



Striving for a greener tomorrow...

PJTSAU

NEWS



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From the VC's Desk



India, which is an agricultural powerhouse, is also progressing towards a digital economy providing ample scope for harnessing Internet of Things (IoT) for automating the farming sector. IoT finds its applications in several areas in agriculture like precision farming, live stock management, smart green houses, warehouses and farm management systems. IoT based solutions can help in efficient use of water, timely and effective pest management, identification, farm machinery, resource optimization, cost reduction, intelligent monitoring and

control of environment in the green houses, monitor quality degradation in warehouses and transit and tracking of livestock, wellbeing and health of cattle etc. Climatic change and ground water depletion demands enhanced water use efficiency which is possible by promoting UAV based remote sensing data utilization for estimation of crop water use and use of sensors for optimal use of irrigation water in agriculture. The agricultural research fraternity across the country has to seize the opportunity that remote sensing, data analytics, new communications and sensor platforms offer in delivering an efficient, profitable and sustainable production system and actively collaborate with technology providers and industry to keep pace with the trending advances in the farming world. This technology has proven successful in developed countries but is still in budding stage with enormous scope for expansion in developing countries. NASSCOM has listed 40 IoT startups in India, focusing on smart agriculture covering smart irrigation, agri-drones, robotic harvesting, produce monitoring and agri-sensors. As of date, expensive sensors, variable farm holdings, lack of knowledge and fear of upgrading to an unknown technology are some of the challenges in implementation of the technology in our country. The need of the hour is to develop scalable and cost effective sensors, ubiquitous connectivity, develop IoT devices optimizing power consumption built on power efficient sensors and processors to reduce the maintenance cost, deliver solutions in local language easily understandable by laymen and raising awareness in farmers on the worth of the technology would help in implementing IoT in agriculture pan India for the enhanced prosperity of the farmers. The mobile networks, smart phones and internet have already penetrated into the rural sector which provides an enabling environment for the spread of IoT driven precision agriculture in the country. With the objective of creating awareness about smart farming aided by IoT, PJTSAU, CII and Cornell University jointly organized AGRIVISION 2019, for students, progressive young farmers and industry partners on 17th and 18th January 2019 at Hyderabad which reinforced the need for stronger linkages among the stakeholders for reaping the benefits of the technology.


Dr. V. Praveen Rao
Vice Chancellor

New Initiatives

Agri Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU - Helps the farmer to bargain for a Better Price

PJTSAU with a vision to ensure profitability and market access to the farming community in the State established the Agri Market Intelligence Centre at Department of Agricultural Economics, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in the presence of University officers on 20th February, 2019. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, in his address emphasized on the marketing research strategies for timely dissemination of information on current and future prices of agricultural commodities to the farmers so as to realize better price for their produce. He further stressed on the need for economists to study the government schemes like Rythubandhu, Mission Kakatiya etc. to identify the problems associated and thereby the measures to be taken for effective implementation of the schemes. The main aim of the centre is to help farmers in realizing higher net price for their produce, to provide



Dr. V. Praveen Rao inaugurating the Agri Market Intelligence Centre

improved regional linkages in the generation, dissemination and sharing of market information for better decision making and to provide improved access and use of market intelligence with better production and marketing strategies to all stakeholders in the marketing chain.

Serving Better- University Health centre steps into a New Building with Enhanced Facilities



Inauguration of PJTSAU Health centre by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

The newly constructed building of University Health Centre was inaugurated on 20th February, 2019 at Rajendranagar campus to provide better health facilities to the students and staff in the campus. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor after inspecting the facilities at health centre reiterated the need to maintain all emergency facilities at the centre to provide timely services. The 10 bed facility is equipped with a dispensary, pharmacy unit, separate male and female wards, isolation room, dressing room etc. and was built with an expenditure of Rs 1.1 crore.

Soil Conservation Society of India – Hyderabad Chapter Takes Shape

The Hyderabad Chapter of Soil Conservation Society of India (SCSI) was launched on 25th March, 2019 by Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. Speaking on the occasion he advised the Society's executive committee to organise workshops and seminars for the benefit of faculty and students for professional development. He exhorted them to continuously organise programs on advanced technologies in their fields and added that they should provide guidance on career opportunities to students and learning opportunities to faculty. Dr. Ravindra Chary, Director i/c, CRIDA, and chairman of Hyderabad Chapter of SCSI, Dr. K. Srinivasa Reddy, Vice Chairman, Dr. K. Sadasiva Rao, General Secretary and Dean of Agricultural



Dr. V. Praveen Rao addressing the participants at SCSI- Hyderabad Chapter

Engineering & Technology, Staff and students from Department of Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy and

Soil Science and University Officers were also present at the launching ceremony.

Soil Scientists do their Bit - Soil Fertility Maps to Aid in Judicious Use of Fertilizers in Telangana

PJTSAU marched ahead in its endeavour to make agriculture profitable in the State by developing soil fertility maps and reports for various districts in the Telangana State. Seventeen district maps prepared by the Soil Scientists of AICRP on Micronutrients and AICRP on STCR with the cooperation of other soil scientists of the university were released by Sri S.K. Joshi, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Telangana on 29th March, 2019 at State Secretariat in the presence of Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar, Director of Research, Dr. P. Surendra Babu, Principal Scientist and other scientific faculty involved in the preparation of the reports. The report was prepared after analysing around 7000 soil



Sri S.K. Joshi, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Telangana releasing Soil fertility maps

samples collected from different parts of the State. The maps will help in figuring the kinds of soil and their status and also guide the State Government in factoring and distributing the quantum of fertilizers to the farmers.



