



**Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University**

Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar-848 125

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## FROM THE DESK OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to present the August 2024 edition of our e-newsletter, which highlights the notable events and achievements at Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, reflecting our dedication to excellence in agricultural education, research, and community engagement. The month of July 2024 was marked by significant events and milestones at Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, depicting our commitment to excellence in agricultural education, research, and outreach.

We were honoured to host the Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, Shri Ramnath

Thakur Jee, on July 4-5, 2024. His visit was a momentous occasion for the university community. In his address, the Hon'ble Minister underscored the urgent need for the development of technologies that cater to the needs of small and marginal farmers. He also highlighted the detrimental effects of the excessive use of chemical fertilizers on soil health and emphasized the importance of widespread soil testing to foster sustainable agricultural practices. His words serve as a clarion call for us to intensify our research efforts in these critical areas. The Hon'ble Minister also congratulated RPCAU for securing 7th rank in the Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) among central universities of the country, and assured his full support in elevating Pusa's illustrious legacy to new heights.

On July 8, 2024 we organized a workshop entitled "Demystifying Intellectual Property Rights," bringing together leading experts, including Dr. Sudhir Kochhar, Former ADG (IPR), ICAR, New Delhi and Dr. Sanjeev Saxena, Former ADG (IP&TM, and PME), ICAR, New Delhi, who provided valuable insights into the complexities of intellectual property in the agricultural sector.

We also convened the 17<sup>th</sup> Research Council (Kharif) meeting during July 10-12, 2024, where 29 research projects were presented and reviewed, besides three books were released. Principal Investigators (PIs) of different projects presented the progress report and future plan of their research work. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests, including former Vice-Chancellor of Navsari Agricultural University, Dr. A.R. Pathak, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Agricultural Sciences Dharwad, Dr. M.B. Chetti, and former Vice-Chancellor of Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya (DSVV) and former Assistant Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Dr. S. D. Sharma. It was a testament to our ongoing dedication to research that addresses the pressing challenges faced by agricultural community.

A six-day training session on "Administrative and Financial Management for University Personnel" organised from July 22 to July 27, 2024 was instrumental in enhancing the governance and financial acumen of our university staff with enriched participation of eminent experts of the domain.

The inauguration of the Knowledge Resource Centre under AICRP (Women in Agriculture) on July 25, 2024, marked a significant step forward in our mission to empower farm women. This centre, alongside the custom hiring centre, will play a crucial role in feminizing agriculture and ensuring that women have access to the resources and support they need to thrive in the agricultural sector.

Holding a day long Brainstorming-cum-Workshop session on 'Gender Equality and Women Empowerment' on July 30, 2024, under AICRP-Women in Agriculture was thought-provoking with lectures by experts such as Dr. Vinita Sharma and Dr. Rengalakshmi R, who emphasized the importance of gender perspectives in technology transfer and agricultural practices.

As we continue to build on these achievements, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire RPCAU community for unwavering dedication and hard work for making significant strides towards realizing our vision of a prosperous and sustainable agriculture.

Jai Hind!

(Dr. P. S. Pandey)

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## EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

➤ On 13<sup>th</sup> June, Dr. A.R. Pathak, former VC of Navsari Agricultural University and Junagadh Agricultural University, shared valuable insights on agribusiness, marketing, and necessary skills. His talk inspired around 70 students of SAB&RM explore innovative pathways in agriculture.



➤ An Online Webinar on “Idea Creation” led by Dr. Ramesh Mittal, former Senior Director at CCS-NIAM was organised on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 wherein 45 students participated in the session. Another online webinar on “How to Sell a New Product in the Market” was also organized on 31<sup>st</sup> July, featuring Mr. Raj K. Jha, former National Creative Director of Ogilvy & Mather, as the speaker. Both the webinars were organized by SAB&RM.



➤ An interaction was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2024 at SAB&RM with DGM Prakash Singh and SME Sanjib Kumar Panda from Dhanuka Agritech Ltd who offered students insights into corporate careers.



➤ Department of Extension Education, TCA, Dholi successfully organized one week General Orientation & On-Campus Training Programme for 7th semester students under RAW & Agro Industrial Attachment from 24<sup>th</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 at TCA, Dholi campus and they were also attached with KVK of Hariharpur, Piprakothi, Turki, Khodawandpur and Birauli for eight weeks from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 under village attachment of RAW programme.





## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

➤ **Executive Director, NCPAH, DAC&FW visited CAET** Er. Anand Zambrere, Executive Director, National Committee for Precision Agriculture and Horticulture (NCPAH) DAC&FW, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi visited RPCAU, Pusa during July 8-9, 2024 to monitor the Agri-IoT Device installed at Kothiya Village, Samastipur, and the vertical farming system developed at PFDC Unit, RPCAU, Pusa.



