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In this issue

From the VC's Desk	1
Promising Technology	
Low cost Rice nursery raising technique for	
Machine Planting	2
Practime Planeing	_
New Initiatives	
Prime Minister inaugurates KVK at Bellampally	4
Orientation for the new recruits	4
Holy Holi Eco colours to "Petta-thullal"	5
Workshops, Conferences, Meetings,	
Seminars, Exhibitions	
Farmers' Rights and Agro-Biodiversity	5
Agri Tech South 2018	6
PJTSAU & WSU, Australia work together for	
Digital Knowledge Extension System	7
Fine tuning technology through	
Farmers' feed back	7
PJTSAU showcases its strengths at	
Krishi Unnati Mela-2018	7
Collaborations	
MoU with PCRA	7
Skill development Programme with	
Varsha Bioscience and Technology India Pvt. Ltd.	8
PJTSAU inks MoU with IIZC	8
Capacity Building	
Mandal Agricultural Officers trained	
as Agronomists	8
Rural Youth trained as Green house Operators	8
Accelerating the pace of Seed Production	
in field crops	9
Maize as remunerative crop Training to TSP	
beneficiaries	9
Awareness Programmes on PPV & FRA, 2001	9
Distinguished Visitors	
State Legislative Committee applauds University	10
Trainees from NIRD visit the University	10
German Scientist visits PJTSAU	10
PJTSAU to technically backstop SERP initiatives	10
Awards & Honours	11
Celebrations	
National Voters Day	11
Republic Day	11
World Forest Day	11
World Sparrow Day	12
,	
Cups and Trumpets	12



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From the VC's Desk



PJTSAU, the youngest Agricultural University in the country, is striding forward confidently in its endeavour to become a sought after destination for education and research in Agriculture, Agri- engineering and Home Science. We started off by defining our priorities, based on the agricultural needs of the State of Telangana. The concerted efforts of the TEAM paid off with the University being awarded the 12th rank for 2016 by ICAR, the 82nd rank in the country by MHRD-NIRF for 2017.

Starting 3 new colleges, one ARS and 2 KVKs, investing in construction of new

college buildings, upgrading facilities in existing colleges with virtual class rooms, well equipped laboratories, top notch digitally enabled Central library and associated college libraries, expansive Examination centre, Central Instrumentation cell for PG and faculty research are some of the initiatives taken for providing an enabling environment for quality learning. The University went on a marathon recruitment drive in 2017 filling 179 vacant posts of Assistant Professors.

The Research initiatives of the University have been rewarding, reflected in the release of popular varieties like Telangana Sona, Bathukamma and Kunaram Sannalu in rice and several outstanding varieties in maize, bajra, greengram, redgram, blackgram, sesame and castor. The PJTSAU varieties have been pushed into the seed chain under the brand name "Telangana Seeds". Farm mechanization, AWD paddy, Farm pond technologies were up scaled by large area demonstrations for greater adoption. The major contribution to state level planning included soil fertility mapping in 30 rural districts, delineation of crop colonies and food consumption pattern of Urban and rural districts of Telangana. AICRP on Rice, Maize and Weed Control were recognized as the best performing centres by ICAR. The Quality Council of India has granted accreditation as per ISO:IEC 17025:2005 to AINP on Pesticide Residues for Pesticide Residue analysis in food commodities and MFPI Quality Control laboratory for Proximate and trace element analysis in food up to 2018/19. The Millet Incubation Centre and Eco Colours Unit of Home Science are excellent examples of entrepreneurship development and promotion of eco friendly technologies.

Through innovative outreach programs, DAATTCs and KVKs popularized technologies such as dry seeding in Rice (KVK, Wyra), Redgram variety PRG 176 (KVK, Palem), Pink Boll Worm management in Cotton (DAATTC, Warangal and KVK, Adilabad) etc.

It gives me great pleasure to write for the maiden issue of the PJTSAU Newsletter, which I believe will keep us connected to the agricultural fraternity across the country and foster mutually beneficial interactions.



Promising Technology

Low cost Rice nursery raising technique for Machine Planting

Rice is cultivated over 17-18 lakh hectares in the state of Telangana. Tradionally it is cultivated in puddled soils for ease of transplanting, to reduce water requirement and for better weed management. Slushy rice fields discourage labour from attending to transplanting operation aggravating the labour problem in rice cultivation, thus making mechanization of rice cultivation inevitable.

