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Director's Message / निदेशक का संदेश

The Academy welcomed 135 newly recruited agricultural scientists in ICAR as probationers in the 110th FOCARS (Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Services). These scientist-probationers represented 24 disciplines in agriculture and allied sciences. The Academy also organized a National conference on Geospatial Technologies in Agriculture. More than 10 training programmes including 4 off-campus programmes were organized during the period. I am also happy to share that all the second year students of PGDMA got placement well before their completion of course, while first year students got selected for Summer Internship with highly reputed agribusiness companies. Our Academy bagged the "Best Landscaping Institute" Award by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Telangana.



However, due to nation-wide lockdown on account of COVID-19, the flagship programme FOCARS duration was cut short into 2 phases. Immediately after completing the Field Experiential Training (FET), FOCARS probationers had to leave for their native places. The classes of PGDMA programme were suspended and all the students were asked to go to their respective homes. Consequently, except the essential service staffs, all the staffs are working from home to discharge their duties. I hope all are taking care of themselves and their family members by remaining inside their home during this difficult time. I expect that as soon as the situation returns to normalcy, everyone will contribute with full of energy for the development of Indian agriculture.

अकादमी ने 110 वें FOCARS (फाउंडेशन कोर्स फॉर एग्रीकल्चरल रिसर्च रिसर्च) में परिवीक्षाधीन के रूप में ICAR में 135 नए भर्ती हुए कृषि वैज्ञानिकों का स्वागत किया। इन वैज्ञानिक-परिवीक्षकों ने कृषि और संबद्ध विज्ञान में 24 विषयों का प्रतिनिधित्व किया। अकादमी ने कृषि में भू-स्थानिक प्रौद्योगिकियों पर एक राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन भी आयोजित किया। अवधि के दौरान 4 ऑफ-कैंपस कार्यक्रमों सहित 10 से अधिक प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए गए थे। मुझे यह बताते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि पीजीडीएमए के सभी दूसरे वर्ष के छात्रों को अपने कोर्स पूरा करने से पहले अच्छी तरह से प्लेसमेंट मिल गया, जबकि प्रथम वर्ष के छात्रों को अत्यधिक प्रतिष्ठित एग्रीबिजनेस कंपनियों के साथ समर इंटरनशिप के लिए चुना गया। हमारी अकादमी ने बागवानी विभाग, तेलंगाना सरकार द्वारा "सर्वश्रेष्ठ भूनिर्माण संस्थान" पुरस्कार जीता।

हालांकि, COVID-19 के कारण देशव्यापी बंद के कारण, फ्लैगशिप कार्यक्रम FOCARS की अवधि 2 चरणों में छोटा कर दिया गया। फील्ड प्रायोगिक प्रशिक्षण (FET) पूरा करने के तुरंत बाद, FOCARS परिवीक्षाओं को अपने मूल स्थानों के लिए छोड़ना पड़ा। पीजीडीएमए कार्यक्रम की कक्षाओं को निलंबित कर दिया गया और सभी छात्रों को उनके घरों में जाने के लिए कहा गया। नतीजतन, आवश्यक सेवा कर्मचारियों को छोड़कर, सभी कर्मचारी अपने कर्तव्यों के निर्वहन के लिए घर से काम कर रहे हैं। मुझे उम्मीद है कि इस कठिन समय के दौरान सभी अपने घर के अंदर रहकर अपने और अपने परिवार के सदस्यों की देखभाल कर रहे हैं। मुझे उम्मीद है कि जैसे ही स्थिति सामान्य हो जाएगी, हर कोई भारतीय कृषि के विकास के लिए ऊर्जा का पूरा योगदान देगा।

(Ch. Srinivasa Rao)

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110th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service

Dr. (Smt.) TAMILISAI Soundararajan, Hon'ble Governor, Telangana State inaugurated the 110th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS) at the Academy on Jan 07, 2020. In her inaugural address, Smt. Soundararajan highlighted the role of research in strengthening agricultural production and efforts made towards achieving the goal of doubling the farmers' income set by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by the Year - 2022. Highlighting the achievements made in the foreign trade of milk and spices, she stressed upon the innovative approaches that need to be adopted to enhance the livelihoods, food and nutrition security in the context of climate change, emergence of new pests and diseases, etc. She emphasized on carrying out the focused research and extension that can help to solve the issues associated with the country's milk exports by meeting the international standards. The Hon'ble Governor urged the young probationers to take agriculture sector to the new heights and bring second Green Revolution in the country. Smt. Soundararajan appreciated the Academy's efforts taken for building the National Agricultural Research System's capacity.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM regarded the Academy as Gurukul for the agricultural scientific fraternity in the country. Dr. Rao mentioned about the increase in food production from 50 million tonnes in 1950s to 285 million tonnes today in the country. He



reiterated on the huge responsibility on these new probationers for helping the nation in sustaining the production by overcoming the latest challenges due to climate change.



A total of 135 ARS Probationers including 56 female probationers representing 28 ARS disciplines and 22 States have undergone for the Foundation Course.

(Programme Directors: Drs. RVS Rao, T Srinivas & NS Rao)



Scientific Meetings

Brainstorming Workshop on Networking of Agricultural Universities Alumni

The Academy organized a one-day Brainstorming workshop on Networking of Agricultural Universities Alumni on Jan 22, 2020 under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (Component 2A). This one-day



workshop was organised with an objective to build a robust alumni platform for National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES) & to map alumni through technological interventions and other strategies. The focus of this workshop is to build a robust alumni platform for National Agricultural Research and

Education System (NARES) and mapping the alumni of agricultural universities. Senior officials from Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University, Hyderabad and P.V.Narasimha Rao Telangana Veterinary University, Hyderabad attended. IT experts from various industries were also present during the workshop and demonstrated existing alumni mapping mechanisms including data harvesting through various social networks. In total 25 participants contributed in this workshop. Dr S K Soam, Joint Director I/C & CPI, NAHEP emphasized the need for a robust and sustainable alumni platform for NARES. Dr V V Sumanth Kumar, Senior Scientist & Co-PI, NAHEP gave overview about existing alumni platforms and workshop objectives. Dr D Thammi Raju Principal Scientist & Co-PI, NAHEP presented the overview of NAHEP activities related to mapping of Alumni.

