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SPOT NEWS

Dr N.S. Rathore joins as DOG (Edn), ICAR & EC Member, IAUA

Dr. Narendra Singh Rathore joined as DDG (Education), ICAR on 31 Jul. 2015, and also as the special invitee member of Executive Committee of IAUA as the ICAR representative. Born on 1 Jul. 1960, he did his B.E. (Udaipur University), M.Tech. (IIT, Delhi) and Ph.D. In Agricultural Engineering (RAU, Bikaner).



He possesses 35 years of experience in SAUs, He was the founder VC of SKAU, Johner; and DDG (Engg.), ICAR. He has been Dean, College of Dairy and Food Science Technology; Dean, Dr N.S. Rathore Students , Welfare; HoD in CTAE, P.I., AICRP; Project Co-ordinator TBU-IC & RBTC. He is a specialist in renewable energy in Agriculture, Post-harvest technology and Food processing.

Dr Rathore attended several advanced training programmes viz. Food and Agriculture Business Management (Cornell University, the USA); Agro-forestry (University of Arizona), Bio-energy (University of Oxford); and Waste recycling (University Of Murdoch, Western Australia).

He was honored with 21 awards, e.g. Young Scientist, Outstanding Book, Outstanding Services, ISAE Commendation, Hindi research paper, World Bank IDM-2007, Best teacher, Energy conservation, Global dairy innovation, IE Fellow and SEE Award etc.

He has commercialized 6 technologies through NRDC, and published 32 books, 24 research papers in National journals, 12 in International journals, 85 National and International proceedings.

Dr Rathore has supervised 30 M.Tech, 15Ph.D. and 13 M.Sc. students; He is also a member of many important technological projects on commercialization with various agencies and also was a member of the Fourth Deans' Committee of ICAR for revision of UG &PG courses.

Focus on Universities: Events and Achievements

Deemed-to-be-Universities

INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, IZATNAGAR

Veterinary Officers' training on Management of Infertility in Cattle and Buffalo

A training programme was organized on, "Advances in the management of infertility in cattle and buffalo" for the veterinary officers of Animal Husbandry Department during 17-24 Aug. 2015. Dr R.K. Yadav, Additional Director, Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of U.P. was the chief quest. More than 20 veterinary officers Of Department of Animal Husbandry attended

anoestrus, uterine infection, repeat breeding and cystic ovaries in high-yielding cows.



Dr R.K. Yadav, and other

Dr Yadav, in his inaugural address, told that the reproductive problems and dignitaries r infertility in cattle and buffalo are the main causes of concern for the dairy producers. Hence, timely diagnosis and treatment are of paramount importance for improving the milk production. In his presidential address, he told that since infertility has multi-factorial etiology, inter-disciplinary mode is the best approach To tackle the problems like delayed puberty in the buffalo heifers, post-partum

Dr Harendra Kumar, Head, Animal Reproduction informed that the training included several field-oriented practical / demonstrations during the 21 deliberations on common conditions of bovine infertility.

Training on Nano-biology and Regenerative Therapies

A short course of twenty one days on "Nano biology and regenerative therapies in Animal Health and Production" was conceived by Centre of Advanced Faculty Training, Division of Physiology and Climatology. Dr D.C. Shukla, former head and director CAFT Veterinary Physiology, was the chief guest and inaugurated it. He highlighted the importance of nano technology today in human as well as inveterinary sciences. He emphasized that it will further improve our understanding of the molecular cell biology and will be helpful in designing new efficacious and safer drug-delivery systems.



Dr R.K. Yadav, and other dignitaries releasing compendium

In the presidential address, Dr v.P. Singh, Joint Director (Academic), stated that the short course on nano biology and regenerative therapy is very pertinent at the juncture. This knowledge should be utilized by all the disciplines. He urged the participants to actively participate in the training and share their opinions and experiences during the deliberations.

Dr G. Taru Sharma, Head cum Director, CAFT Veterinary Physiology, gave an overview of the CAFT activities and highlighted the genesis of this course with its use in the on-going animal science research.

Dr A.G. Telang, Principal Scientist, welcomed the guests and participants; and Dr Thakur Uttam Singh, Course Director, appraised the participants about the various topics covered in the Short Course.

Corneal Grafting in Animals

Dr Kiranjeet Singh and Dr Aswathy Gopinathan, ICAR-IVRI, Division of Surgery, have developed protocols For the use of bio-materials for the surgical reconstruction of corneal defects. Porcine small intestine sub-mucosa and cornea; and caprine amniotic membrane have been processed to



Corneal dermoid in cow

make them a cellular and less immunogenic. After proper sterilization and experimental trials, these bio-materials were successfully used to repair comeal defects in different clinical cases.

Centeral Universities

CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, IMPHAL

Promotion of Pulses in North-East

A special meeting on 'Promotion of pulses in NEH region' was organized jointly by Indian Institute of Pulses Research and the university in ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam (Meghalaya) during 28-29 Sept. 2015. The meeting was attended by 40 participants including the policy-



Delegates participating in Special meeting

makers, scientists and extension functionaries from ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur; ICAR-NEH Research Complex, Umiam and its sub-centres from different states of North East Region as well as State Agriculture Departments of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and Manipur.

