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*From the Vice Chancellor's Desk*

*Sustainable Agriculture: Fulfilling the Promise of the SDGs*

Dear Colleagues,

India, as a signatory to the 2030 Agenda, has committed to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which reinforces its commitment to global cooperation and development. The SDGs are a set of 17 global goals established by the United Nations in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These goals address a wide range of social, economic, and environmental challenges, with the ultimate aim of creating a more sustainable and equitable world. The importance of the SDGs for India, like for any other country, is significant for several reasons.

The agriculture is intrinsically linked to several SDGs and can significantly contribute to their achievement. For SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), sustainable and efficient agricultural practices are essential to ensure an adequate and nutritious food supply for the world's growing population. Sustainable agriculture practices, such as reducing the use of pesticides and promoting organic farming, contribute to the reduction of health risks associated with chemical exposure can contribute to achieve Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3). Sustainable water management practices in agriculture are essential to ensure the availability of clean and safe water for both agricultural and domestic purposes for Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6). Being an Agriculture based economy, Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8) can be achieved by enhancing productivity and income opportunities for those engaged in the sector. Agriculture often involves marginalized and vulnerable populations. Promoting equitable access to land, resources, and technology in agriculture can help reduce inequalities is helping to Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10). Agriculture is both a contributor to and a victim of climate change. Probability the most crucial goal i.e. Climate Action (SDG 13) can be achieved by interventions such as conservation tillage, agroforestry, and the use of climate-resilient crop varieties, can help mitigate the sector's impact on climate change and enhance its resilience to changing weather patterns.

Agriculture provides a platform for public-private partnerships and international cooperation to for Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12) is encouraged by responsible and efficient use of resources, minimizing waste and pollution. This contributes to more sustainable patterns of consumption and production. Agriculture is an important source of employment and can provide opportunities for education and skill development in rural areas for Quality Education (SDG 4). Agriculture is a sector where women play a significant role for all the farm operations starting from sowing to harvesting, ensuring women's access to land and resources, empowers women contributes to Promoting gender equality (SDG 5). Agriculture's impact on water quality can affect marine ecosystems, contributing to the conservation of marine life for Life below Water (SDG 14).

Sustainable Development Goals are highly relevant to India as they provide a comprehensive and integrated framework to address the country's multifaceted development challenges, improve the well-being of its citizens, promote economic growth, and ensure environmental sustainability. The agricultural scientists have to play a significant role in conducting research that supports sustainable agricultural practices and contributes to the achievement of multiple Sustainable Development Goals.



**(V. P. Chovatia)**

## JAU achieves 33<sup>rd</sup> Rank in India Today University Rankings 2023

JAU achieved an overall 33<sup>rd</sup> rank among the Top General (Govt.) Universities in the country in India's Best Universities-2023 ranking released by India Today in August 2023. The university's performance in the academic year 2021-22 was evaluated by India Today-MDRA using (i) REG (Reputation & Governance); (ii) ARE (Academic & Research Excellence); (iii) ILE (Infrastructure & Living Experience); (iv) PLD (Personality & Leadership Development); (v) CPP (Career Progression & Placement); (vi) OB (Objective Score); and (vii) PS (Perceptual Score). JAU received a total score of 961.4 and scored maximum in ILE (127 out of 175). Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. R. B. Madariya, Director of Research, and Dr. P. M. Chauhan, Registrar, JAU, expressed their happiness to note the university's progress and, at the same time, appealed to the teaching faculties, scientists, and students to work steadfastly with the best of their performances to keep improving the university's overall score.

Overall Rank	City	REG	ARE	ILE	PLD	CPP	O.S.	P.S.	Total Score
2023	3022	(20)	(10)	(17)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)
Junagadh Agricultural University	Junagadh	182.1	186	127	87.7	127.5	610.3	301	961.4

## Visit of Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Government of Gujarat

Shri Raghavjibhai Patel, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Cow-Breeding, Fisheries, Rural Housing, and Rural Development, Government of Gujarat, visited the Agricultural Research Station (Fruit Crops), JAU, Mahuva, on August 20, 2023, accompanied by dignitaries and officials of the Government of Gujarat. During his visit, Dr. R. B. Madariya, Director of Research, JAU, and Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education, JAU, were also present.

Dr. Madariya apprised the dignitary about various agro-oriented activities at the Mahuva center, including coconut hybrid breeding, sales, farmer training, and farmer-focused research and recommendations. The visit also included a tour of Asia's largest elite seed farm at the Agricultural Research Station, established for the production of hybrid coconut seeds, with an explanation of the mechanism for naturally produced hybrid seeds.

The Minister was also given a tour of the coconut seedling nursery at the station, wherein Dr. Madariya explained different varieties of coconut seedlings. Additionally, a tree plantation activity was organized during the visit. The Honourable Minister

acknowledged the center's performance and for its grassroots research and extension activities benefitting farmers, and congratulated to entire team for their excellent work.



## JAU Inks MoU with Western Sydney University, Australia

JAU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Western Sydney University (WSU), Sydney, Australia, in agriculture education and research on September 18, 2023, in New Delhi under the NAHEP-IDP scheme. The MoU aims to start a dual degree program for the UG and PG students of JAU, besides opening the doors for opportunities in student/faculty exchange and research collaboration. Expressing satisfaction about the milestone, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU, while talking to the media, asserted that the MoU is yet another feather in the hat of the university, as the students would now get an opportunity to explore international contacts and widen their knowledge from a renowned institute like WSU, apart from the profound benefit of a dual degree. During the signing ceremony, Prof. Barney Glover AO, Hon'ble VC, WSU, was present along with the delegates from WSU as well as Dr. P. M. Chauhan, Registrar and Co-PI (IDP), and Dr. K. C. Patel, Director (IT Cell) from JAU.



