



# IAUA



# NEWS

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## NEW VICE-CHANCELLORS

### RAJMATA VIJYARAJE SCINDIA KRISHI VISHWA VIDYALAYA, GWALIOR

#### Prof. A. K. Singh joined as VC

Prof. Anil Kumar Singh, took over as VC, RVSKVV, Gwalior on 19 October 2012, earlier he was Deputy Director-General (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi from 2007 to 2012; and Project Director, Water Technology Centre from 1999 to 2007. He was President of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences at 91st Session of Indian Science Congress 2004; Vice-President, Indian Society of Soil Science and President, Delhi Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science. He is Secretary, Indian Society of Water Management and President, Indian Society of Agricultural Science since 2010. He received many awards such as for the 11th D.P. Motiramani Memorial Lecture, 2004; IARI Best Teacher, 2005; Soil Conservation Society of India Gold Medal, 2006; 33rd Dr R.V. Tamhane Memorial Lecture, 2006; 6th Prof. S.C. Das Memorial Lecture, 2008; 19th Dr S.P. Raychaudhary Memorial Lecture, 2008; Platinum Jubilee Lecture, Indian Science Congress, 2009; 8th Dr P.G. Krishna Memorial Oration, 2009; 19th Nehru Memorial Lecture, 2009 and other awards such as Prof. S.K. Mukherjee Commemoration Award, 2009, Indian Science Congress Association; Dr C. Subramaniam Outstanding Teacher Award, 2007-08; Xth Shri Hari Krishna Shastri Memorial Award for outstanding contribution in the field of Natural Resources Management, 2009; 20th Dr Daroga Singh Memorial Lecture, 2011; and Rajesh Pilot Memorial Award, 2011 for life-time contributions to Agricultural Sciences.

He was made DAAD fellow during 1982-83 at University of Hohenheim Stuttgart, Germany, and worked at International Rice Research Institute Manila during 1993-95. He obtained a Diploma on Farm Water Management from University of Arizona, Tucson, the USA in 1992.

Dr Singh is a Fellow of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences: Indian Society of Soil Science; Indian Water Resources Society; Bhoovigyan Vikas Foundation (Foundation for Earth Sciences Development) and Indian Society of Water Management. For his outstanding contributions to the field of Soil Science, he was awarded its "Honorary Membership" in 2011.

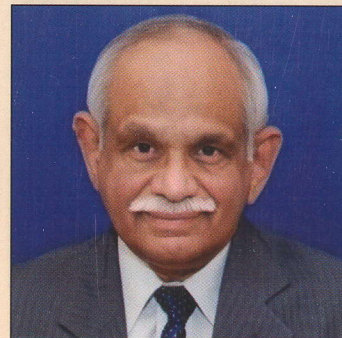
Dr Singh published more than 300 research papers, books or bulletins, seminar or symposia proceedings, manuals and technical reports on various aspects of soil-water-nutrient-plant relationships, remote-sensing applications and use of modern tools in water management.

### JAWAHARLAL NEHRU KRISHI VISHWAVIDYALYA, JABALPUR

#### Prof. V.S. Tomar takes over as VC

Prof. Vijay Singh Tomar joined as VC, JNKVV, Jabalpur on 23 November 2012. He was prior to this, founder VC of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior (from 15th October, 2009 to 20th August, 2012). Born on 1 July 1946, he did M.Sc. (Agric.) from JNKVV, Jabalpur; Ph.D. (Soil Science) from GBPUAT, Pantnagar (1973); and Post-Doctorate from IRRI, Manila, Philippines (1978-80). He joined as Assistant Professor, Department of Soil Science, GBPUAT, Pantnagar (1972); and Professor, JNKVV, Jabalpur (1985). Thereafter he served as Dean, and as Director of Extension; and again Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Director of Instructions, and Director of Research, JNKVV, Jabalpur, till his superannuation in June 2008.

Prof. Tomar established Biotechnology Centre having advanced facilities, and UNDP/ ICAR Centre of Advanced Studies in Soil Science, JNKVV, Jabalpur. He published more than 95 scientific papers in national and international journals, eight books and manuals and several bulletins. He was instrumental in establishing College of Horticulture, Mandsaur; Colleges of Agriculture at Tikamgarh and Ganjbasoda; Dryland Horticulture Research Centre and Centre of



Prof. Anil Kumar Singh



Prof. Vijay Singh Tomar



Vocational Education in Horticulture, Garhakota (Sagar) in Madhya Pradesh. He received many prestigious awards viz. Jawaharlal Nehru Award of the ICAR (1974), Biennial Best KVK Award of the ICAR (2002), and Golden Jubilee Best Agricultural Scientist (1997), Government of M.P. as well as Best Agricultural Scientist (2007) from State Bank of India. He was Councilor of Indian Society of Soil Science and Indian Society of Water Management. He is a Fellow, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Indian Society of Soil Science. He was invited to present lead or scientific papers at 17 international conferences, as well as several national conferences, and was also invited to deliver Dr R. V. Tamhane Memorial Lecture at Indian Society of Soil Science.

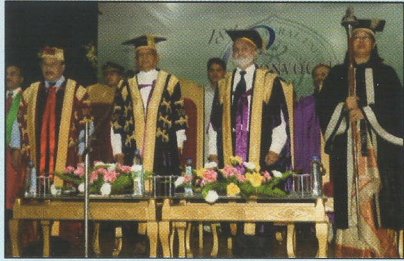
## Focus on Universities: Events and Achievements

### Universities

#### ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JORHAT

##### 18th Convocation

The 18th convocation of the AAU was held on 12 November 2012 at the Jorhat campus. Shri J. B. Patnaik, H.E. the Governor of Assam and Chancellor of the university, awarded degrees to 1,057 students who had qualified under different faculties. D.Sc.(honoris causa) was conferred on Shri Hemendra Prasad Barooah, noted tea planter; and to Shri Bhaskar Barua, IAS (Retd), an able administrator; for their valued contributions towards growth and development of agriculture in the region and the country.



