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CONTENTS

1. 13 th Brainstorming Session	1
2. 16 th National Symposium	2-3
3. IAUA Awards for Ph.D. Thesis 2024	4
4. New Technologies	5-14
• Crop Science	
○ Varieties/Hybrids	
○ Products and Processing	
5. Teaching	14-18
6. Events and Activities	19-34
7. MoUs	34-38
8. IPR	39-40
9. Awards and Recognitions	41-51
10. Limelight	52-60
11. Research Publication	60
12. Future Programmes	60-62
13. New Vice Chancellors	62-65

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13th Brainstorming Session

13th Brainstorming Session of Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA) was successfully organized at Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Anand, on 17-18 October 2024. The session witnessed the participation of 26 Vice Chancellors, 5 Directors/Deans, 7 key-note speakers, and 2 outside experts for panel discussions. A key highlight of the event was the insightful keynote address by the Chief Guest, Dr Ashok Dalwai, former CEO of the National Rainfed Area Authority, New Delhi, who shared his expertise on critical agricultural issues including agricultural market intelligence. Five publications, viz., ગુજરાતનું ગૌરવ: ગાયની નવી ઓલાદ ડગરી, *Transforming Anand Agricultural University to a Green University* and *A Beacon of Sustainable Development, AAU at a Glance*, પ્રાકૃતિક કૃષિમાં ટામેટીના પાકમાં અગ્નિઅશ્રથી કૃષિ વ્યવસ્થાપન and પ્રાકૃતિક કૃષિ में अग्नि-अस्त्र के उपयोग से टमाटर की फसल में सूत्रकृमि प्रबंधन, were released during the inaugural session, and a remarkable exhibition showcasing natural farming products by Gujarat's progressive farmers added value and created awareness about natural farming.

The three technical sessions were — Session I: Importance of agricultural market intelligence and innovative price forecast methods; Session II: Growth, prospects and challenges in agricultural marketing and global trade; and Session III: Role of digital marketing and market institutions in fostering efficient marketing system, in which renowned speakers namely Mr. Bekzod Shamsiev, Senior Economist at the World Bank, Washington; Professor Rohana P. M., former Vice Chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University, Sri Lanka; Professor Athula Ginige from Western Sydney University, Australia; Dr R. S. Pundir, Principal & Dean, IABMI, AAU, Anand; Dr C. Shambu Prasad, Professor, IRMA, Anand, Gujarat; Dr B. R. Kamboj, Vice Chancellor, CCSHAU, Hisar; and Mr Devesh Patel, Founder of Satva Organic, Boriavi, Anand, delivered impactful keynote lectures.

The fruitful recommendations emerged during the deliberations of each Brainstorming Session, which was compiled in the form of Proceedings, and the recommendations/proceedings were submitted to the IAUA Secretariat, New Delhi, for wider publicity amongst the member universities of IAUA.



Glimpses of the program

16th National Symposium

Protected cultivation of horticultural crops is an advanced agricultural practice designed to enhance crop productivity and quality by providing optimal growing conditions in a controlled environment. It offers a climate-resilient solution for enhancing agricultural productivity, particularly in challenging environments such as marginal/waste-lands and water deficient areas. However, issues such as high initial costs, climate regulation, efficient water and nutrient management, pest control and market access remain significant hurdles. By creating controlled growing conditions, this technology enhances produce quality and ensures consistent yields despite adverse weather. With advancements in technology and market-oriented approaches, protected cultivation holds the potential to transform horticulture into a sustainable and economically viable venture. In light of the above, to Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner, organized 16th National Symposium of Indian Agricultural Universities Association on Protected Cultivation of Horticultural Crops: Challenges and Potential Solutions at Rajasthan Agricultural Research Institute Durgapur, on 29-30 December 2024.

Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan, Shri Haribhau Kisanrao Badge, the Chief Guest of the programme inaugurated the 16th National Symposium by lighting of lamp. Padmashri awardee Dr B.S. Dillon, Ex-Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab; Dr Parvindra Kaushal, Chairman IAUA&VC, Vice Chancellor, SGUHH&F, Bharsar; Dr Balraj Singh, Vice Chancellor, SKNAU, Jobner; Dr Dinesh Kumar, Secretary, IAUA and Dr N. K. Gupta, Organizing Secretary and Director Research, SKNAU, Jobner, were also present on the dais.

In his address, Mahamahim Governor said that universities should develop crop varieties that are well-suited for cultivation with limited water and have early maturity. Farmer-centric varieties and cost-effective technologies should be developed to enhance agricultural sustainability and productivity in the country. He further said that farmers should use parental seeds, and do more organic farming of vegetables and other crops. He also encouraged students to pursue farming as a career.

Padma Shri Awardee Dr B.S. Dillon, Ex-Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab highlighted the need for a new era of the Green Revolution by developing high-yielding crop varieties and innovative technologies tailored to current agricultural challenges. He emphasized the importance of farmer-oriented research to ensure sustainable productivity especially in the face of climate change and water scarcity, and focus on future-ready solutions including the development of drought-resistant and early-maturing crop varieties.

Dr Balraj Singh, Vice Chancellor, SKNAU, Jobner welcomed and felicitated the dignitaries present on the dais and provided a historical overview of SKNAU's contributions to agriculture and allied sectors in Rajasthan and India. He highlighted the university's significant role in the genetic improvement of barley, wheat, pearl millet, guar, chickpea and seed spices.



Shri Haribhau Kisanrao Badge, Governor of Rajasthan delivering inaugural address



Dignitaries releasing the publication during inaugural session

Dr Parvinder Kaushal, President, IAUA in his address, provided an overview of the IAUA's history and mission to advance agricultural research, education and extension. He noted the associations' role as an information hub, fostering coordination and consultation among agricultural universities.

Dr Dinesh Kumar, Executive Secretary, IAUA, informed about the programmes organized by the IAUA to deliberate on the contemporary issues. He also informed about the objective of the Association.

Three publications, viz., *Directorate of Research: A Panoramic View*, a bulletin on *Sacred Status & Cultural Impact of Barley in Hindu Heritage*, and a folder on *Improved Varieties & Production Technology of Chickpea*, were also released during inaugural session.

The inaugural session was ended by vote of thanks proposed by Dr N. K. Gupta, Director Research and Organizing Secretary, followed by the National Anthem by one and all.

During the symposium three technical sessions were conducted where intensive discussions were held on various issues related to protected cultivation. The themes of technical sessions were — 1. Technologies in Protected Cultivation; 2. Production Technology and Plant Protections; and 3. Market Access, Value Chains and Future Directions. In each technical session there were keynote lectures by eminent speakers followed by panel discussions involving Vice Chancellors and experts. The keynote speakers and their topics were: Dr Balraj Singh, Vice Chancellor, SKNAU, Jobner (Protected Cultivations: Status, Potential, Challenges and Solutions); Dr S. K. Malhotra, Vice Chancellor, MHU, Karnal (Perspectives of Hi tech horticulture in India); Dr Udayanarayana Bhat, Director, Koppert Biological Systems India Pvt. Ltd, Bengaluru (Biological Control under Protected Cultivations); Dr Harshvardhan Chaudhary, Principal Scientist, IARI, New Delhi (Varieties/Hybrids Suitable for Protected Cultivation Developed by Public sector Institutions); Dr Indra Mani Mishra, Vice Chancellor, VNMKV, Parbhani (AgriPv for Sustainable Food and Energy Production System); and Dr Sunil Pareek, Dean, PGS, NIFTEM, Kundli, Sonapat (Next Generation of Future Foods: Technologies, Challenges and Sustainability).

The second day of the National Symposium began with a visit to Sri Karan Narendra College of Agriculture (SKNCOA), Jobner. The esteemed Vice Chancellors and other participants toured the historic heritage building of SKNCOA, where, B.Sc. (Agriculture) final-year READY students showcased various models demonstrating innovative technologies in agriculture, horticulture, beekeeping and allied sectors. The team also visited various facilities and research farm of SKNAU, Jobner. An interactive session with faculty and students, was also held during the visit.

Thereafter, the team went to village Bassi Jhajra, where thousands of farmers have adopted the protected cultivation as this village and surrounding villages have limited water, poor soils and harsh conditions for open field cultivations. All the dignitaries were amazed to see the cultivation of cucumber and other vegetables under protected cultivation supported by water harvesting and installation of solar panel system in clusters.

The plenary session of the symposium was conducted on second day at RARI, Durgapura, where recommendations of technical sessions were presented.

IAUA Awards for Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis Research-2024

An Expert Judging Committee was constituted comprising Padma Shree awardee Dr B.S. Dhillon, former Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana (Chairman); Dr Gaya Prasad, former Vice Chancellor, SVPUAT, Meerut; Dr Rameshwar Singh, former Vice Chancellor, BASU, Patna; Dr S.N. Pandey, former ADG, Horticulture, ICAR, New Delhi; Dr Umesh Chand Srivastava, former ADG, Horticulture, ICAR, New Delhi; Dr K.K. Singh, former ADG, Agril. Engineering, ICAR, New Delhi (member); and Dr Dinesh Kumar, Executive Secretary, IAUA, New Delhi (Member Secretary) for evaluating the applications and making recommendations for the IAUA Awards for Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis Research for the year 2024.

A meeting of the aforesaid Expert-Judging Committee was convened on 11-12 November 2024. The Committee critically examined the applications and recommended the names category-wise as:

1. Agricultural Sciences including Agriculture Engineering

- I. Pavneet Kaur, PAU, Ludhiana
- II. Parmanand Sahu, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
(Recommended for joint award)

2. Horticulture Science including Forestry

Prabhdeep Singh, SKUAST-J, Jammu

3. Veterinary and Animal Sciences

Sharun Khan, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar

4. Dairy and Fisheries Sciences

- I. Basavaprabhu H.N., ICAR-NDRI, Karnal
- II. Subal Kumar Ghosh, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai
(Recommended for joint award)

The Executive Committee of IAUA in its meeting held on 26 December 2024 approved the recommendations of the Expert Judging Committee. The awards will be presented during the 48th Vice Chancellors Convention of IAUA to be held at ANDUAT, Kumarganj, Ayodhya.



Meeting of Expert Judging Committee

NEW TECHNOLOGIES

A. CROP and HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

The Agricultural Universities made earnest efforts to develop new technologies in Crop and Horticultural Sciences which included varieties/hybrids and products and processing as given here.

VARIETIES/HYBRIDS

Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Anand

In 57th State Seed Sub-Committee meeting held on 12 December 2024 at Gandhinagar under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Agric.), Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Co-operation Department, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar, following six crop varieties of AAU, Anand were recommended for release.

Gujarat Maize Hybrid 5 (GMH 5): Panam Gold

- Average kernel yield of 7,094 kg/ ha in *kharif*.
- Orange flint kernels with high test weight (367 g).
- Contains 69.45 % starch, 12.55 % protein, 4.85 % oil, 0.59 % tryptophan, and 2.67 % lysine in protein.
- Moderately resistant against Maydis leaf blight, *Turcicum* leaf blight and *Fusarium* stalk rot disease.



Gujarat Maize Hybrid 5 (GMH 5): Panam Gold

Gujarat Desi Cotton 5 (GDC 5): Anand Kanchan

- Average seed cotton yield of 1,375 kg/ha in the rainfed condition of Gujarat.
- First semi open boll type variety with long staple fibre.
- Fibre length (upper half mean) of 27.3 mm, fibre fineness of 4.2 µg/inch and bundle strength of 26.6 g/tex in HVI mode of fibre quality testing.
- Less or comparable infestation of major pests including sucking pests and boll worm complex than check varieties.



Gujarat Desi Cotton 5 (GDC 5): Anand Kanchan

Gujarat Vegetable Chilli Hybrid 2 (GVCH 2): Anand Surya

- A CGMS based hybrid, 198.96 q/ha average green fruit yield.
- Medium intensity of anthocyanin colouration of node and presence of stem pubescence.
- Fruits have light intensity of green colour with medium sinuation of pericarp.
- Contains 0.160 % total antioxidant activity, 0.195 % capsaicin, 2.80 % total soluble sugars and 0.059 % flavonoid.



Gujarat Vegetable Chilli Hybrid 2 (GVCH 2):
Anand Surya

Gujarat Vegetable Non-Pungent Chilli 132 (GVNPC 132): Anand Saumya

- 198.96 q/ha average green fruit yield.
- Plant has medium intensity of anthocyanin colouration of node and presence of stem pubescence.
- Fruits have light intensity of green colour with medium sinuation of pericarp.
- Contains 0.160 % total antioxidant activity, 0.195 % capsaicin, 2.80 % total soluble sugars, and 0.059 % flavonoid.



Gujarat Vegetable Non-Pungent Chilli 132(GVNPC 132): Anand Saumya

Gujarat Sponge Gourd 3 (GSG 3): Anand Mrudula

- Average fruit yield 126.72 q/ha.
- Fruits are elongated in shape and medium in length.
- Dark green fruit skin with spongy pulp texture and white flesh.
- Contains 2.18 % total soluble sugar, 9.36 mg/100 g ascorbic acid and 0.97 % crude protein.
- Less prevalence of cucumber mosaic virus, powdery mildew and downy mildew disease reaction as well as lower infestation of leaf miner and fruit fly as compared to the check Pusa Chikni and GJSG 2.



Gujarat Sponge Gourd 3 (GSG 3): Anand Mrudula

Gujarat Okra 9 (GO 9): Anand Anamika

- 137.86 q/ha average fruit yield in *kharif*.
- It recorded 111.31 q/ha fruit yield during summer in Gujarat.
- It has short plant stature with short internodes, long leaf blade length and broad width with deep depth of lobbing.
- Contains 2.715 % total soluble sugars, 0.112 % phenol, 0.207 % antioxidant activity and 14.47 g/kg mucilage.
- Lower jassids and whitefly population as.



Gujarat Okra 9 (GO 9): Anand Anamika

Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneswar**OUAT Kalinga Brinjal 1 (Banita)**

- This variety is suitable for irrigated medium land in *rabi* and summer.
- It takes 85-90 days for first picking. Seed to seed duration is 165-175 days. Average yield is 34.20 t/ha.
- It has resistance to bacterial wilt, and is moderately tolerant to fruit borer.
- It is good for cooking and suitable for long distance transport.



Banita

OUAT Kalinga Chili 1 (Ragini)

- It is suitable for cultivation in rainfed condition during *kharif* and in irrigated situation in other seasons.
- Days to first picking for green chili is 114 days and ripe chili is 135 days. Average yield is 10.11 t/ha.
- Protein content is 0.019 mg/g and vitamin C content is 1.28 mg/g.
- It has resistance to bacterial wilt and leaf curl virus.



Ragini

OUAT Kalinga Tomato 1 (Gouri)

- It is suitable for cultivation in irrigated land in *rabi*.
- Days to first picking is 95-98 days. Fruiting period is 50-65 days. Average yield is 38.34 t/ha.
- TSS is 5.0 and dry matter content is 7.1 %. It has good keeping and cooking quality.
- It is resistant to bacterial wilt and moderately resistant to early blight.



Gouri

OUAT Kalinga Dolichos Bean 1 (Jayakrushna)

- It is suitable for cultivation in rainfed condition with light irrigation. It can be grown during *kharif* and post *kharif*.
- Days to first picking is 100-117 days. Average yield is 10.27 t/ha. It has good cooking and keeping quality.
- It is tolerant to pod borer and moderately resistance to leaf spot.



Jayakrushna

OUAT Kalinga Ginger 1 (Subhada)

- This variety is suitable for cultivation in hills and plains of Odisha, both under rainfed and irrigated situations.
- The duration is 220 days.
- Colour of rhizome core is yellow with average yield of 20.00 t/ha.



Subhada

OUAT Kalinga Ginger 2 (Sourabh)

- This variety is suitable for cultivation both under rainfed and irrigated situation.
- The duration is 218 days and average yield is 18.0 t/ha.
- This variety is moderately tolerant to soft rot, bacterial wilt, leaf spot, shoot borer and scale insects.



Sourabh

OUAT Kalinga Ginger 3 (Prayag)

- This variety is suitable for cultivation in hills and plains of Odisha both under rainfed and irrigated situation.
- The duration is 225 days. Average yield is 13.7 t/ha. Weight of fresh rhizome/ clump is 182-350 g and dry recovery is 20.9 %.
- Oleoresin content is 3.9 %, essential oil 1.5 %, and fibre 5.5 %.
- It is tolerant to soft rot, resistant to bacterial wilt and moderately resistant to shoot borer and scale insects.



Prayag

OUAT Kalinga Turmeric 1 (Surangi)

- This variety is suitable for cultivation in hills and plains of Odisha. The duration is 200 days with average yield of 23.40 t/ha (fresh rhizome). Weight of fresh rhizome/ clump is 492 g. Dry recovery is 28 %.
- Curcumin content is 6.0 %, essential oil 2.1 %, and oleoresin 8.5 %.
- It is resistant to rhizome rot and leaf blotch and scale insects and moderately resistant to shoot borer.



Surangi

OUAT Kalinga Turmeric 2 (Gourab)

- This variety is suitable for cultivation in hills and plains of Odisha.
- Duration is 218 days and average yield is 23.10 t/ha (fresh rhizome). Weight of fresh rhizome/clump is 450g, and dry recovery is 24.3 %.
- Curcumin content is 5.9 %, essential oil content 3.9 %, and oleoresin content 13.26 %.
- It is resistant to rhizome rot, leaf blotch, scale insects and moderately resistant to shoot borer.

Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (RVSKVV), Gwalior**Groundnut****RVGN 101**

- RVGN-101 is an erect type, matures in 104-107 days, suitable for rainfed condition, testa colour light tan.
- Moderately tolerant to rust, ELS, LLS, stem rot, collar rot, dry root rot, Alternaria leaf blight.
- 100-kernel weight 36 g, oil content 49 %, SMK 91 %, protein 30 %, with the seed yield 3,136 kg/ha.
- It is the first variety, which is tolerant to drought due to unique C3-CAM photosynthetic transition.
- Released/notified for area of Madhya Pradesh State.



Groundnut (RVGN 101)

Green gram**Raj Vijay Mung 181(RVM 181)**

- RVIM 181 is a semi erect, medium to tall, medium maturing variety (71 days) in *kharif* with green broad leaf.
- Large seed size (100 seed weight) of 3.40 g, suitable for rainy as well as summer cultivation.
- Resistant to stem necrosis, moderately resistance to leaf curl virus (LCV), Urad bean leaf crinkle virus (ULCV), root rot anthracnose (MR), bacterial leaf spot (MR), YMV (MR) and Maruca, pod bug (MR).
- Released/notified for area of Madhya Pradesh State.



Green gram (Raj Vijay Mung-181/RVM-181)

Safflower**RVSAF-129**

- RVSAF-129 is semi spiny, bold capitula, short stature (67 cm) plant.