## Alumni Meet-2023 of CoA, Junagadh

The Alumni Meet-2023 of the College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh, was organized during September 16–17, 2023 under NAHEP-IDP. This was the third edition of the alumni meet of the college, and it recorded the eager participation of more than 750 former UG and PG students from all walks of life and vocations. The meet was a resounding success, with the enthusiastic gathering of the alumni right from the first batch of the college that graduated in the academic year 1964–65 to the latest graduated batch of 2022–23. Earlier, Dr. S. G. Savalia, Principal and Dean, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, welcomed the gathering during the inaugural ceremony, in which Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, graced as the President. During their interactions with students, the alumni shared their life and professional experiences, laced with college memories, and gave valuable messages to the young alumni and students on agripreneurship.



## International Training of CAET students at Western Sydney University, Australia

Under NAHEP-IDP, ten (10) undergraduate students from CAET, JAU, Junagadh completed international training at Western Sydney University, Australia, from July 28, 2023, to September 25, 2023, on several aspects such as phenotyping, drones and their applications, IoT, greenhouse and glass house management, and vertical farming. Beyond professional training, the students also participated in a lot of cultural activities, local community engagements, and celebrated the 77th Indian Independence Day with students from other states of India at the university, Australian citizens of Indian origin, and other Australians.



The training not only provided an opportunity for the students to enhance their grasp in their domain and be abreast of global cutting-edge technologies but also presented them with a platform to hone their networking skills and explore new career and entrepreneurship opportunities, besides widening their world views and perspectives.

## International Training of CoA, Amreli Students at Kasetsart University, Thailand

Under the aegis of NAHEP-IDP of JAU, three (3) students from CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya, Amreli, viz., Ms. Anekatt Georeca, Ms. Butani Hetvi, and Mr. Rahul Kumar of VII semester B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture underwent international internship-cum-training, from August 24, 2023, to September 26, 2023, at the World Vegetable Center's East and South East Asia Research and Training Station, Kasetsart University, Thailand.



The students were trained under the supervision of Mr. Somchit Pruangwitayakun, Vegetable Research and Training Officer of the center on the topic "Safe vegetable production: Integrated pest management, home gardening and vegetable grafting." The students also undertook many field surveys, as a part of their training, and got the first-hand experience of the rural side of Thailand and about the prevailing cropping pattern and the type of technologies adopted and value addition practices taken up by the farmers in Thailand.

## International Training of Faculties

### Dr. P. R. Davara at Teagasc Food Research Centre, Ashtown, Dublin, Ireland

Dr. P. R. Davara, Assistant Professor, Department of PFE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, completed his 45-days international training under NAHEP-IDP at Teagasc Food Research Centre, Ashtown, Dublin, Ireland, from August 06, 2023 to September 15, 2023. During the training, Dr. Davara received hands-on training in operating some of the advanced food processing equipment.



The training also involved practical demonstrations of the various analytical instruments used for the quality

analysis of food products. He also paid an exposure visit to Teagasc Food Research Center and Moorepark Technology Ltd. (MTL), Moorepark, Fermoy, Ireland. Besides, Dr. Davara also learned in detail about milk and dairy product analysis and the pilot-scale plant for milk and cheese processing.

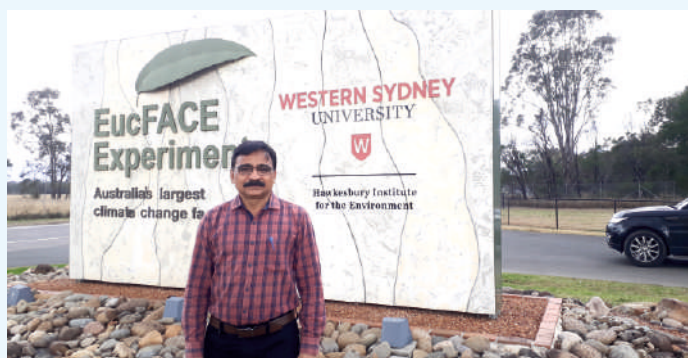
### **Dr. M. S. Dulawat at Hokkaido University, Japan**

Dr. M. S. Dulawat, Assistant Professor, Dept. of REE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, underwent a two and a half month international training at the Laboratory of Agricultural Biosystem Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture at Hokkaido University, Japan, from July 06, 2023, to September 18, 2023. Under the mentorship of Dr. Iwabuchi Kazunori, a professor of international repute in bioresource and environmental engineering, his training focused on the areas of biochar and compost production and the utilization of these materials as energy sources and for crop production purposes. His international training has opened up new opportunities for student-faculty interactions in academics, research, and capacity building between JAU, Junagadh, and Hokkaido University, Japan.



### **Dr. K. C. Patel at Western Sydney University, Australia**

Dr. K. C. Patel, Director of IT, JAU and Assistant Professor, Department of SWCE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, completed his international training-cum-exposure visit during August 03-16, 2023, under the aegis of NAHEP-IDP at Western Sydney University, Australia. This international visit was an enriching experience for Dr. Patel, as he was given an orientation to the advanced technologies developed at the Australian university and their specific applications for a variety of purposes in agriculture and allied sciences. Besides, he also interacted with the faculties and students of Western Sydney University to understand the possible future collaborations that the university can have with JAU, Junagadh



### **Dr. P. A. Pandya at Western Sydney University, Australia**

Dr. Parthsarathi A. Pandya, Technical Officer to Hon'ble VC and Assistant Professor, Department of SWCE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh was invited for one-month international training under NAHEP-IDP at Western Sydney University (WSU), Sydney, Australia, from August 29 to September 29, 2023. During the training, he acquired valuable insights into a diverse array of experiments on protected cultivation, precision agriculture, agricultural water management, water harvesting and recycling, and climate change facilities. The training of Dr. Pandya was meticulously curated and facilitated by eight researchers at WSU. Besides, Dr. Pandya interacted with six distinguished researchers at other esteemed universities and a drone manufacturing and service provider company in Sydney. In a nutshell, this training not only expanded the concerned scientist's knowledge in pertinent technological domains but also paved the way for exploring potential future collaborations between JAU and WSU.



