



Vice-Chancellor's Message

It is my immense pleasure to know that new committee formulated a time bound strategy for monthly e-newsletter publication in English and Hindi. Hope, this effort will be useful for all stakeholders. As I always say, faculty members are the strength of the university and they again proved it by smoothly conducting the mid semester examination online and now experienced enough for the end semester examination. The employability of migrant labour in Bihar is the deep concern of the university and accordingly it has proposed some of the viable technologies namely ground Water recharge, Vermicomposting, Mushroom & Honey production and processing, Goat and Poultry farming, Soil testing, and Maintenance of agricultural farm implements *etc.* to engage them as per their skill and experience. I also appreciate the research proposal related to migrant labour presented in Research Council Meeting of the university. During these difficult times I wish the all stakeholders to be stay safe and healthy from Covid-19 pandemic.



Vice-Chancellor's engagements:

Research Council Meeting- Vice-Chancellor chaired 8th RCM untiringly about 24 hours on 6 different days (from 11th, 16th to 20th June 2020) and critically evaluated the progress report of ongoing projects and suggested improvement. His all-round experience was also used in finalizing new projects in contemporary burning areas. The meet was organized in the open Saraswati garden during evening hours to maintain the necessary social distancing in the light of COVID-19 pandemic.



Senior Officer Meeting Various meeting and brain storming session were chaired by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor regarding the completion of academic session, making safe working environment in the university from Covid-19 pandemic, to extend the help and support to the farmers of Bihar and employability of migrant labour.

Meeting/lecture/webinar

- Participated in Panel Discussion on COVID-19: Impacts and New Norm in Agriculture organized by NAAS, New Delhi on 5th June 2020.
- Attended a meeting through video conferencing with Hon'ble Dr. Prem Kumar, Agriculture minister, Govt. of Bihar on 11th June 2020 for work plan to address the situation arisen due to COVID-19, preparation for Kharif season and important work being taken up by the university.
- Attended the address by DG, ICAR during on AICRP Water management through online mode on 24th June 2020.
- Attended a meeting of steering committee for Climate Resilient Agriculture under chairmanship of Secretary, Agriculture, Govt. of Bihar on 24 June 2020.
- Addressed a webinar "Water Positive aquifer management in Eastern Plains" organized by ISAE on 25th June 2020.

- Attended 94th Annual General Body Meeting of ISAE on 26 June 2020.
- Attended Academic Council Meeting of ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai on 29 June 2020.
- 16th Meeting of the standing Sub-Committee of the GB of ICAR on Finance & Accounts on 29 June 2020.
- 250th Meeting of the Governing Body of ICAR Society through video conferencing on 29 June 2020

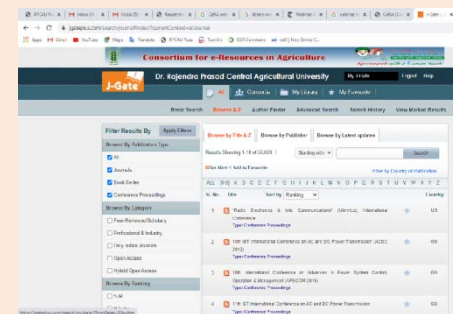
Education:

The University, in its fourth meeting of the Academic Council, has approved the introduction of three new PhD and two master's degree programmes. The doctoral degree programmes will be in the disciplines of farm machinery & power engineering, food and nutrition, and processing and food engineering. The master's degree programme will be introduced in the fields of seed science & technology, and textile & apparel designing.

In view of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the University is leveraging the internet-based technologies to continue the on-going academic semester by conducting lectures and sharing teaching material through various platforms such as WhatsApp, Google Classroom, and Google Meet. Quiz & Mid Term examinations of all the courses offered by the University were conducted successfully through WhatsApp. Similarly, comprehensive viva-voce examinations of PhD students were also conducted through video conferencing.

J-Gate @ CeRA Webinar:

University Library has organized a Webinar on “New J-Gate @ CeRA for the faculties, students and users of RPCAU, Pusa” on updated library resources & services in COVID-19 environment on 30th June 2020.



Research

- **8th Research Council Meet (Kharif) – 2020** was inaugurated on the 11th June, 2020 by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and conducted in open space. A total of 60 university funded projects, 22 co-ordinated projects, 12 new project proposals and vision documents of the centre of excellence/advance centre of research/ regional research stations were presented and deliberately discussed. One variety of each of pigeon pea and finger millet namely, Rajendra Arhar-2 and Rajendra Madua-1, respectively were recommended for release. Two technologies namely, Paired row planting of Pigeon pea and Ground Water Recharge cum Drainage Unit were released. Two private company rice hybrids namely SUDHA (Delta Agrigenetics Pvt. Ltd.) and S4001(NK14722) (Syngenta India Ltd.) were recommended by RCM for release in Bihar by State Varietal Release Committee (SVRC).
- The **annual workshop/ group meet of ICAR-AICRP on small millet and forage crops** were attended by the respective principal investigators and the team through on-line mode.
- **Fifteen research articles** were published by different faculty members of the University.
- The faculty members participated in various **national and international webinar** and **refresher courses** through different on-line portal as a part of their capacity building programs.
- **Zonal Research & Extension Advisory Committee Meeting**



(Kharif) for Zone-1 was organised by TCA, Dholi on the 6th June, 2020. The university officials the scientists along with the Govt. representatives and progressive farmers of different district Zone-I of Bihar were participated in the meeting.