(Coordinator: Dr. M Balakrishnan)

Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop on Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing Regulations in Agriculture Research

India is a front-runner in terms of implementation of biodiversity conservation. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Guidelines, 2014 has significant implications for the Scientists working on various bio-resources, including microbes. The law has significant relevance to the agricultural scientists in ICAR and AUs who are handling biological resources. Recognizing this, NAARM had organized an Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop on "Implementation of ABS regulation in agricultural research" during Jan 22-23, 2020 in collaboration with UNDP, GEF and Biotechnology Consortium India Limited (BCIL), drawing experts from all relevant organizations including National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai. The aim of the workshop was to enhance capacities of academic and research institutions in the public and private sector, assessing genetic resources to pursue research and transfer technology for better understanding the legal provisions and guidelines related to ABS.

The Workshop provided an overview on ABS implementation, process, status and challenges with reference to agricultural research in India. The sessions

were planned to be interactive and relevant Case Studies from NARES were discussed. The event was attended by 25 senior researches from ICAR and State Agricultural Universities associated with research and technology management at the institute level like PME Cell / ITMU specifically working on crop sciences. The workshop also introduced the different types of ABS applications at NBA which further enabled the participants to understand the legal provisions of the Biological Diversity Act.

(Coordinators: Drs. K Kareemulla, P Krishnan & B Ganesh Kumar)



National Workshops on Career Development Centre

Three National Workshops on Career Development Centre (CDC) was organized by the Academy as part of the World Bank-funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) component-2. The main objective of the workshop was to prepare the guidelines and protocols for the establishment of CDCs at five different locations of the country.



The First National Workshop was organized at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur on Feb 07, 2020. There were 50 participants representing agricultural universities and industry from the states of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh. The Second National Workshop was organized at Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner- Jaipur on Feb 12, 2020. There were 50 participants representing agricultural universities and industry from the states of



Rajasthan, Gujrat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Punjab.

The Third National workshop was organized at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur on Feb 14, 2020. There were 51 participants representing agricultural universities and industry from the states of Odisha, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

(Coordinators: Drs. N Srinivasa Rao & Alok Kumar)



Consultative Workshops on Academia-Industry-Government Linkages

During this quarter, two consultative workshops on Academia-Industry Government Linkages were organized as a part of World Bank sponsored National Agricultural Higher Education Project-Component 2A-one at Assam Agricultural University from Jan 27-28, 2020 and another at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana during Jan 28-29, 2020. The aim of the workshops is to assist agricultural universities in strengthening their linkages with industry and structuring dialogue with state government to catalyze their participation in raising the



quality and relevance of the agricultural higher education. In all 133 experts from academia (Agricultural universities), industry and government participated in these workshops. Participants were from North Eastern States and Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir participated in the workshop.

{Workshop Directors: Drs. Sanjiv Kumar (at AAU, Guwahati) & S Senthil Vinayagam (at PAU, Ludhiana)}



National Conference on Geospatial Technologies in Agriculture

National conference on Geospatial Technologies in Agriculture was organised at the Academy during Feb 20-21, 2020. It was jointly organized by the Association for Management of Agricultural Research and Agripreneurship (AMARA), Hyderabad and ICAR-NAARM. Dr (Ms.) Tessy Thomas, DG (Aeronautical Systems), DRDO inaugurated the conference. On the occasion, she lucidly elaborated the importance of various agricultural revolutions that were responsible for raise in the agriculture production in India and stressed the need for shifting from traditional agriculture to technology driven agriculture including the use of GIS tools, precision farming, use of satellite imagery, internet of things, artificial intelligence for smart agriculture to ensure food security for the increasing global population.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM and President, AMARA stressed the need for common working groups with specialists from space technology and agriculture technology towards achieving the common goal of increasing the agriculture production by applying the various GIS tools in the field of agriculture and



emphasised that both agriculture and space technology should go hand in hand towards food security and lesser GHGs. The valedictory function was graced by Dr R N Chatterjee, Director of DPR, Hyderabad on Feb 21, 2020. He highlighted the role of GIS and its applications in revolutionizing the Indian agriculture. He outlined the major applications of GIS in the field animal husbandry for conservation, disease diagnosis, epidemiology and disease forewarning.

(Organizing Secretaries: Drs. PD Sreekanth & M Balakrishanan)



Prospects of Agricultural Education: Awareness Workshop for Higher Secondary School Administrators

An awareness workshop on Prospects of Agricultural Education was organized on Feb 24, 2020. The workshop aimed to share and communicate among principals, vice principals, faculty on the prospects of agricultural education and the need for quality manpower so that the 12th standard students participate in the National Level entrance examination i.e. AIEEA -2020 (All Indian Entrance Examination for Admission) to be organised by ICAR in June 2020. About 35 participants including



Principals, Vice Principals, and Faculty in science from eight Higher Secondary Schools of Hyderabad participated in the programme. Mrs. Jaya Prada Bai B, DCEO- Hyderabad and Regional Joint Director inaugurated the programme. She stressed that these awareness programmes are very important for students to think beyond Engineering and Medicine stream, i.e. Agriculture and Allied Sciences. On this occasion, she released a flier of ICAR-AIEEA 2020 and a booklet on Career Opportunities in Agriculture and Allied Sectors.