Sri S.K. Joshi, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Telangana releasing Food consumption pattern in Telangana State

The detailed report on district wise food consumption pattern in Telangana State was also released on the occasion. The report was prepared by School of Agribusiness Management, PJTSAU in collaboration with National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM) by surveying 6200 households across all 33 districts of Telangana State covering both rural as well as urban households. The district wise data collection was accomplished by using GPS enabled tablet based survey system.

Workshops, Conferences, Meetings, Seminars, Exhibitions

Strategic Meeting on Crop Colonies – Materializing the Vision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister

A high level review meeting on the proposed crop colonies was held under the chairmanship of Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU at the Administrative office on 10th January, 2019. Dr. S.K. Singh, Director, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSSLUP), Nagpur applauded Chief Minister's initiative to establish crop colonies in the State as it will help in development of agriculture and welfare of farmers, hence has vast scope for replication across the country. It was decided in the meeting to prepare mandal wise maps based on land pattern, weather condition & availability of water resources and crop wise maps on the basis of



Interactive session for developing Mandal level crop colonies

cropping pattern, production and productivity. It was further decided to prepare road maps on feasibility of establishment of food processing industries after finalizing the maps of crop colonies. Dr. Rao informed that technical guidance will be sought from Dr. Ch. Vasudevappa, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of National Institute of Food Technologies Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) and other Scientists of the institute. He further

said that a two day workshop will be organized to discuss the joint report prepared by NBSSLUP and PJTSAU before submitting the final report to the Govt. of Telangana. Sri Vijaykumar, Additional Director, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Telangana, Dr. D. Raji Reddy, Director of Extension and Dr. R. Jagadeshwar, Director of Research attended the meeting.

AGRIVISION 2019 - Envisioning Agro Solutions for Smart and Sustainable Agriculture

Agrivision 2019, a conference on envisioning Agro solutions for Smart and Sustainable Agriculture was organized jointly by CII, PJTSAU and Cornell University, USA on 17th and 18th January, 2019 at ITC Kohenur, Hyderabad with a vision for overall growth and development of agri sector by promoting innovations, developing infrastructure facilities and logistics, creating robust agri value chain and enumerating policy recommendations for state and central government. Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu, the Hon'ble Vice President, Govt. of India in his inaugural address emphasized the need to empower the agri sector as it provides livelihood to more than 50% of the work force in our country. He urged the scientific community to come up with solutions for multidimensional problems faced by the

agri sector and further emphasized the need for the Government, Scientists, Extension personnel and farmers to work together to reach the goal of Doubling Farmers Income by 2022. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Director General, ICAR chaired a session on "Post-harvest management and value addition of foods: Role of Farmer Producer's Organisations (FPOs) in improving Market Access" and in his address focused on issues reducing post harvest losses in perishable foods and grains and government policies for promoting value addition of food crops. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU chaired a session entitled "Technology in Agri Entrepreneurship: Success stories and Experiences" from the progressive farmers in which progressive farmers shared their experiences and success.



Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu, the Hon'ble Vice President, GOI addressing the diverse audience



Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor moderating the panel discussion at Agri Vision 2019

DDG (Education) Inaugurates National Level Capacity Building Workshop for Librarians of SAU's

Dr. Narendra Singh Rathore, Hon'ble Deputy Director General (Education), ICAR, New Delhi and the Chief Guest in his inaugural address on 5th February, 2019 reiterated the need to use latest technologies in library management to provide round the clock services and informed that technologies like digital and artificial intelligence should metamorphose the library to the Centre of Knowledge from store house of books. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice

Chancellor, PJTSAU opined that Libraries should be transformed as Centres of knowledge hence announced the change in the name of University Library as " Knowledge Management Centre". He further informed that check in and check out process in the library would be automated and a room with 25 laptops with access to digital services will be installed for enhancing student usage hours. Dr. K. Veeranajenyulu, University Librarian & PI of the

NAHEP Project briefed about the project objectives and informed that this workshop is third of its kind after Tirupati and Assam. Thirty Library Professionals working in SAUs and ICAR-Deemed Universities participated in the

National Level capacity Building workshop organized from 5th to 9th February, 2019 of ICAR-NAHEP at University Library, Rajendranagar.



Dr. Narendra Singh Rathore and Dr. V. Praveen Rao with participants at the workshop

Students as Effective Communicators for Farm Technology - *Chenukaburlu* the Momentum Continues

A One Day Workshop on Student Radio Program *Chenukaburlu* was inaugurated by Dr. S. Sudheer Kumar, Registrar, PJTSAU at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar on 16th February, 2019 with a vision to boost the communication skills of the students for effective delivery of radio programmes. In his address he encouraged the faculty and students to actively disseminate the advanced technologies like farm mechanization, high yielding varieties, weather based information etc. to farmers in vernacular language. Dr. A. Manohar Rao, Member, Board of Management, PJTSAU opined that *chenukaburlu* programme should transmit real time climate based agri information relevant to farmers. Dr. J. Sathyanarayana, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture informed that the programme was started in the year 2015 and has broadcasted around 200 episodes till date. Sri P. Sudhakar



Dr. S. Sudheer Kumar, Registrar interacting with students at *Chenukaburlu* workshop

Reddy, AIR, Dr. R. Sudhakar Reddy, Coordinator, Electronic Wing, Dr. M. Srinivasulu, Smt. T. Prasannalaxmi, AIR, staff and students of College of Agriculture participated in the Workshop.

