food-production requirement would increase by 50% over the present levels. He pointed out that the biotechnological tools like tissue culture, molecular marker technology, application of genetic engineering and allied disciplines can help increase the production.

Prof. Ashok Kumar Sarial, VC, felicitated Dr Khush on behalf of the university and expressed his gratitude to him for visiting the university

and interacting with scientists and students. Dr S.K. Sharma, former VC, CSKHPKV, Palampur, was guest of honour.

International conference on Canine and Feline Cardiology

An international conference on Canine and Feline Cardiology was organized at the university during 17-19 Feb. 2017 in which 50 delegates from India and abroad took part. Dr R.K. Agnihotri, Dean, Dr G.C Negi College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences in valedictory address advised the pet owners about regular monitoring of their pet animals for early diagnosis and treatment of diseases. He informed that this university offers high quality clinical care in Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology, and has emerged as a centre for specialized trainings and tertiary referral facility. The renowned international experts on Veterinary cardiology, Dr Clarke E Atkins from North Carolina State University; and Dr Marissa Ames from Colorado State University, the USA, gave hands-on training to delegates on echo-cardiography and other diagnostic techniques.



Dr Sarial with foreign dignitaries

GOVIND BALLABH PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

Landmark Varieties

Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding in its Platinum Jubilee function held on 11 Feb. 2017 at IARI, New Delhi, selected 13 varieties of Pantvarsity, among the varieties developed before the year 1980, as 'landmark varieties'. Total 51 varieties of all the agricultural universities were selected. These varieties not only contributed in the green revolution significantly, but also helped in providing nutritious food to the large Indian population. Among these varieties Kaylan Sona, Sonalika and UP 262 of wheat; Nagina 22 and Type 3 of rice; Pant G 114 of gram; PL 406 of lentil; Kranti of mustard; Shilajeet, Ankur and PK 472 of soybean; Pant Moong 2 of greengram; and UPAS 120 of pigeonpea are included. A function was organized in the committee room of VC in which the present breeders were honoured for the excellent work done by their predecessors.



Dr J. Kumar felicitating breeders on selection of 13 varieties

Visit of CIMMYT and ICARDA Scientists

Dr Ravi P. Singh, renowned wheat breeder at International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre, Mexico, delivered an enlightening lecture on 'Global wheat improvement: objectives and breeding strategy' on 22 Feb. 2017. Dr Singh presented details of the wheat improvement programme being undertaken at CIMMYT and asked the scientists and students to adopt a new approach in their research programmes. They must integrate new agronomic practices with breeding programmes for developing high-yielding nutritious varieties resistant to new and common diseases and pests and also to rising temperature due to global warming. The lecture was arranged by Pantnagar Agriculture Alumni Society of College of Agriculture (in the Conference Hall). Scientists of *International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas* (ICARDA), Morocco, and International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), Mexico, visited



ICARDA and CIMMYT scientists, interacting with the students in conference hall

Pantvarsity on 6 Mar. 2017. They visited Norman E. Borlaug Crop Research Centre where Dr Kevin V. Pixley and Dr Sukhvinder Singh of CIMMYT keenly observed the wheat-research programme; and Dr S.K. Agrawal and Dr Syed Ahmand Kalam of ICARDA visited pulse-research programme. They discussed about the use of germplasm available in these international institutes. These scientists also delivered lectures in the conference hall of College of Agriculture, in which they told about the research programmes undergoing in their respective institutes for the improvement of maize, wheat and pulse crops.

New Patents

Two patents from College of Home Science were filed recently, viz. one on 'Development of an innovative fibre', filed by Ms Tayyaba Fatima and Dr Shahnaz Jahan, and the second on 'Development of non-woven fabric by using recycled cotton and polyester fibers', filed by Ms Rachna Sharma and Dr Alka Goel.

JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JUNAGADH

Prime Minister Fellowship to JAU Research Scholar

Prime Minister Fellowship for Doctoral Research (Agriculture) was bagged by Ms Nidhi Radadiya, Ph. D. Research Scholar (Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology), Department of Biotechnology, JAU, Junagadh.



