

IAUA



NEWS

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SPOT NEWS

IAUA Executive Committee, 2012

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NEW VICE-CHANCELLORS

Dr M.L. Choudhary

Dr M.L. Chaudhary joined as VC of BAU, Bhagalpur on 5 August 2010. He was Vice-Chancellor, RAU, Pusa during 20 November 2008- 4 August 2010. Born on 4 January 1953, he did M.Sc and Ph.D.(Horticulture) from Banaras Hindu University, and Post-Doctorate from the USA (1992-95). He was deputed by Government of India for advanced study on Israel and Chile hi-tech horticulture and precision farming. Earlier he had served in various capacities as Horticulture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi; Chairman, Coconut Development Board, Kochi (Kerala); Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India; National Project Director, FAO, Visiting Scientist, Rutgers University, the USA; Head, Division of Ornamental Crops, IIHR, Bangalore and Head, Division of Floriculture, IARI, New Delhi. As the VC of RAU, Pusa (dist. Samastipur) and BAU, Sabour (5 August 2010), he made perceptible development and improvement of agricultural education, research and extension. As Horticulture Commissioner, New Delhi, he implemented flagship programmes such as National Horticulture Mission, National Bamboo Mission and Micro-irrigation. He completely revolutionized horticulture in North-Eastern Region during his tenure as Horticulture Commissioner. Besides, he was also chairman and member-secretary of various committees constituted by Government of India as well as State governments. He guided 18 Ph.D. and 21 M.Sc. students in the field of Horticulture and published 124 book chapters, 19 books and 109 research papers of national and international repute. Dr Choudhary represented India at various international fora in the capacity of chairman and member. He was also Chairman of Codex Committee and Scientific Committee for Organic Standard of Ministry of Commerce. He received 15 awards by various scientific and non-scientific organizations as well as government committees for outstanding contribution in the field of Horticulture or Floriculture. He was Fellow of Horticultural Society of India. He visited more than 15 countries to attend professional meetings.

Dr Kisan Eknath Lawande

Dr K.E. Lawande joined DrBSKV, Dapoli (dist. Ratnagiri (Maharashtra)) as Vice Chancellor on November 02, 2011. Born on December 21, 1949, he did B.Sc. and M.Sc.(Agric.) from MPKV, Rahuri and Ph.D. (Hort.) from IARI, New Delhi. During his long and distinguished career with the ICAR for 12 years he was Director and has 24 years experience in teaching, research and extension in MPKV, Rahuri, developed 17 vegetable varieties along with production and Post Harvest Management Technologies and guided 10 M.Sc. and Ph.D. students. He published 174 research and 62 popular articles, 32 technical bulletins and 3 books, and contributed 3 chapters in international publications. He received Life-time Contribution Award from Indian Society of Vegetable Science, Varanasi as well as from Indian Society of Alliums; Hutatma Rajguru Gaurav Award for best research work in agriculture; He also received gold medal and citation for best research worker from MPKV, Rahuri, Adarsha Krishi Ratna Award; Dr Alapatti Prasadrao Award and Agricultural Journalism Award, Indian Society of Alliums. He is a Fellow of Indian Society of Vegetable Science, Member of Ministry of Consumer Affairs food and public distribution, Government of India, New Delhi and Member of Editorial Board of Indian Horticulture. Horticultural Society of India has honoured him with Dr. Kirti Singh Gold Medal for his outstanding contribution in Vegetable Science.



Dr C.S. Chakrabarti



Dr M.L. Choudhary



Dr Kisan Eknath Lawande

Prof. S. K. Patil

Prof S. K. Patil joined as VC, Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Raipur on 2 November, 2011. Here had a long distinguished professional career in the same university as Scientist, Senior Scientist, Principal Scientist, Chief Scientist, Dean and Director of Research. Born on 9 November, 1963, he had his school level education in Chhattisgarh and did B.Sc, M.Sc. and Ph.D. (Soil Science) from JNKVV, Jabalpur. During his tenure as Director of Research, 13 crop varieties for the state were released, frontier rice molecular laboratory (Rs 875 lac through RKVY) for stress-tolerance was developed, characterization of 23,000 rice germplasm accessions were characterized, modernized the university farms (with roads, boundary wall, electrification, irrigation network, modern equipments as well as implements and infrastructure), brought five new upland scattered farm units of 200 ha under cultivation at Bhatapara. He had developed linkages with three International and several national organizations. He was member in the Boards of Academic, Administrative, Research and Extension councils of the university and member of boards of several state agencies, besides served many important committees of the university. During his tenure as Dean of College at Jagdalpur, he worked on three NAIP mega projects of Rs 15 crores for providing livelihood security to Bastar tribes by adoption of integrated farming system models and improved their productivity by 100-300%, irrigated area by 15-20% and family income by 50% in 19 villages of three tribal districts, covering 3,000 farm families under NAIP.

As Scientist, he developed a cheap soil-testing kit (Rs 650) to determine the N, P, K, Organic Carbon and lime requirement. More than 5,000 such kits and 3,000 refills were sold in Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. He handled six international and 12 national-funded AICRP and projects, assisted in the development and release of 3 crop varieties, guided 18 Ph. D. and 51 M. Sc. students, participated in 7 international and 31 national conferences or workshops and organized 10 workshops. He was Visiting Scientist for 1 year at IFDC, the USA and at the IRRI Philippines. He credited with about 143 research publications of which published 61 research papers, 39 scientific reports, 18 extension articles, 13 manuals or books, 16 research notes or abstracts, 17 popular articles and edited 16 books or reports, journals or newsletters etc. The university awarded him with "Kisan Samman Patra" of Chhattisgarh (2007) for Outstanding contribution (2001).



