

IAUA



NEWS

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Spot News

IAUA, Executive Committee' Year 2009.

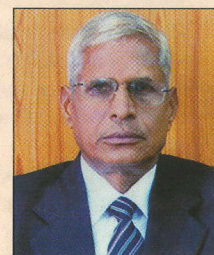
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Prof. Anwar Alam

NEW VC

Dr M.P. Pandey Joined IGKV Raipur as its new VC on 27 Feb, 2009. Dr Pandey, born on 8 September 1946, did B.Sc Ag. (1965), M.Sc. Ag. Bot. (1967) and Ph.D. (1971) in plant Breeding, and specialized in crop production and statistics. He is an accomplished Plant breeder with several varieties to his credit: rice crop (20) and grain legumes(7). He did extensive research on genetic improvement, seed quality and techniques for basic seed production of rice varieties. He has, to his credit; 252 publications of various kinds including 83 full length research papers in journals of International and National repute, and chapters in several of books / bulletins. Dr Pandey has been Managing Director N.S.I. Pvt. Ltd, Gurgoan (2008-09); Director, C.R.R.I Cuttack (2006-2008); National Coordinator H.R.S.P. in ICAR as FAO Consultant (2001-02), and visiting Scientist of International organizations like IRRI, PR China etc. He is fellow of VAAS Hanoi; NAAS, New Delhi; ISGP, New Delhi, and Member, Research Board of AABI, U.S.A. etc. He has guided 19 Ph.D. and 13 M.Sc students. He has visited 14 Countries and participated in many International Symposia / Conferences. He is recipient of many awards, few of them are: - Dr M.S. Swaminathan Agricultural Scientist Award (2009); Krishi Vigyan Jyoti Samman (2009); Dr. R.H. Richharia Award (2004); FAO/ICAR/UNDP Award (1996) etc.



Dr M.P. Pandey

Focus on Universities : Achievements and Events

UNIVERSITIES

ANAND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, ANAND, GUJARAT 33rd IAUA VCs Convention

The 33rd IAUA VCs Annual Convention on 'climate change and its effect on agriculture' was inaugurated on 4th Dec, 2008 at AAU, Anand by Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister of Gujarat. The deliberations continued for two days in 7 sessions, in which about 60 Scientists participated including 27 VCs and 10 VCs representatives, from various SAUs.

The following recommendations were made:

- There should be long-term experiments on study of effect of climate change on agriculture, and hence, a Department of Agril. Meteorology should be started in each Agricultural University.
- The Weather forecast should be developed for smaller areas, maximum for a grid of 50 km for the farmer.



- All SAUs should install AWS at their research stations.
- SAUs should strengthen research in climate change and include courses in the syllabus.
- All SAUs should strengthen human resources in use of GIS and use of space products to study effect of climate change in Agriculture.
- Climate variability and its effects on pests and diseases as also emergence of new pathogens should be studied.
- All SAUs should appoint a Nodal Officer to study performance of agricultural universities and arrange rowing seminar at regional level in consultation with NAARM.
- Green house cultivation is recommended in Himalayan region to protect the crops from extreme climate.
- Effect of climate change on animal production and reproduction needs to be addressed, and evaluated using various models.
- Real estimates of green house gases should be developed in Indian context to assess the impact on human life.
- Livestock - based farming system needs to be encouraged to reduce the effect of climate change and increase production per unit of land.
- There is need to evaluate and develop appropriate technologies to counteract the adverse effect of climate change on shelf - life of dairy products.
- Reduce the use of the fossil fuels to bring down the GHG emissions.
- Afforestation programs to be taken with greater zeal, so that the forests act as fresh CO₂ sinks.
- The research studies need to be promoted regarding the area - specific impacts of climate change on human health.
- Master degree program in Post Harvest Technology for value added products needs to be started in agricultural universities in the country.
- The nutritive vegetarian and non-vegetarian food having sufficient proteins and vitamins need to be provided to the people to combat the effect of climate changes on human health and to increase the immunity status.
- Effect of climate change on glacier melting and its likely effect on the agricultural production, be studied.
- The consequences of expected decrease in rainy days and increase in its intensity, should be studied in respect of crop production, human health, and disease and pest emergence.
- Rapid melting and hence, decrease in total glacier will cause floods in many areas.
- Rise in sea level in many coastal tracts will cause submergence of low- lying areas and soil satination.
- Development and management of water resources, inter-linking of rivers, and integrated planning are imperative.

Campus recruitment-2008

Director, students' welfare organized Campus recruitment for the short-listed students of AAU on 20 August, 2008. Selections of the students were done by the group discussion and interview. Among 55 students, 5 students from the College of Agriculture and 1 from Veterinary College, have been selected by the Interview panel of Dena Bank on the permanent post of Agriculture Officer.

Training for Tribal Farmwomen

Under 'Van-bandhu Kalyan Yojna', one Tribal Farm Women Training Centre is sanctioned by the Government of Gujarat at D'Baria. On the 16th and 17 September, 2008, two days on-campus training programme of Farm Women was orgnized by Dr Girish Patel, Unit Head of Tribal Research-cum-Training Centre, D'Baria, in which 30 Farm women participated. During the programme, topics such as vermi-compost,



On animal management, use of bio-fertilizers and scientific agronomical practices for maize were discussed. Prof Varshneya, Vice-Chancellor of Anand Agricultural University in his Valedictory speech had given more stress on integrated farming to increase the income of the tribal farmers. Also, he advised to adopt the practices of using bio-fertilizers, using farm waste material to prepare vermi-compost fertilizers, and to start breeding programme of honey-bee and floriculture at the corner of the farm. Also be advised to grow fruit trees on the border of the farm.

Foreign & other dignitaries visit

Three dignitaries from Kazakhstan (Chief Editor, Expressed-K, Chief Editor, Capital Business Weekly and Chief Editor, Style magazine) and two dignitaries from Uzbekistan (Press Advisor to PM and Head of Press Academy) visited the cooperation societies at Bhadran, studied and appreciated the work being carried out by the centre for communication network under the DEE, Anand, Agricultural University, Anand. After interacting with the local farmers and farm women, the visitors drew parallel between the activities here and those being undertaken in their respective countries.



Dr Von Johnson, Research Director, Enform Tech NZ Ltd., Auckland, New Zealand, who visited the Department of Entomology, Anand on 9 July 2008, was impressed by the display in the museum, as the applied entomological research.