Dr. S K Soam, CPI NAHEP Project from ICAR NAARM in his presidential address briefly described the objectives

and activities of project i.e. NAHEP and its contribution to quality and relevance of agricultural education. Dr. R Chandrashekar, Former Dean, SKLTSHU; Dr. D Vishnuvardhan Reddy, Dean of Student Affairs of PJTSAU and Dr. S T Viroji Rao, Dean of Faculties of PVNR Telangana Veterinary University explained different career prospects in their respective fields i.e. Horticulture, Agriculture and Veterinary, Fishery and Dairy Sciences. A quick brainstorming session on way forward for creating awareness was organised to develop such programmes for future.

(Coordinator: Dr. BS Yashavanth)

Focused Group Discussion on Development of Guidelines for Collaborative Research Projects on Digital Solutions in Agriculture

A Focused Group Discussion on Development of Guidelines for Collaborative Research Projects on Digital Solutions in Agriculture was organized at the Academy Feb 19, 2020 as part of National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) under the objective "To establish partnerships with globally recognized agricultural higher education institutions (HEIs)".

This meeting was organized with 15 senior officials from IASRI, State Agricultural Universities and IT Industries. As a planned agenda for this meeting, the guidelines and project proposal format were discussed and finalized for Development of Digital Solutions in Agriculture through



partnership between academic/research institutions and Private IT firms/Startups.

Research Projects

Technology Enhanced Learning in Agricultural Education

The project on Technology Enhanced Learning in Agricultural Education (TELAge) supported by ICAR Education Division under Niche Area of Excellence ended on Mar 31, 2020 which was started in 2014. The project culminated into evolving standard protocols and procedures for technology enhanced learning (TEL). It resulted in establishment of state of art TEL Lab, which is being replicated by other institutes of repute. Some of the key achievements are:

- Development of 9 digital courses in agri and veterinary streams. Development of digital content for online education in consultancy mode.
- Offering MOOCs (till now 5) in different areas of education for benefitting NARES.
- Establishment of E-learning framework for all types of teaching and learning needs.



- Support to distance education programs through virtual classes and online portal.
- Self-supporting and sustainable model of TEL and transition into Centre for Life-long Learning in Agricultural Education (COLLAge).

(Project Team: Drs GRK Murthy, D Thammi Raju, S Senthil Vinayagam, P Ramesh & M Krishnan)

Training Programmes

Developing Winning Research Proposals (DWRP)

The Academy organized two off-campus Training Workshop on, “Developing Winning Research Proposals (DWRP)” for the faculty members of Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology (MPUAT), Rajasthan at College of Agriculture, Udaipur during Jan 03-05, 2019 and for those of Kamdhenu University, Gujarat at College of Dairy Sciences, Amreli during Jan 29-31, 2020. A total of 25 faculty members from MPUAT (07 women) and 23 faculty members from Kamdhenu University (04 women) participated in the training workshops.

The program aimed at imparting the skills for writing research proposals that can win funds from donors



focusing on the needs of the stakeholders and sensitizing the participants on the various components of a research proposal. The core content of the program included elements of research concept writing; preparation of project logframes and making winning research proposals. Most exercises were through hands-on mode and the participants were introduced to the online applications developed by NAARM viz., AHP Analyser, Research Concept Writer and Project Logframe Writer.

(Programme Directors: Dr. SK Soam & P Krishnan)

Training programme for Central Joint Staff Council Members

A five-day training program for CJSC members of ICAR was held during Jan 27-31, 2020. The programme was inaugurated and presided by Dr. J.C. Katyal, Ex-Director of NAARM and Ex-DDG, Education. A total number of 89 CJSC members of various institutes of ICAR attended in this training program. During the course of training, various aspects related to strengthening the functionality of CJSC members viz, Behavioral skills, motivation, conflict management, personality development, emotional intelligence, stress management, positive thinking, communications skills, administrative skills and principles of god governance, etc. were covered. A single-day educational trip was also arranged for the participants. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM



addressed the participants during the valedictory function of the programme.

(Programme Directors: Dr. P Ramesh, Sh. C Muralidharan & Sh. ZH Khilji)

FDP on Enhancing Efficiency and Effectiveness to Develop Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

A 10-days off-campus Faculty Development Programme on Enhancing Efficiency and Effectiveness to Develop Entrepreneurship Ecosystem was organized during Feb 11-20, 2020 for the faculty members and scientists of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola. The programme was supported through National Agricultural

Higher Education Project under Innovation Grant on “Capacity Building and Skill Development in Renewable Energy”. This FDP mainly focused on enhancement of skill and capacity building of faculty in nurturing students for developing entrepreneurship in the present context

with an objective of making agriculture graduates as job providers rather than job seekers.

The major issues deliberated during programme were Framework for improving teaching effectiveness through Student Centred Teaching Learning Process, Development of Business Plans, Establishment of Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in the university and Role of teachers in transition of Students to Entrepreneurs. The programme also covered Personality profiling for

Technology Enhanced Learning

A capacity-building programme on Technology Enhanced Learning was organized during Jan 25-31, 2020 under the Niche Area of Excellence Project on Technology Enhanced Learning in Agricultural Education. The participants were provided extensive and focused insights into digital content development and management practices. A total of 22 participants from different parts of the country attended the programme. Speaking on valedictory session on 31 January 2020, Dr Ch Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM called on the participants to continue the practice of implementing their acquired knowledge for betterment of education, which in turn results in better knowledge ecosystem in Agricultural Universities. He lauded the efforts for developing online courses by each participant.

entrepreneurship development, Goal Setting for excellence, Role Perception, Managerial decision making, Leadership challenges, Motivational skills for teaching, Personal planning and effectiveness, Team Building and Stress management. 25 participants participated in the programme.

