



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University

Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar-848 125

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FROM THE DESK OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Readers,

Dear colleagues, students, and stakeholders of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, I am delighted to present the e-newsletter for the month of September 2024, highlighting the vibrant activities and achievements of our university in the past one month.

The University takes pride in celebrating the birth day of Bharat Ratna Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, a most respected global scientist, chief architect and doyen of green revolution in Indian Agriculture who made our country a food surplus exporting Country by introducing fertilizer responding dwarf varieties of wheat and rice besides shaping the future of Indian Agriculture on right path through designing and developing Agricultural Research Services (ARS), National Academy of Agricultural Science (NAAS), Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Food Security Bill. This programme was organized on 7th August, 2024 in gracious presence of Hon'ble Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa, Dr. P.L. Gautam who highlighted the enormous contribution of Dr. Swaminathan sir to the Indian Agriculture and appealed the university scientists to follow the path shown by the most revered agricultural scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.

We had the honour of hosting the Hon'ble Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar Ji, on 8th August, 2024 who graced the Mushroom Production and Processing Training Program. His words of appreciation and recognition of our research, education, and extension efforts made in Mushroom Production Technologies, Innovative Products Development and Package of Practices spread among Bihar farmers reinforces our commitment to driving agricultural innovations that benefit not just Bihar farmers but the farmers of the entire nation.

On 15th August, we celebrated the 78th Independence Day with great pride and enthusiasm, marked by cultural programs from our students, and awarded prizes to those who excelled in domain of their activities related to education, research, extension and administration. This event was a reminder of our collective dedication to the growth and future of our agricultural community.

We also commemorated the 64th Foundation Day of Tirhut College of Agriculture, Dholi, on 18th August, 2024 celebrating its glorious history and its role in agricultural education since 1960. This college continues to be a beacon of agricultural knowledge and education, contributing significantly to the development of crop varieties and technologies.

Environmental conservation remains a key priority to our university, and on 21st and 30th August, 2024 we organized tree-planting drives under the (एक पेड़ माँ के नाम) "One Tree in the Name of Mother" campaign joined by over 150 participants and led by Dr. Prem Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of Cooperatives, Environment and Forest, Government of Bihar. These efforts contribute to our broader mission of sustainability and environmental responsibility.

A one-day Tier III training programme on "Ground Water Development and Management" was organized on 29-08-2024 by the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, Regional Office at Patna in Collaboration of CAET, RPCAU, Pusa highlighted the need for conservation of Ground Water Resources, Developing Water conservation Technologies and Climate Resilient Crop Varieties.

Additionally, anti-ragging awareness programs were also held across our university during Anti-Ragging Week, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all students.

We also continue to make an impact in training and outreach. During August, 4,465 farmers, rural youth, and women were trained in various agricultural technologies. Our university's commitment to knowledge dissemination and farmer engagement was further supported by online advisory services.

As we move forward, let us continue to strive towards excellence in agricultural education, research, and extension.

Jai Hind!

(Dr. P. S. Pandey)

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EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

➤ **Anti-Ragging week** was conducted at PDUCH&F, Piprakothi from 12th to 18th August, 2024. Students participated in Essay writing and drawing competition on this occasion. Dr. Pankaj Singh (Asstt. Professor) threw light on negative aspect of ragging and how it can affect the mental status of new students. Dr. R.K. Jha, Dean PDUCH&F told about the importance of ragging free campus and how it can flourish the overall growth of the students.



➤ **A group of 37 B.F.Sc students** (23 male and 14 female) from the 7th semester of the 2021-2025 batch participated in the In-Plant Attachment Training under the Student READY Programme (SRP 411) dropped by Dr. Sujit Kumar Nayak and Dr. H.S. Mogalekar at the Veraval Research Centre of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR-CIFT). This In-Plant Attachment Training program was scheduled to be held from August

21, 2024, to September 20, 2024.



➤ **On 30th August, 2024, CBSH hosted** its 5th lecture in the CBSH Lecture Series, featuring Dr. Cathie Martin, a Professor at the John Innes Centre, University of East Anglia, England who delivered a talk on the title "Healthy Plants; Healthy People - Fortifying Vitamins and Phytonutrients in Tomato". The event was chaired by Dr. Amresh Chandra, Dean CBSH and attracted around 40 participants, including faculty and students from CBSH, CCS, TCA, PDDUCHF and PGCA.

