



Striving for a greener tomorrow...

PJ TSAU NEWS



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From the VC's Desk



Agriculture sector remains the backbone of the livelihoods of the State of Telangana with about 55% of the population relying on it. Post bifurcation, the State had the arduous task of taking stock of its opportunities and challenges with respect to the agriculture sector, with the already disheartened farmers reluctant to continue farming in view of the productivity plateaus, constant losses due to weather vagaries, inconsistent market prices and poor policy support. Under these circumstances the Government of Telangana prioritized the welfare of farmers and introduced several

farmer friendly innovative and unique flagship programmes targeting irrigation potential, crop diversification and social protection.

The introduction of Agriculture investment support scheme – *Rythu Bandhu*, first of its kind in the country, initiated in the year 2018, to provide timely initial investment to the farmer has played a pivotal role in progress of agriculture sector in the state and has received applause even at national level. A massive increase in the irrigation potential through an engineering marvel, the *Kaleswaram* project, Mission *Kakatiya* for soil and water conservation has resulted in the increase of net sown area under irrigation to 83% during 2019-20 from 39% in 2014-15. The 24 x 7 free power supply to 24.8 lakh agriculture connections in the state added to the boom of the sector. The storage capacity was enhanced to 60.1 lakh MT from 4.1 lakh MT (2014-15) to store the produce under optimal conditions to sell at an appropriate time. Another innovative scheme, *Rythu Bima*—provided a life insurance cover of Rs 5 Lakhs to small and marginal farmers ensuring social and economic security to the farmers of the state. Establishment of poly houses, vegetable crop colonies, micro irrigation and dissemination of modern cultivation methods boosted the horticulture production to an extent of 86% during the last five years.

These policy interventions by the state increased the net sown area to 146 lakh acres (2020-21) from 108 lakh acres paving the way for resilience and recovery of Telangana economy in 2020-21 even under the COVID situation. The growth rate of the agriculture & allied sector in Telangana has increased from -4.0% in 2015-16 to 12.1% in 2020-21 contributing to a greater share (20.6% at constant prices) of overall GVA than in any other year. There was a 142% increase in contribution of the agricultural sector to Telangana’s GVA between 2014-15 and 2020-21. Of the various subsectors, crops and livestock are major contributors with 43.71% and 51.11% to agriculture GVA of the state respectively. The PJ TSAU has been part of this success story through its research efforts focusing on sustainable intensification of Agri food systems, entrepreneurship building, crop diversification, integrated farming systems, climate resilience, IoT and AI, Block chain technologies, UAV’s adoption for precision agriculture which will benefit farming community for long term sustenance of their livelihoods and doubling farmers income.

Dr. V. Praveen Rao
Vice Chancellor

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Important Events

5th International Agronomy Congress - Exploring on Innovations to Attain Food Security

The Fifth International Agronomy Congress (IAC) was organized with the theme “*Agri Innovations to Combat Food and Nutrition Challenges*” by the Indian Society of Agronomy in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi and PJTSAU, Hyderabad from 23rd to 27th November 2021 at University Auditorium, PJTSAU, Rajendrangar, Hyderabad to highlight the various interventions in agronomy to combat the emerging challenges in agriculture. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU and President, Indian Society of Agronomy in his inaugural address emphasized that the food production has increased six times in the country, fruits by ten times and fish production nearly twelve times, however efficient water management, soil management and climate resilient agriculture are the few challenges to be focused on.

Prof. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) and DG, ICAR, New Delhi in his virtual address highlighted the country's success in achieving surplus food production with an increase of exports upto 40% when compared to previous year; however he stressed the need to increase production of oilseeds as still we are looking upon the world for import of oilseeds. Further he called upon the need for new agronomic interventions to fill the gap in production of potential crops through integration of traditional and latest technologies and pondered on the need for redefining the role of agronomy for addressing the multifaceted problems in agriculture. He urged to focus on important challenges i.e soil and water management, integrated nutrient management and measures to cut down the cost of production.

Prof. Panjab Singh, Chancellor, Rani Laxmi Bai Central Agricultural University (RLBCAU) said that Indian

Agriculture achieved great success due to green and white revolution, however current technological interventions should not intervene with the natural soil and water resources and go along with the changing climatic conditions.

Prof. Samunder Singh, President, International Weed Science Society of Brazil said, Indian agriculture scenario has achieved a great progress in terms of surplus production and further emphasized on the need to focus on use of robotics and drones in agriculture for efficient utilization and site-specific application of inputs.

Prof. P.V. Vara Prasad, President, Crop Science Society of America, USA focused on the need for food security, nutritional security and climate change which are the important challenges in agriculture and there is a need for 60% increase in food production by 2050 to meet the food requirements of the increasing population utilizing the available land with perfect transfer of latest technologies to the farming community.

A diverse array of agronomic innovations were presented under specific sub themes - climate resilient agriculture and eco system services, integrated farming system for sustainable peasant economy, agronomy innovation for tapping genetic potential, new vistas in biotic and abiotic stress management, secondary agriculture and farmers prosperity, soil-plant-animal and human health continuum, Big data for smart agriculture, conservation agriculture, smart mechanization and energy use, agronomic education: a paradigm shift in the offing, advances in soil-microbes-plant-water and environmental interactions, farmers-scientist interface and scientists-industry-farmer interface.