### **Dr. Chandrakant Singh at The University of Queensland, Australia**

Dr. Chandrakant Singh, Assistant Research Scientist, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, completed his international training program under NAHEP-IDP at the Centre for Crop Science, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. This training, conducted under the guidance of Dr. Vijaya Singh, took place from August 19 to September 20, 2023. The training program focused on "Enhancing crop resilience: High throughput phenotyping and root physiology investigations under drought stress."



## Training Programmes under NAHEP-IDP

Various departments of the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology (CAET), JAU, Junagadh organized a series of four training programs, under NAHEP-IDP, spanning over five days, i.e. August 21–25, 2023 for B.Tech (Agril. Engg.) students. During the combined inaugural of these four concurrent trainings, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR and PI (IDP), Dr. P. M. Chauhan, Principal and Dean, CAET and Co-PI (IDP), Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, and other university officers remained present and appreciated the organizers for coming up with a timely and exciting topic for training. The details of these four concurrent trainings are as below.



### Training on "Remote Sensing and GIS in Water Resource Management"

A five-day vocational training program on "Remote Sensing and GIS in Water Resource Management" was organized by the Center of Remote Sensing and Geoinformatics in Agriculture, Department of Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh. The experts from the TGIS, Ahmedabad, were roped in to deliver their expert talks and conduct hands-on training. The training benefited 42 UG students pursuing B.Tech. (Agril. Engg.).



### Training on "Start-up Opportunities for Exporting Irrigation Equipment"

The Incubation Center on Advanced Irrigation Technologies, Department of Irrigation and Drainage, CAET, JAU, Junagadh organized a five-day vocational training program on "Start-up opportunities for exporting irrigation equipment". Altogether, 24 expert lectures were delivered benefiting 40 student participants. The training covered the aspects of import and export management, trade dynamics, and the procedure for obtaining importer-exporter codes (IEC).



### Training Program on "Advanced CAD Using CREO Parametric Software"

The Department of Farm Machinery and Power Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, in collaboration with by Blue Chip Info Corp, Rajkot organized a five-day vocational training program on "Advanced computer Aided Design using CREO Parametric Software". Shri Tushar Thumar, Director, Quality & Process Control, Khedut Growers & Processors of Finest Quality Peanut, Gondal, served as the chief guest. Shri Aditya Bhadesiya, Sr. Application Engineer, BlueChip Info Corp, Rajkot served as the key resource person and exhaustively covered the application part of the software package benefitting 42 participants.



### Training Program on "Emerging Trends in Food Process Industries"

A five-day vocational training program on "Emerging trends in food processing industries" was organized by the Department of Processing and Food Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh. The training comprised 26 informative lectures handled by 17 experts from academia and industry, benefiting 77 UG students pursuing B.Tech. (Agril. Engg.). The training curriculum provided in-depth coverage of the processing of grains, spices, plantation crops, fruits and vegetables, and their value-added products.



### Training Program on "Drone Training with DGCA Certification"

A six-day vocational training program on "Drone Training with DGCA Certification" was organized by the Department of Farm Machinery and Power Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, during September 4–9, 2023, under NAHEP-IDP. The event was inaugurated by Shri Anil Ranavasiya, IAS, Collector and DM, Junagadh. Dr. R. B. Madariya, DR and PI (IDP), Dr. P. M. Chauhan, Principal and Dean, CAET and Co-PI (IDP), Dr. H. Honne Gowda, CEO, Multiplex Drone Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru and Former Director, Karnataka State Remote Sensing Applications Centre, Govt. of Karnataka, remained present during the inaugural. Multiplex Drone Pvt. Ltd., an organization approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), GoI, as a Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO) facilitated the entire training program. A total of 29 UG students from CAET participated in this event. During the valedictory function, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, presented the remote pilot certificates to the trainees and congratulated for becoming one among the handful of agricultural graduates in the country to have the prestigious DGCA certification.



### Training program on "Unlock Your True Potential"

Under NAHEP-IDP, a three-day training program on "Unlock Your True Potential" was organized at CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya during September 25 and 27, 2023, benefiting 72 students of B. Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture. Shri Pushpesh and Dr. Chhaya, motivational speakers based in Gujarat, handled the sessions, providing valuable guidance to the students on goal setting, time management, interpersonal skill development, and communication skills. Dr. A. S. Dudhat, Principal, and Dr. S. S. Sapre, Assistant Professor of the college felicitated the resource persons and coordinated the event.



### Special Coaching for UG Students of JAU for Competitive Examinations

The Department of Processing and Food Engineering, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, organized a special coaching program under NAHEP-IDP for UG students of JAU for various competitive examinations, viz., GPSC-Class 1, 2, and 3, and IBPS in offline mode, from August 10, 2023, to September 23, 2023. Altogether, 94 students (comprising 53 from CAET, 21 from the College of Horticulture, Junagadh, and 20 from the College of Agriculture, Junagadh) enthusiastically participated in the special coaching program. The experts from the Jay Career Academy, Junagadh, served as the resource persons, with their lecture sessions exceeding 200 hours.



### Lecture Series of Visiting Experts from Australia

Under the aegis of NAHEP-IDP, CoA and CAET, JAU, Junagadh, organized a lecture series of visiting experts from Australia on September 14, 2023, benefitting all UG and PG students and faculties of the college. Ms. Neha Umretiya, Head of Programs, Science, Resources & Greenskills, North Metropolitan TAFE, Govt. of Western Australia, and Mr. Praful Umretiya, Plant Breeder, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), Govt. of Western Australia, were the invited experts from abroad.