Prof. S.K. Patil

Focus on Universities: Events and Achievements

Deemed-to-be-Universities

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NEW DELHI

National Education Day lecture 2011

The National Education Day lecture series was organized at the institute on 21 November, 2011. Dr R.S. Paroda, President, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Research, New Delhi was the chief guest. Dr H.S. Gaur, Dean and Joint Director (Education), IARI, delivered the welcome address and highlighted the significance of Education Day. He highlighted the contribution of Dr Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Union Education Minister, to the higher education system in India. Dr H.S.



National Education Day Lecture

Gupta, Director, presided over the function.

Dr R.S. Paroda emphasized that for sustainable agricultural development the country needs a different breed of teachers, and we have to bring the best brain in teaching. Training

is required at all levels. For maintaining quality in education, the accreditation system has an important role. He also suggested a new thinking on educational reforms. He enthused the young scientists and scholars to concentrate on research aimed at solving the problems faced by the farmers. In his presidential address, Dr H.S. Gupta appreciated the thought provoking views of Dr Paroda. He emphasized that higher education is directly related to development.

INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, IZATNAGAR

Kisan Mela-2011

The "Kisan Mela" of IVRI this year had the theme of "Entrepreneurship in livestock". It was organised during 18-20 October 2011 at Izatnagar campus, wherein 148 stalls were placed by various organizations including the ICAR institutes, livestock-feed suppliers, seed suppliers, state development departments, small-scale industries, educational institutes, automobiles or tractor agencies, handicraft sellers, banks, insurance agencies and domestic appliance, producers.

The chief guest, Padma Shri Dr Anil Prakash Joshi, Executive Director, Himalayan Environmental Studies on Conservation Organization, Dehra Dun, laid stress on the need of modern and climate-resilient animal husbandry as well as application of appropriate technologies in growing fodder for feeding the farm livestock in all the seasons.

Prof. M.C. Sharma, Director of IVRI, highlighted the major achievements of the institute and informed that it has developed more than 100 need-based and user-friendly technologies for livestock health, production and products.

Shri Subhash Chandra Sharma, IAS, District Magistrate, Bareilly distributed prizes to the winners. On this occasion progressive farmers were the guests of honour, who shared their views and experience viz, Shri Sewa Singh and Shri Sahib Singh from Udham Singh Nagar; Shri Aaram Singh from Baheri; Shri Sandeep Goel from Kashipur; and Shri Tej Prakash from Nawabganj.

"Bioinformatics and drug designing" in veterinary drug development"

The XI annual conference of Indian Society of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology was held during 17-19 November, 2011 at IVRI, Izatnagar. On this occasion two national symposia were also organized, viz., "Bioinformatics in drug designing" and "Challenges and opportunities in veterinary drug development". About 200 scientists, academicians and students from different parts of the country attended.

Prof. Amresh Kumar, Director-General, Khandelwal College of Management Science and Technology, Bareilly, pointed out that animals play an extremely important part in our lives. But, various infectious and non-infectious diseases are still a great threat to their well-being.

Prof. M.C. Sharma, Director, IVRI said that health is the most precious possession of men as well as animals. Therefore, better health-care management of animals is essential for positive impact on overall national economy. Dr A.K. Srivastava, Director, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal appreciated the importance of organizing the symposium of topical interest.



IVRI Kisan Mela-2011



Prof. Amresh Kumar, DG, KCMT, Bareilly inaugurating the Annual Conference of ISVPT

122nd Foundation day celebration

The IVRI celebrated its 122nd Foundation Day during 8-10 December 2011 with a number of programmes and activities.

Prof. Amresh Kumar, Director General, KCMT, Bareilly and former Dean, College of Veterinary Sciences, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, delivered a lecture on "How to become a successful veterinary professional".

ATIC, Joint Directorate of Extension Education, IVRI for its club members, organized ATIC-Kisan Club Entrepreneurship Development Workshop. More than 40 livestock owners and farmers participated from Rampur and Bareilly districts.

Prof. M.C. Sharma, Director, inaugurated Games and Sports Meet-2011. He stressed the need and importance of games and emphasized that all the staff and students should take part in this meet with great sportsmanship, irrespective of the outcome.

He informed that this celebration is the first of its kind in the country wherein efforts are being made to directly link the farmers with IVRI to improve their life-style and income through animal husbandry-related entrepreneurship development.



122nd Foundation Day Celebrations

Universities

ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JORHAT

36th IAUA convention of VCs

H.E. Shri. J.B. Pattanaik, Chancellor and Governor of Assam, inaugurated the 36th vice-chancellors' convention, sponsored by IAUA and hosted by AAU, Jorhat. He appreciated the remarkable progress since 1951 made by the agricultural universities in India, especially by AAU, compared with that of China. The agricultural policy of India and participation of Panchayat Raj in agricultural development in the country is quite significant. Assam needs more efforts especially in horticulture and production of other food crops. He pointed out that the training of scientists needs priority. Special attention is needed on the full and proper use of river water for the farm crops.



Chief Guest and other dignities

of action. Dr S. N. Puri, seniormost VC, the past President, IAUA and VC, CAU, Imphal landed the improvement in the working and infrastructure development under the dynamic leadership of Dr Bujabaruah.