Dr. V. Praveen Rao, President of Indian Society of Agronomy addressing the gathering at 5th IAC



Felicitating Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor at 5th IAC



Dr. Ashok Dhalwai addressing the gathering at the valedictory session



Dr. Panjab Singh and Dr. V. Praveen Rao at Exhibition organised at 5th IAC

The conference comprised of different plenary lectures, invited lectures, poster and paper presentations and exhibition. Eminent scientists round the globe, to name a few - Prof. Rattan Lal, World Food Prize Awardee, Prof. J.J. Volenec, President, American Society of Agronomy, Prof. P.V. Vara Prasad, President, Crop Science Society of America, Dr. Jackqueline' Arros Hughes, Director General, ICRISAT, Hyderabad shared their experiences. 600 participants in physical mode and 700 in virtual mode participated in the conference. A total of 14 key note, 49 lead and 8 plenary lectures were scheduled during the conference along with 1000 poster and 50 oral rapid presentations.

An exhibition was also arranged with 50 stalls comprising Industries, Universities (Agriculture, Horticulture and Veterinary) and ICAR institutes for the benefit of the farmers, students and delegates of the conference. In addition, field visit to experimental sites at PJTSAU, ICRISAT and ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad were organized. One hundred and four farmers from various

districts coordinated by *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* attended the scientist-industry-farmer interface during the conference.

Dr. Ashok Dhalwai, CEO, National Rainfed Authority has participated as chief guest for valedictory programme and opined that Hyderabad is a hub of agricultural research and would also be a hub of modern integrated technology in agriculture with the efforts of ICAR and state agricultural universities. He emphasized on the need for eco system based approach to ensure sustainability in agriculture and a need for paradigm shift in agriculture to face the new challenges. He suggested the agronomists and extension scientists should work together for adoption of modern technologies by farmers. Further implementation of digital agriculture, nano technology, and secondary agriculture on a large scale is also very much essential. Dr. A.K. Singh, Deputy Director General (Extension), ICAR, New Delhi said that, nutritional security and food security must go hand in hand for ensuring food safety and nutritional security in the country. Awards and merit certificates were presented to the participants under various categories.

Sadhguru Calls on Soil Health – A Legacy to Hand over to the Future Generations

Sadhguru, the founder, ISHA foundation calls the entire world to understand soil as a living entity but not as a dirt bag and a legacy to be handed over to the future generations as part of the virtual session “Conversation with Sadhguru” on “Agriculture and Environment” held on 26th November 2021 at University Auditorium, PJTSAU in 5th International Agronomy congress. The event was moderated by Dr. V. Anitha, The Dean of PG Studies along with Dr. T. Sammi Reddy, ICAR-CRIDA.

In his conversation he said soil organic carbon content is < 0.6% in 62 % of the soils with around 27000 microbes being erased every year, hence there is a dire need to atleast increase the soil carbon content in agricultural lands to 3% to keep soil alive. For this he opined that for every 10 acres 1 acre of land should be dedicated towards cultivation of plants which enrich the rest of land with organic carbon and this should penetrate among the

farming community initially through recommendations, followed by incentives and later by mandatory enforcement.

Later on the question raised by Dr. V. Anitha on his experiences in the journey of water movement, stated that it started in the year 1998 when the average green cover in the state of Tamilnadu was 16 % and his project Kaveri Calling was successful in transforming 122 farmers into tree based agriculture which is unfolded as an economic process with significant ecological process. This success story has led to 13 PPR's for river basins by the Central Government. He opined on synergy between ecology and economy and the need for transformation in industry through policy help, incentives and time which is utmost essential. He called upon the entire world to participate in his “Conscious Planet Movement” to maintain soil health to attain food security for future generations.

Dr. Sammi Reddy when asked his insight on convergence of Indigenous technology, traditional know how and modern knowledge and latest technologies, he informed that Agriculture was an organized process in the country since more than 10000 years ago, however in the last 40 years science has disrupted the soil due to extraordinary population pressure. He further added green revolution could solve the famine but it lead to soil degradation, similarly genetically engineered crops could solve the problem temporarily but may give rise to another problem, hence he said that it is important to remember that deriving solutions at the cost of soil health is not successful.

Dr. Anitha when asked his opinion on Women as change makers for rejuvenating the environment, he opined that women have done fantastic work without owing for any



Sadhguru addressing in the virtual session on "Conversation with Sadhguru"

recognition and there was a strong relation between Indian agriculture and women since ages. At the end of the session he called upon scientific voices to support for Conscious Planet Movement and asked everyone to stand for it.

New Initiatives

A New Hostel Facility for Boys "Rudra Nilayam" at Agricultural College, Palem

The new Boy's hostel building "Rudra Nilayam" at Agricultural College, Palem was inaugurated by Sri Singireddy Niranjana Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Co-operation and Marketing, Telangana State on 9th October, 2021 and in his inaugural address to students informed them that the graduates of B.Sc.(Hons.) Agriculture have ample opportunities and reiterated the need to gain knowledge on diversified areas in agriculture to serve the farming community. He further requested to

diversify the area under cultivation with pulses, oilseeds and vegetable crops. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor inaugurated the RO water plant at the hostel and fostered on innovative thinking and novel ideas in students to transform into successful agri entrepreneurs. Sri Marri Janardhan Reddy, MLA (Nagarkurnool), Sri P. Ramulu, MP (Nagarkurnool), Smt. P. Padmavathi, Zilla Parishad Chairperson (Nagarkurnool), Sri P. Srinivas Reddy, Addl. Collector (Revenue), Nagarkurnool graced the occasion.