(Programme Directors: Drs. KH Rao, Ranjit Kumar & K Srinivas)



(Programme Directors: Drs. VV Sumanth Kumar & GRK Murthy)

Enhancing Efficiency and Behavioural Skills for Personal Staff of ICAR – NAARM

A six-day Training program on “Enhancing Efficiency and Behavioural Skills for Stenographers Grade-III, PA, PS and PPS of ICAR Institutes/HQs” was organized at the Academy during Feb 24-29, 2020. During the programme,

important topics viz., Rules and Bye Laws; Conduct Rules; GeM; Official Language; Team Building; Inter Personal Relationship; Changing role of PA, PS, PPS; Motivation; RTI; MIS/FMS; Organizational Behaviour and Positive Thinking were covered.

In his valedictory address, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR – NAARM urged the participants for continuing the practice of implementing their acquired knowledge in discharging their duties at the respective Institutes. 35 participants in total representing 12 States of the country participated in the programme.

(Programme Directors: Sh. PG Kohad & Sh. M Dinesh)



Koha for Library Staff of ICAR

A six-day Capacity Building program on “Koha for Library Staff of ICAR” was organized at the Academy during Feb 20-25, 2020. A total of 19 participants from different parts of the country participated in the programme representing 11 states and 13 ICAR Research Institutes from across the country.



During the course of the training programme, the trainees were exposed to introduction of Linux; installation of Ubuntu, Koha software; theoretical and practical aspects on various modules of Koha such as Administration, Acquisition, Patrons, Cataloguing, Circulation, Serials, OPAC, Reports, Tools etc. In his valedictory address, Dr. S.K. Soam, Director (I/c), ICAR – NAARM urged the

participants for continuing the practice of implementing their acquired knowledge in “Koha – Library Management Software” for strengthening libraries of ICAR institutions. This, in turn, will result in providing digital access of libraries to the staff.

(Programme Directors: Drs. NS Rao & VV Sumanth Kumar)

ICAR Summer School on ICT Applications in Agricultural Education and Extension

A 21-days ICAR sponsored Summer School on “ICT Applications in Agricultural Education & Extension” was organized at the Academy during Feb 19-Mar 10, 2020. The participants were exposed to hands on practice sessions along with theory on community radio, video, GIS, mobile applications, cloud computing, blogs, use of excel, social media, online survey tools, digital



presentations, MOOCs, flipped classrooms, web designing, CeRA, IOT and use of drones in agriculture etc. In his valedictory address, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM urged the participants to make use of ICT in their teaching, research and extension to cope up with the changing paradigm and the challenges in all spheres of their professional lives. He further said that now it is the duty of all the participants undergoing this course to showcase their knowledge by means of judicious applications of ICT in their back home situation. On this occasion, a training manual on the topic of the course was also released by Director, NAARM and distributed to the participants. A total of 24 participants from different parts of the country participated in the programme representing 12 states and 18 State Agricultural Universities, agricultural colleges and Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

(Programme Directors: Drs. Surya Rathore, M Balakrishnan & Sanjiv Kumar)

Entrepreneurial Skill Development of Graduating Students of SVVU

A training programme on "Entrepreneurial Skill Development of Graduating Students" of Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University (SVVU), Tirupati during Mar 06-12, 2020. There were 27 student-participants from veterinary, dairy and fishery science disciplines. They belonged to 5 different colleges under SVVU, Tirupati viz. CVS, Tirupati; NTRCVS, Gannavaram; CVS, Poddatur; CDT, Tirupati; and CFS, Muthukur. The programme was organized under ICAR-NAHEP Scheme of SVVU to inculcate and nurture entrepreneurship abilities among graduating students in livestock sector and to equip them with management tools needed for making successful entrepreneurs. The sessions were organized in such a way that the participants could learn about entrepreneurship and business fundamentals as well as soft skill related aspects. There were sessions on basics of entrepreneurship, design thinking, business plan preparation, market research, branding and advertisement, business opportunities in goat sector, fisheries sector, business communication, personality profiling, intra-team interaction and many more. Visit and

interaction with business incubator centres of ICAR-NAARM viz. a-IDEA and that of ICAR-National Research Centre on Meat, Hyderabad was also arranged. The student-participants were grouped into five teams and each team was asked to prepare a business plan which they presented on the last day of the training programme.



(Programme Directors: Drs. Ranjit Kumar, K Srinivas & Sanjiv Kumar)

E resources, E-learning and IoT

An off-campus training programme on “E resources, E-learning and IoT” was conducted for the students and staff of UAS Raichur during Feb 25-29, 2020 at College of Agriculture, Raichur Karnataka. A total of 50 students of final year Graduate students of agriculture from three regional campuses- Bheemarayangudi, Kalburgi and Raichur and ten staff members attended the programme. The programme has been offered under the NAHEP- IG Project initiative of UAS Raichur with a purpose to expose the clientele to the latest trends in digital information resources, learning and cutting edge technologies like Internet of Things.



(Programme Directors: Drs. GRK Murthy, M Balakrishnan and N Srinivasa Rao)

Events

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra interacts with 110th FOCARS

Dr. T. Mohapatra, Secretary DARE and DG ICAR interacted with 110 FOCARS trainees on Feb 7, 2020. DG stressed the need to analyze the state representation of ARS scientists over the past three years in order to promote ARS from all the states. He interacted and motivated young scientists for their dedicated service for the cause of small and marginal farmers of India. He also discussed on how to make ICAR institutions or deemed to be universities and State Agricultural Universities to figure in the top 200 institutions and Universities of the world; as well as pioneering areas of research in Indian agriculture to be pursued by the young scientists; ways for improving the number of women directors in the ICAR; improving the stature of agricultural research among the common public in comparison with other fields; bringing second green revolution in India, improving the

collaborations with research and agri-industry, hungry and poverty issues in the country, foreign exposure to FOCAR trainees, role of ICAR in faculty building in agriculture and allied universities of state.