International Experts Share their Experiences with PJTSAU Faculty and PG Students

Reputation of any institute depends on the knowledge levels of its faculty and students, hence to improve the knowledge base of both the faculty and students, the College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar has organized a series of lectures and talks on a wide range of topics inviting speakers from home and abroad, with the intent of giving a new perspective and outlook among the students and faculty.

- A lecture on “Knowledge equipped data driven technology” was delivered by Sri Konduri Siva Kumar, Director, Microsoft, USA on 19th January, 2019 at the University Auditorium, PJTSAU. The faculty and

students of College of Agriculture participated in the programme.

- Dr. Ananthanarayanan Raman, Professor, Ecological Agriculture and Sustainable Land Management, Charles Sturt University & EH Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation, Australia delivered a lecture on “Exquisite Galls and Clever Insects” on 12th March, 2019. In his talk he spoke in detail about the gall forming insects, their infection strategies, and their metabolic interactions with the plant at both microscopic and molecular levels. The talk opened up a new perspective of looking at the galls and the gall

forming insects with a potential to scientifically explore the gall forming insects pertaining to Telangana in detail.

- Dr. Bruce Tabashnik, Dept. Head and Professor, Entomology, University of Arizona, USA delivered a lecture on “Insect resistance management strategies for Bt Crops in India” on 12th March, 2019. Dr. Tabashnik spoke in detail about the evolutionary principles and knowledge on Bt resistance, global patterns of resistance to Bt cotton in USA and China, and further focused on how those experiences could be applied to the Indian Scenario. Dr. Tabashnik proposed that the farmers should now adopt an IPM strategy similar to that followed in non-Bt cotton including adoption of shorter cotton season, destruction of crop residues, deep summer ploughing, crop rotation, mating disruption and spraying insecticides based on insect threshold.
- Dr. Elmar Weismann, Plant Breeder, Germany delivered a lecture on “Mechanization of field maintenance breeding – experiences in Germany and Seed



Dr. Bruce Tabashnik speaks on Insect resistance management strategies for Bt Crops in India

processing of soybean, peas and other legumes including seed treatment” on 14th March, 2019. Dr. Weismann focused on how mechanization improved the efficiency of maintenance breeding in Germany followed by various seed processing methods and treatments followed in legumes. Students and faculty from the disciplines of Genetics and Plant Breeding and Seed Technology, PJTSAU participated in the lecture.



Dr. Ananthanarayanan Raman delivering lecture on Exquisite Galls and Clever Insects



Dr. Elmar Weismann presenting lecture on Maintenance breeding and Seed processing in Germany

Drawing from the Wisdom of Old Guard- Dr. Puri's Advice on Formulation of Ideal Research Programmes

Dr. S. N Puri, Former Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal shared his valuable counsel and experience with the faculty of Plant Protection and P.G students of Entomology and Plant Pathology during 20th to 25th March, 2019 on changing pest scenario in the major crops of the country, scenario of crop protection chemicals and agrochemicals and their status in India, Invasive alien species with special reference to the issues like precise identification of the pest, Bio-Security and implementation of quarantine regulations and role of international cooperation in the management of invasive alien species.

Dr. S. N. Puri also interacted with M.Sc. (Ag) and Ph.D students of Entomology on 23rd March, 2019 duly paying attention to each and every student's thesis topic and making his valuable suggestions to improve the quality and



Dr. S. N. Puri addressing the faculty and students of plant protection

practical applicability of the outcome of the PG research. The newly recruited young teachers and scientists of PJTSAU from different constituent colleges and research

stations also had an opportunity to gain from his counsel in the Virtual Classroom of College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar. He gave directions to the young faculty to formulate better teaching, research and extension programmes and thereby contributing in the field of Entomology in all possible ways. Subsequently the participants had fruitful interactions with Dr. Puri. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor felicitated Dr. S. N. Puri and advised the faculty to scrupulously follow the suggestions made by Dr. S. N. Puri and bring laurels to the University in the field of Plant Protection.



The Hon'ble Vice chancellor felicitating Dr. S. N. Puri

Faculty and Student Participation (in Seminars/Conferences/ Workshops)

- Dr. C. Sudhakar, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), AICRP on Safflower, Agricultural Research Station, Tandur participated in the 5th Annual Congress on Plant & Soil science, held at London, United Kingdom from 28th February to 1st March, 2019 organized by Euro Sci Con Ltd, London, United Kingdom in association with Journal of Plant Physiology & Pathology, Journal of Soil Science and Plant Health & Plant Science. He delivered an oral presentation on “Optimization of Agronomic Combinations to Mitigate Drought Impact on Safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius* L.) Productivity under Receding Soil Moisture Conditions” and was also given an opportunity to moderate the Technical Session III (Theme: Plant Sciences and Soil-Plant Nutrition). Dr. C. Sudhakar was conferred with an Award in recognition of quality and novelty of research paper.