Ms. Nidhi Radadiya

Award to JAU in Western Region Agricultural Fair

Western Regional Agriculture Fair was held at the University, during 18-20 Feb. 2017. A large number of farmers and scientists of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and two union territories attended it. Various agricultural universities displayed technologies pertaining to agriculture and allied disciplines through beautiful and effective presentation of display in the stalls. JAU bagged the third rank in the best presentation of technologies in the stall. Improved varieties of cereal, pulses, vegetables and oilseeds were displayed. Bio-agents ("biocontrol" and "bio fertilizer") were highlighted effectively. Farmers purchased large number of small packets of improved seeds of various vegetable crops. The certificate was received by JAU scientists Dr M. K Jadeja, Dr A. G. Pansuriya and Dr A. J. Jethva. Dr A. R Pathak, VC, and Dr A. M. Parakhia congratulated the scientists.



Display stall of JAU at Western Region Agricultural Fair



Distribution of certificate

KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES, PANANGAD

3rd Convocation

164 students received their degrees. During the 3rd convocation of KUFOS held on 18 Feb. 2017. H.E. Shri P. Sathasivam, (Justice Retd.), Governor of Kerala and the Chancellor of KUFOS, conferred the degrees to the students from Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D. programmes. Smt. J.



H.E. Shri P. Sathasivam, conferring degrees to students

Mercykutty Amma, Minister of Fisheries, Government of Kerala and Pro-Chancellor of KUFOS, delivered the presidential address. Prof. Dr A. Ramachandran, VC, presented the annual report and the welcome address; whereas Dr V.M. Victor George, Registrar, delivered the vote of thanks. Total 13 gold medals were given to the first rank holders

Outreach Programme

Directorate of Extension established under the KUFOS promotes development of fisheries by providing necessary information, imparting training and other extension support continuously to the fisherfolk and fish farmers. Besides, dissemination of innovations in the field of aquaculture and fish-processing technologies, it also helps identify the problems of the farmers and offer solutions at the right time.



Field Aquaculture and Processing Technologies

- Pen culture harvest at Thiruthoor, Puthenvelikkara, Ernakulam, Kerala on 24 Jan., 2017.
- Species cultured –Caranx ignobilis(Giant trevally), culture period-9 months, Average size-650gm
- Quantity of fish harvested -250kg, Area of the pen culture unit – 80m²

MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL AND FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR

Poultry Training Programmes

Poultry Training and Demonstration centre of Nagpur Veterinary College, Nagpur organized Poultry training programmes during 2-6 Jan. 2016 and 23 - 27 Jan. 2016. The RKVY Project In-charge, Dr Mukund Kadam, briefed about the training programme and the activity to be conducted under it. During the training programme demonstrations were organized on brooding management, vaccination, debeaking, incubation etc. Farmers were guided by experts on poultry management, nutrition, diseases, marketing, government schemes and banking etc. A total of 129 trainees participated in these poultry training programmes.



Demonstration during poultry training

Paediatric Bronchoscopy

A workshop on Paediatric Bronchoscopy was organized jointly by Nagpur Veterinary College, Nagpur and Paediatric Intensive Care Chapter, Nagpur on 6 Jan. 2017. Prof. A. K. Misra, VC, Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur, inaugurated it. Dr Satish Deopujari, was the chairman. Prof. Misra in his inaugural address emphasized on collaborative research between the Veterinarian and Human Paediatricians for the betterment of the science, which is changing day by day. Dr Satish Deopujari appreciated the facilities available at Veterinary College Hospital and promised to undertake collaborative research works.



Prof. A. K. Misra addressing participants

Clinical Case Conference

A Clinical Case Conference on “Domestic, pets and wild animal practices” for students and field veterinarians was organized on 20 Jan. 2017 by Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, Post-graduate

Institute of Veterinary and Animal Science, Akola. Dr Raviprakash Dani, VC, DPKV, Akola; the chief guest of inaugural function inaugurated the conference. Prof. A.K. Misra, VC, MAFSU, Nagpur, was the chairman. Dr N.P. Dakshinkar, Director of Instructions and Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, MAFSU, Nagpur; and Dr P. S. Chavan, Regional Joint Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, Amaravati, region were present as guests of honour. Dr H. S. Birade, Associate Dean, PGIVAS, Akola; and Dr Siddiqui M.F.M.F., Organizing Secretary, Clinical case conference, were present during the inaugural programme.