- **ELP on beekeeping & honey production:** An apiary of *Apis mellifera* is established at TCA, Dholi for ELP on Beekeeping & Honey Production for the students of B.Sc. (Ag.). During the month of June, 2020 around 150 kg of Jamun honey has been harvested and is under sale.

- **Yam bean entry recommended for release through 20th AGM (10-12 June, 2020) of AICRP on Tuber Crops:**



An entry of Dholi coded as **TYb 14-9(DPH-6)** has been recommended for release in Bihar after conducting IET, URT and MLT. It has long conical tuber with yellowish tuber skin and creamy white flesh colour, with tolerance to yellow mosaic disease. The average yield is around 36 t ha⁻¹.

- **A new RKVY project** entitled as “Standardization of Seed Production practices and participatory seed production program of hybrid Paddy” has been sanctioned by GOB under RKVY.
- **Sugarcane Research Institute Million Rupees (SRIMR) Model:** SRI, RPCAU, Pusa has developed ‘SRIMR Model’ indicating the profitability of growing sugarcane along with different intercrops viz. Potato, Coriander, Fennel etc. and cane so produced may be utilized for quality gur production enriched with different value-added products. The total cost involved will be Rs. 5 lakh/ha and total gross income 16 lakh /ha and thus, there will be a net saving of Rs. 11 lakh/ha.

Extension

World Environment Day celebrated at KVK Birauli

World Environment Day was celebrated by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Birauli on 5th June 2020 at Patepur village of Samastipur district. On this occasion, a sensitization workshop-cum-training programme was also organized on climate resilient agricultural interventions in which more than 25 farmers participated along with other stakeholders. Tree plantation was also done to commemorate the occasion.



New Vista in Productivity Enhancement of Rice-Wheat Cropping System initiated in KVKs

Recent research finding for enhancing productivity of rice-wheat cropping system through assured irrigation and timely sowing is being scaled up in 255 acres in farmers’ field in 16 KVKs of the University including two NGO KVK. Rice crop sown around 30th May will allow the crop to be harvested by last week of October, thereby vacating the field for timely sowing of wheat.



This wheat will be escaping terminal heat and probable hailstorm in first fortnight of April. This technology will enhance climatic resiliency in rice-wheat cropping system and a target of 10 tons per ha can easily be achieved under changing climatic scenario. **Village Climatic Risk Management Committee Meeting held in NICRA village Affair, Saran**

Meeting of the Village Climate Risk Management Committee (VCRMC) was held on 10th and 29th June, 2020 at NICRA village Affair under KVK Saran. Training programme on Climate Resilient Agriculture technology and demonstration on Direct Seeded Rice of drought tolerant paddy (variety Sahbhagi) and diversification of rice-wheat cropping system through maize (variety Shaktiman-5) was conducted. Apart from that demonstration on chelated mineral mixture and dewormers



(oxyclozanide and Levamisole suspension) was also conducted in livestock for helping them to fight against probable heat and flood stress.

Online training on nursery raising and maintenance

Seeing life risk factor due to Corona menace, Krishi Vigyan Kendra Birauli, Samastipur started conducting extensive online training programme for farmers on nursery raising of rainy season creepers and paddy in collaboration with Dr. Reddy's Foundation. Altogether, 903 lead farmers including 73 women of different villages of Samastipur district were imparted training on how to raise and maintain nursery under changing climatic conditions of drought, flood and heat stresses.



Method Demonstration on Maize Cob Shelling by KVK Saraiya

Method demonstration on Improved Maize cob Sheller was conducted by KVK Saraiya on 4th June, 2020 at Pakhnaha village of Kanti block in which 20 farmers participated. This Maize Cob Sheller is four times more efficient than conventional method with only 15 % breakage. Moreover, the machine is very useful in drudgery reduction of women and also in timely shelling of maize cobs for timely drying and storage in light of ensuing rainy season.



Field day on tuberose

Field Day on tuberose was organized by KVK Birauli, Samastipur on 28th May, 2020 at Kejia village in which more than 10 farmers participated. Seeing the possibilities and prospects of flower cultivation and marketing in the region, Front Line Demonstration was conducted on tuberose in this village. The participating farmers shared their views and experiences with other farmers and change agents.



News from Other Corners (Awards, Student Welfare Activities/Sports/Aluminizes/Cultural Fest etc...)

Awards

Dr Krishna Kumar, Dean Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay College of Horticulture and Forestry, was awarded as Fellow of Confederation of Horticulture Association of India (CHAI), New Delhi 2019.

Sports/co-curricular

The volunteers of the N.S.S. units, scientists and non-teaching staff of RPCAU – Pusa celebrated International Yoga Day on 21 June 2020. In compliance with this year's theme of Yoga@Home, the participants practiced Yoga at the safety of their home.



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