Dr K. M. Bujarbaruah, VC, in his welcome address presented a brief account of the progress of the university during the intervening period in research, education and extension activities, the infrastructural facilities being developed and the students' achievements. Dr S. Ayyappan, Director General, ICAR & Secretary, DARE, Government of India, the chief guest presented a broad outline of Indian agriculture and the challenges it faces. In the backdrop of changing agricultural education, he made a special mention of the proposed composite programme on Rural Entrepreneurship and Awareness Development Yojana to meet the demands of diversified agriculture and the emerging global markets, besides the initiative like Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA) a national need. Finally Dr Ayyappan congratulated the graduating students and wished that the wealth of knowledge and competence acquired by them at the university would help them perform well to lead a contented, holistic, transparent and self-actualized life with high moral values, to make India proud.

##### Workshop on Fisheries in North-East

A workshop on 'Prioritization of research and education for fisheries development in North-East' was held at Jorhat during 26-27 November 2012. The workshop was organized jointly by the Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai and AAU, Jorhat. Shri Basanta Das, Minister of Fisheries, Government of Assam, was the chief guest. In his inaugural address, he laid stress on the publication of fisheries-related books for providing technical know-how to the fish farmers of the state, and on greater extension activities. Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah, VC, in his presidential address explained the need for technology generation and competent human-resource development to improve the fisheries sector of this region. Dr W. S. Lakra, VC, CIFE, Mumbai, in his address remarked that the workshop would be paradigm for the development of fisheries in the region and will help in chalking out priority research and education issues.



##### 28th Annual convention of the ISSAR

The 28th annual convention of Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction was held in College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara during 21-23 November 2012. On this occasion a national symposium on the theme "Addressing animal reproductive stresses through biotechnological tools" was organized. Inaugurating the symposium, Dr A.S. Nanda, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Government of India, New Delhi, invited the scientists engaged in

animal reproduction to work for overall improvement of reproductive efficiency of livestock, keeping in view the challenges of ever-increasing human population and shrinkage of cultivable land, leading to acute shortage of animal feeds and fodder. Dr K. M. Bujarbaruah, VC, in his presidential speech stressed on the need of quality research, planned and need based, as well as of a quality on par with that carried out in different parts of the world. Dr Bujarbaruah also delivered the prestigious Dr C.R.Sane, Oration on the topic "Biotechnological options for optimizing reproductive efficiency in livestock". He also released a book, "Reproductive performance of crossbred bull in tropics" (An Indian experience) written by Dr A.K. Mathur and co-workers.



##### Indian Pharmacological Society conference: East Zone

The East Zonal Indian Pharmacological Society Conference was held at College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara during 3-4 November 2012. It was organized by Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara; Department of Pharmacology, Gauhati Medical College, Guwahati; and NIPER Guwahati. Dr K. M. Bujarbaruah, VC, was the chairman at the inauguration ceremony; and Dr Ardhendu Kumar Dey, Minister, Irrigation and Soil Conservation, Government of Assam, was the Chief Guest.



##### IIIRD National Congress of Veterinary Parasitology

The 23rd National Congress of Veterinary Parasitology and a national symposium on the theme "Parasitology today: from environmental and social impact to the application of geo-informatics and modern biotechnology" was held at College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara, on 12 December 2012. Shri Nilamani Sen Deka, Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing and Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Assam, was the chief guest and Dr J. Mahanta, Director, Regional Medical Research Centre, N.E. Region (I.C.M.R), Dibrugarh was the guest of honour. Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah, VC, presided.



##### Visit of Scientist from Tuskegee University, the USA

Scientists from Tuskegee University, Alabama, the USA, representing of 3 faculties along with 2 students visited College of Fisheries, Raha on 14 December 2012 to explore the potential of the faculties for future collaboration and student-exchange programme.

##### Annual college meet, 2012

The College of Agriculture celebrated its annual college meet during 26-30 November 2012. Mr Ifteqar Hussain, Upper Assam Commissioner inaugurated the meeting. Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah, VC, was the Chief Guest. During the meet Mr Tridip Pegu was adjudged as the Best Athlete in male group and Miss Rupshree Borah, Best Athlete in female group. In the Cultural section Mr Pranjit Sutradhar and Miss Debojani Deuri were

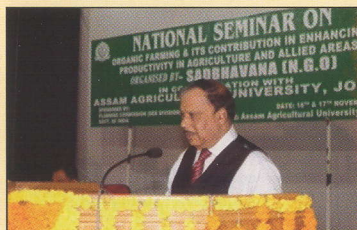


adjudged the Best Actor and Best Singer, respectively. Mr Satyajit Swain was the Best participant in Debating and Study circle. The meet concluded with a cultural function where the well-known group 'North East Breeze' enthralled the audience with a wonderful concert.



### National Seminar on Organic Farming

A national seminar on 'Organic farming and Its contribution in enhancing productivity in agriculture and allied areas' was held at Jorhat during 16-17 November 2012. It was organised jointly by Sadbhavana (A Majuli-based NGO) and AAU, Jorhat, sponsored by Planning Commission, Government of India, New Delhi.



### ACHARYA N.G. RANGA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD

#### Participation in foreign programmes

Dr Veera Jayalaxmi, Senior Scientist (Plant Breeding), AICRP on Chickpea, RARS, Nandyal; and Dr Yadlapalli Satish, Scientist (Plant Breeding), ARS, Darsi, participated in the 'Integrated breeding multi-year course' during 15 to 26 Oct, 2012 at Wageningen, the Netherlands.

### BIHAR AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, SABOUR

#### 2nd Foundation Day

The BAU celebrated its second Foundation day on 5 August 2012. Dr M.L. Chaudhary, VC, devised the programme to develop a human bank under the university patronage. Shri Anjani Kumar Singh, Agricultural Production Commissioner, Government of Bihar, inaugurated the function. Shri Md. Minhaz Alam, Commissioner, Bhagalpur; and many dignitaries graced the occasion. On this Occasion an Innovative farmers meet was also organized, which was attended by 105 innovator farmers representing different districts of Bihar. The farmers explained the techniques devised by them in improving their farm income.