Dr. Ch.Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM while welcoming highlighted the new interventions included in the foundation course: research excellence in remote areas, panel discussion with Lal Bahadur Shastri Young Scientist award winners of ICAR, science communication, ethics in research and development, learning positive thinking, interactions with science academies and policy makers besides overall research project management and transforming them into highly productive scientists of ICAR.



ICAR signs MoU with Administrative Staff College of India

Indian Council of Agricultural Research signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad on Feb 7, 2020 at the Academy. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR) and Dr. S.K Pattanayak IAS (Retd), Director General, ASCI, Hyderabad signed the MoU on behalf of the respective organizations. The MoU provides for renewed focus and collaboration between ICAR and ASCI in the area of capacity building; designing customized training modules and immersion programs; third party assessment of impact of technologies, institutions, training programs and externally aided projects; besides collaborative research and development of strategic policy papers in the areas of mutual interest. Dr. Pattanayak, in his address, recognized that ASCI has a long standing association with NAARM and thanked DG, ICAR for his efforts that led to the signing of this MoU. He hoped that the MoU would provide for establishing the connect with all ICAR institutions and agricultural universities and work on hither to unexplored areas and domains. Dr. Mohapatra, in his address, recalled the positive feedback from the Executive Development Program (EDP) organized in international destinations, jointly



coordinated by ICAR-NAARM and ASCI. He highlighted that the MoU provides an overarching framework for collaboration in various areas, building on mutual strengths. Dr. Mohapatra stressed that while ICAR would hugely benefit from the experience and expertise of ASCI in capacity building through this MoU, ASCI can bank on the diverse subject matter expertise available across various ICAR institutions. He also indicated that NAARM, in its renewed mandate of being the think tank of ICAR, could work closely with ASCI in terms of evolving policies for the benefit of entire farm sector and beyond.

Visit of Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Additional Secretary, DARE and Secretary, ICAR

Shri. Sanjay Kumar Singh, IAS (Addl. Secretary DARE and Secretary, ICAR) visited the Academy on Feb 15, 2020. He interacted with 110th FOCARS probationers. The Secretary discussed on the need for a framework to convert our research to field level applications; emphasized on communicating research findings to farmers in regional languages by effectively utilizing visual aids in the form of videos relevant to major farm-related problems and solutions. He underlined the need of pioneer areas such as artificial intelligence, IoT, Machine learning and importance of interdisciplinary research. Besides food security, he advised to concentrate the research on nutrition security issues. Climate research and stress management was also highlighted. The



secretary urged the young scientists to keep motivated themselves throughout the service by pursuing research in the pioneer areas, benefitting the farming community. He also attended the ICAR-Pensioners meeting briefly which at NAARM, interacted with ICAR Pensioners at Hyderabad, and discussed about the pensioner's issues including monthly pension adalat being organized by various pension-authorizing Institutes in the country. In the afternoon, Shri Singh had detailed discussions with Directors of ICAR Institutes located at Hyderabad related to research programs, priorities and way forward. He discussed the issues of duplication of research programs among ICAR Institutes, strengthening of field based research, technology-industry linkages and suggested to



concentrate on core issues of technology business incubation centres in ICAR. Also suggested to come out with the documentation on the constraints faced by agri Start-ups linking with donor expectations to improve the overall agri entrepreneurship ecosystems in India. Respective directors of IIRR, IIMR, IIOR, PDP, NRC on

Meat, CRIDA, ATARI and NAARM made detailed presentations on the overview of activities. He also interacted with administrative and finance officers of various ICAR institutes located in Hyderabad on budget utilization and manpower vacancies and assured that manpower shortage issues will be resolved soon.

Panel Discussion on Challenges and Opportunities in Meat Sector

A panel discussion on “Challenges and Opportunities in Meat Sector” by National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), Hyderabad chapter in association with NRC on Meat was organized on Jan 28, 2020 with the meat and poultry industry representatives, officials from Government departments and regulatory agencies, scientists, entrepreneurs, NRCM-ABI incubates, butchers and consumers. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director ICAR-NAARM and Convener, NAAS-Hyderabad chapter chaired the session and Dr. N. Bhaskar, Advisor, FSSAI, New Delhi acted as Co-chair while Dr. Naveena, B.M., Principal Scientist & NAAS Associate acted as a convener of the workshop.

Several issues related to availability and requirement of veterinarians to carry out meat inspection, newly designed vehicles for animal transport, animal market infrastructure, meat retailing requirements, popularization of animal sourced foods to reduce

malnutrition and hunger, funding opportunities for start-up entrepreneurs in meat processing business were deliberated and decided to publish a policy document highlighting all the aforesaid issues covering various stakeholders and agri-startups. More than 100 participants attended the programme.



Guest Lecture on ‘NAAS and Science Excellence in Agriculture’ by Dr. AK. Singh, Secretary, NAAS

Dr A.K. Singh, Secretary, NAAS delivered guest lecture on “NAAS and Science Excellence in Agriculture” on Feb 7, 2020 at the Academy. In his lecture, he covered on various activities of NAAS activities since its inception on June 5, 1990, Mission and Objectives of NAAS, Management bodies of NAAS, Executive council of NAAS, Past Presidents of NAAS, Section wise distribution of NAAS fellowships/Associateships, various Awards instituted by NAAS for recognizing significant contribution of senior, middle and young scientists to promote agricultural research; NAAS Regional Chapters and its activities, Organization of Biennial Agricultural Science Congresses (ASCs), NAAS publications - Policy papers/briefs; Status/Strategy papers of national importance; study reports, NAAS score of science journals. His lecture benefited 135 young scientists of

ICAR representing 28 disciplines. NAAS Fellows and Associates from Hyderabad Chapter also attended this event.