Considering all these problems, transplanting machines were introduced by the University in the year 2011. Tray nursery is a pre requisite for machine planting for which soil has to be collected, pulverized and filled in the trays before seeding and nursery has to be maintained for 15 days in the trays. At the time of transplanting the nursery has to be shifted to the farmer's field for transplanting which is a cumbersome process. Nursery raised in tray (dry soil) often exhibits high Iron and Zinc deficiency. These problems limit the further spread of the technology.

Scientists of RARS, Warangal loaned a leaf from the book of Kerala, Tamilnadu farmers and refined the nursery raising on polythene sheet instead of trays for machine planting.

How to do it...

White polythene sheet of 60 microns used for laying cement roads/building slabs can be used.



Spreading polythene sheet on puddled field

- The polythene sheet of width 152 cm, length 26 m and weight 1 kg sheet would cost around Rs. 140/-.
- For one hectare 200 sheets of nursery is required, thus requirement of polythene sheet will be around 1.5 kg.
- Wooden frames with four partitions of size of plastic tray (58 cm length, 28 cm width, 2.5 cm thickness) can be made locally.
- The field selected for nursery should be ploughed, and leveled to have uniform gradient slope a week before nursery raising. Later it should be puddled and allowed to settle for 24 or 48 hrs depending on soil type.
- Select the varieties suitable for the location.

- Treat the seed with Carbendazim @ 1 g per kg seed.
- Soak the seed for 24 hours and then incubate for another 24/48 hours for sprouting.
- Dry seeds can also be used for seeding, but it takes more time for germination.



Filling puddled soil in wooden frames

- Spread the polythene sheet without any folds on puddled soil.
- Two persons can arrange wooden frames on opposite direction on the polythene sheet
- Well settled puddled soil free from pebbles and stones



Spreading sprouted seed on puddled soil in wooden frame

should be filled into the wooden frames to a maximum depth of 2 cm.

- In each partition of the frame, spread 120 g (fine grain) to 160 gm (coarse grain) sprouted seed. Thus for one hectare 24-32 kg seed is required.
- Cover the nursery with paddy straw after seeding for 4-6 days to prevent bird/rain damage. If paddy straw is not available, gunny bags or shade net can be used for protection.
- Irrigate the nursery daily except on the rainy days otherwise the sheet gets heated up and seedlings will die.
- 19:19:19 or 13:0:45 @ 10 g/l of water may be sprayed based on the growth of the nursery.

If Iron and Zinc deficiencies are noticed in the nursery 25 g of FeSO₄/10g of ZnSO₄ per 10 litres of water should be sprayed depending on the deficiency symptoms.



Covering the wooden frame with paddy straw

- Seedlings in a well managed nursery should be even and have attained 15-20 cm height with 3 leaves at 14-17 days. The ideal weight of the each sheet of nursery is 4.5-5 kg.
- The mat nursery can be rolled and it can be fed to machine for transplanting.

Preparation of Main field: After completion of crop season, the main field should be ploughed once or twice. Puddle the field first with tractor attached rotovator in low speed and then with high speed gear to prevent percolation losses and to maintain standing water depth of 1-2 cm.

Machine planting: Machine planting can be done either with walking or riding type rice transplanters. The walking type transplanters costs around Rs. 2.3 lakhs, whereas the riding type without reverse gear costs around Rs. 2.5 lakh.



14-17 days old nursery

Four wheel drive riding type transplanters costs varies from Rs. 10.5-16.5 lakhs depending on the machine and number of rows to be planted.

Nursery raised on polythene sheet must be rolled out from polythene sheet one hour before transplanting. This helps in draining of water from the mats, thereby reducing the weight and stickiness and aids in easy transplanting. Row to row spacing of 24-30 cm and hill to hill spacing of 12,14,16,18 and 20 cm can be maintained based on the transplanter. A plant density of 2-8 plants per hill can be maintained using machine transplanters.