Inauguration of Boys hostel at Agricultural College, Palem



Sri Singireddy Niranjana Reddy, Minister for Agriculture, Co-operation and Marketing, Telangana addressing the gathering

Advanced Deep Vision and Close Sensing Facility – A New Milestone in Drone Technology

A 10 band Multispectral sensor and Hexacopter was launched on 15th December, 2021 at the conference room of the AgHub, PJTSAU in presence of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University Officers, University Heads of Departments and Principal Scientists of Crops/ Themes,

PJTSAU along with the Managing Director and representatives from Senseacre Labs, LLP, Hyderabad. Mr. Vinod Kumar, Managing Director, Senseacre Labs in his address reiterated the importance of Drones in crop monitoring and precision agriculture and explained the

SOPs for crop health monitoring using 10 band multispectral sensors, the first of its kind. Dr. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, commended the change in approach of collaborations between public and private sector and opined that smart farming and Big data are the driving forces in the modern agriculture and their integration with current agricultural practices is the need of the hour. He further stressed that data capturing and physical action are the two important deliverables by the

drones and the regulatory mechanism governing operation of drones is also in place. Dr. R. Jagadeeswar, Director of Research, PJTSAU elucidated the research progress made in the area of drone technology by PJTSAU collaborative effort of private sector by effective networking. Dr. Sarath Babu, Director, NBPGR explained about the importance of data generation to study the crop disorders. A live demo of the Hexacopter was arranged in the presence of participants.



Launch of 10 band Multispectral sensor and Hexacopter at PJTSAU



Health Profiling for Student Well Being



Collection of blood samples of students at the campus

PJTSAU with an initiative to ensure good physical and mental health of students at their campuses initiated their health profiling. The Agricultural College, Sircilla took up health profile of their students in collaboration with Telanagana Diagnostic Hub, Rajanna Sircilla district in the month of October. As part of the campaign the complete health profile of 64 boys and 116 girl students pursuing their graduation at the campus was conducted and based on their profile a complete diet plan was formulated and students were sensitized on fitness and nutritious food to maintain their mind as said in the proverb "A Sound mind in a sound body".

A New Lab and Office Building at RS&RRS, Rudrur

Sri Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, the Hon'ble Speaker, Telangana State Legislative Assembly inaugurated the new Laboratory cum Office building at Regional Sugarcane and Rice Research Station, Rudrur on 29th December, 2021 in the presence of Sri Vemula Prashanth Reddy, Minister of Roads & Buildings, Legislative Affairs and Housing Department, Telangana. In his inaugural address he highlighted that research activities at the station has gained momentum after the formation of Telangana State with allocation of sufficient manpower and has resulted in the development of promising varieties in rice and sugarcane. Further he emphasized the uniqueness of the campus hosting all the three i.e research, education and extension activities.



Inauguration of new Laboratory cum Office building at RS&RRS, Rudrur

Sri Prashanth Reddy appreciated the concerted efforts of the faculty at RS & RRS, Rudrur for their research achievements. Later the dignitaries inaugurated the Agriculture and Rural Technology mela and also participated in *Rythusadassu*, a farmer scientist interaction program organized on the

occasion. The Additional Collector, Nizamabad Dist., University Officers of PJTSAU, Officials from Department of Agriculture, Revenue and NABARD, public representatives and famers of Nizamabad and Kamareddy districts also participated in the programme.

New Identification

More Domestic Vigilance to Combat Transmission of Basil Downy Mildew: A New Introduction in India

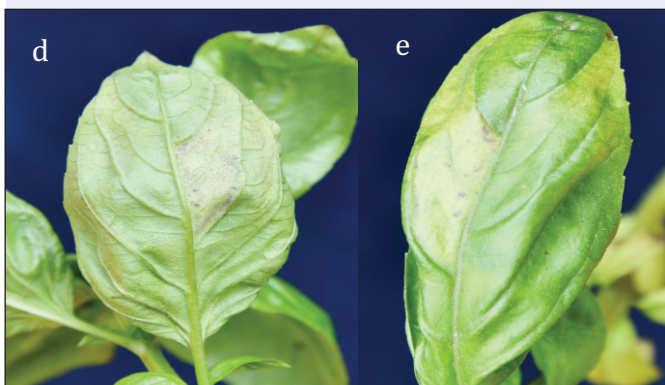
A new downy mildew pathogen was detected while conducting seed health test for a sweet basil (*Ocimum basilicum* L.) sample received from Simply Fresh Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad at the notified seed testing laboratory of Department of Seed Science and Technology, Seed Research and Technology Centre of PJTSAU. The new pathogen after intensive morphological and molecular characterization was identified as *Peronospora belbahrii*, which is new to India. The typical symptoms of disease on cotyledonary and true leaves appeared as white downy growth on the abaxial surface with chlorosis on its corresponding adaxial surface resulting in seedling mortality. As the disease advanced, the downy growth on leaves appeared dirty white to blackish in colour indicating the development of sporangiophores and

sporangia, the spore bearing structures of the pathogen. Later, the affected portions on leaves turned necrotic followed by withering and drying which resulted in premature defoliation.

The disease has become systemic and exhibited symptoms on foliage of affected plants even until flowering. The seeds stored for a year under refrigerated conditions (4° C) also produced infected seedlings indicating seed to plant transmission of the pathogen. In the emerging threats of introduction of new pathogens and as the pathogen is not yet reported from India, there is an urgent need for immediate strict domestic quarantine measures to combat the spread of the disease to other regions of the country.