- Flower color orange red at faded stage, matures in 112-113 days (early maturing).
- Seed yield of 1,489 kg/ha, oil yield (424 kg/ha)
- Released/notified for area of Madhya Pradesh State.



Safflower (RVSAF-129)

University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru

Paddy

KMP 225

- Short duration variety with 24-26 q/acre yield. Long bold grains similar to that of IR 64.
- Moderately resistant to leaf and neck blast diseases.
- Suitable for sowing during 3rd to 4th week of July. Recommended for southern dry zone of Karnataka.

Maize

MAH 14-138

- Yield: 34-38 q/acre. Long cobs with attractive light orange grains. Stays green even at harvest.
- Resistant to Turcicum leaf blight. Moderately resistant to sorghum downy mildew diseases.
- Recommended for Southern and Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Ragi

ML 322

- Yield: 10-12 q/acre, rainfed irrigated: 15-20 q/acre. Medium height (100- 105 cm).
- Possess stiff stalk that resists lodging. More number of tillers (6-7).
- Resistant to neck and finger blast and is drought tolerant.
- Releases less chaff dust during threshing. Recommended for Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Proso millet

GPUP 32

- Yield: 7.2-8.1q/acre, Semi-tall variety.
- Oval shaped golden yellow grain with higher test weight.
- Highly resistant to grain smut and brown spot disease.
- Suitable for sowing in *kharif* (June- July). Recommended for Southern and Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Little millet

GPUL 11

- Yield: 6.1-8.1q/acre. Oval shaped dark grey grain. Highly resistant to grain smut and leaf blight disease.

- Suitable for sowing in *kharif* (June- July). Recommended for Southern and Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Browntop millet

GPUBT-2

- Yield: 6.0-8.0 q/acre. Semi-tall variety (110- 120 cm). Number of tillers (15- 20).
- Compact shaped inflorescence (Dundu korale). Resistant to leaf blight disease.
- Recommended for Southern and Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Field bean

HA 5

- Yield: Green pod:13-14 q/acre, Dry yield: Seed: 2.5–3.0 q/acre, photo – period insensitive.
- Semi-determinate growth habit. Recommended for Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Sesamum

GKVKS 1

- Yield: Seed: 1.8-2.0 q/acre, oil: 90–95 kg/acre. Short duration variety. White seeds with 47- 48 % oil content.
- More number of branches and filled pods. Leaves stays green even at harvest.
- Recommended for Southern and Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Niger

KBN 2

- Yield: Seed, 1.9-2.0 q/acre, oil: 90–100 kg/acre. Short duration variety.
- More number of branches and filled pods. Bold black seeds with 47-48 % oil content.
- Suitable for Intercropping. Recommended for Southern and Eastern dry zone of Karnataka.

Sugarcane

COVC 18061

- Yield: Main crop, 60-70 t/acre; ratoon crop, 55-60 t/acre.
- Sparse and late flowering. Moderate lodging with semi-erect habitat.
- Resistant to foliar disease and less susceptible to early and top shoot borer.
- Moderately resistant to internode borer. High tillering potential and suitable for wide row planting.
- Loose, Self detrashing and exhibits good ratooning.
- Recommended for southern dry zone of Karnataka.

Jackfruit

Byrachandra

- Yield (10-year-old tree): 120 to 150 fruits/tree/year.
- Twice bearing type. Excellent fruit quality with less gum in ripen fruits.
- Fruits are borne on trunk and primary branches, big sized fruits (>10 kg /fruit).
- Oblong shaped fruits with green rind and orange medium size flakes.
- Flake to fruit ratio is good (0.55). Flake wt./kg fruit: 650- 700 g. Each flake weighs: 25- 35 g.
- Thin rind (< 1 cm) weighing 300-350 g/kg fruit wt. TSS: 30-33o Brix. Recommended for Karnataka.

GKVK Red Jack

- Yield (10-year-old tree): 120-150 fruits/tree/year. Early bearing (3.5 years from planting).
- Flakes: medium size, coppery red, crisp, oblong with excellent taste, each weighing 25 to 35 g.
- Fruit: Oblong shape, medium size (5.5-10 kg /fruit), small central core, outer green rind is thin (<1.50 cm) weighing 300-400 g/kg fruit weight.
- Highly preferred for table purpose and processing into squash.
- Flake to fruit ratio is good (0.63:1). TSS: 25 to 30o Brix. Recommended for Karnataka.

Fodder sorghum**CNFS 1**

- Suitable for both *kharif* (June - July) and *rabi* (October - November). Yield: 22 – 23 tonnes/acre.
- Rich in fibre (35- 36%). Rich in protein (9- 10%). Recommended for Southern dry zone of Karnataka.

PRODUCTS and PROCESSING**AAU, Anand****Nutritive extruded snack utilizing amaranth grain**

Entrepreneurs and food processors interested in manufacturing nutritious extruded snacks are recommended to adopt technology developed by Anand Agricultural University, Anand. The technology involves blending of coarse flours of amaranth (40 %), rice (30 %) and maize (30 %) followed by moisture conditioning (15.3 %). This flour blend is passed through the extruder (screw speed: 287.50 rpm, barrel temperature: 118°C) and extruded snack is further dried for 1 h at 60 °C in a hot air oven. This product contains 12.2 % protein, 4.8 % fat, 4.9 mg/100 g iron, 65.0 mg/100 g calcium, 3.9 mg/100 g zinc and 469.3 mg/100 g phosphorus. The product remains acceptable up to 90 days at ambient temperature. The cost of 100 g pack is approximately ₹ 6.42.

Standardization of thermal processing of drumstick pod pulp and its utilization in food products**Part-I**

Entrepreneurs and food processors interested in processing of drumstick pod are recommended to adopt the technology developed by Anand Agricultural University, Anand. In this technology, matured drumstick pods are washed, cut and blanched followed by pulp extraction using brush type pulper, filling in retortable pouches, exhausting, sealing of pouches and thermal processing at F0 5 min in retort. This processed and packaged product of drumstick is acceptable up to 12 months at ambient condition.



Nutritive extruded snack

Part-II

Entrepreneurs and food processors interested in production of drumstick chutney from thermally processed drumstick pod pulp are recommended to adopt the technology developed by Anand Agricultural University, Anand. The micronutrients rich drumstick chutney can be prepared with 62 % drumstick pod pulp and with other ingredients. The chutney is thermally processed, filled hot and packed in metalized laminated polyester pouches. The shelf life of drumstick chutney is 137 days at 7°C and 83 days at 30°C.

Development of sorghum based multigrain biscuits

Bakery industrialists and entrepreneurs interested in production of multigrain gluten free biscuits are recommended to use the technology developed by Anand Agricultural University, Anand. The technology involves formulation of 65 % sorghum flour, 20 % soybean flour and 15% oat flour. This product contains 11.69 % protein and 2.57 % fiber. The biscuits packed in polypropylene and aluminum laminates have remained acceptable up to 60 days at 30±1°C temperature.





Development of pizza base incorporating millets

The technology developed by Anand Agricultural University is recommended to the bakery industrialists and entrepreneurs interested in manufacturing millet pizza base. Millet pizza base prepared by 40 % maida, 35 % sorghum flour, 15 % moraiyo flour and 10 % kodo flour, shows 2.06 g (68.90 %) and 2.19 g (106.80 %) more ash and fibre/ 100 g, respectively, as compared to normal pizza base. Antioxidant activity of millet pizza base was slightly higher as compared to control. Millet pizza base can be stored up to 4 days in polyethylene pouches at ambient temperature.




Pizza base

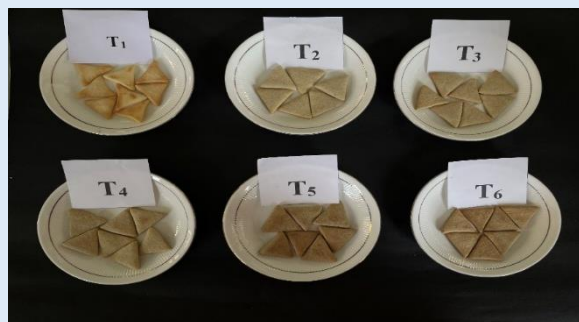
Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J), Jammu

- Ready-to-serve beverage of grapefruit and ginger juice was developed, and different blends (different ratio 100:0, 95:05, 90:10, 85:10, 80:20, and; 75:25) were analyzed for various physiochemical, microbial and sensory parameters. Treatments ratio 90:10, recorded highest mean score for colour (8.33), flavor (8.40), taste (8.31), and overall acceptability (8.35). The storage studies revealed that the prepared RTS beverages can be stored up to 90 days without affecting its quality.
- Development of fortified cookies having rice flour (40 %), corn flour (50 %) and (mango powder 10 %), was best for cookie formulation with storage of three months in PET boxes.
 

- Natural colour extracted from dragon fruit peel simple and reliable extraction and encapsulation method that resulted in a stable concentrated free-flowing powder with high colour strength. The red dragon fruit betalains encapsulated represented a promising food additive for incorporation into functional foods, which is stable after encapsulation.

Dragon fruit colour extract from peels


- High-quality healthy gummies can be made using 40 % strawberry pulp and 60 % aloe vera pulp. The formulated gummies recorded more calcium (37.60 mg/100 g), phosphorus (14.17 mg/100 g), ascorbic acid (27.07 mg/100 g), total phenols (53.39 mg/100 g), and antioxidant activity (38.99 %). The designed gummies preserved their quality over a 90-day storage period, with total plate count being within the permitted limits.

- Five pearl millet varieties were evaluated for various physico-chemical characteristics, among them Dhanshakti was found the best on the basis of physico chemical analysis and used for development of blended value-added products with refined wheat flour i.e. crackers and noodles. The best acceptable blended crackers and noodles. i.e., (70: 30:: refined wheat flour: pearl millet flour) retained their quality throughout the storage period of three months with the microbial count of specific limits.



Pearl millet blended crackers



Pearl millet blended noodles

- Dragon pulp and Eureka lemon juice were blended in different ratios for preparation of crush. The blended crush prepared from the treatment T3 (70: 30::dragon: eureka lemon) was adjusted the best on the basis of sensory attributes by scoring 8.42, 8.29, 8.16, 8.27 and 8.28, for colour, aroma, body, taste and overall acceptability, respectively.



Dragon-Eureka lemon blended crus

Sher-e Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Srinagar

A nano-based diet for sericulture industry

At the College of Temperate Sericulture, Mirgund, an innovative nano-based artificial diet was developed for silkworm rearing. This technology offers a sustainable solution for off season silkworm rearing.



Silkworms feeding on nano-based artificial diet



Display of nano-based artificial diet

Utilization of pruned mulberry stems and waste silk for the development of value added paper

Successfully developed a handmade paper from waste mulberry stem peels and cocoon floss.

The paper with silk blend demonstrated more strength luster and smoothness as compared to the paper without silk blend.

Quality testing is in progress to ensure the paper meets industry standards for commercial viability.



With silk blend



Without silk blend

Handmade silk paper

TEACHING

Agriculture University (AU), Kota

AU Kota Implemented ICAR- Sixth Dean's Committee Recommendations

Agriculture university, Kota is the first-University in Rajasthan to adopt and implement the ICAR-Sixth Dean's committee recommendation based on NEP-2020 for Undergraduate programmes (Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry) of the University from academic session 2024-25 w.e.f, 4 October 2024.

Deeksharambh Programme organised

As per the 6th Deans Committee Report of ICAR, New Delhi, a two-week Deeksharambh programme was organized by the constituent and affiliated colleges of the university for the newly admitted first year students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry, during 4-18 October 2024. Dr Abhay Kumar Vyas, Vice Chancellor, AU, Kota inaugurated this programme in all three constituent colleges of the university. Many activities were conducted for personality, physical and mental development for the newly arrived students. Besides, the students visited various units of the respective colleges/ university campus and acquainted about different facilities, experiential learning units, research farm, etc.



Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya (CSKHPKV), Palampur

Deeksharambh

Deeksharambh program was organized for new students in Agriculture College of CSKHPKV. Vice Chancellor Prof. Naveen Kumar inaugurated the Deeksharambh by lighting the lamp and called upon the students to develop their personality by adopting good thoughts and staying disciplined. He suggested to the students to read as many books as possible and make their presence felt in sports activities apart from using computers and mobile phones. Dean of Agriculture College Dr Man Chand Rana welcomed the new



College of Agriculture, CSKHPKV, Palampur organized 'Deeksha Aarambh' for first years students of B.Sc. (Agric.) Hons

students along with Vice Chancellor Prof. Naveen Kumar and Registrar Dr Madhu Chaudhary, statutory officers, department heads and scientists. Vanshika Sharma and Pranjal Thakur became Miss and Mr Personality.

Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (Dr RPCAU), Pusa

Deeksharambh

The Deeksharambh program for new students was inaugurated at Dr RPCAU, Pusa under the esteemed chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Dr P.S. Pandey and in the gracious presence of Chief Guest, Mr Sudhanshu Ranjan, former ADG, Doordarshan and All India Radio, on 18 October 2024. The program aims to focus not only on academic education but also on



the holistic development and character building of students. This 15-day program includes various training sessions on art, craft, yoga, sports, literature, drama, songs, and music. The Deeksharambh program was first introduced in 2023, making RPCAU the first agricultural university in India to initiate such an event. It has now been adopted by universities across the country as per the directives of UGC and ICAR.

The 15-day-long Deeksharambh program at Dr RPCAU, Pusa, concluded with the Pradakshina ceremony under the esteemed chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Dr P.S. Pandey on 1 November 2024. The event was graced by the presence of Chief Guest, Dr R.C. Agarwal, Deputy Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and Guest of Honor, Dr Ajay Kumar Singh, Vice Chancellor of Patna University. Approximately 332 undergraduate students participated in the program.



Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- Implemented New Education Policy from October 2024.
- Developed a New Courses on Forest Plant Biology (FBT-III) under UG Programme.
- Coaching classes to strengthen UG & PG students' in enhancing their competitive abilities were started.

Kamdhenu University (KU), Gandhinagar

Expert talk

CVSc&AH, KU, Anand, organized an expert talk on Artificial Intelligence in Developing Safer Drugs from a Practical Perspective on 17 October 2024, at Kapila Teaching Complex Hall. The event commenced with a lamp-lighting ceremony, prayer, and university song. Dr S.K. Bhavsar welcomed the



participants and guests with floral bouquets and provided an overview of AI's role in enhancing drug discovery and safety.

Distinguished guests, Dr A.M. Thaker, Former Principal & Dean CVSc&AH, Anand, and Dr Deepak Barot, Consultant, Discovery Life Sciences, shared insights on the transformative impact of AI in drug development. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Grover Paul Miller, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Arkansas for Medical Science, USA. Dr Miller's talk highlighted AI's role in predicting drug interactions, automating screening, and enhancing drug discovery. He also engaged in an interactive Q&A session with postgraduate students and faculty, addressing AI's applications in veterinary pharmacology and research.

Dr P.H. Tank, Principal, Veterinary College, delivered the presidential address, emphasizing the importance of integrating AI into veterinary medicine to improve drug safety and efficacy. He also presented a memento to Dr Miller as a token of appreciation.

Educational Visit

An educational visit to Jambughoda Wildlife Sanctuary was organized on 30 November 2024, for 64 fourth-year B.V.Sc. & A.H. students from Veterinary College, Kamdhenu University, Anand. The visit, guided by Dr P.H. Tank, Principal, and Dr Neha Rao, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Veterinary Medicine, aimed to enhance students' understanding of wildlife conservation and the veterinarian's role in wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. Faculty members Dr D.B. Sadhu and Dr Bhavika Patel accompanied the students, providing academic insights during the trip.



Students explored the Mega Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre for Leopards within the sanctuary, gaining practical knowledge of wildlife rescue and the crucial role of veterinarians. Dr Bhakti Chavda, Veterinary Officer, delivered an insightful lecture on the center's activities, emphasizing veterinarians' contributions to wildlife preservation.

Special thanks are extended to Mr Ganeshbhai, Round Forester, Narukot, for his support and dedication, and to Mr Shailendrasinh Raulji, Range Forest Officer (RFO) of Jambughoda Wildlife Sanctuary, facilitating the visit. This enriching experience bridged academic learning with real-world applications, inspiring students to actively contribute to wildlife conservation.

OUAT, Bhubaneswar

Education Council Meeting

The 12th Education Council Meeting 2024 was held during 23-24 December 2024. A Symposium entitled *National Education Policy 2020* was organized on this occasion. Prof. Sanjay K. Nayak, Vice Chancellor of Utkal University delivered the keynote address on NEP 2020: A Pedagogical Transformation for Technical Institutions. Prof. Geetanjali Dash, Vice Chancellor of Berhampur University delivered a talk on Opportunities and Challenges of NEP 2020 and Prof.



B. B. Mishra, Vice Chancellor of Sambalpur University discussed regarding Revitalising Academic Excellence through NAAC. Explicit discussions were made regarding implementation of NEP 2020 and the bottlenecks thereof.

Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad

Combined Counseling for admissions into Bi.P.C. Stream Courses

The first phase combined counseling for the candidates who have submitted their ONLINE application for admission into Bi.P.C. Stream Courses of PJTAU, Hyderabad, P.V. Narsimha Rao Telangana Veterinary University (PVNRTVU), Hyderabad and Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural



Combined Counseling for admissions into Bi.P.C. Stream Courses

University (SKLTGHU), Mulugu for the Academic Year 2024-25 viz., B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture / B.Sc. (Hons.) Community Science / B.Tech. (Food Technology)/ B.V.Sc. & A.H. / B.F.Sc. & B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture based on their Telangana EAPCET-2024 Ranks held at the University Auditorium, PJTAU Campus, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad from 14-19 October 2024.

The second phase combined counseling held at the PJTAU, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad from 23-26 October 2024.

Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University (SKRAU), Bikaner

• Deeksharambh-Student Induction Programme

In order to help students adjust and feel comfortable in the new environment, inculcate in them the ethos and culture of the



Deeksharambh-Student Induction Programme held at SKRAU, Bikaner

institution, help them build bonds with other students and faculty members, and expose them to a sense of larger purpose and self-exploration, this programme was organized at the constituent colleges. Also, the students at university headquarters of Agriculture and Community Science were addressed by eminent educationists on a common platform under the gracious presence of Dr Arun Kumar, Vice Chancellor SKRAU, Bikaner on 12 and 19 November 2024.

- As per NEP-2020, ICAR-Sixth Deans' Course Committee recommendations were adopted for UG programmes by the University in Agriculture and Community Science streams from Current Academic Session 2024-25 in the University.