Dr. C. Sudhakar with delegates at 5th Annual Congress on Plant & Soil science

- Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar, Director of Research and Dr. M.V. Nagesh Kumar, Director (Seeds), SRTC participated in National Convention on “Revitalising Rainfed Agriculture – Restructuring Policy and Public Investments to Address Agrarian Crisis” jointly organized by National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) and RRA Network (RRAN) on 14th & 15th February, 2019 at the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi. Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar delivered a lecture on “Evolving an appropriate Seed System for Climate Resilient Agriculture and to Stimulate Growth in Rainfed Areas” at the convention.
- Dr. K. P. Vani, Professor, Department of Agronomy and Dr. S. Triveni, Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology participated in a workshop on “National Convention on Integrated Agriculture – Prosperous Bharat” on 28th and 29th January, 2019 at NASC, Pusa, New Delhi.
- Dr. S.A. Hussain, Professor, College Farm attended a workshop on SWIFT (Sustainable Waste Water Initiative for Tomorrow) at IIT, Kandi, Sangareddy, Hyderabad on 2nd February, 2019
- Dr. A. Madhavi Latha, Professor, Department of Agronomy participated in the regional workshop on “Strengthening buyer-seller linkages for profitable cultivation on medicinal plants in Telangana” on 5th February, 2019 at the School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Gachibowli, Hyderabad.
- Dr. A. Manohar Rao and Dr. B. Neeraja Prabhakar, Professors form College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar attended the National Collaboration Building Conference of NHB – ICAR, Horticulture Institutions / SAU/SHU/CAU and Horticulture Training Institutes held at NASC, Pusa, New Delhi on 5th and 6th February, 2019.
- Smt. K. Aruna, Asst. Professor, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar attended a 3-day training programme on Social Media Concepts for e-Governance from 25th to 27th February, 2019 at MCRHRD Institute of Telangana.
- Dr. Seema, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar participated in the inauguration of IoT Technician (Smart Agriculture) at National Skill Training Institute for Women, Vidyanagar, Hyderabad on 11th March, 2019 and delivered a talk on the importance of smart agriculture in current changing

climate scenario, focusing on the active involvement of women farmers.

- Dr. G. Uma Devi, Senior Prof. & Head and Dr. S. Ameer Basha, Associate Professor along with eight P.G., Ph.D. students from the Department of Plant Pathology and faculty attended workshop on “Taxonomy, Biodiversity, Ex-situ Conservation and Applications of Fungi” at Agharkar Research Institute, Pune from 25th to 27th March, 2019. The participants received hands on training on various molecular biological methods such as genomic DNA extraction from fungi, PCR and fungal

techniques including isolation, long term preservation and maintenance. The workshop also dealt with the topics viz basics and applications of DNA barcoding, molecular markers, and next generation sequencing, construction of phylogenetic trees (UPGMA, NJ, MP, ML, Bayesian analysis).

- Ninety scientists from teaching, research and extension participated in Faculty Development Program on “People Centric Development” organized jointly by TISS & PJTSAU on 28th & 29th January, 1st, 2nd, 8th and 9th February 2019 at Rajendranagar, Jagtial and Palem respectively.

Collaborations

PJTSAU Signs MoU with Patanjali Bio-Research Institute Pvt. Ltd.

PJTSAU and Patanjali Bio-Research Institute Pvt. Ltd., Haridwar would work together in the field of research and skill development in agriculture. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed to this effect between Dr. S. Sudheer Kumar, Registrar, PJTSAU and Dr. V. Ravindra Babu, Director (Crops), Patanjali Bio Research Institute Pvt. Ltd in the presence of Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor on 5th January, 2019 for collaborating in academic programmes, research partnerships and for supporting R&D through innovation, entrepreneurship and training in various fields of common interest.



PJTSAU inks MoU with Patanjali Bio-Research Institute Private Limited

MoU between G-CoT and PJTSAU- Fulfilling Social Responsibility

PJTSAU entered into Memorandum of Understanding with Gramodaya Chamber of Commerce and Technology (G-CoT) on 8th February, 2019. The MoU was signed by Dr. S. Sudheer Kumar, Registrar, PJTSAU and Sri D. Vasantha Kumar, Managing Director, G-CoT in the presence of Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. As part of the MoU both institutions would work to the results of Science and Technology to society and extension of services to the farmers and self help groups of G-CoT working villages. On this occasion Sri M. Shyam Prasad Reddy, General Secretary, Telangana Retired Engineers Association (TREA) delivered a lecture on “Re-Engineering Irrigation Projects in Telangana” at Water Technology Center (WTC), PJTSAU, Hyderabad wherein he stressed that benefits of reengineering projects can be reaped by the farmers of the state through efficient management of water and distribution of water through piped network instead of open canal system. He urged the scientists to sensitize the



Sri D. Vasantha Kumar, Managing Director, G-CoT signs MoU with PJTSAU

farmers under lift irrigation projects on efficient utilization of water. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor while addressing the gathering stated that scientists role is crucial in educating the farmers on aspects of crop planning, water requirement for crops, water management and suitable crops to be raised in their fields.