#### Kisan chaupal

The university started a Kisan Chaupal on 28 April 2012 in 20 districts under its jurisdiction at Araria, Arwal, Aurangabad, Banka, Bhagalpur, Gaya, Jehanabad, Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Lakhisarai, Madhepura, Munger, Nalanda, Patna, Purnea, Rohtas, Saharsa, Sheikhpura and Supaul. The chaupal aimed to solve the agriculture-related problems of the farmers and facilitate transfer of knowledge, besides informing the farm women about the new findings in the field of Home Science. The Kisan Chaupal is being organised every Saturday in one village of the district.



Scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras and the teachers concerned reply to the queries of the farmers. Films related to new methods and techniques in agriculture and allied fields are also screened. The major key issues raised during the discussions held are: crop-specific problems in the farmers' fields, orchard management, vegetable cultivation, apiculture, organic farming, animal husbandry and fisheries, besides creation of awareness among the farmers regarding various centrally-sponsored and state-sponsored schemes in agriculture and allied sector. The popularity of the Programme can be judged from

the participation of more than 92,000 farmers from these districts. More than 1,20,000 technical bulletins, Kisan Samachar and an information booklet on the schemes (Bihar Kisan Guide) were distributed during the programme.

#### Pulses production in Bihar

The Directorate of Extension Education organized a workshop on 'Accelerated pulses production in Bihar' on 26 September 2012. Shri Uday Narayan Choudhary, Speaker, Bihar Vidhan Sabha inaugurated it, and Dr M.L. Choudhary, VC presided. The workshop laid major focus on the need to develop proper techniques for improving pulses productivity in the state. There was special farmers-scientists interaction meet to identify the researchable issues. During the plenary session it was decided to prioritize the research work for increasing the productivity of pigeonpea, greengram (moong), lentil and chickpea, as well as to develop a short-duration variety or hybrid suitable for late planting in pigeonpea.



Shri Uday Narayan Choudhary, inaugurating the Workshop

#### Hybrid seed production of maize

The university has taken new initiatives for hybrid seed production of maize through participatory mode. It adopted Sahu Parvatta village of Bhagalpur district for this programme. The variety being grown is DHM 117 in 40 ha.



Dr M.L. Choudhary and Scientists interacting with Farmers

#### Leadership award

Dr V.B. Patel, University Professor (Horticulture), was honored with Agricultural Leadership award by the magazine, Agriculture Today on 19 September 2012 at Hotel Taj, New Delhi, for his contributions in horticultural sciences. Shri Harish Rawat, Union State Minister for Agriculture, presented him the award.



Dr V.B. Patel receiving Agricultural Leadership Award

### CHAUDHARY CHARAN SINGH

### HARYANA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, HISAR

#### International symposium on global cotton-production technologies

The CCSHAU hosted a silver jubilee international symposium on global cotton-production technologies vis-a-vis climate change.

It was organized jointly by Cotton Research and Development Association and CCSHAU in collaboration with the ICAR, attracting participation of 250 cotton scientists from India and abroad.

Dr S. K. Data, DDG, ICAR, who inaugurated the symposium, said that cotton production was not commensurate with the increase in area that had taken place largely due to adoption of Bt cotton in the irrigated areas in north India. To increase the production of cotton he called upon the scientists to develop new varieties as well as hybrids of cotton that were more tolerant to various diseases, pests and climate change. It is also important to improve the quality of cotton-seed oil, by evolving varieties having low gossypol content in the seed. It would help ease the situation of edible oils in the country. He laid stress on development of cotton-production technologies at low cost to enhance profit of the farmers.

Dr K. S. Khokhar, VC, in his presidential address said that climate change was posing a serious threat to production of crops world wide. By the end of this century the temperature is likely to increase by 2-5°C. Hence





genetically modified Bt crops have to be evolved. Haryana, was able to produce 26.2 lakh bails of cotton last year due to cultivation of Bt cotton varieties. To sustain the production of cotton, seed of desi cotton varieties should also be made available to the farmers.

Dr C.D. Mayee, President, CRDA, highlighted the objectives of the symposium. Dr S.S. Dhamija, Additional Director of Research, CCSHAU, Dr M. S. Chauhan, Secretary, CRDA; and Dr S. S. Siwach, also spoke. Dr B.V. Patil and Dr R.G.Dani, VC of University of Agriculture, Raichur and Dr P K D Vidyapeeth, Akola respectively were also present.

Life-time Achievement awards, Public-Private Partnership Award and Corporate Advisor Award were presented on the occasion. Besides, two books were also released.

### Homage to renowned personality

#### Pt. Moti Lal Nehru

The university paid homage to Pt Moti Lal Nehru, a noted freedom fighter and father of India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru on his 150th birth anniversary (29 November).

Dr K.S. Khokhar, VC, recalled the role of Pt Moti Lal Nehru in the national freedom movement. He said he was great follower of Gandhi ji and always opposed the ill designs of Britishers against Indians. Renowned personalities delivered lectures on the life and contributions of Pt Moti Lal Nehru. Dr Khokhar distributed prizes to the winners of declamation contestants on this occasion.

### Kisan diwas

To mark the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister, the late Chaudhary Charan Singh, the university organized Kisan Diwas on 23 December. Mr Paramvir Singh, Agriculture Minister of Haryana, was the chief guest, whereas Dr K. S. Khokhar presided.

A farmer-scientist meet was organised, in which 5,000 farmers and farm women from all over the state and agricultural scientists of the university participated. They discussed the present agriculture scenario of the state and ways to increase the agricultural production. An exhibition showcasing new technologies of agriculture, veterinary and home science was also put up, where the university and private agro-companies displayed their farmer-friendly technologies.