SKUAST-J, Jammu

- Mop-up final round of PG counseling held on 2 October 2024.
- Mop-up final round of UG counseling held on 11 October 2024.
- Adopted ICAR 6th Deans Committee report for implementation of NEP-2020 on 14 October 2024.
- Deeksharambh (induction programme) for fresher UG/PG student organized in October, 2024.
- 18th Meeting of Board of studies for PG Studies conducted on 17 December 2024.

SKUAST-K, Srinagar

- **Initiation of Masters' degree program in Wildlife Sciences:** Name/Nomenclature of the Degree: M.Sc. Wildlife Sciences.
- **Initiation of Doctors' degree program in Wildlife Sciences:** Name/Nomenclature of the Degree: Ph.D. Wildlife Sciences.
- **FRM 513 (Urban Ecology and Environment) (2+1)** as one of the optional Major Courses in M.Sc. (Forestry) Forest Resource Management- Based on new age requirements and demand at national and international level.
- **FRM 611 (Urban Ecosystem Management) (2+1)** as one of the optional Major in Ph.D. (Forest Resource Management),- based on new age requirements and demand at national and international level.
- **FPU- 517 (Wood Chemistry) (1+1)** in the minor list for M.Sc. students of FPU division- Based on new age requirements and demand at national and international level.
- **FPU- 518 (Chemistry & Processing of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants) (2+1)** in the minor list for M.Sc. students of FPU division,- based on new age requirements and demand at national and international level.

Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS), Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- TANUVAS organized a Career Guidance Programme on 4 October 2024 at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Tirunelveli, benefitting 260 students.
- The University organized Career Guidance Programme on Coaching Classes for Competitive Examinations at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Orathanadu, on 8 October 2024 and 24 October 2024 under ICAR SC-SP Sub plan, benefitting 115 students.
- The University organized Orientation Course for the final year students of B.V.Sc. & A.H. of MVC to qualify NET - JRF examinations at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai on 1 October 2024 benefitting 23 students who registered for the programme.
- The University organized an institutional workshop on Initiatives and strategies to improve your Research visibility in the Digital World, at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai on 21-22 November 2024, benefitting 245 students.

UAS, Bengaluru

- Deeksharambh (0+2) Induction-Cum Foundation Course for I year B.Sc. (Hons.) Agri., ABM, FND & B.Tech. (Ag.Engg.) Students of I Semester-2024-25, was held on 14-15 October 2024 for the students of CoA, GKVK and CoAE, GKVK, Bengaluru to give orientation as per VI Dean's committee syllabus.
- New Doctoral degree programme in the Department of Processing and Food Engineering was initiated at GKVK, Bengaluru, from the academic year 2024-25.

EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

AU, Kota

Farm and Laboratory Management Training Programme

University organized one-week special practical training on Farm and Laboratory Management for 20 technical personnel of the university during 17-23 October 2024, at ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal.



AAU, Anand

32nd Annual Review Meeting of All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues (AINP-PR) was organized during 12-13 November, 2024 at AAU, Anand. Dr T. R. Sharma, DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi inaugurated the Annual Review Meeting.



Dignitaries at the inauguration ceremony

CSKHPKV, Palampur

Sustainable Animal Production and Animal Health

An International workshop on Sustainable Animal Production and Animal Health was organized at DGCN College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences by CSK HPKV Palampur in Collaboration with the University of Melbourne, Australia in Oct 2024 under Crawford funding. In this workshop Australian experts including Dr Grant Rawlin (Team leader), Dr Roger Paskin, Dr Jeff Cave and Dr Surinder Singh taught important epidemiological skills to the participants which will be helpful for control and prevention of livestock diseases in India. Dr Naveen Kumar, Vice Chancellor of the CSK HPKV Palampur thanked and appreciated the Australian team for conducting this workshop. Dr R. Kumar, Dean, DGCN College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, also thanked the Australian Experts and urged them to plan follow-up workshops in future. Scientists from the University of Melbourne also assured the Indian side for future collaboration in mutually agreeable areas. According to Dr Rajesh Chahota, Coordinator of the training and Head of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology in this workshop, diagnostic tests of field application to detect the diseases like PPR (sheep and goat plague) and lumpy skin disease (LSD) were demonstrated to the trainees. Participants were also trained in the field epidemiological surveys and emergency response techniques. A total of 15 post graduates and young faculty from the DGCN College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences participated in this workshop.



Crawford Fund Sponsored International Workshop on Sustainable Animal Production and Animal Health

New Vistas in Plant Pathological Research

Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR, Dr Tilak Raj Sharma inaugurated a two-day (7-8 November 2024) workshop on New Vistas in Plant Pathological Research at CSKHPKV, as chief guest. In his inaugural address, he urged the participants to refer scientific literature and review the literature before carrying out any scientific investigation. The seminar was organized under the joint

aegis of Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS) Northern Region and Himalayan Phytopathological Society (HPS). The ceremony was presided over by Vice Chancellor Dr Naveen Kumar. In his address, he stressed that more production of food grains will happen only when the crop is disease-free. Former Dean of Agriculture College Dr B.M. Singh special guest of the inaugural session also shared his view. A total of 170 participants from New Delhi, Pantnagar, Jammu and Kashmir, Solan, Ludhiana, Amritsar and Palampur attended the workshop.



Two-day workshop on 'New Vistas in Plant Pathological Research' organized at CSKHPPKV

Dr RPCAU, Pusa

- The XVII Biennial Workshop of the AICRP on Agrometeorology during 11-14 December 2024 and the XII Annual Review Meeting of AICRPAM-NICRA was inaugurated by Vice Chancellor, Dr P.S. Pandey in the gracious presence of Chief Guest Dr S.K. Chaudhari, DDG (NRM), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi; Guest of Honour Dr V.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad, and Dr Anup Das, Director, ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna. Vice Chancellor emphasized the critical role of integrating agrometeorological knowledge into sustainable agricultural practices. Dr S.K. Chaudhari highlighted the urgency of developing innovative agrometeorological strategies to tackle the challenges posed by climate variability and its impact on agriculture. The workshop was attended by 40 scientists from all over the country who specialize in agrometeorology and climate change mitigation studies.



Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- The Department of Seed Science and Technology of Dr YSPUHF organized two Training Camp-cum-Kisan Mela earmarked for tribal farmers/ beneficiaries at village Jispa (Udaipur), Panchayat Darcha, District Lahul and Spiti (HP) and at Gram Panchayat Jaihar, Tehsil Pachhad, District Sirmaur (HP) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme-Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) on 4 and 12 December 2024 with a participation of 77 and 81 farmers, respectively.
- Conducted seven days specific training on Beekeeping for the 25 trained beekeepers of the state at RHR and TS, Dhaula Kuan (Funded by National Bee Board) w.e.f. 14-20 October 2024.

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana

Kisan Mela

Maiden Animal Husbandry Fair at College of Veterinary Science, Rampura Phul

College of Veterinary Science, Rampura Phul of Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana conducted its maiden Animal Husbandry Fair on the 22 November, 2024 under the theme *Pashudhan Vadhaao, Vadhere Kamai Pao*. S. Balkar Singh Sidhu, Member of the Legislative

Assembly from Rampura Phul, was the Chief Guest of the occasion, and Dr Gursharanjit Singh Bedi, Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Punjab was the Guest of Honour. Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor, impressed upon the value addition to augment farmers' income. He shared that the University is in process of adopting the villages so that the University scientists can reach farmers at their level to help them in every aspect. Further, he added that the animal husbandry fair in Rampura Phul will be an annual event.



Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor honouring the Chief Guest S. Balkar Singh Sidhu

The fair featured a wide variety of exhibits, including live demonstrations on dairy farming, poultry management, and sustainable farming practices. The leading Veterinary Pharmaceutical companies, and Dairy and livestock equipment and feed related factories put their stalls in exhibition. The expert(s) imparted knowledge on different aspects of animal nutrition, health, and welfare.

Kisan Mela(s) on Crop Residue Management

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Booh (Tarn Taran) of GADVASU, Ludhiana organised Kisan Mela on Crop Residue Management (CRM) under the aegis of project on Promotion of agricultural mechanization for in-situ management of crop residues on 24 October 2024. S. Laljit Singh Bhullar, Cabinet Minister, Jail, Hospitality and Transport, Punjab, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor of the University and Shri Paramvir Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Tarn Taran were the Guest of Honour. The minister asserted that instead of burning crop residues, farmers should come forward to use it *in-situ* in the fields for improving the soil health and environment. Dr Gill urged farmers to stop burning crop residue and suggested to use paddy straw for economizing the livestock production. Progressive farmers who shunned burning paddy straw and are managing it in their fields also shared their experiences with the participants of the event. Expert(s) disseminated scientific know-how to the farmers on managing straw in fields, besides demonstrating the University technologies.



Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor honouring the Chief Guest S. Laljit Singh Bhullar, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Punjab

KVK, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) also organized the Kisan Mela on *In-situ* crop Residue Management, on 14 November 2024. Dr Parkash Singh Brar, Director of Extension Education of the University presided over the event as the Chief Guest and cautioned the farmers regarding crop residue burning, highlighting its harmful effects on soil, human and animal health. Expert(s) delivered lectures on the various aspects of paddy straw management.

Annual Convention on Livestock Reproduction

GADVASU, Ludhiana hosted the 39th Annual Convention of the Indian Society for the Study of Animal Reproduction (ISSAR) and the National Symposium on Challenges in Enhancing Reproductive Efficiency of Livestock: An Indian Perspective, from 29 November to 1 December 2024. Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor of the University and the Chief Guest of the occasion inaugurated the convention along with Dr Gursharanjit Singh Bedi, Director of Animal Husbandry, Punjab and the Guest of Honour. Dr Gill emphasized the need to provide practical solutions to help improving livestock reproduction, health and productivity. The president of ISSAR,



Dignitaries releasing the Convention Literature

Dr Shiv Prasad, highlighted the role of reproductive scientists in the development of health and wealth.

The event witnessed participation by more than 400 delegates from across the country, making it a significant gathering of experts and researchers in the field of animal reproduction. During the symposium, 11 technical sessions were conducted and awards were presented to individuals who made outstanding contributions to the field of veterinary gynaecology, obstetrics, and reproductive biotechnologies.

Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur

Agri Carnival 2024 National Farmers Fair and Agricultural Exhibition

The Agri Carnival 2024-National Farmers Fair and Agricultural Exhibition was inaugurated on 23 October 2024 by Shri Vishnu Dev Sai, Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh as Chief Guest. In his address he said that farmers have important contribution in making India a developed nation. He called upon farmers to engage in fisheries, animal husbandry and horticultural crop production along with paddy cultivation to increase their income. He said that IGKV has made an important contribution in the development of new technologies in the agricultural sector and making it reach the farmers.



Agriculture Minister, Shri Ramvihar Netam, said that along with increasing production in agriculture, special efforts are required for crop rotation, packaging and marketing of agricultural produce. Shri Brijmohan Agarwal, MP, Raipur, said that our Chief Minister and Agriculture Minister are themselves farmers, hence, there is continuous progress in the field of agriculture in Chhattisgarh.

On 24 October 2024, the third day of Agri Carnival-2024 the workshop on Climate Smart Agriculture and Natural Farming, was organized under the joint aegis of IGKV and Chhattisgarh Biodiversity Board, Raipur. The workshop was inaugurated under the chief hospitality of Padma Shri awardee Shri Hukum Chand Patidar, progressive farmer, Manpur, Rajasthan. Dr Gaganesh Sharma, Director, National Center for Organic Farming, Ghaziabad was present as the special guest at the function. The main objective of this workshop was to prepare an action plan for the implementation of adaptive and mitigation strategies such as climate efficient agriculture and natural farming on farmers' fields to reduce the impact of climate change and extreme weather events on agriculture. About 500 progressive farmers, scientists from Agricultural University, Regional Meteorology Department and Agricultural Science Centres, Agriculture Department officials were present in this workshop.



A one-day workshop on Generative Artificial Intelligence for Digital Agri Villages, was also organized on 25 October 2024, the fourth day of Agri Carnival-2024. The chief guest of this seminar was Padma Shri awardee Phoolbasan Bai Yadav and as special guests Dr A. Dandapani, Principal Scientist, NARAM, Hyderabad, and Dr T.N. Singh, DDG and SIO NIC Raipur were present. The inaugural

session of the workshop was chaired by Dr Girish Chandel, Vice Chancellor of IGKV. He emphasized the need to develop new digital tools in accordance with the future role of artificial intelligence in agricultural technology, weather, disease management and marketing in rural areas. About 300 participants attended this workshop, which included scientists from IGKV, subject matter experts from Krishi Vigyan Kendra and students.



The closing ceremony of the four-day Agri Carnival-2024 National Farmers Fair and Agricultural Exhibition, was organized on 25 October 2024. On this occasion, Dr S.S. Tuteja, Director Extension Services, said that in four days, about 25 thousand farmers from different districts of Chhattisgarh and about 3 thousand students from various schools and colleges also visited the field, and observed the exhibition in the fair. He said that in the Kisan Mela held here, self-help groups sold products worth more than ₹ 5 lakh. On this occasion, Shri Ramsuman Uike and Smt Janaki Satyanarayan Chandra the Board Members, IGKV, were present.



32nd Annual Conference of AERA

The three days 32nd Annual Conference of Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA), New Delhi, organized in collaboration with National Institute of Abiotic Stress Management (ICAR) was inaugurated on 11 December 2024 by Dr Girish Chandel, Vice Chancellor, IGKV as Chief Guest. The theme of this conference was Digitalization of Agriculture for High Sustainable and Inclusive Growth. The conference brought together prominent agricultural economist, policymakers and researchers from across the country to deliberate on the critical challenges agriculture may face in the coming decades. The conference highlighted the pressing need of digitalization and technological innovation in agriculture to address depleting resources, rising production demands and the impacts of climate change.



KU, Gandhinagar

Innovative Approaches for Boosting Buffalo Productivity

CVSc&AH, KU, Anand in collaboration with the Indian Society for Buffalo Development (ISBD), organized a National Symposium on Innovative Approaches for Boosting Buffalo Productivity, from December 16 to 18, 2024. Dr N.H. Kelawala, Vice Chancellor, Kamdhenu University, Gandhinagar presided over the inaugural session. Dr S.S. Honnappagol, former Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers



Welfare, Government of India, graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Dr Inderjeet Singh, former Vice Chancellor GADVASU, Ludhiana and President of ISBD, was the Guest of Honor.

Dr P.H. Tank, Principal of CVSc&AH, KU, Anand, welcomed dignitaries and delegates with floral greetings and delivered a speech. Dr Inderjeet Singh emphasized on role of buffaloes in farmers' socio-economic upliftment, and proposed a CIRB sub-center in Gujarat. Dr S.S. Honnappagol advocated for dedicated government funding for buffalo development, while Dr N.H. Kelawala highlighted Gujarat's 20 % contribution to India's buffalo germplasm and University efforts in conserving native breeds. Dr Sarita Yadav shared ISBD activities, and five scientists and veterinarians received society awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award for Sardar Sherbaj Singh of Laxmi Dairy Farm.

Eminent dignitaries from Kamdhenu University and the Gujarat government, including Dr S.K. Bhavsar, i/c Director of Research, Dr M.M. Trivedi, Director of Extension Education, KU, Gandhinagar; Dr V.B. Kharadi, Principal CVSc&AH, KU, Navsari; and Dr B.R. Gohil, Regional Joint Director, Government of Gujarat attended the event. Dr A.R. Ahlawat, Organizing Secretary, concluded with a vote of thanks. The three-day symposium featured five technical sessions, 14 lead paper presentations, and the Buffalo Quest Quiz, with awards for outstanding student and scientist presentations.

Maharana Pratap Horticultural University (MHU), Karnal

Two-day National conference on Smart Farming Solutions for Ornamental Horticulture, was organized at Maharana Pratap Horticultural University, Karnal from 8-9 November 2024. Scientists from 16 states across the country attended the event whose main focus was on innovative solutions to enhance the flower farming sector.



OUAT, Bhubaneswar

Fortieth Convocation

The 40th Convocation of the University was held on 5 December 2024 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Governor of Odisha Shri Raghubar Das. Hon'ble President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu was the Chief Guest of the function, and delivered the Convocation Address. Four eminent personalities namely Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Chairman, AEC and Secretary DAE, Government of India; Dr Manjit Misra, Director, NIFA, USA; Dr Prakash Rao, President, NAVS; and Mrs Raimati Ghiuria, a noted tribal farmer were conferred with Honorary Doctorate degrees for their outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture and science. A total of 1,725 UG students, 980 Masters' students and 118 Ph.D. students were conferred with degrees. Besides, 212 gold medals, 3 Chancellor's Running Cup and cash prizes and 3 Vice Chancellor's cash prizes were awarded to 123 candidates for their excellence in curricular and co-curricular activities in the 40th Convocation of OUAT.



OUAT Lecture Series

Dr Manjit K. Misra, Director, NIFA, USA delivered a talk on Feed people and Fuel Progress through Agriculture, under OUAT lecture Series on 6 December 2024 at College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Bhubaneswar.

**PJTAU, Rajendranagar****Appointment of Vice Chancellor**

Prof. Aldas Janaiah appointed as Vice Chancellor of Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU) and assumed the office of Vice Chancellor, on 18 October 2024 AN at the Administrative Building, Rajendranagar. In pursuance of the orders issued vide G.O. Ms. No. 40 of Agriculture and Cooperation (AGRI.III) Department, Government of Telangana dated: 18 October 2024, Prof. Aldas Janaiah took the charge from Shri M. Raghunandan Rao, IAS, APC and Principal Secretary of Government of Telangana.

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of PJTAU on the theme of Reshaping Agricultural Research and Education Portfolio for Better Future, organized on 20-21 December 2024 at University Auditorium / Sports Complex, Rajendranagar, started off with galore and glory. The celebration was initiated through an inaugural session attended by Former Agricultural Ministers and Former Vice Chancellors of the University.

The Inaugural Programme was followed by the arrival of His Excellency Governor of Telangana and Chancellor, PJTAU Shri Jishnu Dev Varma, at Agricultural Exhibition Stall at Sports Complex and inaugurated the Stalls at Kisan Mela. The Chancellor, PJTAU and Governor of Telangana Shri Jishnu Dev Varma unveiled the Diamond Jubilee Miniature Pylon. The inaugural programme also witnessed presentation of Plaque of Recognition to Kansas State University, USA (Mentor of APAU / PJTAU) and release of Diamond Jubilee Souvenir by Governor of Telangana.

Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Vice Chancellor welcomed the guests to the programme. Agriculture Minister of Telangana, Shri Tummala Nageswara Rao spoke on the occasion and welcomed the dignitaries and highlighted the glory of the University. Later, the Vice Chancellor of the University presented significant accomplishments of the University from 1964 to 2024 and released a video on the journey of the University from 1964 to 2024.