Fillip to Rice Research in the University- IRRI and PJTSAU to work together

PJTSAU and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Phillipines would collaborate with each other for

development of Rice varieties resistant to drought, salinity, pest and diseases and with low glycemic index. A

Memorandum of Understanding with IRRI in this regard was signed on 23rd March, 2019 in the presence of Dr. Matthew Morell, Director General, IRRI, Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and other University Officers. Besides collaborative research work, the MoU paved the way for capacity building programmes on advanced breeding techniques to the faculty of PJTSAU by IRRI and student exchange programmes.



Dr. Matthew Morell, Director General, IRRI exchanges MoU with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor PJTSAU

Capacity Building

AEOs trained on production technologies of oil seed crops

With a motto to increase area, production and productivity of oilseeds crops in Telangana AICRP-IFS, On Farm Research centre, Medak with the support of ICAR-IIFSR Modipuram, Meerut conducted two days training programme to AEOs of Medak on production technologies of oil seed crops and cropping sequence under integrated farming on 15th and 16th March, 2019 at Dr. D. Rama Naidu Vignana Jyothi Institute of Rural Development, Tuniki, Medak district. Scientists of AICRP on IFS and KVK, Tuniki imparted their technical expertise to AEOs on advances in oil seed production technologies, pest and disease management, scope of oil seeds under farming system perspective for lucrative farming, soil and nutrient management in oil seed crops and cropping sequences and benefit cost analysis of oil



Scientists from AICRP on IFS showcasing IFS unit at Medak seed crops. The programme was followed by field visit to IFS Farmer's field at Kuchanpally village, Medak.

Technologies to the Doorstep of Farmers- Kisan Melas as Vehicles

The Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Sri G. Nagesh inaugurated *Kisan Mela* in the presence of Dr. R. Uma Reddy, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Jagtial on 7th February, 2019 at KVK, Adilabad. During the *Kisan Mela*, information about quality seed, good agriculture practices, use of chemical fertilizers & soil health and use of organic manures was provided and technologies which can increase the farmers income were displayed. More than 550 enthusiastic farmers participated in the programme.

Twelve scientists from PJTSAU participated in the *Kisan Mela* organized by the Department of Agriculture in association with ATMA, Siddipet district at Agriculture Market Committee (AMC), Siddipet on 23rd February, 2019. The *Kisan Mela* was inaugurated by Sri K. Prabhakar Reddy, the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Medak, Telangana state. Scientists from PJTSAU arranged an exhibition stall where in seeds of improved varieties/hybrids of Paddy, Maize, Castor, Jowar, Bajra, Redgram, Cowpea and Soybean,



Kisan Mela at AMC, Siddipet

a model on farm pond technology and machinery for control of wild boar/monkeys/birds and several posters on latest technologies were displayed. During farmers scientists interaction, scientists from various research schemes interacted with farmers on issues affecting production and productivity of crops in their region.

KVK, Rudrur organized *Kisan Mela* on 12th March, 2019 in association with Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) which was inaugurated by Sri K. Sai Reddy, Member, ICAR, Govt. of India. The Scientists of KVK and RS&RRS, Rudrur interacted with farmers and explained about Rice Varieties, Pest management, Soil health management and on importance of integrated farming. Sri K. Sai Reddy and Sri Chinni Krishnudu, Organic Farmers from Jakranpally Mandal shared their experiences in organic farming and encouraged others to take up organic farming for the benefit of soil and human health. Around 450 farmers, Scientists and students of RS&RRS, KVK, Polytechnic, Rudrur, Department officials participated in the Kisan Mela.



Kisan Mela at KVK, Rudrur

Sunflower - a Lucrative Crop - Training to Siddipet Farmers

In view of the considerable area under *rabi* sunflower in Siddipet district, two training programmes were organized by Scientists of ARS, Tornala, on 4th and 5th January, 2019 at Ibrahimipur and Irkode villages, Siddipet rural mandal, Siddipet district respectively. The programme emphasized on the need for selection of good quality seed, best management practices in *rabi* sunflower for achieving higher yields with emphasis on seed treatment, drip irrigation, borax spray, *in situ* incorporation of stubbles after harvesting of flower heads, allelopathy & its' management and control of sucking pests and necrosis. Dr. A.V. Ramanjaneyulu, Sr. Scientist (Agro) & Head, along with scientists of ARS, Tornala and officials from Department of Agriculture participated in the programme.

As a follow up to the training programme a field day was organised at Irkode village, Siddipet rural mandal, Siddipet district on 7th March, 2019. As part of field day farmers were shown *rabi* sunflower demonstration plot at Irkode village and later explained on cultivation aspects, pest management and suitable varieties in sunflower. A method demonstration on tractor operated cotton shredder



Scientists from ARS, Tornala interacting with farmers at field day

was also organized in the cotton field of Mr. Dubbaiah, a farmer from Irkode in association with Shaktiman company and the benefits were explained which includes effective control of residual Pink boll worm and mealy bugs, enrichment of the soil and prevention of environmental pollution caused due to burning of stubbles. The farmers and officials opined that the machine needs to be redesigned to cover 3-4 rows at a time instead of single row. Mr. M. Ravinder Reddy, SUDA Chairman, Siddipet and Guest of Honour applauded the scientists for organizing a field day and extended his support for organizing more such productive demos in future.