➤ **One-day Workshop on IPR Organised** The Directorate of Research, RPCAU, successfully organized a One-day workshop entitled "Demystifying Intellectual Property Rights" on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Vidyapati Sabhagar, Pusa, Bihar. The event provided a comprehensive understanding of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and featured esteemed speakers such as Dr. Sudhir Kochhar, Former ADG (IPR) and Former National Coordinator (NAIP), and Dr. Sanjeev Saxena, Former Assistant Director General (IP&TM and PME), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The workshop covered key topics including the process



of securing copyrights, managing intellectual property, and ensuring compliance with guidelines issued by DoPT and ICAR. Over 300 participants attended the workshop, both in-person and online.

➤ **17<sup>th</sup> Research Council Meeting of RPCAU, Pusa Organised** The 17<sup>th</sup> Research Council Meet (Kharif-2024) of RPCAU, Pusa, was successfully held from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa in esteemed presence of Dr. A.R. Pathak, Former Vice Chancellor of Navsari Agricultural University, Gujarat, Dr. M.B. Chetti, Former Vice Chancellor of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, and Dr. S. D. Sharma, Former Vice Chancellor of Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya and Former Director of ICAR- IASRI, who participated as members of the Research Council of RPCAU, Pusa. During the meet, a total of 29 research projects were presented and discussed. Thirteen of these were University funded/Externally funded projects, and 16 were ICAR-AICRP (All India Coordinated Research Projects) initiatives. The respective Principal Investigators delivered detailed presentations on their ongoing research work, followed by in-depth discussions and constructive feedback from the Research Council members.





## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

➤ **AIRCP-Women in Agriculture:** Honorable Vice Chancellor Dr. P.S. Pandey inaugurated “Knowledge Resource Centre” under All India Co-ordinated Research Projects (Women in Agriculture) on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at Village-Gangapur of Samastipur district. He shared his thoughtful and intellectual insights for the operation of Knowledge Resource Centre and its benefits to the women farmer community. During the event, rural women were also educated about various agricultural issues with the help of technical video-films through “Krishi Gyan Vahan” under 4th Krishi Road Map, GoB..



➤ **SAB&RM organized two Outreach Programs “Awareness on starting a start-up under Bihar Start-up Policy”** on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 at J.P. Shikshak

Prashikshan Mahavidyalaya, Samastipur and on “How to start a business with the Bihar start-up policy” on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at the Government College of Teacher's Training, Samastipur.



➤ **College of Basic Sciences & Humanities:** On the eve of World Nature's Conservation Day, CBSH held its third lecture in the Lecture Series, CBSH, featuring Dr. A.K. Handa (Principal Scientist, Agroforestry) at ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi) who spoke on "Forestry in Nature's Conservation" on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. The event was chaired by Dr. Amresh Chandra, and attended by around 30 participants, including faculty from CBSH, PGCA, and PDDUCHF, as well as students.





## TRAINING/WORKSHOP/SEMINAR/ AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

➤ **KVK Turki** in collaboration with the Ministry of MSME and Kurhani Agro FPO jointly organised FPO members meet cum awareness programme at Sakri village of Kudani block. This event was chaired by Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India along with Shri KedarNath Gupta, Hon'ble Minister Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Bihar, Shri Ram Surat Rai, Former Minister of Revenue and land reforms, Govt. of Bihar, Sri Ramesh Kumar Yadav Deputy Director, MSME, Govt. of India, Shri Ram Pravesh Singh, Director Kurhani FPO, Sakri. They also conducted one day ex-trainees meet sammalen of mushroom growers on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at KVK the campus where a total of 25 rural youths participated.



➤ **CAET:** Police personnel/SI's of Govt. of Bihar are taking training in RPTO (Remote Pilot Training Organization) of CAET, RPCAU as Drone Pilot. This is a significant achievement for the college and the University. 10 Police personnel have been trained in 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Batch.



➤ **HRD training (for farm women)** was co-organized by **Dr. Kumari Shipra & Dr. Sudhanand Prasad Lal** on "Capacity Building on Potato Processing and Value Addition" held from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024 under AICRP-WIA, CCS, Pusa, Samastipur.



➤ **KVK Parsauni** conducted a training program on soybean cultivation under the Cluster Front Line Demonstration (CFLD) on oilseeds on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. Scientists of KVK Parsauni organized five-day Rural Youth training program on "Types of Mushrooms and Their Cultivation Techniques" from 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 where a total of 27 farmers and farm women participated. They also demonstrated the spraying of agrochemicals using an agri-drone in sugarcane fields at Harsiddhi Block, East Champaran and delivered lecture in Krishi Yantrikaran Sah Kisan Mela 2024-25 organized by District Agriculture Office, Motihari, East Champaran in gracious presence of Shri. Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble M.P., Motihari and Shri Pramod Kumar, Hon'ble MLA, Motihari.





➤ **KVK Siwan** organized training programmes on “Weed management in Kharif crops” under CRA Programme at CRV Sikatiya, Maharajganj, Siwan and on “Climate-resilient varieties of paddy” under the NICRA project at Mirjumala village on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 and 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, respectively.



