



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University

Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar-848 125

Volume-5

Issue-04

April - 2024

CONTENTS

- ❖ Fundamentals of Horticulture P. 2
- ❖ State Forest Tour P. 2
- ❖ Tree Plantation P. 2
- ❖ Student Achievements P. 3
- ❖ QRT Meeting P. 3
- ❖ Kisan Mela P. 4
- ❖ Outreach Programmes P. 5
- ❖ Internship Development Programme P. 6
- ❖ Farewell Ceremony for Superannuating Staff P. 8

FROM THE DESK OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to present the university e-newsletter for the month of April 2024. This month was full of academic and financial activities that marked several significant and noteworthy achievements, once again showing our steadfast commitment, teamwork and unwavering dedication for excellence in academics, research and extension.

Now, our university is marching ahead with full confidence of being best in everything we do on Indian landscape of agricultural education and research. In series of getting patents for different innovations and technologies in recent past, we have got another patent for "Mushroom biscuits and preparation thereof" on 01.03.2024 (Patent No. 518386) totaling 11 patents as on date. This shows the quality of research work being carried out at our university by the dedicated team of scientists and academicians. To empower the farmers and other stake holders in domain of agricultural production and marketing, number of professional trainings and conferences have been organized as a part of capacity building programmes to transfer and harness the power of technological innovation for enhancing income and prosperity. Keeping this in mind our university initiated a series of 11 training programmes on "Millets- the Super Food" and 6 days training programme on "Scientific Beekeeping and Honey Production, Value Addition" during 12 to 17 March, 2024 and a National Seminar on "Development and Promotion of Geographical Indications in Honey" on 22-03-2024. These programmes for sure will contribute in income generation and well being of stake holders farmers in area of honey and millets production, processing and marketing.

Another landmark event Annual General Body Meeting and 2nd Executive Council meeting of "Bihar Agricultural Science Academy (BASA)" was organized on Bihar Day on 22-03-2024 to bring the agricultural experts of the state at one platform for policy formulation and promotion of agricultural research and education in Bihar which is blessed with abundant natural resources (water, fertile soil and rich biodiversity), knowledge and intellectuals. On this occasion the flag off "Gyan Vahan" a well-equipped mobile laboratory with state-of-the-art facility for soil testing and knowledge communication media is going to be a boon for farmers technological empowerment.

Besides, these achievements, our university has also fulfilled its financial commitments and utilization of allocated funds well within the time, showing our meticulous planning, coordination and execution by faculties, finance and procurement departments. They all deserve my rich appreciation.

Jai Hind!

(Dr. P. S. Pandey)

EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

➤ **The students of TCA, Dholi under course Fundamentals of Horticulture**, labeled more than 50 ornamental plants of instructional garden. All these labels are equipped with QR codes which reveal detailed information about the genus, species and could be used by the visitors upon scanning.



➤ **DDG-ICAR (Agri. Engineering) interacted with students and faculty of CAET:** Dr. S. N. Jha, DDG-ICAR (Agri Engg.) addressed the faculty and students of the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, RPCAU, Pusa, on 21 March 2024 and discussed about the scopes and opportunities in agricultural engineering.



➤ **State Forest Tour** organized by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay College of Horticulture & Forestry, Piprakothi, East Champaran. A four-day State Forest Tour program from March 21st to March 24th, 2024 was organized for the benefit of 6th semester B.Sc. (Hons.) Forestry students. The students visited several locations of Bihar i.e. Kanwar Lake Bird Sanctuary, Begusarai, Vaniki Mahavidyalaya (BAU, Sabour), Munger and Forest Division Munger & Rajgir, Nalanda University, Nalanda and Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park, Patna.