Dr R. P. Singh, Secretary-General, IAUA suggested that agricultural education



H.E. Shri J.B. Pattanaik

should began from primary classes to enable the drop-out students to go back to their villages and utilize their knowledge in proper improvement of family in agricultural holdings. The agricultural universities are working with only 60% human resource in almost of all the

states, the ban on filling the positions should be removed immediately. The agricultural graduates should be granted licences for agricultural input supply, on the recommendation of the local universities. He profusely thanked the Governor, all the VCs and other participants besides Dr Bujabaruah and all staff members of organizing committees for successfully organizing the function.

The technical sessions were then held on the topics: to Identifying areas of excellence of SAUs, Experiential learning programme, and ways and means for transforming IAUA.

On the next day rigorous discussion was made to screen the following issues, the outcome as agenda

points from IAUA for handing over these to the ICAR on behalf of all the VCs of members AUs of IAUA.

At the ECM and General Body meeting in the afternoon the convention discussed the future programme and to select the issues to be forwarded to the ICAR for finalizing and including them in the agenda of forthcoming VCs Conference being organized by the ICAR during February, 15-17, 2012 at NASC, Pusa, New Delhi.

- i. KVK-related issues;
- ii. Issues of arrears and other related matter of AICARPS;
- iii. Increase the CDA-related grants;
- iv. Intake number of undergraduate and postgraduate students and other related issues;
- v. Joint authority of agricultural university to operate all network mission projects of the ICAR, and grant of atleast 25% of the mission funds to Aus;
- vi. Allotment of Rs. 1 lakh each year to each faculty in AUs as research and development (R&D) fund;
- vii. Based on the views of PG Dean of AUs the measures to ensure quality education for PG in AUs and uniform date of admission etc;
- viii. Recruitment of Assistant Professor with National Eligibility Test (NET) or without NET in response to the UGC guidelines;
- ix. Suggestions to improve the IAUA working and revisions of IAUA regulations and by-laws.
- x. To prepare a draft to be presented to Planning Commission on the problems and issues of agricultural universities for more exclusive funding.
- xi. Visibility of IAUA to the Planning Commission, Knowledge Commission, Union HRD ministry and help from the state authorities to AUs through IAUA's efforts.

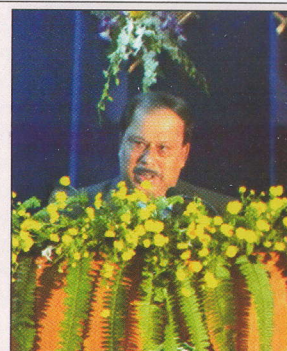
On the basis of detailed discussion in the ECM and GBM of the IAUA during this 36th VCs Convention was decided that the agenda arrived at and decided should be sent to the ICAR

Supply and demand of labour in Indian agriculture

The issue of gap in demand and supply of agricultural labour was discussed during the 19th Annual Conference of Agricultural Economics Research Association (India) held on 28-30 November 2011, along with the cause of farm labour shortage and the impact of various government programmes like MGNREGA on it. The issues pertaining to non-farm employment avenues in rural areas and rural-urban migration of labour as well as their effects on the supply-demand gap of labour was deliberated upon.

Indo-Swiss collaboration in biotechnology

At the meeting of Indo-Swiss collaboration in biotechnology on 6 December, 2011, its



Dr. K.M. Bujabaruah



Vice Chancellors and other participants



programme and objectives were discussed in the context of both DBT's 5 year plan (2012 to 2017) and representation of SDC since 2011 in the Climate Change and Development Division of Embassy of Switzerland. The ISCB assembled an international evaluation team to review its on-going programme and provide inputs and recommendations to develop future strategies and programme at network and institutional levels. The evaluation team had five members viz., three members- Prof. RB Singh (Chair President National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Delhi), Prof. Udaya Kumar (UAS, Bangaluru) and Prof. Howard Atkinson (Co-chair, University of Leeds,) who concentrated mainly on the scientific progress; and two members Jean Noel Perrin (free lance Consultant, France) and Dr Pierre?Andre Cordey (GPFS, SDC, Berne), who took the principal responsibility of considering both the impact as well as the institutional benefits of the programme.

Pulses and Cassava network on Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology

The annual meeting of Pulses and cassava network was held on 7 - 9 December, 2011 to determine the overall progress made at the institute of both the partners as per the objectives of the programme. The members felt necessary to include an experienced group for cassava transformation and develop a reliable and robust protocol for Indian cultivars. In view of transgenic research on chickpea, the advisor suggested incorporation of new promoters (may be inducible) while making new gene constructs with chimaeric Bt gene. The partners should put forward their ideas for developing new programmes in a potential fourth phase of ISCB. While developing ideas of research, new crops such as pigeonpea, green gram (mungbean) etc might be considered along with the aspects on climate change.

Whitegrubs and Other Soil Arthropods

The Scientific 16th Group Meeting of Ainp, held on 9-10 December, decided to work under three platforms, viz.

Trap technology, Social engineering and Soil micro- arthropods, for future improvement in the field of research on both harmful and beneficial soil arthropods.

Research achievements

New species of scarab beetles:

From Assam 37 species of scarab beetles were identified, out of

which 35 species were reported for the first time from North-East India under All India Network Project on White Grubs and other Soil Arthropods at AAU centre. Further, a severe key pest of many field crops, *Lepidiota mansueta*, was identified in Majuli river island, Jorhat and studied in detail. This white grub has biennial life cycle, it is the first report of Indian phytophagous scarab beetle with non-feeding adults.