CHAUDHARY CHARAN SINGH HARYANA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, HISAR

Agrometeorology Centre

Hisar Centre of AICRP on Agrometeorology in the Dept of Agril Meteorology, was adjudged as the Best Centre in India by ICAR for updating the crop-weather-outlook website regularly and providing vital information on crop contingency plans for farmers/other stake-holders during extremes/bad weather conditions in 2006, 2007 and 2008.



New Varieties

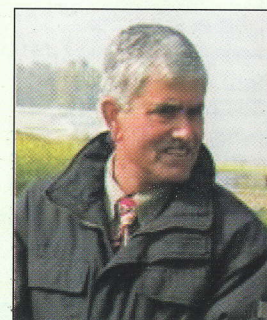
Yellow Sarson Variety YSH 0401 has been notified by the Central Variety Release Committee. It has medium dwarf plant height, long and thick siliqua, and is bold seeded.



Fieldpea variety HFP 9426 has been notified by the State Variety Release Committee for cultivation in Haryana under irrigated conditions. It is a green seeded, tall, high yielding and powdery mildew resistant variety.

Scientist visited Vienna and Austria

Dr Diwan Singh, Sr Scientist cum PI of AICRP on Agrometeorology visited BOKU-Met, Vienna and IIASA, Laxenberg, Austria from 1 November, 2008 to 15 January, 2009 to work in collaborative research project on "Implications of extreme climatic variability on wheat productivity and their risk minimization using modeling and GIS approach" under Eurasia Pacific UNINET framework, of which CCS HAU Hisar is a member university.



Dr Diwan Singh

A Profile

CSK HIMACHAL PRADESH KRISHI VISHVAIDYALAYA, PALAMPUR INDIA

Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya (now Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya) is an Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) accredited and ISO 9001:2000 certified institution. It was established on 1st November, 1978. The College of Agriculture, established in May, 1966, formed the nucleus of new farm university. It was inaugurated by Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the then President of India. Over the years, this University has contributed significantly in transforming the farm scenario of Himachal Pradesh. Today, the State has earned its name for hill agricultural diversification, and the farming community has reposed its faith in the University. Due to the strenuous efforts of the University, the state is almost self-sufficient on food front.



The Model Act of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has been followed in framing organizational structure of the university. Senate is the highest authority followed by Board of Management, Finance Committee, Academic Council, Board of Studies and Research and Extension Councils.



The mandate of the university is: Imparting education in agriculture and allied sciences, furthering advancement of learning in hill agriculture by research and undertaking extension of scientific knowledge to the farmers of Himachal Pradesh.

The university gets about 70 per cent grant-in-aid from the Himachal Pradesh Govt. and about 30 per cent grant from ICAR. Annual Budget of the university is approximately Rs. 65 Crores (2008 – 09). It includes grant-in-aid from the State, ICAR, Ad hoc research projects, etc.

The university has adequate teaching, research and extension education facilities besides well managed playground, gymnasium and other facilities like modern Library, Students' Placement Cell, etc. for the students. For farmers, there is Agricultural Technology Information Centre, Agricultural Museum, Farmers' Hostel, Women Training Hostel, etc. There is Farmers Tele-phone Helpline also.



Central Instruments Laboratory

The university has four constituent colleges. The College of Agriculture has 12 departments, the College of Veterinary & Animal Science has 18 departments, the College of Home Science has 5 departments, and the College of Basic Sciences has 7 departments. The university has four Bachelor Degree programmes, 30 Masters Degree programmes, and 15 Doctoral Degree programmes. At present, around 780 students are on roll. Till date, more than 4400 students have passed out from the university since its inception. In an attempt to make students of the university nationally and internationally competitive, the university has switched over to the modern teaching aids like power point presentation, problem based learning etc. The university has also introduced course curricula as per recommendations of the 4th Deans' Committee, ICAR.

The Directorate of Research formulates and coordinates zone - specific, need-based and problem-oriented research with multi-disciplinary approach in the fields of Agriculture, Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Home Science and Basic Sciences. The research work is primarily carried out at the main campus, Palampur through different Departments of Colleges as well as Regional Research Stations and Research Sub-Stations located in the four agro-climatic zones of the State (Regional Research Stations at Bajaura, Dhaulakuan, Kukumseri, Sangla and Kangra & Regional Research Sub-stations at Malan, Nagrota, Salooni, Akrot, Berthin Sundernagar, Leo and Lari), keeping in view the problems of the hill farmers and to raise their farm income. The directorate regularly evaluates various research programmes of the university. The Research programmes are based on priority areas of the State, and main focus is given on farmers' needs. It is responsible for developing and



Students working in Computer Laboratory

coordinating research in the university, promoting inter-disciplinary collaboration in the research programmes, and cooperates and collaborates with the Directorate of Extension Education.

The Directorate of Extension Education shares the responsibility for planning, implementation and coordination of various extension education programmes of all the departments of four constituent colleges, and research stations in close collaboration with the State Departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and other concerned departments and institutions.

It conducts a large number of trainings for farmers, livestock keepers, farm ladies, rural youth, etc. at the main campus and at its eight *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* (Farm Science Centres) at Bajaura, Dhaulakuan, Hamirpur, Una, Mandi, Kangra, Berthin and Kukumseri.

Agriculture Technology Information Centre (ATIC) has been established for providing single window service to the farmers for technology information, for supply of quality seed/planting material as well as to address farmers' queries related to problems of farming in Himachal Pradesh, and as an outlet of the university products for general consumers. The directorate has taken initiative for Organization of Himachal Organic Farmers, under the banner of Himachal Organic Farmers Forum (HoFF). For faster dissemination of technologies on the current problems of the farmers, Progressive farmers Crop Seminar events are organized with the coordination of Door Darshan Kendra, Shimla, under which one district is covered every month. One Scientist, One Technology and one Village Concept has been initiated by all the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*. Under this programme, 41 demonstrations were laid out at the farmers field through different KVKs. Under Savior Windows for Soundness of Technology (SWST), selection of hot spot areas as well as the farmers for laying out field demonstrations (area not less than 2000 sq.mt.) is done. Such demonstrations will act as savior windows for soundness of technology in the event of epidemics.