➤ **Tree Plantation** was done by the students and faculties of AgroForestry, PGCA, at Ghorai Ghat along river banks whilst observing International Day of Forests 21st March, 2024.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Mr. Aniket Bhowmick, B.Sc.(Hons.) Ag.**, 8th semester students of TCA, Dholi secured AIR 13 in GATE 2024 XL (Life Sciences).
- **Mr. Shubham Kumar B.Sc.(Hons.) Ag.**, 8th semester students of TCA, Dholi has been selected by Yara Fertilisers Ltd. Gurugram for the post of Management Trainee.
- **Ms. Sanshkritee B.Sc. (Hons) Ag.** (student of TCA, Dholi) secured 1st position in painting competition organized by Art & Crafts Society, RPCAU, Pusa on the occasion of International Women's Day (8th March, 2024).



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- **Monitoring Team of ICAR-AICRP on Rabi Pulses visited RPCAU, Pusa**, Monitoring team consisting of Dr. N.S. Kute, Principal Scientist and Dr. S.B. Latake,



Scientist, Pulse Improvement Project, MPKV, Rahuri visited trials of AICRP on *Rabi* pulses on 12.03.2024 at Dholi centre. The team also interacted with Dean and associated scientists and technical staffs of the college.

- **RPCAU, Pusa participated in the QRT Meeting of ICAR-AICRP on Spices:** Dr. A.K. Mishra, Sr. Scientist (Plant Pathology) TCA, Dholi attended and presented the achievement of ICAR-AICRP on Spices, Dholi Centre for the period 2018-19 to 2023-24 in QRT Meeting of AICRP on Spices held at HRS, Lam, Guntur (A.P) on 12.03.2024.



- **Dr. B. Mondal, Scientist, IIPR, Kanpur** visited experimental trial of *Rabi* pulse under ICAR-AICRP on Rabi Pulses on 17.03.2024 at TCA, Dholi.



➤ **Organized GBM of Bihar Agricultural Science Academy at RPCAU, Pusa:** AGM and 2nd EC meetings of the newly formed 'Bihar Agricultural Science Academy (BASA)' were organised at RPCAU Pusa on 22nd March 2024. Dr. S. N. Jha, DDG-ICAR (Agril Engg) & President of BASA, and Dr. P. S. Pandey, Vice Chancellor, RPCAU & Vice President, BASA, presided over the meetings. Dr. Gopal ji Trivedi, former VC, RAU, and veteran Agri scientist, addressed the BASA members and all Deans/Directors and wished for BASA to be an erudite Agri think Tank for Bihar in particular and the country as a whole.



➤ **Approaching carbon free villages in Samastipur (Bihar):** Dean, CAET visited villages on 31st March 24 - Chakhaji, Chandauli and Morsand which are equipped with around thirty 5hp solar pumps and irrigating their entire Agri fields by underground pipeline system and collapsible pipes. Farmers of these villages are applying green energy in irrigation and made their villages carbon free, particularly in irrigation. They earn around Rs 50000 per year by selling irrigation water to other farmers. Farmers gave their feedback with higher preference for solar pump over electric power operated pumps.



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

➤ **KVK, Turki, RPCAU, Pusa organized Kisan Mela** on 18.03.2024. Dr. P.S. Pandey Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, RPCAU Pusa, graced the occasion with Dr. MS Kundu, Director, Extension Education, Dr. PP Srivastava, Dean, COF, Dholi, Dr. Maynk Rai, Dean, PGCA, Pusa, Dr. Ambrish Kumar, Dean, CAET, Pusa and Dr. K. Kumar Dean PDUCHF, Piprakothi. Among all, 3064 women from all blocks of Muzaffarpur district were participated in the Kisan mela. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor highlighted about the major role played by the women farmer in Bihar agriculture development and adoption of new technologies and distributed Best Progressive farmers' awards to farmers and farm women. Similarly, KVK Turki also conducted farmers' field visit, diagnostic services, and farmers' scientist interaction on 14.03.2024 at Karanpur village. In this event 45 farmers participated.



➤ **Dr. Sudhanand Prasad Lal** (Assistant Professor cum Scientist, Agricultural Extension Education) and Co-PI AICRP-WIA organized 3 days of training on "Enhancing the digital literacy of farm women to promote Livelihood Security and women empowerment" during 18th-20th March 2024 considering in view that in terms of digital literacy (ICT skill execution ability) of rural young women, Bihar is 1.5 to 4.5 times less than the national average on every indicator. The rural young women of Bihar are ranked 33rd among the total 36 states and union territories of India in terms of digital skill. Total 36 farm women received off-campus as well as training in the computer lab of the CCS.



