

IAUA



NEWS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF INDIAN AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 7 No. 3

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2007

CONTENTS

New VCs

Prof. M.C.Varshneya, VC, AAU, Anand
Dr Vijay Kumar Taneja, VC, GADVAS, Ludhiana
Shri. K.R. Viswambharan (IAS), VC, KAU, Thrissur
Dr Basant Ram, VC, NDUAT, Faizabad
Dr R.K. Samanta, VC, BCKV, Mohanpur
Dr P. Thangaraju, VC, TNVASU, Chennai

Focus on Universities

Deemed Universities

IARI, New Delhi
IVRI, Izatnagar

Universities

A Profile: AAI, Allahabad
AAU, Anand
AAU, Jorhat
DBSKKV, Dapoli
DPDKV, Akola
GBPUAT, Pantnagar
MPUAT, Udaipur
MPKV, Rahuri
MAU, Parbhani
OUAT, Bhubaneswar

Awards and Recognitions

AAU, Jorhat
GBPUAT, Pantnagar

ADVISORY BOARD

Dr M.P. Yadav
President

Dr S.A. Patil
Vice-President

Prof. (Dr) Rajendra B. Lal
Secretary-Treasurer

Dr C. Ramaswamy
Member

Dr Nagendra Sharma
Member

EDITORIAL BOARD

Dr R.P. Singh
Executive Secretary, IAUA

Dr J.S.P. Yadav
Ex-Chairman, ASRB

Dr Baldeo Singh
Jt. Dir. (Extn.), IARI

Shri R.S. Gupta
Ex-Editor (English), ICAR

Shri C. Thomas
Editor (English), IARI

NEW VCs

Prof. M. C. Varshneya, VC, AAU, Anand

Prof. M. C. Varshneya has been appointed for the second term as VC of AAU w.e.f. 20 May 2006. He is the first Vice-Chancellor of AAU, Anand (Gujarat), joining on 21 May 2004. He launched a very vital and useful programme of Soil Health Card for the farmers of Gujarat, which is in final phase of completion. He took initiatives for development of new programmes like Centre of Excellence in the niche areas on Functional and fermented food, Agricultural and animal biotechnology, Bio-diesel from *Jatropha* etc. His visit to Israel with Chief Minister of Gujarat opened new doors for international collaboration in the field of Agriculture and allied subjects in Research and Education.



Prof. M.C. Varshneya

Dr V. K. Taneja, VC, GADVAS, Ludhiana

Dr Vijay Kumar Taneja born on 19 March 1945 joined as VC of GADVAS, Ludhiana on 20 December 2006. He did his B.V. Sc. & A.H., M.Sc. and Ph.D. (Animal Genetics and Breeding). He served as DDG (AS), ICAR; Animal Husbandry Commissioner; ADG (ICAR); Project Leader and Co-ordinator of Embryo Biotechnology etc. He contributed his expertise in various policy planning, direction and co-ordination areas like National Policy for Management of Animal Genetic Resources, National Breeding Policy on Cattle, Buffalo, Sheep, Goat and Rabbit; Livestock Policy Perspective (Bovines in India's Livestock Sector), Animal Husbandry and Dairing (Vision Statement 2020) etc. He held various special assignments in the ICAR, SAUs and other departments such as National Co-ordinator (FAO project on "Conservation and use of animal genetic resources" in Asia and Pacific), Expert Member (Task Force, DAH & D), Cattle and Buffalo Breeding Policy etc. He received various national and international awards and visited 15 countries like the USA, France, Sweden, Pakistan, Indonesia etc. as member of delegation to participate in technical meetings or conferences as well as present research and policy papers. He published 142 research papers, 36 policy papers and 34 books, and guided 21 students.



Dr V.K. Taneja

Shri K. R. Viswambharan (IAS), VC, KAU, Thrissur

Shri K.R. Viswambharan, (IAS), born 21 January 1948, joined as VC, KAU, Thrissur on 28 March 2007. He did M.Sc. and L.L.B., and held many important positions such as District Collector, Deputy Collector, ADM, RDO, Director of Sports and Youth Affairs, Director of Public Instruction etc. As District Collector, Ernakulam, he initiated many new projects like Goshri Project, Houses Pattayam, Rain-Water Harvesting and Literacy Campaign.



Dr K.R. Viswambharan (IAS)

Dr Basant Ram, VC, NDUAT, Faizabad

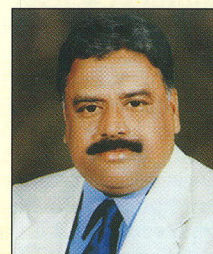
Dr Basant Ram joined as VC, NDUAT, Kumarganj, Faizabad on 23 August 2007, after relinquishing the post of VC, RAU, Pusa (dist. Samastipur), Bihar. Born on 15 March 1948 in district Azamgarh, he did M.Sc. (Agric.) and Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from IARI, New Delhi. He served Rockefeller Foundation at IARI in Wheat-disease survey and surveillance programme. He joined Directorate of Plant Quarantine and Storage at Pusa (Bihar) and served at Horticultural Experiment Station, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Chethali (dist.Coorg), Karnataka; Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar and at GBPUAT, Pantnagar as Chief Training Organizer-cum-Joint Director, Extension, and Director of Research (August 1996-June 2007) and VC, RAU, Pusa, Bihar (23 June 2007 onward).



Dr Basant Ram

Dr R. K. Samanta, VC, BCKV, Mohanpur

Dr R. K. Samanta joined as VC of Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Earlier Mohanpur (West Bengal) on 4 September 2007. He did his Ph.D. in Agricultural Extension and served as Director (Agric. Extension and Communication), National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad; Zonal Co-ordinator, Transfer of Technology Project of ICAR, Bangalore; and Joint Director and Acting Director of National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad. Dr Samanta has also served earlier in various capacities in the Department of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal; BCKV, Kalyani, and ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Shillong, and received training at IIMs Ahmedabad, Calcutta and Kozikhode; ASCI, Hyderabad; Corel, Syracuse; and Ohio State University, USA, as FAO-UNDP Fellow. He has been Consultant on Agricultural Extension in Himachal Pradesh, sponsored by Government of India and on Extension Strategy Building in Bangladesh,



Dr R.K. Samanta

sponsored by International Atomic Energy Agency, Austria. He has also served briefly as Visiting Fellow, Department of Home Science, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. He has to his credit 20 books (authored and edited) and 166 research papers, professional communications and book chapters published in the fields of agricultural extension, communication, training, management, organizational renewal and rural development.