## Dignitaries Visit

Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi, visited JAU on August 11, 2023, to participate in the Academic Council Meeting of the university as a representative nominated by the Director General, ICAR, New Delhi. Post deliberations at the meeting, Dr. Agrawal also interacted with the Ph.D. and MBA students of Agri-Business Management faculty at PG Institute of ABM, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. C. D. Lakhani, Principal and Dean, welcomed Dr. Agrawal and apprised him about the academic, research, and industrial project activities carried out by the faculties and students at the college.



## District Magistrate of Junagadh

Shri Anil Ranavasiya, IAS, Collector and District Magistrate of Junagadh, visited the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory developed under NAHEP-IDP at CAET, JAU, Junagadh, on September 4, 2023. He observed that the infrastructure was excellent and opined that these cutting-edge advanced technologies would go a long way in upskilling UG and PG students of agricultural engineering and allied sectors.



## Special Lecture on Climate Change

Dr. Manorama Mohanty, Scientist-E and Head of the Meteorological Center, India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ahmedabad, delivered a guest

lecture on "Climate Change: Crisis on Infinite Earth." The event was organized by the Agromet Cell, Department of Agronomy, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, on September 22, 2023. More than 150 students and faculty members attended the event and interacted with the guest speaker, who shed light on this pressing global challenge, covering various facets of climate change, its causes, impacts, and potential threats and opportunities. Dr. S. J. Sindhi, Assistant Professor (Agronomy) organized the event.



## Farmer Training cum Mulch Roll Distribution

The All-India Co-ordinated Research Project on Plastic Engineering and Agriculture Structure and Environment Management (PEASEM), Department of REE, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, organized a one-day farmers training program on the "Role of Mulching in Doubling Farmers Income" under SCSP at KVK, Pipalia, JAU, on September 21, 2023. The program was inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, in the presence of Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE; Dr. P. M. Chauhan, Principal and Dean, CAET, JAU, Junagadh, and other faculties. The training comprised expert sessions on plastic mulch application in fruit and vegetable cultivation. A demonstration of the JAU patented 'Foldable Container for Storage and Transportation of Agricultural Produce' was also organized. In addition, three plastic mulch rolls were distributed to each of the 22 Schedule Cast farmers among the participants. Altogether, 40 SC farmers from Dhoraji Taluka, Rajkot, and 15 faculty members from JAU participated in the training program.



## Farmers Training on "Integrated Management Technology to Increase Production and Productivity in Groundnut"

A one day farmers training programme on "Integrated management technology to increase production and productivity in groundnut" was organized by Main Oilseeds Research Station, JAU on September 27, 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. V.P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, JAU, whereas Dr. R. B. Madariya, Director of Research, Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh and Dr. S. P. Kachhadiya, Associate Research Scientist remained present and graced the function. During his chief guest address, Dr. Chovatia spoke on the importance of technology in improving groundnut yields. The lectures were delivered by the experts during the training programme. Farmers were oriented towards improved technological practices followed by their exposure visit to the farms of the Main Oilseeds Research Station. A total 30 progressive farmers benefited from the training programme who expressed their satisfaction about learning different varieties/genotypes of groundnut.



## Farmer Workshop on Scientific Livestock Management

A one-day farmer workshop on "Profitable Dairy Farming and Scientific Livestock Management" was organized by the KVK, JAU, Nana Kandhasar on July 07, 2023. The KVK scientists enlightened the participants about scientific feeding management, silage making, disease management, value addition of milk and their products, vaccination, housing, breeding, prevention and control of diseases in dairy animals. A total 70 farmers from Surendranagar district participated in the workshop.

## Training Programme on Natural Farming and Awareness Programme on Millets

KVK, Morbi organized training programme on "Natural Farming, Nutritional Garden and Awareness Programme on Millets" on August 24, 2023. Prof. D. A. Saradva delivered lecture on importance of millets in daily diet. Dr. L. L. Jivani, Senior Scientist and Head and Dr. K.N. Vadaria of the KVK delivered lectures and conducted practical demonstration on natural farming. In all, 48 teachers from Morbi district participated in this programme.

## Taluka-level Van Mahotsav

The 74<sup>th</sup> Taluka-level *Van Mahotsav* program was jointly organized by the Forest Department, GoG, and the College of Agriculture, JAU, Mota Bhandariya on August 31, 2023, as a part of the latter's NSS outreach. The event was graced by luminaries including, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU; Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU; Shri Kaushikbhai Vekariya, Nayab Mukhya Dandak, Amreli; Shri Vanrajbhai Kothival, Uppramukh, Taluka Panchayat; Shri M. U. Shekh, Assistant Forest Conserver, Amreli; Shri J. S. Khakhas, Range Forest Officer, Amreli; and all the staff members and students from the college, sarpanchs, and farmers of neighbouring villages. The event was also marked by the distribution of Nirdhum Chulha and saplings to farmers by the Forest Department, followed by a plantation drive at the college premises.



## Grassroots-Level Workshop on Orphan Crops

The KVK, JAU, Amreli and National Council for Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Public Leadership (NCCSD), Ahmedabad, organized a one-day grassroots-level workshop on 'Orphan Crops' at on August 6, 2023. Shri Parshottambhai Rupala, Hon'ble Union Cabinet Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, GoI, graced the event as President and Shri Dilipbhai Sanghani, Chairman of IFFCO and GUJCOMASOL was the Chief Guest. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Vice-Chancellor, JAU; Shri Ashvinbhai Savaliya, Chairman,



AMR Dairy, Amreli, and Director, Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation (AMUL); Dr. Kirit N. Shelat, IAS (Retd.), Executive Chairman, NCSSD and Former Principal Secretary, GoG; and Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU also graced the occasion.