Mat Nursery fed into transplanter for transplanting

Weed management: Pretilachlor @ 1.25 litres or Butachlor @ 2.5 litres or Oxadiagryl @ 87.5 g per hectare is mixed in 50 kg sand to be broad casted within 3-5 days after transplanting (DAT). Pyrazosulfuron ethyl @ 200g/ha can be applied 8-10 DAT or Bispyribac sodium @ 250 ml/ha can be mixed in 200 litres of water and sprayed at 15-20 DAT. Power weeder can be operated at an interval of 10 days twice or thrice 25 DAT which efficiently controls the weed population under mechanized planting and adds organic matter to the soil. Power weeder consumes 1 litre petrol per hour and daily 1.5 - 2 ha can be completed.

Nutrient management: Organic and biofertilizers can be used along with inorganic fertilizers to supply balanced nutrients to the crop. 120-150 kg of N, 60 kg of P_2O_5 and 50 kg of K₂O can be applied per hectare. The nitrogenous fertilizers can be split into three equal parts and applied before puddling, tillering stage & panicle initiation stage. Ensure sufficient soil moisture is maintained at the time of fertilizer application. Irrigate the field 24-36 hours after fertilizer application, entire dosage of phosphatic fertilizers can be applied at the time of puddling whereas the potassic fertilizers are split into two equal doses and applied just before last puddling and at panicle initiation stage. Care should be taken such that complex fertilizers are not applied as top dressing.

Water management: Seedlings of 15-20 cm height are generally preferred for machine transplanting of paddy. So, the thumb rule is to maintain a water level of 1-2 cm from transplanting to tillering stage. Increase in water levels during this stage reduces the tiller production, whereas, a water level of 5 cm depth should be maintained from panicle initiation to grain hardening stage. Drain the fields 7-10 days before harvesting.

Adopting the recommended agricultural practices in convergence with mechanization not only over comes labour problem but also increases the yield by 10% and improves the water use efficiency.

New Initiatives

Prime Minister Inaugurates KVK at Bellampally

Sri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister laid the Foundation Stone for 25 new *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* across the Country in which our PJTSAU also had some centres. One such KVK of PJTSAU at Budakalan Village of Bellampally Mandal, Mancherial District was inaugurated on the occasion of *Krishi Unnati Mela* and National Conference of KVKs 2018 organized at Pusa campus, New Delhi on 17th March, 2018. The Foundation Stone laying programme of KVK, Bellampally was attended by Dr. D.Raji Reddy, Director of Extension, PJTSAU, along with public representatives namely, Durgam Chinnaiah, MLA, Puranam Sathish Kumar, MLC, Adilabad and N. Divakar Rao, MLA, Mancherial.

On this occasion all the KVKs of the University mobilized around 6707 farmer beneficiaries and arranged live web telecast of the Inaugural programme of *Krishi Unnathi Mela* and Hon'ble Prime Minister's address to farmers at their respective campuses. Sri B.B. Patil, MP, Zaheerabad, Sri Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Minister for Agril. and Cooperation & Seed Corp., Govt. of Telangana participated at KVK, Rudrur, Sri Gutha Sukhender Reddy, MP, Nalgonda & Chairman, TRRSS participated at KVK, Kampasagar, Sri Jalagam Venkat Rao, MLA, Kothagudem participated at KVK, Kothagudem, Sri Banoth Madan Lal, MLA, Wyra participated at KVK, Wyra and interacted with the farmers.



Dr. N.Divakar Rao, MLA addressing the gathering during inauguration of KVK, Bellamplly



Dr. D. Raji Reddy, Director of Extension, PJTSAU at inauguration of KVK, Bellampally

Orientation for the New Recruits

A three day orientation programme on "Service Rules and University Regulations" for 164 newly recruited Assistant Professors was organized by the Educational Technology Cell of the University from 22^{nd} to 24^{th} March 2018 at WTC Auditorium, Rajendranagar . Addressing the newly recruited Assistant Professors, Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice

chancellor advised the scientists to direct their research in providing solutions to the farmers and concentrate on increasing productivity, soil fertility and farm mechanization; he insisted that teaching staff should adopt innovative teaching methodologies, while extension scientists should reach farmers at the remotest corner and



Newly recruited Assistant Professors with Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice chancellor at Orientation programme

provide them technological updates and timely solutions for their problems. Dr. K.S.Dangi, Dean of Agriculture stressed upon duties and responsibilities of a teacher impressing upon the participants that prior preparation well ahead for class would avoid confusion and improves the teaching quality. He ended his address with inspiring quotes "No substitute for hard work" and "Do something what other's won't do". Dr T.Pradeep, Director of Research briefed about formulation of technical programmes and encouraged the researchers to have bird's eye view of research activities and

concluded that a researcher who works with patience fetches good results. Dr. D. Raji Reddy, Director of Extension emphasized on maintenance of field diary and timely submission of monthly and annual reports. As part of training, sessions on personality development, library sciences, academic regulations, examination pattern, settling audit objections, international programme opportunities, labour, legal and court cases, service rules, service matters, statistical applications, computer skills and farm management were organized.