Release of compendium by dignitaries

Total 192 students and field veterinarians, and 23 pharmaceutical firms, and the private and government agency representatives participated in the conference. Total 4 technical sessions were held viz., Veterinary Clinical Medicine, Animal Reproduction, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary Surgery and Field Veterinarians. Dr Abdul Samad, Dr G. S. Khandekar, Dr S. H. Dalvi and Dr Mahesh Rangnekar presented lead papers as an expert speakers.

Workshop on National Capacity Building

A National Capacity Building Workshop on ‘Recent diagnostic tools for ‘hydatidosis, cysticercosis and trichinellosis’ under ICAR Research Project “Outreach programme on zoonotic diseases” was organized by Department of Veterinary Public Health, Bombay Veterinary College, Mumbai during 5 - 7 Jan. 2017. The Chairman was Prof. A. K. Misra, VC, the chief guest was Dr Ashok Kumar, ADG (Animal Health) ICAR; and guest of honor was Dr B. P. Mishra, Joint Director (Research) and Project Co-ordinator (OPZD), IVRI. Total 14 scientists of OPZD Project across India attended the workshop.



Prof. Misra, felicitating Dr Ashok Kumar

8th Convocation

The eighth convocation of the university, for conferment of degrees on successful candidates of the examinations held in the academic years 2014-15 and 2015-16 was organized on 9 Mar. 2017. H.E. Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao, Governor of Maharashtra and Chancellor MAFSU, Nagpur, presided the Convocation. Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra; Shri Mahadeoraoji Jankarji, Minister of Animal Husbandry and Pro-Chancellor of MAFSU; Shri Chandrashekar Bawankuleji, District Guardian Minister, were the guests of honour. Dr Trilochan Mohapatra, DG, ICAR and Secretary, DARE, delivered the convocation address.



Dignitaries at the Convocation dias

Total 815 degrees were awarded, including 648 candidates from Veterinary Science, 103 from Dairy Technology, and 64 from Fishery Science,

In Veterinary Science – The degrees were awarded in 400 B.V. Sc & AH, 237 in M.V. Sc, and 11 PhDs.

In Dairy Technology – There were 103 B. Tech. degrees whereas;

In Fishery Sciences - There were 64 B.F. Sc degrees.

MAFSU on Thursday conferred its first honorary doctorate of Science (DSc) degree to Shri Mohan Bhagwat, RSS chief, for his 'outstanding' contribution towards gaushalas, conservation of indigenous cow-breeds and organic farming.



Honorary D.Sc. being conferred to Shri Mohan Bhagwat

Total 815 degrees were conferred during the convocation in the field of Veterinary, Dairy Technology and Fishery Science Faculty for graduates, post-graduates and Ph.D. students. The university also awarded gold and silver medals to the students for their meritorious performances. Total 64 medals including 48 gold and 16 silver medals were awarded for outstanding academic performance at B.V.Sc. & A.H., M.V.Sc., B.F.Sc and B.Tech. degree programmes.

ORISSA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, BHUBANESWAR

Appreciation Certificate to University

Agricultural Education Division of the ICAR issued Certificate of Appreciation to OUAT on 27 Jan. 2017 for commendable contribution towards strengthening and sustainable implementation of e-Granth programme, with digitization of more than 700 PG & Ph. D. theses in the Central Library of OUAT with technical support of NIC.

36th Convocation

36th Convocation of OUAT was held on 13 Feb. 2017. H.E. the Governor of Odisha & Chancellor, OUAT presided over the convocation. Dr Matthew K. Morell, DG & CEO, International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines, delivered the convocation address as the chief guest.



H.E. Dr S. C. Jamir at 36th Convocation

Excellence in JRF

The university ranked 2nd in the admission-preference category - "Horticulture and Forestry" in the ICAR's - Junior Research Fellowship Examination, 2016 at national level among 73 agricultural universities of the country. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, presented the award, and received by Prof. S. Pasupalak, VC, on 14 Feb. 2017 at New Delhi.