➤ **KVK Madhopur** organized 4-day beekeeping training program. The program featured with live bee colonies demonstration, artificial diet preparation and its feeding and honey extractor demonstrations. They also organized 5-day Rural Youth (RY) training program on Commercial Dairy Farming where a total of 37 participants were provided with scientific and technical knowledge as well as necessary skills for commercial dairy farming.



➤ **KVK Gopalganj** organized a vocational training programme on “Goat production” for rural youth from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. A total of 34 trainees learnt about the breeds, production parameters, management principles, housing, feeding, disease prevention treatment and control as well as state government schemes on goat rearing. They also organized another training for 150 farmers on various topics on improved

cultivation practices of maize, arhar and paddy etc. Likewise, under CRA programme, they conducted two practicing farmers (PF) training programme on 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 on “Perennial Green fodder” production at Khemmatihinya and Tiwarimatihiniya villages, respectively and one on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 in the KVK campus training on “Improved shelter management for livestock”. Similarly, Frontline demonstration on seasonal fodder Sorghum (Pant Chari 1) in 1.53 ha among 18 farmers was also conducted in July 2024 and a meeting of Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs) of Gopalganj district was conducted on 5th July, 2024 where the district officials viz. DDM, NABARD, DAO, Gopalganj, Regional and Sr. Managers, Uttar Bihar Gramin Bank and Chairman, District Cooperative Bank participated along with the scientists and staff of the KVK.



➤ A six-day training session on “Administrative and Financial Management for University Personnel” was organized for the first time after receiving the status of central agricultural university under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. P.S. Pandey featuring insightful sessions by the eminent experts in the field such as Kanhaiya Chaudhary, Jt. Secretary (Retd.), Indian Council of Agricultural Research; Shri Ravi Chauhan, Deputy General Manager (HR/Admin.), NHAI; Shri Nafe Singh, Dy Director (Retd.), MoF, GoI; Shri Kumar Rajesh, Director & Master Trainer, ICAR; Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sinha, CAO (Sr. Grade), IARI; Shri Rajeev Kumar Jha, Ex-Faculty, ISTM and Shri S. K. Pathak, Jt. Secretary (Finance), ICAR. The training session aimed to explain the salient features of governance in the Central Government institutions as well as the University, various provisions of the Establishment & Finance Rules etc. During the valedictory session, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor stated that the high level of competency is



essential for enhanced productivity of an organization. He also mentioned that this a beginning of series of MDP, EDP and training programmes for the university personnel.



➤ A one day Brain Storming-cum-Workshop session was on 'Gender Equality and Women Empowerment' under AICRP on Women in Agriculture was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. P.S. Pandey. Lectures were delivered by eminent expert Dr. Vinita Sharma, Former Head, Science for Equity Empowerment and Development, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India on the topic "Gender Perspective in Technology Transfer" and by Dr. Rengalakshmi R, Director-Ecotechnology, MSSRF, Chennai on the topic "Gender mainstreaming in agriculture".



### SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT/RECOGNITION

Dr. Ratnesh Kumar Jha (Professor cum Principal Investigator of Climate Resilient Agriculture Programme) and Dr. Sudhanand Prasad Lal (Assistant Professor cum Scientist, Agricultural Extension Education) delivered guest lecture on the topic "United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals: Issues and Challenges" (संयुक्त राष्ट्र सतत विकास

लक्ष्य: मुद्दे और चुनौतियाँ) organized by Support Foundation 'seminar cum award ceremony' at Laxmi Rajdev Inter College, Piar, Bandara, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, India on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2024.



### VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

#### Er. Anand Zambrere

Executive Director, NCPAH, DAC&FW, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi

Visited RPCAU, Pusa during 8th and 9th, July, 2024

#### Dr. Sudhir Kochhar

Former ADG (IPR) and Former National Coordinator (NAIP)

Visited RPCAU, Pusa on 8th July 2024

#### Dr. Sanjeev Saxena

Former Assistant Director General (IP&TM and PME), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi

Visited RPCAU, Pusa on 8th July 2024

#### Dr. A.R. Pathak

Former Vice Chancellor of Navsari Agricultural University, Gujarat

Visited RPCAU, Pusa during 10th to 12th July 2024

#### Dr. M.B. Chetti

Former Vice Chancellor of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad

Visited RPCAU, Pusa during 10th to 12th July 2024

#### Dr. S. D. Sharma

Former Vice Chancellor of Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya and Former Director of ICAR- IASRI

Visited RPCAU, Pusa during 10th to 12th July 2024



## FAREWELL

➤ A Farewell ceremony of the following university employee who superannuated from university service on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024 was organized in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa.

**1. Dr. D. K. Dwivedi**

Professor, TCA, Dholi

**2. Shri Ram Kumar**

T.O –(T-5), RGM Madhopur

**3. Shri Kumar Kaushal**

Assistant, Directorate of Research

**4. Shri Sudhir Kumar**

Assistant, BRC Goraul

**5. Shri Ramashankar Rai**

SSS, SRI, Pusa

**6. Shri Ram Udesb Rai**

SSS, College of Community Science, Pusa



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