Dr N.P. Singh, Director, ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur, chaired the inaugural session, Co chaired By Dr S.V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR-RC for NEH, Umiam. Prof M. Premjit Singh, VC, was the chief guest. Dr D.P. Malik, Additional Commissioner (Crops), DAC; and Prof J.M. Laishram, Dean, College of Agriculture, Imphal, were the guests of honours at the function. Dr C.S. Praharaj, P.S. and Nodal Officer (NEH); and Dr K. Noren Singh, Deputy Director of Research, were the convener of the inaugural function

Prof M. Premjit Singh, VC, informed that there will be six new colleges in addition To the existing seven colleges and six multi-technology testing centres along with six vocational training centres across the North-Eastern Hills region under the area jurisdiction of the university. These would provide better manpower and infrastructure along with better testing and training centres. After thorough presentation and discussion an action plan was formulated for 2015-16, based on the following three major programmes:

1. Evaluation of pulse varieties on genotypes to identify location specific and suitably adapted ones.

2.Up-scaling of seed multiplication project to identify suitably adapted varieties of pulse crop

3.Collection of landraces and their evaluation along with nutritional profiling

Release of Technical Bulletin and Inauguration of PG Girls Hostel

Shri Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State for Home Affairs, visited the College of Horticulture and Forestry, Pasighat on 21 Aug. 2015 along with other local public representatives. He applauded the efforts of the college and the KVK, (East Siang Pasighat), for upliftment of agricultural and socio-economic condition of the farmers. Shri Rijiju



Shri Kiren Rijiju, inaugurating PG Girls'Hostel

released a technical bulletin on Integrated disease management, and inaugurated Post graduate girls hostel in the Campus.

Universities

CHAUDHARY SARWAN KUMAR KRISHI VISHVAVIDYALAYA, PALAMPUR

Clinical Camps in Remote Areas

A team of veterinary scientists from the university organized clinical camps in six villages of Rampur sub-division in Shimla district under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna. They examined and treated 130 cows suffering from infertility problems. The team also collected blood samples and uterine discharge from infertile cows for



Clinical camp in villag

detailed diagnosis of the diseases, and distributed free medicines to the farmers.

So far, 120 such camps have been organized in various locations of Himachal Pradesh, including some remotest tribal villages of Pangi, Lahaul and Spiti, Kinnaur, Bharmour, trans-Giri areas of Sirmour, and also Dodra-Kwar of district Shimla. Here they examined and treated 4000 animals.

Training for Producer Organization-Promoting Institution

A training programme for "Producer organization-promoting institutions" was organized at the university by National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development for16 NGOs of Himachal Pradesh during 20-22 Aug. 2015. Dr K.K. Katoch, VC, in his inaugural address highlighted the importance and active role



Dignitaries on the dais

of cooperative societies and NGOs in educating the farming community to increase their farm production. Dr P. Radhakrishnan, DGM, NABARD, Shimla also shared his views about the role of NGOs in addressing the need-based issues of the farming community.

GOVIND BALLABH PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

Fertilizer Orientation Course

A Fertilizer orientation course-2015 was organized during 29-30 Apr. 2015 in College of Agriculture by Department of Soil Science in collaboration with Fertilizer Association of India, New Delhi. Dr Mangala Rai, VC, inaugurated the course. About 100 post-graduate students of the college attended it.



Dr Mangala Rai, addressing inaugural session

Excellence in JRF and SRF

Students of various colleges of the university have excelled in the JRF and SRF examinations conducted by the ICAR, New Delhi on all-India basis for giving scholarship to students during the M.Sc. and Ph.D. courses respectively. Total 65 students of College of Agriculture, 23ofCollege of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, 14 of College of Home Science and 13 of College of Fisheries qualified the JRF examination, many of whom secured high ranks in the merit of their respective subjects. In SRF examination 44 students of College of Agriculture and one of College of Home Science (who stood first in the merit in her subject), qualified.

Girls' Hoste

Dr Mangla Rai, VC, laid the foundation stone for a new hostel for girls on 5 May 2015 near The state government provided a grant of Rs 7 crores for this hostel which will have 111 Rooms.

Release of New Varieties

Twenty eight new varieties of various crops developed by the university scientists were released for commercial cultivation by State Seed Subcommittee during its meeting held on 15Jun. 2015. These new varieties are: UP 2784,2785 and 2798 wheat; Pant Paddy 23, 26, 27, and Pant Scented Paddy 25ofrice; Pant Lentil 9;Pant Pea 155 and 157; Pant Gram 3and 4and Pant Kabuli Gram 2;Pant Urd 6;Pant Mung 7and 8;Pant Soybean

20, 21,22 and 23; Pant Cowpea 5; Pant Rai 21, Pant Hill Ioria1, Pant Shweta and Pant Toria 508 of mustard; UPO 06-1 oat; and Pant Hybrid Maize 2and 4. The old varieties had become susceptible to various diseases and pests, resulting in decrease In their production potential. These new varieties will replace the old ones and will help in increasing the production. Out of 28 varieties, 10 are of pulses, which will greatly help in filling the gap existing in their demand and production

New Breed of Goat

A new breed of goat 'Panija', developed by Department of Livestock Product Management, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, was registered by Breed Registration Committee of ICAR, New Delhi. This breed is native of tarai region of Utarakhand.

GURU ANGAD DEV VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA

Training on Specialized Anaesthetic and Surgical Procedures

Release of Varieties and Hybrids

AGRESCO (Agricultural Research Council) Meeting of SAUs of Gujarat state, eight varieties were recommended for release in the state, viz., Gram: Gujarat Junagadh Gram 6(GJG 6); Pigeonpea: Gujarat Junagadh Pigeonpea 1(GJP 1), Sesame: Gujarat Junagadh Til5 (GJ



Til 5), Brinjal: Gujarat Junagadh Long Brinjal4 (GJLB 4)and Gujarat Junagadh Brinjal Hybrid 4(GJBH 4), Sponge gourd: Gujarat Junagadh Sponge Gourd 2 (GJSG 2), Okra: Gujarat Junagadh Okra Hybrid 4 (GJOH 4); and Onion: Gujarat Junagadh Red Onion 11 (GJRO 11). Besides, 45 technologies or recommendations were made for the farmers and 32 for the scientific community. In addition, 66 new technical programmes were formulated to initiate the new research programmes to solve the applied and basic problems of agriculture and allied fields.

The Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology of the university, organized the 28th national-level course "Handson training specialized procedures veterinary anaesthesia and surgery" during 10-30 Sept. 2015, sponsored by the ICAR.