Dr P. Thangaraju, VC, TNVASU, Chennai

Dr P. Thangaraju born on 13 August 1946 joined as VC, TNVASU, Chennai on 23 October 2007., he did his B.V.Sc. from Madras University (1971), PG (Agric. & A.H. Statistics) from IASRI, New Delhi (1974), and M.V.Sc. (1978) and Ph.D. (1986) from TNAU in Veterinary Sciences, Animal Genetics and Breeding. For 8 years he served as Registrar, SRM University; Dean, M.U. College; Director, C.A.P.S.; Director of Clinics,

TANUVAS, Chennai etc. He has teaching experience of 26 years as Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor and Head. He received many educational and scientific awards like Dr A.L. Mudaliar Prize (1979), Best Veterinary College in India Award by INTAS (2004), Fellowship of American Biographical Institute, the USA (1999) etc. He presented papers at 10 international, 40 national and 28 regional conferences, and published 120 research papers besides other publications. He guided 5 Ph.D. and 6 Masters degree scholars. He is member of more than 15 professional and academic bodies of SAUs and national institutes.



Dr P. Thangaraju

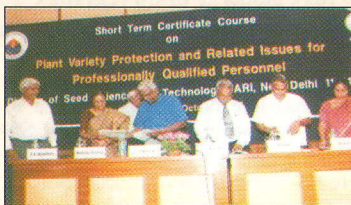
Focus on Universities : Achievements and Events

DEEMED UNIVERSITIES

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NEW DELHI

Certificate course on Plant Variety Protection and Related Issues

The first short-term certificate course of 10 weeks duration for professionally qualified persons on 'Plant variety protection and related issues' was inaugurated on 21 September 2007. Dr S. Nagarajan, Chairperson, PPV & FR Authority, was the Chief Guest, and Dr S.A. Patil, Director, IARI, presided over the function. Dr H.S. Gaur, Dean and Joint Director (Edn), IARI, gave the welcome address. The course is being successfully conducted in the Division of Seed Science and Technology, IARI. This full-time course has been designed to include lectures and practicals on basics of Genetics and Plant Breeding, fundamentals of Seed Science and Technology, understanding IPR, functions and legal issues of PPV & FR Act etc. Dr Nagarajan emphasized that for implementation of PPV & FR Act 2001, the country would require a large number of professionally qualified persons, well-versed with various provisions of the Act, conversant with the procedures of DUS testing, storage of seed of reference varieties, handling of database, statistical analysis etc.



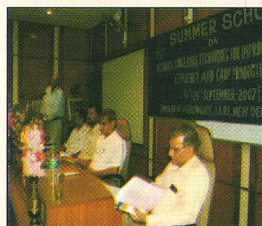
Certificate Course on Plant Variety Protection for professionals

FAO-sponsored course on Seed Production and Marketing

The IARI has joined hands with FAO to improve the food security and nutrition in Iraq through rehabilitation and improvement of the national seed programme, which will promote the availability and use of high-quality seeds to farmers. This first international training programme of 45 days duration on 'Seed production and marketing' was started on 13 September 2007 in the Division of Seed Science and Technology.

Summer school on Resource-conserving techniques

An ICAR-sponsored summer school on 'Resource-conserving techniques for improving input-use efficiency and crop productivity' was inaugurated by Dr H.S. Gaur, Dean and Joint Director (Edn), IARI, on 4 September 2007 in the Division of Agronomy. In this training programme, 25 scientists and teachers representing 11 SAUs and 3 ICAR institutes from 15 states participated. Eminent resource persons from the IARI, ICAR institutes and headquarters, SAUs and CGIAR centres delivered lectures and shared their experiences with the participants.



Summer School sponsored by ICAR

The participants were exposed to the latest advances made in RCTs for low-input agriculture such as zero tillage, bed planting, laser-land levelling, pressurized irrigation methods, system of rice intensification, aerobic rice, soil solarization, residue management, site-specific nutrient management, crop diversification, integrated farming systems and precision farming, using modern tools and procedures.

INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, IZATNAGAR

Course on Gene-expression techniques

A short course on 'Gene-expression techniques' such as gene amplification, cloning, characterization of recombinant clones and *in-vitro* expression analysis was organized from 25 July to 14 August 2007 at the Division of Animal Biotechnology. The course was sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. Dr T.J. Rasool, ADG (AP & B), ICAR, was the Chief Guest. In this programme, 21 candidates from different research institutions of ICAR and CSIR, general universities and SAUs participated. These participants were given hands-on training on various aspects of molecular biology, starting from primer designing to gene amplification, cloning and *in-vitro* gene expression. Various techniques related to analysis of expressed proteins, e.g. SDS-PAGE, Western blot, Immunofluorescence, Immuno peroxidase, FACS and real-time PCR etc. were also demonstrated.



Participant of training course receiving certificate from Director, IVRI

Inaugurating the course, Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah, DDG (AS), ICAR, emphasized the need of research to improve the economic status of the rural poor. Dr S. P. S. Ahlawat, Director, IVRI, Izatnagar, who presided over the inaugural function, talked about actions responsible for various functions in the body including the genes responsible for disease resistance.

National workshop on Johne's disease

A 2-day national seminar and workshop on Johne's disease was organized at the Division of Pathology by the Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists, IVRI Chapter, Society for Immunology and Immuno-pathology, and IVRI, Izatnagar during 8-9 August 2007.



Dr S.P.S. Ahlawat addressing the participants

In his inaugural address, the Chief Guest, Prof. V. Gnanaprakasam, former VC, TNVASU, Chennai, emphasized the need to improve the techniques further for early detection in

cattle, buffalo, sheep and goats. Modern laboratories are to be created with latest technologies for precise diagnosis of paratuberculosis, which has also zoonotic potential. In his presidential address, Dr S.P.S. Ahlawat, Director, laid special stress on genetic improvement of animals, and on implementation of the recommendations of the workshop. The guest of honour, the renowned pathologist Dr J.L. Vegad, former Dean, Veterinary College, Jabalpur, informed that 50 % of cattle herd in some states in the USA were found infected with paratuberculosis. What is required is effective control in India. Dr B. N. Tripathi, Organizing Secretary of the seminar, presented a brief history and a critical appraisal of Paratuberculosis work in India.