Production of Azolla hybrid: Megasporocarps of *Azolla pinata* and microsporocarps of *Azolla caroliniana* are conjugated to produce hybrid sporlings. The main features of this hybrid would be higher biomass production (2-3 times more than local species), round the year production, as well as 3.0 - 4.5% N and 2.5 - 3.0% K content.

Holi powder from tapioca flour: The technology developed at All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Post-harvest Technology, at Jorhat centre in 2010 on 'Safe and low cost holi powder from tapioca flour' was selected for the ICAR Industry Meet-2011. The ICAR, alongwith three other technologies selected four technologies developed at AICRP on Post-harvest centres in India, including this technology.



The Technology of the tapioca flour as the base material, to which organic dyes like azo, triphenyl methane and pyrazolone (as approved by Food Products order) were added at very low concentration. This kind of holi powder does not contain any heavy metals or other materials



harmful and hazardous to human health and environment, as found in commercial holi powders available in the market. Dr. Priyanka Das, lead Scientist of this research programme under AICRP on PHT,



informed that its cost is Rs. 80 per Kg, which is equal to the cost of commercial holi powder.

Mid duration rice line: A mid-duration promising line developed at RARS, Titabar TTB 404, performed well in the demonstration field there during Sali 2010 and Sali 2011. The line outyielded the recommended varieties Satyaranjan and Basundhara by more than 15 per cent



TTB 404

CSK HIMACHAL PRADESH KRISHI VISHVAIDYALAYA, PALAMPUR

Silver jubilee function

The silver jubilee celebration of Dr G.C.Negi College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences was organized at Palampur, on 4 November 2011. Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal, Chief Minister, while inaugurating the function underlined the need to modernize undergraduate and post-graduate teaching and improve the extension activities by organizing clinical camps in different parts of the state.

Dr S.K.Sharma, VC, in his welcome address informed that the college has produced 573 B.V.Sc veterinary graduates, 242 M.V.Sc. and 20 Ph.D. students; and it commissioned 75 research projects worth Rs 8 crores and 29 research projects worth Rs 15 crores were being commissioned. It developed 39 technologies, also the faculty has published more than 1500 research articles in national journals and 130 in International journals.

Annual prize distribution function

The College of Home Science organized its annual prize distribution function on 21 November 2011. Mrs Sarveen Choudhary, Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, H.P., the chief guest, awarded 59 students for their academic excellence. Later, she in her address to the students and staff appreciated the college for changing its educational programmes to meet the demand of emerging industries like food processing and hospitality sector.

Dr S.K.Sharma, informed that among the 81 home science colleges in the country, 21 were functioning under farm universities. During the ensuing 5 year plan some significant changes are being planned in the home science education which will make it more employable.



Mrs Sarveen Choudhary releasing students' magazine

JUNAGARH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JUNAGARH

New varieties recommended

Groundnut

Gujarat Junagadh Groundnut 17 (GJG 17):

This spreading variety is recommended for cultivation during rainy (kharif) season in the spreading groundnut-growing areas of the state. It gives 38.3, 20.4 and 13.7 per cent higher pod yield (1,798 kg/ha) than the check varieties M 335 (1,332 kg/ha), GG 11 (1,493 kg/ha) and GG 13 (1,581 kg/ha), respectively. It also has higher shelling outturn, as well as kernel and oil yields than the checks. It is tolerant to stem rot.

Gujarat Junagadh Groundnut 22 (GJG 22):

This semi spreading variety is recommended for cultivation in rainy (kharif) season in Saurashtra and south Gujarat. It gives 37.2 and 15.1 per cent more pod yield (1,770 kg/ha) than the checks Kadiri 3 (1290 kg/ha), and GG 20 (1,538 kg/ha), respectively. It possesses rose-coloured uniform kernels, with better shelling outturn (72.5%). The variety is also resistant to collar rot.



Groundnut GJG-17



Groundnut variety-GJG-22

Indian bean

Gujarat Junagadh Indian Bean-11 (GJIB-11): Its pods are green and of medium length. It gives 31.2 and 32.1 per cent higher green-pod yield (95.39 q/ha) than Virpur local (72.7 q/ha) and Dantiwada local (72.22 q/ha), respectively. Being semi-spreading, it is easier to harvest. It is recommended for cultivation in late kharif in Saurashtra and middle Gujarat.



GJIB-11 Bean

Okra

Gujarat Junagadh Okra Hybrid-3 (GJOH 3): Its fruit is dark green and tender, with higher protein (1.5%) and ascorbic acid content (603 mg/100g). It shows lesser incidence of YVMV (24.2%). The hybrid is recommended for cultivation in kharif season. It gives higher yield (137.44 q/ha), which is 19.9, 26.2, and 29.8 per cent more than of the checks GOH 1 (114.65 q/ha), Parbhani Kranti (108.87 q/ha) and Pusa Sawani (105.87 q/ha), respectively. It has already been released under AICRIP programme for Zones V, VI and VII of India.



GJOH-3 Okra

Soybean

Gujarat Junagadh Soybean-3 (GJS-3): It is determinate in type, with dark green foliage and yellowish brown seeds, coupled with non-shattering habit, it is recommended for cultivation in rainfed (kharif) area of Saurashtra region. It outyield (1,860 kg/ha) the local checks GS 1 (1,490 kg/ha) and GS 2 (1,277 kg/ha) by 24.8 and 43.7 per cent, respectively. It also gives 18.02 and 28.63 per cent more yield than the zonal checks JS 335 (1,576 kg/ha) and PK 472 (1,446 kg/ha), respectively. It has its higher oil content (19.2%) and gives 30.7, 49.6, 20.2 and 32.6 per cent more oil yield per hectare than GS 1, GS 2, JS 335 and PK 472, respectively.