Holy Holi Eco Colours to "Petta-thullal"

Natural Dyes and Colours Processing and Incubation Centre, PJTSAU has been making concerted efforts in producing and popularising eco friendly colours not only with in the state but has also reached out to neighbouring states. An NGO, Citizens India Foundation (CIF) from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala procured 320 kg of eco holi colours from the centre to distribute to the Sabarimala pilgrims in an endeavor to change the pilgrim's attitude from usage of synthetic colours to natural colours for performance of "Petta-thullal", a devotional dance by the pilgrims with full of colours coated all over the body which is an important ritualistic custom of the pilgrimage.



Pilgrims playing with eco-holi colours at "Petta-thullal"

Workshops, Conferences, Meetings, Seminars, Exhibitions

Farmers' Rights and Agro-Biodiversity

Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Authority, Govt. of India, New Delhi in association with PJTSAU, Hyderabad and Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI) - Zone X (Hyderabad) and Zone -XI (Bengaluru) organized a one day Regional Workshop on "Farmers' Rights and Agro-Biodiversity Exhibition" at the University Auditorium on 27th January 2018. KVK's, state extension functionaries, research stations of PJTSAU and SKLTSHU, Hyderabad, IIRR, IIMR, IIOR, NBPGR, TSSOCA, Bio-diversity Board, Hyderabad, PPV& FR Authority, New Delhi showcased varieties, land races, wild species etc. of field and horticultural crops at the exhibition.

Agro biodiversity - Calling for attention

Dr. B. Rajender, IAS, Chairperson, PPV&FRA proclaimed the existence of vast biodiversity in India and the need to



Sri C Partha Sarathi, IAS lighting the lamp during PPV&FRA workshop



Dignitaries on the dais at workshop

organize workshops at grass root level to create awareness on agro biodiversity. He announced the setting up of PPV&FRA regional office at Hyderabad. Dr. R.C. Agarwal, Registrar General, PPV&FRA stressed on the importance of farmers' rights, registration of farmers' varieties and illuminated upon simplified procedures of registration for the benefit of farmers including financial assistance provided by the authority for documentation of farmers' varieties. He expressed concern over the very few registrations and applications for awards / recognition from both the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Sri C. Partha Sarathi, IAS, APC, Govt. of Telangana remarked on less number of registrations in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and focused on volunteer participation of scientific

community to create awareness on the importance of land races and specific utility of farmers' varieties. He further encouraged the farming community to take up & compete for awards sanctioned by the authority. Dr. V. Praveen Rao,



Dignitaries releasing the poster on PPV& FR Act

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PITSAU, in his presidential address assured of definitive initiatives by the university to enhance the registration of breeders and farmers' varieties and emphasized the need for creation of knowledge management portal on DUS characterization, registration of varieties, inclusion of molecular / biochemical parameters in DUS testing, clarity on compensation mechanism for non performance of registered varieties and on organization of separate workshops by the authority to the scientists of the University to promote registrations.

Benefit Sharing and Mainstreaming of Farmer's **Varieties**

The Technical Sessions on Farmer's Rights & Registration of Varieties under PPV& FR Act, 2001 was held under the chairmanship of Dr. R.C. Agarwal, Registrar General, PPV&FRA and the Lead speakers were Dr. Ravi Prakash, Registrar, PPV&FRA, Dr. D. Raji Reddy, Director of Extension, PJTSAU, Dr. T. K. Nagarathna, Registrar, PPV&FR Authority. Another Technical session on "Benefit Sharing and Mainstreaming of Farmer's Varieties" was held under the chairmanship of Dr. K. S. Vara Prasad, Ex. Project Director,



Dr.B. Rajender, IAS and Dr. V. Praveen Rao, walking through the Agro-biodiversity exhibition.