Symptoms on foliage. a. Downy growth on cotyledonary leaves; b. Seedling mortality; c. Drying and defoliation



d. Downy growth on abaxial surface; e. Chlorosis on a adaxial surface



Sporangiophores and sporangia of *Peronospora belbahrii*

Workshops, Conferences, Meetings, Seminars, Exhibitions

Technology Adoption - A Way for Profitable Farming

To enlighten the farmers on latest scientific advances in agriculture and its need for adoption for profitable farming, a one day seminar on 'Transforming India through Agriculture - Technology Adoption by Farmers' was jointly organized by Dhanuka Agritech Limited (DAL) and PJTSAU at University Auditorium on 27th December, 2021. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU and the Chief Guest in his address highlighted that Telangana Government has introduced several farmer friendly policies for creation of adequate water sources and introduced 24 hours electricity to the farmers, these interventions when synergized with latest advances in science & technology would make agriculture profitable to the farming community. Further indiscriminate use of pesticides and judicious use of inputs should be envisaged to further enhance the profitability. Sri R.G. Agarwal, Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech Ltd. opined on the need to increase the area under oilseeds and pulses. Later farmers from different parts of the state shared their views with regards to

profitable agriculture. Sri Abhishek Dhanuka, NSH, Dhanuka Agritech, Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar, Director of Research, PJTSAU, Dr. Sain Dass, Ex-Director, Maize (ICAR), Dr. G. Ravindra Chary, Project Director, CRIDA, University Officers, Industry Experts, Farmers, Students participated on the occasion.



The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor honouring the farmer

NABARD's RBICs Moves Towards Rejuvenating the Agriculture sector

A meeting to evaluate the current activities of the RBICs and deliberate on the novel interventions that can be brought in the agricultural sector with the help of the seven Rural/Agri Business Incubation Centres (RBICs) of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) was hosted by AgHub - Agri Innovation Hub of Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU) on 15th December, 2021. Several dignitaries including the Chairman of NABARD Dr. G. R. Chintala and the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of PJTSAU and Chairperson of AgHub Dr. V. Praveen Rao attended the meeting.

Dr. Chintala outlined that the main agenda of organizing the meeting is to discuss aspects for providing value proposition to farmers, especially at a time when it is warranted the most. He motivated the teams of the respective incubation centres to be multifaceted and look at the global start-up trends. Further, he highlighted the role of RBICs in the agriculture sector to bring profitability to farmers and other agri stakeholders and requested everyone to work towards it. "Preserving indigenous and endemic crop varieties and knowledge would be a challenge to innovators", he added. Dr. V. Praveen Rao said that a considerable amount of value can be derived out of public-private partnerships in the agribusiness domain and there seems to be a lot of potential in cross-collaborative initiatives between agri academicians and innovators. He pointed at a present-day trend of building use-cases via



Appraising the Potential of Drone based SoPs in Rice to Dr. Chintala

ready-to-access data stacks and suggested more innovators to delve into the data domain; he opined that the third agricultural revolution will be data-driven. He also called-out agricultural institutions to inculcate the spirit of innovation among their students by conducting regular events. Representatives from a-IDEA, NAARM - Hyderabad; ABI, CSHAU-Haryana; IIT - Kharagpur; MABIF, TNAU - Madurai; Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya-Gwalior; Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University-Gujarat, AgHub, PJTSAU-Hyderabad and other dignitaries of NABARD participated in the event.

After the review meeting, the dignitaries interacted with start-ups incubated at AgHub, PJTSAU. Dr. Chintala pointed out that there is a huge market opportunity for agri

business start-ups, and the entrepreneurs should channelize the opportunity by providing customer or rather farmer-centric solutions. The team of NABARD also visited other

centres at PJTSAU viz., Millet Center and Organic Dyes Centre, and Rice Fields at Agriculture Research Institute for Drone demonstrations and robotic machines.

Capacity Building

Network Project on Developing SOPs for Usage of Drones in Crop Protection

As part of the network project on “Evaluation and standardization of plant protection solutions in field crops using Drones” a demonstration was organized to study the efficacy of pesticide spraying in Rice seed production plots of ARS, Tornala and at Ibrahimipur, Narayanraopet mandal, Siddipet district on 8th October, 2021. The demonstration was carried out on varieties JGL-24423, *Telangana sona*, IR-64 and KNM-118. A drone from 'Marut drones' Tech. Pvt. Ltd of Teejet-11002 model nozzle with 1.8 lit/minute discharge

was operated at a speed of 2.7 m/second. The time taken to spray one acre was 20 minutes with a cost outlay of Rs 500 against a time of 3-4 hours and cost of Rs 800-1000/acre by conventional method. Dr. A.V. Ramanjaneyulu, Sr. Scientist (Agro.) & Head, ARS, Tornala and his team, Mr. K. Nagesh Reddy, President of *Rythu Samanvaya Samithi* (RSS), Mr. P. Sravan Kumar, Operations Lead, MARUT drones and team and 27 farmers from the village participated in the programme.