Hands on training

From 13 states of India, 20 scientists/teachers attended the training. It covered the aspects of diagnostic imaging, anaesthesia and surgery in various species of animals like cattle, buffalo, horse, dog and cat. The department has advanced facilities like lens implantation for cataract in dogs, 3D/4D ultrasound, dentistry, laparoscopic surgery, orthopaedic surgery, colic surgery and worldclass anaesthesia equipment. The training module was meticulously planned, covering 60 lectures and practical demonstrations by experts from Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujaratand UtlarPradesh

Milk-Chiller for Small Dairy Farmers

The university developed .milk-chiller that works even during the power cuts al the time of milking. would help in reducing the hassle faced by the small dairy farmers while taking their milk to the collection centres in the evening. The machine was



Milk-chiller handling

designed and developed by Dr Amandeep Sharma, Assistant Professor, Dairy Engineering, College of Dairy Science and Technology, under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana project. The farmers have to take their milk to the milk-collection centres and visit such centres twice a day. Under the new norms of Food Safety and Standards Act, the milk has to be chilled To 40C immediately after milking. The developed prototype is of 40 litres capacity, but the machine can be conveniently manufactured for higher capacities. The performance evaluation has shown that the milk can be chilled to 4°C within 2hr and then the temperature can be maintained for about 12 hr.

JUNAGADH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY.JUNAGADH

A meet of Coconut farmers and Entrepreneurs was held at the university on 12 Sept. 2015. It laid stress on the need to augment quality coconut seedling production and value addition to realize the potential of coconut in Gujarat. The meet was



Dr A.S. Nanda with Shri Naresh Gupta & others

organized By Coconut Development Board in association with the university and the DAC, Government of Gujarat. Shri Mohanbhai Kundariya, Union Minister of the State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, inaugurated the programme. He stated that the annual turnover of coconut industry in India is 20,000 crores, and the export is worth Rs 2,600 crores. Guiarat is not producing much coconut products except tender coconuts. Therefore the farmers should learn value-addition practices promoted by Coconut Development Board, Shri Rajeshbhai Chudasmaji, Member of Parliament, Junagadh, in his presidential address called upon the CDB to extend necessary support for achieving better coconut productivity in the state. Shri Jasabhai Barad, Minister of State for Agriculture, Government of Gujarat, said that he would request the central government to increase the assistance from Rs 6,500 per ha that the farmers are getting for sowing horticultural crops. Shri IK. Jose, (IAS), Chairman, Coconut Development Board, in his keynote address said that Guiarat is sixth in terms of area under coconut in the country and seventh in production.

KAMDHENU UNIVERSITY, GANDHINAGAR

MoU with Central Institute for Research on Goats

The university signed a MoU with Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom, Mathura, for collaborative research, education and extension on 3 Aug. 2015 in the presence of Shri Babubhai Bokhiria. Minister of Agriculture, Gujarat; and Dr S.K. Agarwal, Director, CIRG, Prof. M.C. Varshneya, VC, presided over the



Signing of MoU with CIRG

event, Dr D.B. Patil, Director of Research & Dean PG Studies signed the MoU on behalf of KU, he informed that this MoU would help to initiate research collaboration, and the exchange of teachers and post-graduate students.

Bhumi Pujan for Building of Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry

Smt Anandiben Patel, Chief Minister, Gujarat, performed Bhumi pujan for the proposed building of Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Himmatnagar, (Gujarat) on 10 Sept. 2015. Shri Babubhai Bokhiria, Minister οf Agriculture, Government of Gujarat; Prof M.C. Varshneya, VC; Mrs Mona Khandhar, (IAS), Secretary, Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Gujarat; and other dignitaries graced



Smt Anandiben Patel, performing Bhumi Pujan along with Shri Babubhai Bokhiria

the occasion. Smt Anandiben Patel envisaged a greater role of the university in the upliftment of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries by implementing research in these sectors through its research scholars and students

Training Workshop on Ultrasonography of Animals

The university organized a training workshop on Ultrasonography of animals on 8 Sept. 2015 for timely diagnosis of uterus-related diseases in animals. During the workshop, diseases were diagnosed at a farm by Gandhinagar through sonography by experts like Dr D.B. Patil, Director of Research; Dr R.G. Shah, Associate Director of Research; and Dr Vishal Suthar, Assistant Professor



Training Workshop on Ultrasonography of Animals

KARNATAKA VETERINARY ANIMAL AND FISHERIES SCIENCES UNIVERSITY. BIDAR

• AMUR fast-growing carp: Fisheries Information Centre, Hebbal, Bengaluru successfully developed "AMUR"variety of common carp. It has fast growth rate (grows up to1kilo in 6 months), and high meat yield as well as consumer



A fast growing "AMUR" variety of common carp

preference. The technology was successfully transferred to State Department of Fisheries and to Central institutes. Millions of Amur fish seeds are being distributed to more than 10states throughout the country, and the demand is increasing. AMUR is the most preferred fish of farmers and is the Pride of KVAFSU, Bidar (developed by Dr Y. Basavaraju, Professor)

· Solar-Biomass Hybrid Dryer: Under an EU project, College of Fishereies, Mangaluru designed an all season hybrid solar biomass-dryer and demonstrated it successfully for the fish-drying. The technology was transferred to KFDC, Mangaluru, for popularization among the fisher An all season Solar biomass hybrid dryer



folk. This technology was taken up and adopted by Mr K,V. Bharat, a fisherman from Brahmavar, for commercial use (designed by Dr B.A.

· Fish-vending table for fisher women: An"environment friendly", hygienic, and easy-to-operate Fish-vending table for fisher women was designed and fabricated at College of Fisheries, Mangaluru, for sale Of fresh fish. Its patent is pending (designed by Dr C.v. Raju, Professor).



Fish-vending table

LALALAJPAT RAI UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES, HISAR

Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction

Maj. Gen. (Dr) Shri Kant, VC, and Dr Ravindra Sharma, Director of Research, were invited by DG, DIE to participate in Global

VC's visit to Royal Veterinary College, London

Shyamsundar, Professor).