ICAR - IIOR, Hyderabad and the lead speakers were Dr. Elangovan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, Dr. N. Shivraj, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBPGR, Hyderabad, Dr. L.V. Subba Rao, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad and Dr. Chari Appaji, Principal Scientist (Ag. Extn), ICAR -ATARI, Zone - X. A separate session for Plant Genome Savior Awardees and farmers held under the chairmanship of Dr. K. S. Vara Prasad, Ex. Project Director, ICAR - IIOR, Hyderabad discussed on their views, experiences & doubts with regard to the act.

More than 600 participants including scientists from various ICAR institutes, PJTSAU and KVK's from southern states, PG students of University and farmers from five southern states i.e., Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala participated in the programme.

Agri Tech South 2018 - Grandstand of Agri technologies on a Single platform

Agri Tech South 2018, a three day exhibition and two-day conference was organized by CII-Southern Region in association with PJTSAU from 9th to 11th February, 2018. Various stalls showcasing the modern Agri technologies were arranged by the University, allied departments and private

Sri Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Telangana state releasing the University profile.

companies. The Vice chancellor, University officers, officials from allied departments, private sector and farmers from different regions graced the occasion. Sri Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture released the "University Profile", 2018 of PJTSAU on this occasion.



Visitors at PJTSAU stall

PJTSAU & WSU, Australia work together for Digital Knowledge Extension System

PITSAU in collaboration with Western Sydney University (WSU), Australia and River Bridge Ventures (RBV) organized a two day workshop on "Digital Knowledge Ecosystem for Agribusiness: Exploring new extension models" on 23rd and 24th March, 2018 at the University Auditorium, Rajendranagar as a prelute to pilot testing of the Gyan Kisan app and finalization of testing locations of the app in Telangana State.

Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in his address emphasized on importance of digitalized extension in enriching knowledge and skills of farming community. Prof. Athula and Prof. Huda, WSU, Mr. Vishnu Gorantla, Founder, River Bridge Ventures, Officials from State Dept. of



Prof. Athula, WSU interacting with the participants at workshop Agriculture & Horticulture, and Faculty of the University, Research scholars and farmer representatives participated in the workshop.

Fine tuning technology through Farmers' feed back....

Brain storming session on "Fine tuning of nursery raising technique for machine transplanting in rice" was organized on 27th March 2018 at RARS, Warangal. Participant farmers opined that nursery raising in the field itself on polythene sheet sprinkled with thin layer of well pulverized puddled soil, a technique developed at RARS, Warangal is better than the conventional practice and saved time and labour. Based on the participants feedback it was decided to conduct similar demonstrations at Rice Research Stations and nearby farmer's fields to popularize machine transplanting. Dr. P. Raghu Rami Reddy, ADR, RARS, Warangal, Dr. R. Jagadeeshwar, Principal Scientist (Rice), team of scientists from Rice Research Centre, Rajendranagar and RARS,



Farmers & Scientists sharing experiences on mat nursery raising Warangal, farmers and custom hiring centers participated in the programme.

PITSAU showcases its strengths at Krishi Unnati Mela-2018

AI&CC of the University participated and putup a stall at Krishi Unnati Mela, 2018 organized from 16th to19th March, 2018 with the theme of Doubling Farmers income by 2022 at IARI, New Delhi. Different viable farm technologies focussing on the theme were displayed in the stall. Large number of farmers from different parts of the country visited the mela and PJTSAU stall evincing interest in the technologies showcased.



PJTSAU stall at Krishi Unnati Mela

Collaborations

MoU with PCRA

Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA), New Delhi signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University on 1st March 2018 with a vision to formulate strategies and to promote measures for accelerating conservation of petroleum products leading to environmental protection, energy security and sustainable development in Agricultural sector.



Officials of PJTSAU and PCRA at MoU signing ceremony

Skill development programme with Varsha Bioscience and Technology India Pvt. Ltd.

With a vision to enhance technical skills in post graduate students of the university in the field of agriculture, IPM, INM and organic farming by creating a platform to conduct collaborative research projects for sustainable agriculture in



Dr A. J. Peter, CEO, Varsha Bioscience and Technology India Pvt. Ltd. signs MoU with PJTSAU

the areas of common interest, an MoU was signed on 19th March 2018 with Varsha Bioscience and Technology India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad. The students would be participating in sponsored research programs of mutual intrest to both the stake holders.