It emerged out of the seminar that in XI Plan period the issues to be addressed are: Generation of data on prevalence of diseases in the country in animals as well as in human beings, and capacity building by developing laboratories with modern facilities for paratuberculosis research.

International training on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Techniques

The 5th ICMBBT-TCS Colombo Plan organized at Izatnagar from 15 October to 14 November 2007, was attended by 11 participants from Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia and Myanmar, in the techniques of molecular biology and biotechnology in view of considerable demand for trained scientific manpower for animal research. International-level training courses were planned by Dr S.P.S. Ahlawat, Director and VC, at IVRI. Dr A.S. Faroda, former Chairman, ASRB, was the chief guest at the function.



Participants of International Training Course on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Techniques

Dr A.S. Ninawe, VC, Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Science University, Nagpur, the chief guest at the valedictory function on 13 November 2007, congratulated Dr S.P.S. Ahlawat and Dr A.K. Srivastava, the Course Director. The latter informed that the institute has trained 50 researchers from Fiji Islands, Cuba, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nigeria, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Kisan Mela evam Pashu Vigyan Pradarshani-2007

The 7th Kisan Mela evam Pashu Vigyan Pradarshani was organised during 1-3 November 2007 at Izatnagar. It attracted

15,000 farmers, agripreneurs and field functionaries from Uttar Pradesh and the neighbouring states. The Mela was inaugurated by Dr Kiran Singh, former Deputy Director-General, Animal Sciences, ICAR (earlier Director of IVRI and NDRI). Dr S. M. Illyas, Director, NAARM, Hyderabad (A.P.) and former VC, University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad, U.P., was the guest of honour on this occasion.

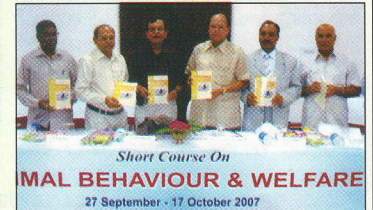


Go-Pooja at Kisan Mela-2007

The major attractions of the Kisan Mela were Animal Science Exhibition, Kisan Goshthi, Calf Rally, Livestock Show and other animal-related competitions. Around 100 stalls depicted advancements made in animal health and production.

Course on Animal behaviour and welfare

A short course on 'Animal behaviour and welfare' was conducted at the Centre of Advanced Studies, Division of Physiology and Climatology, IVRI, Izatnagar, from 27 September to 17 October 2007.



Compendium of Short Course released by dignitaries

Dr V.P. Varshney, Director, CAS and Head, Division of Physiology and Climatology, highlighting the importance of the course, informed that there were 20 participants from 12 states.

The chief guest, Dr S.A.H. Abidi, former Member, ASRB, New Delhi, mentioned that animals are more disciplined than human-beings and hence deserve more attention and sympathy. He elaborated that more than 3,000 animal species exist in nature, domestic as well as wild. Dr Ahlawat mentioned that animal worship is the age-old practice in our country.

Animal welfare and its importance have been discussed in *Yajurveda* and *Athervaveda*. We get various products from animals and it is our duty to nurture them. Animal movements and sounds are part of the animal behaviour; these change during different weather and diseased conditions. Animals, and birds get intuitions of earthquakes and natural calamities, and they are much more sensitive than human-beings. On this occasion, as guest of honour, Dr R.P. Singh, Executive Secretary, IAU, advocated that animals should be treated humanely, fed timely and properly, and kept in clean environment.

UNIVERSITIES

A Profile

ALLAHABAD AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE (DEEMED UNIVERSITY), ALLAHABAD

Establishment

The Allahabad Agricultural Institute was established in 1910. Its foundation was laid by Christian Churches and Organizations in India under the leadership of Dr Sam Higginbottom, and it is still being administered by them. This institute has since been declared as the Deemed-to-be University on 15 March 2000 in exercise of the powers conferred by Section No. 3 of University Grants Commission Act, 1956 (3 of 1956) vide notification No.F.9-26/94-U: 3 by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. In 1980 the State Government of Uttar Pradesh issued Order No. 4894 15-



College of Agricultural Engineering & Technology, AAI-DU



Chancellor Dr Mani Jacob presenting memento to Dr Verghese Kurien, Father of the white Revolution in India

80(11), dated 12 September 1980, recognizing Allahabad Agricultural Institute as a Christian Minority Education Institution within the meaning of Article 30(1) of Constitution of India.

Reasons for setting up

1. True success in life depends not only on the ability and technical training of the individual but even more on his or her moral character and attitude towards life. Through teaching and other Christian educational activities, the institution tries to develop integrity, moral stamina and unselfish idealism in its students. It seeks to base its mode of life and activity on the teaching and example of Lord Jesus Christ and to persuade all men and women to do likewise. The founder Christian leader received a command from Lord Jesus Christ to feed the hungry, and they followed it by undertaking transfer of technology to enable farmers to produce more food and achieve self-reliance. Dr Sam Higginbottom believed that the Gospel must be preached with action and thus, he envisioned the institution to take up a leading role in agricultural, technical, industrial and health education to train peasants, extension workers, agriculture graduates, and other rural young people under the vision of the Gospel and the Plough.
2. Besides other similar activities, the institute began imparting instructions



AAI-DU Alumni Association meeting at Dubai

and training in activities such as agricultural tools and implements, manufacture and repair, modern dairying, canning, preservation and drying of fruits and vegetables, sugar-making, oil-pressing, tanning etc.

Preamble

The institute (deemed university) seeks to be an international centre of professional excellence in education and service to the people, with the participation of the students and faculty members from all over India and abroad. The university upholds and strives to achieve the following: Responsible stewardship of the environment and its resources; Sustainable development; Linkage of learning and research to the needs and life of the people; Justice to the minorities and other weaker sections of the society, especially to the women and the rural poor; Holistic formation of the human in, with and through the community for leadership instilled by Christian values; National unity and communal harmony; and International fellowship and co-operation in the education and development ministry in the service of Lord Jesus Christ.