For areas above 1000 a.m.s.l. under transplanted conditions



Babycorn var. VL-78



Application of Plastics in agriculture-I



Vice-Chancellor interacting with the farmers in a remote Village in Lahaul Spiti

Achievements since the inception of the University

Project sanctioned

Under AICRP, 34 projects worth Rs.8.30 crores are in operation. Centrally sponsored and Adhoc Projects: 277 worth Rs. 30.26 crores have been sanctioned to this University by different funding agencies viz., ICAR, DBT, DST, GBPIED, Almora, ICSSR, NABARD, UGC and Department of Agriculture, Govt. of H.P. etc.



Four research projects entitled "A value chain on Seabuckthorn (*Hippophae* L.)", "Bio-pesticide mediated value for clean vegetables", "Harmonizing biodiversity conservation and agricultural intensification through integration of plant, animal and fish genetic resources for livelihood security in fragile ecosystems" and "Allele mining and expression profiling of resistance, and a virulence-gene in rice blast pathosystem for development of race-non specific disease resistance" under National Agricultural Innovative Project (NAIP) worth Rs. 924.86 crores (317.03,367.50, 180.15 and 60.18 crores, respectively) have been sanctioned by the ICAR. A Mega Seed Project worth Rs. 2.52 crores sanctioned and operationalised by the university. Project entitled "Production of Quality Seed and Planting Material" worth Rs.4.00 crores sanctioned under NADP/RKVY to this university, has been operationalised.



University website

The University, so far, has developed and released 116 improved/high yielding varieties of different crops (19 of Rice; 18 of Wheat; 6 of Maize; 4 of Barley; 19 of Pulses; 17 of Oilseeds; 12 of Fodders; 2 of Buckwheat; 1 of Sugarcane; 16 of Vegetables and 2 of Tea) for cultivation in different agro-climatic zones of the State.

In addition to above, 12 high yielding varieties of different crops have also been identified and recommended by the Research Evaluation Committee of the University and submitted to the State Varieties Release Committee, Shimla for release in the State. The breeder seed of Kharif and Rabi crop varieties is regularly produced by the University at the headquarter and its satellite research stations. On an average, 500-600 q breeder seed, 300-400q foundation seed and 1000-1200q certified/truthfully labeled seed of different crop varieties of cereals, pulses, oil-seeds and vegetables, is being produced annually by the University. The breeder seed is made available to the Department of Agriculture, Govt. of H.P. for further multiplication and distribution of certified seed to the farmers of the State.

- Developed *in-situ* moisture conservation techniques, using locally available biomass of Lantana & Eupatorium, for rain-fed maize-wheat cropping sequence.
- Developed technology for harvesting of rain water and other natural water flows in small dug-out poly-lined water harvesting tanks of 60 – 6000 m³.
- High intensity crop rotations, Rice-Radish-Potato and Rice-Pea-Frenchbean, gave the highest net returns in mid-hills.
- In maize-wheat cropping sequence under rain-fed conditions, continuous application of FYM 10 t/ha along with N or NP (25-100%) to maize saved 25-50%N, 50% P and 100% K of maize and 50% NPK budget of wheat. In rice-wheat system application of 50% NPK+50% N (FYM) to rice and 100% NPK to wheat was most productive and sustainable nutrient management system.
- Continuous use of nitrogen alone through urea without FYM has the most deleterious effect on crop productivity vis-à-vis soil health.
- Developed cost effective technology for the management of Acid Soil Regions (1,00,00 ha) confined to parts of Kangra, Chamba, Mandi, Sirmour and Kullu districts.
- Isolated & authenticated location & crop specific strains of different bio-fertilizers i.e. nitrogen fixers (Rhizobium, Azospirillum & Azotobacter) and phosphate solubilizers (fungus & bacteria), save around 30 kg N and 20 kg P₂O₅ per hectare in addition to giving higher yields of cereals and pulses.
- Integrated Disease Management (IDM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) modules for the management of diseases, insect pests and weeds of different crops have been developed.
- Effective blast resistant genes have been pyramided in elite genetic background. Micro-propagation protocols have been standardized for carnation, ginger, and foliage bego-nias.
- Standardized System of Rice Intensification (SRI) for higher rice productivity in mid hills.
- Standardized polyhouse technology for protected cultivation of quality vegetable seedlings.
- Six technologies viz., herbal dye, citrus based formulation, bio-pesticide formulation, premix blower type Biogas Stove improved tissue chamber assembly for isolated organ bath apparatus and use of perennial grass for doubled haploid production in wheat have been filed and four patents viz., a repellent/antifeedant agent, insecticidal bioactive extract, pesticidal preparation and a repellent agent have been registered.
- Model Organic Farm has been operationalized at the university headquarter.
- The isolation techniques, IMFT and serology were standardized for detecting chlamydiae in animals. Recently, PCR techniques have been developed for quick and specific detection of chlamydiae.
- Standardized withering process for retention of better flavor in Kangra Tea and blending of tea for uniform quality. Developed tea machinery for small tea growers.
- Developed and released four agricultural tools/implements viz., Palam Plough, Haloder, Manual Rice Transplanter and Maize Sheller, and tested & recommended Shachi Power Tiller, Self-Propelled Reaper and Paddy Thresher for use by the farmers of the state. Three new tools/implements viz., Power Tiller operated Multi-crop Planter, Power Tiller operated Zero-till Drill, and Maize Dehusker-cum Sheller, have been designed and developed.
- Ten task forces on transfer of technologies for; rain water harvesting, vermi-composting & bio-fertilizers, protected cultivation, high value cash crops, mechanization and custom hiring, mushroom cultivation, bee keeping, integrated farming systems, organic farming, marketing, and quality seed & planting material of horticultural crops, have been operationalized at farmers fields.
- Model Organic Farm of 15 hectare with multi-disciplinary approach has been operationalized to develop package of practices for organic farming in the state with the help of ICAR project of Niche Area of Excellence in Organic Farming.

Technologies Developed

Ten technologies emerging from research output have been submitted by the University to National Research Development Corporation, New Delhi, out of which

five patents (Herbal dye, citrus based formulation, pesticides formulation, improved tissue chamber assembly for isolated organ bath apparatus and a premix blower type Biogas Stove for community cooking) have been filed, and four patents (A repellent/antifeedant agent, insecticidal bioactive extract, pesticidal preparation and A repellent agent) have been registered.