PJTSAU inks MoU with IIZC

Ichaana Indo-Can Zeolite Corp (IIZC), Canada represented by Bala Pratap Reddy U, Managing Director, entered into MoU with Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University represented by Dr S. Sudheer Kumar, Registrar, on



MD, IIZC exchanging MOU with Registrar, PJTSAU in the presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

 23^{rd} March 2018 to undertake research by testing usage of natural Zeolite for development of various applications in the field of Agriculture and Horticulture under variable soil and climatic conditions.

Capacity Building

Mandal Agricultural Officers trained as Agronomists

In compliance with the instructions of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of Telangana, a training module entitled "Agro technologies for productive and profitable Agriculture in Telangana state" with an intuition to transform the Mandal Agricultural Officers (MAOs) as Agronomists, nine training programmes were conducted at Extension Education Institute, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad on various Agro technologies i.e Agrometeorolgy, crop production technology of crops viz, Rice, Millets, Groundnut, Castor, Safflower, Sesame, Soybean, Redgram, Greengram, Blackgram, Sugarcane, Integrated nutrient management, management of problematic soils, Integrated Pest management of major crops and storage pests, farm mechanization and post harvest management. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sri M.Jagan Mohan, IAS, Commissioner and Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Telangana, Dr. D. Raji Reddy, Director of Extension, PJTSAU actively monitored and interacted with officers during the programmes. The vice chancellor advocated that the



Dr. V. Praveen Rao and Sri M. Jagan Mohan, IAS, awarding certificate to MAO trainee.

Agricultural officers should render their services to farmers in all farm operations starting from land preparation to post harvest management. The commissioner of Agriculture emphasized on creating awareness to farmers on the importance of soil test based fertilizer application and need based pesticide application thereby reducing the cost of cultivation. 426 MAOs were trained as Agronomists.

Rural Youth trained as Green House Operators

One Month Skill Development Programme on "Green house Operator " a first of its kind in Telangana state was conducted jointly by PJTSAU and PDFC, New Delhi for farmers/rural youth from 1st February to 8th March, 2018 at

Water Technology Centre, PJTSAU. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Sri L Venkata Ram Reddy, Commissioner of Horticulture. The programme emphasized on imparting

practical skills to trainees with a fine blend of theory and practical classes. The programme was oriented towards imparting skills in maintenance of green house, fertigation, media preparation, pest management, production of

flowers and vegetables in the green house. Twenty nine trainees with a background of Diploma in Agriculture / Agricultural Engineering participated in the training programme.



Hands on training: Bed preparation under Shade Net



Dr. T. Pradeep, Director of Research releasing CD at the closing session

Accelerating the pace of Seed Production in field crops



Scientists of SRTC and KVK, Rudrur interacting with farmers of Nizamabad

A one day training programme on "Seed production in Field Crops" was organized by Seed Research and Technology Centre, Hyderabad on 22nd February 2018 in collaboration with KVK, Rudrur for progressive farmers on the importance of quality seed characterized with high genetic and physical purity, good germination percentage, free from weed seeds and other crop seeds, pest and disease infested seeds and other impurities. Eighty farmers from Kotagiri, Rudrur, Bodhan, Nasrullabad, Birkur and Banswada mandals participated in the programme and shared their experiences in seed production of different crops and on major field problems faced during kharif and rabi.

Maize as remunerative crop.... **Training to TSP beneficiaries**

A one day Training programme on Maize production technologies was organized on 28th February 2018 at Maize Research Centre, Rajendranagar under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP).

Dr.J.C.Sekhar, Principal Scientist (Ento) & In-charge WNC, IIMR enlightened the importance of rainfed crop management, crop rotation, integrated farming system in maize. Dr. V.Narsimha Reddy, Principal Scientist & Head, Maize Research Centre presented an over view of maize crop scenario in Telangana State. The trainee farmers visited research fields and gained first hand knowledge on different maize hybrids and pest management. Dr. J. C. Sekhar distributed the hand shellers and certificates to TSP

beneficiaries. The programme was attended by 26 ST farmers from Muduchintalapalli village, Lingpur Thanda, Shamirpet mandal, Medchal Malkajgiri district.



