



Vice-Chancellor's Message

I am greatly satisfied and thankful to the Almighty and hospital support that our Campus becomes COVID-19 free zone by end of May 2021 without having any casualty. I am proud of my university team for taking all preventive and curative measures at personal and administrative level to defeat Corona Virus as well as to district administration for their support in maintaining law and order. I am equally feeling proud that our faculty colleagues not only continued academic activities virtually and keep on inspiring the students in overcoming horrible environment caused by the pandemic but also to complete the academic requirements of the students as per the academic calendar. We have also successfully conducted the 10th Research Council Meeting (virtually) and reviewed ongoing research activities enhancing the farmer's income. A total of five varieties (3 tuber crop and 2 hybrid rice) and 9 technologies released in this meeting deserves my rich appreciation and congratulations. At the end, I pray to the Almighty for better health and wellbeing of University family and all.



Dr. R. C. Srivastava
(Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor)

Vice-Chancellor's Engagements

- Participated in interstate level acceptance committee meeting of ATMA project under the Chairmanship of Development Commissioner, Govt. of Bihar, Patna through video conferencing on 03.05.2021.
- Inaugurated online Training Programme on "Milky Mushroom Cultivation Technology" in virtual mode on 05.05.2021
- Chaired the Review meeting of KVKs through video conferencing on 06.05.2021
- Chaired the Meeting of Expert Committee- improvement in MBA (Rural Management) Syllabus through video conferencing on 17.05.2021
- Participated in the Zoom meeting- Use of Technology for capacity building organized by Department of Agriculture, GoB.
- Chaired the 10th Research Council Meeting of RPCAU through virtual mode during 18.05.2021 to 20.05.2021.
- Chaired the 5th Education Council Meeting of RPCAU through video conferencing during 21.05.2021 & 22.05.2021



Education and educational Activities

- CAE Pusa Alumni association organized lecture series of CAE Alumni Er. Niranjana Thakur, Senior Director-IT, IQVIA, North Carolina, USA on 27th May, 2021. He delivered encouraging and motivated lecture on topic "Think beyond the boundary" available on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQue7UOrrZg>. The lecture series was chaired by Dr. R. C. Srivastava, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU and Co-chaired by Dr. Ambrish Kumar Dean, CAE. The program was Co-ordinated by Dr. P. K. Pranav and attended by faculties and students.
- The University has introduced PG diploma courses in Agri-Warehouse Management, Agri-tourism Management and Agricultural Journalism & Mass Communication, Certificate courses on Farm Mechanization Assistant, Senior Citizen Assistant, Nursery Management Assistant, Tissues culture Lab Assistant, and Artificial Insemination & Embryo Transfer Technology Assistant. The admissions are open for the said courses which details are available on the University's website.

Volume-2, Issue-6
June, 2021

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- Number of significant issues were discussed, and decisions were taken in the meeting of the Education Council of the RPCAU, held on 22 and 23rd of May, 2021. The progress of the online classes of all the academic council was reviewed. The Deans of the respective academic units of the University reported that more than 80 % of the course curricula was covered and the final exams can be scheduled in the month of June.
- The Education Council has decided to suspend mid-term exams and only final exams will be conducted through web-based tools during 15 – 25th June 2021. The model question pattern has been communicated to the students.
- Three courses on foreign languages is being introduced in undergraduate, post-graduate, and doctoral programmes of different colleges of the University. The courses will remain optional for students.
- The University is preparing to project itself as an international destination for higher education in Agricultural and allied subjects. A virtual conference with concerned heads of the SAARC nations is being planned to promote the University and collaborative research.
- Dr. Mohit Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Agribusiness & Rural Management – RPCAU, Pusa trained faculty members of all the colleges on effective use of Google Meet and its various functions to conduct online-lectures during the COVID period. The faculty members were trained on attendance tracking, use of Google Whiteboard, Jamboard, and submission and evaluation of assignments.

Research Activities

➤ 10th Research Council Meet (Kharif) Organised on e-Platform

The 10th RCM (Kharif) of RPCAU was organised in online mode (18th to 20th May and 27th May). During the first phase of the RCM, all the PIs of different AICRPs and other externally funded research projects presented their key achievements. In the second phase, the presentation of proposal for technology and variety release were made. During this occasion, proposal for release of six varieties (three private sector varieties) and ten technologies were made. All the scientists/faculties and the key university officials in presence of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor graced the occasion.



➤ Tuber crop varieties developed under ICAR-AICRP on Tuber Crops released

Three new tuber crop varieties one in Colocasia (Arvi type) as **Rajendra Arvi-2**, Sweet Potato as **Rajendra Sakarkand-7** and one variety of Yam bean as **Rajendra Mishrikand-3** developed under ICAR-AICRP were recommended for release in the 10th Research Council Meeting of RPCAU, Pusa on 27.05.2021.



Rajendra Arvi - 2



Rajendra Sakarkand-7



Rajendra Mishrikand-3

- **Annual Group Meeting** of ICAR-AICRP on Tuber Crops was held during 27-28 May, 2021 through virtual mode. All the associated scientists in the project participated. An entry of RPCAU, Dholi centre in *Colocasia* Bunda type was recommended in Multi-location trials.



Generation of Hybrid Sugarcane Seedlings by the Sugarcane Research Institute

Seed propagation is not common in sugarcane. The Sugarcane Research Institute, Pusa has generated more than five thousand hybrid sugarcane seedlings from fluffs received from National Hybridization Garden, Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore and crosses made at SRI, Pusa even under Covid-19 pandemic situation. The Institute has developed three early (CoP21436, CoP21437 and CoP 21438) and one mid-late variety (CoP21439) which are under testing stage. These varieties have higher yield along with higher sucrose content. Seed multiplication is in progress for their inclusion in AICRP trials and for state release.