## CSK HP KRISHI VISHVAIDYALAYA, PALAMPUR

### Expert committee meeting on cold desert regions of the country at CSKHPU

An expert committee meeting was held at Palampur during 19-20 November 2012 to finalize the proposals to provide improved livelihood opportunities and drudgery reduction, leading to better quality of life of population living in cold desert regions of the country. The meeting was attended by principal investigators of the projects, five representatives from the DST along with eight experts from top institutes of the country like Dr S.K.Sharma, VC, CSKHPU; Dr P.S. Ahuja, Director of IHBT; Dr Somnath Singh, Defense Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences; Dr D. Raghunandan, Centre for Technology and Development, and Dr S.K. Kare IIT Delhi.

### Training on Saffron

A training programme on saffron production, processing and value addition for the entrepreneurs and farmers from Afghanistan was inaugurated at the university



Sri Param Vir Singh inaugurating the event



Dr Vinita Sharma, Dr S.K.Sharma and other experts in the meeting



campus, during 7-16 November 2012. It was sponsored by Centre for Environment and Economic Development, and organized jointly by the host university, Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology and S.K. University of Agricultural and Technology, Srinagar. Dr S.K.Sharma, VC, in his inaugural address pointed out that saffron being very high value crop has immense potential in Afghanistan, especially in the areas bordering Iran. It was introduced in the heart area in 2000, which due to favorable soil and climatic conditions can transform the socio-economic conditions of Afghan farmers. Dr Sharma emphasized the need to bring more area under saffron in H.P., Uttarakhand and J&K.

### Workshop on winter (rabi) season

A workshop on winter (rabi) season was held on 6 October attended by 200 farm officers from the State Department of Agriculture and scientists from the university. Dr S.K.Sharma, VC, informed that it has been decided at national level to give priority to farmers in all farm research and technology plans. Dr J.C. Rana, Director of Agriculture, H.P., said that a target of 6.73 lac ton food-grains production was fixed for the ensuing rabi season. Dr S.P. Sharma, Director of Research, while elaborating about research strategy and accomplishments, told that 158 research projects worth Rs 84 crores were in operation in the university.

### Workshop on intellectual property and innovation management

A workshop on "Intellectual property and innovation management in agricultural research" was organized on 15 December 2012 by National Research Development Corporation, and CSKHPU. Experts from the NRDC, scientists from the university and some other institutions and students took part.

Dr S.K.Sharma, in his inaugural address highlighted the importance of fully understanding the intricacies of intellectual property rights, geographical indicators, copyrights, patents and all other laws important to protect farm research and innovations. He said that ever since the country became signatory of World Trade Organization in 1995, it became mandatory to follow certain rules, regulations and laws to accelerate trade.

### Re-accreditation of CSKHPU

An ICAR accreditation team visited the university during 10-12 December 2012. Headed by Dr Nawab Ali, former DDG, ICAR, the team included Dr B.S. Bisht, former VC, GBPUAT, Pantnagar, Dr (Mrs) S.K. Mann, former Dean, College of Home Science, PAU, Ludhiana; and Dr Dharmeswar Das, former Joint Director, IVRI, Izatnagar. The team visited almost all departments in the four constituent colleges

inspected the facilities for the students and staff like library, museum, sports complex, hostels, health centre etc, and interacted with the staff and the students.

### Grant from Ministry of Science & Technology

The department of Agricultural Biotechnology of the university received a financial support of 1.6 crore under Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Infrastructure in Higher Educational Institutions programme of the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science for a period of 5 years. Rs60 lac was earmarked for purchase of equipment, Rs15 lac for laboratory renovation and modernization, Rs20 lac for networking, and Rs5lac for maintenance. Another Rs60lac was sanctioned to College of Basic Sciences under FIST by the DST, for purchase of infra red gas analyser (photosynthesis system), fermentor, HPLC, cold room and augmentation of existing computer laboratory.

## DR PANJABRAO DESHMUKH KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, AKOLA

### Visit of Governor

H.E., the Governor of Maharashtra and Chancellor Shri K. Sankaranarayanan inaugurated Modern boys' hostel for PG students on 14.12.2012. Dr R.G. Dani, Vice-Chancellor, Shri V.C. Rastogi, Secretary to Governor, Maharashtra State; Shri D.R. Bansod, Divisional Commissioner, Amravati Division, E.C. Members Shri Vijayraj Shinde, MLA Shri Harish Pimple, MLA and Dr S.R. Khonde, Shri Yogendra Gode; Shri Parimal Singh, District



Dr Nawab Ali, Dr S.K.Sharma and other members during discussions





Collector, Akola; Shri Virendra Mishra, Superintendent of Police; Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Agriculture Minister (Maharashtra) were present on the occasion. Shri Sankaranarayanan visited the Biotechnology Centre and Cotton Research Unit also; and had interactions with farmers and students.

#### AGROTECH 2012

On the eve of 114th birth anniversary of the first Agriculture Minister of India, late Dr Panjabrao Bhausaheb Deshmukh, state-level agricultural exhibition AGROTECH 2012 was organized at Akola from 27 to 29 December 2012. About 3 lakhs farmers visited this exhibition and benefited from the modern agricultural technologies. Shri Gulabraoji Deokar, State Minister of Agriculture; Shri Vijayrao Kolte, Vice-Chairman, MCAER, Pune; and Dr S.K. Datta, DDG (Crops), ICAR, New Delhi attended the inaugural function. The former VCs Dr M.L. Madan, Dr G.M. Bharad, Dr B.G. Bathkal, Dr S.A. Nimbalkar and Dr V.M. Mayande, also visited AGROTECH 2012 on 29 December 2012.