Later Shri M. Kodanda Reddy, Chairman, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Commission, Shri Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Former Minister for Agriculture and Chief Advisor to Government of Telangana, Shri Nadendla Bhaskar Rao, Former Chief Minister and Agriculture Minister, Shri G. Chinna Reddy, Vice-Chairman, Telangana Planning Board addressed the audience.

Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog, GoI delivered keynote address on 'Unlocking Potential of Indian Agriculture for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth'. Later, publications on SOPs on drone technology on redgram and maize were released.

Student-Academia Industry Interaction session was conducted on forenoon of 21 December 2024. Former Vice Chancellor Dr S. Raghuvardhan Reddy, Vice Chancellor Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Vice Chancellor of Horticultural University, Dr D. Raji Reddy, Shri A. Murali, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson of Telangana Education Commission participated in the session. The audience comprised teaching and

non-teaching staff and students alumni of the University, Directors and staff of ICAR Centres in Hyderabad and Agri-industry personnel attended the programme.

Later, keynote address was delivered by Dr Ancha Srenivasan, Principal, Climate Change specialist, Asian Development Bank on Transforming Agri-food Systems in Changing Climate. Later, Diamond Jubilee lecture was delivered by Dr P.V. Vara Prasad, Director, Sustainable Interaction Innovation Lab, Kansas State University, USA on Innovations for Addressing Food, Nutrition, and Climate and Food Security.

The Session on Reminiscence and Road Map for Future, began with opening remarks by Dr Jella Satyanarayana, Dean of Student Affairs and Dean of Agriculture, PJTAU. Following this, an open forum on the 15-year roadmap was moderated by Shri V. Nagi Reddy, IAS (Retd), alumni from diverse fields shared their insights.

The session concluded with closing remarks by Shri V. Nagi Reddy, IAS (Retd.) emphasizing the collective responsibility to shape the future of agriculture, followed by an address by the Chief Guest, Shri Siricilla Rajaiah, who called for united efforts to make PJTAU a global leader in agricultural education and research.

In Closing Session, Prof. Aldas Janaiah, Vice Chancellor, PJTAU recapped the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, highlighting the University's illustrious 60-year journey and its continued commitment to excellence in education, research and extension services. This was followed by an awards presentation recognizing the outstanding achievements of students and retired staff of PJTAU.



Glimpses of Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of PJTAU

RVSKVV, Gwalior

Tenth Convocation

The 10th Convocation of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior was held on 15 October 2024. Chairman of Convocation Hon'ble, Governor of Madhya Pradesh and Chancellor, RVSKVV, Gwalior Shri Mangubhai Patel, Chief Guest presided over the function. Guest of Honour was Prof. P.L. Gautam, Chancellor, Rajendra Prasad Central Agriculture University, Pusa Samastipur, Bihar and Shri Dinesh Kulkarni, National Organizing Secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh, New Delhi and Vice Chancellor, Prof. Arvind Kumar Shukla, while Hon'ble Members of Board of Management



Hon'ble Governor of M.P. Shri Mangubhai Patel
Presenting Honorary Degree

and Academic Council, Directors, Deans, Faculty members, Staff, Distinguished guests and recipients of Degrees graced this event. In the Convocation, a total of 979 students were conferred UG, PG and Ph.D. degrees and Seven students received Gold Medals.

SKRAU, Bikaner

- A seven-day training programmes on Mushroom Production and Value Addition Technology was organized by the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Bikaner during 6-12 December, 2024. In this training programme, 50 participants were registered. Vice Chancellor Dr Arun Kumar and MLA Shri Tarachand Sarswat, Shridungargarh were the chief guest in Inaugural Session of the training.
- A seven-day training programme on Scientific Sheep and Goat Farming was organized by the Department of Livestock Production and Management, College of Agriculture, Bikaner during 10-16 December 2024. Total 55 participants attended this training. Vice Chancellor, SKRAU, Bikaner and Prof. Manohar Dixit, Vice Chancellor, MGSMU were chief guest in valedictory session of the training.



Mushroom Production and Value Addition Technology Training



Awarding Certificates to the participants of Scientific Sheep and Goat Farming Training Programme

SKUAST-J, Jammu

National Agri-Summit 2024

SKUAST-Jammu organized a National Agriculture Summit 2024 on 20-23 November 2024 at Main Campus, Chatha, Jammu under the theme Empowering Farmers with Smart Agricultural Practices. The Agri-summit aims to foster knowledge exchange on the latest innovations in agriculture and allied sciences. In this summit 10,525 farmers and 5,000 students from different parts of Jammu and Kashmir participated.

The main features of the Summit were Farmers' Symposium, Agricultural Fair, and various workshops on topics such as high-tech agriculture, climate-resilient farming, post-harvest management, agri-mechanization, and digital agriculture.



Kisan Mela

The KVK-Kathua organized One-day sponsored Kisan Mela at its Campus and the theme of the Mela was *Agricultural Sustainability* in which a total of 565 farmers from across the District Kathua participated.



Kisan Mela at KVK-Kathua

Training Programme organized under Extension are as follows:

- A training programme organized from 25 September to 05 October 2024 under Scientific Cultivation of Button Mushroom at KVK, Jammu with 28 participants.
- Training programme organized from 7-17 October 2024 under Scientific Cultivation of Dhingri Mushroom at KVK, Jammu with 21 participants.
- 15-day skill development training programme for rural youth on Vermicomposting with 17 participants from 17-31 October 2024.

Certificate Courses

- 15-day Certificate Course on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) with 23 participants from 7-24 October 2024.
- 15-Day Certificate Course on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) with 30 participants from 11-28 December, 2024.
- Ten-day Hands-on-Training on Marker Assisted Breeding in Plants and Animals w.e.f. 11-20 December, 2024.
- Under HADP-20 project entitled Innovative Extension Approaches for five-day training programme on *Training of Trainers (TOT) Capacity Building of FPO's in J&K*, in collaboration with MANAGE-Hyderabad in the Division of Agricultural Extension Education, Faculty of Agriculture, Chatha from 11-15 November Revitalizing Agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir.



- Five-day training programme on *Training of Trainers (TOT) Capacity Building of FPO's in J&K* in collaboration with MANAGE-Hyderabad in the Division of Agricultural Extension Education, Faculty of Agriculture, Chatha from 02-06 December 2024 under HADP-20 project entitled Innovative Extension Approaches for Revitalizing Agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir.



- Five-days training programme on *Training of Trainers (TOT) Capacity Building of FPO's in J&K* in collaboration with MANAGE-Hyderabad in the Division of Agricultural Extension Education, Faculty of Agriculture, Chatha from 9-13 December 2024 under HADP-20 project entitled Innovative Extension Approaches for Revitalizing Agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir.



- A training programme on Value addition of minor fruits in Kandi area of Jammu: An opportunity to generate rural employment for livelihood security, was organized by Dr Poonam Parihar, Professor Division of Agricultural Extension Education at Block Purmandal District Samba under JKDST&IC sponsored project. Training programme was attended by the rural women and youths of Block purmandal, District Samba.



Trainings

Following one-Week duration trainings were organized:

- Two training programmes were organized on Formulation and usage of *Trichoderma* – A bio-fertiliser and bio-fungicide for sustainable mulberry productivity during 18-23 November 2024 and 12-17 December 2024. Course Coordination: Dr Sabiha Ashraf; Participants: 25 in each programme.
- Two training programmes were organized on Unlocking the potential and prospectus of wild edible fruits through *ex-situ* conservation, multiplication and value addition, during 28 November to 4 December 2024 and 6-12 December 2024. No of participants: 25; Organization: MSME GoI; Resource Persons: Dr Nazir Ahmad Pala, Dr G. M. Bhat, Dr Vaishnu Dutt, Dr Megna Rashid, Dr T. A. Rather, Dr P. A. Sofi, Dr Peerzada Ishtiyak, Dr Maqbool Rather and Dr A. R. Malik; Topics covered: Need of entrepreneurship opportunities among youth of J and K; Introduction to handicraft industry with special emphasis on wicker and willows; Status of wicker willow plantations in Kashmir valley and population involved; Vegetative propagation: preparation of beds, cutting size, spacing, fertilizer dose; Processing, boiling, peeling, drying and grading of wicker; Stage and techniques of harvesting, transportation; Insects, pests and disease occurrence and management; Maintaining safe and healthy/personal hygiene environment during willow craft

manufacturing; Practical session on willow growing nurseries and management practices; Basic business management practices in willow crafts and general entrepreneurship opportunities; Instruments, application and procedure used in willow crafts; Identification and share of each stakeholder in the marketing channel and market linkage; Entrepreneurship opportunities and available govt. policies; and Branding, marketing and future of wicker items and industry/scope and state and national level.

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore

Training on Honey Production and Processing

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kanyakumari conducted a training on Honey production and processing, from 7-14 October 2024 under ARYA project. The Programme Coordinator of KVK, Dr S. Suresh inaugurated the training programme and emphasized the role of bee keeping for sustainable livelihood. The skill development training on importance of beekeeping was handled by Dr K. Kavitha, SMS (Plant Pathology). The SMS (Food Science and Nutrition), Dr J. Selvi demonstrated the value added products preparation using honey. The progressive bee farmer, Mr Daniel shared his success story in beekeeping and explained about the migration of honey bee hives.



Training on Honey Production and Processing

Water and Agricultural Sustainability under Changing Climate

The International Conference on Water and Agricultural Sustainability under Changing Climate (WASCC) 2024, was organised during 7-9 October at TNAU, Coimbatore. The conference brought together over 250 experts, researchers, and scholars from around the world to address pressing issues of water management and agricultural sustainability in the face of climate change. In his opening speech, Mr Tenkasi Jawahar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary and Project Director of the Government of Tamil Nadu emphasised the importance of modernized irrigation in Tamil Nadu. Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor highlighted the need for innovative water management technologies. Dr Sunil Kumar Ambast, Chairman of the Central Groundwater Board, provided an insightful keynote on groundwater storage, addressing the technological hurdles in sustainable water resource management. International experts, including Dr Martin McVendery and Dr Maurizio Polimio, contributed to discussions on the latest advancements in water management technologies. Key themes included micro-irrigation systems to reduce water wastage, rainwater harvesting technologies to improve water availability, and strategies for integrating groundwater with surface water. In the closing session, Dr S. Pazhanivelan, Director, Centre for Water and Geospatial Studies and the Conference Convener welcomed the gathering and narrated the outcomes that emanated from this international conference. Dr R. Thamizh Vendan, Registrar, TNAU and Dr C. Mayil Swamy, President of the Association of Global Groundwater Scientists and Dr B.J. Pandian, former Director (WTC) also addressed attendees, reinforcing the conference's importance.



International Conference on Water and Agricultural Sustainability under Changing Climate

Futuristic Horticulture 2024

Horticultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore jointly with Society for Promotion of Horticultural Science and Technology (SoPHoST) organized an International Conference on Futuristic

Horticulture (ICFH' 24) from 14-15 November 2024 at TNAU. A total of 400 scientists and students attended the conference. Nine experts from five countries representing the USA, Malaysia, Australia, Israel and Nepal participated in this conference. The Convenor and Chief Organizing Secretary of the conference Dr P. Irene Vethamoni, Dean, (Horticulture) welcomed the gathering and explained the conference theme. Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU presided over the inaugural function and highlighted the importance of horticulture and insisted upon providing nutritious food to the younger generation. Dr Danda Raji Reddy, Vice Chancellor, Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University, in his chief guest address expressed that horticultural crops have more avenues than agricultural crops for exploration. Dr K.V. Prasad, Director, ICAR-Directorate of Floricultural Research, Pune, Dr S. Senthilnathan, Chairman and Managing Director, Acsen, Hy-veg also addressed the gathering. Dr V. Geethalakshmi, was honored with the award *Frontier in Agricultural Meteorology* and Dr P. Irene Vethamoni, Dean (Hort.) with *Excellence in Horticulture*. The Best Scientist Awards were bagged by Dr J. Auxilia, Dr S. Haripriya, Dr K.S. Vijay Selvaraj and Dr R. Arun Kumar, while Dr S. Muthulakshmi was felicitated for her contribution in citrus research and development.



International Conference on Futuristic Horticulture' 2024

Unleashing the Power of Seed and Crop Health Innovations for a Food Secured World

The International Conference on *Unleashing the Power of Seed and Crop Health Innovations for a Food Secured World* was organized at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore during 21-22 November, 2024 by the Directorate of Seed Centre and Centre for Plant Protection Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore in collaboration with Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI). The inaugural function was conducted on 21 November 2024. Dr R. Umarani, Director, Seed Centre delivered welcome address and Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor presided over the function. The Vice Chancellor emphasized the importance of quality seeds in food security concerns and appreciated the innovations such as Vithai Amirtham seed coating polymer, seed pelleting, seed cubes, seed stock web portal, for invasive pests, and the production and distribution of biocontrol agents. Dr Prachi Kaul, Director, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, New Delhi highlighted the activity of SICI and the key note address was delivered by Dr R. Viswanathan, Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow. Mr S. Senthilnathan, Chairman and Managing Director, ACSN Agri science and Dr Srinivasulu Rajendran from International Potato Research Centre, Uganda, were also felicitated. The chief guest, Dr Allen Britten, Cape Breton University, Canada in his inaugural address outlined the importance of conference. A formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr M. Shanthi, Director (CPPS). Around 400 participants across the globe participated in the Conference.



International Conference on Unleashing the Power of Seed & Crop Health Innovations for a Food Secured World

TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Convocation

24th Convocation of TANUVAS was held at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai on 20 November 2024. Honourable Governor of Tamil Nadu, Shri R.N. Ravi presented degrees and medals to the 588 graduands.

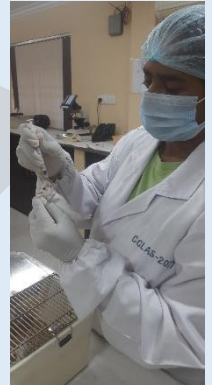
24th Convocation of TANUVAS at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai

Trainings

- With the assistance from ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi, under the AICRP, training programmes on Agroforestry Model for Sustainable Livestock Production, was conducted at Pulikulam Cattle Research Station (PCRS), Manamadurai on 19 October 2024 and 15 November 2024 benefitting 60 farmers.
- Laboratory Animal Science training organized during 15-25 October 2024 at Laboratory Animal Medicine Unit, Madhavaram, Chennai with 7 participants. The Organization of the participants are Palamur Biosciences Pvt. Ltd; Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar; Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT); Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences, Coimbatore; Kurukshetra University, Haryana and TANUVAS. Topics were:
 - Replacement Models – *In silico*, *in vitro* and *in vivo* replacement models.
 - Reduction Principles – Basic bio-statistics, Experimental design, PREPARE and ARRIVE guidelines.
 - Refinement Techniques –
 - Ethics and animal welfare in animal experimentation.
 - Biology and Behaviour of Mice, rats, rabbits, guinea pigs and zebrafish.
 - Pathogens and Parasites of Laboratory Animals – their impact on research.
 - Anaesthesia, Euthanasia and Necropsy of laboratory animals.
 - Occupational bio-hazard and Laboratory animal zoonoses.



Training programme on 'Agroforestry model for sustainable livestock production'



Hands on training in Lab

National Seminar

National seminar on Distillers Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS) organized on 4 October 2024 at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal was attended by 240 practising veterinarians, Farm / feed mill managers, progressive farmers and 290 students. Lead speakers and respective topics were as follows: Mr Sunil Duggal, Technical Manager, All India Distillers' Association Representative, New Delhi– A Futuristic Feed Resource; Dr Dinesh T. Bhosale, Former Chairman, Compounded Livestock Feed Manufacturers Association of India– Quality and Safety of DDGS Available in India; Dr D. Chandrasekaran, Former Professor and Head, Department of Animal Nutrition, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal – Utilization of DDGS in Livestock and Poultry Feeds; and Mr Prashant Jha, Technical Manager, Novonesis, EPIP Area, Whitefield, Bengaluru– BioSolutions to Improve the Utilization of Corn DDGS.



National seminar on 'Distillers Dried Grains with Solubles'

National Workshop

National Workshop on Recent Advances and Application of Thoraco-abdominal Ultrasonography in Farm Animal Practice, organized during 23-24 October 2024 at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Udumalpet was attended by 20 participants. They were mainly from Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Government of Tamil Nadu. Lead speakers and their respective topics were Dr G. Senthil Kumar, Organizing Secretary and Associate Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Medicine, VCRI, Udumalpet– Basics of ultrasonography, recent advances in diagnostic Ultrasound in veterinary practice and abdominal ultrasonography in cattle; Dr C.

Inbaraj, Assistant Professor, Department of Veterinary Medicine, VCRI, Udumalpet–Thoracic ultrasonography in cattle, sheep and goats; Dr P. Dharani, Assistant Professor, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, VCRI, Udumalpet – Topographic anatomy of thorax and abdomen for ultrasonographic examination in cattle, sheep and goat; Dr R. Sivashankar, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology, VCRI, Udumalpet– Ocular ultrasonography of cattle; and External Expert invited: Dr D. Sumathi, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine, VCRI, Namakkal–Knobology and Instrumentation on ultrasound machine and abdominal - thoracic ultrasonography in cattle.



National Workshop on ‘Recent Advances and Application of Thoraco-abdominal Ultrasonography in Farm Animal Practice’

UAS, Bengaluru

Kisan Mela

- University of Agricultural Sciences organized Kisan mela from 14-17 November 2024 at GKVK campus with the theme centered on Climate Smart Digital Agriculture. Mela attracted around 34.13 lakh farmers, students and public. Three hybrids, viz., one each in maize, sunflower and bajra-napier and one variety in cowpea were released.



Glimpses of Kisan Mela at GKVK Campus

- Kisan mela was organized at VC. Farm, Mandya on 26-27 November, 2024 under the theme Integrated farming system for prosperity. Mela attracted over one lakh farmers, students and public.



Glimpses of Kisan Mela at Mandya



- The Agriculture Future Forward: Startup Conclave 2024, held on 3 December 2024 organised by BioNEST Agri Innovation Centre, UAS-B, was attended by 1,500 participants including entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, academicians, industry leaders, startups, and students to explore transformative opportunities in agricultural technology. Over 35 Agri startups and 10 UAS-B developed technologies were showcased in exhibitions.



AICRP Workshop

The 25th Annual General Meeting of ICAR-All India Network Project on Soil Arthropod Pods was organized at GKVK, UAS, Bengaluru on 19-20 November 2024.