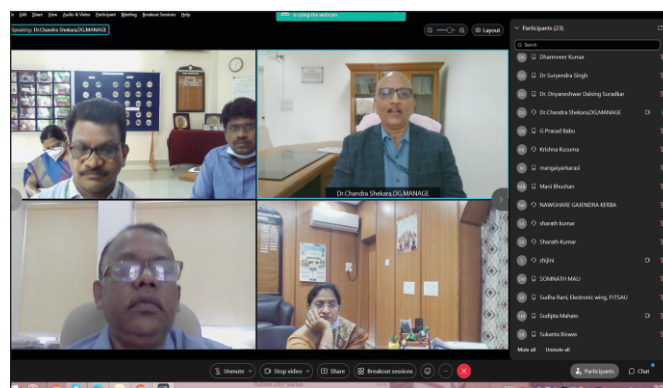


Demonstration of drones to farmers at Ibrahimipur village



Mobile – An effective Tool for Agro-advisories

To expertise the extension team to effectively disseminate agro –advisories through mobile phones, an online training programme on “Mobile Journalism for effective Transfer of Technology for Extension Officers” was jointly organized by Electronic Wing, PJTSAU and MANAGE, Hyderabad from 14th to 17th December, 2021. Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director General, MANAGE, Hyderabad and the Chief guest in his introductory remarks stated that mobiles are powerful tools for effective and timely communication of agro advisories to the farmers and mobile based Agricultural journalism empowers and energizes the agri experts and gives them a lead to reach expectations of the farmers, in the arena of limitation of resources. Dr. V. Sudha Rani, Director of Extension, PJTSAU and the Chief guest of the valedictory session opined that in this era of digitalization listening and watching over is preferred over reading, hence this training programme would be very effective in enhancing the skills of MOJO users and equipping them with tools to communicate real time agro advisories to the farmers.



Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director General, MANAGE addressing the participants

The training comprised of an array of lectures comprising “Emergence of MOJO - Opportunities and future challenges in Agriculture” delivered by Dr. Kusuma Krishna Shankar, Associate Professor, AJK Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Milia Islam, New Delhi; “Video Journalism - Effective Video making by using Smart Phone”

by Dr. S. Rajesh Khanna, Director, Arcus Excellence Academy, Rajahmundry; "Mobile Storytelling and Hands on experience on Mobile Story telling" by Dr. Madhavi Ravi Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, S.N. School of Arts and Communication, Hyderabad Central University (HCU) Telangana. Prof. F.B. Khan Professor of Photography expressed that the MOJO stands as a new platform to

agricultural extension specialist to share effectively their technical knowledge and technology to the stake holders. The training course was organized by Dr. A. Sreenivasa charyulu, Programme Officer, MANAGE, Dr. M. Sreenivasulu, Course Director and Smt. J.S. Sudha Rani and Dr. P. Prashanth, Coordinators. Twenty five participants from across India attended the four days online training programme.

Upskilling Presentation Skills in Students

To inculcate effective presentation skills in PG/PhD students of PJTSAU which is utmost essential to effectively communicate their research stories, a guest lecture on "Effective Presentation Skills for Students" was organized by Dept. of Agricultural Extension, College of Agriculture on 06th November, 2021 at the gallery hall. Dr. Sandhya N Shenoy, Retd. Principal Scientist (Agril. Extension), NAARM, Hyderabad and Dr K. Madhu Babu, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Extension were the guest

speakers of the event. Dr C. Narendra Reddy, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar in his address highlighted the significance of effective presentation and the relevance of the presentation skills. Dr. Sandhya N Shenoy in her lecture explained the aspects like making good slides in power point presentation, audio visual aids, span of attention, media selection criteria, script story board, slide material preparation, Rule of thirds, Rule of seven, google transliterate, audacity software, how to insert audio /video files to power point presentation and later she made the students to practice and interact on the important aspects. Dr. K. Madhu Babu, delivered a session on line of steps for preparation of presentations like systematic planning and preparation, rehearsal and its importance, tips for effective presentation, how to structure the presentation. Dr. V. Anitha, Dean of PG studies and the chief guest in her concluding remarks expressed that students should develop effective presentation skills and try to hone their skills for better future and further added that there is a need to organise such programmes for the benefit of the students in future. Eighty six PG and Ph.D students attended the guest lecture.



Dr. Sandhya N Shenoy addressing the students

Training on "Fruit and Vegetable Terrace Gardening" to Beginners

The need of terrace gardening under the situations of COVID-19 pandemic was highlighted by Dr. V. Sudha Rani, Director of Extension, PJTSAU in an Online Certificate Course on "Fruit and Vegetable Terrace Gardening" for the beginners in Telugu organized by Extension Education Institute (EEI), Hyderabad from 16th to 18th December, 2021. Dr. M. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Director, EEI encouraged the trainees to inculcate the habit of growing trees in their backyard and plants on terrace as it enables a healthy living. The contents covered in this program are importance of terrace gardening, cultivation of creeping vegetables under terrace gardening, do's and don't's for the beginners in terrace gardening, techniques of seed production in terrace gardening, preparation of organic solutions, pruning and techniques of pollination, nutrient management in terrace gardening, nutri sensitive terrace gardening, space optimization for fruit and vegetable cultivation in terrace gardening, cultivation of fruit plants in terrace gardening, integrated pest management in terrace gardening, cultivation of vegetables in terrace gardening, techniques of



Virtual real time demonstrations of preparation of pandals and staking

growing fruits and vegetables with low cost in terrace gardening by using kitchen waste. In addition a virtual real time demonstrations were given to trainees on preparation of Vermi compost and aerobic composting in homes, preparation of citrus peel extract for good plant growth, preparation of pandals and staking for cucurbitaceous vines, Method of preparation of universal soil mix and pot filling

procedure, preparation of bio pesticides, preparation of rich compost from kitchen waste. The Course Coordinators of this online certificate course are Dr. R. Vasantha, Professor,

EEL and Dr. P. Vijaya Lakshmi, Professor, EEL. A total of 41 participants representing various professions from two Telugu states attended the certificate course.