New Projects Sanctioned

- A project has been sanctioned entitled 'River Ranching Programme in the Rivers of Ganga basin' in collaboration with Department of Fisheries, Government of Bihar funded by National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad.
- Another project has been sanctioned entitled 'Entrepreneurship development among schedule caste (SC) community through fish processing and value addition' in collaboration with (ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Cochin. The university has signed MoU with ICAR-CIFT. In this regard, one review meeting on virtual mode was held on 20th May, 2021 with the chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor to discuss the comprehensive action plan for CIFT-SCSP/TSP programme and training programmes in collaboration with KVKs both for youth and officials.

Extension Activities

➤ e- Krishi Chaupal

Dr. P.K. Pranav delivered lecture on "Raised bed planting techniques -An effective mode of resource conservation" in "e- कृषि अभियंत्रण चौपाल" organized by Directorate of Extension Education, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour on 7th May, 2021. More than 1000 farmers connected virtually to the kisan chaupal and discussed their problem related to farming with the agriculture scientist and experts.



➤ CRA Review-cum-Training Programme

Review of CRA meeting was conducted on 19.05.2021 by the Project Director, Center for Advance Studies on Climate Change in which all the Heads of the KVKs, all the Co-PIs of CRA programme and all the RAs and SRFs participated. The KVKs were reviewed about the performance of summer crop as well as preparations of Kharif sowing. Training programme was also conducted on laser leveling, Custom Hiring Center, Nutrient Expert, Green Seeker, Leaf Colour Chart and Alternate Wetting and Drying.

➤ Participation of webinar of CASC with IUNDRR, NIDM

The Centre for Advance Studies on Climate Change participated in a webinar on "Use of Science and Technology in Early Warning Sign of Disaster" on 20th May 2021. It was organized by The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) and North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) to deliberate on the actions and strategies that are required in minimizing the disaster risk scheme of Directorate of Arecanut & Spices Development, Calicut, Kerala.

➤ Collaborative Training Programme by CIFT- Mumbai to start soon

An MoU has been signed with ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology and RPCAU, Pusa on 20th May, 2021 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. RPCAU Pusa for development of Comprehensive Action Plan for CIFT-SCSP/TSP Programme and Training Programmes in collaboration with KVKs to be conducted online both for rural youth and officers of the line department.

➤ Online Training of Fish cultivation and World Honey Bee Day at KVK Turki

KVK Turki organized on line training of fish cultivation and fish feed on 27.5.2021. In this training 33 fish farmers participated. World Honey Bee Day was also organized on 20.05.2021 by virtual mode. In this

programme 25 farmers attended the training through online mode. A detailed discussion on bee keeping was done by the Senior Scientist and the Head, KVK, Saraiya

➤ **Kishan Gosthi and Training at KVK, Turki**

KVK Turki, Muzaffarpur organized online Kishan Gosthi and training on sustainable agriculture on 27.05.2021 wherein 19 farmers participated through on line mode.

➤ **Farmers from 14 states participated in Mushroom Production Training Programme**

ELP Mushroom, TCA Dholi Center and AICRP Mushroom jointly organised three days' virtual training programme on Mushroom Production Technology from 27-29th May 2021 in which 90 farmers from 14 states participated. The training programme was inaugurated by Dr. R.C.Srivastava, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa in presence of all Deans and Directors. Dr. V.P.Sharma, Director ICAR-DMR Solan was the Chief Guest during valedictory session of this training programme.

➤ **Virtual Training for Farmers under CRA Programme**

The Centre for Advance Studies on Climate Change started virtual training for farmers under CRA Programme in collaboration with the KVKs of the university during the lockdown period in light of the Covid-19 pandemic issues. Huge participation of farmers was found in virtual training programme through all the KVKs undergoing CRA Programme. Thousands of farmers from all over the state participated in the training programmes on Laser Land Levelling, Direct Seeded Rice, Green Manuring, Sowing with zero tillage as well as crop diversification and intensification.



➤ **Low-cost Production Technology of Liquid Biofertilizer demonstrated in KVKs**

Low-cost production technology of liquid biofertilizer at village level has been developed in Biofertilizer Production Unit, Department of Soil Science, TCA, Dholi. This technology enables the farmers to produce liquid biofertilizer at village level and can make them available to villagers by establishing production unit at the cost of only Rs. 10,000.00 /-.



Awards, Sports, Important Days etc.

➤ **Fighting COVID-19 pandemic:**

To combat the menace of COVID-19 pandemic the university implemented strict guidelines issued by Govt. of India and Govt. of Bihar. In line of these guidelines' university has been put under complete lockdown since 5th May onwards suspending all academic, research and extension activities in physical mode. Besides, students, faculties, their family members and laborers employed on University payroll were encouraged for vaccination and COVID-19 appropriate behavior.



- Dr. Shivendra Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Aquaculture was nominated as Guest Associate Editor in Frontiers in Physiology (Aquatic Physiology) having 3.367 impact factor (NAAS score-9.37).
- Dr. Ankur Jamwal, Assistant Professor, Department of Aquaculture delivered an invited lecture at a symposium organized by the York University, Canada on the theme "Integrating fish biology and physiology to develop cost effective fish diets".
- Mr. Prabhar Kumar Bhagat and Miss Surabhi Gautam, student of B.Sc. (Hon.) Agriculture, TCA – Dohli and many others were placed as Business Development Associates in Organic Valley Pvt. Ltd., Maharashtra.