Trainings

- A Certificate Course on Integrated Nutrient Management, sponsored by MANAGE, Hyderabad, was organized by ICAR-KVK, Bengaluru Rural, from 16-30 October. A total of 24 participants attended the training and benefited from the program. 
- College of Agricultural Engineering, GKVK Campus, Bengaluru Conducted 20-day Training Programme for Alva's Institute of Engineering and Technology, Moodbidri students during 14-26 October 2024 at CIDSA Project.  
- **RAWEP: Agricultural Exhibition:** College of Agriculture, Hassan Organized RAWEP: Agricultural Exhibition on 6 November 2024 at PU College ground, Dudda, Hassan Taluk. Nearly 3,000 participants witnessed the programme. 
- Skill training programme on Hi-tech horticulture sponsored by Skill Development Centre, UAS, Bengaluru was organized at KVK, Chikkaballapura from 12th to 14th December 2024. 25 participants benefitted from the programme. Participants were taken to field visits to Hi tech horticulture farms in Kolar, Malur and Hosur.
- ICAR-KVK, V.C. Farm, Mandya organized six days training programme for Krishi Saki- module-2 in collaboration with SANJEEVINI- Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, GoK, from 4 to 9 December 2024 on Agro Ecological Practices for Community Resource Persons (Krishi Sakhi- 30) of Farm Livelihood.

MoUs

AU, Kota

- A strategic partnership agreement was signed between Agriculture University, Kota and Mahatma Gandhi Udhyaniki evam Vaniki Vishwavidhyalay, Sankra, Durg, Chhattisgarh for cooperation in education, research and extension for five years.
- A strategic partnership agreement signed between Agriculture University, Kota and Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University (VMOU), Kota for cooperation in education, research and extension for five years.
- A strategic partnership agreement signed between Agriculture University, Kota and Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali Uttarakhand University of Horticulture & Forestry (VCSG UUHF), Bharsar, Pauri Garhwal (Uttarakhand) for cooperation in education, research and extension for five years.



Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

Following five Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were signed between Dr YSPUHF, Nauni, and several renowned National and International institutes/organizations:

- With Shoolini Institute of Life Sciences and Business Management, Solan, Himachal Pradesh for 5 years, to provide framework for collaboration for quality research and building new generation of skilled human resource, building new opportunities for employment and economic development.
- With ITM University, Gwalior (MP) for 3 years to facilitate Student's training/Postgraduate Research/ Sharing Resources.
- With Horting Institute of Research- Development for Processing and Marketing of Horticultural Products, Bucharest, Romania for 5 years to Develop collaborative research, Exchange of university members and scientists, researchers, professors and students. Doctoral & post-doctoral students training. Exchange of information, publications and journals, reference materials and other results of research, and/or any other activities viewed to be potentially beneficial.
- With Western Sydney University, Australia for 5 years for Institutional Collaboration on Dual Awards and Joint Higher Degrees.
- With Lakehead University, Canada on year to year basis to encourage and facilitate international education opportunities for their students and faculty, and seeking to promote the process of internationalization at their respective institutions.

GADVASU, Ludhiana**University signs MOU with Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture**

GADVASU, Ludhiana inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICAR-Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA), Chennai to promote sustainable development of aquaculture in the inland saline areas of Punjab. The MoU was signed by Dr Kuldeep K. Lal, Director of ICAR-CIBA, and Dr A.K. Arora, Director of Research of the University, in the presence of the Vice Chancellor Dr J.P.S. Gill and other university officers and scientific team from the College of Fisheries.

Dr Gill said that the challenges of seed quality, feed cost, disease outbreaks, and export-dependent marketing are major issues impeding the progress of shrimp farming in the state and the collaboration with CIBA will enable the University to address these challenges effectively, while also introducing new species and systems to ensure the sustainable development of inland saline water aquaculture in the region. The MoU will primarily focus on diversification and include provisions for the mutual exchange of scientific information, capacity building for stakeholders and collaborative research to develop sustainable aquaculture models for inland saline areas.

IGKV, Raipur

The MoU was signed between IGKV and Kushabhau Thakre Journalism and Mass Communication University, to facilitate academic collaboration, allowing students to explore



Signing of MoU



interdisciplinary learning. To support students of both the universities will be able to study each other's courses.

OUAT, Bhubaneswar

Letter of Understanding was signed with World Food Programme on 29 October 2024 to support the implementation of Resilient and Inclusive Initiatives for Sustainability and Empowerment (RIISE) project in Odisha for enabling socio-economic empowerment and resilience of smallholder farmers and women self-help groups for sustainable household food and nutrition security as a technical partner.



SKUAST-J, Jammu

- MoU signed with Kandhari Beverages Pvt. Ltd from 21 November 2024 to 20 November 2029 for 5 years.
- MoU signed with Tropical Agrosystem (India) Pvt. Ltd from 21 November 2024 to 20 November 2029 for 5 years.
- MoU signed with Saraswati Agro Chemicals (India) Pvt. Ltd from 21 November 2024 to 20 November 2029 for 5 years.
- MoU signed with ICMR-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV), Pune, Maharashtra from 28 November 2024 to 27 November 2029 for 5 years.
- MoU signed with Biovet Pvt. Ltd from 28 November 2024 to 27 November 2029 for 5 years.

TNAU, Coimbatore

TNAU inks MoU with Vel Tech Institute, Chennai

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) and Vel Tech Institute signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at fostering collaboration in research, innovation, and academic excellence. The signing ceremony was graced by Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU. On behalf of TNAU, Dr R. Thamizh Vendan, Registrar, and on behalf of Vel Tech Institute, Chennai, Prof. Dr Rajat Gupta, Vice Chancellor, signed the MoU. Dr S. Sheeba, Professor (SS&AC), AC&RI, Madurai, Dr R. Ravi Kumar, Associate Dean (Research), and Dr S. Vinson Joshua, Professor (ECE), Vel Tech Institute, Chennai were also present during the ceremony. An MoU facilitates joint research initiatives, faculty and student exchange programs, and the development of advanced technologies to address challenges in agriculture and allied fields. A collaboration will commence with a research project on AI and Remote Sensing Applications funded by ISRO, and is to be led by Dr S. Sheeba, Professor (SS&AC), TNAU and Dr Selwin Priyadharson, Professor and Head (ECE), Vel Tech Institute, Chennai.



TNAU inks MoU with Vel Tech Institute, Chennai

Inking of MoU between TNAU and Mondelez India Pvt. Ltd

Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Ltd (Erstwhile Cadbury India Ltd), a Multinational Company dealing with cocoa products, entered into a Master Grant Agreement with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University for

the grant of ₹ 27.96 lakh (₹ Twenty-seven lakh and ninety six thousand only) towards the scholarship of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agri / B.Sc. (Hons.) Hort. students of all the constituent colleges of TNAU, for the year 2024-25. The agreement was signed by Dr R. Thamizh Vendan Registrar, TNAU and Mr Vijayakumar, Regional Manager (South Zone), Mondelez India Pvt. Ltd on 13 December 2024 in the presence of Dr V. Geethalakshmi Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore.



Inking of MoU between TNAU and Mondelez India Pvt. Ltd.

TNAU inks MoA with Start-Up Companies & Innovators

Dr N. Senthil, Director, Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology & CPMB&B, TNAU, Coimbatore signed the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with two start-up companies viz., M/s. Arirang Biotech Private Limited, Kanchipuram, M/s. Sakthi Fertilizers Company, Namakkal and two innovators Mr Arunkumar Madhavan and Mr Dhivya Bhalan students from KIT on 03 October 2024 for facilitating the cabin space to develop their research activities, in the presence of Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor. Dr M.K. Kalarani, Director, Crop Management, Dr E. Kokiladevi, Professor & Head, Dept. of Plant Biotechnology, Dr S. Mohan Kumar, Professor & Project Director (CoEB) and the other delegates.



TNAU inks MoA with Start-Up Companies & Innovators

TNAU Inks MoA with Agripreneur

The Biotech Council for Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology (CoEB), Coimbatore, will carry out the research and development activities under public-private partnership mode to develop super active enzymes / biomolecules, biobased products, hormones for fruit ripening, plant growth stimulants and similar bio-inputs for the commercial benefit of farmers. Dr N. Senthil, Director, Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology & CPMB&B, TNAU, Coimbatore signed the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on behalf of Biotech Council for Establishment of Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology, Coimbatore with M/s. Eco Green Unit, Coimbatore on 27 December 2024 for facilitating the cabin space to develop their research activities, in the presence of Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor of TNAU.



TNAU Inks MoA with Agripreneur

TNAU Inks MoA with Sankar Bio-Tech, Hosur

The Department of Plant Biotechnology, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (CPMB&B), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore has signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Sankar Bio-Tech, Hosur, Krishnagiri Dist., Tamil Nadu on 27 December 2024 in the presence of Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Dr R. Thamizh Vendan, Registrar, Dr N. Senthil, Director, CPMB&B, Dr P. Jeyakumar, Director, Planning and Monitoring, Dr E. Kokiladevi, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Biotechnology and Mr R. Sankar, Proprietor



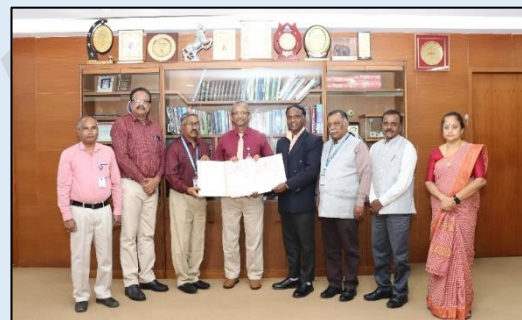
TNAU Inks MoA with Sankar Bio-Tech, Hosur

of Sankar Bio-Tech, Hosur and Dr S. Elayabalan, Technical Director of Sankar Bio-Tech. The MoA was signed for the large-scale production and supply of quality tissue culture plants of banana at the plant tissue culture facilities of the CPMB&B through a buy-back mechanism on pilot scale basis.

TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by TANUVAS, Chennai with the following institutions to have academic and research collaboration.

- BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune on 3 October 2024.
- Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai on 21 October 2024.
- Indian Immunologicals Ltd, Hyderabad on 10 December 2024.
- National Institute of Siddha, Tambaram, Chennai on 26 December 2024.



MoU between TANUVAS and National Institute of Siddha, Chennai on 26 December 2024

UAS, Bengaluru

Following MoUs were signed by UAS, Bengaluru:

- For Promotion of academic and research activities in biological knowledge and deploy contemporary tools and technologies with support of NCBS-TIFR with National Center for Biological Sciences, (NCBS) Bengaluru on 23 October 2024 for 5 years.
- For Promotion of Kannada language literature in Agriculture/allied sciences and related aspects with Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, New Delhi on 28 October 2024 for 3 years.
- For Post Graduate Research with Bayer Science and Innovation Limited on 23 October 2024 for 3 years.
- For License Technology for Agreement for *Trichoderma harzianum* and *Pseudomonas fluorescens* with IIHR, Bengaluru on 11 November 2024 for 5 years.
- For implanting the project of CRISPR mediated genome editing in potato for earliness in tuberization, stress resilience and enhanced tuber yield with Department of Bio-technology, New Delhi on 14 November 2024 for 3 years.
- For transfer of UAS-B Technology developed on multi crop processing machine, high-capacity tamarind dehuller, tamarind deseeder, buckwheat deseeder with Anurag Industries and Corporation, Bengaluru on 11 November 2024 for 5 years.
- For promotion of agri related startup by capacity building and trainings through Agri Incubation Center of UAS-B with Social Alpha, foundation for innovations and entrepreneurship, Bengaluru on 13 December 2024 for 3 years.
- For project on Standardization of Mesh size in Rainwater harvesting filter opting for domestic utilization of harvested rainwater with Bengaluru Water Supply & Sewerage Board (BWSSB) on 30 November 2024 for one year.
- For Agreement for applying for IPR/Patent as per norms of Biological Diversity Act- 2002 & Rules- 2004 with National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai on 9 December 2024 till subsistence of the IPR.

IPR

AAU, Anand

Registration of varieties under PPV&FRA

The groundnut variety Gujarat Groundnut 34 (GG 34) registration number 2023/141, brinjal variety Gujarat Round Brinjal 8 (GRB 8: Anand Raj) registration number 2024/0068, Gujarat Anand Brinjal 6 (GAB 6: Anand Doli) registration number 2024/0069, clusterbean variety Gujarat Vegetable Guar 11 (GVC 11: Anand Bahar) registration number 2024/0070, chilli variety Gujarat Anand Vegetable Chilli 141 (GAVC 141: Anand Tej) registration number 2024/0090, and okra variety Gujarat Anand Okra 8 (GAO 8: Anand Komal) registration number 2024/0091 were registered by PPV&FRA, New Delhi, during the year 2024.

Dr RPCAU, Pusa

- A patent for an invention entitled Mushroom paneer and method of producing the same, was granted on 1 November 2024 (Patent No. 553800). Vice Chancellor, Dr P.S. Pandey felicitated the Scientists associated with this innovation.

Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- **Title of the patent:** Method for optimizing off-season flower production in chrysanthemum (*Dendranthema × Grandiflora* Tzhelev) Cultivars under low hill climatic conditions [**Patent number:** 202411090424A, **Date of grant:** 06 December 2024]

RVSKVV, Gwalior

- **Pesticide spray with pesticide measuring system (UK patent)**
Design Number 6310337, date of grant 23 September 2023, Patent by: College of Horticulture, Mandsaur of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (M.P.).

SKRAU, Bikaner

- Associate Professor of College of Agriculture, Bikaner Dr V.S. Acharya *et al.* received certificate of registration of design patent on 'Bird percher for integrated pest management' from Government of India on 22 October 2024. Design No. 427177.001.

SKUAST-J, Jammu

- **Patents**
Poultry feeding device. Design patent no. 427326-001. Granted on 22 November 2024.
Inventor: Dr Vikas Mahajan, Dr Imran Ahmad Ganai, Dr Nazam Khan, Dr Qazi Shehriyar Sahib, Dr Suraj Amrutkar, Dr Sohrab Malik.
- **Copyright**

[Copyright Registered] Package of practices for the on-farm management practices for the control of mastitis in cattle (Diary No.: 33483/2024-CO/L). Neelesh Sharma and Ankit Magotra.

SKUAST-K, Srinagar

- An Organic fertilizer preparation using aquatic weeds (DAL Weed) through microbial fermentation by Dr Khurshid A. Bhat; Date of Grant: 29 October 2024; Patent No: 553556.
- Dispersible saffron kehwa tablets and a method of preparing thereof by Dr Haroon Rashid Naik; Date of Grant: 07 November 2024; Patent No: 554030.
- Automated fish feed optimization device by Mr Umar Rasool Parry; Date of Grant: 22 November 2024; Design No: 429328-001.
- Nano fungicidal composition and method thereof by Ms. Aneesa Batool; Date of Grant: 03 December 2024; Patent No: 555706.
- Vertical cultivation system by Dr Gazala Nazir; Date of Grant: 04 December 2024; Design No: 422805-001.
- Load carrying device by Dr Heena Hamadani; Date of Grant: 13 December 2024; Design No: 426229-001.
- A Process of isolating and culturing of primary mammary epithelial cells (PMECS) from caprine and bovine milk comprising steps by Dr Mudasar Andrabi; Date of Grant: 23 December 2024; Patent No: 556725.
- An efficient and quick RNA extraction method by Dr Khalid Z. Masoodi; Date of Grant: 31 December 2024; Patent No: 557247.
- A Sod cutter by Mr Qazi Altaf Hussain; Date of Grant: 23 December 2024; Patent No: 556765.

TNAU, Coimbatore

Design Patent Awarded to TNAU Floating Wetlands Platform

A design patent was awarded for a new Buoyant hydroponic platform to TNAU and environmental experts Dr K. Sara Parwin Banu, Dr G Karthikeyan, Dr M. Maheswari, Mr Vignesh Kumar, Ms Maria Luke and Ms Aarthi Shree, Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor presented this award to the team in the presence of Dr D. Sureshkumar, Director (CARDS) on 16 November 2024. Floating treatment wetlands are manmade structures used along with hyperaccumulator hydroponic plants to cleanup waste waters. The unique features of this TNAU floats include easy fabrication, increased buoyancy and sturdiness which can withstand heavy winds, rains and real-time challenges. These TNAU Vetiver based floating wetlands were installed in Periyakulam lake, Coimbatore, and were monitored for its efficiency and life cycle assessment (LCA). The floats can be used in any hydroponic system including floating treatment wetlands for cleanup of water bodies.



Design Patent awarded to TNAU Floating Wetlands Platform

TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- Patent (No. 556148) was granted for the invention An improved electrical stunner for stunning animals before slaughter; developed by the faculty members of TANUVAS; on 12 December 2024.

AWARDS and RECOGNITIONS

AU, Kota

Dr Manoj Kumar, Assistant Professor (G&PB), AICRP on Rice, Dr Sandhya, Assistant Professor (G&PB), AICRP on Linseed, Agriculture University, Kota received Best Poster and Thesis Award during the 9th International Conference on Global Research Initiatives for Sustainable Agriculture and Allied Sciences, held at RARI, Durgapura, Jaipur on 10-12 December 2024.



Dr Manoj Kumar receiving award



Dr Sandhya receiving award

AAU, Anand

Prestigious FICCI Award to Anand Agricultural University (AAU)

Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Anand, was honored with the prestigious FICCI Higher Education Excellence Award 2024 in the category of Excellence in Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (Public). The award was announced at the 19th FICCI Higher Education Summit 2024, held on October 18 at Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.



Registrar, AAU receiving the award

Best AICRP Centre Award

Tribal Research cum Training Centre, AAU, Devgadhi Baria received Best Centre Award in recognition of being the All India Coordinated Research Project on Integrated Farming Systems On-Farm Research (Scheduled Tribe Component) during biennial workshop -2024. Tribal Research cum Training Centre, AAU, Devgadhi Baria contributed for better implementation of the Scheduled Tribe Component activities including successful demonstration of farming system interventions through model value chain. A total of 300 scheduled tribe farm households were covered for implementing model value chain interventions such as crop oriented technologies, crop + dairy farming system and nutri-smart village for food and nutritional self-sufficiency. A total of 40 self-help groups covering turmeric, chilli and bio-fertilizer production were initiated by the centre.



Best Centre Award

AAU Gets (GSIRF) Five-Star Rating

The executive committee of the Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat, Department of Education, Government of Gujarat on the recommendation of the duly appointed assessment and rating agency, the Indian Centre for Academic Ranking and Excellence (ICARE) has rated Anand Agricultural University as a five-star Institution in the category of Agriculture based on comprehensive performance metrics as set out in the Gujarat State Institution Ratings Framework (GSIRF). For this achievement, Vice Chancellor, Dr K.B. Kathiria; Director of Research, Dr M.K. Jhala; Director of Extension Education, Dr J.K. Patel; and Registrar, Dr G. R. Patel congratulated the officers, staff and students of the university and expressed commitment to scale new heights of development.