TELAGe as Monitored Examination Venue

TELAGe Lab was used as Examination Venue for PG Diploma in Educational Technology Management course during Feb 10-11, 2020 with unmanned camera

monitoring as per the guidelines of distance education program. For the first time, the exam was conducted with enhanced surveillance using multiple PTZ cameras with



high resolution and quality. Since lab was also used for conducting contact session, which preceded final examination, the new practice of conducting exam in TELAgE centre could save time and resources for the students to travel to farthest places to writing exam after contact session.

NAARM got Best Landscaping Institute Award

NAARM participated in Garden Fesval-2020 conducted by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Telangana. As a part of Selection Process of Awards, various committees have visited our Campus and Evaluated. The Academy bagged two awards in the following categories.

1. Best Landscape Gardens maintained by State/Central Govt. Institutions Category
2. Best Landscape Gardens Maintained by Central Govt. Educational Institutions Category.



Corona Quarantine Facility at NAARM

As per the guidelines of Government of India and Government of Telangana, NAARM provided Corona Quarantine Facility with 200 beds to the state government for accommodating suspected international travellers from COVID-19 affected countries for isolation and quarantine with all needed support like safe drinking water, additional parking area and continuous power and



water supply from Mar 17, 2020. Display boards were projected at different places in the campus on Do's and Don'ts to prevent corona transmission. Continuous discussions were made with GHMC and state government officials for facility and support required for the purpose.

Senior Officers Committee (SOC) Meeting

SOC meeting of March was organized on Mar 20, 2020 with senior officials. The major agenda discussed were budget utilization, quarantine facility support systems in the academy, and emergency health care systems of staff and pensioners in health centre.



Institute Joint Staff Council (IJSC) Meeting

Institute Joint Staff Council Meeting was organized on Feb 01, 2020. The action taken report of the previous IJSC meeting and staff welfare issues were discussed.



International Women's Day Celebrated by ICAR-NAARM

ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (ICAR-NAARM) celebrated International



Women's Day on Mar 08, 2020. The main theme of the celebration was "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights". One of the important factors bringing equality is economic empowerment of women. To generate awareness about it and to develop the habit of savings for their future endeavours, the State Bank of India officials delivered a lecture. They highlighted the importance of economic security and told about many schemes specifically benefiting girl child and women in general.

(Coordinators: Drs. Surya Rathore & Manju Gerard)

DST recognizes Dr. Ratna Prabha, FOCARS probationer on International Women's Day

Department of Science and Technology (DST), GoI recognized the research contribution and achievements of Dr. Ratna Prabha, ARS Probationer at NAARM on the auspicious occasion of International women's day and provided an opportunity to share her view and her journey on their website.

<https://dst.gov.in/pressrelease/wos-scheme-eases-glide-motherhood-agri-scientist>.



Inauguration of State Bank of India Branch and ATM at ICAR-NAARM



Farm Activities in the Academy



PGDMA News

Placement of Second Year PGDMA Students

All the students of PGDMA (2018-20) have been placed successfully in 12 reputed agribusiness companies. It is the 10th batch in a row recording 100% placement with increasing pay packages. Current batch average CTC was ₹8.50 lakhs p.a. We have added 5 new companies to our

recruiters list during this year. Companies like Samunnati Financial Intermediation, Waycool, Basix SubK, Federal Bank, Tata Rallis were the top recruiters during the year. Many of the students underwent project work in the companies where they were placed during the trimester.

a-IDEA (Agri-business Incubator of NAARM) News

Startup-FPO Immersion Programme: Taking Agritech Startups to the Doorsteps of the Farmer

a-IDEA, the technology business Incubator of ICAR-NAARM organized India's First "Startup - FPO Immersion Program: Taking Agritech Startups to the Doorsteps of the Farmer". The first leg of the program kicked off at Madurai, Tamil Nadu on Jan 10, 2020 with the support of NABARD MABIF, Caspian, Agrinnovate and Omnivore. It is the first of its kind initiative to take the startups closer to the FPO's (Farmer Producer Organization) Twenty-three FPO represented by about 65 BoDs were present. Prominent dignitaries witnessed the event from NABARD MABIF, TNAU, KVK, FPO's board of directors and farmers.

The second leg of the Startup – FPO Immersion Program was organized at Reliance Foundation, Radhanpur, Patan District, Gujarat on Jan 16, 2020. 35 farmers of FPOs including board of directors, foundation team, KVK Experts and other ecosystem stakeholders, graced the event.

The third Startup – FPO Immersion Program was organized at Durgapur, West Bengal on Feb 29, 2020.



Farmers, BASIX team, startups, and other ecosystem stakeholders witnessed the event. The objective of this program was to create synergies between SNRAS Systems and FPOs supported by BASIX. Further SNRAS is in talks with BASIX and its associated aquaculture farmers and FPOs to provide Recirculatory aquaculture systems and the end-to-end solutions.

The fourth Startup – FPO Immersion Program was organized at Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh on Mar 03, 2020 in association with NABARD Kurnool. The event created synergies between 6 startups and 28 FPOs represented by 70 farmers/BODs for planning to work together going ahead.

Demo Days



Agri Udaan 3.0 Food and Agribusiness Accelerator Demo Day was organized at Sheraton Grand Hotel, Brigade Gateway in Bengaluru on Mar 05, 2020 and at The Orchid Hotel, Vile Parle in Mumbai on Mar 07, 2020. The

Top-10 Startup cohort of Agri Udaan 3.0, selected from a pool of 415 startups, pitched in front of 35+ investors across the spectrum of Food and Agribusiness. These events aim to mobilize investors and have the startups pitch in front of them in hopes of facilitating investment raise by the startups. Demo Days also serve as the first point of contact for startups to liaison with investors across the Food and Agribusiness industry that can result in investment over time. Post Demo day many investors are continuously in touch with these startups for exploring investments.