Enlightening TSP Beneficiaries on Importance of Green Manuring

A Farmers' Day cum Farm Implements and Agricultural Inputs Distribution Programme was organized as part of Tribal Sub Plan on 21st October 2021 at Puligundam village of Mulugu mandal & district by Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Warangal in association with ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad. The farm implements and agricultural inputs viz., buradagorru, power sprayers, tarpaulins, herbicide, insecticides and fungicides were distributed to the beneficiaries. Dr. R. Uma Reddy, Associate Director of Research, RARS, Warangal reiterated the importance of growing green manure crops particularly green gram preceding to *Khari* rice for restoration of soil fertility and obtaining higher yields. Smt. Seethakka, MLA distributed farm implements to the beneficiaries and urged the farmers



Smt. Seethakka, MLA addressing the TSP beneficiaries

to adopt new cost reduction technologies and make agriculture a profitable venture.

Apprising on Technology of Solar Dryers

To apprise the farmers with the technology of preservation of fruits and vegetables the College of Agricultural Engineering, Kandi, Sangareddy in association with NGO - Society for Energy, Environment and Development, Hyderabad (SEED) organized a programme on Demonstration of Solar dryers and garlic peeler in the adopted village Kashipur, Kandi mandal, Sangareddy district on 02nd November, 2021. Live demonstration of Solar Fruits and vegetables dryers and garlic peelers were given to the farmers to apprise them on the technology. The farmers of the village showed keen interest in the adoption of technology with advantages of long term preservation of perishable fruits and vegetables. The Associate Dean,



Live demonstration of solar dryers to the farmers

Smt. Rajeswari, Technical Analyst, SEED NGO, Faculty of the college and 70 farmers participated in the programme

Visitors

APC & Secretary (Agriculture and Co-operation) Visits PJTSAU

Sri M. Raghunandan Rao, IAS, APC & Secretary (Agriculture and Co-operation), Govt. of Telangana and Sri Rajeevgandhi Hanumanthu, IAS, Special Secretary, Agriculture visited PJTSAU on 7th October, 2021 to appraise themselves about the education, research and extension programmes carried out in the University. They also visited the Rice and Maize Research Centres at Agricultural Research Institute, Rajendranagar. A brainstorming session on the possible opportunities for diversification of rice based cropping system in the State with alternate crops in view of buffer stocks in rice was conducted.



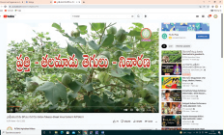
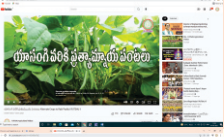


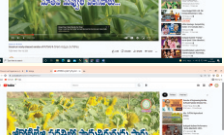

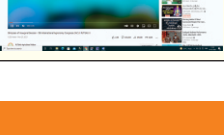
APC & Secretary (Agriculture and Co-operation), Govt. of Telangana interacting with the Vice Chancellor

CGM, SBI and team Visit AgHub

Sri Amit Jhingran, Chief General Manager, State Bank of India and his team visited AgHub on 4th December, 2021 to learn the development oriented activities that are being executed by the facility. He was also detailed about the

intervention AgHub has been fostering at the ground level, further playing a key role in the agri innovation ecosystem. The CGM and his team also interacted with the start-ups that are being supported by AgHub during their visit

Videos on Agro Technologies and Important Events uploaded in PJTSAU Youtube Channel during October-December 2021

List of Videos Uploaded	
Management of Tobacco Streak Virus in Cotton	
Alternate Crops to Rabi Paddy	
Practices to enhance Soybean Seed Germination	
Package of practices for Oil Seed Crops	
Recommendations for cultivation of millets during rabi	
Package of practices for cultivation of Bengal gram	
Package of practices for cultivation of Blackgram and Greengram during Rabi	
Newly released varieties of Red gram and Green gram	
Newly released varieties of Sesamum	
Cultivation of Sunflower under Zero tillage	
Glimpses of Inaugural Session – 5 th International Agronomy Congress	

List of Videos Uploaded	
Inaugural Address by Prof. Trilochan Mohapatra, the Hon'ble DG, ICAR at 5 th IAC-2021	
Jingle of Inaugural Session, 5 th IAC-2021	
Plenary Lecture by Prof. Rattan Lal, World Food Prize Awardee at 5 th IAC-2021	
Valedictory Message by Dr. Ashok Dalwai, CEO, NRAA, Govt. of India at 5 th IAC, 2021	
Weed management in Green gram and Black gram	
7 th M S Swaminathan award winning ceremony of Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU	
Conversation with Sadhguru (Founder, ISHA Foundation) on Agriculture and Environment at 5 th IAC, 2021	
Weed Management in Maize	
Cold management in rice nursery	
New Year message by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU	
<p>Browse</p> <p>↓</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXPH9Z_h47zjqvV7svmFKg</p>	

Collaborations

Tying up with Sahasra Crop Science for Research in Nano and Bio Technology

PJTSAU in a view to further strengthen its research in the disciplines of Biotechnology, Nano technology and Biochemistry entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Sahasra Crop Science Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad on 22nd October, 2021. The MoU intends for joint research, faculty and student exchange in the disciplines along with supplementation of resources, facilities on matters pertaining to the development of Agriculture with focus on capacity building, training and skill development of stake holders. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor suggested to plan for organizing brainstorming sessions and joint project proposals in the areas of common interest.