Dr. K. D. Mungra, Research Scientist, Pearl Millet Research Station, officers from various line department, NABARD, VRTI, Rajula and BCI, Amreli as well as faculties and staff of KVK, JAU, Amreli, remained present during the event. More than 140 farmers and farm women took part in the programme and benefitted from the knowledge on "Shree Anna" cultivation, insects-pest control and various value-added products. The importance of research needs and investment requirements were also deliberated for the orphan crops.

### Training on Apiculture

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, JAU, Khapat, organized a two-day program on 'Apiculture Training' during September 14-15, 2023 sponsored by State Horticulture Department, Government of Gujarat, Porbandar. The two-day program benefitted 30 young farmers and introduced them the world of beekeeping through comprehensive training sessions, interactive discussions, and captivating live demonstrations of bees and beehives. The training was focused on both



theory and practical aspects and aimed to equip attendees with essential skills and also to upgrade knowledge for successful apiculture practices. The hands-on approach with in-depth demonstration allowed participants to gain a deeper understanding of bee behavior and hive management. This initiative not only fostered beekeeping expertise but also highlighted the crucial role of apiculture in sustainable agriculture. Farmers expressed their extreme satisfaction in attending the program and evinced interest in starting their own beekeeping enterprises in future.

### Celebration of Days

#### Independence Day Celebration

JAU enthusiastically celebrated the 77th Independence Day on August 15, 2023. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU hoisted the national flag in presence of all university officers, faculties, students and common public. The theme for this year's Independence Day was "Nation First, Always First", which was observed throughout the country as a part of the wider "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebration. During his address, Dr. Chovatia also reminisced the contribution of Junagadh and the sacrifices of its common people in the country's freedom struggle. All the Colleges, KVKs and Research Stations of JAU also celebrated the 77th Independence Day at their premises with aplomb.



#### World Ozone Day

World Ozone Day 2023 was observed on September 16, 2023, by the Department of Agronomy, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, with the participation of 170 students and faculties from all disciplines. At the global level, the day is also called the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer and is observed annually to raise awareness about the importance of preserving the ozone layer. Dr. J. B. Patel, in-charge Principal and Dean of the college, remained present as the chief guest. Dr. P. K. Chovatia, Associate Professor at the department, welcomed the gathering, while Dr. S. J. Sindhi, Assistant Professor at the department, coordinated the event and delivered a special lecture on "Save Ozone, Save the Planet." Poster and slogan competitions were also organized as a part of the program for the students, and the winners were conferred with certificates

#### World Suicide Prevention Day

The NSS Unit of CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya, observed the World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2023. Dr. Mukesh Patel, a renowned psychiatrist, and Dr. Vala, Head of the Psychology Department, Civil Hospital, Bhavnagar, were invited as resource persons. They interacted with the students and faculties about mental health discipline, managing stress and depression, scientific failure management, maintain cordial relationships, and negate suicidal thoughts.



## Start-Up Day

The 'Start-up Day' was organized at ASPEE CoA, JAU, Khapat, on September 22, 2023, in collaboration with the District Industries Center (DIC), Porbandar. Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, inaugurated the event, in which Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, and Dr. H. R. Vadar, Principal of the college, and experts from several incubation centers, academic staff from JAU and other universities, entrepreneurs, beneficiaries of start-ups, and students remained present.



## ICAR Foundation and Technology Day

The 95th ICAR Foundation and Technology Day was celebrated on July 16, 2023 by various KVKs of JAU and the details are as follows:

### KVK, Amreli

During the celebration, training cum awareness programme was organized at different villages of the district and given a compact overview of the new technology related to agriculture and allied fields developed by ICAR and importance of these technologies in agriculture field. Also, an awareness programme was conducted on millet and value addition, technology used for millet processing, technology available for value addition of millet. A total of 173 participants successfully participated during the celebration.

### KVK, Nana Kandhasar

KVK, JAU, Nana Kandhasar, celebrated the day during July 16-18, 2023. Dr. J. N. Vyas highlighted the importance of the day and the initiatives taken up by ICAR to help the farming community in varied sectors for sustainable and improved farming techniques. Dr. B. C. Bochalya focused on the importance of smart agriculture in modern day farming and the use of agriculture drones and unmanned aerial vehicle for mechanization in agriculture. Shri D. A. Patel briefed about the ICAR institute importance in Indian Agriculture and in doubling the farmers' income. In addition, a farmer-scientist interaction programme was also organized on the occasion benefitting 55 farmers.

### KVK, Pipalia

KVK Pipalia celebrated the day at Nagvadar village of Upleta taluka with a total of 40 participants including SHGs, farm women, FPOs, etc. Scientists highlighted the importance of ICAR and the role of KVKs in improving farmers' yields and incomes.

## Seventh Departmental Training/Examination

A one-day training programme for the Seventh Departmental Examination for non-academic cadre employees of JAU was organized by the Office of Registrar, JAU on August 27, 2023. The departmental examination was conducted during September 12-13, 2023. A total of 92 officers/employees of Junagadh Agricultural University participated in the training/examination.



Two batches of 15 days training programme on 'Certificate Course on Integrated Nutrient Management for Fertilizer Dealers' were completed by the Office of Directorate of Extension Education, JAU. This course was aimed to help fertilizer dealers to gain knowledge on judicious fertilizer application, soil fertility and sustainability aspects, crop productivity issues and strategies for reducing the cost of crop production.



During inaugural, Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC, JAU, stressed on effective and efficient utilization of fertilizers. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE appealed to the dealers to use the JAU iKrushi Sanhita application of JAU for bringing up-to-date knowledge for betterment of farmers. All 137 dealers were felicitated with the certificates.