### G.B. PANT UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY, PANTNAGAR

#### Participatory conference on organic farming

Pantnagar university organized a participatory conference and brain-storming session on organic farming on 5 November 2012. Dr Harak Singh Rawat, Agriculture Minister of Uttarakhand, was the chief guest. Many officers from various departments of the government, agricultural scientists and several farmers attended the event, organized to review the current state and prospects of organic farming in the state. At the end of brain-storming session, Dr Rawat said that due to inhospitable environment the hill areas of the state could not realize a significant impact of first Green Revolution. He said that the rate of chemical fertilizers in hill areas is 15-20 kg/ha compared with 200 kg/ha in the plains. He informed that the State government's policy initiatives to develop organic farming in the U.P. made 25,000 ha crop land ready to produce certified organic products in 2007-08. He expressed the hope that the strategy of organic farming developed after discussion here will lead to higher economic returns to the farmers and would help mitigate the environmental problems as well.



Dr Harak Singh Rawat, addressing the brain storming session

#### Foundation day

The 52nd foundation day of the university was celebrated on 17 November 2012. On this occasion Bharat Ratna Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Lecture and Pantnagar Vichar Manch Lecture were organized. Dr R.S. Tolia, former Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand delivered the former lecture, and Islam A. Siddiqui, Ambassador, Chief Agricultural Negotiator at Executive Office of the president of the USA delivered the latter. Shri Subhash Kumar, VC, presided at the function.

#### International symposium on agricultural communication

An international symposium on 'Agricultural communication and sustainable rural development' was organized by Communication



On the dais (L to R), Dr R.S. Tolia, Shri Subhash Kumar IAS, Dr Islam A. Siddiqui and Dr J. Kumar



Dignitaries releasing the publication

Centre of the university during 22-24 November 2012. Dr J.P. Pandey, Acting VC and Registrar inaugurated it. Dr Shiv Sagar Singh, former Director of Communication and Extension, was the chief guest; and Dr M.P. Singh, former VC of Central Agricultural University, Imphal and former Director of Extension, Pantnagar, was the guest of honour. The symposium was held in 7 sessions, in which 350 scientists, research workers and students from India and abroad participated.

#### Ergo 2012 conference

The tenth conference of Indian Society of Ergonomics was organized by College of Home Science, with the theme 'Ergo 2012: safety to all' during 6-8 December 2012.

Dr Arvind Kumar, DDG(Education), ICAR was the chief guest at the inaugural function. Dr J.P. Pandey, Acting VC and Registrar, presided at the function. Dr Mukul Pant, Director, Higher Education, Uttarakhand; and Dr G.G. Ray, President, Indian Society of Ergonomics, graced the occasion. Dr P. Nagpal, Director, National Institute of Occupational Health, was the chief guest at valedictory function. Various awards distributed to the winners of best poster and best doctoral paper to the young scientists.



Lighting the lamp, the chief guest, Dr Arvind Kumar

#### Training workshop on genomics

A national training workshop on 'Application of genomics on crop improvement' was inaugurated on 27 December 2012 at College of Basic Sciences and Humanities. The 21-day workshop was organized by Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics Engineering and was sponsored by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. Dr Rakesh Bhatnagar, VC, Kumaun University, Nainital was the chief guest at the inaugural session and Dr N.K. Singh, National Professor, NRC on Plant Biotechnology, IARI, New Delhi was the guest of honour. Dr Anil Kumar, officiating VC and Registrar, presided. He explained the objectives of the training. In the training workshop 22 scientists from 10 states of India and abroad participated in 25 lectures, and 45 hands-on-training sessions were arranged. Two publications were also released on this occasion.



Dignitaries releasing the publications on genomics,

#### Media meet and showcasing of technologies

Directorate of Extension Education organized a 'Media meet and showcasing of technologies' at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhanauri, Haridwar on 19 October 2012. Dr Y.P.S. Dabas, Project Investigator and Director Extension Education was the chief guest, and Chaudhary Ashok Kumar and Chaudhary Ajab Singh, progressive farmers of the area were the guests of honour. This event was organized under the aegis of the ICAR and NAIP-financed subproject 'Mobilising mass media support for sharing agro-information'. He suggested that media should also co-operate in building up an environment for agricultural development and food security, by sharing agricultural technologies and information with the farmers and other people through print media, TV channels and radio.



Media meets at KVK, Dhanauri, Haridwar

### MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL & FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR

#### MoU with NMPPB, New-Delhi

The Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University signed memorandum of understanding with National Meat and Poultry Processing Board, New Delhi on 5 October 2012 at Ahemadnagar. The Board





recognized the university as 'knowledge partner' in which the latter will provide technical consultancy to the former.

#### Silver jubilee year celebration

Krantisinh Nana Patil College of Veterinary Science, Shirval (district Satara) started silver jubilee year celebration on the occasion of its foundation day on 12 December 2012. Dr Arvind Kumar, DDG (Education), ICAR, New Delhi was the chief guest and Prof. A. K. Misra, VC, MAFSU, Nagpur presided. A Pig farm under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana scheme was also inaugurated.



## MAHATMA PHULE KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, RAHURI

#### Honours to VC

Dr T.A. More, VC, was nominated as a member of the Executive Council of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi w.e.f. 1 Jan 2013 for 3 years. He was also presented Life-time Achievement Award and Best Distinguished Scientist award by International Society of Science and Technology, Mumbai for his contribution to agriculture.



Dr T.A. More

#### Golden Jubilee: College of Agriculture, Kolhapur

Established on June 30, 1963 the College of Agriculture, Kolhapur of the vidyapeeth is celebrating its golden jubilee year during 2012-13. The college achieved excellence in agricultural education, research and extension education. Dr D.Y. Patil, H.E. the Governor of Tripura the chief guest drew attention to the challenges before agriculture in the light of global warming. Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Pro-Chancellor and Minister of Agriculture and Marketing, said that the Knowledge and technology are important for agriculture sector, the government is planning to implement a special policy for agricultural graduates. Dr T.A. More, VC, in his introductory remarks briefed about the achievements of the college. He released a souvenir and launched the college website on this occasion. Former principals of this college and progressive farmers were felicitated.