The University has released seven agricultural tools / implements viz., Palam Plough, Haloder, Shachi Power Tiller, Manual Rice Transplanter, Self-Propelled Reaper, Paddy Thresher and Maize Sheller for the hill farmers of the State.

The University has designed and developed three more tools / implements for the farmers of the state viz. Power Tiller Operated Multicrop Planter, Power Tiller Operated Zero-till Drill, and Maize Dehusker-cum-Sheller.

Developed cost effective technology for the management of Acid Soil Regions (1,00,00 ha) confined to parts of Kangra, Chamba, Mandi, Sirmour and Kullu districts.

Developed technology for the control of obnoxious weeds, viz., Lantana, Ageratum and Parthenium.

Rice blast forecasting module developed and validated in collaboration with IMTECH, Chandigarh.

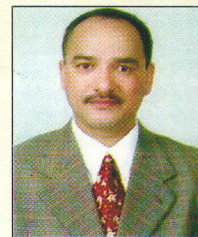
International collaborations

- ICIMOD-Nepal
- European Space Agency, Vienna, Austria
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- CIMMYT (Mexico)

New Initiatives

- Bio-conservation of traditional landraces of different crops possessing special quality attributes for commercial exploitation/export.
- Development of hybrids of rice, maize and vegetables (tomato, capsicum and brinjal).
- Development of transgenics for root rot wilt complex in peas and diamond back moth in cabbage.
- Refinement of technologies for rain-fed agriculture
- Refinement of rain water harvesting technology and its effective utilization.
- Refining high tech irrigation systems for hills, fertification & alternate cropping systems.
- Identification of different niches suitable for organic agriculture and development of feasible & viable organic farming packages.
- Development of biopesticides/biocontrol agents for organic agriculture to reduce health hazards of synthetic pesticides.
- Exploitation of microbial resources of Himachal Pradesh with respect to bio-fertilizers, fermented foods and other economically important products.
- Development & demonstration of Integrated Farming System modules for various agro-ecological zones.
- Studies on management of infertility in large (cow & buffalo) and small (sheep & goat) ruminants.
- Molecular diagnosis and disease forecasting of important infectious diseases among livestock including poultry.
- Designing need based and cost effective hill farm tools/machines.
- Studies on women empowerment vis-à-vis socio-economic status for policy planning.
- Evaluation of potential of Alovera in human foods and cosmetics.
- Post harvest technology and value addition.
- To generate database for marketing intelligence and policy planning of perishable commodities.
- Climate Change Research-Impact, vulnerability and adaptations to major crops of H.P.
- New District GIS centre for strengthening NRDMs database on GIS Platform
- Research projects on Weather forecasting and its application.

Dr. Tej Partap, Vice-Chancellor, says that Farmer shall continue to be at centre-stage in all future plans. Research and Extension Education shall be relevant to concerns, needs and opportunities of the State Farmers. He said that the University is planning to reach all those villages/areas/regions where so far it has not marked its presence (like Dodra Kwar, Pangi, Malana, etc.). Efforts shall be made to provide food security to the inhabitants of such remote and inaccessible areas. He assured that effective steps will be taken for quick transfer of the relevant technology to the farmers. He has requested the farming community to provide him feedback about the working of the University and give suggestions to serve them in a better way. Dr. Tej Partap says that all-out efforts shall be made to make this University as Best Hill Agriculture University in the country.



Dr Tej Pratap

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DR. B.S. KONKAN KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, DAPOLI, DIST. RATNAGIRI (M.S.)

Rice hybrid Sahyadri-4 released at national level

Rice hybrid Sahyadri-4 developed by DBSKKV, Dapoli has been released for cultivation in five states viz., Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Maharashtra in the meeting of Central Release and Variety Registration Committee held on 29 December 2008 under the chairmanship of Dr P.L. Gautam, DDG (Crop Sci.), ICAR, New Delhi. This is an early duration (115-120 days) rice hybrid having 94-100 cm plant height and 369 panicles/m². Average grain yield is 5.5 to 6.0 t/ha. It is long slender grain type, 6.74mm (KL), 1.76 mm (KB) and 3.82 (LB) ratio with 69.4% milling and high ASV (7.0). It has desirable AC (21.38%) and soft GC (69mm). It is moderately resistant to the leaf blast, neck blast, brown spot and rice tungro virus. It has wide adaptability in different agro-ecosystems in transplanted and direct sown conditions.



Rice Hybrid Variety: Sahyadri-4

Seminar on Cultivation of Medicinal Plants

DBSKKV, Dapoli and Ratnagiri Centre of Yashwantrao Chavan Foundation, Mumbai had jointly organized a seminar on 'cultivation of medicinal plants' at Dapoli on 3rd December 2008. It was inaugurated by Dr V.B. Mehta, VC of the University in prominent presence of Shri. Rajabhau Limaye, Vice-Chairman, Central Coconut Development Board, Cochi, Kerala; Dr S.B. Kadrekar, Ex-Vice-Chancellor and Shri. N.H.N. Shaikh, Consultant, Medicinal Plants Board, Pune. Dr S.G. Bhawe, A.D, College of Forestry, Dapoli; Medicinal plant Exporter Shri. Anil Goyal, Dr Ajit Jog form Konkan Cluster, AYUSH; and Dr Dayanand Desai from Suchita Biotech, Mumbai guided the participants.



Dr. V.B. Mehta, VC addressing the seminar on 'Cultivation of Medicinal Plants'

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

New crop varieties released

9 varieties of different crops have been released by the State Variety Release Committee (SVRC) of Uttarakhand, while fodder cowpea (UPC 625) has been released and notified by the Central Sub-committee on Crop Standard, Notification and Release of Varieties. The nine varieties released by the SVRC are:

Wheat UP 2628 has out yielded the best national check varieties and has a yield potential of 60 q/ha. It has high resistance to rust and leaf blight and moderate resistance to powdery mildew diseases. Protein content is more than 12 percent in this variety.



UP-2628

Uttara toria is superior in seed yield to check variety PT 303 by a margin of 20.77% and in oil yield by 21.49%. It is medium-maturing variety (96 days), moderately resistant to white rust, downy mildew and powdery mildew diseases.