Shri Radha Mohan Singh, presenting award to the Vice-Chancellor

PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA

Release of Book on Climate Change

Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, released book on 'Climate change and agriculture' during the Annual Conference of Vice Chancellors of Agricultural Universities and Directors of ICAR institutes, held at ICAR, New Delhi on 14 Feb. 2017. This book is written by Dr L.K. Dhaliwal, Director, School of Climate Change and Agricultural Meteorology; Dr P.K. Kingra, Professor of Agricultural Meteorology; and



Shri Radha Mohan Singh releasing book

Dr J.S. Dhiman, former Additional Director of Research (Natural Resource and Plant Health Management). It is published by the University, Ludhiana.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion included Shri P. Rupala, State Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, and Dr T. Mohapatra, DG, ICAR & Secretary, DARE.

Visit of VC of Cambridge University

Prof. Leszek Borysiewicz, VC of University of Cambridge, and a renowned British immunologist, along with Dr Howard Griffiths, Professor of Plant Ecology, along with their team visited the university on 23 Feb., to explore the areas of mutual interest and collaboration.



Prof. L. Borysiewicz with Dr B.S. Dhillon

Prof. Borysiewicz applauded the lead role played by the PAU in ushering the green revolution in the country. While discussing the global problem of food security and sustainable development, He remarked that major responsibility lies in the hands of reputed institutes to forge ties globally and work together for improving the livelihood and nutritional status of the farming community as well as the general population. "Towards this end, we need to make sure that agriculture as a subject should not become redundant in the age of computer software and programming", he added. Prof. Howard Griffiths shared that the university of Cambridge would soon come up with a Crop Science Centre on its premises, with a vision to address the challenges in agriculture. He stated that another vision of the Cambridge University is to start the route to the second green revolution in India and design it in accordance with the different agro-climatic zones of the country.

Dr B.S. Dhillon, VC, in his concluding remarks stated that the areas of input use efficiency, sustainability, nutrition, post-harvest losses in fruits, biotechnology and nanotechnology are the main focus in exploring the scope for future collaborations between the two universities.

New Varieties

Basmati rice

Punjab Basmati 4: It is high-yielding, semi-dwarf (96 cm) and lodging tolerant variety. It possesses extra-long slender grains, with excellent cooking and eating qualities. Grains became almost double upon cooking and are non-sticky. It matures in 146 days after seeding. Its average paddy yield is 17.0 q/acre.



Punjab Basmati 5: It is a semi-dwarf (112 cm) variety. It possesses excellent cooking and eating quality characteristics. Grains are extra-long, slender, highly aromatic, non-sticky which became almost double upon cooking. It matures in 137 days after seeding. Its average paddy yield is 15.0 q/acre.

Sugarcane

CoPb 92 (Early maturing): It has been identified for commercial release in NWZ (Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh) of the country by CVRC during 2016. Its overall cane yield is 335 q/acre compared with that of CoJ 85 (311.6 q/acre) and CoJ 64 (274.8 q/acre) checks. CoPb 92 matures in November and is better in quality than both the checks. It is moderately resistant to red rot and has better tolerance to borer complex compared with the checks.



Sugarcane CoPb 92

CoPb 93 (Midlate maturing) : Its overall mean cane yield is 390 q/acre compared with 332.4 q/acre of CoJ 88, and 350.8 q/acre of Co 238. It

matures in January. It is moderately resistant to prevalent pathotypes of red rot. It is less susceptible to borer complex compared with the check.

CoPb 94 (Midlate maturing): Its overall mean cane yield is 400 q/acre compared with 358 q/acre of Co 238. It is moderately resistant to red rot disease and has less incidence of borer complex than the checks.



Sugarcane CoPb 93



Sugarcane CoPb 94



Farm Machinery

PAU straw cutter-cum-spreader: It has been developed by modification in existing stubble shaver. It can be used for chopping and simultaneous spreading of left-over straw (loose and standing stubbles) after paddy harvesting with combine harvester. This enhances the efficiency of PAU happy seeder by 20%.

Portable Maize-Grain Dryer: It has been developed in collaboration with M/s Nu Tech. Dairy Engineers, Ambala. This 3 ton capacity, portable type maize dryer is capable of drying the grain efficiently by reducing the moisture at the rate of 1.1-1.5% per hour, without affecting the germination of maize grains or seeds. This dryer is portable but can also be fixed at one location.