Main objectives

The major objectives of the university are:

- To conduct and manage the affairs of the university,
- To promote and provide instruction and training in area of study relevant to Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Animal Health, Human Health Sanitation, Home Science Development, Health Education, Christian Studies and other relevant sciences, Technologies and Humanities for all-round improvement in the quality of life through Deemed University or other campuses, colleges, institutions of the society within and outside the country.
- Opportunities for the integration of formal and non-formal learning with practical experience in these fields.
- Research relevant to emerging agricultural and rural problems, introduce programmes of teaching and extension work for agriculture, human health, women's upliftment and rural development, and vocational programmes and to improve socio-economic status of the people in rural India.
- To provide opportunities for education and "learning by doing" in area of agriculture and rural economic development geared to the promotion, advancement and sharing of scientific knowledge, in particular for the development of Christian men and women and for the rural population of India and others in general.
- To do all such other acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to further the objectives of the society.

Major achievements

Prof. Mason Vaugh, an Agricultural Engineer founded the Department of Agricultural Engineering. He became the father of Agriculture Engineering in India in the early forties, introduced several implements such as mouldboard plough, hoe, cultivators and wheat thresher.



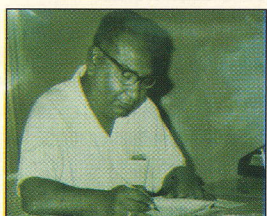
Dr. M.M. Joshi was the chief guest for the first convocation



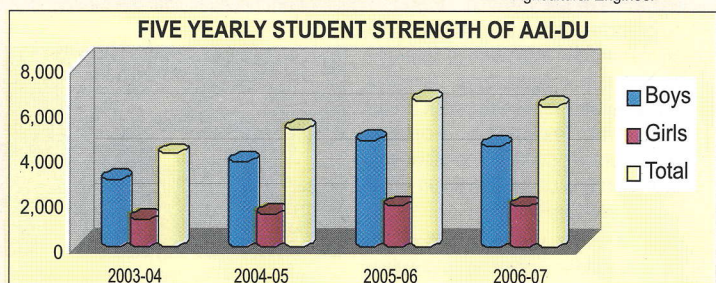
Prof. (Dr) R.B. Lal with the then Minister for Agriculture, Er. Ajit Singh Ji



Students of College of Education



Prof. CV Paul, first Indian Agricultural Engineer



International collaboration

Since its inception, Allahabad Agricultural Institute has played a major role in the internationalization, expansion and transfer of technology, culture and human values in the international scenario. It is looking forward to collaborate with several universities in the developed countries such as USA, Canada, European Union, Japan and Australia. The alumni of this university have acquired high positions in the USA, Canada, Europe, Australia, Middle East, Mauritius, New Zealand, Africa and Japan etc. It has a special distinction in the field of Agricultural Engineering education, research and extension in almost all the South Asian countries.

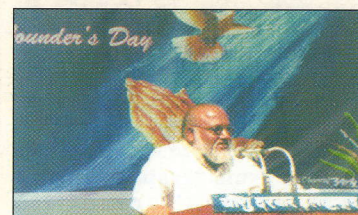


AAAI-DU Delegation at Faculty of Life Sciences Copenhagen University

To further strengthen globalization and internationalization of the university, Prof. (Dr) R.B. Lal, VC, has signed the MoU along with Ir Wim van de Weg, Executive Head of Dronthon Professional Agricultural University, The Netherlands, on 7 September 2006. Talks are being held with Old Dominion University, Norfolk, the USA; Rakuno Gakuen University, Hokkaido, Japan; Jedson College, the USA etc. in this direction. The university has also entered into an agreement with MEAC Technical Industries, Dubai to provide training to MEAC employees at Dubai as well as to send technical experts there.

Prospective plan till 2020

Vision 2020 of the institute aims to maintain its lead in excellence and achieve the distinction of being a model international institution for several underdeveloped countries. The institution stresses the need for greater thrust to science and technology advancements, to continuously strive to become the cradle of higher learning and research and contributing higher skilled global human-resource force.



VC, Prof. (Dr) R.B. Lal speaking at the founder's day meet

With farmers in focus, farming technology as their friend, and food processing and marketing as partners, the institute strives to contribute towards the Second Green Revolution to increase food production under reduced availability of land and water resources. Further prospective plan till 2020 encompasses itself the challenge of the institution being a leading one in Biotechnology, Health Science, Engineering, Food Technology, Animal Science, Home Science, Agriculture etc. The aim is to spin technology to societal products, which are cost effective, of high quality and available to the people in time. Thrust is required in nanoscience and biotechnology to achieve leadership in these areas in the coming decade. Our scientists and technologists aim to undertake a health mission 'Let my brain remove the pain'.

Research achievements

- Journals (*Allahabad Farmer* and *Agricultural Engineer*) were started in 1944.
- Many Implements were developed, such as U.P. No. 1 and U.P. No. 2 plough, Shabash plough, Wah Wah plough, Wheel hoe, 3-row Malabansa arrangement, AAI thresher, paddle-operated paddy thresher, AAI paddy thresher, tractor-operated weeding implement, Allahabad yoke and Aonla-pricking machine.
- New crop or fruit varieties were developed such as Allahabad Surkha, Allahabad Safeda, Cluster rice and mutant selection of rice.
- The crossbred (Animal Husbandry): Jersindh and Brown Sindh cattle were developed.
- Biocontrol agents were developed under IPM Laboratory such as Agriguard Trichoderma, Agriguard Beauveria bassiana, Agriguard N.P.V. and Agriguard trichocard.
- Some agro-forestry models were developed in the field of Agri-silviculture system; Silvi-pastoral system; Agri-pastoral system; Silvi-horticulture system and Agri-silvi-horticulture system.
- Flute technology, a novel method of regeneration of bamboo; was developed.