Pant Arhar 291 has bolder seeds (8.52g/ 100 seed) as compared to the check variety UPAS 120 (8.21 g/100 seed) and is resistant to important diseases like **Phytophthora** blight, wilt and sterility mosaic and also tolerant to pod borer pest. It takes 140 days for maturity.

Pant Lentil 6 and 7 have multiple resistance to several diseases particularly rust, wilt and aschochyta blight, and pod borer pest. These have bolder grains and mature in about 125-130 (PL-6) and 120-125 (PL-7) days. On splitting PL 6 produces light yellow colour *dal* whereas PL 7 produces light pink colour *dal*. All the above varieties are suitable for the plains of Uttarakhand.

Pant Lobia 1, the first grain cowpea variety of Pantnagar, is extra early-maturing variety and takes 60-70 days for seed harvesting. Its average grain yield is 16 q/ha. The variety is free from cowpea mosaic virus. The seeds are large white and contain 27% protein. It is recommended for cultivation in irrigated spring summer and rainfed *kharif* season in plains, *bhabhar* and lower and *mid hills* of Uttarakhand.

New variety of fodder cowpea UPC 621 has been released for cultivation in the lower hills and plains of Uttarakhand during *spring* and *kharif* seasons. The yield potential of this variety is 325-350 q/ha green fodder and 50-55 q/ ha dry fodder in

about 80-90 days after planting. It is resistant to major diseases and insect pests and is suitable for mixed/ intercropping with maize, sorghum/ bajra and other cased forages.

New white-seeded fodder cowpea variety UPC 625 released by the central committee, can be used as dual-purpose (fodder-cum-grain) variety due to its 'stay green' biomass at pod maturity and creamy white seeds with rough testa, most preferred for human consumption. Yield potential of this variety is 35-40 tonnes per hectare green fodder and 4.5-5.0 tonnes per hectare dry matter yield in 80-85 days.



PRB 502 Barley and PRC 1 prosomillet have been developed for the hills by the scientists of Ranichauri Campus of the University. These varieties have higher yield as compared to the existing varieties.

Third National Conference on KVKs

The third National Conference of Krishi Vigyan Kendras was organized jointly by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi and Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar from 27th to 29th December, 2008 at Pantnagar.



The conference was inaugurated by Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India and Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, presided over the function. Sri Trivendra Singh Rawat, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries, Government of Uttarakhand and Dr Mangala Rai, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education, Government of India and Director-General, ICAR were the Guests of Honour at the inaugural function. Dr P. Das, Deputy Director General (Extension), ICAR, and a number of distinguished guests and delegates were present on this occasion.

Shri Sharad Pawar, while addressing a large gathering of agricultural scientists, underlined the significance of food security and lauded the contribution of farming community in meeting the needs of a billion-plus population of the country. He also highlighted the contribution of Pantnagar University in this regard. He stated that Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), provide the technological support to the farmers at village, block and district levels. Shri Pawar reiterated that agriculture sector has maintained a steady growth rate of over 5%. Further, Shri Pawar emphasized that agriculture is being accorded top priority by the central government and elaborated on various schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM), launched recently by the Government. He also said that ICAR has been making all efforts to strengthen the KVK system, and also appraised about a series of recent policy measures taken by his Ministry.

Major-General (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri, emphasized on his government's resolve, "Government at the doorstep of public" and told the distinguished KVK scientists that they should strive to support the farming community in solving their location-specific and crop-specific problems. Shri Khanduri expressed his gratitude to the Union Agriculture Minister for facilitating establishment of 11 new KVKs in the state, thereby making one KVK in all the districts. Further, he said that efforts are on to establish a Community Radio Station at all the KVKs.

Shri T.S. Rawat, appreciated the contribution of KVKs in raising agriculture productivity and profitability in Uttarakhand. However, Shri Rawat requested the Union Agriculture Minister to provide interest-free loans to the farmers, and asked to develop a facilitative mechanism for the welfare of farmers. Shri Rawat said that the Special Economic Zone should be developed on wasteland and agricultural land should be conserved for fulfilling the future food needs of the country.

Dr Mangla Rai, Director-General, ICAR, while acknowledging the leadership role of Pantnagar University, talked about accelerating the growth rate of agriculture sector to meet the future challenges. The goal of every KVK, said Dr Rai, is to increase the net return per unit area per year per season. This can only be achieved through developing networking and connectivity links to all the KVKs besides providing need-based training to farmers and other human resources at village, block and district levels. Dr Rai sought to emphasize that Agricultural Universities can supplement this training function and announced to establish a farmers' hostel at every agriculture university.

Dr P. Das, Deputy Director General (Agriculture Extension), ICAR, New Delhi told that there are about 562 KVKs in the country. Their goal is to assess the relevance and potential of new agriculture technology and to help in improving productivity and profitability in the backdrop of increasing privatization and liberalization of agriculture.

Dr B.S. Bisht, welcomed the distinguished guests and delegates, and also received

ISO 9001-2000 certificate given to the University Farm.

National Best KVK awards were also announced on this occasion. KVK Puduchery (Pondicherry); KVK, Raichur (Karnataka); and KVK, Gurgaon (Haryana) were given National Best KVK for the year 2005-06; and KVK, Pune (Maharashtra); KVK, Karim Nagar (A.P.); and KVK, Jalna (Maharashtra) were awarded for the year 2006-07. A number of publications from different universities and the souvenir brought out on this occasion, were also released.

Farmers' Fair

Dr P. Das, inaugurated the 84th Farmers' Fair and Agro-Industrial Exhibition, on 3 October, 2008 at Pantnagar. This four-day seminal event from October 3 to 6 provided a unique platform for the visiting farmers to interact with University scientists as well as meet the representatives of various agro-industrial firms, and exchange their opinion and also ask for specific solutions to their problems. The Kisan Mela showcased the best and latest in agriculture technology, and farmers got a first hand exposure of it. Besides, improved breeds of livestock animals were also on display. Farmers came in large numbers and purchased seeds of *rabi* crops such as wheat, peas, gram, etc. besides seeds of vegetables and planting material of flower and fruit crops.



Dr B.S. Bisht, Vice-Chancellor of Pantnagar University, while welcoming the visiting farmers briefly described the achievements of the University in education, research and extension. He also told that farmers from the Uttarakhand as well as neighbouring states of U.P., Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan come to visit the farmers' fair at Pantnagar. Besides, farmers from Nepal and Bhutan have also visited this fair which underscores its popularity and utility for the farming community.