BioAsia 2020

a-IDEA, Technology Business Incubator of ICAR-NAARM participated in BioAsia2020, Asia's one of the largest biotechnology conference held at the Hitex Exhibition Center, Hyderabad during Feb 17-19, 2020. The Federation of Asian Biotech Associations (FABA) and Government of Telangana provided a unique opportunity to all the stakeholders and flagbearers of the Agri, biotech

& pharma and novice entrepreneurs to come under one umbrella, with the motto of "Grow and let grow". More than 200 stakeholders including Startups, researchers, dignitaries, scientists, and other prominent visitors have visited the stall to know about the programs and few of them have contacted later for incubation programme and BIRAC BIG applications for grant support.

BIRAC Foundation Day

Agri-BioNEST the biotech arm of a-IDEA at NAARM has attended the BIRAC's 8th Foundation day through a web meeting on Mar 20, 2020 and discussed the overall impact of Bionest's Incubation, Seed Funding, and further Grant Funds through BIG for Agri and Agri Biotech startups. Dr. K Srinivas, Pr. Scientist and CEO, Mr. Vijay Nadiminti COO have took part in deliberations.



Faculty Achievements

Honors, Awards and Recognitions

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM is nominated as Member, Advisory Committee, World Bank funded ICAR-NAHEP Component-2 Project on Investment in ICAR Leadership for Agriculture Higher Education.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM is nominated as Member, Food and Agriculture Division Council (FADC), Bureau of Indian Standards, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt of India.

Dr. S. K. Soam is nominated as Nodal Officer (Capacity Building) for Joint Working Group of ICAR-NABARD under MoU between ICAR and NABARD.

Dr. S. K. Soam is nominated as Chairman, TOWLIC Hindi Karyashala at Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR), Hyderabad on Feb 27, 2020.

Dr. P. Krishnan served as the Leader of the Working Group on Socio-economic Vulnerability for developing a Regional Framework for Coastal Vulnerability during the Central Indian Ocean Leadership Workshop organized at MoES-National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai during Jan 06-07, 2020.

Publications

Research Articles

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- Anu SS, Subash SP, Kaechele H, Ranjit-Kumar and Muller K. (2020). Climate Change, Drought and Rural Communities: Understanding People's Perceptions and Adaptations in Rural Eastern India. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2019.101436>.
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- Murthy GRK, Vinayagam SS, Akhila K, Srinivasarao Ch, Pandey PS and Jain Vanita (2019). Assessment of Training Potential through Digital Mode in Vocational and Skill Building Sectors of Indian Agriculture, *The International Journal of E-Learning and Educational Technologies in the Digital Media* 5(3): 110-121.
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- Ravisankar H, Shreedhar U and Rao NS (2019). A web based expert system for identification and management of insect pests of tobacco. *Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies*. 7(1):803-807.
- Rohit P, Mohanty M, Sinha NK, Gupta SC, Somasundaram J, Chaudhary RS, Soliya R, Hati KM, Prabhakar M, Sammi Reddy K, Patra AK and Srinivasarao Ch. (2020). Potential Impact of Future Climate Change on Maize (*Zea mays* L.) under Rainfed Condition in Central India. *Journal of Agrometeorology* 22(1):18-23.
- Sunil Neelam, Srinivasa Rao Nukella, Chikkappa G Karjagi, Chandrasekhar Javaji and Om Prakash Yadav (2019). Decision support system for efficient utilization of maize germplasm for hybrid development. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry*. SP2:501-506.

Policy Brief

- Ramesh P, Krishnan P, Thammiraju D, Venkateswarlu G, Srinivasarao Ch, Venkateswarlu B. (2020). Enhancing Competence of Agricultural Faculty: Towards Piloting Agriculture-led Development. ICAR Policy Paper, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi. p10.
- Srinivasarao Ch, Prasad RS and Mohapatra T. (2019) Climate Change and Indian Agriculture: Impacts, Coping Strategies, Programmes and Policy. Technical Bulletin/Policy Document 2019. Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. p25.



Technical Reports

- Thammiraju D, Murthy GRK, Senthilvinayagam S, Krishnan M and Srinivasarao Ch. (2020). Impact of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on Capacity Building. ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad, Pp1-56.

Chapters in Conference Proceedings/ Book

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- Thammiraju D, Srinivasarao N, Kumar A, Rathore S, Sumanthkumar VV, Marwaha S, Soam SK and Srinivasarao Ch. (2019). Academic Excellence through Building Partnerships and Resource Generation. Proceedings and Recommendations of National Workshop, held during 30 April – 1 May, 2019 at ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad. Pp1-74.
- Sreekanth PD, Soam SK and Srinivasarao Ch. (2020). Practical Manual for GIS. Daya Publishing House. ISBN: 978-93-89719-43-7 (PB). Pp232.
- Gerard M, Gupta M, Srinivas K, Singh V, Saxena S and Srinivasarao Ch. (March 2020). Technology Management through ICAR- Agri Business Incubators: Status and Strategies, ICAR-NAARM, Pp 50.