CSKHPKV, Palampur

- Dr R. D. SHARMA MEMORIAL AWARD: For best paper published in International Journal on Veterinary Obstetrics. [Ahuja A, Honparkhe M, Kumar A, Bisla A and Sood P. Additional intracervical prostaglandin reduces induction to calving time in buffaloes affected with incomplete cervical dilatation post-uterine detorsion. Tropical Animal Health and Production (2024) 56:16 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11250-023-03866-z>].
- Best Young Scientist Award (Poster Presentation): Ankit Ahuja, Mrigank Honparkhe, Ajeet Kumar and Pankaj Sood. 2024; presented in the 39th Annual Convention of The Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction and National Symposium on Challenges in Enhancing Reproductive Efficiency of Livestock: An Indian Perspective, held at GADVASU, Ludhiana from 29 November 2024 to 1 December 2024.
- First Best Oral Presentation Award for the paper entitled Ahuja A, Sharma A, Sood P, Sharma A, Kumar P, Sharma P, Kumar R and Kumar A. 2024, presented in the 39th Annual Convention of The Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction and National Symposium on Challenges in Enhancing Reproductive Efficiency of Livestock: An Indian Perspective, held at GADVASU, Ludhiana from 29 November 2024 to 1 December 2024.
- First Best Poster Presentation Award for the paper Sachin, Sharma A, Ahuja A, Thakur D, Kumar P, Sharma A and Sood P. 2024, presented in the 39th Annual Convention of The Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction and National Symposium on Challenges in Enhancing Reproductive Efficiency of Livestock: An Indian Perspective, held at GADVASU, Ludhiana from 29 November 2024 to 01 December 2024.
- Second Best Poster Presentation Award for the paper Thakur D, Sharma A, Ahuja A, Sood P, Sharma A and Kumar P. 2024, presented in the 39th Annual Convention of The Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction and National Symposium on Challenges in Enhancing Reproductive Efficiency of Livestock: An Indian Perspective, held at GADVASU, Ludhiana from 29 November 2024 to 01 December 2024.
- Dr Deepti Bodh awarded Best Oral Presentation Award for research paper presented in 5th Annual Convention of Veterinary Internal and Preventive Medicine Society and International Symposium held at SVPUAT, Meerut on 22-23 November 2024.

Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- **Third Best Exhibitor Award (AICRP-PHET)** to AICRP on PHET, Solan Centre during Industry Interface Fair on Agro-Processing (CIPHET IIFA-2024) and Food processing fair w.e.f. 3-5 October 2024.
- Dr Neha Gautam of the University received **Best Research Paper Award** for the paper entitled 'Fructosyltransferase production by *Bacillus stercoris* S1 isolated from *Stevia rebaudiana* for the biocatalytic conversion of sucrose into oligosaccharides' at 65th Annual International Conference of the Association of Microbiologists of India 2024 held at Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar, Haryana, India on 14-17 November 2024.
- Dr Sanjeev Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Basic Sciences of the university received **Certificate of Excellence in Reviewing awarded** by Journal of Experimental Agriculture International on 5 October 2024 and by Annual Research and Review in Biology on 22 November 2024.

GADVASU, Ludhiana**Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor bags Challappa Memorial Oration Award**

Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor of GADVASU was honoured with the prestigious Chellappa Memorial Oration Award at the 24th Annual Conference of Indian Society of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology held at U.P Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya Evam Go Anusandhan Sansthan (DUVASU) Mathura. Dr Gill was also the Guest of Honour during this conference.



Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor receiving the Award

Scientist Honored with National Fellowship

Dr R.S. Sethi, Additional Director of Research was honoured with the **Fellowship by the Indian Society of Veterinary Immunology and Biotechnology (ISVIB)** in acknowledgment of his exceptional achievements and significant impact on the field of immunology and Biotechnology. The honour was conferred during the ISVIB's XXIX Annual Convention and National conference at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai.

**Best Editor-in-Chief Award**

Dr V.K. Dumka, Comptroller and Dr M.K. Lonare, Associate Professor were bestowed with the Best Editor-in-Chief (Toxicology International) awards at the International Conference on Current Trends in Toxicology, 2024 and the 43rd Annual Meeting of Society of Toxicology, India held at Lovely Professional University (LPU), Jalandhar.

**Award by Anatomical Society, London**

Dr Kritima Kapoor, Assistant Professor, Department of Veterinary Anatomy earned the Anatomical Society Runner-Up Best Image Prize 2024 (Science Category) from the Anatomical Society, London in an International Image Contest organized bi-annually by this society.



IGKV, Raipur

Vice Chancellor nominated as member of Curriculum Panel of ICAR and Research Fellowship Panel of DBT

- Dr Girish Chandel, Vice Chancellor, IGKV, Raipur was nominated as a member of Curriculum Committee for the ICAR University Entrance Examination 2025 organised by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi. The committee was chaired by Dr R.C. Agrawal, Deputy Director General (Education), ICAR comprises eight member including Dr Girish Chandel. The committee will harmonize the agricultural courses taught by various education boards, ensuring standardization and integration of agricultural and scientific subjects. The efforts of this committee aim to streamline curricula and create a unified framework for aspiring agricultural students.
- Dr Girish Chandel, Vice Chancellor, IGKV, Raipur was appointed as a member of Research Associate Fellowship Selection Committee under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, GoI. This prestigious national level panel comprises 22 distinguished members from renowned universities and research institutions across India. The panel's primary mandate is to identify and provide fellowships to exceptionally talented research students across India while also offering them mentorship to pursue excellence in biotechnology. The committee plays a vital role in fostering scientific innovation and academic growth in the country.



Millionaire Farmer of India Award

Mr Chaitu Ram Yadav and Mr Neelkanth Nag of Narayanpur were honoured at the Millionaire Farmer of India Award-2024 held from 1-3 December 2024 in New Delhi. Both the farmers increased their income by adopting innovation and integrated farming system with the support of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Narayanpur.

Mr Chaitu Ram Yadav (Bangdongri) developed new sources of income by adopting animal husbandry, fish farming, and earthworm compost production along with paddy cultivation. Mr Neelkanth Nag (Belgaum) achieved economic strength by adopting vegetable production, fish and duck farming along with paddy.



IGKV honoured with Special Jury Recognition Award by FICCI

Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur was honoured with the Special Jury Recognition Award for its outstanding work in research, innovation and entrepreneurship development. This honour was given to IGKV by the Chief Guest of the program, British High Commissioner Ms Lindy Cameron, at the



19th Higher Education Summit organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) at the Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi from 18-19 October 2024. The award was presented to the Vice Chancellor of IGKV, Dr Girish Chandel.

KU, Gandhinagar

Dr Mohan Bhattacharya silver jubilee medal and award to Dr Anil Sharma

Dr Anil Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, COVSAH, KU, Junagadh received Dr Mohan Bhattacharya silver jubilee medal and award for the best paper in Histology and Histochemistry, conferred by Indian Association of Veterinary Anatomists (IAVA) in 38th Annual Convention of IAVA and National Symposium, held at College of Veterinary Science and A. H., DUVASU, Mathura (UP) during 24-26 October 2024.



Dr Sharma receiving Best Paper Award

Dr Monaliben Bhesaniya received award for research

Dr Bhesaniya Monaliben Bharatbhai, PG student of Department of Veterinary Anatomy, CoVSAH, KU, Junagadh received Dr A. M. Srivastava Medal and Award for Outstanding M.V.Sc. Research work in Anatomy, conferred by Indian Association of Veterinary Anatomists (IAVA), in 38th Annual Convention of IAVA and National Symposium, held at Department of Veterinary Anatomy, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, DUVASU, Mathura (UP) during 24-26 October 2024.



Dr Monaliben receiving award for research work

Dr A.B. Odedara received Best Doctoral Thesis Award

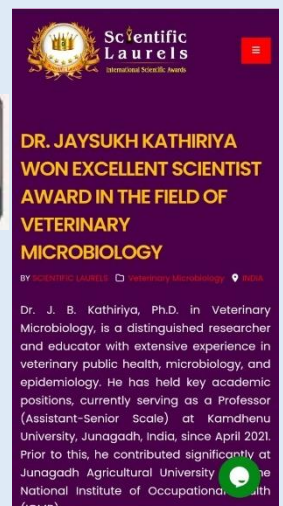
Dr A.B. Odedara, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Physiology & Biochemistry, COVSAH, KU, Junagadh participated in 8th Annual Convention of the Society of Veterinary Biochemists and Biotechnologists of India (SVBBI), on Unlocking the Potential of Veterinary Biochemistry and Biotechnology for Food and Nutrition Security, organized by Department of Veterinary Biochemistry, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, DUVASU, Mathura, (UP) during 20-21 December 2024. In this annual convention, his doctoral thesis was shortlisted for the prestigious SVBBI Best Doctoral Thesis Award. Dr A.B. Odedara presented his doctoral research at the SVBBI Annual Conference in Mathura. A jury of distinguished scientists evaluated the presentation and selected the recipient for the Best Doctoral Thesis Award.



Dr A.B. Odedara receiving prestigious award

Dr J.B. Kathiriya received Excellent Scientist Award

Dr J.B. Kathiriya, Assistant Professor, Department of Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology, Veterinary College, Junagadh was awarded with the Excellent Scientist Award by The Scientific Laurels Committee, a trademark of Legion of Erudite Scientific Research Organization (Reg. No. 150768), approved and registered by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Government of India for recognition of his exceptional achievements and outstanding contributions to research and development. Through his research, teaching, and outreach, Dr Kathiriya aims to enhance veterinary science's impact on public health and animal welfare, bridging the gap between academic innovation and practical application.



Dr A. A. Vagh received Scientific Award

Dr A.A. Vagh was awarded with Dr Neelesh Sharma Scientific Award-2024 at the 5th Annual Convention of Veterinary Internal and Preventive Medicine (VIPM) & International Symposium on Headway in Veterinary Medicine: Improving Animal Health and Productivity with Respect to Antimicrobial Resistance, organized by Department of Veterinary Medicine, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, during 22-23 November 2024.



Dr Vagh receiving Scientific award

Faculty and students received award

- Dr A.K. Bilwal was awarded with VIPM Young Scientist Award -2024 at the 5th Annual Convention of Veterinary Internal and Preventive Medicine (VIPM) & International Symposium on Headway in Veterinary Medicine: Improving Animal Health and Productivity with Respect to Antimicrobial Resistance, organized by Department of Veterinary Medicine, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, during 22-23 November 2024.



Dr Bilwal receiving Young Scientist Award

- Dr A.K. Bilwal, Assistant Professor and Dr Jagruti Parmar, PG student received the best poster presentation award in Companion & Large Animal Session, respectively, during the same event held at SVPUAT, Meerut.

In the same programme Dr Bhavna Narnoliya, PG student received the best oral presentation award in Farm animal and production medicine.

- Dr S.H. Inamdar, PG student was awarded with Young Scientist Award at the 11th Annual Convention of Society of Veterinary Sciences and Biotechnology (SVSBT) & National Conference on Biotechnological Innovations to Augment Health and Productivity of Livestock and Poultry for Sustainable Livelihood, organized by Department of Veterinary Nutrition, College of Veterinary Science (SVVU), Proddatur, YSR District, Andhra Pradesh, during 23-25 October 2024.
- Dr M.K. Pandya, PG student was awarded with Young Scientist Award at the 11th Annual Convention of SVSBT & National Conference organized by College of Veterinary Science (SVVU), Proddatur, Andhra Pradesh, during 23-25 October 2024.



Dr Jagruti Parmar receiving Best poster presentation award



Dr S.H. Inamdar receiving Young Scientist Award



Dr Pandya receiving Young Scientist Award



- Dr Vijay L. Parmar, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Clinical Complex, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Junagadh received Young Scientist Award for his Ph.D. research presentation entitled Assessment of haemato-biochemical and oxidative stress markers in tropical theileriosis in Gir Cattle in 11th Annual Convention of SVSBT held at CoVS, Proddatur, Andhra Pradesh.

- Dr Nilima Brahmabhatt, Assistant Professor of COVSAH, Junagadh, also received Best oral presentation award-1st position in technical session-III: Livestock health and Emerging diseases for paper entitled Studies on Genetic Diversity Based On 18S rRNA And COX1 Genes in Canine

Babesiosis of Dogs from Gujarat, India during above conference held during 23-25 October, 2024 at Proddutur, Andhra Pradesh.



Dr Nilima presenting a research paper



- Dr Ankita Verma, Assistant Professor from Department of AGB awarded with second best Oral presentation award for the research work entitled Serum IFN- γ levels and relative expression of *ISG15* and *MX1* in pregnant Jaffrabadi buffaloes, at National Symposium of – Indian Society for Buffalo Development (ISBD) on Innovative Approaches for Boosting Buffalo Productivity in Technical session 1 of Buffalo Breeding and Omics organized by College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Kamdhenu University, Anand during 16-18 December 2024.
- Dr Yogesh D. Padheriya has received 2nd prize in Poster presentation in the technical session Animal Production sciences for abstract presented Effect of photoperiod on performance traits and biochemical profile in Surti kids in XI Annual Convention and National Conference of SVSBT organized by Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University College of Veterinary Science, Proddatur Y.S.R. District, Andhra Pradesh, India during 23-25 October 2024.



OUAT, Bhubaneswar

AICRP on IFS (Bhubaneswar Center, OUAT) received the Best Centre (on station) award for the year 2023-24, during the biennial Workshop of AICRP on IFS at PAU, Ludhiana held during 2-5 December 2024. The centre also received certificates for documentation of two IFS technologies developed by AICRP-IFS, OUAT, Bhubaneswar during the workshop.



SKRAU, Bikaner

- Ms Gunjan Chauhan, MBA II Year student of Institute of Agri Business Management, Bikaner participated and won First Prize worth ₹ 11,000 (₹ Eleven Thousand) at **Spardha: National Summer Project competition** organized by Institute of Rural Management, Jaipur during 15-16 October 2024.
- Students of IABM, SKRAU participated in National Agribusiness festival organized at ISAB, Greater Noida during 13-14 December 2024 and won both First and Second Prize in Advertisement and Poster making Competition and First Prize in Group Dance Competition.

Students of IABM, SKRAU being bestowed prize in National Agribusiness festival organized at ISAB at Greater Noida



SKUAST-J, Jammu

- Dr Moni Gupta, Professor and Head of the Division, received the best women Scientist award for the year 2024 of SKUAST-Jammu.



- Mr Abhishek TS, Ph.D. Scholar of Division of Entomology, Faculty of Agriculture, Chatha received Prime Minister Research fellowship for Doctoral Research.
- Magic of Mushroom a team of PG students secured 2nd position and received prize money of ₹ 50,000 (₹fifty thousand) in Agrithon 2024 under the theme Innovation in Post-Harvest, Value Addition, Supply Chain and Logistics conducted by NAHEP-IDP and SKUAST-J.

Team 'Magic of Mushroom'



- Dr S. K. Gupta, Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu and Dr Rakesh Sharma, Professor, Agriculture Extension, Faculty of Agriculture received Fellowship award from Indian Ecological Society on 13-14 November, 2024 during International conference on Transforming, Agri-Food Systems in the Face of Climate Changes and Energy Transitions held at PAU, Ludhiana.

Dr S.K. Gupta receiving Award



- Dr Neelesh Sharma, Professor, Veterinary Medicine, received Fellow Award of Veterinary Internal and Preventive Medicine Society, India on 22 November, 2024. He also received Dr B.P. Joshi Recognition award-2024 by Veterinary Internal and Preventive Medicine Society, India on 22 November 2024.

Prof. (Dr) Neelesh Sharma, receiving VIPM Fellow award-2024



- Dr Nrip Kishore Pankaj, Professor and Head received Best Oral Presentation Award during International Conference on Translational Approach to Mitigate the Challenges of Antimicrobial Resistance (ISVPTCON-2024) organized by Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Veterinary Sciences, DUVASU Mathura, Uttar Pradesh, on 18-21 November 2024.
- Dr Pawan Kumar Verma, Professor received Best Oral Presentation Award during International Conference on Translational Approach to Mitigate the Challenges of Antimicrobial Resistance (ISVPTCON-2024) organized by Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Veterinary Sciences, DUVASU Mathura, Uttar Pradesh on 18-21 November 2024.
- Dr Pawan Kumar Verma received Best PhD Thesis Award during the 8th International Conference on Recent Trends in Advancement of Agriculture, Horticulture, Livestock and Allied Sciences organized by Shri Guru Rai University, Dehradun from 21-22 November 2024.
- Dr Ankit Magotra, Deputy Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu, received Dr M.L. Madan award for outstanding research in the field of Animal Genetics and Breeding in International Conference on Current Innovations and Technological Advances in Agriculture and Allied Sciences, organized by Indian Society Agriculture Science and Technology Research, Noida.

- Dr Sheen Tukra, PhD Scholar, Division of VPT, received Best oral presentation award during International Conference on Translational Approach to Mitigate the Challenges of Antimicrobial Resistance (ISVPTCON-2024) organized by Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Veterinary Sciences, DUVASU Mathura, Uttar Pradesh, on 18-21 November 2024.
- Dr Jonali Devi, Professor and Head was awarded A Roy Memorial Award by Society of Animal Physiologists of India (SAPI) for the year 2023 awarded in the XXXII Annual Conference of SAPI held at ICAR-CIRC, Meerut UP, w.e.f 27-29 November 2024.
- Best KVK Scientist Award received by Dr Parul Gupta, SMS (Animal Science) KVK-Rajouri during 10th International Conference on RAAEALSES-2024 held on 23-25 October 2024.
- Pioneer Biochemist team of PG students received consolation prize of ₹10,000 (₹ten thousand) in Agrithon 2024 on the theme Innovation in Post-Harvest, Value Addition, Supply Chain and Logistics, conducted by NAHEP- IDP and SKUAST-J.

TNAU, Coimbatore

TNAU bagged National Water Award –2023

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University won first prize in Best Institution (other than school or college) category in the National Water Award 2023 for innovative water harvesting engineering practices, agricultural water management technologies and organizing water awareness campaigns. Professor V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor of TNAU received the award along with Dr A. Raviraj, Dean (Agricultural Engineering) from Her Excellency, the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu on 22 October 2024 at New Delhi. The Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C.R. Patil commended the recipients for their outstanding work and initiatives to raise awareness of the significance of water management.