Shri Samar Pal Singh, former Minister for Cooperatives, U.P. Government, was Chief Guest at the closing ceremony of *Kisan Mela*. About 16,000 farmers besides thousands of general visitors visited this *mela* during the four days. Display services were put up by 104 big and 244 small agro-industrial firms. The major attraction for farmers was seeds of various crops produced by Pantnagar University as well as some private companies. More than one crore worth of seeds was purchased by the visiting farmers. M/s Hemkund Tractors Ltd., Rudrapur bagged the trophy for being adjudged as the best stall of *Kisan Mela*.

NAVSARI AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, NAVSARI

Launching of Trainers Training on Micro Irrigation (MIS)

In Gujarat, about 1.1 lakh ha area has already come under MI which covers about 50 thousand farmers. For imparting training to these farmers by University alone is not to develop trained manpower in the field of MIS. For these trainings, GGRC will depute scientists, officers and field level workers belonging to KVKs, NGOs and MIS traders in Gujarat state. The experts of PFDC, NAU, Navsari will impart practical oriented trainings to the trainers. Through this program, it is planned to develop about 350-400 trainers in the field of MIS across the state. The launching program of trainers training was presided over by Dr. R.P.S. Ahlawat, Vice Chancellor, NAU, Navsari and attended by Shri. P.K. Taneja, IAS, C & MD, GGRC, Vadodra, Shri. Shyamal Tikadhar, Joint MD, GGRC, Vadodra along with University Faculty and GGRC Officers. The program was attended by about 60 people.



Launching workshop of a value chain on utilization of banana pseudostem for fibre and other value added products, SWMRU, NAU, Navsari (21-07-2008)

Agricultural Engineering Polytechnic College

Foundation stone of Agricultural Engineering Polytechnic College was laid by the Hon. Minister of Tribal Development, Forest and Environment, Govt. of Gujarat, Shri Mangubhai C. Patel on 18th Oct. 2008, keeping in view the role and scope of the farm mechanization in Indian Agriculture and the technical personnel requirement. The main objective is to impart training in the field of Agricultural Engineering to prepare the competent & skilled personnel to face the present challenges in this field. It offers three years diploma course in Agricultural Engineering with intake of 60 students. In addition to the subjects relating to Basic Sciences, Basic Engineering and Agricultural Sciences, the main subjects of Agricultural Engineering are Farm Power and Machinery, Soil and water Conservation and Agricultural



Processing and Post Harvest Technology. The Minister also laid the foundation stone of administrative building of Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Dediapada, District Narmada of Gujarat.

Inauguration of Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Navsari

Administrative building of Krushi Vigyan Kendra, Navsari was inaugurated by Honourable Deputy Director General (A.E.), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr P. Das on 30th Nov. 2008.

Foundation stone of Farmer's Hostel, KVK, Navsari was laid by the Hon. Minister for Agriculture and Cooperation, Govt. of Gujarat, Shri Dileepbhai Sanghani on 30th Nov. 2008.

Freeze Dryer Commissioning

A Freeze Dryer of 10kg per batch capacity was purchased in the year 2007-08 and commissioned at **Centre of Excellence on Post Harvest Technology**, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, in the month of November, 2008. This is Indian make unit, which has excellent state of art for the drying of fruits, vegetables and flowers. It is the latest and proven technology to preserve flavour, colour and texture of horticulture produce after dehydration. The trial run shows excellent quality dehydrated sapota chips. The plant would be useful in experimental learning of Post Graduate students of agriculture and horticulture, and also departmental research work. The fruits and vegetable drying industry has now hand on facility for the training of their human resource at Navsari Agricultural University.



MoU with I.A.R.I. on Collaborative Extension

Indian Agricultural research Institute (IARI) and Navsari Agricultural University (NAU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Exchange of Technology and Collaborative Extension Programme in a ceremony held at Navsari on July 11, 2008. The document was exchanged by Dr Baldev Singh, Joint Director, IARI and Dr R.P.S. Ahlawat, Vice-Chancellor, in the presence of Dr H.C. Pathak, Director of Research and Dean P.G. Studies, Navsari Agricultural University, Dr R.S. Chhillar, Head CATAT, IARI and 100 Scientists. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Baldev Singh said "No matter how big is any University, it cannot develop excellence in all the disciplines especially in today's competitive world and hence, the best option is to borrow or exchange technologies from each other and to undertake extension programmes in collaboration."



MoU document exchange in the Gracious presence of Hon. Vice

The Chairman of the function, Dr R.P.S. Ahlawat thanked Dr S.A. Patil, Director, I.A.R. I. for conceiving and initiating this novel experiment for bringing strategic reforms in the extension approach, and expressed the hope that it would turn around the agriculture scenario in the country.

PT. DEAN DAYAL UPADHAYAYA PASHU CHIKITSA VIGYAN VISHWA VIDHALAYA A VEM ANUSANDHAN SANSTHAN, MATHURA

Conference on Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology

VIII Annual Conference of ISVPT and National Symposia on "Challenges, scientific validation and IPR protection of Indigenous medicinal plants based ITK" and Emerging risks to wildlife due to drugs and toxicants and ameliorative measures" was organized by the Department of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology on November 6-8, 2008. The Conference was inaugurated by Dr S.P. Tiwari, Deputy Director General (Education), ICAR, New Delhi and Prof. M.L. Madan, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor DUVASU presided over the function. Two hundred delegates from different Veterinary Institutes, DRDO, CSIR, Contractual Research Organizations, and Pharmaceutical and Equipment Companies attended the Conference.



Symposium on "Regulatory Pharmacology and Toxicology" was the special feature of this Conference. Souvenir-cum-Compendium of the Conference was released by the Chief



Guest. On this occasion, a compilation "Department of Pharmacology-At a Glance", highlighting the major contributions and achievements of the Department was also released. Prof. Richard Goodman from University of Nebraska, USA delivered a lecture on "Genetically modified feed and food- a boon or bane for human and animal health". On the closing function, Prof. J.K. Malik, President ISVPT emphasized the need for establishment of National Institute for Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology Education and Research on the lines of NIPERs. Emphasis was also placed on starting network projects on ethnoveterinary pharmacology with the objective of evolving cheap and effective alternative drugs.