GJS-3 Soybean

Pearl millet

Gujarat Hybrid Bajra-732

(GHB-732): It has synchronous tillering, and appealing heads with bold seeds. It is resistance to lodging, with good quality fodder (8150kg/ha). It is recommended for summer cultivation in pearl millet-growing area of Gujarat state as a medium late-maturing hybrid. It gives 15.0, 13.0 and 22.0 per cent higher grain yield (5037 kg/ha) than GHB 538 (4,389 kg/ha), GHB 558 (4,449 kg/ha) and GHB 526 (4,140 kg/ha), respectively.



GHB - 732

Pearl Millet GHB-732

MARATHWADA KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, PARBHANI

Dual-degree programme



Dual Degree Programme

The Vidyapeeth entered into memorandum of understanding (MoU) with National Institute of Plant Health Management, Rajendranagar Hyderabad on 1 October 2011

for concurrent dual degree programme to improve the knowledge and skills of students. The MoU facilitates institutional capacity building, exchange of students, faculty and staff, joint research, extension and outreach projects with productive employment in pesticide manufacturing; export and import; production of seed and fertilizer and of bio-control agents and between, industries and food testing laboratories. The dual degree programme offered by NIPHM, Hyderabad is a post graduate diploma in Plant Health Management, spread over minimum 4 semesters (2 years) with 30 credits. It will entitle the students to receive graduate certificate in 5 areas of specialization, So far 107 students have enrolled for it.

Exhibition

The vidyapeeth participated in national-level agricultural exhibition organized by Indian Chamber of Commerce at Kolkata (West Bengal) during 3-5 November 2011. The university showcased various technologies and varieties evolved by it, along with the specimens of agricultural and allied products, and seedlings. Shri Charandas Mahant, State Minister for Agriculture, Government of India, Hon. Shri Abu Hena, State Minister for Food Processing and Fisheries, West Bengal; Shri Randhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Minister for Agriculture, Maharashtra; and many other dignitaries and farmers visited the stall.

Agricultural Biotechnology college building

Shri Vilasraoji Deshmukh, Union Minister of Earth Sciences and Science and Technology, inaugurated the new building of College of Agricultural Biotechnology, Latur, a constituent college of MKV, on 4 October 2011. Hon. Minister Shri Deshmukh expressed the need for utilization of biotechnology for the betterment of farm community. Shri Radhakrishnanji Vikhe Patil, presided over the function in the presence of Shri Satej Patil, Guardian Minister, Latur; and Dr M.K.Bhan, Department of Biotechnology, Secretary, DBT, New Delhi. Dr K.P.Gore, VC; Shri Ad. Trimbakdas Zanwar, E.C. addressed the gathering on this occasion.

Visits of International Scientists

Under CFC-FAO-ICRISAT project some international scientists visited the vidyapeeth on 18 october 2011, viz., Dr Serge Bracconier, SWEETFUEL Project Coordinator, France; Dr Gudio Reinhardt SWEETFUEL Project WP6 Co-ordinator, Germany; Dr Marcel Bursztyn, Brazil and Dr Ravinder Reddy, Scientist, Technology Exchange, ICRISAT, Hyderabad. They discussed the activities and future strategies of the project with Dr K.P.Gore, VC. The team visited decentralized crushing unit at Nandkheda and the farmers' fields in cluster, and interacted with the farmers associated with sweet sorghum project.



International Scientists visits

Chief Consultant, NFSM

Dr R.S.Saini, Chief Consultant, NFSM, Government of India, New Delhi and Dr O.P. Sharma, Principle Investigator, NFSM Project, Senior Scientist, NCIPM, New Delhi, visited Badnapur and Parbhani campuses on 21 November 2012 and reviewed the progress of the project "Increasing chickpea and pigeonpea production through intensive application of integrated pest management" for 2010-12 and planning for the XII 5 year plan with Dr K.P.Gore. The team appreciated the activities of the project.

Meeting of Stakeholders and Programme Co-ordinator of KVKs

The interactive meeting of stakeholders and Programme Co-ordinator of KVKs to determine the priorities in research and development in view of changing climate was held on 9-10 November 2011 at MKV Parbhani. Dr Ravindra Chari, Principal Scientist and Convenor, Central Research Institutes for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad, was the chief guest. He discussed with Dr K.P.Gore, about strengthening the research and transfer of technology through stakeholders and KVKs programme. The meeting was attended by officers of State Agriculture Department of Marathwada region. Stress was laid on improving the technology through extension agencies and KVKs. The function was chaired by Dr G.R.More Director of Research.

Sports meet

The MPKV organized XV Maharashtra State Inter Universities Sports Meet (Krida Mahotsav) during 27 November to 1 December 2011. Shri Radhakrishnanji Vikhe Patil, Agriculture Minister, Government of Maharashtra, Shri Prakash dada Solunke, Guardian Minister, Parbhani, Shri Ganeshraoji Dudhgoankar, MP, Parbhani, Shri Sanjay Jadhav, MLA, Shri Suresh Deshmukh, MLC, Parbhani; Shri Vikram Kale,



Sports Meets 2011 in MKV

team leaders from all over the state participated in the event. Shri Vijayraoji Kolte, Vice-Chairman, MCAER, Pune, presided at the valedictory function.