Maj. Gen. (Dr) Shri Kant, VC, visited Royal Veterinary College, London and other Veterinary Institutes of the U.K.; along with Dr Ravindra Sharma, Director of Research, on 27 Aug. 2015. They had useful interactions with several eminent scientists including Dr Peter Martens,



Pirbright Institute; Prof Joe Brownlie, Dr Camile and Prof David Church, VP, Royal Veterinary College, to explore the possibilities of research collaborations, and exchange of scientists and students between the two institutes. They had a tour of the various faculties at the campus including Mother Queen Mary Small Animal Hospital and Equine Hospital and appreciated the facilities.

MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL AND FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR

Conference on Biological Threat Reduction, held during 30 Jun. 2015 to 2 Jul. 2015 in Paris (France). This conference was organized jointly by DIE, FAD and WHO. In the conference more than 300 delegates from 90 countries participated, eminent persons among them being



VC and DR with Dr Elizabeth Cameron, US

Bonnie Jenkin, US State Department; Elizabeth Cameron, Director, Countering Biological Threats, National Security Council, the USA; A Felicity Harvey, DG, Department of Health, the U.K.; Dr Bernard Vallat, DG, World Organization for Animal Health (DIE); and Dr Juan Lubroth, Chief Veterinary Officer, FAO.

The main objective of this conference was to build cooperation for efficient security systems worldwide, to strengthen links between the health and security communities by engaging key partners in public health, animal health and security sector. Only the university officers with



VC and DR with Dr Elizabeth Cameron, US

rich experience and experts were invited to represent the Veterinary or Agriculture universities in this global conference. Maj. Gen. Shri Kant and Dr Ravindra Sharma actively participated in the deliberations. Dr Shri Kant presented Lord Ganesha memento to Dr Bernard Vallat, DG, DIE, and the university mementoes to other Dignitaries.

MoU with Pirbright Institute, U.K.

The university signed the first international MoU with Pirbright Institute, the U.K., the world's premier institute that works on preventing and controlling animal diseases. It was signed by Maj. Gen. (Dr) Shri Kant, VC, and Prof Director, Fazakerley,



MoU with Pirbright Institute, U.K.

Pirbright Institute on 28Aug. 2015. Those present on the occasion were Dr Ravindra Sharma, Dr Narender Maan and Dr Sushila Maan of the university and Prof Bryan Charleston, Prof Peter Mertens, and Prof Satya Parida of Pirbright Institute, the UK. The MoU endeavours to facilitate the exchange of visiting professors, scientists and students on in formal or professional visits. By cementing links between these organizations it will be possible to establish a mutually beneficial relationship, to exchange knowledge, technology and reagents, with the goal of intensifying collaborative research and attracting additional funding through joint grant applications.

MoU with CIIMS, Nagpur

A Memorandum of Understanding between the university and Central India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur was signed on 31 Jul. 2015 at the university head quarter for carrying out vari0us animalrelated experiments facilitating and



collaborative research activities. Prof. Prof.A.K. Misra with Dr Lokendra Single A.K. Misra, VC, signed the MoU with Dr Lokendra Singh, Director, CIIMS, Hospital, Nagpur.

Australian Students' Visit

During 16-25 Sept. 2015, six students from college of Veterinary Science, University of Adelaide, (Australia), visited Nagpur Veterinary College, for the study tour of poultry faming and poultry disease diagnosis. Dr Kapil Chousalkar, Senior Lecturer, University of Adelaide,



and Dr N.V. Kurkure, Associate Professor, were their teacher during this period. They visited commercial broiler, layer and parent farms. At the farm they were taught about the farming system and poultry-disease diagnosis. The students also visited TVCC of the college and interacted with the students of Nagpur Veterinary College, Nagpur. The discussion covered many issues related to veterinary science of both the countries. They expressed their appreciation about the college, university and the study tour

MAHATMA PHULE KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, RAHURI

10th National Symposium of IAUA

The 10th National Symposium of Indian Agricultural Universities Association, New Delhi was organized during 21-23 Jul. 2015 at Central Campus, Rahuri, in coordination with the university on approaches harnessing "Innovative agricultural sciences for society".



Dr IA More honoring Dr S.N. Puri

Dr S.N. Puri, former VC, CAU, Imphal, & MPKV, Rahuri, was the chief guest for the inaugural function. Prof M.C. Varshneya, Senior Vice-President, IAUA, &VC, KU, Gandhi nagar, presided over the function. Dr IA. More, Chairman, &VC, welcomed and felicitated the

Dr More in his welcome address highlighted the significant achievements in education, research and extension of the university. He said that 18international students are admitted in the university under India-Africa and India-Afghanistan fellowship programmes. The university has also started UG degree programmes in collaboration with Van Hall Larenstein University, (apart of Wageningen University), the Netherland. He informed that since inception the university has developed and released 237 improved

varieties/F1 hybrids of 60 crops, 1,250 crop-production technologies, and 120 different types off arm implements and machineries. He also briefed about the extension education activities of the university. He said that a Farmer first' project has been sanctioned to the university under RKVY.

Dr RP. Singh, Executive Secretary, IAUA, in his introductory remarks highlighted the theme of the symposium. He said that innovations are needed for supporting agriculture. There should be maximum utilization



Dr K.D. Kokate honoring Prof M.C. Varshneya

of solar energy for agricultural work. Out of- Box thinking or new thoughts are highly essential in the agricultural sector. He laid emphasis on low-volume and high-value crops. He cited the example of earthquake devastation in Bhuj area of Gujarat state, where the farmers have come up with fruit crops like cashewnut, desert apple and olive plantation etc.