MoU ceremony of PJTSAU with Sahasra Crop Sciences

PJTSAU Steps Ahead in Meeting Market Demand of Telangana sona

Sri Vamsi Krishna, Director, Amuse Foods Pvt. Ltd. and Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar, Director of Research, PJTSAU signed a Memorandum of Understanding in the presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. V. Praveen Rao and University Officers on 2nd December, 2021 with an aim to market the *Telangana Sona* Rice and exchange of knowledge. Dr. V. Praveen Rao opined that the organization should play a key role in purchasing the rice directly from the farmers and delivering the quality agri products to the customers.



PJTSAU in collaboration with Amuse Foods Pvt. Ltd.

FMC and PJTSAU to Focus on Challenges in Sustainable Agriculture

A "Science Leaders Scholarship Program" for PG & Ph.D students of PJTSAU will be extended by FMC India Pvt. Ltd., a Global Leader in Innovative Agricultural Science as per the collaborative agreement entered between PJTSAU and FMC India Pvt. Ltd. by Dr. Ravi Annavarapu, President, FMC India Pvt. Ltd. and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. V. Praveen Rao on 15th December, 2021. This collaboration will facilitate to work on common goals such as Precision Agriculture, AgriTech Venture Capital, Sustainable Pest Management Solutions and Farmer Connect Programmes in adopted villages of PJTSAU across Telangana State. Speaking on the occasion the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor appreciated the initiatives of FMC in the field of sustainable technologies addressing the challenges of agriculture at global and national level and their outreach activities in rural India through initiatives like Project Safal and Project Samarth for safe water, good health, GAP, empowering women in agriculture and promoting science among the



The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and President, FMC India Pvt. Ltd exchanging MoU

youth were remarkable. He further appreciated the Science Leadership Program through PG Scholarships, internships and Research Mentorship for encouraging the talent from campuses.

PJ TSAU and GBPUAT collaborate for a Sandwich Ph.D Programmes

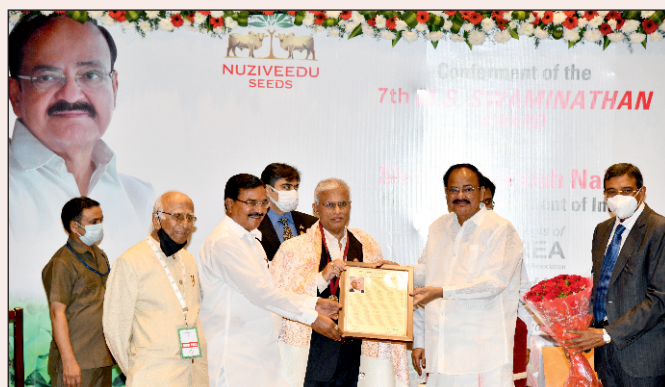
PJ TSAU and G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar (GBPUAT), Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand entered into an MoU in the month of December, 2021 to facilitate deputation of inservice faculty members of identified disciplines of PJ TSAU for Ph.D programme at GBPUAT either for a period of three

years on fulltime basis or under sandwich programme for two to three years for completing course work and then taking up the research work at campus / research stations of PJ TSAU, Hyderabad and submit the thesis to the University where they are admitted and obtain the degree.

Awards and Honours

7th M.S. Swaminathan Award

Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJ TSAU received the prestigious 7th M. S. Swaminathan Award instituted by the Retired ICAR Employees Association (RICAREA) and sponsored by M/s Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd for his outstanding contributions in the area of agricultural research, education, extension and administration. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor received the award from Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu, the Hon'ble Vice President of India on 8th December, 2021 at Dasarathi Auditorium, Dr MCRHRD Institute, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. Sri. S. Niranjan Reddy, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Telangana was the guest of honour, Sri MVR Prasad, President RICAREA, Sri M. Prabhakar Rao, CMD, Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd. and University officers also graced the occasion.



Dr. V. Praveen Rao receiving the 7th M. S. Swaminathan Award from Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu, the Hon'ble Vice President

12th Agriculture Leadership Awards 2021

Dr. V Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJ TSAU was bestowed with Academic Leadership Award-2021 by the Agriculture Today Group presented by Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister, Shri Narendra Singh Tomarji on 21st October, 2021 at New Delhi. Policy leadership award for the State of Telangana was also received by Dr. V. Praveen Rao on the behalf of the Govt. of Telangana.



The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor bestowed with Academic Leadership Award-2021

PJ TSAU bagged first prize for the Exhibition at 5th International Agronomy Congress organized by Indian Society of Agronomy at PJ TSAU, Hyderabad from 23rd -27th November, 2021

- Dr. S. Malathi, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Malyal received Agricultural Scientist Award -2021 for contribution to Agricultural Entomology-Research, Education and Extension on the occasion of Dr. B. Vasantharaj David foundation 3rd National Conference on "Recent advances in crop protection including IPM and Environmental sciences from GLP perspective" held on 17th October 2021 at Chennai, Tamilnadu.
- Mrs. R. Sushma Devi, Assistant Professor, Department of FDSQ received "Young Teacher Award-2021" and Dr. J. Sai Prasad, Assistant Professor, Department of FDSQ received Best Ph.D. Thesis Award in the 3rd International Conference on "Global Initiatives in Agricultural, Forestry and Applied Sciences" organized by Shri Guru Ram Rai University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- Dr. Bhuvana. N and P. Akshith Sai of the Department of Agril. Extension, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad received MANAGE - Second Best Agricultural Extension Thesis Awards for Ph.D thesis on 'Ecosystem analysis of *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* in Southern India' and for M.Sc thesis on 'A Study on Effectiveness of Climate Resilient Agricultural Technologies in Southern Telangana Zone of Telangana State' respectively.