Agricultural Implement Testing, Manufacturing and Training Centre

Shri Radhakrishnanajies Vikhe Patil inaugurated Agricultural Implement Testing, Manufacture and Training Centre at College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, on 27 November 2011. The Government of India sanctioned its grant under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana. Dr K.P.Gore informed that the centre would benefit the farmers of the region, by promoting the use of agricultural machinery in agriculture.

Exploitation of apomixis for crop improvement

A national training programme on 'Exploitation of apomixis for crop-improvement' was organized during 5-18 December 2011 by Department of Agricultural Botany, College of Agriculture, Parbhani under the aegis of ICAR, New Delhi. Dr K. P. Gore, presided over the function. He stressed its importance in the present scenario of climate change and population. Dr Y.S.Nerkar, Eminent Scientist and former VC, inaugurated it in the presence of Dr V.D.Patil, former ADG, ICAR, New Delhi, and Dr S.D. Wankhede, District Collector, Parbhani. Twenty one faculty participants from different parts of India participated in it. Dr I.A.Madrap, Head, Department of Agricultural Botany and Course Director of National Training Programme, organized the programme.

Visit of Dr Waikar

Dr Deepak Waikar, Vice-Chairman of World Energy Council, Canada visited MKV, Parbhani on 16 December 2011. He discussed with Dr K.P.Gore, the opportunities for the project in agricultural engineering and technology. He visited solar energy park and Department of Farm Machinery and Power, and discussed with the faculty and students regarding future research strategy.



Dr Waikar discussing with the Dr Gore

ORISSA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY BHUBANESHWAR

31st Convocation

The 31st convocation of the university was held on 17 December 2012, in which 450 graduates, 196 post-graduates and 6 Ph.D students were conferred degrees in various disciplines on successful completion of their studies during 2010-11. Besides, 75 gold medals and 11 cash prizes were awarded to those who had excelled in their academic pursuit and co-curricular activities.

Dr Ram Badan Singh, President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, delivered the convocation address as the chief guest. HE, Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the Governor of Odisha and Chancellor of the university, conferred the degrees, distributed medals and prizes, and addressed the convocation. Shri Pradeep Maharathy, Minister of Agriculture, Government of Odisha and the Pro-Chancellor of the university, addressed the



31st Convocation

students. Honorary doctorate degrees were conferred on Dr R. B. Singh, President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences; Dr S. Ayyappan, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director-General, ICAR; Dr Prof. (Dr) P. I. Peter, Chairman, Noni Biotech, Chennai and President, World Wellness Organization, President of Indian Noni Research Foundation; Dr (Mrs.) Manju Sharma, founder President and Executive Director, Indian Institute of Advanced Research, Gandhinagar, Gujarat and Dr Narayan Mohanty, Lt General (Retd), PVSM, AVSM, VSM, President, Veterinary Council of India, in recognition of their illustrious services to the farming community.

Golden Jubilee Interactive Workshop

The university celebrated its golden jubilee year (24 August 2011 to 23 August 2012) with round the year programmes benefiting farmers, scientists, administrators, policy makers and students.

Seminars, Symposia and conferences were held at periodic intervals; a Souvenir was published containing the achievements of OUAT during the last 50 years. Future thrust areas of research, extension or academic activities, inter-and intra-college literary, cultural and sports competitions were held among the students;

eminent scientists, teachers and farmers were felicitated; farmers-scientist interaction was organized; and exhibitions were held at the headquarter as well as at all the agro-climatic zones of Odisha.

On 24 December 2011 an interactive workshop on "Conservation agriculture" was organized at its main campus, in which deans, directors, heads of Departments and professors of the university participated. Dr I. C. Mohapatra, former VC, was the chairman, and Dr Debraj Panda, former Director, WALMI was the keynote speaker. Ten scientists from university of Hawaii, the USA including Dr Travis Idol, Professor (Agron.), as well as scientists from the ICAR institutes nearby Bhubaneshwar, IIT, Kharagpur and from OUAT participated and presented their papers.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD

76th Annual convention of Indian Society of Soil Science

The 76th annual Convention of ISSS was organised at Dharwad head quarter from 16 to 19 November 2011.

Shri Basavaraj Bommai, Minister of Major Irrigation and Water Resources Government of Karnataka, inaugurated it. Dr B. P. Singh, President, ISSS, New Delhi, briefed about the contributions of the society in achieving green

revolution. Dr A.K. Singh, Deputy Director-General (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi, also spoke on the occasion. Dr R. R. Hanchinal, VC presided over the function. Dr M. B. Chetti, Dr G. S. Dasog, Dr(Smt) Nirmuth, Dr Sangu Angadi, Dr Vandana Dwivedi and about 450 delegates were present.

A special symposium on Watershed Management was held on 17 November 2011, chaired by Dr A.K.Singh, co-chaired by Dr S.P.Wani, Principal Scientist (Watersheds), ICRISAT, Hyderabad. Its recommendations are given below :

- There is need to support on-farm research and development options for higher and lower rainfall regions. One- size-fits-all approach does not work.
- Quote planning of water resources, along with improvement in soil health; use of improved cultivars; pest and disease management as well as, markets, institutions and policy support are necessary for proper watershed management.
- To derive full impact of science-led watershed development it has to be associated with development projects. The IWMP could become a growth engine for inclusive and sustainable development in rainfed areas.
- Research is necessary institutional mechanisms and methods for



management of common property resources in terms of social, economical and technical aspects.