A Section of new built girl's Hostel



VC, presenting the memento to Shri Rewati Raman Singh Ji, M.P. and chief guest, at the third convocation

New initiatives

The institute took many new initiatives. Cultivation of medicinal flora of Allahabad region; Establishment of TBO garden; Nutrient management of fruit trees in sodic soil; Storage practices of perishable foods in rural India; Identification of novel bacteria laccases; Organic farming; Collection, conservation, documentation and standardization of agro-techniques for cultivation of medicinal plants in Allahabad district; Exploring productivity pattern and nutrient status of maize as influenced by different agro-techniques to be adopted in eastern U.P.; Development of high-yielding, nutritionally superior maize composites; An action-oriented research on water-resources planning of canal-command area using remote sensing and GIS technologies; Exploring native entomopathogenic nematodes for the management of soil-borne potato pests in U.P.; Development of new techniques for regeneration of strawberry under Allahabad conditions; Women farmers empowerment by promotion of organic training through production and use of bio-fertilizers or organic manures and bio-pesticides; Estimation of marketable surplus and post-harvest losses of foodgrains at producer's level in U.P.; Assessment of technology adoption for value addition in fruits and vegetables; Identification of wheat genotypes efficient in nitrogen uptake and conversion into dry matter; Collection, conservation and improvement of local landraces of maize of U.P. using conventional and molecular characterization technique; Development of semi-dwarf, short-duration, high-yielding varieties of rice, gram, millets and pea with higher iron and zinc content suited to Allahabad or Vindhya region of U.P.; A strategic wheat-breeding programme or project, to evolve location-specific HYV of wheat biologically efficient in nitrogen utilization and conservation into grains as well as tolerant to changing weather conditions in eastern U.P.

ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND

Release of new varieties

The university released many new varieties of vegetables

Anand Vegetable Chilli 131: Anand Vegetable Chilli 131 is non-pungent, developed from the cross Punjab Guchhedar x Anand Chilli 1 (AVC 131) following pedigree method. The green-fruit yield is 89.43 q/ha, which is respectively 12.17 and 27.15 % more than of SG 5 and KTPL 19.



Vegetable Chilli 131 (AVC 131)

Anand Vegetable Cowpea 1: Anand Vegetable Cowpea 1 (AVCP 1) is developed from the cross Gujarat Cowpea 1 x C 152 following pedigree method. Its green-pod yield is 73.70 q/ha, which is respectively 51.81 and 50.61 % more than of check Pusa Falguni and GC 4.



Vegetable Cowpea 1 (AVCP 1)

Anand Vegetable Pigeonpea 1: Anand Vegetable Pigeonpea 1 (AVPP 1) is developed from the germplasm maintained at Anand through pureline selection. Its green-pod yield is 88.23 q/ha, which is respectively 35.98, 41.61 and 18.97 % more than of checks GT 100, GT 101 and GT 1.



Vegetable Pigeonpea 1 (AVPP 1)

Leadership-training programme

A Leadership Training Programme was organized by Anand Agriculture University and International School for Public Leadership, Gandhinagar from 14 to 19 May 2007. Resource persons from ISPL and the retired faculty member of IIM and industry gave thorough training using audio-visual aids. Students were trained to prepare reports on various topics, which were discussed at the end of each day.



Leadership-training programme



VC, presenting the memento to Shri P.A. Sangma M.P. and chief guest for International workshop on Indo-US Culture & Traditions

Students participated actively in all the activities as well as in micro laboratories in early morning.

Ma Shakti spirit

At Krushi Mohotsav-2007, a team of 25 women-scientists, led by Dr Anikita Killedar, Head, RBRU, visited interior villages like Methan, Chundadi, Valagota, Navli etc. in Anand and Dahod districts to discuss the concerns and problems of rural women effectively, to offer guidance, suggestions and advice on matters related to agriculture and animal husbandry.



Krushi Mahotsav-2007

ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JORHAT

Induced breeding and seed rearing of *Mystus vittatus*

The striped dwarf catfish (*Mystus vittatus* Bloch) is an economically important indigenous fish, having demand as food as well as ornamental use. The species has been successfully bred with 70-80% success, under captive condition by administering synthetic hormone Ovaprim as an inducing agent. Larval and seed raising were successfully done on experimental basis by providing optimal conditions.



Breeding of *Mystus vittatus*

Rodent species associated with bamboo flowering

Gregarious bamboo flowering and associated rodent outbreak is a burning issue in recent times in the N.E. region. Survey conducted in the bamboo-flowering areas of A.P. by the scientists working under the All-India network project on rodent control showed that four species of rodents, viz. *Rattus nitidus* (Hodgson), *R. sikkimensis* (Hinton), *Niviventer niviventer* (Hodgson) and *N. fulvescens* (Gray), are associated with gregarious flowering of bamboo species *Dendrocalamus hamiltoni* in A.P.

DR BALASAHEB SAWANT KONKAN KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, DAPOLI

Mega tree planting campaign

A massive tree-plantation programme through people's participation was organised by the university in 186 villages of Dapoli tehsil, on 7 August 2007. The concept of this programme was 'One man, one plant'. All government, semi-government institutes, co-operative societies, banks, mass media etc. rendered fullest co-operation, with active participation of students and senior citizens. The programme became famous as 'Dapoli-pattern of tree plantation'. A total of 2,16,056 saplings of mango, cashewnut, *kokum*, coconut, bamboo, bael, *karipatta* and various ornamental plants were planted during the campaign.



Tree planting by VC and members of Executive Council

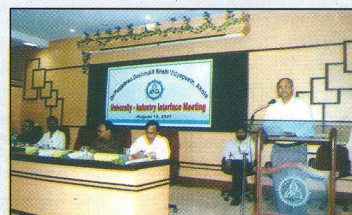
Success in GATE and JRF examinations

In all, 139 students from this university qualified for national - level - competitive examinations GATE and JRF. Shri Dhanajeerao Tatugade, student of the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Dapoli and Shri Amol Thorat, student of the College of Forestry, Dapoli secured All-India first rank in GATE and JRF examinations, respectively.

DR PANJAB RAO DESHMUKH KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, AKOLA

University-industry interface meet

Dr V.M. Mayande, VC, opened a university-industry interface meet on 13 August 2007. In all 22 industries participated in the meet and expressed desire to obtain license for the technologies developed by the university. The scientists presented 23 technologies on agriculture processing, mechanization, irrigation equipments, biotechnology, bio-fuel etc. MoUs will be signed with the interested industries for commercial production. The ready-to-use, low-cost and viable technologies



University-industry interface meet

developed by the university scientists will be licensed to industries for commercial production. The interactions with industries will be mutually beneficial in transferring research products to the farmers.

