



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University

Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar-848 125

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CONTENTS

❖ NCC training P. 2

❖ XVII Biennial Workshop P. 3

❖ “Pickle, Papad and P. 4
Masala making”

❖ Development of P. 5
Millet Based
Value Added
Food products

❖ Visit of Dignitaries P. 6

❖ Farewell Ceremony P. 7
for Superannuating
Staff

FROM THE DESK OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to present the e-newsletter for the month of January 2025 sharing the remarkable journey and achievements of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa. As we begin with the new year, I am pleased to share with you that the year 2024 (January to November) was full of notable achievements and opportunities for our university. We have made numerous achievements e.g.- successful implementation of e-office, Deeksharambh, 100%

Placement of students of ABM&RM, number of patents applied and obtained, establishment of the School of Natural Farming, crop varieties released, improved IIRF ranking at 7th position, RFID technology installed at the University Library are named few. This trend was even continued in December 2024. We commemorated our 55th Foundation Day and Agricultural Education Day on December 3rd, reaffirming our commitment to excellence in agricultural education.

The College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology celebrated its 42nd foundation day, where we were honoured to have Er. Alok Kumar Singh, Joint Director (Agricultural Engineering), Government of Bihar, who shares his inspiring journey with our students. In addition, we hold our academic council meeting on 17th December to discuss and resolve the academic issues and passed academic-related resolutions for excellence of education.

Besides, we successfully organized the XVIIth Biennial Workshop of the AICRP on Agrometeorology and the XIIth Annual Review Meeting of AICRPAM-NICRA. Many distinguished scientists from across the country attended said workshops fostering valuable discussions on integrating agrometeorological knowledge into sustainable agricultural practices and addressing climate change challenges.

Our commitment to innovation in agriculture was further demonstrated through the 15-day Residential Training Programme on "Advanced Mushroom Cultivation" for master trainers. The celebration of National Mushroom Day 2024 with the theme "Climate-Based Round-the-Year Mushroom Production" showcased our achievements in mushroom cultivation, including the introduction of King Oyster and Shiitake mushrooms. The active participation of four Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) highlighted our strong industry-academia connection.

I am particularly proud to learn that our university trained 3,945 farmers, rural youth, women, and extension workers in various agricultural technologies during December-2024.

As we move forward in 2025, let us continue our dedication to agricultural innovation, education, and rural development. I extend my compliments and thanks to all faculty members, staff, students, and stakeholders for their continued support and commitment to excellence.

Wishing you all a productive and joyous December!

(Dr. P. S. Pandey)

EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

➤ **NCC training was successfully conducted** for the 1st semester students of TCA Dholi on 1st December 2024 at the campus playground.



➤ **Final year students of TCA, Dholi** participated in Agro- Bihar 2024 at Gandhi Maidan, Patna on 1st December 2024 as part of their exposure visit. During the visit, they were acquainted with various farm machinery equipment used in agricultural practices.



➤ **Mid Term Examination of the 1st, 3rd and 5th semester students of TCA, Dholi** were successfully conducted from 02.12.24 to 12.12.24.



➤ **An exposure visit-cum-practical class was successfully organised** at IFS unit, Pusa Farm on 18th December, 2024 by Dr. I.B. Pandey, Dr. R.S. Singh & Dr. Rajeev Kumar Srivastava under course Farming Based Livelihood Systems (AAG-112), B.Sc. (Ag.) 1st Semester, Department of Agronomy, TCA, Dholi.



➤ **On 27th December, 2024 a series of events including an elocution competition, Bhasan Pratiyogita, Rangoli and Poster making competitions were organized on the occasion of celebration of Vivekanand Jayanti.** On 28th December, 2024 another elocution competition was held with the theme "Frontiers of Science and Technology in Agriculture for a Developed India." which was conducted to nominate students for the inter-college competition and further selection in the 17th Agricultural Science Congress.



➤ **As part of a massive Information Literacy drive, The University Library conducted a workshop on 27-12-2024 under "Library Connect" to educate the library users about**

university library subscribed learning resources including CeRA e-books/e-journals and databases. A total of 57 students from undergraduate and postgraduate attended the workshop and benefited and asked to conduct many more such workshops covering different aspects of thesis writing, smart search, and literature review.



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

➤ RPCAU, Pusa Organized the Biennial Workshop of AICRP on Agrometeorology and ARM of NICRA

XVII Biennial Workshop of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agrometeorology and Annual Review Meeting (ARM) of National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) was held at RPCAU, Pusa during 11-14 December 2024. Agrometeorologists from 29 State Agricultural Universities and Central Govt. Institutions participated and deliberated in the workshop.



Dr. P.S. Pandey, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of RPCAU, Pusa inaugurated the four-day workshop. Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Dr. V.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad and Dr. Anup Das, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna shared the dais as Guest of Honour. Dr. A.K. Singh, Director Research, RPCAU, Pusa welcomed the delegates, while Dr. Santanu Kumar Bal, Project Coordinator, AICRPAM, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad delivered a brief presentation about the importance and contribution of the project in ensuring national food security.



The workshop emphasized giving greater focus on agrometeorological researches involving livestock and fishery sectors apart from agriculture. It was decided to prioritize research on extreme weather events and the positive impact of climate change. The workshop highlighted that weather forecast-based advisory should be made more accessible to the farmers for managing climatic risks on crop production.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

➤ **Farmers Scientists meet through Live telecast program Sawal Jawab: “Krishi Gyan Vahan”** the special purpose University vehicle under 4th Krishi Road Map, Government of Bihar has significantly expanded its dimension in imparting agricultural



knowledge to farmers at their doorsteps through use of internet facilities installed in vehicle by live-streaming of farmers-scientist interaction on “advances in disease management of livestock” program Sawal Jawab being organized on first and third Saturday every month. In the month of December 2024, Krishi Gyan Vahan moved to Gopalpur village in Sairanjan block of Samastipur district and facilitated farmers with the interaction programme and resolved many advisory queries related to agricultural and allied sectors. It was a very enriching interface program for connecting farmers and scientists live and sharing of experiences in order to highlight the major issues of farmers. More than 100 farmers from different villages participated in the program. Farmers received technical information on Rabi crops and seeds under AICRP-WIA initiative as part of the Nutri-Smart Village (NSV) project. This initiative aims to promote organic farming and crop diversification, enhancing sustainable agricultural practices in the region.