Radio/ TV talk/ Video talk

Name of the person and Topic of the talk	Name of the channel and Program
Srinivasarao, Ch. (2020) - Interview taken on the sidelines of Mega Event on S&T Interventions for the welfare of Tribal Population, organized by NASI, held at Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneshwar, during Feb 24-25, 2020.	Watch Disha - Exclusive Interview With Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao YouTube: https://youtu.be/Py05FeOh1O0
Srinivasarao, Ch. (2020) - News coverage about the inaugural programme of National Conference on 'Geospatial Technologies in Agriculture' held at ICAR-NAARM on Feb 20, 2020.	Eenadu, Hans India daily Newspaper dated Feb 21, 2020; United News of India dated Feb 22, 2020; ETV Telangana channel; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtBy5Iip1XE DD Yadagiri News channel (Detailed coverage telecast on 'Naa Koti Ratnala Maagani' (Agriculture program) on Feb 23, 2020.
Srinivasarao, Ch. (2020) - News coverage about the inauguration of 110 th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service by Dr (Smt.) TAMILISAI Soundararajan, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana State at ICAR-NAARM on Jan 7, 2020.	Eenadu, Andhra Prabha, Namaste Telangana, Velugu telugu daily newspapers dated Jan 8, 2020; Deccan Chronicle, Hans India, dated Jan 8, 2020; Daily Hindi Milap, dated Jan 8, 2020; V6 Telugu News Channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOV9X3ceoFY ; Hans News - https://www.thehansindia.com/news/cities/hyderabad/dr-tamilisai-soundararajan-calls-for-innovative-practices-in-agricultural-sector-595748 ; ETV Telangana Telugu news channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpNau-oLz-o ; Web news of United News of India and Press Information Bureau, dated Jan 8, 2020; E-paper news of Deccan Chronicle and Hans India dated Jan 8, 2020.

Faculty / Staff Participation in Scientific Events

Programme Name	Venue & Date	Scientist Name
Brainstorming Session on Challenges and Opportunities in Meat Sector	ICAR-NRC Meat, Hyderabad, Jan 28, 2020	Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao
Meeting of Board of Management of ANGRAU	Lam, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, Jan 30, 2020	
3 rd Meeting of Executive Council of National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Govt of India	Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi Feb 17, 2020	
111 th Meeting of Executive Council of NAAS	NAAS Secretariat, New Delhi Feb 21, 2020	
24 th Meeting of Food and Agriculture Division Council (FADC) of Bureau of Indian Standards, Govt of India.	Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi Feb 26, 2020	
91 st Annual General Meeting of ICAR Society	NASC Complex, New Delhi Feb 27, 2020	
ICAR Directors' Conference	Through Video conferencing Mar 19, 2020	
Think Tank Committee meeting with DG, ICAR for final report presentation	Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi Mar 13, 2020	Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao Dr. P Krishanan
Consultative Group Meeting on Geographical Indications for 05 applications Harmal Chilli, Myndoli Banana, Chinnor Rice, Coconut Vinegar and Goan Khaje	Mumbai, Feb 05, 2020	Dr. S. K. Soam
Consultative Group Meeting on Geographical Indications for 04 applications Kuttiaattoor Mango, Edayur Chilli-Mulaku, Kanyakumari Cloves, Dharwad Pedda	Chennai, Feb 12, 2020	
Indian Education Congress, 10 th National Convention on Indian Education	Hotel Taj, Bengaluru Feb 27, 2020	Dr D Thammi Raju
Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO) Leadership Workshop for developing the "Regional Framework for Coastal Vulnerability towards the Safety, Security and Sustainable Development of Member States in the Indian Ocean"	MoES-National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai Jan 6-7, 2020	Dr. P. Krishnan

Invited as Key Speaker in Scientific Meetings

Faculty	Topic	Event	Venue	Date
Dr. Ch Srinivasa Rao	Science and Technology Innovations for enhanced livelihoods of Tribal Population in India	NASI-ILS Collaborative Mega Event on 'S&T Interventions for the welfare of tribal population'	Institute of Live Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar	Feb 24-25, 2020
Dr. P Krishnan	Web conferencing on "Research Project Conceptualization and Science Communication"	Foundation Course on Research, Education and Extension Management for the newly recruited scientists of KAU in three batches	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur	Jan 18, Feb 14 & Mar 04, 2020
Dr. P Krishnan	Web conferencing on "Metrics that matter for Researchers"	Training Workshop on Science Communication for the young scientists of NARES as a part of the NAHEP	ICAR-Central Institute Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai	Jan 22, 2020

Faculty	Topic	Event	Venue	Date
Dr. D Thammi Raju	Soft skills for Dairy Professionals'	Tutorial Classes for Socially Deprived Students by Eminent Experts	College of Dairy Technology, Kamareddy, Telanagana	Feb 17, 2020
	Digital Innovations in Agriculture Education and Extension & Oral Communication	E-Resources, E-Learning and IoT for Students and Staff	UAS, Raichur	Feb 26, 2020
	Management of Extension Events of KVKs and Approaches for reaching the Unreached Farmers	Training Programme on Faculty Development Programme for KVKs of Southern States.	EEL, Hyderabad	Feb 28, 2020

Trainings Attended by the Faculty/Staff

Dr. Ranjit Kumar attended Executive Program on Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation at TISS, Mumbai during Jan 06-10, 2020.

Dr. Manju Gerard attended MDP on "Creative Thinking, Problem Solving and Decision Making" at IIM Kozhikode, during Feb 20-22, 2020.

Staff News

Appointments/Joining

- Shri L. Narsimha, Casual Labourer with Temporary Status (CLTS) has been regularised against the vacant post of SSS w.e.f. 19.03.2020 (FN)
- Shri K. Samson, Casual Labourer with Temporary Status (CLTS) has been regularised against the vacant post of SSS w.e.f. 19.03.2020 (FN)

Retirement/Superannuation

- Shri P.G. Kohad, Asst. Admn. Officer retired on superannuation w.e.f. 29.02.2020 (AN)

Upcoming Events

Event	Date
MDP on Leadership Development (a Pre-RMP Programme)	Jun 01-12, 2020
MDP on PME in Agricultural Research Projects	Jun 02-06, 2020
National Workshop on Policy Perspective on Farm Subsidies in India vis a vis Other Countries: Issues and Way Forward	Jun 25-26, 2020
111 th Foundation Course for Agricultural Research Service (FOCARS)	Jul 01-Sep 28, 2020
Training Programme on Stress Management	Jul 07-10, 2020
Off-campus Training program on Pension Rules at CCARI, Goa	Jul 13-18, 2020
Hospitality Management (In collaboration with Institute of Hospitality Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition (IHMCT& AN)	Jul 23-28, 2020

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