TNAU bagged National Water Award –2023

TNAU Students Bagged Chief Minister Research Fellowship

The Chief Minister Research Fellowship (CMRF) scheme was introduced by Tamil Nadu Government with an objective to provide a research platform for meritorious post graduates doing Ph.D. in State Universities and Government Colleges of Tamil Nadu. For availing this fellowship, CMRF eligibility test was conducted by Teachers Recruitment Board and the students were selected based on their meritorious performance. In this context, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University students bagged four CMRF fellowships for the year 2023-24. In Science stream, S. Priyatharshini (Environmental Science), K.J.D. Karthika (Agricultural Meteorology), S. Mohanapriya (Plant Pathology) and in Social Science stream S. Elamathy (Agricultural Economics) were awarded with CMRF fellowship by Higher Education Minister, Tamil Nadu Dr Govi Chezhaan at Directorate of Collegiate Education, Chennai on 11 December 2024. The fellowship amount is ₹ 25,000 per month for the period of three years.



TNAU Students Bagged Chief Minister Research Fellowship

MABIF - Emerging Incubator of the Year 2024

Madurai Agribusiness Incubation Forum (MABIF), an initiative of NABARD and TNAU housed at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai was honoured with the award of Emerging Incubator of the Year 2024 by the FICCI - TN Young leadership summit and Awards 2024 on 5 November 2024 at Chennai. The award is based on meritorious incubation services rendered to the budding entrepreneurs in the field of Agri and Food technology MABIF provided incubation services to 404 Startups and 547 FPOs since 2018. The award was received in person by Dr E. Somasundaram, Director (ABD), Dr P.P. Mahendran, Dean, AC&RI-Madurai and Mr K. Ganesh Moorthy, CEO, MABIF.



MABIF - Emerging Incubator of the Year 2024

Best AICRP Centre Award for Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology

The Department of Food Process Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore bagged the Best Centre Award for the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (PHET) for its outstanding performance during the year 2024-25. The honour was bestowed at the 40th Annual Workshop of AICRP on PHET held at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat during 20-22 November 2024. Dr S.N. Jha, Deputy Director General (Engg.), ICAR, New Delhi, presented the award to Dr M. Balakrishnan, Professor and Head and PI – AICRP on PHET, Department of Food Process Engineering, AEC&RI, TNAU, Coimbatore, in the presence of Dr Bidyut C. Deka, Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat. Dr V. Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Dr M. Raveendran, Director of Research, TNAU and Dr A. Raviraj, Dean, AEC&RI, Coimbatore lauded the team's exceptional performance and significant contributions in the field of post-harvest engineering and technology.



Best AICRP Centre Award for Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology

TNAU Scientist Honoured by Indian Society of Weed Science

Dr P. Murali Arthanari, Professor (Agronomy) was honoured with Fellow award of Indian Society of Weed Science, in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the field. He received this recognition from the Dr Panjab Singh, Chancellor, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi and Dr S.K. Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (National Resource Management), ICAR, New Delhi in the Biennial Conference held at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India during 28-30 November 2024. This award was conferred on him for developing IWM technologies for cereals, millets, pulses, oilseeds and fibre crops under different cropping systems, and standardizing protocol for herbicide application through drones for cereals and pulses.



TNAU Scientist Honoured by Indian Society of Weed Science

TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- Mr Balan, Tharkadu, Salem District, beneficiary farmer of Mega Sheep Seed Project implemented by Mecheri Sheep Research Station, Pottaneri, TANUVAS was awarded third prize in Breed Conservation Award 2024 under Individual category for Mecheri sheep.

**Mr Balan, beneficiary of Mega Sheep seed project
of Mecheri Sheep Research Station, Pottaneri**



- TANUVAS excelled with faculty and students winning several awards at 24th Conference of Indian Society of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology held at Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (DUVASU), Mathura during 19-21 November 2024. Three teams from TANUVAS qualified for the first All India Quiz competition in the subject of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology for UG students.



**TANUVAS teams receiving prizes during
the 24th Conference of Indian Society of
Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology**

- TANUVAS received Certificate of Appreciation for Best CeRA Usage for Southern Region among SAU/CAU/Deemed University for the year 2023 by Indian Council of Agricultural Research at Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur.

**Certificate of Appreciation for Best CeRA
Usage for TANUVAS**

**UAS, Bengaluru**

- Dr Lohithaswa, H.C., Principal Scientist (Plant Breeding) and Head, AICRP on Pigeonpea received AB Joshi Memorial award of the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding, New Delhi, in recognition of his contributions to crop improvement in the country, on 13 December 2024.
- Certificate of Appreciation to ICAR KVK, Ramanagara for Active participation in 2nd Biocontrol Expo-2024 organized by NBAIR, Bengaluru and SBA, Bengaluru on 19 October 2024.
- In recognition of their exceptional contributions to plant physiology research, two distinguished scientists Dr M.S. Sheshshayee and Dr Nataraja Karaba, N. were named Fellows of the Indian Society for Plant Physiology (ISPP) 2024, New Delhi.
- Dr Nataraja Karaba was selected for the American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB)-ISPP Plenary Lecture Award 2024 on 19 December 2024.



**Dr Lohithaswa, H.C., receiving AB
Joshi Memorial award**



LIMELIGHTS

Dr RPCAU, Pusa

- Gandhi Jayanti, a special cleanliness drive (Swachhata Abhiyan 4.0) was organized on 2 October 2024 at Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor, Dr P. S. Pandey. A morning rally was organized to raise awareness about cleanliness, with active participation from deans, directors, department heads, faculty members, officers, staff, and students.
- The School of Agribusiness and Rural Management at Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RPCAU), Pusa, Bihar, achieved an exceptional milestone by securing 100 % final placement for the second consecutive year for its MBA (Agribusiness) and MBA (Rural Management) programs, Batch 2022-24. Dr RPCAU, Pusa, has once again demonstrated its excellence in delivering top-notch education and career opportunities for its students.



Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- The Department of Food Science and Technology launched Agri Incubation and Food Processing Centre under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode with Himgiri Agro-solutions on 16 November 2024.



Guest lecture of Padma Shri
Ram Sharma (Millet Man of
Himachal Pradesh)



Launching of Agri Incubation & Food
Processing Centre under Public-Private
Partnership (PPP) mode

- University celebrated 40th Foundation day and organized 13th Convocation during which 816 students of B.Sc., M.Sc., PhD. Received their degrees, 12 students were awarded Gold Medals and 461 students were awarded Merit Certificates.
- The Department of Food Science and Technology of Dr YSPUHF celebrated World Food Day on 16 October 2024. The event featured an insightful talk on the role of millets in nutrition and health by Padma Shri awardee Shri Nek Ram Sharma.

GADVASU, Ludhiana

University Organizes 13th Inter-College Youth Festival

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana organized the 13th Inter-College Youth Festival from 25-28 November and 3-5 December 2024. S. Harpal Singh Cheema, Finance Minister, Government of Punjab was the Chief Guest of the concluding day of the fest. He assured the University authorities for full financial support to develop the University infrastructure.

S. Harpal Singh Cheema appreciated the dedication and performances of students during the youth festival underscoring the role of students in nation building. Shri Gurpreet Gogi, MLA, Shri Jassi Sekhon, Senior Leader and Dr Satbir Singh Gosal, Vice Chancellor, Punjab Agricultural University were the Guests of Honour. Dr J.P.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor of the University presided over the function and emphasized that the Youth Festival plays a significant role in the upliftment of overall personality of the students. He congratulated the University fraternity for successful conduct of the event and thanked the Chief Guest for sparing his valuable time and extending a helping hand to the University for infrastructure development. Competitions in several categories and events were held with active participation of more than 200 students from five constituent colleges and a Veterinary Polytechnic, and two affiliated colleges. Students showcased their talent in different fields including Fine Arts, Theatre, Singing, Dances and Literary events. Shri Karamjit Anmol, a renowned Punjabi folk singer and actor mesmerized the audience with his melodious voice, and entertained with Punjabi songs. The dignitaries distributed the prizes to the winners.



Finance Minister, Punjab addressing the audience at the Youth Festival

IGKV, Raipur

The Agri-Carnival 2024

Youth Conclave: The Agri-Carnival 2024 at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University commenced with great enthusiasm on 22 October 2024, marked by the organization of Youth Conclave. The first day saw the inauguration of several key events, including Job Fair, International Education Fair, Startup Meet, and an Academia-Industry Meet, under the Chief hospitality of Dr Girish Chandel, Vice Chancellor of the University. The event was attended by approximately 2,000 students, particularly those who recently received their degrees, all of whom participated with keen interest in the Agricultural Job Fair.



The Agricultural University hosted this job fair, providing students with the opportunity to interact with 20 companies from various sectors such as seeds, agricultural chemicals, biotechnology and dairy. During the event, 85 students received job offer letters, and many others submitted their biodata for future job opportunities. The students were also guided by experts on how to prepare resumes and perform well in interviews, enhancing their prospects for securing jobs. In addition to the job fair, around 250 students interested in pursuing education abroad participated in the International Education Fair. Four international education consultant agencies offered information about studying overseas, covering topics such as education loans, scholarships and visa processes.

Hindi Diwas organised

One day seminar on The Role of Hindi in Agricultural Journalism, was organised at IGKV to mark the conclusion of Hindi Pakhwada 2024 on 30 September 2024. Dr Baldev Bhai Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Kushabhau Thakre Journalism and Mass Communication University was the Chief Guest. In his address he underscored the significance of



Hindi in disseminating agricultural knowledge and bridging the gap between research and rural communities.

KU, Gandhinagar

World AMR Week Celebration

CVSc&AH, KU, Anand, celebrated World Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Week, concluded on November 23, 2024, to raise awareness about AMR. The event featured a technical talk, an interactive Kahoot quiz competition, and emphasized responsible antimicrobial use in veterinary and human health. It was jointly organized by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Gujarat, and the Department of Veterinary Microbiology, CVS & AH, KU, Anand, with 200 students participating.

Dr R. A. Mathakiya, Head of Veterinary Microbiology, welcomed attendees and outlined the program objectives. Dr P. H. Tank, Principal, CVS & AH, and Dr Amit Kanani, Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Gujarat, were honored, along with senior faculty members. In his address, Dr Tank highlighted the ethical use of antimicrobials and urged students to contribute to the growth of veterinary sector.

The Kahoot quiz engaged 120 students, testing their knowledge of AMR, with winners receiving prizes. Technical talks by Dr A. C. Patel and Dr V. R. Nimavat addressed AMR's challenges and solutions, stressing the prudent use of antimicrobials in animal health. Dr Kanani highlighted veterinarians' critical role in combating AMR, aligning with WAHO and NCDC guidelines.



Winner in Volleyball, JAU, Junagadh

Faculty from CVSc&AH, KU, Anand shone brightly as champions at the All Gujarat University Staff Tournament held at Junagadh Agriculture University, Junagadh. With over 15 universities competing, Veterinary College Anand was proudly represented by SRC Chairman Dr J.H. Chaudhary and Dr J.H. Patel, Assistant Professor from LFC, in the volleyball team. The team secured a flawless victory, winning all their matches and claiming the championship.



Celebration of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti and Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti at COVSAH, Junagadh

NSS unit of College of Veterinary Science & A. H., KU, Junagadh celebrated Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti on 2 October 2024 by organizing Pushpanjali Programme at VCC. Associate Professors-Dr Deendayal, Dr G.P. Sabapara, Dr R.H. Bhatt and Assistant Professors- Dr A.B. Odedara, Programme Officer, NSS, Veterinary College, Junagadh, Dr M.R. Chavda and Dr P.G. Dodiya, Programme Officer, NSS, Polytechnic and other staff members also remained present in this event. A total of 45 NSS volunteers actively participated to make this event successful. The NSS unit of COVSAH, KU, Junagadh also celebrated Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti on 2 October 2024. Staff members and students participated in Pushpanjali Programme held at Polytechnic in A.H., Veterinary College, KU, Junagadh.



Celebration of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti

National Milk Day Celebrated at COVSAH, Junagadh

National Milk Day on 26th November commemorates the birth anniversary of the Milkman of India, Dr Verghese Kurien, who was credited with making India self-reliant in milk production. NSS unit and Department of Livestock Products Technology of CoVS & AH, KU, Junagadh celebrated National Milk Day on 26 November 2024. This event honored the 103rd birth anniversary of Dr Verghese Kurien, fondly remembered as the Father of the White Revolution in India by organizing pushpanjali programme, and highlighted the pivotal contributions of the dairy sector to India's economy and nutritional security. A total of 95 NSS volunteers and staff members of college actively participated to make this event successful.



Farmer's Day celebrated by PVK, Bhutvad

Farmer's Day (23 December) is celebrated to pay tribute to the life and achievements of Late Chaudhary Charan Singh, the fifth Prime Minister of India, whose birthday was declared as a day dedicated to farmers due to his encouragement and active support for farmers' rights. A group discussion based meeting with the livestock farmers was organized on the occasion of Farmers Day celebration, by the Pashu Vigyan Kendra, COVSAH, KU, Bhutvad in village- Bhutvad, Dist. Rajkot. In this program, the livestock farmers were informed about the need for mineral mixture in the diet of dairy animals and the importance of mineral mixture in its milk production. On Farmer's Day celebration, the livestock farmers were honoured by Principal by presenting packets of mineral mixture powder for animal feeding and literatures. Shri Bharatbhai Bariya, a farmer and Sarpanch of Bhutvad village, , was also felicitated by the Principal, COVSAH with a shawl for his constant support. On this occasion, the Sarpanch of Bhutvad village also honoured the Principal with a shawl. At the beginning, Dr Surendra Sawarkar, Nodal Officer of PVK, Bhutvad informed the livestock farmers about the motto of celebration of Farmer's Day and at the end he expressed his gratitude. Shri Ankur Desai, Livestock Inspector, of the Department of Veterinary Extension of the college, made a special contribution in organizing the event.



Highlights of Celebration of Farmer's Day

NCC Day

The NCC and NSS unit of College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, Navsari, Kamdhenu University, celebrated NCC Day on 24 November 2024. The National Cadet Corps (NCC), established in 1948 as the world's largest uniformed youth organization, celebrated its 76th Anniversary on 24 November 2024. This milestone marks a momentous chapter in NCC's history, dedicated to instilling core principles such as discipline, leadership, and unwavering patriotism in the youth. NCC is the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces, to motivate and inspire young people to take up a career in the armed forces and develop qualities like leadership, discipline,



teamwork, and a sense of responsibility towards the nation. It is a voluntary organization open to school and college students from all backgrounds. The NCC and NSS students of the college were actively participated in the event through making drawing, speeches etc. Sub Lt. (Dr) Lalit Modi, Associate NCC Officer gave brief history and importance of NCC for the nation. The event was successfully organized under the guidance of Dr V.B. Kharadi, Principal of the college by Sub Lt. (Dr) Lalit Modi, Associate NCC Officer and Dr Y.D. Padheriya, NSS Officer of the college.

World AIDS Day

The NCC and NSS unit of CoVS&AH, Navsari, Kamdhenu University, celebrated World AIDS Day on 1 December 2024. World AIDS Day is a globally commemorated healthcare event observed every year on the 1st of December for the past 33 years (since 1988). The need for AIDS awareness day is essential as HIV infection is currently incurable, but one can control it with proper awareness about the disease, especially in rural areas. It was once an unmanageable chronic health condition, but now, with advances in HIV prevention, diagnosis, manage, and care including for opportunistic infections, people with HIV can live long, and healthy lives. In India 66,400 new cases were identified in the year of 2023. Globally Thirteen lakh people were newly infected with HIV in 2023. This is a 39 % decrease from 2010, when 21 lakh people were newly infected. The NCC and NSS students of the college were actively participated in the event through made awareness drawing, speech on AIDS awareness. Sub Lt. (Dr) Lalit Modi, Associate NCC Officer gave lecture on role of youth in prevention and control of AIDS. The event was successfully organized under the guidance of Dr V. B. Kharadi, Principal of the college by Sub Lt. (Dr) Lalit Modi, Associate NCC Officer and Dr Y. D. Padheriya, NSS Officer of the college.



MHU, Karnal

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually laid the foundation stone of Maharana Pratap Horticultural University at Uchani, Karnal. This programme was organized in Panipat. The main campus building is proposed to be constructed on 65 acres at an estimated cost of ₹ 421 crore.
- First Foundation Day of MHU Karnal was organized on 28 November 2024, at Maharana Pratap Horticultural University, Uchani, Karnal. The chief guest of this event was Shri Shyama Singh Rana, Agriculture Minister of Haryana.
- The students of Maharana Pratap Horticultural University, Karnal participated in District Youth Festival from 21-22 November 2024 at Government PG College, Karnal and secured following prizes: Ruchika Thakur, 2nd prize in Poem; Narul Kumar, 3rd prize in Declamation; Lakshay, 3rd prize in Photography; Kavya, 1st prize in Model Design (Innovation in Science and Technology).



- NSS volunteers Kavya and Robin Khan participated in NSS National integration camp at Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar from 11-17 October 2024. Robin Khan secured second position in Rangoli competition, first in Clay modeling, best group in fine arts and crafts, and Kavya secured second position in Athletic, second in Clay modeling and second in Cultural activities.



PJTAU, Rajendranagar

Inter-Collegiate Games and Sports meet

The Inter-Collegiate Games and Sports meet of PJTAU was concluded with the valedictory session held at the University auditorium, PJTAU, Rajendranagar on 22 November 2024. Professor Aldas Janaiah, Vice Chancellor, PJTAU participated as the Chief Guest of the program, and said that sports will increase team spirit, positive attitude and leadership qualities. It is heartening to note that the state government is setting up a new sports university in Telangana. In these sports competitions, the overall championship was won by the College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar in the boys and girls category. K. Anil Kumar and M. Rachana of Aswaraopeta won the Athletics Individual Championship boys' and girls' category, respectively. A total of 415 students from 11 colleges participated in these sports. Later, prizes were presented to the winners. Dr J. Satyanarayana, Dean of Student Affairs, Dean of Agriculture and Agricultural Engineering, Dr V. Vijayalakshmi, Dean of Community Science, Dr C. Narendra Reddy, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Dr J. Suresh, University Observer and Head, Department of Physical Education, Dr P. Prashanth, and a large number of students, teaching and non-teaching staff participated in the program.



Inter-Collegiate Games and Sports meet

RVSKVV, Gwalior

Celebration of World Soil Day

World Soil Day was celebrated on the RVSKVV University campus on 5 December 2024. The chief guest of the program was Dr Smita Sahastrabuddhe, Vice Chancellor, Raja Mansingh Music and Arts University, Gwalior Professor and the special guest was SBI's AGM Dr Pankaj Goyal. The program was presided over by the Vice Chancellor of Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Dr Arvind Kumar Shukla, who said that three mothers provide us nourishment one is our mother, who gives birth to us; the second is cow mother, and third is mother earth. Therefore, we should protect all the three. At 9.30 in the morning, a public awareness rally was taken out from the Krishi Vishwavidyalaya campus, which reached the university campus via Akashvani Square and Surya Namaskar Tiraha, where it was concluded. In this, about 350 students from various schools of the district, Doon Public School, Gwalior Glory School, Green Wood, Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, AMI Shishu



Celebration of World Soil Day



Mandir School, Kushal Vidyapeeth, Rise International, students of Krishi Mahavidyalaya, and more than 1000 people, including university officials and employees, participated enthusiastically. A soil testing lab was showcased during the trip, and students carried placards with slogans on saving soil written on them.