4. 8th semester students of B. Tech (Food technology) showcased 9 different food products developed by them under courses ELP 1 and Students ready project-FTPO 403 before Honourable Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU; Dean and Directors of various units and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Patna on 29th August, 2024 at Vidyapati Sabhagaar, RPCAU. The products developed included Dates Chocolate, Sattu chocolate, Lemon jam, Banana pudding, Multigrain snack rolls, Millet biscuits, Bakery products, etc.



5. **Ms. Sakshi Spundir**, student of M.Sc. (Extension Education), PGCA has successfully bagged the illustrious MANAGE internship (2024-25).



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

➤ **Awareness programme organized during World Breast Feeding Week** One day awareness programme was organized by the Department of Food Science and Nutrition, College of Community Science on 3rd August, 2024 at the occasion of World Breast Feeding Week (01-07 August). The programme was organized in the premises of District Education & Training Institute, Samastipur, Pusa. Dr. Kumari Sunita (Assistant professor) delivered lecture on importance of breast feeding and human milk banking to the group of 244 female school-teachers from different blocks of Muzaffarpur and Samastipur district. The Principal of DIET and lecturers of the institute were also present during the programme.



➤ **Training of Bihar Police Personnels at Remote Pilot Training Organization** Dronier Avigation RPTO at RPCAU PUSA hosted the Bihar Police drone training certificate convocation on 07/08/2024 in the gracious presence of Dr. P.L.Gautam, Honourable Chancellor, RPCAU. In July 2024, a total of one hundred twenty police personnel successfully completed their training at RPCAU. The event was graced by Dean, CAET, Dr. R.K. Rai, Managing Director, RPTO, and the entire CAET faculty. The Honourable Chancellor commended CAET efforts in applying drone technology in agriculture and other sectors.



➤ **Dignitary Visited at CoF Dholi** Dr. Krishna Kumar Thakur, Assistant Professor, infectious Disease Epidemiology, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada visited College of Fisheries, Dholi on 9th August, 2024 and delivered a talk on “Climate Change and Infectious Disease Impacts on the Sustainability of Aquaculture and Fishery”. All the faculty members and students of CoF, participated in the programme.



➤ CAET organized training program on “Ground Water Development and Management

On August 29, 2024, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Mid-Eastern Region, Patna, in collaboration with the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, organized a Tier-3 training program on 'Ground Water Development and Management'. The program was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. P S Pandey. The program was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including the Regional Director of CGWB MER, Patna, Dean CAET and other Dean and Directors of the university. Notably, over 130 students from CAET actively participated in the program, demonstrating their enthusiasm for learning about sustainable groundwater management practices.



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

➤ **Dr. P. P. Srivastava, Dean,** College of Fisheries, Dholi participated in Deans' Conference for implementation of NEP 2020 in Fisheries Education and Promoting Student Entrepreneurship on 6th August, 2024 organized at ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai.



➤ College of Fisheries, Dholi participated the plantation programme “एक पेड़ माँ के नाम” where all the faculty members, non-teaching staff and student transplanted various types of plants.



➤ **Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Turki** organized Krishi Yantrikaran Kisan Mela with collaboration of ATMA Muzaffarpur at Museri. In this event Chief Guest was Shri Subrat Kumar Sen (IAS), DM Muzaffarpur. In this event 566 farmers participated and exhibition of latest agriculture implements during the event.



➤ **Technology Developed**

Dr. Sunita Kushwah, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Vaishali has received a certificate of lead developer of “waste to wealth based agriprenureship model for banana fibre” on 19th August of 9th foundation day of ICAR ATARI-IV Patna by the chief Guest, Former Ex Vice Chancellor, Dr. RK Samanta, DDG Extension, ICAR, Dr US Gautam, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DR RPCAU Pusa, Dr P. S Pandey

TRAINING/WORKSHOP/SEMINAR/ AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

➤ **Five days training program on Banana processing and preservation** KVK Vaishali organised 5 days vocational training program from 28.08.2024 to 01.09.2024 for the rural youth and rural women on the topic of banana processing and preservation which was conducted by SMS Agricultural Engineering. Trainees learnt theory as well as practical of preparation of Banana chips, Banana powder, Cake, Cookies, Banana jam, jelly and sweets.



➤ **“Van Mahotsav”** was celebrated at PDUCH&F, Piprakothi campus on 06.08.2024. DFO Motihari marked his presence and planted Tress at PDUCH&F campus along with Dean, Scientist and students of Piprakothi.