Distinguished Visitors

Keeping Track of PBW in Telangana- Directorate of Cotton Development monitors Pink Boll Worm management at Adilabad

Dr. R. P. Singh, Director, Directorate of Cotton Development (DCD), Nagpur and Dr. Vishlesh Nagarare, Principal Scientist (Entomology), Central Institute for

Cotton Research (ICAR-CICR), Nagpur visited Agricultural Research Station (ARS), Adilabad on 9th January, 2019 and monitored and evaluated Insecticide Resistance

Management (IRM) project entitled “Dissemination of pink boll worm management strategies 2018-19”. As part of the programme, farmer scientist interaction meeting was organised at the project implementing villages i.e Ponnari (Village), Tamsi (Mandal) and Pochera (Village), Adilabad (Mandal). During this interaction meeting, farmers have given feedback on activities taken up by ARS, Adilabad in co-ordination with Extension institutes and Department of Agriculture, Adilabad i.e input supply, training programme, diagnostic field visits, awareness programmes through print & electronic media. Dr. R. P. Singh and Dr. Vishlesh Nagarare suggested the farmers to follow the IPM practices like growing of refugia crop, erection of pheromone traps, spray application of neem oil, need based chemical application and termination of the crops before December month. At the end, the officers in monitoring team appreciated the efforts put forth by the team from ARS,



Dr. R. P. Singh interacting with farmers under IRM project

Adilabad for successful implementation of the project to control the pink boll worm in Adilabad district. Dr. Sreedhar Chauhan, Senior Scientist (Agronomy) & Head; scientists from ARS, Adilabad and staff of IRM project and farmers selected under IRM project participated in the programme.

NABARD to Collaborate with Varsity

A delegation of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Telangana division led by Sri Vijay Kumar, Chief General Manager (CGM) visited the University on 19th February, 2019 with a vision to have formal collaboration with PJTSAU in the areas of research and capacity building. Sri Vijay Kumar explained the



University officials interacting with NABARD team

activities of NABARD and looked forward to research collaborations in the areas of climate proofing, efficient cropping patterns and IFS model with the university. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor assured that the University would be happy to involve the NABARD in the areas of collaborative research, impact assessment studies and technical backstopping to the staff and farmers of Telangana. He also informed that a new course on “Agricultural Entrepreneurship and Management” was being developed in which he saw an important role for NABARD. The team of delegates visited Millet Incubation Centre, Precision Farming Development Centre, Natural Colour unit, Water Technology Centre, Integrated Farming Systems, Seed Research & Technology Centre, Quality Control Lab, Pesticide Residues Lab, Rice Research Centre, Maize Research Centre and Electronic Wing. Finally both the institutes agreed to ink a Memorandum of Understanding for joint research programmes.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation- Reviews Seed Production in Telangana

A delegation from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation led by Lauren Good, Senior Programme Officer, BMGF visited PJTSAU on 6th March, 2019 and interacted with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University officials and Scientists from Rice Research centre on rice seed production in the state. Addressing the delegates Dr. V. Praveen Rao explained about the climatic conditions of the state, newly released rice varieties and seed production of Rice in Telangana. He further informed that production of rice has increased tremendously, the duration of the crop has come down to 125 days from 150 days and the state has best environment for seed production and storage.



University Officials interacting with delegates from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on Rice seed production

Earnest Efforts of PJTSAU Brings Success in Control of Fall Army Worm (FAW)

An invasive pest *Spodoptera frugiperda* (FAW) caused havoc in Telangana State by infesting maize crop during *Kharif*, 2018 and also appeared in *Rabi* maize and was reported to cause upto 30% leaf damage on early sown crop. Soon after observing the incidence of fall army worm in the state existing control measures recommended by the CIMMYT and FAO for African countries (2016) was validated on pilot basis at Maize Research Centre and communicated to all the extension officers working in KVK's, DAATTC's and Dept. of Agriculture to advise the farmers for management of fall army worm (*Kattera purugu*) during *Kharif* and *Rabi* seasons which yielded good results.

Dr. Suresh Kumar Malhotra, Agril. Commissioner, Govt. of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, New Delhi, Dr. N. Satyanarayana, Joint Director (IPM), DPPQ'S, Faridabad, New Delhi along with Dr. M. Lava Kumar Reddy, Principal Scientist (Ent) & Smt. R. Suneetha, Plant Protection Officer (E), Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Hyderabad visited Devanoor Village, Dharmasagar Mandal, Warangal urban dist on 11th March, 2019 and interacted with maize farmers, DAATT Centre scientists and Dept. of Agriculture, Warangal. Dr. Malhotra appreciated the



Dr. Malhotra interacting with officials during field visit

initiative taken by the Govt. of Telangana through Professor Jayashakar Telangana State Agricultural University and Dept. of Agriculture in management of the fall army worm in the state. Farmers in their interaction with Dr. Malhotra informed that, the control measures advised by the University scientists viz., installation of pheromone traps (for early detection of pest), followed by whorl application of Emamectin benzoate @ 0.4g/ Spinetoram @ 0.5 ml/ Chlorantranliprole @ 0.3 ml, sand + lime (9:1) and or poison bait with thiodicarb (100g/ac) effectively managed the Fall army worm as a result of which they could reap good harvest.

Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (CS), ICAR visits Maize Research centre

Dr. A.K. Singh, Deputy Director General (CS), ICAR New Delhi, Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar, Director of Research, PJTSAU and Dr. S.J. Rahman, Principal Scientist & University Head (Ent.) visited Winter Nursery Centre and Maize Research Centre, ARI, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad on 12th March, 2019 and visited the ongoing research programmes and research work on fall army worm particularly on management of fall army worm i.e., evaluation of various modules formulated with new insecticide molecules and Bio-Pesticides (including insecticide molecules recommended by DAC. Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (CS), expressed his satisfaction with the ongoing work on fall army worm at WNC, and MRC, Hyderabad.

During interaction with scientists of MRC and Winter Nursery, Dr. A.K. Singh was convinced with the practice of seed treatment which saves the maize crop from the



Dr. A. K. Singh, DDG (CS) at research plots of Maize Research Centre

invasive pest FAW along with the other pests under rainfed situation upto 20 days. He also suggested to lay the sensor based drip irrigation system in experimental blocks to avoid flood irrigation which saves lot of water.

High Level Business Delegation from Germany Appreciates PJTSAU

Mr. Michael Stubgen, Parliamentary State Secretary (Ministry of State), German Federal Ministry Food and Agriculture (BMEL) along with a high level delegation visited PJTSAU on 26th March, 2019 and interacted with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and all the University Officers at

University Auditorium, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad with regard to ongoing collaboration and future prospects. Mr. Michael applauded the progress of Indo German seed collaborative project and informed that he was impressed with schemes of Govt. of Telangana. The German team

appreciated the efforts of the university in the field of Research, Extension and Education. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor said concerted effort was put since past five years to increase the productivity of crops with available limited

resources in the state. In this connection, an exhibition on PJTSAU technologies was organized and a booklet of "Indo-German collaboration on Seed Sector Development – PJTSAU Activities" was released at the meeting.



Mr. Michael Stubgen and his team with PJTSAU officials and scientists

Awards & Honours

- Honorary Fellow Award for 2018 was conferred to Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU at 53rd Annual Convention of Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers (ISAE) and International Symposium on Engineering Technologies for Precision and Climate Smart Agriculture on 28th January, 2019 at Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- Life Time Achievement Award 2018 was conferred to Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor at 25th National Conference on 'Farmers' Friendly Soil and Water Conservation Technologies for Mitigating Climate Change Impact by Soil Conservation Society of India on 2nd February, 2019 at Hotel Gem Park, Udhamandalam, Tamil Nadu.
- Best Vice Chancellor Award for 2018 was conferred to Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor by All India Agricultural Students Association and Indian Agricultural Universities Association, New Delhi on 16th February, 2019 at Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyala, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
- Dr. P. Neelima, Assistant Professor (Horticulture), Agricultural College, Aswaraopet was conferred ICAR-ISOH (Indian Society of Ornamental Horticulture) "Best Dissertation Award for Ph.D. thesis" at the conference on "Upliftment of Rural Economy through Floriculture" held at Udaipur, Rajasthan from 11th to 13th January, 2019.
- Dr. K.N. Yamini, Senior Scientist, Institute of Biotechnology, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad was presented Young Scientist Award for her outstanding research in plant science at Indian Plant Science Congress (IPSC) held during 23rd to 25th January, 2019 at SRMIST, Kattankulathur, Tamil Nadu.
- Dr. B. Vidyasagar, Professor, Dept. of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar received Ambedkar Seva Puraskar from Jai Bheem Media Foundation on 19th March, 2019 in recognition of his services in the category of education.
- On the occasion of Republic day Ms. B. Laxmi Prasanna, Scientist (Plant Breeding), RARS, Polasa, Jagtial, received "Best Scientist award" from Dr. Sharath Kumar, the Hon'ble collector, Jagtial.



Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor receiving the Best Vice Chancellor Award for 2018



Dr. B. Padmaja, NSS Officer, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar receiving Prize for the best Exhibition at State Level NSS Youth Festival

- Two NSS volunteers G. Akshitha and P. Venkateshwarlu won first in Rangoli and third prize in Essay Writing (Telugu) respectively at “State Level NSS Youth Festival” held at Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences, Warangal on 7th and 8th March, 2019. The PJTSAU team received Third prize for exhibition.
- S. Pradhyun Kashyap, Third year student from College of Agricultural Engineering received the Best Poster Presentation Award for the paper entitled “Wind Energy as an Alternative Resource: GIS Assessment and Analysis” presented at Research Conclave-2019 held at IIT, Guwahati from 14th to 17th March, 2019.

Corrigendum for Awards and Honours (Page No. 12) in PJTSAU News October-December, 2018

AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems (IFS), Hyderabad under “On-farm Research Category” was adjudged as the Best Centre and received the award during V Biennial workshop (XXXIII of the project) of AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems organized by University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru and ICAR- Indian Institute of Farming systems Research (IIFSR), Modipuram at UAS, Benagluru from 20th to 23rd December, 2018 from the ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming systems Research (IIFSR), Modipuram, Meerut, UP.

May be read as

AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) under “On-farm Research Category” was adjudged as the Best Centre and received the award during biennium of 2016 under ICAR- Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research (IIFSR), Modipuram, Meerut, UP. The team led by Dr. Md. Latheef Pasha, as Agronomist contributed for better performance of the centre including successful experimentation and demonstrations of the farming system, publications and development of technologies. The On-Farm experiments especially on integrated farming systems conducted at Warangal district of Telangana made significant impact on livelihood of farmers.