## Training Program for FPO Members

A one-day training program was organized on September 25, 2023 for the members of Madhuvanti FPO of Mendara and Vanthali Talukas under the COC scheme. During the inaugural event Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU, suggested that FPOs can play a crucial role in enhancing farmers' income, creating employment opportunities, and ensuring food security in the region. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, advised the participants to take care in advance to control crop pests in the future diseases and pests. The Chairman of Madhuvanti FPO Ltd., Mr. Rameshbhai C. Vaghela gave an overview of the activities of his organization. The training covered different topics like agribusiness management, scientific cultivation of groundnut, cumin, coriander and other spices crops for higher production. The programme was coordinated by Dr. B. N. Kalsariya, benefitting 70 FPO members, and the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. H. C. Chhodvadia.



## Basic Training Course in Baking Science

A 15-week basic training course in baking science was organized by the Office of Directorate of Extension Education, JAU, Junagadh, from July 3 to October 15,



The programme was inaugurated by Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JAU in the presence of Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE JAU, and Dr. H. C. Chhodvadia. ADE, JAU, Junagadh. Dr. V. P. Chovatia Hon'ble Vice Chancellor delivered his presidential address and walked through the participants on the importance of the bakery course and about its potential in creating opportunities in food business.

## Training programme organized at SSK

A total of 13 number of On campus and five Off campus training programmes for farmers, farmwomen and extension workers were organized by SSK, office of DEE, JAU, Junagadh covering different institutions

like AKRSP(I) – Gadu, Ambuja Cement Foundation – Mangrol, AKRSP (I) –Maliya, AKRSP(I) – Sayla, ATMA project – Prantij etc., benefitting 736 beneficiaries. During this quarter of July to September 2023, 1705 no. of farmers, farm women and students visited SSK Museum and Krushi Darshnalay were facilitated.



## NSS Activities

### Blood Donation Camp

As part of its NSS outreach and activities, CoA, JAU, Mota Bhandariya, organized a blood donation camp in coordination with the Primary Health Centre, Jaliya, Amreli, on September 20, 2023. The undergraduate students and faculty of the college enthusiastically participated in this drive, raising awareness among the villagers about the importance of blood donation and its positive impact on the body for revitalization and organ health. Additionally, several students, faculty, and staff members of the college voluntarily came forward to donate blood and provided their contact details for future blood donation needs.



### NSS Special Camp

The Polytechnic in Agriculture, JAU Halvad, in collaboration with the Social Forestry Range, Halvad, organized a one-day special camp titled "Nature and Environment Protection" on September 21, 2023. The camp focused on ways and means of environment protection and dealt on 'LiFE- Lifestyle for Environment', which happens to be the message of India to the world nations during its G20 presidency. The camp was attended by 55 NSS volunteers from the institute. Dr. A. V. Khanpara, Principal; Ms. Manishaben Jambucha, RFO; and other Polytechnic and Forest Department staff interacted with the



students on environmental protection, natural resource conservation, and eco-friendly lifestyles. Students also visited the nursery of medicinal and tree plants and took a pledge on tree planting and protection.

### Meri Mitti, Mera Desh campaign

On August 9, 2023, the Polytechnic in Agro Processing, JAU, Junagadh, observed the 'Meri Mitti, Mera Desh' campaign to commemorate the nation's 77th Independence Day celebrations. Dr. N. K. Dhamsaniya, Principal of the institute, emphasized the event's significance, which honors the brave freedom fighters and heroes who sacrificed their lives for the nation's cause. As part of the campaign, the NSS volunteers at the polytechnic collected soil in the kalash (urn) and presented it to the Municipal Commissioner of Junagadh Municipal Corporation. The program was coordinated by Ms. Geeta Tomar, the NSS Officer of the Polytechnic. The students also took an oath to be model citizens of the country and never discriminate against others based on religion, race, caste, status, profession, or place.



### Special lecture on Role of Women in Nation Building and Social Activity

The Polytechnic in Agro-processing and the Polytechnic in Horticulture jointly organized a special lecture on the 'Role of Women in Nation Building and Social Activity' as part of the G-20 University Connect Program on August 10, 2023. The program was presided over by Dr. R. M. Solanki, DSW, JAU; Dr. N. K. Dhamsaniya, from the Polytechnic in Agro Processing, JAU, Junagadh; and Dr. K. D. Patel, Principal of the Polytechnic in Horticulture, JAU, Junagadh. Smt. Gayatriben Sharma Jani, Extension

Officer, GoG, was invited as the speaker, and she eloquently guided the students in developing their thoughts on the qualities of women, such as patience, inner strength, and responsibility, which contribute to their roles in society, families, communities, professions, and politics.



The event was attended by 51 NSS girl volunteers and 14 faculty members. Ms. Geeta Tomar and Ms. Naynaben Savalia, NSS officers of the respective polytechnics, coordinated the event.

### Quiz Contest on Chandrayan-3 and Aditya-L1



A quiz contest for polytechnic students on Chandrayan-3 and Aditya-L1, celebrating India's success in lunar and solar missions, was organized by the NSS unit of the Polytechnic in Agro Processing, JAU, Junagadh, on September 21, 2023. Shri Chiragbhai Kadecha and Shri Kishorebhai Chotaliya of the Junior Chamber International (JCI), Junagadh, conducted the event, which consisted of two rounds with the participation of 55 students. The quiz was intended to develop scientific rigour among the students and make them proud of ISRO's space journey over the decades and its fantabulous achievements from humble origins, inspiring them to become confident in channeling their energies and creating pathways to contribute to the nation's development. The students were able to answer many of the questions in stride, revealing their tremendous interests in science and technological pursuits.

### Technology Week Celebration

#### KVK, Amreli

Technology week was celebrated during September 12-16, 2023 at KVK, Amreli, with a view to create mass awareness among the farmers about the location specific advanced technologies for the sustainable agricultural production. Seminars and demonstrations on advanced technologies in agriculture and allied discipline such as Horticulture, Plant Protection, Crop

Production, Agriculture Engineering, Animal Science and Home science have been conducted during the week. A total 721 participants including 273 farm-women and 448 farmers were benefitted from different villages of Amreli district.