- Location specific integrated farming systems need to be evolved to maximize the productivity, profitability, input-use efficiency, livelihood and environmental security, and for poverty alleviation.
- Alternative sustainable land-use systems for productive utilization of degraded or wastelands must be explored.
- Monitoring of the hydrological impacts of watershed-development programmes in the upper reaches on the flow regimes in the downstream reaches needs priority.
- Intensive capacity building and hand-holding support are crucial in strengthening and sustaining the peoples' participation.

71st Annual Conference of Indian Society of Agricultural Economics

The "71st Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics" (ISAE) was organized by the Department of Agricultural Economics, UAS, Dharwad during 3-5 November 2011, Dr Y.K. Alagh, a noted Indian economist and former Union Minister, Government of India, and currently the Chairman, Institute of Rural Management, Anand, inaugurated it. Dr Ashok Dalwai, Conference President; Dr



N.A. Mujumdar, President, ISAE; Dr C. Ramasamy Acting VC, Dharwad; Dr H.S. Vijayakumar also took active part during deliberations.

Nearly 395 delegates including scientists, policy makers, development workers and students from across the country interacted and shared their ideas on emerging

issues of national importance. The technical session had four themes, viz, (a) Agricultural development perspective and strategy planning for the XII five year plan, (b) Climate change: its impact on agricultural productivity and livelihood - the policy response; (c) Innovation in agricultural credit market: rationalization of Policy Response; and (d) Role of ICT in dissemination of knowledge in agriculture sector: its efficacy and scope.

Four special sessions too were organized viz. (a) Agricultural development perspective and strategy planning for the XII five year plan with special reference to Karnataka; (b) Climate change and rainfed agriculture; (c) ICT in agricultural marketing; and (d) Innovative rural banking. The special sessions were co-sponsored respectively by (a) Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore, (b) International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics, Hyderabad; (c) Department of Agricultural Marketing, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore, and (d) Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore.

Third International Group Meeting on Wheat

Third International Group Meeting on "Wheat productivity enhancement under



Third International Group Meeting on Wheat

changing climate" was organized jointly by UAS, Dharwad; Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal, (Haryana) and Wheat Research and Technology Fund, Karnal during 9 to 12 February, 2011. Prof. Ronnie Coffman, Cornell University, the USA while inaugurating it called upon the researchers to make collective efforts to increase the food productivity and add impetus to highlight the importance of abiotic stress management viz., heat, drought, salinity and waterlogging in addition to

micronutrient management. He said that India shall gain significant importance in the coming with the UAS, Dharwad is launching faculty development programme. Dr Hans Braun, Director (Wheat), CIMMYT, Mexico, stated that by 2050 the combined population of India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh would be on par with the combined population of European and American continents, Hence there is immediate need to ensure food security of the nation. He felt that the investment in agriculture oriented activities needs to be doubled. Dr Sanjay Rajaram, former Director (Wheat), CIMMYT, Mexico stressed the need for better policies, quality research and private participation to address the challenges of reduction in food productivity due to climate change. Dr S. Nagarajan, former Director, IARI, New Delhi, said that the scientists have to gear up to deal with the changing agricultural situation in India and suitable region-wise plans have to be developed for improved production.

Dr R.R. Hanchinal, VC, in his presidential address, informed the audience that the release of bread wheat variety DWR 162 (Dewata) in Indonesia has brought laurels to the university. The meeting raised concerns over the depleting agricultural activity, leading to food insecurity in the country. It is generally felt that global warming and rapid industrialization have raised more problems in agricultural productivity. Dr P.M. Salimath, Director of Research, welcomed the gathering. Dr S.S. Singh, Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal (Haryana) delivered the introductory speech and released the books titled 'Wheat Research in Karnataka' and 'Cotton development in dry region' published by UAS, Dharwad and 'Hundred years in wheat research in India' published by the Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal. Dr M.B. Chetti, Dean (Agric.) proposed the vote of thanks. Delegates from France, Canada, Argentina, the USA, Denmark and other countries participated in this international meet. About 350 scientists, administrators, extension workers and other representatives from various parts of the country and abroad made it a grand success by their active participation.

UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES, BAGALKOT

First convocation

The first convocation of UAS, Bagalkot was held on 27 December 2011. Mr. S.A. Ravindranath, Minister for Horticulture and Sugar, Government of Karnataka and Pro-Chancellor of the University, presided over the function and awarded the degree to the students. Dr H.P. Singh, Deputy Director-General (Horticulture) ICAR, New Delhi, the chief guest, delivered the convocation address. Dr S.B. Dandin, VC