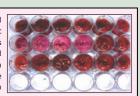
Prof M.C. Varshneya, Senior Vice-President, IAUA, & VC, KU, Gandhinagar, delivered the presidential address. He said that 66% of the population still lives in rural area and 52% of them are dependent on agriculture and allied sectors for their livelihood. Considering this, he highlighted the need of agriculture subject in primary education. Autonomy is essential for the SAUs, and the VCs should be empowered to fill up the posts on priority. Further, he narrated his experiences of Anand Agriculture University, Anand. The MU activities like Soil-health cards, organization Of Krushi Rath Yatra, district-wise rainfall calendar with advisory services have been expanded throughout the country

Dr S.N. Puri, former VC, CAU, Imphal &MPKV, Rahuri, was the chief guest. In his inaugural address, he said that India accounts for only 2.4% of the world's geographical area and, 4% of its water resources, but has to support about 17% of the



Group photo of VCs attending Symposium

world human population. Inspite of the record food grain production of262 Million tonnes, there are several challenges before us. In animal husbandry he felt that cattle-feed is a Bottleneck for and iron in the grains of wheat and pigeonpea that is simple, rapid, pragmatic and cost effective. The technique is extremely effective in identifying iron and zinc rich genotypes from the poor ones on the basis of colour development. The technique involves differential staining with Pearl's Prussian blue and dithizone dyes;



wherein the intensity of blue (PPB) and the red (DTZ) colour is directly related to the concentration of iron and zinc in the grains, respectively. The method is very handy for screening large number of segregating generations of wheat and pigeonpea for iron and zinc concentrations.

Faster In-vitro Regeneration in Recalcitrant Date palm

The Biotechnology Section, Central Instrumentation Laboratory, successfully refined the in-vitro protocol for Date palm. Date palm is a recalcitrant, slow-responding plant that is not easily amenable to the tissue-culture techniques. Normal tissue-culture technique takes about



36 months for raising the plants in-vitro. The duration was reduced by 20% entailing 4,10 and 4 months reduction at the budbreak stage, callusing and shoot induction; and proliferation stages respectively.

This accomplishment was achieved by manipulating the artificial conditions and compositions of the media. However, through precision is a prerequisite during each stage of the tissue culture to maintain the clonal fidelity within

Date palm is an important tree of Kutch, and has lot of genetic variability in the farmers' groves. At present the predominant tissue-cultured plants are imported; though some private firms have also started raising them. However, the cost of the tissue-cultured plants is exorbitant, which make the quality planting materials inaccessible to the farmers. The refined method will reduce the cost of production of such planting materials due to lesser time required for in-vitro regeneration

New Peston Date palm Fruits

Date palm (Phoenix dactylifera), a tree of Kutch, generally is not afflicted with I; ghastly biotic stresses found elsewhere in the world. However, this year in June, a new pest was noticed that webs around the fruit bunch with dusty appearance. Extensive surveillance in16 villages revealed that the extent of

expansion of dairy business. Thus, sufficient availability of quality seed Off odder crops is greatly required for improvement of dairy sector.

At the end Dr K.D. Kokate, Director Extension Education, & Convener of IAUA National Symposium proposed the vote of thanks to the participating delegates. The valedictory session was held under the chairmanship of Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah, VC, MU, Jorhat; Co-Chairman Dr IA More, VC; Dr K.D. Kokate, Convener; Director of Extension Education; and Dr RP. Singh, Executive Secretary, IAUA.

ORISSA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, BHUBANESWAR

54th Foundation Day

The university celebrated its 54th Foundation day on 24 Aug. 2015. Prof Manoranjan Kar, VC, chaired the meeting. Sj Pradeep Maharathy, Pro Chancellor & Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Resources. Development, Government of Odisha, was the chief guest. Sj



Sj Pradeep Maharathy with other dignitaries

Rajesh Verma, Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Agriculture; Sj Bishnupada Sethi, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, Department of Fisheries and Animal Resource Development, attended the function as the guests of honour. Prof S.K. Rout, Dean (Extension Education), welcomed the guests, invitees, teachers, staff, students and farmers to the meeting, whereas Mr William Bilung, IAS, Registrar, offered the vote of thanks.

Skill Development Training

The Directorate of Extension Education organized Skill Development Training for Rural Youths on "Mushroom production and value addition" during 6 Aug. -4 Sept. 2015. There were 36 participants from all over the State



SARDARKRUSHINAGAR DANTIWADA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY. SARDARKRUSHINAGAR

Method for Screening Food-grains for Fe and Zn Deficiency

The Biotechnology Section, Central Instrumentation Laboratory ,has customized a differential staining technique for estimating zinc and

damage varied from 10 to 80 percent, and it was prevalent in all the varieties, viz Barhee, Halawy, Khunezi and other elite clones. The symptoms of damage look like those of Oligonychus A froasiticus the dusty mite of date palm, which could have more than one species with phytoseiid mites for population



regulation. The results of the samples sent for identification are still awaited for confirmation. The pest sucks sap from the dates, leading to discoloured and defonmed fruits, which become unfit for human consumption. ACoccinellid predator was also noticed which is being explored for further effective management. In view of a large number of tissue-cultured plants being imported from the UAE and other Arab countries, strict quarantine measures need to be imposed for avoiding accidental introduction and further spread of the pest.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES, SHIMOGA

Moll with Institutions

- The university and International Centre for Research on Agro-forestry, Nairobi (Kenya) signed a MoU on 25Jul. 2015 to carry out research on "Western ghats landscape initiatives'.
- The university and NMAM Institute of Technology, NinE, Karkala, (Karnataka), signed a MoU on 27 Jul. 2015 for post-graduate studies and research collaboration. Dr C. Vasudevappa, VC, signed the MoU, on behalf of the university, with Dr Niranjan N. Chiplunnkar, Principal, NMAM Institute of Technology.
- The university and National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insect Resources, ICAR Research Institute, Bengaluru, signed a MoU on 10 Sept. 2015 for licensing the know-how of Novel insecticidal WP formulation of Heterorhabd it is incdica for the biological control of white grubs and other soil insect pests. Dr T.H. Gowda, Director of Extension, and Dr Abraham Verghese, Director, ICAR-NBAIR, signed it.