Scientists of Maize Research Centre, Rajendranagar distributing hand shellers to trainee farmers

Awareness Programmes on PPV & FRA, 2001



Sri Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Telangana state at the PPV & FRA exhibition, KVK, Rudrur

All the KVKs of the University organized awareness cum training programmes on "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Act, 2001" on 17th March, 2018 at their respective KVK 's for creating awareness among the farming community about the Act and educating them about registration and other related aspects.

Distinguished Visitors

State Legislative Committee applauds University

The State Legislative Committee on welfare of Backward Classes appreciated the efforts of the University in implementing reservation to backward class employees and students. The committee visited PJTSAU on 31st January 2018 and reviewed the implementation of rule of reservation in appointments, admissions and welfare measures being taken up for the backward class employees / workers in the University. The team including Sri V. Gangadhar Goud, Hon'ble Chairman and Sri T. Prakash Goud, Sri R. Krishnaiah, Sri C. Vittal Reddy, Members and officials from secretariat interacted with Dr. V.Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and representatives of the BC employees association of the University. Dr. V.Praveen Rao and Dr S.Sudheer Kumar, Registrar informed that out of 738 sanctioned teaching

posts in the University, 361 teaching staff are on rolls out of which 138 members belonged to BC category constituting around 36.5% of the total staff. Similarly out of 1437 sanctioned non teaching posts 918 are on rolls of which 399 of them belong to BC category constituting 43.4% of non teaching staff. The total number of BC students in the University at undergraduate level are around 44.3% while at diploma level are around 62%.

The committee chairman applauded the University on attaining 12th rank at National level ranking of Agricultural Universities and on serving the farming community by releasing 13 new crop varieties. The committee advised to initiate a BC cell at the University and to increase the seats in undergraduate courses.



Chairman & Members of Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes interacting with Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Registrar, PJTSAU

Trainees from NIRD visit the University

Twenty five participants from 19 countries who were undergoing training programme on "Sustainable Agricultural Strategies for Rural Development" at NIRD, Rajendranagar visited the Millet Processing and Incubation Centre, Rice & Maize Experimental Plots at ARI, Quality Control Lab, Pesticide Residues Lab, Seed Research Technology Centre, Extension Education Institute, Institute of Biotechnology and College of Agriculture on 20th January, 2018 and were appraised about research initiatives of the University.

German Scientist visits PJTSAU

Prof. Michael Kruse, University of Hohenheim, Germany, visited the University on 2nd March 2018 and the expert spoke on "Establishing threshold levels in seed testing, new technologies in classical seed testing and sampling and Research funding in Germany" and later explored on collaborative activities of scientific staff and students of both the institutes with Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. T. Pradeep, Director of Research and other University Officers of PJTSAU.

PJTSAU to technically backstop SERP initiatives

Mrs. Pausumi Basu IAS, Chief Executive Officer of Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), visited the Millet Processing and Incubation Centre (MPIC) on 15th March 2018 and initiated steps to tie up with the University to train SHG

groups in millet processing and other areas of intrest with a view to establish small units in rural areas. Later Mr.Kiran Kumar, Project Manager was enlightened on the financial aspects and production capacities of the small scale units.

Awards & Honours

- > The Electronic Wing of PJTSAU received a certificate of appreciation at centenary celebration of *Kisan Call Centre* organized by Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India in recognition of their significant contribution to the capacity building of personnel of Kisan Call Centre, Hyderabad.
- > Dr. M.Rajeshwar Naik, NSS Programme Officer, of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad was awarded State Level NSS Award as "The Best Programme Officer" for the year 2016-17 on 26th February, 2018 at Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda, Telangana State.
- > Dr. Sreedhar Chauhan, Senior Scientist, Sri M. Mahesh, AEO & Sri S. Devanand, JACT (Out sourcing) Agricultural Research Station, Adilabad received "Certificate of Appreciation" for having rendered meritorious services from the District Collector, Adilabad on the occasion of Republic Day Celebrations-2018.
- The students of PJTSAU secured 3rd place among 51 State Agricultural Universities of India in the inaugural procession at Agri-Unifest 2018 held at Tirupati from 12th to 16th February 2018 for exhibiting Telangana culture in an exemplary manner.
- ➤ 19 NSS volunteers participated in the State Level NSS Youth Festival held at Kakatiya University, Warangal from