G.B. PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, a distinguished Visiting Professor

Former President of India, HE Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, has graciously accepted the offer of being distinguished Visiting Professor at GBPUAT, Pantnagar. Dr P. L. Gautam, VC, expressed great pride for the students and faculty of the university on this occasion. Dr Kalam presented the main features of Vision: A situation, wherein the rural and urban divide will be a very thin line, a nation where there will be equitable and equal distribution of energy and resources to the people, a nation where education with value system will lay emphasis on righteousness without discrimination against meritorious persons.

Dr Kalam also highlighted the role of providing urban amenities in rural areas in nation's development. He reiterated that agriculture sector, currently growing at 1.18 % has to grow at 4 % per annum to catch up with the manufacturing and industrial growth rate. He said that to bring about another green revolution, we need to double the agricultural production through establishment of at least 50,000 Agriculture Service Centres, and one such centre per 2,000 farmers. The persons manning these service centres shall become resource persons for supply-chain management.

Dr Kalam also inaugurated the computronics wing of College of Technology and visited Instructional Dairy Farm, Fish hatchery of College of Fisheries and Practical Crop Production of the university, and Seed Processing Plant of Uttarakhand Seed and Tarai Development Corporation at Nagla.

Govind Ballabh Pant memorial lecture delivered by Dr Kannan

The third memorial lecture of Bharat Ratna Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant series was delivered on 27 September 2007 by Prof. (Dr) Ragupathy Kannan, a US Fulbright scholar from University of Arkansas, Fort Smith, the USA. The topic of his lecture was 'Climate change and its effects on global bio-diversity'.

Blaming human-beings for the global warming and climatic changes caused due to it, he informed that human activities are resulting in the release of 70 million tonnes of CO₂ per day, and over the past 100 years the earth's surface has warmed by 0.6°C. With this current rate the air temperature could rise from 1.5 to 4.5°C by the year 2100. Explaining its catastrophic effects, he highlighted the changes occurred to various life forms in various ecological conditions at various places in the planet. Extinction of 67 % of 110 endemic species in mountain forests of Central America; early arrival of butterfly and birds in the UK; changes in life-cycle of migratory birds, butterfly as well as plants in Europe; upward migration of species in hills; and extinction of many species in North and Central America as well as changes in the distribution of species in Antarctica and other oceans. The threat of global warming was real and very near to us, to be seen in our life-time. He gave a clarion call to curb greenhouse gas emission for the sake of posterity and future of the planet's bio-diversity.

MAHARANA PRATAP UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, UDAIPUR

Inauguration of Bio-resource Technology Centre

Shri K.P. Pandian, Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, and Dr Hamida Abidi, Director, DBT, Government of India, visited the DBT project on 'Bioresource complex for women' (being run by College of Home Science, Udaipur), during 5-6 February 2007. They inaugurated the Bioresource Technology Centre at village Bhadsoda of Chittorgarh district. During the visit they observed different entrepreneurial activities being adopted by the rural women like poultry farming, vermi-composting, fruit and vegetable cultivation, preservation and processing of fruits and vegetables etc., and highly appreciated the efforts of the team led by Dr S.L. Mehta, VC, with Dr Maya Choudhry, Dean, Home Science as the PI of the project.

Dr S.L. Mehta heads ICAR high-power review team

Dr S. L. Mehta, VC, heads the high-power review team constituted by the ICAR to assess the progress achieved



Bio-resource Technology Centre



Dr S.L. Mehta

during the X Five-Year Plan and to set target for the XI Five-Year Plan for National Agriculture Education System. The other members of the Team include Dr J.C. Katyal, VC, CCSHAU, Hisar; Dr P.L. Gautam, VC, GBPUAT, Pantnagar; Dr M.P. Yadav, VC, SVPUAT, Meerut; Dr J.H. Kulkarni, VC, UAS, Dharwad; and Dr P.N. Jha, former VC, RAU, Samastipur, Bihar and Dr G.C. Tiwari, ADG (EPN), ICAR, will be the Member Secretary.

Release of new varieties

Pratap Soya 1: This variety was released by State Varietal Release Committee on 15 March 2007. It matures in 90-95 days, with yield potential 22-30 q/ha and oil content 18-20 %. It is tolerant to girdle beetle and tobacco caterpillar as well as moderately tolerant to bacterial and fungal diseases.



Pratap Soya 1

Pratap Soya 2 (RKS 18): The variety has been notified by Government of India vide gazette notification No.120, dated 6 February 2007. It matures in 90-95 days, with yield potential 25-30 q/ha and oil content 18-20 %. It is tolerant to tobacco caterpillar, girdle beetle and leaf miner, and moderately resistant to bacterial pustules and soybean mosaic virus.



Pratap Soya 2

Identification of sorghum SPV 1714: Sorghum variety SPV 1714 (CSV 23), developed by AICRP Sorghum, MPUAT, has been identified for release during 37th AGM-07 held at Udaipur. It has distinct tolerance superiority for diseases like anthracnose and leaf spot, and has high total digestible dry matter. It is superior in dry-fodder yield and is suitable for Zone III of the country.



Sorghum SPV 1714

Establishment of bio-diesel laboratory

Batch-type bio-diesel processing plant for *Jatropha* seed has been established at Udaipur. It comprises seed decorticator, oil-extraction unit, oil filter, boiler, bio-diesel production and methanol-recovery units. In addition, it is also equipped with rig for testing fuel quality and engine. This will help in growing awareness among the public entrepreneurs and progressive farmers about bio-diesel and its use. This unit is available for processing the *Jatropha* seeds of the farmers on payment basis.



Bio-diesel laboratory

Establishment of ergonomics laboratory

An ergonomics laboratory was established in Department of Farm Machinery and Power Engineering, CTAE, Udaipur. It is equipped with computerized ambulatory metabolic measurement system to measure the physiological cost on the basis of oxygen consumption and heart rate. The anthropometric laboratory will be used for measuring different body dimensions and strength parameters useful in agricultural operations. Safety laboratory has models and protection devices used for agricultural operator's safety.