- Ms. K. Laxmi Prasanna and Mr. B. Anirudh, student of Agricultural College, Jagtial bagged two gold and one silver medal respectively in the 13th Telangana State Kick Boxing Championship 2021 held at Basar, Nirmal on 1st and 2nd November, 2021.
- Ms. S. Brinda, B.Sc.(Hons) Agriculture, Final year, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar bagged 4th prize in Zonal level elocution competition of 17 Agricultural Universities for the XV Agricultural Science Congress 2021 on “Energy and Agriculture: Challenge in 21st Century” at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi from 13th to 16th November 2021.
- Ms. Jelang Jelku D. Sangma, Ms. Banout Harshita and Ms. Peddigari Bhavya a 2019 passed out Masters

students from College of Community Science, Saifabad, PJTSAU has received Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Best Innovation Award in 24th World Congress on Clinical Nutrition with 1st World Congress on Medical Food and Nutrition (WCCN-WCMN 2021) jointly organised by the International Society for Medical Food and Nutrition supported by the International College of Nutrition from 16th to 18th October 2021, held at Haridwar, Uttarakhand, India.

- The Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (India) has awarded Ms. B. Neeharika, a 2020 M.Sc passed out student with Second best student award 2019 for her achievements in B.Sc and M.Sc at PJTSAU.

Tribute to Alumni for his Gracious Donation

Sri Joginpally Chandrasekhar Rao, alumni member of (1967 batch), College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar handed over a cheque of INR 15,00,000 to Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU for developmental works at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar. Dr. V. Praveen Rao appreciated the voluntary initiative of Sri Chandrasekhar Rao for giving back to the college where he studied and further urged the alumni members of the PJTSAU to contribute towards the overall development of the University.



Sri J. Chandra Sekhar Rao, Alumni of CoA, Rajendranagar handing over a cheque to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

Renewal of NABL Accreditation as per ISO/IEC 17025: 2017



MFPI Quality Control Laboratory

The premier laboratory of PJTSAU MFPI- Quality Control Laboratory has once again proved their efficiency by receipt of accreditation by NABL as per ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 standard valid upto October, 2022.

Celebrations

World Soil Day Celebrations in Grandeur at the Varsity

World Soil Day-2021 was celebrated at all the constituent colleges of the University with the sponsorship of State Bank of India. The programme was organised in festive mode at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar which was presided over by Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU, Sri Amit Jhingran, Chief General

Manager, SBI and the Chief Guest, Sri Ram Narayana Boga, GM and Director, SBI RB, Dr. Seema, Dean of Agriculture, Dr. V. Anitha, Dean of PG Studies and Dr. C. Narendra Reddy, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture were the guests of honour. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in his address briefed about India's efforts in achieving self



Prize winners with Dignitaries



Dr. V. Praveen Rao addressing the students



World soil day celebrations at KVK, Wyra and RS&RRS, Rudrur



sufficiency in food grain production and the significant contribution of agricultural research in alleviating the poverty. Sri Amit Jhingran, the chief guest of the programme appreciated the efforts of the University in serving the farming community and wished for many such collaborative programmes in due course of time. The University Officers, Heads of the departments, staff, students and bank officials participated on the occasion. Different competitions such as Elocution, Essay writing, Drawing and Video documentary were organized for students from different constituent colleges of the University and prizes were distributed to the students. A guest lecture was also organized virtually on the occasion on the theme *Soil Health Key to Achieving SDGs- Innovations and Policy Support* by Dr. A. Subba Rao, Former Director of IISS, Bhupal at afternoon to commemorate the world soil

day celebrations. All the constituent colleges of the University have also celebrated World Soil Day duly involving faculty and students highlighting the need for soil health maintenance.

As per the instructions Director, ATARI, Zone X all the KVKs of PJTSAU also celebrated World Soil Day on 5th December 2021. Scientists of KVK organised several programmes highlighting the importance of adoption of eco-friendly agricultural practices for effective fertiliser usage to boost crop efficiency and the need for decreased usage of single use plastics and encouraging biodegradable counterparts; waste decomposing; careful disposal of perilous waste along with limiting the use of chemical personal care products and substituting them with eco-friendly ones. Soil health cards were also distributed to the farmers on this occasion.

Glimpses of Other Celebrations



Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations at Administrative office



Bathukamma celebrations at Administrative office



Distribution of pushhoes to farmers as part of Azadi ka Amrith Mahostav at the AICRP on Maize, Hyderabad



Paying tribute to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on account of Mahapariniwaran diwas at Administrative office



Rashtriyakta divas celebrations at Agricultural College, Aswaraopet



A rally organized on account of constitution day celebrations at Agricultural college, Sircilla



Agricultural Education Day celebrations at Agricultural College, Jagtial and Palem



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