Technologies Developed

 Rice variety KPR-1 recorded 19-20% higher grain yield (60 q/ha) than Tunga. It is tolerant to neck blast and leaf blast disease and is accepted for release for the hill zone (Zone-9).



 Two onion varieties Bhima Super (34.56 t1ha) and Satara Garva (32.14 t1ha) are found to be promising for Central dry zone (Zone-4) than Bellary Red.







Onion Bhima Super

- There was increase in rice productivity in Malnad and hilly areas through large-scale mechanized paddy demonstrations during Jul. 2015. Total area covered under this programme was 200 acres in six taluks of Shivamogqa district.
- In view of the farmers' suicide due to various reasons, the following Farmers awareness programmes were organized by the university during Jul. and Aug. 2015.



Demonstration of mechanized rice transplant



Release of book Baduka besay

- Programme on strengthening of mental attitude
- Farmers' counselling
- Release of book Baduku Besaya, published by Department of Information and distributed it to the farmer.
- Mobile advisory services to farmers through 'Farmers' Portal'.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR

Rabi Seed Day2015

For educating the farmers regarding improved seed varieties, cultivation practices and for information, Rabi seed day 2015 was organized at Seed unit of the university on 28 Sept. 2015. An interaction session



between farmers and subject- Dr B.V. Patil, inaugurating the Seed

matter specialists was also organized, in which 200 farmers participated. Dr B.v. Patil, former VC and Director of Education, inaugurated the programme. He highlighted the recent technologies developed by the university in use of quality seeds and management of crops.

Control of Farmers' Suicide

An interaction programme on "Role of constitution and law in control of farmers' suicide" was organized jointly by Raitha Hitha Rakshana Vedike and College of Agriculture, Bheemarayanagudi on 13 Sept.

Short Course organized

A short course on 'Detection, diagnosis and eco-friendly management strategies for major crop diseases under rainfed conditions of Marathwada region of Maharashtra' was organized during 1-10 Sept. 2015 by Department of Plant Pathology, under the aegis of ICAR, New Delhi. Dr B. Venkateswarlu, VC, presided over the inaugural function. He stressed



Dr B.Venkateswarlu, addressing participants

the importance of detection, diagnosis and integrated disease management in dryland agriculture for sustainable agricultural development. Dr C.D. Mayee, former Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi, was the chief guest. The participants from different parts of the country and faculty members participated in this course. The participants were exposed to the recent advances in various aspects of detection, diagnosis and integrated disease management.

DR Y.S.R. HORTICULTURAL UNIVERSITY.

New Species of Parasitoid

Smt P. Sunitha, Scientist (Ent.) working in Horticultural Research Station, Venkataramannagudem, reported a Scelionid wasp Psix sunithae (Hymenoptera) unidentified Coreid bug eggs laid on leaf of Nux vomica, (a medicinal plant). It is an egg parasitoid. The species identification was done at IARI, New Delhi.



International Symposium

Dr M. Rajasekhar, Senior Scientist (Hart.) & Head, Horticultural Research Station, attended Third ISHS Southeast Asia symposium on 'Quality management in post harvest systems' at Siem Reap, Cambodia, during 13-15 Aug. 2015. He presented research papers on 'Changes in ethylene and polyamine levels and shelf life of polyamine treated tomato fruits



Dr M.Rajashekar at International Symposium

(Solanum Iycopersicum L.)' and 'Storage behaviour of aqueous 1-MCP treated tomato fruits (Solanum Iycopersicum L.) in modified atmospheric package'.

World Coconut Day

2015. Shri Sanjeev Kumar Hanchate, Principal Session Court Judge, Bidar, inaugurated it.He stressed upon the scope of law and regulations in mitigating the farmers' suicide. Chief guests Shri Devaraja, Judge, JMFC, Surapur; Shri Benal, Judge, JMFC, Shahapur; Shri Baskar Rao



Mudabul; and Dr K.S. Sharma were present. Dr Suresh S.Patil, Dean (Agri.) presided the programme.

VASANTRAO NAIKMARATHAWADA KRISHI VIDYAPEETH **PARBHANI**

Centre of Excellence for Kesar Mango

H.E. Shri Vidyasagar Rao, Governor of Maharashtra. inaugurated Centre for Excellence for Kesar Mango, on 21 Sept. 2015. Shri Haribhau Bagade, Speaker, State Legislative Assembly, Maharashtra, presided over the function. Shri Eknathraoji Khadse, Minister for Agriculture



Smt. Hema Malini inaugurating Go Anusandhan Sansthan Parisa

and Horticulture; Prof Ram Shinde, State Minister for Agriculture and Horticulture; Shri Dilip Kamble, State Minister for Social Justice; Dr B. Venkateswarlu, VC; Mr Devid Akov, Counsel General, Israel; Mr Dan A1uf, Counsellor, Israel; and Dr Umakant Dangat, Commissioner, Aurangabad division; graced the function.

On this occasion Shri Vidyasagar Rao, stressed the need for transfer $\,$ of technology on fruit production, storage and transport to the farming community. He also paid a visit to high-tech nursery of the centre. This Indo-Israel collaborative project was sanctioned under NHM at Himayatbagh, Aurangabad. The programme was organized jointly by the university and Maharashtra State Horticultural and Medicinal Plant Board, Pune.

The World coconut day was celebrated on 2 Sept. 2015 at Swarna vedika, Vijayawada by Coconut Development Board and Department of Horticulture, Andhra Pradesh Shri Thota Narasimham garu, Member of Parliament, Kakinada and Member, Coconut Development Board, was the chief guest. Dr B.M.C. Reddy, VC, was



the special guest, and about 500 coconut farmers across the country participated in the programme. Scientists of HRS, Ambajipeta and KVK, Venkataramannagudem attended the function as resource persons and arranged an Exhibition.