TRAINING/WORKSHOP/SEMINAR/ AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

➤ A ten days (16th-26th December, 2024) Advanced Professional Training Programme on “Pickle, Papad and Masala making” was organized by All India Coordinated Research Project on Women in Agriculture, College of Community Science, Pusa in Collaboration with Rural Skill Enhancement Training Institute Samastipur (RSETI) for Entrepreneurship development of twenty-eight (28) farm women of Samastipur, District. During the training programme farm women gained knowledge about processing and value addition, marketing, business practices and financial awareness related to entrepreneurship development.



➤ Seasonal vegetable seeds and seedlings were distributed to forty (40) farm women of Kushahar and Kasturia village of Sheohar district under “Nutri-Smart Village Programme” of All India Coordinated Research Project on Women in Agriculture, College of Community Science, Pusa.



➤ **A three days residential training programme on “Development of Millet Based Value Added Food products”** was conducted under Centre of Excellence on Millet and Value Chain project (4th Krishi Road Map) from 19th Dec-21st Dec, 2025. Hands on training sessions included the preparation of various value-added millets products (Malting ragi flour, millet anarasa, millets mixture etc.) were organized. A total of 35 farm women and farmers from the Sheohar district participated.



➤ **Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KVK Turki:** conducted one-day training programme on Organic seed production cum organic vegetables cultivation for Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs) on 20.12.2024 at KVK campus. In this event 66 FPO members participated and visited different units like azolla, goat, poultry, mushroom, ornamental fish, IFS model, farm machinery, seed production unit and Rabi crop cafeteria. KVK Turki also conducted a field day on mustard variety Rajendera Suflam under CFLD oilseed program at Bhartipur Cluster on 28.12.2024. In this event 41 progressive farmers participated and provided the feedback on improved variety of mustard. Likewise, field visit cum practicing farmers training on Integrated Pest

Management (IPM) in brinjal, cabbage and chilli at KVK adopted village Karanpur in Bochhaha block was organized on 17.12.2024.



➤ **KVK Madhopur has established a mushroom spawn laboratory dedicated to producing high-quality spawn.** The lab has achieved significant progress in last 3 months, including the production of approximately 280 kg of mushroom spawn to date out of which 210 kg have been provided to the local farmers through various training programs. These initiatives aim to equip farmers with essential skills in mushroom cultivation, promoting it as a viable agricultural practice in the West Champaran region. The adoption of mushroom cultivation by farmers is expected to enhance income generation and contribute to sustainable agricultural development.



➤ **KVK Siwan conducted two training programs in December 2024 to promote kitchen gardening and nutrition awareness.** On December 2, under the SCSP Project, 30 SC farmers were given training

on establishing nutri-gardens and their nutritional benefits. On December 18, under the NARI project, 50 participants were trained on kitchen gardening to improve household nutrition. KVK Siwan actively participated in the two-day Krishi Yantrikaran Mela cum Horticulture Product Exhibition organized at the District Agriculture Office premises in Siwan in the month of December, 2024 and highlighted climate-resilient technologies, millet-based innovations, and other sustainable agricultural practices developed at KVK and RPCAU.



➤ **KVK Gopalganj has organized 10 training programs** for 429 practicing farmers, covering topics such as grain storage, value-added millet products, insect pest and disease management in potatoes, vermicompost production, and nutri-gardens. Additionally, two training programs were also organized for 47 rural youth on mushroom cultivation and post-management and storage of grains and seeds. Under the SCSP program, honey bee hives and related equipment were demonstrated to farmers. A live telecast of the first episode of Krishi Chaupal was also arranged for 90 farmers. Furthermore, an on-farm trial on wheat sowing machinery was successfully initiated at farmers fields. Under CRA programme, different trainings were organized and all targets pertaining to demonstrations of crops with different technologies

have been achieved successfully.



VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

Er Alok Kumar Singh

Joint Director (Agricultural Engineering)

Government of Bihar

Visited our University on 7 December, 2024.

Dr. S.K. Chaudhari

DDG (NRM)

Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi

Visited our University on 11 December 2024.

Dr. V. K. Singh

Director

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad

Visited our University on 11 December, 2024.

Dr. Anup Das

Director

ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna

Visited our University on 11 December. 2024.

FAREWELL

➤ A Farewell ceremony of the following university employee who superannuated from university service on 31 December, 2025 was organized in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RPCAU, Pusa.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Smriti Rekha Sarkar
Professor, CCSc., Pusa 2. Dr. Satish Kumar Keshari
STO (T-6), CAE&T, Pusa 3. Shri Mukh Deo Yadav
Personal Assistant, Registrar Cell, Pusa 4. Shri Vidyapati Chaudhary
STA (T-4), KVK, Birauli 5. Shri Dinesh Prasad
Assistant, CBS&H, Pusa | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Shri Rambalak Mahto
SSS, CCSc., Pusa 7. Shri Rampravesh Paswan
SSS, TCA, Dholi 8. Shri Shivchandra Ram
SSS, Cattle Farm, Pusa 9. Shri Kishun Pandit
SSS, PGCA, Pusa |
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