Golden Jubilee Celebration

#### Precision farming for banana

A state-level workshop on 'Precision farming technologies for banana' was organized at Rahuri on 23 November 2012, in co-operation with Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi, and supported by Maharashtra State Horticulture and Medicinal Plant Board, Pune. In his presidential address Dr More stressed the need to adopt precision-farming technologies for saving irrigation water and fertilizers, to help increase the area under banana cultivation. Shri K. lyengar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi, the chief guest, advised the farmers to adopt precision-farming technologies whole-heartedly. Nearly 238 farmers from various districts of Maharashtra participated.



## PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA

#### Golden jubilee convocation

The PAU held its Golden Jubilee Convocation at Ludhiana on 8 December 2012. On this occasion, D.Sc. (honoris causa) was awarded to Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India; Shri. Prakash Singh Badal, CM of Punjab; Dr R.S. Paroda, former Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR; and Dr J.S. Kanwar, former DDG, International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics, Hyderabad. were conferred with the degrees of Doctor of Science. Sh Shivrj V. Patil, H.E. the Governor of Punjab and

Chancellor of the university conferred the degrees.

Dr Manmohan Singh, the chief guest, in his convocation address congratulated the university for completing its 50 years of dedicated service to the farming community. He also congratulated the students who received degrees and gold medals. He said, "It was the PAU's pioneering work combined with the receptivity and hard work of farmers of Punjab and other states that made Green Revolution possible and gave the country food security. But as the sustainability of water use in agriculture has emerged as a major problem in Punjab, rice has to be replaced with alternative crops like maize, cotton, sugarcane, pulses, oilseeds, fruits or vegetables.



Dr Baldev Singh Dhillon, VC, while welcoming the dignitaries, the PAU faculty members and winning students, highlighted the research, teaching and extension achievements of the 50 years of the university. He said that the PAU has become a preferred destination for the students for its world-class education. The university is not only the 'mother of Green Revolution' but also a leader in development of technologies for conservation agriculture and establishment of strong linkages with the farmers.

#### International conference

Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India, inaugurated international conference on "Sustainable agriculture for food and livelihood security," at Ludhiana on 27 November 2012 organized as a part of golden jubilee celebrations. H.E. Shri Shivrj V. Patil, the Governor of Punjab and Chancellor of the university, was the guest of honour. Shri Prakash Singh Badal, CM of Punjab, presided.



Shri Mukherjee stated that agriculture sector in India is a crucial lifeline of the people. Although the food production of India has increased from 50 million tonnes in 1950s to 257 million tonnes in 2011-12, the economic viability of the farm sector is still a challenge, he pointed out. He said that the percentage of agriculture GDP, spent on research, must be increased in XII Five Year Plan. Congratulating PAU for its 50th anniversary and for the splendid contribution in the service of the nation. This institution has transformed the Indian agriculture, making the country self-reliant in feeding its population.

Among the galaxy of eminent national and international scientists, gracing this event were: Dr S. Ayyappan; DG, ICAR; Dr R.A. Zeigler, DG, International Rice Research Institute, Philippines; and Dr Thomas Lumpkin, DG, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre, Mexico. They lauded the significant role played by the PAU in making the country food-sufficient from a food-deficient one. Earlier, welcoming the dignitaries and the delegates, Dr Baldev Singh Dhillon, VC, said, "Today is the red-letter day in the history of PAU, as the President of India is amongst us to express his views and guide us on sustainable agriculture."

#### National conference on Krishi Vigyan Kendra

The 7th national conference on "Krishi Vigyan Kendra -2012" was organized by the ICAR and PAU jointly at Ludhiana during 20-22 November 2012. Inaugurating the conference, Mr. Sharad Pawar, Union Minister of Agriculture and Food Processing Industries, said that Punjab in general, and PAU in particular, deserve all appreciation



for making substantial contribution of wheat and rice to the central foodgrain bowl. He saluted the farming community for toiling hard to ensure national food security and for the record foodgrain production of 257 million tonnes in 2011-12. Referring to foreign direct investment (FDI), he said that farmers as well as consumers will be its real beneficiaries. The central government is planning to increase foodgrain-storage capacity in the country, and nearly 40 lakh tonnes of storage capacity would be created in Punjab soon. In recognition of its outstanding contribution to wheat production, the Punjab state was chosen for setting up an institute in the memory of



Norman E. Borlaug, Father of Green Revolution. Dr Charan Das Mahant, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Processing Industries, in his presidential address, remarked that KVKs have become the backbone of main extension mechanism being run by the state governments. In his opening remarks, Dr S. Ayyappan, Secretary, DARE; & DG, ICAR, said that KVK is an institutional innovation, playing a vital role through assessment, refinement and demonstration of various agri-technologies and farming practices in farmers' fields.

Dr Baldev Singh Dhillon, VC, welcoming the dignitaries, delegates and participants, pointed out that KVKs play a key role in bridging the gap between the farmers and the scientists in terms of knowledge. In our movement from food dependence to food substantiality, the KVKs are making praiseworthy contributions to Indian agriculture, and their entire system has expanded under the stewardship of Mr Pawar

## PT. DEAN DAYAL UPADHYAYA PASHU CHIKITSA VIGYAN VISHWAVIDHYALAYA, MATHURA

### National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India)

The National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) under PDDVPCVVV, Mathura held its XI convocation and National Seminar at Mathura.

#### XI Convocation

The XI convocation of the Academy was held at Mathura on 2 November, 2012.

Dr J. P. Kukreti, a centenarian and eminent veterinarian and educationist, an alumni and also an ex-faculty member of the prestigious erstwhile UP College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Mathura was the chief guest. Prof. A. P. Singh, VC, presided. The dignitaries included Prof.

M. P. Yadav, President of the Academy, Prof. Gaya Prasad, Secretary-General of the Academy, Col. V. K. Bhatnagar, Vice-President, and Prof. Satish K. Garg, the Chairman and Organizing Secretary.