TAMIL NADU FISHERIES UNIVERSITY, NAGAPATTINAM

Meeting of Extension Education Council

The third Extension Education Council meeting of TNFU was held at Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri on 16 Mar. 2017. The Chairman was Dr K. Rathnakumar, Registrar and Acting-VC, TNFU. All the Deans and Directors, Chairs of schools, Heads of out-stations and nominated faculty members of TNFU attended the meeting. Dr K. Vasanthakumar, former Registrar, Annamalai University, Parangipettai; Dr D. Thiyagarajan, former Director of Extension Education, TANUVAS, Chennai (external experts); Mr Sivaganam, Mr Rajaraman (farmer invitees) and Mr Thiruvallarselvan (nominated member of the council) also attended the meeting.



Experts on discussion

Digitalization of Transactions in Fish Market at Kombuthurai Village

The NSS unit of the Fisheries College and Research Institute, Thoothukudi organized an awareness programme on "Digitalization of transactions in fish market" at Kombuthurai village, a fishing hamlet near Kayalpattinam, (dist. Thoothukudi of Tamil Nadu) on 6 Jan. 2017. The programme was organized under the "VISAKA" campaign implemented by Government of India from 12 Dec. 2016 to 12 Jan. 2017. The fish market of Kombuthurai village was identified to transform it into a digital market place and train the fishermen with digital payment systems.



VISAKA campaign

The NSS volunteers of this college imparted practical knowledge on the Digital Transaction System available with different banks in India. Mobile applications such as 'BHIM' introduced by the Prime Minister of India, State Bank Anywhere, Paytm, CANMOBILE, U-Mobile, IndPay and other digital banking aids such as ATM, POS etc. were demonstrated to the fishermen, fish vendors and agents.

UTTRAKHAND UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURE AND FORESTRY, BHARSAR

Achievements in Research and Technology

At Research and Extension Centre, Kanatal, Tehri Garhwal, 12 varieties of apple, viz. Oregon Spur, Tydemans' Early Worcester, Vance Delicious, Golden Delicious, Royal Delicious, Red Chief Spur, Boris, Red Delicious, Scarlet Gala, Silver Spur and Fenny, were introduced under the project "Centre of Excellence for Temperate Fruit Crops".

A nursery of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants was developed at College of Forestry, Ranichauri, in which mass propagation of rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) and oregano (*Origanum vulgare*) is done and the buy-back agreement is made with M/s Flex Food Ltd, Dehra Dun. About 60,000 plants of rosemary and 30,000 plants of oregano are developed through stem cuttings.

Contribution of Individual Scientists

The germplasm UUHF/ACM/Garlic-11-1 of Greater Head Garlic (INGR16035) was developed by Mr A.C. Mishra and Mr Matthew Prasad of the VCSG UUHF. It was registered by Plant Germplasm Registration Committee of the ICAR. The germplasm of Greater Head Garlic (*Allium ampeloprasum* var. *ampeloprasum* L.) consist of long, dark green, broad and leathery leaves, bigger size of bulbs (weighing 70-75 g) composed of 10-12 cloves (6-8 g each). The yield of bulb is 250.32 q/ha, with comparatively high TSS (41.9%). It is tolerant to foliar diseases like purple blotch and downey mildew. The germplasm INGR16035 produces 36 % higher bulb yield than *Allium sativum* cultivars, which has the potential to serve as commercial crop in Western Himalaya. The propagation of Greater Head Garlic in the nursery beds can be done by planting micro-cloves. The micro-cloves are produced at the terminal umbel, which consists of a large number (150-175) of micro-cloves.

Awards

DR RAJENDRA PRASAD CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, PUSA

Honour to Dr R.C. Srivastava

The Life-time Achievement Award was conferred to Dr R. C. Srivastava, VC, during International Seminar on Agriculture and Food for Inclusive Growth and Development at CSIR-NBRI, Lucknow on 14 Jan. 2017 for his outstanding contribution to agriculture and allied sciences



Dr R. C. Srivastava

Dr A.K. Singh, Deputy Director General (Horticultural Sciences and Agriculture Extension Education), ICAR, New Delhi, presented award to Dr S.K. Singh, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology) & PI, AICRP on Fruits, for presentation on national scenario of banana and papaya diseases, and Best Presentation Award to DRPCA, Pusa. It was done at group meeting of All India Co-ordinated Research Project on fruits (of ICAR) held during 4-7 Jan., 2017 at IIHR, Bangalore for banana, papaya, guava, mango, grapes, jackfruits, and sapota reports on various aspects like genetic resource/crop improvement, production technology, and plant protection.