Ergonomics laboratory

Foreign visits by scientists

Dr P.K. Singh, Associate Professor, CTAE, Udaipur, visited Israel to attend an international training programme on Water management and crop production from 19 April to 7 May 2007, organized by International Agriculture Training Centre, Galilee College, Israel. It provided an opportunity for him to learn advance technologies of rain-water harvesting and multiple utilization of water to increase the productivity per drop of water.



Dr P.K. Singh

Dr N.K. Bajpai, Associate Professor, RCA, Udaipur,

visited Israel to attend an international course on Research and development of new concepts in integrated pest management, from 29 May to 21 June 2007. He was trained in utilization of eco-friendly technologies and IPM modules in agriculture.

IX All-India Inter-Agricultural University Youth Festival

The IX All-India Inter-Agricultural University Youth Festival (AGRIUNIFEST-2007) was held at MPUAT, Udaipur during 22-26 September 2007. There were 850 total participants from 32 State agricultural universities and deemed Universities of the country. Out of 690 students participated, 42.75% were girls. In the inaugural function, Dr S.P. Tiwari, Dy Director-General (Edn), ICAR, the chief guest, stated that for strengthening the three pillars of education, viz. knowledge, skill and attitude, events like AGRIUNIFEST are organized to transform the student into a true vibrant citizen as well as a responsible person. He complimented the enthusiastic participating teams performing wonderful cultural march past in traditional costumes, giving glimpses of diversified heritage of the country. The overall championship was won by OUAT, Bhubaneswar, the runner being TNAU, Coimbatore. The event-wise championship for music went to MPUAT, Udaipur; for literacy to PAU, Ludhiana; for theatre to CCSHAU, Hisar; for fine arts to OUAT, Bhubaneswar and for folk dance to UAS, Bangalore.



Dr N.K. Bajpai



IX All India Agricultural Universities Youth Festival

Video-Conferencing

Smt. Vasundhara Raje, Chief Minister of Rajasthan, inaugurated the Video-Conferencing facilities in the Directorate of Extension Education on 24 September 2007. The others present were Shri Gulab Chand ji Kataria, Home Ministe; Shri Vasudev ji Devani; State Minister of Education; and Smt. Kiran ji Maheshwari, MP, Udaipur. The VC informed that MPUAT is the first agricultural university in the country whose all the KVKs are connected by video-conferencing facility. The Rajasthan Mission on Livelihoods, Government of Rajasthan, granted Rs 25.64 lakhs to establish this facility at Directorate of Extension Education, Udaipur as well as at 10 KVKs.



Video-conferencing

The establishment of video-conferencing facility will definitely help in improving the quality of trainings and monitoring of programmes in different KVKs in the university-service area. The distance education learning is beneficial particularly for tribal rural people of the area, who are deprived of technological advancements in agriculture. Through video-conferencing the benefit of the most outstanding lectures and techniques will be brought to the farmers in different districts in large numbers. The learning process would include interaction through multimedia and question answers.

MAHATMA PHULE KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, RAHURI

Release of new varieties

Five new varieties were released during the Joint Agresco meeting of four SAUs.

Sorghum Vasudha: The sorghum variety RSV 423 (SPV 1704) gives high grain yield (2,581 kg/ha), which is 32.8, 16.5 and 35.5% more than of M 35-1 (1,944 kg/ha), Phule Yashoda (2,214 kg/ha) and Phule Maulee (1,904 kg/ha) respectively. Its fodder yield is 6,179 kg/ha, which is 18.1 % more than of M 35-1 (5,230 kg/ha). It is tolerant to



Sorghum Vasudha

shoot, and stem-borer. The variety was released for entire Maharashtra for cultivation in winter (*rabi*) season under rained and irrigated conditions, especially for deep soil.

Rice Phule Samruddhi: Phule Samruddhi (VDN 99-29) recorded 20.48 % more yield (3,382 kg/ha) than the check RP 4-14 (2,807 kg/ha). It is semi-dwarf and non-lodging with maturity period 125-130 days (mid-late group). It is moderately resistant to diseases like leaf blast and neck blast, and pests like stem-borer. It has long, slender and fine grains with test weight 22 g. In adaptive trials it recorded 16.6 % more yield than Indrayani. The rice variety was released for cultivation in western Maharashtra during rainy (*kharif*) season.



Rice Phule Samruddhi

Sugarcane Phule 265: The mid-late sugarcane variety Phule 265 (CoM 0265) recorded 19.45 % higher cane yield (16.74 t/ha) than the check Co-86032 (134.56 t/ha) and it gives 20.85 % more CCS. It can be grown in salt affected soils, and is a better ratooner, resistant to red rot, wilt and foliar diseases. The variety was released for *suru*, pre-seasonal and *adsali* plantings, especially for the salt-affected soils of Maharashtra.



Sugarcane Phule 265

Dr R.B. Deshmukh on Executive Committee of National Food Security Mission

Dr R.B. Deshmukh, VC, was appointed Member, Executive Committee of National Food Security Mission. He is the only representative from Maharashtra. The Government of India has launched a centrally sponsored scheme, National Food Security Mission for 2007-08, to increase the production of rice, wheat and pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement in a sustainable manner in the identified districts of the country, with a target of 4% annual growth rate in the XI Five-Year Plan.



Dr R.B. Deshmukh

University convocation

The twenty-fourth convocation of the university was held at Rahuri. Shri Balasaheb Thorat, Pro-Chancellor of the university and Minister for Agriculture, Water Conservation and Kharlands, Maharashtra State, graced the occasion. Delivering the convocation address, Dr M.V. Rao, former Special Director-General, ICAR, New Delhi, said: "The challenge before us is to develop appropriate technologies to increase production and productivity in the rainfed areas. Thus, the second green revolution is needed for rainfed agriculture".