On the valedictory function, Prof. A.K. Srivastava, Director NDRI, Karnal was the Chief Guest and Dr. M.C. Sharma Director CIRG, Makhdoom, Mathura was the Guest of Honour. Prof. Srivastava reiterated the need for quality improvement in research in Pharmacology and Toxicology, and also for addressing the problems of myths in the society.

Veterinary Alumni meet

Mathura Veterinary College Alumni Association (MVCAA) meet was held at the University on 27-28 December, 2008. About 150 alumni working in various organizations and institutions all over the country participated in this two days event. The meet was inaugurated by Prof. M.L. Madan, Vice-Chancellor, DUVASU. Dr. S.K. Ranjan Director, Hind Agro Industries Ltd., being an alumni of this Institution, also graced the occasion. The association honoured the retired members, mostly scientists and teachers of eminence. During the technical sessions, deliberations were focused on quality assurance for livestock production, animal reproduction, clinical problems, laboratory diagnostic methods, surgical problems of animals, and emerging challenges in avian medicine. After technical deliberations and discussions, it was recommended that Indian Standards on milk and milk products, meat and meat products, and egg need to be revised and upgraded in line with the international standards, considering the technological developments in this field.

RAJASTHAN AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, BIKANER

Plant Biotechnology: Centre of Excellence

Plant Biotechnology Centre, RAU, Bikaner was declared Centre of Excellence by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Rajasthan and also awarded a cash prize of Rs 50,000/-for 2008-09. The selection committee comprising leading Biotechnologists had evaluated nine centers in terms of research facilities, academic programmes offered, and research work being undertaken.

1st rank in Agricultural Biotechnology at ARS 2007

Ms Nimisha Sharma, Ph. D. Scholar, RAU, Bikaner secured first rank in merit in the discipline of Agricultural Biotechnology at the ARS 2007 Examination conducted by ASRB, ICAR on 25 May 2008. Being a first rank holder in B.Sc. Ag.(Hons.) and M. Sc.(Ag), Nimisha will be joining ICAR in near future. Nimisha has also been a recipient of Choudhary Charan Singh Award and Bhama Shah Award for her outstanding performance at the level of graduate and master's degree programmes, respectively.



Nimisha Sharma

Date Palm Centre

His Excellency Shri S.K. Singh, Governor of Rajasthan and Chancellor, Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner visited the University campus on July 17, 2008. Addressing the scientists, he advised them to focus the R&D activities in improving the agricultural production in the arid region of the State of Rajasthan and making proper utilization of the available budgetary support. During his visit to the Datepalm Research Center, he expressed his happiness over the contribution of the university scientists in agricultural research especially related to the use of isotopes. His Excellency also called upon the scientists to promote inter-institutional linkages especially with the institutions actively involved in datepalm research in the Gulf Region. His Excellency also inaugurated the Hostel Building constructed with financial assistance of Rs. 75 lacs from ICAR under the Development Grant.



H.E. Shri Singh, accompanied by Dr Pratap Narain, at the Datepalm Research centre

S.D. AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, SARDAR KRUSHINAGAR

Third annual convocation

The Third Annual Convocation of SDAU was held on 29 January 2008. Dr R.C. Maheshwari, VC, welcomed Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma, his Excellency the Governor of Gujarat; Shri Parashottambhai Solanki, Minister of State for Animal Husbandry & Fisheries and Gau Sanvardhan, and Dr Mangala Rai, Director-General, ICAR & Secretary (DARE), Government of India, New Delhi. He congratulated the recipients of

gold medals and degrees in different faculties.

H.E. Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma commended the five-point plan of National Farmers' Commission, viz. stresses. Integrated measures for improving the soil health, promoting water harvesting, conservation and efficient use of water through 'pani panchayat'; initiate credit reforms with credit and insurance literacy; bridge the growing gap between scientific know-how and field-level do-how both in production and post-harvest. Strategies should include on-farm livelihoods and market-driven multiple livelihoods with emphasis on use of new technologies for human development of villages. He laid emphasis on National Land Use Advisory Service, targeting virtual organizations on a hub and spoke model. The spokes would cover the major agro-climatic zones and farming systems, for providing proactive advice to farmers on land and water use through an integrated analysis of meteorological, agronomic and marketing data.

Dr Mangala Rai in his convocation address emphasized that the SAUs with adequate experience and having primary mandate for higher agricultural education, can organize vocational courses to attain the desired quality of manpower development. The agricultural universities need to develop effective courses for vocational education, including the training of trainers in pedagogy, evaluation and certification of the various programmes. Based on the viable resources and scope of trained manpower for self-employment or services in the public and private sector, modular courses as well as certificate and diploma-level courses need to be developed and implemented to serve as role model for training, orientation and follow-up by other institutions. Experiential learning and vocational training are considered essential for improving the skills for agro-entrepreneurship, scientific farming, technical support to farm scientists, and field assistance to all including input-supply organizations.

At the end, H.E. Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma awarded 29 gold medals to meritorious students of the faculty of Undergraduate and Post-graduate studies. Two honorary Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) degrees were conferred to Dr V.R Mehta, former VC, of GAU, and Prof. Amarendra Chandrashankar Pandya, former Director, Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal.

Felicitation of farmers

At the convocation on 29 January 2008, 10 progressive farmers including three farm women from university jurisdiction were felicitated for their contributions in agriculture, dairying and allied fields. They were honoured with a shawl and a certificate (*Samman Patra*) by Shri Purushottam Solanki, State Minister of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Go-Samvardhan, Government of Gujarat.

Western region krishi mela-2008

The university in collaboration with Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi organized Western Region Krishi Mela-2008 during 15-18 March 2008 at Potato Research Station, Deesa, involving six states of Western Region of India, viz Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Goa, and two union territories (Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu).

Seed spices centre

Dr Magala Rai, inaugurated the newly constructed buildings of Centre for Seed Spices Research, Jagudhan and Mega Seed, Sardarkrushinagar on 28 and 29 January 2008, respectively. Dr R.C. Maheshwari, VC, and other dignitaries were present.