The inaugural function was graced by luminaries such as Prof. A. K. Srivastava, Director-cum VC, NDRI; Prof. Gaya Prasad Director-cum-VC, IVRI; Prof. A.K. Gahlot, VC, RAJVASU, Bikaner; Prof. V. Prabhakar Rao, VC, SVVU, Tirupati; Prof. Suresh Honnappagol, former VC, Karnataka Veterinary University, Dr A. Battobayal, Joint Commissioner (Animal Husbandry) GoI, Prof. J.S. Bhatia former ADG (Education), ICAR; Dr Kusumakar Sharma, ADG (HRD), ICAR. Dr D. Swarup, Director, National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar, Dr R. K. Singh, Prof. Balachandran Registrar, TANUVAS, Chennai; and several others including CEO of Dabur Ayurved, MD of Indian Herbs Mr Sushil Agarwala and Indian Head CLFMA Dr Dinesh Bhosale. In total, 97 delegates from different institutes, universities and organizations attended the programme including some of the students from the host institute.

The NAVS(India) is presently having almost 500 Fellows, who are very distinguished and accomplished teachers, scientists and professionals, as well as have made immense contributions in the field of veterinary and animal sciences including defence services and are considered as the think-tank for all issues related to veterinary education and research as well as to livestock and poultry sector in the country. Every year NAVSc (India) recognises and honours eminent veterinarians as "Fellows" of the academy, based on a very rigorous selection procedure. This year, the Academy identified seven such Fellows and awarded "Fellowship of Academy" at its 11th Convocation on 2 November 2012.

On this occasion, Dr Kukreti and Mr Sushil Agarwala, the M.D. Indian Herbs and Supplies, Saharanpur were also honoured by awarding honorary fellowship of the academy in recognition of their contributions in the field of education and livestock health respectively. Dr Kukreti was honoured and presented the scroll of honour on behalf of the Faculty and students of the college.

#### National Seminar

A national seminar on livestock policy was organized during five technical sessions were held, in which 13 papers were presented by eminent academicians, professionals and planners. Director, NDRI, Karnal delivered the keynote address on "Quality and safety of milk and milk products for international trade: key challenges ahead". In other sessions, the focus was laid on greening livestock production for better soil and human health, SPS compliance in livestock and poultry sector, national livestock policy, conservation of indigenous breeds of livestock, IPR issues in livestock, food-safety regulations for promoting international trade, policy issues in national veterinary education, animal health and skill development in animal sector for augmenting animal production and productivity.



### National Livestock Mission;

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, established under Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 should ensure the quality of foods of livestock origin.

Apart from compendium of the compilations of the invited lectures of resource persons, two more University publications, namely "Research Publications 2001-12" and "Ruminant Science" Journal were also released by the dignitaries.

## SRI VENKATESWARA VETERINARY UNIVERSITY, TIRUPATI

### Livestock productivity

A national symposium on 'Improvement of livestock productivity through conventional breeding and emerging technologies in changing global scenario: challenges, prospects and retrospects', along with XII Annual Conference of Indian Society of Animal Genetics and Breeding was organized by SVVU at College of Veterinary Science, Hyderabad during 22 and 23 November 2012.

Shri P. Viswarup, Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries, Government of A.P. was the chief guest at the inaugural function. About 150 delegates from across the country participated in the deliberations.

## UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR

### Profitable agriculture

Shri Jagadish Shettar, CM, Government of Karnataka laid the foundation stone for administrative building of the university at Raichur campus on 10 September 2012. He urged the agricultural scientist to present the agriculture profession as a profitable venture, to draw the farmers to it. He suggested that the agricultural universities in the state should play an important role in bringing back the rural farm youth to the villages. The students studying in the university must acquire practical experience. The Government of Karnataka is giving importance to the development of agriculture in the state by implementing Bhoo chethana programme in 50 lakh ha during 2012-13, starting Diploma and Certificate courses in agriculture etc. Dr B.V. Patil, VC, welcomed the gathering and briefed about the achievements of the university during the past 3 years.

Dr B. V. Patil, VC, visited the USA during 4-16 July 2012 to attend Executive Committee Meeting of ICAC, Washington, on 5 July 2012. Later he went to Baltimore Research Station, USDA, Baltimore, and had discussion with the scientists. He also visited Colorado State University, Fort Collins and made MoU with the university to work jointly on precision agriculture. At North Dakota State University, Fargo; University of Auburn, Alabama; and Tuskegee University, he interacted with the research scientists on food security, pest management and biotechnology.

### Visit of Dr B.V. Patil to USA

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### MoU with ICRISAT for PG Research

The university entered into memorandum of understanding with International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics, Hyderabad for post-graduate research. The MoU would help the PG students to make use of expertise and the kind of research taking place in the field of crop improvement, protection, natural resource management, genetic conservation and related policy issues in the mandate crops of the ICRISAT. Dr William Dar, DG, ICRISAT, Hyderabad.

Dr William Dar, DG, ICRISAT, Hyderabad.

### Seed mela

The Seed unit of the university in co-operation with Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India organized kharif and rabi seed mela on 25 May and 25 September 2012 respectively. The melas aim to provide technology on production of





quality seeds of different crops and their sale at an affordable price to the farmers. During these melas the seeds of improved varieties of pigeonpea, greengram, blackgram, bengalgram, paddy, sorghum, maize(bajra), foxtail millet, wheat, sunflower, groundnut, sesame pearl millet castor were sold to the farmers. Dr B.V. Patil, VC, while inaugurating the melas urged the farmers to use the best-quality seeds of good varieties, for obtaining higher yield, and advised them to become self-reliant in the production of quality seeds at the village level. Dr Basavegouda, Seed Officer, and other officers of the university, officials of the NSC, KSSC, KOF, CSF, IAT, and Private seed growers were present on the occasion. Around 500 farmers took part in these melas.