Awards

ASSAM AGRICUI TURAL UNIVERSITY JORHAT

Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution

The university received Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award 2014 For the SAU/DU/CAU category. H.E. Shri Narendra Modi, PM, presented the award on the occasion of 87th Foundation Day, 25Jul. 2015, at Patna.



Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Award to Scientists

The ICAR, New Delhi conferred Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Award for Outstanding Research in Tribal Farming Systems 2014 to Dr Badal Bhattacharyya, Senior Scientist; and Dr Satvendra Kumar Dutta, Professor, on 25 Jul. 2015 in the 87th Foundation Day



ntists receiving av

and Award Ceremony of ICAR held at Patna. These scientists were awarded for their significant research achievements pertaining to bio ecology and management of Lepidiota mansueta, the menacing white grub pest with a biennial life cycle, in the world's largest river island, Maiuli, Assam, Dr Sanieev Kumar Balvan and Shri Mohan Bhai Kundariya, Union Ministers of State for Agriculture, presented the award to both the scientists.

Best Krishi Vigyan Kendra Award 2014

The KVK, Nalbari functioning under the university, received Best Zonal KVK Award-2014 (Zone III). Dr M. Deka, Programme Coordinator of the KVK, received the award from Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture during the



Dr M.Deka, receiving award

9th National KVK Conference held at Patna on 26Jul. 2015.

GOVIND BALLABH PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

Best Centre Award of Network Projecton Organic Farming

Pantyarsity was honored with Best Centre Award of 'Network Project on Organic Farming for2015'. The award was given during the tenth annual group meeting of the network project, held at MPUAT, Udaipur, during 19-21 Aug. 2015. The university



Scientists receiving award

got this award for the excellent work done on organic farming and for developing packages and practices of five crops of Basmati ricebased cropping system. This network project, sponsored by the ICAR, is in progress in 20 centres in different states. The council instituted this award in 2015 and Pantvarsity is the first recipient of this award.

Governor's Award for Best Research

and Shri Uma M. Singh, of College of Basic Sciences and Humanities, were honored with Governor's Award for best research publication, among the universities of Uttarakhand.H.E. Dr Krishan Kant Paul, Governor of Uttarakhand, presented the award on 24 Sept. 2015 at Shri Uma M.Singh Dehradun. Mohd. S.Anwar received the first award for his research paper 'Responses of indigenously developed bacterial consortia in progressive degradation of polyvinyl chloride', published in international journal Protoplasma, which was co-authored by other scientists of the department of Microbiology. The research paper of Shri Uma M. Singh entitled Mohammad S. Anwai

'Transcriptome vide identification and validation

Two Pantvarsity students, Mohammad S.Anwar





Patents granted and accepted for filing

- One US patent no. 9,057,058 was awarded to Dr Reeta Goel, Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities, and her team on 'Process of talc based formulation for LDPE de radin bacterial consortium' on 16 Jun. 2015.
- · A patent of Department of Molecular Biology and Genetic Engineering department entitled 'A high protein gel recovery protocol for extraction of specific protein separated on polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis' (which is a method and a kit) for eluting a protein or multiple samples from polyacrylamide gel, has been accepted For filing through DBT, New Delhi.

Pantvarsity Figures in QS Ranking of BRICS Universities

The university has figured in top 200 universities of BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), as per QS University Ranking for 2015, secunng 141st position. Among these top 200 universities, 31 institutions of India are included, which are mostly IITs and technical institutions.

KAMDHENU UNIVERSITY, GANDHINAGAR

Award for Most-cited Papers JAM-2015

An article entitled 'Prevalence of sub clinical ketosis and relationships with post-partum diseases in European dairy cows" by Dr Vishal Suthar, Assistant Professor (Planning), in joint authorship with J. Canelas-Raposo, A.Deniz and W. Heuwieser, received "Award for Most-cited Papers JAM-2015" from Journal of Dairy Science, (an official publication of American Dairy Science Association). It also Dr Vishal Suthar secured second place in the top 10 most-cited articles published in 2013.



MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL AND FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY. NAGPUR

NAAS Fellow Award to Prof A.K.Misra

Prof A.K. Misra, VC, was awarded as the "Fellow of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences". Dr M.S. Swaminathan, presented the award for his outstanding work in Veterinary Field, on the occasion of Silver Jubilee Function Of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New

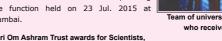


NAVSARI AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, NAVSARI

ABP News Award

PG students and Farmers

The university was conferred ABP News National Award for outstanding contribution to higher education in India. The award was received by Dr C.J. Dangaria, VC, and Dr A.N. Sabalpara, Director of Research &Dean PGS, during the function held on 23 Jul. 2015 at Mumbai.





Team of university authorities who received award

of calcium sensor gene family in the developing spike of finger millet genotype for elucidating its role ingrain calcium accumulation' was published in international journal PLOS one In 2014, co-authored by other members of the research group.

Young Scientist Award to Microbiology Student

Dr Deep Chandra Suyal, student of Department of Microbiology ofCollege of Basic Sciences and Humanities, received Young Scientist Award from Department of Science and Technology of Government of India. Under this award Dr Suyal will work in Department of Technology on the project Dr Deep Chandra Suyal submitted by him, with financial help from DST.



The university and Hari Om Ashram Trust, Surat signed MoU for initiating Hari Om Ashram Trust, Surat Awards for Scientists, PG students and farmers on 24Aug. 2015. As per the MoU, Hari Om Ashram Trust, Surat provided a corpus fund worth Rs 33 lacs and the university shall manage various awards, viz., Best Agricultural Scientist Awards (total Rs 1.30 lacs for



MOu. Signing with Hari Om Ashram Trust

three awards), Best Student Awards (total Rs 1.10 lacs for best three each Master's and Doctoral students awards) and Best Farmer Awards (total Rs 0.50 lacs for three farmers awards). These awards shall be given each year out of the interest earned from the donated corpus funds to selected agricultural scientists, PG students and innovative farmers For their significant contributions to agriculture.

PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA

nternational Scholarship and Travel Grant to Studen

Mr Ashwani Kumar, Ph.D. student, Department of Food Science & Technology, was awarded Dry land Cereals Scholarship, administered by Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions, Bangkok (Thailand) and funded by Consortium Group of International Agricultural Research. This scholarship aims to facilitate core





Ms Shikha Sharma

receive US\$ 10,000/-, spread over a period of 2 years, to carry out research on the topic "Development of synbiotic drinks from finger millet and oats".

Ms Shikha Shanna and Mr Ilran Khan, Ph.D. scholars of Department of Plant Pathology, presented research papers in the "XVIII International Plant Protection Congress (IPCC)", held at Beriin (Gernmany), during 24-27 Aug. 2015.

Agricultural Leadership Award 2015

The university also coveted Agricultural Leadership Award. SM Rai Nath Singh, Union Home Minister, presented the award on 18 Sept. 2015, in a ceremony held at New Delhi. H.E. Shri Kepten Singh Solanki, Governor



of Punjab and Haryana; and Dr M.S. Swaminathan, eminent agricultural scientist; also attended the function. As an indicator of quality research, the PAU has been ranked first among the agricultural universities in 2014 for research publications as per the database of Indian Citation Index. The university, with its high impact academic programmes, has set even higher standards in academics at national level.

Dr Baldev Singh Dhillon, VC, received the award on behalf of the university, and graciously acknowledged the important role played by all the personnel engaged in leaching, research and extension programmes all the university.

Jawaharlal Nehru Award

Dr Samanpreet Ahuja, Assistant Research Engineer (Soil and Water Engineering), won 'Jawaharlal Nehru Award' of the ICAR, for her outstanding doctoral this is research on natural resource management. The award was best owed upon Dr Ahuja during the 87th Foundation Day celebration of the ICAR, held on 25Jul. 2015 Dr Samapreet Ahuja at Patna. The topic of her research was



'Modeling the impact of climate change on groundwater resources in central Punjab". The study was conducted under the guidance of Dr K.G. Singh and Dr P.P.S. Lubana, experis of soil and water engineering. Dr Ahuja has developed a methodology for assessing the impact of climate change on crop yield and water in agriculture by interlinking climate, sellwater- vegetation and groundwater models.

SARDARKRUSHINAGAR DANTIWADA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY SARDARKRUSHINAGAR

Best Centre award to Cagtor Muetard Research station

In pursuance of its incredible R&D contributions, Castor-Mustard Research Station. Sardarkrushinagar, was adjudged the best among 44 AICRP centres spread over 18stales for the year 2014-15.



The award and trophy for the Dr J.S. Sandhu presenting the award

feat was given by Dr J.S. Sandhu, DDG (CS) ICAR, New Delhi, at the 22nd Annual Group Meeting of Rapeseed-Mustard Research Workers. held at SIAM, Durgapura, Jaipur (Rajasthan) on 3 Aug. 2015.

Department of Poultry Science, Post-graduate Institute of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Akola, with "Programme Officer Appreciation Certificate Award" at a grand ceremony in Mumbai on 8 June 2015.

ORISSA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY. **BHUBANESWAR**

Honorary rank of Colonel to VC

Prof Manoranjan Ker, VC, was conferred with the honorary rank of Colonel' in the NCC by DG, NCC on 23 Jul. 2015. The award ceremony was held at the Raj Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, in the presence of H.E. Dr S.C.Jamir, Governor of Odisha.



Felicitation of VC for KVK's ,Performance

Prof Manoranjan Ker, VC, was felicitated on 9 Sept. 2015 at Zonal Workshop of KVKs held at Unain, M.P., for outstanding performance of KVKs of Odisha and for extending cooperation by the university, for effective functioning of KVKs in the state.



UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR

Extension Award-2015

Dr S.K. Meti, Dean (Agri.), received Swami Sahaianand Saraswathi Extension Award -2015 from the ICAR, New Delhi, for his contribution in Agricultural Extension. The Award was presented during National KVKs Workshop held at Patna (Bihar) during August,2015.



Dr S.K. Meti, receiving the award

VASANTRAO NAIK MARATHAWADA KRISHI VIDYAPEETH . PARBHANI

Honor to Dr B. Venkateswariu

Dr B. Venkateswarlu, VC, was honoured by Yasantrao Naik Krishi Pratisthan, Mumbai, by awarding Yasntrao Naik Krishi Puraskar-2015 for his outstanding contributions for research leadership on soil and water conservation in Marathwada. Shri Devendraji Fadanvis, Chief Minister, Maharashtra, presented him the award on 10 Jul. 2015 at Mumbai. The Speaker, State Legislative Assembly Was also present



the award

Hari Om Ashram Trust Award

Dr B. Venkateswariu, VC, along with Dr Ch. Srinivasrao, Director, CRIDA, Hyderabad, were conferred Hari Om Ashram Trust Award 2012-13 for significant contributions in the development and implementation of carbon-positive soil-management strategies for arresting the depletion of soil organic carbon, based on long-ten fields experiments in major Dr B. Venkateswarlu, VC rainfed production systems in India. These carbon



positive technologies are being implemented in 123 model villages in 120 districts of the country.

DR Y.S.R. HORTICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, TADEPALLIGUDEM

Best AICRP Centre award for HRS, Ambajiper

Dr G. Ramanandam, Principal Scientist (Hort.) and Head, HRS, Ambajipet Chaudhary received Devilal outstanding AICRP Award-2014 for 'Best AICRP Central from Shri Sanjeev Kumar Balvan, Union Minister for Agriculture, on 26 Jul. 2015 at Patna.



Dr G. Ramanandam ,receiving the award

Dr C.S. Chakrabarti Joins Editorial Board, IAUA Newsletter

Dr Chandrasekhar Chakrabarti, former VC, WBUAFS, Kolkata has been made as member of the Editorial Board of IAUA Newsletter. Dr Chakrabarti served the IAUA as its President in 2013.



Dr C.S. Chakrabarti