- 9th to 10th March 2018. The student volunteers bagged four first prizes in Quiz (K. Mounika, K. Jagadeesh & V. Madhukar), Poster Painting (Ch. Shiva Jyothi), Essay writing (M.Sanjana) and Exhibition (A. Akshara Reddy and team) and two second prizes in Elocution and Classical dance and overall third position amongst the Universities of Telangana State.
- > T. Vasanth Rao and K. Sai Jithendra of Agricultural College, Jagtial bagged third prize in cultural activities at the National Integration Camp organized by State Laision Cell, NSS, Govt. of Karnataka from 15th to 21st March 2018 at Bangalore University Campus, Kengeri, Bangalore.
- K. Praneetha and V. Manasa Reddy of Agricultural College, Jagtial secured silver medals in National Wako India Kick Boxing Federation Cup - 2018 held from 16th to 20th January, 2018 at Talkatora Indoor Stadium, New Delhi.
- > T.Revanth Choudary from College of Agricultural Engineering, Kandi, Sangareddy won 3rd Prize in Elocution competition in "World Water Week" celebrations held at WALAMTARI from 20th to 22nd March 2018.
- Ms. A. Shanmukha, Mr. K. Abhilash Reddy and Ms. K. Manasa of Agricultural College, Aswaraopet won prizes at District level literary competitions held on the occasion of National Voter's Day.

Celebrations

National Voters Day

National Voters Day was celebrated on 25th January 2018 at all the campuses of University. A rally of 200 NSS volunteers with placards and slogans on importance of exercising the vote to enhance the quality of democracy was taken at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar. The Associate Dean, staff and



Dr. A. Manohar Rao, Hon'ble Member, Board of Management, PJTSAU flags off the rally on Voters Day

students of Agricultural College, Aswaraopet took a pledge to encourage more young voters to take part in the political process, the NSS Volunteers of Agricultural college, Palem took pledge and rallied in the village giving slogans on the importance of vote.

Republic Day

69th Republic Day was celebrated on 26th January 2018 with great integrity and patriotism. Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice chancellor hoisted the National flag on the occasion of Republic day in the University campus and addressed the teaching, nonteaching staff and students of the University on the significance of the day and the targets to be reached by the university. All the colleges, research and extension centres of the university celebrated Republic Day in a befitting way.



Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU and others saluting the National Flag

World Forest Day

World Forest Day was celebrated at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar on 21st March 2018. Dr. D. Narasimha Reddy, Former Member, Cotton Board addressed the gathering on "Sutainable cities and Forests", while Dr. Kondavalli Narasimha Reddy, Retd. Director, AYUSH addressed on



DSA inaugurates the World Sparrow day at CA, R'Nagar

"Medicinal plants in Primary Health Care". Dr. A. Manohar Rao, Hon'ble Member, Board of Management, PJTSAU, Dr. K. S. Dangi, Dean of Agriculture, PJTSAU graced on the occasion.

World Sparrow Day

World Sparrow Day was celebrated on 20th March 2018 at College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar. On this occasion talks and painting competitions were organized to spread awareness on dwindling population of sparrows especially in the urban areas and measures to build the population.

Cups and Trumpets

- ➤ Inter zonal sports, games, cultural and literary meet for the Teaching staff was held from 8th to 10th January, 2018 and 155 teachers participated in the event. The overall championship in sports and games for men and cultural & literary events was bagged by Rajendranagar Zone. While Northern Telangana Zone bagged the award in women category.
- Inter zonal sports, games, cultural and literary meet for the Non-teaching staff was held from 15th to 17th February, 2018 and 175 non-teaching staff participated in the event. The overall championship in sports and games for men &



The Jubilant men team of Rajendranagar zone with overall trophy

- women was bagged by Rajendranagar Zone and for cultural and literary events was won by Southern Telangana Zone.
- ➤ Inter zonal sports, games, cultural and literary meet for the polytechnics was held from 7th to 9th March, 2018 and 260



The Winning She team with the dignitaries

polytechnic students have participated in the event. The overall championship in sports and games for boys was bagged by Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Rajendranagar while Agricultural Polytechnic, Warangal took the trophy in girls category and the trophy for cultural & literary events was bagged jointly by Agricultural Polytechnic, Kampasagar and Palem.



 $\textit{Dr. V. Praveen Rao, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, PJTSAU addressing the participants at Inter zonal sports meet of Teaching staff$

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