➤ **CBS&H, RPCAU, Pusa organized a one-day Visit of school students** on 20.03.2024 under the Social Scientific Responsibility (SSR) activity of the SERB-Funded project. Twenty five students from class IXth and Xth of the Campus Public School, Pusa got first-hand experience of research-related works particularly in the field of Biochemistry and Molecular biology under Dr. Teikur Majaw, PI of a SERB project.



➤ **Field Day for Maize** on 23-03-2024 organized at RPCAU, Pusa campus. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Director of Research, Director of Education, Director of Extension Education, Dean, PGCA, Registrar and other dignitaries participated along with PG students of Agronomy.



➤ **SABRM, RPCAU, Pusa organized two outreach programmes**, one online on 28th March and one offline at TCA, Dholi on 30th March under Agri-Innovation and Incubation Centre (AIIC) on the theme “*Starting the Startup: its Ideation to Implementation*” to create awareness on initiating a start-up to the B.Sc. students. Six days training program from March 12-17, 2024 on the theme “*Scientific Bee Keeping and Value Addition of Honey Products*” sponsored by National Bee Board



(NBB) under Mini Mission III of National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) was organized to train farmers of nearby districts on Litchi honey production and its marketing. Likewise, one day national seminar sponsored by National Bee Board (NBB) under Mini Mission III of National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM) on “*Promotion and Development of Geographical Indications in Honey*” was also organized for farmers, entrepreneurs and students on 20th March, 2024.



➤ **SRI, RPCAU, Pusa has organized six (06) one day training programme** at Garkhauri (Hasanpur Sull Mills Area) on 22.03.2024, Bhatha Bazar, Sugauli, East Chamapran on 23.03.2024, Bhaisahi in Gopalganj on 28.03.2024, Harinagr on 29.03.2024, Serwa (Narkatiyaganj Sugarcane Mills Area) & Kalyanpur Farm, Samastipur on 30.03.2024 for progressive sugarcane farmers of scheduled caste category under Schedule Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) of All Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane sponsored by AICRP on Sugarcane, ICAR-IISR, Lucknow. Total of 100 sugarcane farmers from Schedule Caste community participated in each training programme. Likewise, SRI, RPCAU, Pusa has also organized a five days training programme entitled “*Improved Cultivation, processing and value addition of sugarcane*” for progressive sugarcane farmers of scheduled caste category under Schedule Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) of All Coordinated

Research Project on Sugarcane sponsored by AICRP on Sugarcane, ICAR-IISR, Lucknow on 27-31st March, 2024.



➤ **PM SHRI Programme** : Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa is organizing internship development programme for 80 students of PM SHRI Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Birauli, Samastipur. The Programme was launched on 30.03.2023 and will cover training under 11 modules including mushroom, production Technology, Integrated Farming System, Organic Farming and Natural Farming, Tissue Culture Techniques, Hi-tech Aquaculture, food Processing & Product Development, Apiary, waste to wealth, Livestock farming and Hi-tech Horticulture. The Programme is being organized under PM SHRI Internship Development Programme of Government of India on NEP-2020 framework and a MoU has been signed between RPCAU, and PM SHRI JNV Birauli for the implementation of the programme. Although 350 students will be trained under this initiative and in first phase 80 students are undergoing the training. The students are provided multidisciplinary exposure to various techniques and given knowledge about entrepreneurial development through skill development under each module. The training programme will help in motivating, attracting and re-orienting the young students towards bio-entrepreneurship. The programme is being implemented by Directorate of Education of the university under the Chairmanship of Dr. U. K. Behera, Director Education and under the overall guidance of Dr. P. S. Pandey, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa,



Bihar. Dr. T. N. Sharma, Principal, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Birauli, Bihar has played key role by initiating the programme. The faculties Dr. Kumari Anjani, Dr. Biswajit Pramaik & Dr. K. L. Bhutia, Assistant Professor, RPCAU, have co-ordinated the programme efficiently and Dr. Devendra Singh & Dr. Shivendra Kumar, Professor & Head, RPCAU, Pusa have served as convener of the programme. This is an innovative approach and new initiatives by the University for orienting young mind toward skill development in area of rural bio entrepreneurship.