Dr S. K. Singh, receiving award

ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND

Best Extension Scientists Award

Dr. J B Patel, Associate Professor, Department of Extension Education, B. A. College of Agriculture, AAU, Anand has been awarded as the Best Extension Scientist Award considering his valuable contribution in the field of extension education, extension research and extension services for the overall development of

farming community and extension discipline. He was awarded during National Seminar on 'Extension Plus' held at Sardarkrushinagar by Society of Extension Education Gujarat (SEEG) in collaboration with Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University during 21-22 Apr. 2017.



Dr J.B. Patel receiving award

Uttam Stall Puraskar

Anand Agricultural University participated in Krishi Unnati Mela- 2017, held at IARI, New Delhi during 15 - 17 March 2017, to communicate and demonstrate the agricultural technologies to the end- users at national level. Dr Arun Patel (Director Extension Education, AAU, Anand), Prof. P. C. Patel (Assistant Prof., DEE, AAU, Anand) and Prof. M. B. Zala (Assistant Res. Sci., ARS, AAU, Sansoli) represented the university in this programme. On the basis of realistic scientific information; novel crop production, agro and food-processing- based technologies displayed as well as interaction between scientists and visitors, Uttam Stall Puraskar was awarded to AAU in the plenary session of the programme.



AAU staff receiving Uttam stall puraskar

GOVIND BALLABH PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

Position in JRF

The students of Pantnagar University secured second position in JRF, All India Entrance Examination of Agriculture (AIEEA-2016), conducted by ICAR, New Delhi. The students of Pantvarsity secured 19 JRFs under Veterinary and Fisheries Sciences category and Engineering and Technology category, thus enabling Pantvarsity to get second position in both the categories on All-India basis. Dr J. Kumar, VC, received the award on behalf of the university at the Annual Vice-Chancellors' Conference of Agriculture Universities held on 14 Feb. 2017 at NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture, presented him the award.



Shri Radha Mohan Singh presenting plaque to Dr J. Kumar

Best University of Uttarakhand

Pantnagar university was declared the best university of Uttarakhand. H.E. Dr. K.K. Paul, Governor of Uttarakhand, announced the prize during a meeting of vice-chancellors of all universities of Uttarakhand held on 20 Mar. 2017 at Raj Bhwan, Dehra Dun. He bestowed the honour upon Dr J. Kumar, VC of Pantvarsity, by



Dr K. K. Paul presenting Governor's trophy to Dr J. Kumar

giving Governor's trophy, a citation and Rs 2 lakhs. In fact, this prize was started by the Governor of Uttarakhand from the year 2015-16, and Pantvarsity has received best university award since then in both the years.

PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA

Young Scientist Award

Dr Suruchi Jindal, Research Associate at PAU, Ludhiana bagged "Young Scientist Award" in agriculture during the 20th Punjab Science Congress, organized by Punjab Academy of Sciences at IET, Bhattal.



Awards to Young scientists

Dr Jindal is working with Dr Parveen Chhuneja, Director, School of Agricultural Biotechnology, PAU. Dr Jindal has also been awarded a research project worth Rs 35 lakhs for early-career women scientists under BIO-CARE (Biotechnology Career Advancement and Re-orientation Programme) programme of Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Overall Trophy in Agri fest

The PAU won Overall Trophy of 17th All India-Inter-Agricultural Universities Youth Festival 2016-17, organized by the ICAR, New Delhi at Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner (Rajasthan) during 22 -25 Feb. 2017. The PAU students participated in 17 event pertaining to Literary, Fine Arts, Music and Theatre and won Gold Medal in Debate; Silver Medal in One-Act Play and Elocution; Bronze Medal in Mime, Rangoli, Collage; and 4th Position in Spot painting and Patriotic Group Song.



Youth Festival participants of PAU

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