➤ **Krishi Vigyan Kendra Turki** organized 15th batch of INM training for fertilizer dealer from 12-29.08.2024 at KVK Turki, Muzaffarpur in the presence of Shri Gopal Meena (IAS), Commissioner, Tirhut Division and In-charge, BISA, Pusa. The inaugural event was followed

by the interaction of the chief guest, Shri Gopal Meena with the input dealers. He focused on the importance of millets in agriculture, its nutritional values, transparency in marketing strategies; how to properly utilize resources in a sustainable way and In-charge BISA made farmers aware that, the latest technologies that are helpful in current climatic scenario can improve the yield of farmers.



➤ **15 Days Training program on Banana fiber extraction and handicrafts** KVK Vaishali organised 15 days vocational training program for the rural youth and rural women on the topic of banana fibre extraction and handicrafts, which was conducted by SMS Home Science. Trainees learnt banana fibre extraction, dying of banana fibre, making of handmade paper from banana fibre and making of handicrafts like Tea costal, Lord Ganesha.



➤ **“EK PED MAA KE NAAM”** an initiative by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, was organized at PDUCH&F, Piprakothi on 21.08.2024. In this event Dean, Faculty, Staff & Students participated with great enthusiasm and planted trees all over the campus. Also Drawing and essay competition was also organized among the students.

SPECIAL ATTAINMENT

➤ **Dr. Sudhanand Prasad Lal** (Assistant Professor, Agricultural Extension Education) participated as co-chairman of the session on “Theme 4: Life Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Pharmaceutical and Biotechnological aspects” in the 6th International Conference on “Cutting-Edge Solutions in Science- Agriculture, Technology, Engineering and Humanities” (CSATEH-2024) from August 24-26, 2024 jointly organized by Kumaun University, Nainital, Uttarakhand, India; Agricultural & Environmental Technology Development Society (AETDS), U.S. Nagar, Uttarakhand, held at Nainital, Uttarakhand, India, on Day 3, Date: 26.08.2024.



➤ **Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Professor & Head, (PBG) & PI, Rapeseed- Mustard, Dr. Vikram Bharti, Assoc. Prof. (Agronomy) & Dr. Kavita, Assoc. Prof. (Plant Physiology)** attended 31st Annual Group Meeting ICAR-AICRP on Rapeseed - Mustard at AAU, Khanapara, Guwahati on 20-22 August, 2024.



GAME/SPORTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

➤ **On 21st August 2024**, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa organized a program named 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' under the nationwide environmental protection campaign. About 150 people including scientists, officers, employees and students participated in this program. Honorable Vice Chancellor, Dr. P.S. Pandey was present as the chief guest of this program. He told the participants about the importance of trees and environmental protection by planting a tree and gave the message of starting a campaign to not use plastic. During the program, he gave the message to the students to plant and protect a tree in the name of mother.



Organiser of the programme, Director Student Welfare, Dr. Raman Kumar Trivedi, added that the message of planting a tree in the name of mother to maintain the purity of the environment should be spread in every village and in future, the programme should be organised by adopting villages. In this

R.P.C.A.U., Pusa

program, neem and mango trees were planted and each participant planted a tree in the name of his/her mother. The participants also took a pledge to protect the trees.

➤ **On 26-08-2024 Shri Krishna Janmasthanmi** was celebrated in the Girls hostel of PDUCH&F and a cultural programme was also organized on this occasion. Girls participated enthusiastically during the event.



➤ **On the occasion of National Sport Day** (29 th August, 2024), a volleyball match was organized among TCA, Dholi and CoF Dholi on 28 th August, 2024. The match was inaugurated by both the Deans of CoF, Dholi and TCA, Dholi. A friendly match was played among the boys of CoF and TCA with sport spirit under the supervision of In-charge, Games and Sports, CoF and TCA, Mr. R. K. Ram and Dr. A. K. Paswan respectively.

VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

Dr. P. L. Gautam

Hon'ble Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar
Visited RPCAU, Pusa on 7th August, 2024

Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar Ji

Hon'ble Governor of Bihar
Visited RPCAU, Pusa on 8th August, 2024

Dr. Prem Kumar

Hon'ble Minister of Cooperatives, Environment and Forest, Government of Bihar
Visited RPCAU, Pusa on 30th August, 2024

FAREWELL

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

1. Dr. Mukul Sinha

Associate Professor, TCA, Dholi

2. Shri Harendra Kumar Singh

STA (T-4), CAE&T, Pusa

3. Shri Onkar Nath Jha

STA (T-4), KVK, Narkatiyaganj

4. Shri Hari Kant Singh

SSS, CAE&T, Pusa

5. Shri Shankar Jha

SSS, TCA, Dholi

6. Shri Arun Kumar Rai

T-1, CCC Scheme, Pusa



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