Institutional Activities - Show of Reverance and Responsibility

Acknowledging Sacrifice- Candle Rally to Pay Tribute to CRPF Soldiers



Candle rally by Students of College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar

As mark of respect to pay tribute to soldiers who were brutally killed by the terrorists at Pulwama in Jammu & Kashmir, the students and NCC cadets of College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar organized a candle rally from college premises to University Auditorium on 15th February, 2019. Forty NCC cadets and 150 UG, PG students took part in the rally. Before beginning the candle rally Dr. D. Vishnu Vardhan Reddy, Dean of Student Affairs, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, NCC commander in- Chief, OISA and students observed two minute silence as a tribute to soldiers who lost their lives.

Job Mela at College of Home Science, Saifabad

In order to create a huge opportunity for the youth seeking jobs in some of the best organizations, the College of Home Science organized a Job Mela on 22nd February, 2019 for outgoing UG and passed out students. Thirty reputed private organizations participated and appraised the students. A total number of 118 students took part actively in the Mela and 77 students i.e 65% were selected for the placements in various organizations. M/s Uppada Saree House Pvt. Limited, Genome labs, Meher Beverages (Pvt) Ltd, Ananya Learning center, Raise click Enterprises etc



Students in the Interview session

participated in the Job mela and offered a package upto 25k per month.

The Job mela was inaugurated by Dr. V. Vijaya Lakshmi, Dean of Home Science, Dr. D. Ratna Kumari, Associate Dean, Placement In- Charge, all the Heads of the Departments and Faculty of the Home Science College Press

and Media participated in this programme. After the inaugural Session Dr. V. Vijaya Lakshmi, the Chief Guest and Dean of Home Science launched the online placement cell, Linked in Pages, Alumni Website and also released placement brochures of various departments of Community Science.

Celebrations

Republic day celebrations



Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Hoisting the National Flag

70th Republic day of India was celebrated with patriotism on 26th January, 2019 at sports complex, Rajendra Nagar. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor hoisted the national flag and in his address stressed on reorientation of research programmes as per the needs of the farming community with a shift in focus from increased productivity to increased income of farmers. All the constituent institutes of the University celebrated Republic day in a befitting manner.

College day celebrations at Agricultural College, Warangal

The Agricultural College, Warangal celebrated the college day with lot of pomp and gaiety on 23rd February, 2019, wherein Dr. B. Karunakar Reddy, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Kaloji Narayana Rao Health University, was the Chief guest and Dr. P. Raghu Rami Reddy, Associate Dean, Agricultural College, Warangal presided over the function. For the first time an eco-friendly (Paperless)



Dignitaries releasing the college magazine "Kakatiya-2019"

digital copy of College Magazine named "KAKATIYA – 2019" was released by the Chief guest. Winners in various sports, games and cultural events conducted as a part of Annual College Day celebrations received their trophies and certificates after the dignitaries addressed the students.

International Women's Day- Celebration of the Myriad Roles of Women

The International Women's day was celebrated on 8th March, 2019 at University Auditorium, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and the Chief Guest of the function in his address stressed the importance of women in all walks of life. Dr. S. Sudheer Kumar, Registrar, Dr. V. Vijaya Lakshmi, Dean of Home Science also addressed the women employees of the University. Women's Day was also celebrated with great enthusiasm in all the constituent institutes of the University by involving girl students and women employees.



International women's day celebrations at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar

Third Convocation of PJTSAU

The third convocation of PJTSAU was held on 9th March, 2019 at University Auditorium, Rajendranagar. Dr. S. Ayyappan, Chancellor of Central Agricultural University, Imphal and Former Director General, ICAR, New Delhi was the Chief Guest and delivered the convocation address. Dr. S. Ayyappan, in his address applauded the policies of the state government for making agriculture profitable, which serve as a model for the entire country. He stated that small farmers should be equipped with low cost,

light weight, gender friendly and multi-purpose farm equipments to mitigate labour scarcity in peak season. He opined that tools and techniques like Big data analytics, IoT in farming, SAG's, image processing, artificial intelligence, deep/ machine learning, block chain technology, sensors and robotics etc should be deployed for smart farming. He emphasized the need to create appropriate information technology network through which farmers will have information on crops and varieties, best practices, market prices, demand and supply gaps. He congratulated the students receiving their degrees and urged them to play a catalytic role in Indian agriculture by blending the best of frontier technologies with traditional wisdom and bring smiles to the farmers. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice

Chancellor in his address informed that a new Agricultural college was sanctioned at Sircilla in the year 2017-18 and varsity received several awards for 2017-18, including Best performing centre Award for AICRP Forage crops and Utilization centre & AICRP on weed Mangement and secured 6th position in ICAR ranking of State Agricultural Universities and 82nd position in National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2017-18. In the PG and Ph.d programmes, 144 students received their degrees while 592 students qualified for award of bachelors degree in Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering and Home Science. Nine gold medals for PG & Ph.D and 17 for UG programmes were awarded for meritorious students for their outstanding performance in academics.



Dr. Ayyappan delivering 3rd Convocation Address



Dr. V. Praveen Rao addressing the students and staff



Ms. N. Aswini receiving Six gold medals



University officials and Chief guest with outgoing graduates

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