SKRAU, Bikaner

Urban Ayushman Arogya Mandir Dispensary Inaugurated in SKRAU

The Vice Chancellor Dr Arun Kumar and District Collector inaugurated the Urban Ayushman Arogya Mandir Dispensary in SKRAU, Bikaner on 26 October 2024. This would help all the staff members, their family members and students residing not only in the hostels and university quarters but also the other employees working in the campus also.



Inauguration of Urban Ayushman Arogya Mandir Dispensary in SKRAU, Bikaner

Celebration of Important Days in University

- On 02 October 2024 the Birth Anniversary of Rashtrapita Mahatma Gandhiji and former Prime Minister Late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri ji was celebrated with the participation of staff and students of the University.
- The Constitution Day was celebrated on 26 November 2024 under the dynamic presence of Vice Chancellor Dr Arun Kumar and other dignitaries besides the staff and students of SKRAU, Bikaner. The celebration of the Constitution Day aimed to spread awareness on the importance of the Indian Constitution and to acknowledge the contributions of its architect, Dr B.R. Ambedkar.



Swachhata Campaign held in University Campus



Constitution Day celebrated at SKRAU, Bikaner

SKUAST-J, Jammu

- Graduation Day for passing out students of BSc (Hons.) Forestry Batch 2020 on 08 November 2024 with the Chief Guest Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K.
- Community Radio Station 90.8 FM was inaugurated by Chief Minister in presence of Deputy Chief Minister, Agriculture Minister, Vice Chancellor on 20 November 2024.



- The Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development (JAKEDA), Department of Science and Technology, conducted an Awareness Programme at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SKUAST-Jammu for sensitization of farmers regarding use of Solar Energy for powering of irrigation pumps, on 11 November 2024.
- National Milk Day was celebrated on 26 November 2024 by the Faculty of Dairy Technology. Extensive participation was seen by students and staff of the faculty, highlighting the importance of milk nutrition, and issues with its adulteration.



TNAU, Coimbatore

EDII – Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum Excelled

The students of HC&RI, Periyakulam, mentored by EDII Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum were recognized in the Tamil Nadu level TNSI Ideathon Contest 2024, for their innovative thinking and they received prize and commendation from Shri T. M. Anbarasan, Minister for MSME, Government of Tamil Nadu. One of the members of EDII -Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum, Mr G. Kapil Dev, was granted a patent for his innovation titled IoT Based Bee hive Monitor by the Government of India.



EDII – Periyakulam Horti Business Incubation Forum Excelled

TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- Dr Harish Kumar S., PG scholar from Madras Veterinary College, Chennai selected for grant of Short Service Commission in the rank of Captain in Remount Veterinary Corps (RVC).

UAS, Bengaluru

- **ICAR-KVK, Hassan** in collaboration with CoA, Hassan, ATMA, Department of Agriculture, Hassan, Indian agriculture technologist-Hassan chapter and Red-Cross Society, Hassan celebrated the **World Food Day** on 16 October 2024 at Hoysala auditorium, College of Agriculture, Hassan. The staff of KVK, teaching and non-teaching staff of College of Agriculture, Hassan and farmers across the district participated in the programme.



Honouring the Entrepreneur at World food day



Gathering at world food day

- **Celebration of World Food Day at KVK Mandya:** ICAR- KVK Mandya organised 'World Food Day' programme on 16 October with a theme of 'Right to foods for a better life and a better future' at KVK premises. A total 60 farmers and farm women were witnessed the event.
- **ICAR-KVK, Hassan** in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Hassan, Coromandel International Limited, and Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, celebrated **World Soil Health Day** on 5 December 2024, at KVK. During the event, progressive and state level winning farmers were felicitated and soil health certificates were distributed to the selected farmers by the Department of Agriculture.
- **World soil day at KVK Chamarajnagar** was conducted at Shindanapura village under the theme Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage. More than 50 participants including farmers and community resource persons of farm livelihood were present during the programme. A walkathon to create awareness among the people regarding importance of soil resource was organised from gram panchayat premises to programme venue holding placards related to soil.
- **Mahila Kisan Diwas:** The programme was organized at ICAR - KVK, Bengaluru Rural District in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, Doddaballapura on 15 October 2024. Seventy farmwomen participated in the programme.
- **Chamarajanagara visit by Meghalaya state Turmeric growers:** Turmeric growers (24) of Meghalaya state visited ICAR KVK, Chamarajanagara during 7-9 November 2024. Farmers expressed that they are seeking technical support from ICAR-KVK, Chamarajanagara for turmeric cultivation at Kashi hills of Meghalaya.



Inauguration of World Soil Health Day Programme



RESEARCH PUBLICATION (>15 NAAS Rating)

Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- Rana, A., Dhiman, A., Kumar, S., Suhag, R., and Saini, R. (2024). Osmosonication for dehydration of fruits and vegetables: Mechanistic understanding, mathematical models and comprehensive applications in processing. Trends in Food Science & Technology, 104688. (NAAS: 20.0)

FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Dr YSPUHF, Nauni

- Standardization of crop geometry, date of sowing/ planting, diseases and insect-pest management practices keeping in view the changing climatic conditions (Department of Seed Science & Technology).
- Standardization of technologies for seed production of vegetable, flower and spice crops under organic/natural farming (Department of Seed Science & Technology).
- Strengthening of medicinal mushrooms production technology (Department of Plant Pathology).
- National Science Day-2025 on dated 28 February 2025 (Department of Basic Sciences).

- Chilling requirement and hormonal regulation of dormancy in apple cultivars (Department of Basic Sciences).
- Investigating the impact of abiotic stress on the growth, yield and phyto-chemical profile of medicinal plants-A comparative study across species (Department of Seed Science & Technology)
- Organization of AICRP on Agroforestry Annual Group Meeting to be scheduled w.e.f. 27-29 January 2025 (Department of Silviculture & Agroforestry).
- Twenty-one days Winter School has been sanctioned under CBP-ICAR (Department of Tree Improvement & Genetic Resources).
- Research on techniques to reduce post-harvest losses and improve storage for better shelf life and quality (COHF, Thunag).
- Awareness programs for farmers on pest and disease monitoring, and eco-friendly control measures (COHF, Thunag).
- To set up a Demonstration unit for higher altitude fodder/grass species at KVK Tabo.
- Heeng cultivation trials (KVK, Tabo).

SKUAST-J, Jammu

- Institutionalization of Divisions of Plant Biotechnology, Animal Biotechnology, Plant Tissue Culture and Genetic Transformation, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology; and Sections such as Nano-Biotechnology and Microbial and Environmental Biotechnology.
- To work on emerging zoonoses and to study the epidemiology of important livestock diseases.
- Establishment of SAIC/ Institute of Aqua- Culture at SKUAST-Jammu
- Cryopreservation, semen handling and artificial insemination.
- Augmentation of fertility and control of calving interval through synchronized induction of Oestrus and ovulation.
- Division of Agricultural Economics and ABM will organize trainings for capacity development of the concerned stakeholders (FPOs, budding entrepreneurs and progressive farmers) from time to time, thereby, providing assistance regarding product branding, packaging and operating successful Rural Business Service Hubs (RBSHs). The various agri-products will be branded based on their potential.
- Development of cost effective progestogen implant for estrus induction in dairy animals.

SKUAST-K, Srinagar

- 10th Kisan Mela 2025 scheduled to be held on 22-23 February 2025.

TNAU, Coimbatore

- Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Kumulur, will organize an International Conference on Sustainable Food - Water - Energy - Mechanization Nexus and Whole Grain on 27-28 January 2025 at Kumulur, Tiruchirappalli District.
- Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyannalai will organize National Conference on Innovations in Biology and Biotechnology for their Application in Agriculture and Animal Sciences for Food Security, from 28-29 January 2025 at Kudumiyannalai, Pudukkottai District.

- VOC Agricultural College and Research Institute, Killikulam will organize an International Conference on Advances in Plant Health Improvement for Sustainable Agriculture, during 14-16 February 2025 at Killikulam, Thoothukudi District.
- Centre for Plant Protection Studies, TNAU, Coimbatore will organize an International Conference on One Health Perspectives in Global Plant Protection Research 2025, from 19-21 February 2025 at TNAU, Coimbatore.

TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- National Seminar on Welfare and Conservation of Rekla Race Breeds of Cattle, on 08.01.2025 at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Udumalpet.
- Capacity Development Programme on Improving Livelihood through Mushroom Production for SC community for a period of 5 days from 20-24 January 2025 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namakkal.
- National Workshop on Genomics in biological, production and diagnostic research from 27-31 January 2025 at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai.
- Regional Seminar on the Conservation and Promotion of the Indigenous Kombai Dog Breed, Dog Show and Pet Health Camp on 5 February 2025 at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Theni.
- Workshop on Dairy entrepreneurship: Dairy Plant Foundation Day and Dairy Entrepreneurs Meet – 2025, on 06 February 2025 at Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal.
- 3rd National Veterinary Practitioners Conference on Current Trends and Updates in Small Animal Practice, on 6-7 March 2025 and Pre-Conference Workshop on 5 March 2025 at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai.

NEW VICE CHANCELLORS

ICAR- Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi

Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao

Dr Cherukumalli Srinivasa Rao is currently serving as Director, ICAR- Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) since 26 December 2024.

Dr Rao, born in Village Anigandlapadu, Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh, did his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Agriculture from Agricultural College, Bapatla (ANGRAU); Ph.D. from IARI, and Post-Doctoral Fellowship from Tel-Aviv University, Israel.

Prior to joining as Director, ICAR-IARI, he worked as Director, ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad since 28 April 2017 to 26 December 2024; Director, ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) during 2014-17 and as Project Coordinator, All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA), Hyderabad during 2013-14 and several other positions at Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal; Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur (IIPR); CRIDA, Hyderabad and at International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru, Hyderabad. In all, he had 33 years of rich experience in research management.

He is the recipient of 48 National and International awards from ICAR, NAAS, ISCA, ICRISAT, IARI, DST, FAI including top ICAR Award of Rafi Ahmed Kidwai for Outstanding Research in Agricultural Sciences.



Dr Rao received twice prestigious Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Awards from Hon'ble Prime Minister for CRIDA (2015) and from Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister for NAARM (2021) under his leadership.

Dr Rao was invited recently by the Royal Society of London for the workshop and made presentation on biodiversity-water nexus with food security. Recently he was awarded Coromandel Plant Nutrition Award by the FAI, and was selected Dr N.S. Randhawa Memorial Award of NAAS, which will be received in Agricultural Science Congress during Feb 2025.

He is a Fellow of several reputed professional bodies such as INSA, NASI, NAAS, Indian Society of Soil Science, A.P. Academy of Sciences and Telangana Academy of Sciences, etc. which speaks of his calibre and achievements in the field of agricultural sciences, climate change, etc. He is the president of Biology Section of NASI for 2024.

Dr Rao is credited with 361 research papers, authored/edited 56 books, 109 national and international book chapters, 69 bulletins, 37 policy papers, 38 popular articles and obtained 18 copyrights.

He served as Chairman/Member of various National and International Committees - International Dryland Development Commission (IDDC), Cairo, Egypt; Asian Long Term Experimental Network for Agriculture (ALTENA), Japan; Expert Committee of National Biodiversity Authority; and Chairman of Capacity Building Unit of DARE/ICAR. He visited about 20 countries for various scientific meetings. Dr Rao also held key responsibilities in National Missions such as National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) as its Technical Chairman and ICAR flagship programme – NICRA as National Coordinator.

Dr Rao represented India in UNFCCC CoP Meetings held at France, Germany and Spain as Global Climate Change Negotiator; IPCC Meeting at Japan; and APN Meeting at Bangkok, Thailand.

His major research interests are: Climate change, soil carbon sequestration, integrated genetic natural resource management (IGNRM), water stressed agro ecosystems, contingency crop planning, agriculture research management, human resource development, building agri startups, agri business management and research policy development in agriculture and allied sectors.

Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad

Professor Aldas Janaiah

Professor Aldas Janaiah obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture, Post-Graduation in Agricultural Economics with first class from erstwhile Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Rajendranagar campus. He completed Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.) in Agricultural Economics from Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and Post-Doctoral Fellow in Social Sciences from International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines. He has 32 years of experience including, (a) 6 years as an Economist at IRRI, the Philippines and Asian Development Bank; (b) 16 years as ARS- Senior Scientist in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); (c) 2 years as Visiting Professor at RBI's Institution – Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai; and (d) 16 years in Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University and Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University as Professor & HOD/Associate Dean/Member, University Board of Management. Dr Janaiah was honoured with the Outstanding Academic Leadership Award – 2012 by the Government of Maryland State, USA, in recognition of his contribution to the promotion of US-India collaboration in higher education, he was



also awarded with the Best State Level Scientist – 2012 by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Best Scientist Award – 2002 by the International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines for outstanding contribution in the field of rice economy. He was also instrumental in bringing a special grant of ₹100 crore to Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University under the Union Budget 2012-13. Visited and/or working experience in 36 countries across the globe-largely in the field of analysis of various agricultural and development policy issues in South and SE Asia and Africa. Research on *Bt* cotton seed pricing system (2005-06) helped the Government of AP to reduce *Bt* cotton seed price from ₹1,850 to ₹ 750/ packet-benefiting millions of cotton farmers in the country since 2006. Dr Janaiah guided about 70 Ph.D. and PG Students in the field of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management. He published 65 research papers in refereed national and international journals, about 100 editorial columns in leading newspapers (Telugu and English), one book, fourteen book chapters and nearly 100 papers presented in national/international conferences/seminars on various socio-economic and policy issues related to agriculture and farmers' welfare. About 17 research projects were carried out in agricultural economics related to impact assessment of technology, irrigation, and policies. In addition, 12 capacity building workshops/trainings were organized for researchers and policy makers.

Sri Koda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University (SKLTSHU), Mulugu, Siddipet, Telangana

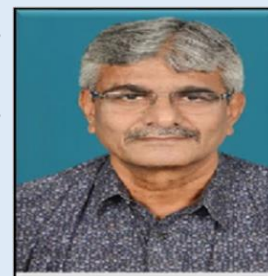
Dr Raji Reddy Danda

Education

Ph.D. in Agrometeorology, Gujarat Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat, India, 1992

M. Sc. in Agronomy, Panjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India, 1982.

B. Sc. in Agriculture, Panjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra, India, 1977.



Dr Raji Reddy Danda, born in a remote village of Kunaram of Peddapalli district of Telangana state, India, worked as world bank consultant to establish agromet advisory services in Afghanistan (Jan 2020 – May 2022). He joined in the then APAU as scientist and held different positions like Director of Extension, Director of Research, Director of Agro Climate Research Centre, Agricultural Research Institute, Principal Scientist & Head, Agromet- Cell Sr. Scientist and Scientist in APAU, ANGRAU and present PJTAU (Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University) and retired on 31 October 2019. He joined as the Vice Chancellor of Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University, Mulugu, Telangana on 19 October 2024.

As Director of Extension, he was instrumental in Strengthening the DAATTC and KVKs with modern ICT equipment, As Director of Research, played key role in developing innovation research strategies to manage climatic risk, soil fertility and identifying market led development opportunities. As Director, Agro Climate Research Centre strengthened agrometeorology research in the University, conducted extensive research using crop and soil models for predicting cropping system responses to climate variability and climate change. Scientifically advised and trained the Disaster Management Department and other line departments in understanding the climate information, adaptation mitigation options in the state of unified Andhra Pradesh. Developed several tools for disseminating timely contextual climate information to farmers.

He has handled several ICAR; Dept. of Space, Govt. of India; DST; IMD-India; Ministry of Agri. and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India; ACIAR, Australia; APN & University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba; International Research Institute for Climate and Society; Columbia University, New York, USA as Project Participant/Co- investigator/ Co-PI.

Dr Reddy visited United States of America, Switzerland, Australia, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Tanzania, Indonesia, Nepal, Lao PDR and Afghanistan. He was visiting scientist to IFDC, Muscle Shoals, Alabama state, USA. He was member on number of national and state level committees.

Dr Reddy guided five Ph.D. students and four M.Sc. (Ag) as Major advisor from Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, Co-guided three Ph.D. students from Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. He published 130 research papers/extended abstracts, out of which 58 in reputed National and International Journals, 35 in proceedings of conferences, 3 book chapters, 3 policy briefs, 30 paper presentations in seminars/symposia in the weather forecast, yield forecast, remote sensing, crop modeling, etc. He received three best presentation awards and one best poster award in various national and international workshops.

He has received many awards including Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial fund award, Janna Reddy Venkat Reddy memorial prize in 2003, Meritorious ANGRAU Research Scientist Award in 2001, Rajiv Gandhi Achiever's Award for Education Excellence and Seeds men Association Annual award-2015. He has several national and international honours and recognitions, to name a few;

- International recognition for scientific and technical relationship between India and Australia Research institutes in 2011 by University of Southern Queensland, Australia,
- International recognition for excellent research, demonstration work and solid Leadership in 2012 by IRI, Earth Institute, Columbia University, New York, USA,
- International recognition for Best Integrated Agromet Advisory Services in 2012 by CCAFS, Group of CGIAR,
- International recognition for excellent research, demonstration work by CSIRO as International Centre of Excellence, in 2013 by CSIRO-ACIAR, Australia.

Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV), Mohanpur

Dr Ashok Kumar Patra

Dr Ashok Kumar Patra, former Director of ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal joined as Vice Chancellor of Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV), Mohanpur on 19 December 2024. His research areas are nitrogen cycling, sustainable soil management, soil biodiversity, carbon sequestration, nano fertilizers.



IAUA heartily congratulates the new Vice Chancellors, Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Vice Chancellor, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi; Dr Aldas Janiaih, Vice Chancellor, PJTAU, Hyderabad, Telangana; Dr D. Raji Reddy, Vice Chancellor, SKLTHU, Mulugu, Telangana, and Dr A.K. Patra, Vice Chancellor, BCKV, Mohanpur, West Bengal and wish them a very successful and rewarding tenure.

The IAUA sincerely thanks the following outgoing (during October-December 2024) Vice Chancellors for their kind cooperation and support to the Association

**Dr Neeraja Prabhakar
Vice Chancellor
SKLTSHU, Mulugu**



**Dr N.P. Singh
Vice Chancellor
BUAT, Banda**



“Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals & happiness”

-Thomas Jefferson