Dr M.V. Rao delivering convocation address

He congratulated the university for its excellent work in the field of agriculture, teaching, research and extension. He recalled the great contribution of Wheat Research Station, Niphad in development of improved varieties and technologies of wheat. Dr Rao underlined the importance of modern sciences of biotechnology, information technology, nanotechnology etc. in today's world. High proportion of post-harvest losses (Rs 50,000 to Rs 80,000 crores) at national level is a matter of great concern. Hence, it is a challenge not only to reduce post-harvest losses but also add value to the produce for more economical gains. Protein malnutrition can be reduced through appropriate recycling. Without food, there can be no peace. Dr R. B. Deshmukh, in his welcome address reviewed the progress of the university for implementing the revised course curricula from this year, which will include an important component of experimental learning. The university has released more than 150 varieties, which have contributed to the development of agriculture. The major thrust now is on integrated farming systems, biotechnology and use of organics in agriculture, to reduce the cost of cultivation, so as to increase profits to farmers. The university is targeting to produce 2,400 tonnes seed this year. Innovative outreach programmes of the university like Farmers-Scientists Forums have boosted the technology-transfer process.

Shri Thorat conferred degrees to 1,109 candidates of different faculties, who were present at the function. Medals and cash prizes were awarded to the successful students.

MARATHWADA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, PARBHANI

Success in competitive examinations

In the JRF, SRF, GATE, CAT and other examinations held during the academic year 2006-07, a total of 130 students from various constituent and non-grant private colleges affiliated to MAU, Parbhani passed the examinations successfully.

Empowerment of rural girls

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, NPEGEL, Department of Education, Parbhani in collaboration with Department of Food Science and Technology, College of Food Technology, trained 90 primary school female teachers in two phases on banana, soybean and tomato recipes, who will in turn train school drop-outs and school-going rural girls for inculcating vocational skills for economic empowerment. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr S.S. Kadam, VC.

Post-Doctoral Fellowship to Shri Dalvi

Shri V.A. Dalvi, a Ph.D. student under the guidance of Dr I.A. Madrap, Professor, Department of Agricultural Botany, was selected as Post-Doctoral Fellow, the Guangxi Academy of Agricultural Science, Nanning, China for 2 years (October 2007 to 2009). He would take up research on introduction of hybrid pigeonpea in China for soil conservation and for use as fodder, develop suitable CMS lines, identify new male-sterility, maintainers and fertility-restorers, and test hybrids at various locations.



Shri V.A. Dalvi

Scientist on China visit

Dr S.S. Ambekar, Sorghum Breeder, SRS, visited Sorghum Research Institute, Liaoning Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Shenyang (China) during 15-22 September 2007 under CFC-FAO-ICRISAT Project. He visited liquor industries of sorghum and Liaoning Kejung Natural Pigment Company, producing pigment from sorghum glumes, which find use in cosmetic medicine and textile manufacture. Liquor industries provide buy-back assurance to the farmers for purchase of sorghum and guarantee its sale under fluctuating market.



Dr S.S. Ambekar

ORISSA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, BHUBANESHWAR

Release of new variety

The university developed a sesame variety Amrit, suitable for all the states of India during rainy (*khari*) as well as winter (*rabi*) or summer seasons. Its seeds are light brown, with average seed yield 9 to 10 t/ha. It is resistant to phyllody, powdery mildew, bacterial rot and leaf roller or capsule borer. The seed has high oil content of 49%.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JORHAT

Achievement of a teacher

National Academy of Veterinary Science (India) has conferred the award of Fellow of the Academy (FNAVS) on Dr Tejendra Bardoloi, Professor, Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Faculty of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapura, in recognition of his significant contribution for the advancement of Veterinary Science, during its convention held at Bangalore on 28 June 2007.



Dr Tejendra Bardoloi

G.B. PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

Award to woman agricultural scientist

Dr Alka Goel, National Fellow at the College of Home Science, was conferred Punjabrao Deshmukh Woman Agricultural Scientist Award for the year 2006 for her outstanding contribution in the field of Home Science. The award was given by the ICAR in July 2007. Dr Alka's research work was based on agriculture and activities that suited to rural

women. The most significant aspect of her work was helping weaker gender of the society, rural woman, and her empowerment through capacity building in fibre blending and processing.

MAHARANA PRATAP UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, UDAIPUR

National award for documentary on drudgery reduction

The documentary film in Hindi entitled, 'Unnat takneek dwara thakan mein kami', made under National Agriculture Technology Project sponsored by the ICAR, on 'Employment of women in agriculture' was adjudged the best programme on Child and Women for the year 2005 among the 246 entries. This UGC-CEC educational video-competition was organized by Consortium for Educational Communication, New Delhi. The award included a trophy, certificate and a cheque of Rs 30,000 and was presented by Prof. Yashpal, former Chairman, UGC, at a function held at New Delhi on 25 February 2007.



Prof. Yashpal, former Chairman, UGC presenting the award

MAHATMA PHULE KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, RAHURI

National award to MPKV pulse improvement project

The Pulse Improvement Project of MPKV, Rahuri received National award for its significant contribution in pulses research. This project developed high-yielding and disease-resistant varieties of chickpea like Vikas (1982), Vishwas (1985), Phule G-12 (1989), Vijay (1993), Vishal (1995), Virat (2001), Vihar (2002), Rajas (2005) and Digvijay (2006) under the leadership of VC, Dr R.B. Deshmukh, who is an eminent pulse scientist in India. Research work on pulses was started at MPKV in 1973 by the then Pulses Breeder and the present VC, Dr R.B. Deshmukh, whose efforts succeeded in approval of an All India Pulse Improvement Project in 1982 by the ICAR, New Delhi. The Project led to release of prominent varieties like Vipula (2006) redgram, Phule Mung 2 (1989) and Vaibhav (2001) greengram, TPU 4 (1992) blackgram and Mutha (1992) and Varun (2001) rajmash. The varieties as well as technologies of pulses of this project became very popular not only in the state but also all over the country. The university efforts have resulted in an increase of area under pulses to 12 lakh-ha today, with production of 10.50 lakh tonnes in Maharashtra. Dr J.V. Patil, Principal Scientist of this project, received the award at the hands of Dr S.P. Tiwari, DDG, ICAR, New Delhi, at annual meeting of AICRP on Chickpea at Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi.



Dr J.V. Patil receiving the award

Printed Matter
BOOK-POST

STAMP

To,

From:

Indian Agricultural Universities Association
1G-2, CGIAR Block, NASC Complex, D.P.S. Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110 012