### **KVK, Jamnagar**

KVK, Jamnagar celebrated technology week during August 21-25, 2023 in which overall 402 farmers and farmwomen from different blocks of the district participated. During this week-long celebration, different themes were selected for transfer of newer technology among the farmers like IPM and IDM for Kharif crops, kitchen gardening & awareness about the role of millets in diet, concept of organic and natural farming, livestock management and special emphasis given on white grub management of groundnut, value addition of agricultural produce for more income generation.



### **KVK, Nana Kandharsar**

KVK, Nana Kandharsar, celebrated the week by organizing several events. Dr. N. B. Jadav, DEE, JAU, attended the program on September 14, 2023. Lectures were delivered by the KVK's scientists on various aspects of agriculture and allied sciences during this Week. Additionally, there was a crop exhibition for the farmers at the KVK crop cafeteria. The farmers were taken on a tour of the KVK farm and the technology unit that KVK has developed to disseminate technology to the farmers. They were also shown the seed production program for various crops on the KVK farm. A total of 365 farmers and farmwomen from Surendranagar district benefitted out of this program.



### **KVK, Khapat**

KVK, Khapat celebrated week-long event and showcased cutting-edge agricultural technologies, emphasizing their application in groundnut cultivation and various crops. Attendees experienced live demonstrations and insightful seminars covering every aspect of the agricultural process—from land preparation to marketing strategies.



### **KVK, Morbi**

During the celebrations, KVK, Morbi organized different activities like training on natural farming, visit to KVK farm, demonstration on preparation of different products of natural farming. Dr. V.P. Chovatia Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Dr. N.B. Jadav, DEE, JAU visited the center and encouraged farmer participants to embrace technology.

### **KVK, Pipalia**

KVK, Pipalia celebrated the Technology Week in collaboration with ATMA, Rajkot, during September 11-16, 2023. Over the course of this six-day event, 300 farmers and farm women actively participated from Gondal, Upleta, Jetpur, Jamkandorna, and Dhoraji talukas. The event raised awareness about new technologies, crop varieties, types of fertilizers, and other related information in the fields of horticulture, plant protection, animal husbandry, home science, women empowerment, and more. Dr. N. B. Jadav, Director of Extension Education, JAU, graced the program with his presence and provided guidance to the farmers.



## Parthenium Awareness Week

The 18<sup>th</sup> Parthenium Awareness Week was observed by various units of JAU during August 16–22, 2023 and their event details are as follows:

### Dept. of Agronomy, CoA, JAU, Junagadh

The faculties and scientists of the agronomy discipline took part in raising awareness among students and farmers about its eradication. In a special lecture given by Dr. R. K. Mathukia, Retd. Professor and Head of the department, the harmful effects of the weed on the farm ecosystem were deliberated in detail. Dr. S. G. Savalia, Principal & Dean, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, also gave a special talk to farmers on the chemical and bio-control measures for eradicating the pernicious weed.



### KVK, Amreli

KVK, Amreli, observed Parthenium Awareness Week by organizing a drive to uproot the weed and make the campus free from it. A lecture and training programme were also organized by scientists of KVK for the benefit of 172 participants. The participants farmers learned about the ways of eradicating weed from their fields.



### KVK, Nana Kandhasar

The scientists of KVK, Nana Kandhasar created awareness on the ill effects of parthenium grass both on agriculture, horticulture crops, human and animal health. Need for eradication of the widespread weed in farm lands, public places and uncultivable lands were clearly explained to the participants. Compost

preparation with parthenium and biological control of parthenium also were explained. A total of 175 farmers and farm women participated in the awareness programme.



### KVK, Khapat

KVK, Khapat, observed the week by organizing diverse activities aimed at increasing awareness, including training sessions, hands-on uprooting of parthenium from the campus, and discussions on chemical control methods. A total of 88 participants, comprising 82 males and 6 females, including both farmers and staff members, actively engaged in the week-long initiative. The concerted effort of the KVK not only raised awareness about the detrimental impact of parthenium but also fostered a collective commitment to its control and eradication among the farmers.

### KVK, Morbi

KVK, Morbi demonstrated on uprooting the weed followed by its deposition into a composting pit, benefitting 369 individuals including farmers, KVK staff and students of the Madhapar Primary School. The school students were specially excited about knowing the harmful effects of the noxious weed.

### KVK, Pipalia

The staff and labourers uprooted parthenium from the premises of KVK, Pipalia. Besides, awareness programs were also organized in Ravana village of Gondal block to educate people about the adverse effects of the weed. A total of 50 participants joined the event and were benefitted.



## Poshan Maah Celebration

POSHAN Abhiyaan has played a pivotal role in addressing malnutrition in India. The 6th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, 2023, was celebrated by all the KVKs of JAU underscoring their commitment to a comprehensive, life-cycle approach to combat malnutrition, with a particular emphasis on pregnancy, infancy, childhood, and adolescence. The event details are shared below.



### KVK, Pipalia

The activities performed by KVK Pipalia during Poshan Maah focused on the importance of millets in the diet. A total of 95 beneficiaries, including farmwomen, farmers, and adolescent girls, actively participated in the program from various villages in Dhoraji taluka, Rajkot district.

### KVK, Jamnagar

During the celebration, discussion on balance diet, importance of nutria-cereal in human health, importance of kitchen gardening and information about micro greens were organized during September 25-30, 2023 by KVK, Jamnagar. Total 30 kits of vegetable Seeds were distributed to women during the programme, and a total of 130 women participated in the celebration.