3rd annual convocation



Dr Mangala Rai Inaugurating Seed Spices Centre

National annual meet on pigeonpea

The *Kharif* Pulses Annual Group Meet of All India Coordinated Research Project on Pigeonpea was held at Sardarkrushinagar on 2-4 May 2008. Total 200 scientists and officials, representing 15 states working on pigeonpea and MULLaRP crops participated in the workshop. The inaugural function was presided over by Dr R.C. Maheshwari. Dr V.D. Patil, Assistant Director General (Oilseeds & Pulses) was the Chief Guest and Dr N.D. Jambhale, ADG (Seeds), ICAR and Dr. Masood Ali, Director, Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur, were the Guests of Honour. The first hybrid of pigeonpea (GTH 1) developed by SDAU was recommended for whole Central Zone. Main Pulses Research Station of the university got the best team award



National meet on pigeonpea

for Pigeonpea for the year 2007-08, whereas the best team award for MULLaRP was given to CCSHAU, Hisar.

Meeting of Peer review committee

The third visit of Peer Review Committee under the chairmanship of Dr Kirti Singh, former Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board, New Delhi was held during 10-12 June 2008. The committee met Principal Secretary (Agric. & Co-operation), Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar and discussed regarding the expectations of the government from the university. The senior officials from the departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, State Seed Agencies and State Seed Corporation were also present at the meeting. They delved upon various issues concerning research and development of agriculture in the state. The committee also visited various research centres of the university situated at Vijapur, Jagudan, Ladol, Talod, Khedbrahama and Deesa, to review and suggest steps for improvement of the R&D activities of the university and infrastructure of those centres. The other members of this committee were Dr A.C. Pandiya, founder Director of Central Institute for Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal; Dr S. Kannaiyan, former Chairman, National Biodiversity Board, Chennai; Dr K. Pradhan, former VC, RAU, Bikaner and OUAT, Bhubaneswar, and Dr Girwani, former VC, Padmavati University for Woman, Tirupati, along with Dr S. Acharya, Research Scientist (Pulses) as Member Secretary.



Dr Kirti Singh

SRI VENKATESWARA VETERINARY UNIVERSITY, TIRUPATI

Touch-screen information kiosks

Touch-screen information kiosks are put into use by different sectors across the country, and recently livestock sector has made its mark in utilization of ICT tools for effective and efficient dissemination of technologies. The Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Extension, College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati, has developed the touch screen kiosks with suitable software for disseminating knowledge to the livestock farmers on different aspects of livestock rearing and management. Dr D.V.G. Krishna Mohan, V.C., inaugurated the touch-screen information kiosks on 29 April 2008 at a function in the Collage of Veterinary Science, Tirupati.



Dr D.V.G. Krishna Mohan Inaugurating of touch-screen information kiosks



Kiosk facilitator explaining the mode of operation of touch-screen information kiosk

Dr Subrahmanyeswari. Attend the 16th IFOAM Organic World Congress

Dr Subrahmanyeswari. B., Assistant Prof. and Head, Department of Veterinary and A.H Extension, NTR College of Veterinary Science, Gannavaram visited Modena, Italy during 17 to 25th June 2008. She presented research paper on "Gender and Organic Farming: An Empirical Perspective" from her doctoral thesis during the 16th organic world congress, which takes place once in every four years. She also presented a research paper on livestock production practices of registered organic farmers of Uttarakhand State in India from her doctoral thesis in the scientific research track of International Society of Organic Agriculture Research, Bonn, Germany held at Modena, Italy. Her visit was sponsored by the International federation of organic agriculture movements, Bonn, Germany, the organizers of the 16th Organic World Congress.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

MARATHWADA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, PARBHANI

Best Centre Award

AICRP on Agrometeorology, Parbhani received second "Best Centre Award" (ICAR) for overall performance during last three years. The award was received by Prof M.G. Jaghav, Agrometerologist in Xth

Biennial Review Meeting held at BCKVV, Kalyani, West Bangal on 5 December 2008.

This office conducted 1 day farmer's awareness programme on climate change on 16 October 2008. Dr S.D. More Director of Extension Education, MAU, Parbhani was Chairman and Prof Srinivas Aundhakar Director, Astrology and space research centre of Mahatma Gandhi Mission Nanded was the chief guest. Around 60 farmers attended the programme.

RAJASTHAN AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Bharat Gaurav Award

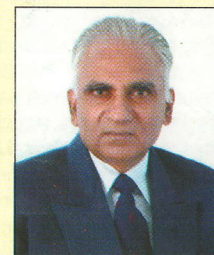
Dr. A.K. Dahama, Director, Institute of Agricultural Business Management and Directorate of Planning and Monitoring, RAU, Bikaner, was conferred the prestigious Bharat Gaurav Award by the Association for Economic Growth and Social Development, New Delhi on 10 October 2008.



Dr A.K. Dahama

DR. M.S. SWAMINATHAN AWARD TO PROF. M.P. YADAV

Krishi Evam Gramin Vikas Samiti, Lucknow (UP) conferred Padma Vibhushan Dr M.S. Swaminathan Agricultural Scientist Award 2009 to Dr (Prof.) Mahendra Pal Yadav, Vice Chancellor, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agricultural & Technology, Merrut on 1st March, 2009 at Lucknow in recognition of his excellent work in the field of Animal Science.

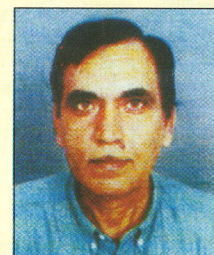


Dr M.P. Yadav

OBITUARY

Dr. Rampal Singh Ahlawat, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari left his heavenly abode on May 7, 2009. Born on 4 April, 1945 in Meerut (U.P.), he studied in G.B Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar from B.Sc to M.Sc and completed his Doctorate in Agronomy from there in 1971. He joined the university as SRA in 1965. Later he joined Trarai Development Corporation, Haldvani as Dy. Chief Seed Production officer and Gujrat Agricultural University, Sardar Krushinagar as Asstt. Director of Research, and had risen to Director of Research and Dean, PG. Throughout his career, he remained associated with research

In 2004, GAU was split into three independent Agricultural Universities. Dr. Ahlawat was appointed as founder Vice-Chancellor of Navasri Agricultural University, Navsari on 1 May, 2004. On Dr. R.P.S. Ahlawat's Death, the country has lost an eminent agronomist and IAUA, an able guide. IAUA on behalf of all members AUs, pay homage and pray for peace of the great departed soul.



Dr R.P.S. Ahlawat

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