➤ **CAET, RPCAU, Pusa organized** the valedictory and inaugural function of 3rd and 4th batches of skill development training programme on “Farm machinery Repair & Maintenance on 30th March 2024. The trainees from Vaishali, Madhubani, Begusarai and Samastipur district participated in the training program.



RECOGNITION & SCIENTIFIC LEADERSHIP

➤ **Prof. R. K. Jha, PD, CASCC awarded by the ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India,** Dr. Ratnesh Kumar Jha, Project Director, Centre for Advance Studies on Climate Change and Principal Investigator, Climate Resilient Agriculture Programme bagged the second award with appreciation certificate, memento and a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/-, for his noteworthy contribution to the compendium of Best Practices on the 'Role of Women in Disaster Risk Management' on the occasion of International Women's Day event being organised by the Indian Universities and Institutions Network for Disaster Risk Reduction National Institute of Disaster Management (1UINDRR-NIDM) on 8th March, 2024 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, Delhi.



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

➤ **Dr. Sudhanand Prasad Lal, Assistant Professor (Extension Education), PGCA** was invited as speaker for 7-days International Training cum Workshop on “Agricultural Research, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development for Nation's



Growth” held from 6-12 March, 2024 virtually. Dr. Lal delivered his lecture on ‘Hands-on experience of Content Cloud in digital marketing apropos agripreneurship development’ in the event organized by Shree Guru Gobind Singh Tricentenary University (SGT), Gurugram, Agriculture Forum for Technical Education of Farming Society, Rajasthan, and Vital Bio Tech Publishing house.

➤ **Workshop on Official Language:** Director of Education, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University organized a workshop on official language Implementation on 18-03-2024. Dr. Umakant Behera, Director of Education cum controlling officer of Rajbhasha said that Hindi is our official language and it is responsibility of all of us to encourage the use of Hindi in day to day work. The officers and staff of the University participated in the workshop. During the workshop official language Acts was also discussed apart from the quarterly and annual report related with Rajbhasha, Member of Rajbhasha Unit/Collage also participated in the workshop and presented their achievements.

VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

Dr. S.N. Jha

DDG-ICAR (Agril Engg)

Visited on 22-03-2024

Dr. Gopal ji Trivedi

former VC, RAU, Pusa

Visited on 22-03-2024

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

➤ **“National workshop on Natural Farming and its scope under changing climatic Scenario”** will be organized by School of Natural Farming during 20-21 April, 2024 at PGCA, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar.

Students Conclave : PG Students Conclave will be organized by PGCA, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar involving the PG students on 28-04-2024.

FAREWELL

➤ A Farewell ceremony of the following university employees who superannuated from university service on 30th March, 2024 was organized in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa.

1. Shri. Jaishankar Prasad

STO, CBS&H, Pusa

2. Shri Ram Naresh Thakur

SSS, (Hort.), PGCA, Pusa

3. Shri. Brahmdeo Rai

SSS, TCA, Dholi

4. Shri. Md. Ali Sajad

SSS. SRI, RGM, Madhopur

5. Shri Devan Ram

SSS, PGCA, Pusa



EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Patron:

Dr. P. S. Pandey

Vice-Chancellor

Chief Editor:

Dr. U. K. Behera

Editors :

Dr. R. M. Sharma

Dr. Ravish Chandra

Dr. Satya Prakash

Dr. K. L. Bhutia

Dr. A. K. Panda

Dr. M. Dwivedi

Mr. G. Trivedi

Editorial Assistance:

Mr. Manish Kumar

Published by:

Publication Division

Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University

Pusa, Samastipur-848101 (Bihar), India

E-mail : publicationdivision@rpcau.ac.in, Visit us at : www.rpcau.ac.in