Monthly e-Newsletter



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar-848125

Vice-Chancellor's Message

It's a matter of pride & pleasure to share that the RPCAU, Pusa has once again ranked within top ten universities by famous magazine "THE KNOWLEDGE REVIEW" as published in its September 2020 issue. This corroborate the recent India Today group survey of Top Educational Institution's All India Ranking findings where this University was ranked under top ten Universities of the country. Fragrance of success stories of the University spreading across the country and attracting students & faculties making it truly an important Agricultural Institution at National level. This happened only by the untiring efforts of university's students, faculties and staffs. We are ready to welcome fresher in the university for their holistic development and shaping their excellent career. We also welcome back the PG and Ph.D. students in the campus after a long break due to COVID-19 pandemic. It's time to sowing of Rabi crop and university is extending all possible material & knowledge support to the farmers for enhancing their profitability. At the end I wish a very *Happy and joyful Diwali and Chhath Puja* to all the faculties, staff and students.



Vice-Chancellor's Engagements:

- ➤ Chaired the valedictory function of inplant training organized by CIFT, Cochin in Virtual Mode on 01.10.2020.
- ➤ Delivered a memorial lecture on the Occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on "Gandhian Philosophy on Agriculture and Swachhata" by virtual mode on 02.10.2020.
- Addressed the Scientist & Farmers on the occasion of Rice Field Day on 03.10.2020.
- ➤ Highlighted the efforts of RPCAU for migrant labours in BIHAR VIHAN programme of DD on 04.10.2020.
- ➤ Chaired the National webinar on 'Geospatial Approaches for Agril. Water Management' on 07.10.2020.





- ➤ Attended the meeting on the proposal of RPCAU regarding diversification of activities of RPCAU outside Bihar chaired by Secretary, DARE on 07.10.2020.
- ➤ Chaired the International webinar on 'Omics in Agriculture' on 07.10.2020.
- ➤ Participated in the XXV Meeting of ICAR Regional Committee No. II through Video Conferencing on 08.10.2020.
- ➤ Delivered a lecture on 'Environment and Agriculture- Sustaining Future Forward' on the Occasion of Foundation Day of NDUAT, Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh) on 10.10.2020.
- ➤ Chaired the 9th Research Council Meeting Rabi 2020 of RPCAU at Saraswati Garden during 2.10.2020 to 15.10.2020.





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RPCAU, Pusa.

- ➤ Participated in the 251st Meeting of the Governing Body of ICAR Society through Video Conferencing on 15.10.2020.
- ➤ On 16.10.2020, participated in video conference program with Hon'ble Prime Minister to issue commemorative coin on the occasion of 75th Anniversary of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Day.
- ➤ Participated in General Body Meeting of Indian Agricultural Universities Association to discuss Score Card for Direct Recruitment & CAS through Virtual Mode during 17-18 Oct 2020.
- ➤ Chaired the International webinar on 'Nanotechnology in Agril. And Biotechnology' on 19.10.2020.
- ➤ Participated in the Brainstorming Session on "Transforming Higher Agricultural Education in India" organized by NAAS in virtual mode on 20.10.2020.
- ➤ Attended as Chief Guest in programme of 'AKRSP (I) and Farm-N-Food Agri Award' at KVK, Birauli organized by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India) on 20.10.2020.
- ➤ Participated in inaugural and valedictory session of National webinar on 'Hydro-informatics for Smart Water Management in Agriculture' on 20.10.2020.
- ➤ Chaired the KRITAGYA Zonal (East) Committee Meeting on 22.10.2020 & participated in the online launch of Agricultural Skills Empowerment Initiative with Western Sydney University on 26.10.2020.
- ➤ Delivered a Keynote address on "Micro Irrigation System for Hill Agriculture: challenges and opportunity" in a Technical Session organized by PFDC, Pantnagar Under guidance of NCPAH on 31.10.2020.
- ➤ Attended the meeting to discuss the curriculum revamping for select courses organized by Regional Lead, CALS Cornell University on 31.10.2020.

Education:

- A virtual in-plant training program was organized in collaboration with Idaho University, USA for the 4th year students of B.F.Sc. program. The event was inaugurated on October 2, 2020.
- An online training on Fish Feed Formulation was conducted for the 4th year students of B.F.Sc. degree program in collaboration with the Growel Fish Feeds Pvt. Ltd. which is one of the largest manufactures of aquaculture feeds in Asia and the only feed manufacturer in India to have an extensive R&D facility.
- ➤ Lectures were conducted from October 10 22, 2020 and covered topic related to the current status of shrimp and finfish feed industry, feed formulation, feed manufacturing process, quality control and certification and shrimp farm management.
- ➤ Mid-term exams for various undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs were conducted through webbased platforms from October 10 – 30, 2020.
- > Students of various master's and doctoral degree program defended their thesis through viva-voce held through webbased platforms.
- ➤ University Library has developed a web-based mobile digital library platform through which users of the University can access e-resources of Library directly from their mobile devices.
- ➤ The College of Agricultural Engineering (CAE), RPCAU, with National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, Department of WRDM, IIT Roorkee and Division of Agricultural Engineering, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, organized a webinar on 'Hydrodynamics for Smart Water Management in Agriculture' on October 20th, 2020.