First Convocation

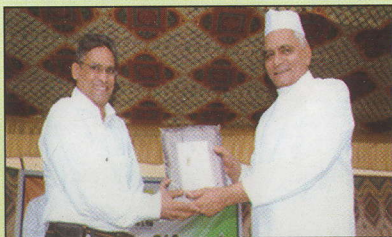
welcomed the guests and presented a brief progress report on the university achievements. Dr B. Raju presented the list of M.Sc. (Hort.) students, Dr M.B. Madalageri, Director of Students Welfare presented the list of B.Sc. (Hort.) and Dr A.B. Patil, Registrar, led the convocation academic procession and presented the list of various University Gold Medalists. On this occasion 95 students (92 in Person and 3 in Absentia) were awarded with B.Sc. (Hort.) degree and 11 students (10 in Person and 1 in Absentia) awarded with M.Sc. (Hort.) degree. Kumari Zeba Bhaktiyar, College of Horticulture, Mudigere topped the list among the students of B.Sc.(Hort.) and bagged 15 Gold Medals instituted by University and Donors. Mr. Mahesh Badigere of Kittur Rani Channamma College of Horticulture, Arabhavi, Mr. Sachin Utagi of College of Horticulture, Bidar bagged three and two gold medals, respectively. Similarly, Miss. Natasha Gurung, Miss. Saraswathi Gummal, Miss. Yuona Lingado and Miss. Rekha Eda bagged the gold medals for securing highest OGPA in their respective departments of M.Sc. (Hort.). Various dignitaries who graced the occasion were Smt. Vandita Sharma, Principal Secretary Horticulture and other esteemed Members of the Board of Management, Shri. Veeranna Charantimath, Shri. Veeranna Mattikatti, Dr (Smt.) Isabella Xavier; Dr R.C. Hallikeri and Dr Sampat Samraj and other Academic Council members. About 1,000 students, staff members and other, parents and invitees witnessed the convocation.

Awards

ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND

Achiever Award- 2010 to Dr V. P. Ramani

Dr V. P. Ramani of Micronutrient Project, received "Achiever Award-2010" instituted by Society for Advancement of Human and Nature, Dr Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan (Himachal Pradesh) to recognize the contribution made by him to the society, especially in the field of farming or agriculture. Dr A. M. Shekh, VC, presented the award to him on Independence Day.



Dr V.P. Ramani receiving Achiever Award

IZA-FAI award to Dr K. P. Patel and his associates

A national Seminar on "Fertilizer reforms: challenges and opportunities" with "Awards Presentation Ceremony" was held during 7-9 December, 2011 at New Delhi.



Dr K. P. Patel and associates receiving IZA-FAI award

Mr. Srikant Kumar Jena, Hon'ble minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India presented (IZA-FAI) International Zinc Association- Fertiliser Association of India Award on "Promoting the use of zinc in Indian agriculture" to Dr K. P. Patel, Research Scientist (Micronutrients) and his associates, viz. Dr V. P. Ramani, and Dr S. B. Patel, Assistant Research Scientists and Dr K. C. Patel, Assistant Professor (SS & AC) of AAU, Anand; and Dr M.V. Singh, former Project Coordinator (Micronutrients), Indian Institute of Soil Sciences, Bhopal, for their outstanding contribution in promoting to improve use of zinc in agriculture to improve crop productivity in India.

S. N. Ranade Memorial Award to Dr K. P. Patel

Dr K. P. Patel, Research Scientist, Micronutrient Project, Anand Agricultural University, Anand received "S. N. Ranade Memorial Award" for Senior Scientist of 2011-12 from by IMT Technologies Ltd. Pune for excellence in micronutrient research. The award included cash prize of Rs 51,000, a citation and a silver memento.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, BANGALORE



President Smt. Patil presenting Life-time achievement award to Dr. Gowda

Life-time Achievement Award

Dr K. Narayana Gowda, VC, received Life-time Achievement award from International Society of Agricultural Extension Education for his outstanding contribution in the field of Extension Education/ Agricultural Development/ Rural development. HE Smt. Prathiba Devi Singh Patil, President of India, presented him

the award at Second-international conference on Innovative approach for agricultural knowledge management: global extension experiences, held from 9 to 12 November 2011 at New Delhi.

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD

National award to DUs Centre, Seed Unit

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV & FRA) conferred the best DUS test centre (among State Agricultural University category) award to its centre functioning at Seed Unit, UAS, Dharwad for outstanding contribution in achieving the mandates of the PPV & FR Act, 2001. Dr N. K. Biradarpatil, Special Officer (Seeds), UAS, Dharwad, received the award on Foundation day function of the Authority on 11 November 2011 at New Delhi.



National Award to DUs Centre, Seed Unit

First prize for UAS-Dharwad Exhibition

The stall of UAS, Dharwad was adjusted the best in Kisan Mela and Agro- Industrial Exhibition held at G. B. Panth, University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar during 12-15 October, 2011. The award carries a certificate and memento, Dr Bisht, VC of Pantnagar university, presented the award to Dr H. T. Chandranath, EEU, Dharwad, and Dr B. C. Hanumath swamy, KVK, Hanumanamatti on behalf of UAS, Dharwad. HE Shri Hansraj Bharadwaj, Governor of Karnataka presented the states best NSS Volunteer award for the year 2010-11 to Shri. Mallikarjun Handiganur, B.Sc.(Agric.) student, received it on 17 October 2011. He also received the prestigious National Indira Gandhi NSS Award for the year 2010-11 presented by Hon'ble Central Youth Affairs & Sports minister at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.



First Prize Award' for UASD Exhibition

OBITUARY

Prof. Amrit Lal Chaudhary

Prof. Amrit Lal Chaudhary, former President, Veterinary Council of India; VC, CCSHAU, Hissar; and former Chairman, ASRB, left for his heavenly abode on 15 December 2011. Prof. Chaudhary was born in a farmers' family and obtained his B.Sc. degree in Veterinary Medicine. He did Ph.D. from Ohio and worked as Professor in Veterinary University, Bikaner; and Director, Directorate of Animal Medical Research, Bikaner. He also worked as VC, HAU, Hissar (Haryana) and Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi. Prof. A.L. Chaudhary was an eminent scientist, Secretary General, IAUA on behalf of all the VCs of member universities pays homage and pray for him peace in the heaven.



Prof. Amrit Lal Chaudhary

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