## 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' Campaign

To uphold the values of cleanliness and the dignity of physical labour, JAU organized a campus cleanliness drive under the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS), a GoI initiative observed from September 15 to October 02, 2023, under the theme: Garbage-free India. All faculty members, technical and non-technical staff, and students at various colleges, polytechnics, research stations, KVKs, and other units enthusiastically participated in the drive and committed themselves to the rigorous cleaning drive in buildings, laboratories, hostels, and all surrounding areas in their vicinity.

## Awards and Accolades

### Best Performing AICRP Centre Award

Pearl Millet Research Station, JAU, Jamnagar has been appreciated with the Best Performing AICRP Centre for the period 2022-23 during the 58th Annual Group Meeting of AICRP pearl millet, sorghum and small millets, during 10-11 July 2023 at ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad.




### Best KVK Presentation Award


KVK, Pipalia (Rajkot II) received the "Best Presentation Award" during the 6th Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa of Zone-VIII organized by ICAR-ATARI, Pune, VNMKV, Parbhani and KVK, Aurangabad-I during July 28-30 2023. Dr. A. J. Bhatt, Scientist, KVK, Pipalia, presented the activity of the workshop and received the award.



### CAET Student Scores First Rank in ICAR AIEEA (PG) Examination

In yet another proud moment for the university, Mr. Kamal Charan, a student of CAET, JAU, Junagadh, secured first rank in the ICAR-AIEEA (PG) results announced on August 22, 2023.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH				
Krishi Anushandhan Bhavan - II, Pusa, Campus, New Delhi - 110012				
ICAR AIEEA (PG) RANK CARD (Academic Session 2023-24)				
	Candidate Name	KAMAL V CHARAN	D.O.B	1 September 2001
	Roll Number	GJ01030077	Application No.	231110026283
	Category	CBC-NCL	Father's Name	VASANT CHARAN
Overall Rank	1	Category Rank	1	
Major Subject Group Name	AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY			
Marks Scored in AIEEA (PG)-2023 in the Major Subject Group	241			
Result	Eligible for registration and choice filling			

  
 Controller of Examinations (Agri. E)

Dr. V. P. Chovatia, Hon'ble VC; Dr. P. M. Chauhan, Principal and Dean of the College; and all faculty members congratulated Mr. Kamal for his tremendous

achievement and wished him the best for his future endeavors. Besides regular academic activities, the university's efforts to enhance the competitiveness and confidence of the students through special guest lectures and zero-hour classes have resulted in tangible outcomes in the form of better exam performance and top corporate placements for the students.

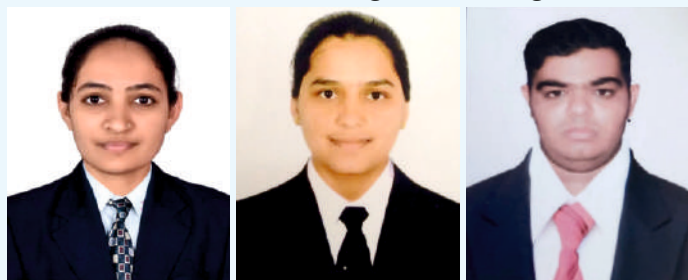
### Best Prize in Zonal Student Elocution Contest

Ms. Trada Naitri Nileshbhai, an M. Sc. (Agril. Economics) student at CoA, JAU, Junagadh, secured the first position in the Zonal Level Elocution Contest on 'Transformation of Agri-Food Systems for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals', organized by AAU, Anand, Gujarat, on August 29, 2023. In the tight contest with the participation of 22 shortlisted students from the SAUs of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh, Ms. Naitri emerged first, winning a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 and also securing her nomination to the Final Round of the elocution contest at the XVI Agricultural Science Congress 2023 to be organized by NAAS, New Delhi at Kochi, Kerala during October 10-13, 2023. Ms. Trada received her award from the hands of Dr. K. B. Kathiria, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, AAU, Anand.



### Regional Level Winners – West Zone in the National Quiz Contest

The postgraduate student team from CoA, JAU, Junagadh, comprising two students from Entomology, viz., Ms. Ranjitha S. M.; Ms. Barad Bhumiben Dilipbhai; and one from Agronomy, viz., Mr. Kadivar Mahammadsakir Rasul emerged as the Regional Level



(L to R): Ms. Barad Bhumiben D.; Ms. Ranjitha, S. M. and Shri Kadivar Mahammadsakir Rasul

Winners-West Zone in the National Quiz Contest on Food Security Mission (NQC-FSM) organized by CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru, Karnataka, in collaboration with UPL Ltd. Earlier, the selection test was conducted by the representatives from CFTRI and UPL Ltd., at the Dept. of Agril. Economics, CoA, JAU, Junagadh, on July 27, 2023.

### Superannuated Faculties/Staff JAU Parivar Wishes All a Happy and Healthy Retired Life Ahead

Sr	Name and Designation	
<b>July-2023</b>		
1	Dr. N. K. Gontia	Principal
2	Dr. V. K. Tiwari	Professor (P)
3	Dr. R. B. Thanki	Asstt. Res. Scientist
<b>August-2023</b>		
4	Dr. Pramod Mohnot	Assoc. Professor
5	Dr. N. K. Mistry	Asstt. Professor
6	Shri J. B. Butani	Agri. Assistant
7	Shri B. V. Vora	Office-Superintendent
8	Shri P. T. Adalja	Junior Clerk
9	Shri P. D. Devmurari	Welder
10	Shri K. R. Bariya	Sweeper
11	Smt. H.C. Bhil	Farm Labour
12	Shri B. U. Tota	Chowkidar
13	Smt.K. R. Makvana	Farm Labour
<b>September-2023</b>		
14	Mr. M. G. Savaliya	Asstt. Professor
15	Shri K. N. Odedara	Stenographer-II
16	Shri V. M. Sagathiya	Lab Attendant
17	Smt.K. N. Pandya	Farm Labourer



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