Research:

Research Council Meet - Rabi, 2020 Organized



The 9th RCM Rabi-2020 was organized under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor from the 12th to 15th Oct. 2020. The meeting was in the open premises of the Saraswati Garden maintaining social distancing norms of COVID-19. All the



on-going research activities of the University either through different University-funded projects or externally funded projects or ICAR sponsored All India Co-ordinated Research Projects were thoroughly reviewed by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. The new research proposals were elaborately discussed. The release proposals of varieties and technologies developed or

validated by the University were also reviewed. The proceeding of the Zonal Research & Extension Advisory Committee (ZREAC) Meeting of Zone-I was presented by the Director of Research.

Incense sticks (Agarbatti) Prepared from Arhar-stem waste

The Advanced Research Centre on Wealth from Waste made an attempt to prepare *agarvatti* (incense-sticks) from the residual parts of the Arhar (*Cajanus cajan* L.) plant. On the eve of the 9th RCM Rabi – 2020 the *agarvatti* was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. The efforts of the centre being made with respect to various crop residue utilization was highly appreciated.



Installation of Cages and Floating jetty



The University has installed a cage culture facility with the floating jetty boats under the NFDB sponsored project. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor inaugurated the facility. Deans, Directors and other key official of the University were present in the



Under #NFDB funded project, RPCAU, College of Fisheries, Dholi, #Bihar, has installed cages along with floating jetty in Birauli Oxbow lake, Samastipur district and released juveniles of #rohu fish



program.

Field-day on Rice Organized



Two separate field days were organized by the ICAR-AICRP on Rice and the RKVY project on Hybrid Rice Seed Production respectively on the 3rd and 27th Oct. 2020. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and all the Deans and Directors along with the associated



scientists of the projects were present on this occasion.

Extension:

Workshop-cum-Training on CRA Project Conducted

One day workshop-cum-training programme was organized in the Centre for Advance Studies on Climate Change (CASCC) on 28-10-2020 under "Climate Resilient Agriculture Project" in which three scientists and heads of 17 KVKs of Dr. RPCAU, Pusa participated. The programme was chaired by Dr. R. C. Srivastava, Honorable Vice Chancellor and co-chaired by Dr. M. S. Kundu, Director Extension Education and Dr. N. K. Singh, Associate Director Research. The chief dignitaries and resource persons were Dr. A.K. Singh, Director SRI, Dr. R.K. Jaat, Scientist In charge, BISA, Dr. Vijay Kumar Meena, Project Coordinator, C.R.A.



programme and Dr. R.K.Jha, Project Director, Centre for Advance Studies on Climate Change. All the technical queries related to climate resilient agriculture, Custom Hiring Centre (CHC), Potato seed production, Community irrigation and enhancing the productivity of Rice-Wheat Cropping system were discussed.

Krishak Salahkaar Training imparted by KVKs on Biodiversity

A training programme was organized on Biodiversity survey in all the KVKs of Dr. RPCAU, Pusa for Krishak Salahkaars of Govt. of Bihar during 7-17, October, 2020. The programme was sponsored by Bihar State Biodiversity Board for generating a database on plant and animal biodiversity for the state of Bihar.

KVK empowerment with vehicles

➤ Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor handed over number of vehicles *viz*. 4 Boleros, 10 Bikes and 10 Scooties to different KVKs of Narkatiyaganj, Lada, Parsauni, Sukhet and Muraul for empowerment of extension staff and their extension activities.



Field day was organized on Hybrid Rice

A field day was organized on hybrid rice seed production at TCA,

Dholi on 27-10-2020 under the gracious presence of Dr. R.C Srivastava Hon'ble Vice-chancellor Dr. RPCAU, Pusa under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY). All the scientists present in the field day appreciated the performance of the hybrid rice variety to be released by the university. This will surely bring yield revolution in the rice production.

Diagnostic team visited Rice Field

A team of scientist consisting of Dr. Md. Abbas Ahmad, Assistant Professor, Entomology, Dr Rajesh Ranjan, Assistant Professor, Rice pathology headed by Dr. R K Jha, Project Director, Centre for Advance Studies on Climate Change visited different plots of rice field damaged by insect pest and diseases due to sudden changes in weather factors. Heavy infestations of bacterial leaf blight, yellow stem borer, and false smut in rice field was observed. Scientists are now trying to correlate the outbreak of these pest and diseases with varieties and climatic conditions.



Awards, Sports and Other activities:

All staff of RPCAU, Pusa and its constituents colleges observed Vigilance Awareness Week during October 27 – November 02 and took oath on October 29, 2020 to refrain from corrupt practices and remain vigilant about the incidences of malpractices.







National Unity Day (*Rashtriya Ekta Diwas*) was celebrated on October 31, 2020 in all units of the RPCAU, Pusa to mark the 145th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. All the staff members and 125 NSS volunteers of the University took a pledge to protect the unity and integrity of our great nation.



- ➤ A three-day virtual training program, on 'Utilization and Benefits of Farm Machineries in Vegetable Cultivation' was organized during October 15 17, 2020 by CAE-RPCAU for the benefit of farmers. The event was attended by 33 vegetable growers from Begusarai district of Bihar.
- ➤ The CAU-RPCAU bid farewell to its students of 2016 batch of B.Tech (Agril. Engg.) on October 31, 2020 through web-based platforms.
- An award ceremony was organized by Agakhan Rural Support (India) Programme and Delhi Press "Farm N Food" on 20 October, 2020 in which head KVK Birauli along with two Scientists and several innovative farmers were awarded. The programme was chaired by Dr. R.C. Srivastava, Hon'ble Vice chancellor, Dr.RPCAU, Pusa. Dr. M.S.Kundu, Director Extension Education, was special guest on the occasion.