#### Popularization of direct-seeded rice

Rice is a major crop grown in more than 1 lakh, ha in rainy season (kharif) under TBP command area of Raichur district. Though the farmers were getting good yield during the initial period, recently the paddy growers faced many problems such as delayed monsoon, late release of water, labour problem, degradation of soil structure, incidence of pest and diseases. As a result most of the left their land fallow. Noting this situation Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Raichur in collaboration with CIMMYT-CSISA sponsored 'Conservation agriculture project', headed by Dr S.G. Patil, Director of Education. He demonstrated the direct-seeded rice through zero-till seed-drill in 1,600 ha, by involving 200 farmers of Kasbe and Sriram camps of Raichur taluk; Nelhal, Sirwar, Neeramanni, Halpur and Chikkadinni of Manvi taluk and Virupapur and Devargudi of Sindhanur taluk. This method saves the cost of production by avoiding the raising of seedlings, transplanting, puddling etc. by Rs. 12,500/ha, while getting 10 percent more yield compared with that through puddled rice. By observing the standing crop in the field, many farmers of nearby villages also adopted this technology, and the area coverage under this method increased to 25,000 ha during Kharif 2012 in the region.

#### e-SAP devices Electronic control of agricultural pests

Electronic solutions against agricultural pests (e-SAP) model is unique in its functionality and utility. It empowers the individual extension workers with dedicated hand-held devices, containing complete agricultural information. It facilitates two-way information flow between the farmers, scientists and policy makers. The content is provided in the form of high-quality audio-visuals, including images, animations, videos and voice.

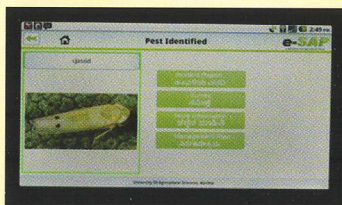
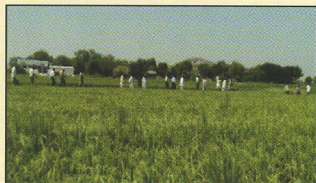
The user will be able to know through the content, using simple logical steps, to arrive at the desired conclusion. Any number of crops and their information in multilingual form can be added to this device, having the scope to scale up to any geographical locations. The hand-held field device can store, retrieve and communicate information, including multimedia content. The platform enables real-time transfer of data to the devices and obtains data from them. Further, all data generated across space and time and across all variables in agriculture can be represented in automatically updated graphs and tables. The university is a pioneer in developing this technology. In the current cropping season more than 3,200 data points were collected on seven major field crops, viz. cotton, paddy, redgram, bengalgram, groundnut, sunflower and chilli, in Raichur district. A striking impact of e-SAP was seen in tackling the jassids menace on young cotton plants in the district. Similarly, it was recorded that leaf-miners have become prominent in cotton in several areas of Raichur district. Alerts are issued to these areas and management strategies are drawn accordingly.

Considering the successful deployment of e-SAP in the UAS, Raichur, the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operation, Government of India, decided to implement it on a pilot basis in the selected districts of the nation for 10 major crops.

### UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURE SCIENCES, BAGALKOT

#### 2nd Convocation

The UAS organized its second convocation on 21 December 2012 at Bagalkot. Dr S. Ayyappa, DG, ICAR & Secretary, DARE, New Delhi, delivered the convocation



e-SAP devices

address Shri S.A. Ravindranath, Minister for Horticulture and Sugar, and the Pro-Chancellor, UHS, Bagalkot, presided at the function, and awarded 38 (25 UG and 13 PG) gold medals to the student awardees. Dr S.B. Dandin, VC, welcomed the dignitaries and presented the progress report of the university in brief. On this occasion 150 B.Sc. (Hort.) and 49 M.Sc.(Hort.) students were conferred their degrees.

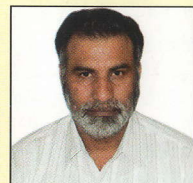


## Awards

### CHAUDHARY CHARAN SINGH HARYANA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, HISAR

#### Scientist honoured

Dr Yogender Kumar Yadav, Professor, College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, was honoured with Excellence Award-2012 for research and innovation in recognition of his research in the field of solar energy. The award was presented to him during award ceremony held at IIT, Delhi recently.



Dr Yogender Kumar Yadav

Dr Yadav, a recipient of distinguished service award of Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers for Energy in Agriculture, made significant research contributions in the field of renewable energy especially in solar energy in particular.

### UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR

#### The e-WORLD 2012 International Award

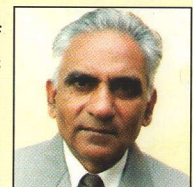
College of Agriculture, Raichur bagged "e-WORLD 2012 international award" for effective implementation of NAIP- Agropedia II Project, which has become instrumental in disseminating the latest technology to the farming community via voice and text (SMS) messages through mobile telephones. Since last year 350 voice messages on crop production, protection and animal husbandry were disseminated to more than 10,000 farmers in six districts coming under the jurisdiction of UAS, Raichur. The award is conferred in the category of "Best ICT-enabled agricultural initiative of the year" at International conference on 'e-WORLD 2012', held during 15-16 June 2012 at New Delhi. Dr L.B. Hugar, Principal Investigator and Dean (Agric.), College of Agriculture, received the award on behalf of the college. The award consists of a memento and a citation. Dr B.V. Patil, VC, congratulated the Principal Investigator and his team.



Dr L.B. Hugar P.I. and Dean (Agric.) receiving award at e-World conference

#### Prof. (Dr) M. P. Yadav, receives Dr A. Lingard Memorial Award

Prof. (Dr) M.P. Yadav Dr A. Lingard Memorial Award, instituted by the Indian Academy of Environmental Sciences, in honour of the late Dr Alfred Lingard, noted microbiologist and founder Director of Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar; was conferred on Prof. M. P. Yadav, President, NAVS (I) and former Director, IVRI, Izatnagar in recognition of his research contributions for the advancement of scientific knowledge in the field of veterinary sciences. The award was given at the inaugural session of international conference on "Recent trends on climate change researches vis-à-vis biodiversity, organized by Department of Animal Sciences, Centre of Excellence, M.J.P. Rohilkhand University, Bareilly, from 3 to 4 December 2012.



Prof. (Dr) M.P. Yadav

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